

NEW ISSUE

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY

1977-1978

CATALOGUE NO. 4311.0

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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NOON 20 APRIL 1979

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY, 1977-78

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AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SURVEY, 1977-78

MAIN FEATURES

In the Australian Health Survey a sample of persons in private households were interviewed about their illnesses and use of health services. Preliminary results for the quarters ending September and December 1977 have been published. The following results are for the total survey period (12 months ended June 1978):

- 34.7% of the total population reported no illness in the previous two weeks. 65.3% of the population had illness conditions ranging from ailments such as colds, headaches and upset stomachs to more serious illnesses such as bronchitis, arthritis and heart disease.
- 6.6% of persons aged 2 years or more spent at least one day in bed due to sickness or injury in the 2 weeks before interview : on average these people spent 3.0 days in bed.
- 9.6% of all persons working had at least one day off work due to sickness or injury in the 2 weeks before interview : on average these people had 2.7 days off from work.
- 12.2% of all students had at least one day off from school, university etc., due to sickness or injury in the 2 weeks before interview : on average these people had 2.2 days off from school, university etc.
- 17.7% of the total population reported consulting a doctor in the previous two weeks.
- 45.1% of the total population reported suffering from some type of chronic illness condition. 9.9% of the total population aged 2 years or more were limited in some way by their chronic illness.
- medications were reported as having been taken in the two days before interview by 54.6% of adults and 36.9% of children.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin contains State and national estimates based on information obtained from a sample of households during the 1977-78 financial year. It is the third bulletin to be published containing results from the Australian Health Survey. Estimates in the two previous bulletins were based on data collected from approximately 4,000 dwellings in each of the September and December quarters of 1977. The estimates contained in this bulletin are based on data collected from approximately 15,000 dwellings i.e. the total number of dwellings interviewed during the four quarters of 1977-78. This means that estimates in this bulletin may differ in some cases from the earlier estimates, because they are based on a larger sample and

are therefore more accurate and because spreading the sample over four quarters reduces the effects of seasonality.

2. Subsequent publications will contain more detailed tables on various aspects of the survey. A description of all topics collected in the survey is contained in *Australian Health Survey 1977-78 Information Paper* (4340.0).

3. The main objective of the survey was to obtain information about the health of Australians and the use of and need for various health related services and facilities.

Scope and coverage

4. Interviews were conducted at a random sample of private dwellings from all parts of Australia excluding rural Northern Territory. Certain groups of persons, such as occupants of non-private dwellings (e.g. hospitals, motels, hotels), diplomatic personnel and persons from overseas touring or holidaying in Australia, were excluded from the survey. The exclusion of persons currently in hospitals, nursing homes and other health institutions should be borne in mind in assessing the significance of the results.

Survey method

5. Each person over the age of 14 was interviewed personally, except those persons either too old or too sick to be interviewed, where relatives were interviewed on their behalf. Wherever possible, information for children aged up to 14 years was obtained from their mothers.

6. To measure recent illness conditions as shown in Tables 1-4 the following procedure was used : respondents were supplied with a list of complaints or symptoms that people often suffer from (e.g. sore throat, headache, chest pain, seriously overweight, trouble sleeping) and asked if they had any of these complaints or symptoms during the two weeks prior to the interview. Interviewers also stressed that the listed complaints were examples only and asked if the person had any other complaints. Having reported any complaints experienced, survey respondents were then asked what they believed had caused the complaints. The condition believed to have caused the complaint or complaints was recorded in the respondent's own words, which ranged from medical diagnoses to terms like "overwork", "family arguments" etc.

7. Provision was made in the survey to record the recent illness condition which most concerned the respondent and up to four additional illness conditions. In Tables 3 and 4 a person who reported more than one illness condition will appear in each table more than once according to the number of illness conditions reported. For example, in Table 4 a person reported as suffering from both arthritis and influenza will appear

twice, once against each appropriate category. One person may also appear more than once in a single category where that person reported suffering from more than one distinct illness condition in the same disease grouping (e.g. bronchitis and emphysema).

8. To measure chronic illness conditions as shown in Tables 9-12 the following procedure was used: respondents were supplied with a list of chronic illness conditions, which indicated the type of chronic illness conditions which should be recorded. Interviewers stressed that the listed chronic illness conditions were examples only and asked if the respondent had any others.

9. Provision was made in the survey to record the chronic illness condition which most concerned the respondent, and up to four additional chronic illness conditions. In Tables 11 and 12 one person can appear in more than one type of condition category (e.g. a person reported as suffering from both asthma and migraine will appear twice, once against each appropriate category). One person may also appear more than once in a single category where that person reported suffering from more than one distinct chronic illness condition in the same disease grouping (e.g. chronic liver and gallbladder conditions).

Classification of recent and chronic illness conditions

10. Each condition recorded was classified to the most appropriate category of the Eighth Revision (1965) of the International Classification of Diseases to which were added categories for absence of limbs and organs.

Definitions

11. *Illness conditions* — include injuries and impairments as well as diseases and any other morbid conditions.

Recent illness condition — a condition was considered recent if the respondent reported suffering from it at some time during the two weeks before interview.

Chronic illness condition — a condition was considered to be chronic if the person claimed to have had it for more than six months. In addition, any permanent disability was included irrespective of the length of time the person had had it.

NOTE: A respondent would have reported a recent illness condition as a chronic illness condition also, if that respondent had suffered from it for more than six months e.g. a respondent who had an asthma attack in the two weeks before interview would have reported it as a recent illness condition but would also have reported it as a chronic illness condition if the respondent considered that he or she had suffered the illness condition (irrespective of attacks) for more than six months. Conversely, if the respondent had not had an asthma attack in the two weeks before interview the asthma condition would have been reported as a chronic illness condition only.

12. A chronic illness condition was defined as limiting if it was considered to have affected the respondent in one of the following ways:

- Children aged 2 to 5 years: restricted in the amount or kind of play with other children.
- Children aged 6 to 14 years: limited at school or in other activities, such as sport.
- Persons aged 15 to 64 years: limited in work or housework or school or restricted in other activities, such as sport.
- Adults aged 65 years or more: confined to bed or house or needed help getting about the house.

13. *Doctor* — a doctor can be a general practitioner, surgeon (including oral surgeon), or other specialist, physician, hospital intern or resident. Specifically EXCLUDED are dentists, dental surgeons, physiotherapists, osteopaths, chiropractors, opticians and radiographers.

NOTE: *Doctor consultation* includes only consultations about the respondents own health.

14. *Full-time students* — all persons aged 6-14 years and persons aged 15 and over who stated that their usual major activity is either 'Full-time tertiary student' or 'School student'.

15. *Persons working* — those persons aged 15 and over who stated that they had a full-time or part-time job or business in the week before interview. INCLUDED are persons who had a job but were sick or on leave in the week before interview. EXCLUDED are persons defined above as 'Full-time students' who may also have a job or business.

16. *Medication taken* — refers to any medicines, pills or ointments taken or used.

Comparison of results with 1974 survey of chronic illnesses

17. Care should be taken in comparing the chronic illness estimates in this bulletin with those from the 1974 *Survey of Chronic Illnesses, Injuries and Impairments* (4305.0).

The following points should be noted:

- (a) the current survey was totally devoted to health topics and thus focussed people's attention on their state of health, whereas the 1974 Chronic Illness Survey was conducted as part of the Quarterly Population Survey and questions relating to other topics were asked prior to the chronic illness section of that survey.
- (b) in the present survey a personal interview approach was used so that each adult was personally asked the survey questions, while the

23. In addition to the sampling errors, the survey results are subject to non-sampling errors: i.e. those inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers or respondents, processing errors, and non-response. Such errors may occur in any statistical collection, whether it be a full census count or a sample survey. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors in the survey to a minimum by careful design and testing of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

24. The following factors should be considered in interpreting the estimates in this bulletin:

- (a) Information provided on self-perceived ill health, while being a major cause of health service use, was not medically verified and reported illnesses, etc. were not necessarily based on diagnoses by medical practitioners.
- (b) Illness conditions which have a considerable effect on people are likely to be better reported than those which have little effect. Some people may be unaware of minor illness conditions, or indeed of serious illness conditions which they may have but have not been diagnosed as, or advised of having. It is likely that there would be some under-reporting of illness conditions which cause symptoms or limitations to which a person has adjusted; it is also probable that in some instances illness conditions which respondents are unwilling to talk about in an interview situation were not reported.
- (c) In the same way, it must be expected that the assessment by different respondents of the effect of an illness condition will differ, and that their answers to questions may differ even though the circumstances are similar; an illness condition reported as causing some limitation by one person, for example, may not have been considered as such by another person.
- (d) The exclusion from the survey of people currently in hospitals, nursing homes and other health institutions will have affected the results to some extent.

Related publications

25. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- . *Australian Health Survey 1977-78, Information Paper* (4340.0).
- . *Australian Health Survey Bulletin No. 1. September 1977 (Preliminary)* (4309.0).
- . *Australian Health Survey Bulletin No. 2. December 1977 (Preliminary)* (4310.0).
- . *Alcohol and Tobacco Consumption Patterns : February 1977* (4312.0).
- . *Causes of Death : 1974, 1975 and 1976* (3303.0).
- . *Chronic Illnesses, Injuries and Impairments : May 1974* (4305.0).

Related bulletins issued by ABS State Offices are:

- . New South Wales –
 - *Health Care Surveys in Gosford-Wyong and Illawarra Areas of N.S.W., 1975* (4305.1).
- . Queensland –
 - *Patients Treated in Hospitals, 1976* (4304.3).
- . Western Australia –
 - *Hospital In-patients Statistics, 1975* (4301.5).
- . Tasmania –
 - *Hospital Morbidity, 1975* (4301.6).

26. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- . . . Not applicable
- * Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. See Explanatory note 22 on page 5.

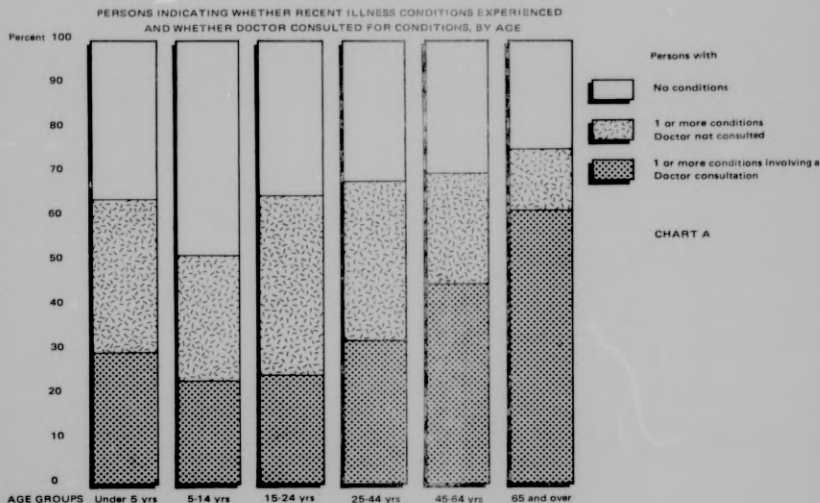
Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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RECENT ILLNESS :
PERSONSTABLE 1. PERSONS INDICATING WHETHER RECENT ILLNESS CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED
AND WHETHER DOCTOR CONSULTED FOR CONDITIONS (a), BY AGE AND SEX

	Age group						Total	
	Under 5 years (⁰⁰⁰)	5-14 years (⁰⁰⁰)	15-24 years (⁰⁰⁰)	25-44 years (⁰⁰⁰)	45-64 years (⁰⁰⁰)	65 years and over (⁰⁰⁰)	(⁰⁰⁰)	(per cent)
MALES								
Males with no conditions	204.1	620.5	450.2	699.9	453.1	145.8	2,572.6	37.3
Males with one or more conditions	392.8	667.9	733.8	1,240.0	922.9	378.4	4,335.7	62.7
Males with one or more conditions which involved a doctor consultation (a)	174.9	214.0	235.2	494.2	559.2	301.6	2,079.1	30.1
Total males	596.9	1,288.4	1,183.9	1,939.8	1,375.1	524.2	6,908.3	100.0
FEMALES								
Females with no conditions	204.9	600.5	357.3	524.5	367.4	148.1	2,202.7	32.1
Females with one or more conditions	361.9	618.9	799.4	1,336.5	991.4	552.3	4,660.4	67.9
Females with one or more conditions which involved a doctor consultation (a)	171.7	282.0	346.6	736.4	683.5	454.4	2,674.5	39.0
Total females	566.8	1,219.4	1,156.7	1,861.0	1,358.8	700.4	6,863.1	100.0
PERSONS								
Persons with no conditions	408.9	1,221.0	807.5	1,224.4	819.5	293.9	4,775.4	34.7
Persons with one or more conditions	754.7	1,286.7	1,533.2	2,576.4	1,914.3	930.7	8,996.0	65.3
Persons with one or more conditions which involved a doctor consultation (a)	346.6	596.1	581.8	1,230.3	1,242.6	756.0	4,753.6	34.5
Total persons	1,163.7	2,507.7	2,340.7	3,800.8	2,733.9	1,224.6	13,771.4	100.0

(a) Either within the last two weeks or previously, or where at time of interview arrangements had been made for consultation.



RECENT ILLNESS:
PERSONS

TABLE 2. PERSONS INDICATING WHETHER RECENT ILLNESS CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED AND WHETHER DOCTOR CONSULTED FOR CONDITIONS (a), BY STATES AND SEX ('000)

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
MALES									
Males with no conditions	859.1	737.3	409.0	239.9	199.0	77.9	14.1	36.2	2,572.6
Males with one or more conditions	1 569.9	1 124.2	634.6	390.3	396.5	124.2	26.2	69.8	4 335.7
Males with one or more conditions which involved a doctor consultation (a)	750.8	544.6	314.4	180.5	179.3	65.8	11.3	32.5	2 079.1
Total males	2 429.0	1 861.5	1 043.5	630.4	595.6	202.1	40.3	106.0	6 908.3
FEMALES									
Females with no conditions	754.5	599.6	356.1	218.3	164.4	68.3	10.9	30.5	2 202.7
Females with one or more conditions	1 674.5	1 260.5	675.9	408.4	415.5	132.6	21.4	71.5	4 660.4
Females with one or more conditions which involved a doctor consultation (a)	985.3	734.9	382.0	222.0	226.3	78.5	10.7	34.9	2 674.5
Total females	2 429.0	1 860.1	1 032.0	626.7	579.9	200.9	32.3	102.0	6 863.1
PERSONS									
Persons with no conditions	1 613.6	1 336.9	765.1	458.4	363.5	146.3	24.9	66.7	4 775.4
Persons with one or more conditions	3 244.4	2 384.7	1 310.5	798.7	812.0	256.7	47.6	141.3	8 996.0
Persons with one or more conditions which involved a doctor consultation (a)	1 736.1	1 279.5	696.4	402.5	405.6	144.3	21.9	67.3	4 753.6
Total persons	4 858.0	3 721.6	2 075.6	1 257.1	1 175.5	403.0	72.6	208.1	13 771.4

(a) Either within the last two weeks or previously, or where at time of interview arrangements had been made for consultation.

PERSONS INDICATING WHETHER RECENT ILLNESS CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED AND WHETHER DOCTOR CONSULTED FOR CONDITIONS, BY STATES

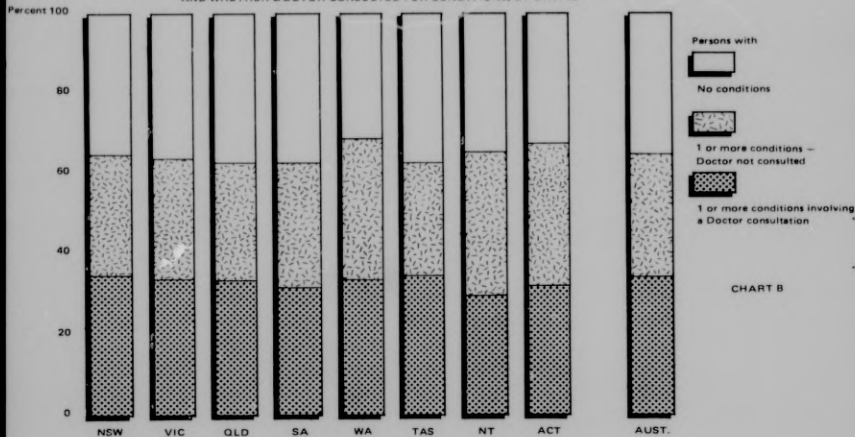


TABLE 3. DEGREE OF CONCERN OR PAIN ASSOCIATED WITH A RECENT ILLNESS CONDITION
AND WHETHER A DOCTOR HAS BEEN CONSULTED (a)

	Whether person was concerned or pained by the condition			Total conditions (b)	
	A lot (⁰⁰⁰)	Somewhat (⁰⁰⁰)	Not at all (⁰⁰⁰)	(⁰⁰⁰)	(⁰⁰⁰)
Doctor consulted (a)	2,271.0	3,427.8	1,622.2	7,339.8	44.7
Main reason reported for not consulting a doctor					
Not serious enough	449.1	2,739.6	2,671.7	5,864.7	35.7
Doctor inappropriate	417.7	735.2	412.2	1,566.9	9.5
Doctor 'useless'	38.8	64.6	56.5	159.8	1.0
Personal fears	41.9	58.7	24.3	128.2	0.8
No time	84.4	161.1	53.9	299.4	1.8
Too expensive	17.8	39.6	14.3	71.7	0.4
Transport problems	*8.6	10.0	*4.1	22.7	0.1
Other reason	243.2	450.1	288.6	982.5	6.0
Total conditions (c)	3,572.4	7,687.6	5,148.0	16,437.2	100.0

(a) Either within the last two weeks or previously, or where at time of interview arrangements had been made for consultation. (b) Includes conditions reported by persons who did not state the degree of associated concern or pain. (c) Includes conditions reported by persons who did not state whether a doctor had been consulted.

TABLE 4. TYPE OF RECENT ILLNESS CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED FOR WHICH A DOCTOR WAS
CONSULTED (a), BY AGE AND SEX
(⁰⁰⁰)

International code number	Type of condition	Number of conditions experienced by persons aged						
	Condition group	Under 15 years	15-44 years	45-64 years	65 years or more	All ages		
		Males	Females	Persons				
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	62.0	72.2	31.1	17.2	76.1	106.4	182.4
140-239	Neoplasms	*	12.3	16.6	15.1	24.4	20.2	44.6
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	12.4	81.4	92.0	43.2	80.2	148.8	229.0
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	*3.2	10.4	*6.4	*4.7	*6.6	18.1	24.8
290-315	Mental disorders	49.3	84.5	118.1	83.0	121.1	213.7	334.8
320-389	Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	116.8	225.8	172.8	159.8	274.3	400.9	675.2
390-458	Diseases of the circulatory system	*2.6	70.2	244.6	250.8	249.6	318.6	568.2
460-519	Diseases of the respiratory system	443.2	491.3	237.8	151.4	636.6	687.2	1,323.8
520-577	Diseases of the digestive system	61.2	102.2	80.6	58.2	134.7	147.5	302.2
580-629	Diseases of the genito-urinary system	14.1	85.7	54.6	41.9	43.9	152.2	196.3
630-678	Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, etc. and certain causes of perinatal morbidity	*	91.9	*	*	*	92.6	92.8
760-779	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	100.9	148.6	68.7	30.4	166.5	182.1	348.6
780-799	Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	*6.7	249.6	481.8	353.0	406.0	685.1	1,091.1
740-759	Congenital anomalies	*5.5	10.3	*7.5	*	*7.0	17.4	24.3
780-796	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	214.4	537.0	413.7	276.5	570.9	870.7	1,441.6
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings, and violence	53.0	237.9	98.1	56.0	251.1	194.0	445.1
..	Absence of limbs or organs	*	*4.4	*6.0	*4.4	*6.9	*7.9	14.8
	Total conditions	1,146.1	2,516.1	2,131.1	1,546.6	3,076.0	4,263.8	7,339.8

(a) Either within the last two weeks or previously or where at time of interview arrangements had been made for consultation.

TYPE OF RECENT ILLNESS CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED FOR
WHICH A DOCTOR WAS CONSULTED

CHART C

1	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	19.7%
2	Diseases of the Respiratory System	18.0%
3	Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue	14.9%
4	Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	9.2%
5	Diseases of the Circulatory System	7.7%
6	Accidents, Poisonings and Violence	6.1%
7	Diseases of the Skin and Sub-cutaneous Tissue	4.8%
8	Mental Disorders	4.6%
9	Diseases of the Digestive System	4.1%
10	Other	10.9%

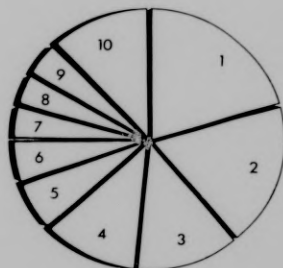


TABLE 5. PERSONS, SHOWING NUMBER OF DAYS SPENT IN BED (a)
DUE TO ILLNESS OR INJURY, BY AGE AND SEX

Number of days spent in bed	Age group						Total		Total number of bed days '000
	2-4 years '000	5-14 years '000	15-24 years '000	25-44 years '000	45-64 years '000	65 years or more '000	'000	(per cent)	
MALES									
None	349.7	1,194.4	1,128.6	1,849.2	1,288.7	485.0	6,295.6	94.4	..
1	*7.5	45.0	25.3	38.2	23.8	10.4	150.2	2.3	150.2
2-3	*7.4	34.7	21.3	32.2	29.8	11.4	136.7	2.0	320.8
4-7	*	11.8	*6.1	14.7	18.8	*8.7	60.8	0.9	313.1
8-14	*	*	*	*4.2	11.9	*7.7	26.8	0.4	331.3
Total	365.4	1,287.5	1,182.4	1,938.6	1,373.0	523.1	6,670.0	100.0	1,115.5
FEMALES									
None	337.1	1,118.4	1,050.6	1,729.4	1,267.5	649.0	6,151.9	92.6	..
1	*7.4	45.4	52.1	65.0	26.8	*7.8	204.4	3.1	204.4
2-3	*5.9	37.1	34.3	38.6	39.2	18.9	174.0	2.6	399.7
4-7	*2.5	14.1	14.3	19.3	9.1	*7.6	66.9	1.0	334.0
8-14	*2.9	*4.4	*3.2	*6.2	15.2	17.1	49.0	0.7	576.7
Total	355.8	1,219.4	1,154.4	1,858.6	1,357.8	700.4	6,646.4	100.0	1,514.9
PERSONS									
None	686.8	2,312.8	2,179.2	3,578.6	2,556.2	1,134.0	12,447.5	93.4	..
1	14.8	90.4	77.4	103.3	50.6	18.2	354.7	2.7	354.7
2-3	13.3	71.8	55.6	70.9	69.0	30.2	310.7	2.3	720.5
4-7	*3.2	25.8	20.4	34.1	27.9	16.3	127.7	1.0	647.2
8-14	*3.0	*6.2	*4.3	10.4	27.1	24.8	75.8	0.6	908.0
Total	(b)721.2	(b)2,507.7	(b)2,340.7	(b)3,800.8	(b)2,733.9	(b)1,224.6	(b)13,328.9	100.0	2,630.3

(a) In the two weeks before interview. (b) Includes persons who did not report whether they spent days in bed due to illness or injury. In total there were 12,500 such persons.

NOTE: Question not asked in respect of children aged less than 2 years.

TABLE 6. PERSONS, SHOWING NUMBER OF DAYS SPENT IN BED (a)
DUE TO ILLNESS OR INJURY, BY STATES AND SEX
'000

Number of days spent in bed	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
MALES									
None	2,201.5	1,688.6	962.4	580.9	543.7	188.4	35.1	95.0	6,295.6
1	52.4	42.6	18.3	17.3	12.5	2.8	1.5	2.8	150.2
2-3	51.2	40.0	17.6	11.5	9.8	3.6	1.2	*1.8	136.7
4-7	*25.9	17.7	7.4	*2.5	*5.2	*1.1	*0.5	*0.5	60.8
8-14	*10.6	*6.5	*5.8	*1.4	*1.8	*	*	*	26.8
Total males	2,341.6	1,795.4	1,011.4	613.6	573.0	196.3	38.3	100.3	6,670.0
FEMALES									
None	2,190.2	1,654.1	926.8	565.6	513.2	184.0	27.5	90.5	6,151.9
1	68.0	58.8	26.6	20.8	20.6	4.2	1.4	4.2	204.4
2-3	63.6	51.6	22.0	12.8	17.4	3.6	0.7	2.4	174.0
4-7	17.1	23.3	13.1	5.6	*5.2	*1.1	*0.4	*1.0	66.9
8-14	19.3	15.8	7.8	*1.1	*3.0	*1.2	*0.3	*0.6	49.0
Total females	2,358.1	1,803.6	996.4	605.9	559.3	194.1	30.2	98.6	6,646.4
PERSONS									
None	4,391.7	3,342.6	1,889.3	1,146.6	1,056.8	372.4	62.6	185.6	12,447.5
1	120.4	101.4	44.9	38.1	33.1	7.0	2.8	7.0	354.7
2-3	114.7	91.7	39.5	24.2	27.3	7.2	1.9	4.2	310.7
4-7	43.0	41.0	20.5	8.1	10.4	*2.2	0.9	*1.5	127.7
8-14	29.9	22.3	13.6	*2.5	*4.8	*1.7	*0.3	*0.8	75.8
Total persons (b)	4,703.7	3,603.6	2,009.0	1,221.1	1,133.3	390.4	68.6	199.1	13,328.9

(a) In the two weeks before interview. (b) Includes persons who did not report whether they spent days in bed due to illness or injury. In total there were 12,500 such persons.

NOTE: Question not asked in respect of children aged less than 2 years.

TABLE 7. PERSONS WORKING, AND FULL-TIME STUDENTS AGED 6 YEARS OR MORE, INDICATING NUMBER OF DAYS LOST (a) FROM WORK OR UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL, ETC., DUE TO ILLNESS OR INJURY, BY SEX

Number of days lost	Persons working				Full-time students ('000)	Total persons		Total number of days lost ('000)
	Aged 15-24 years ('000)	Aged 25-44 years ('000)	Aged 45 years or more ('000)	Total workers ('000)		('000)	(per cent)	
MALES								
None	729.2	1,690.8	1,089.0	3,509.0	1,337.3	4,846.3	91.1	..
1	43.2	60.8	31.4	135.4	75.8	211.2	4.0	211.2
2-3	17.7	41.5	30.5	89.8	54.0	143.8	2.7	334.4
4-5	*8.0	14.9	9.8	32.6	20.0	52.6	1.0	240.1
6-14	9.5	23.7	26.5	59.7	*6.4	66.1	1.2	585.6
Total	807.6	1,831.7	1,187.2	3,826.5	1,493.6	5,320.1	100.0	1,371.3
FEMALES								
None	535.3	848.2	453.5	1,837.0	1,230.6	3,067.6	89.4	..
1	41.0	34.3	11.6	87.0	78.1	165.1	4.8	165.1
2-3	19.6	20.6	12.8	53.0	59.7	112.7	3.3	254.5
4-5	*6.9	*6.0	*7.0	19.9	29.1	49.0	1.4	220.2
6-14	*5.6	9.5	11.4	26.5	12.2	38.7	1.1	330.8
Total	608.4	918.7	496.4	2,022.5	1,409.7	3,433.1	100.0	970.6
PERSONS								
None	1,264.4	2,539.0	1,542.5	5,345.9	2,568.0	7,913.9	89.6	..
1	84.2	95.1	43.1	222.4	153.9	376.3	4.3	376.3
2-3	37.4	62.1	43.3	142.7	113.7	256.4	2.9	588.9
4-5	14.9	21.0	16.8	52.6	49.1	101.7	1.2	460.2
6-14	15.1	33.2	37.9	86.2	18.6	104.8	1.2	916.5
Total	(b)1,427.2	(b)2,780.4	(b)1,703.2	(b)5,910.8	(b)2,925.4	(b)8,836.2	100.0	(c)2,341.9

(a) In the two weeks before interview. (b) Includes 60,800 persons working and 21,700 full-time students who did not report whether or not they had any days off due to illness or injury. (c) Total reported days lost by persons working was 1,553,100 days and by students 788,700 days.

TABLE 8. PERSONS WORKING, AND FULL-TIME STUDENTS AGED 6 YEARS OR MORE, INDICATING NUMBER OF DAYS LOST (a) FROM WORK OR UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL, ETC., DUE TO ILLNESS OR INJURY, BY STATES ('000)

Number of days lost	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
PERSONS WORKING									
None	1,860.4	1,501.3	762.3	475.6	470.6	154.1	33.0	88.5	5,345.9
1	72.7	64.3	34.1	26.5	14.2	5.9	1.1	3.6	222.4
2-3	54.2	34.8	20.0	14.5	11.4	3.8	0.9	2.9	142.7
4-5	22.9	14.4	*6.4	*4.0	*	*1.9	*0.4	*1.4	52.6
6-14	31.2	22.0	13.2	7.5	7.3	2.5	0.7	*1.7	86.2
Total persons working (b)	2,061.5	1,652.2	844.2	535.0	513.2	168.8	36.3	99.5	5,910.8
FULL-TIME STUDENTS									
None	864.2	738.1	378.7	232.1	219.0	76.0	14.0	45.9	2,568.0
1	50.3	45.1	23.9	10.6	15.6	3.6	1.0	3.8	153.9
2-3	46.2	25.3	14.0	12.3	10.2	2.9	*0.6	2.3	113.7
4-5	21.5	12.8	7.3	*3.5	*2.2	*0.6	*0.4	*0.7	49.1
6-14	*7.5	*6.0	*	*1.6	*1.8	*	*0.2	*	18.6
Total full-time students (c)	997.8	833.7	428.5	261.3	250.1	84.2	16.2	53.3	2,925.4

(a) In the two weeks before interview. (b) Includes 60,800 persons working who did not report whether or not they had any days off due to illness or injury. (c) Includes 21,700 full-time students who did not report whether or not they had any days off due to illness or injury.

CHRONIC ILLNESS:
PERSONS

TABLE 9. PERSONS INDICATING WHETHER CHRONIC ILLNESS CONDITION EXPERIENCED AND WHETHER CHRONIC LIMITING ILLNESS CONDITION EXPERIENCED, BY AGE AND SEX

	Age group						Total	
	Under 5 years (⁰⁰⁰)	5-14 years (⁰⁰⁰)	15-24 years (⁰⁰⁰)	25-44 years (⁰⁰⁰)	45-64 years (⁰⁰⁰)	65 years and over (⁰⁰⁰)	(⁰⁰⁰)	(per cent)
MALES								
Males with -								
No chronic conditions (a)	480.3	907.3	821.2	1,113.4	509.1	124.6	3,955.8	57.3
One or more chronic conditions	116.7	381.1	362.7	826.4	865.9	399.7	2,952.5	42.7
One or more chronic limiting conditions (b)	(c) 9.7	66.8	68.3	197.5	324.3	57.4	(c) 724.1	(c) 10.5
Total males	596.9	1,288.4	1,183.9	1,939.8	1,375.1	524.2	6,908.3	100.0
FEMALES								
Females with -								
No chronic conditions (a)	457.9	926.0	761.8	888.5	422.3	149.3	3,605.7	52.5
One or more chronic conditions	108.9	293.4	395.0	972.5	936.6	551.0	3,257.3	47.5
One or more chronic limiting conditions (b)	(c) 6.7	39.6	87.0	179.6	224.5	106.1	(c) 643.6	(c) 9.4
Total females	566.8	1,219.4	1,156.7	1,861.0	1,358.8	700.4	6,863.1	100.0
PERSONS								
Persons with -								
No chronic conditions (a)	938.2	1,833.3	1,583.0	2,001.9	931.4	273.9	7,561.5	54.9
One or more chronic conditions	225.5	674.4	757.7	1,798.9	1,802.5	950.7	6,209.8	45.1
One or more chronic limiting conditions (b)	(c) 16.4	106.4	155.4	377.1	548.8	163.5	(c) 1,367.6	(c) 9.9
Total persons	1,163.7	2,507.7	2,340.7	3,800.8	2,733.9	1,224.6	13,771.4	100.0

(a) Includes a total of 14,000 persons who did not state whether they had a chronic condition. (b) 136,900 persons had one or more chronic conditions but did not state whether they had any associated activity limitation. Of these 23,000 were males and 113,900 were females. (c) Excludes children under 2 years of age as questions on limiting chronic conditions were not asked in respect of this group.

PERSONS INDICATING WHETHER CHRONIC ILLNESS CONDITION EXPERIENCED
AND WHETHER CHRONIC LIMITING ILLNESS CONDITION EXPERIENCED, BY AGE

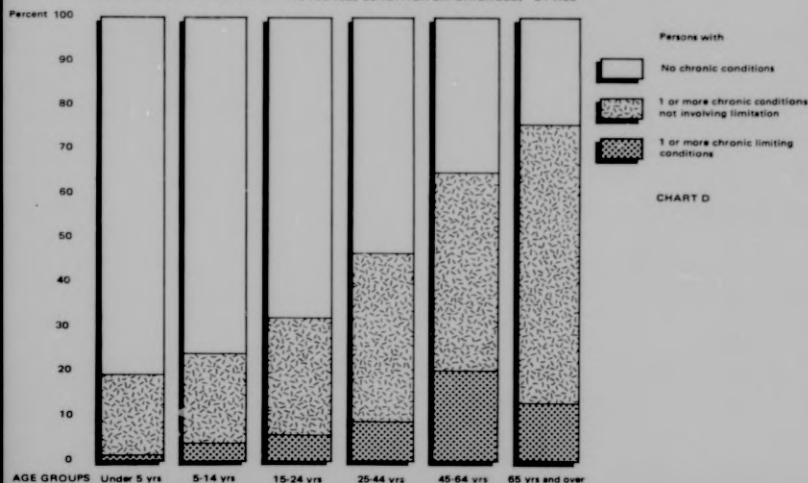
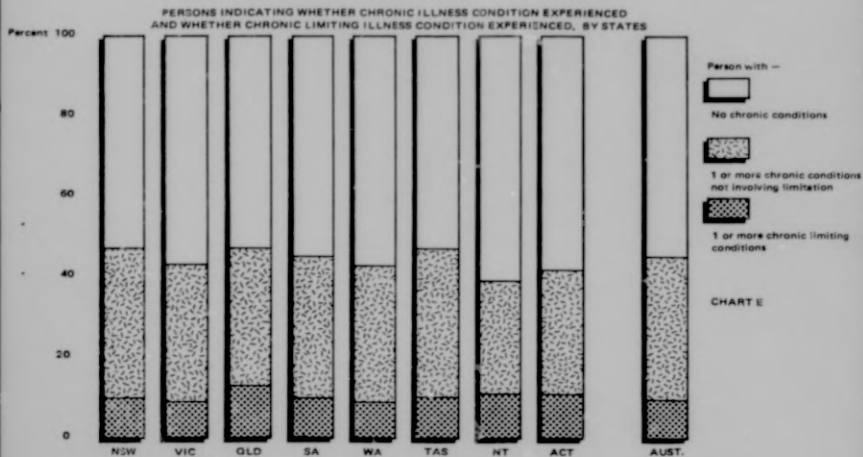


TABLE 10. PERSONS INDICATING WHETHER CHRONIC ILLNESS CONDITION EXPERIENCED AND
WHETHER CHRONIC LIMITING ILLNESS CONDITION EXPERIENCED (a), BY STATES AND SEX
(¹000)

	N.S.W.	Vic	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
MALES									
Males with -									
No chronic conditions (b)	1,351.8	1,116.8	581.4	356.1	347.7	112.3	24.5	65.2	3,955.8
One or more chronic conditions	1,077.2	744.7	462.1	274.2	247.8	89.8	15.8	40.8	2,952.5
One or more chronic limiting conditions (c)	255.2	176.4	121.8	70.8	62.1	21.5	4.3	11.7	724.1
Total males	2,429.0	1,861.5	1,043.5	630.4	595.6	202.1	40.3	106.0	6,908.3
FEMALES									
Females with -									
No chronic conditions (b)	1,251.6	1,013.4	530.2	334.1	300.9	100.0	19.6	55.9	3,605.7
One or more chronic conditions	1,177.4	846.8	501.8	292.6	279.0	100.9	12.7	46.1	3,257.3
One or more chronic limiting conditions (c)	226.9	167.7	109.6	54.2	51.8	19.5	3.1	10.8	643.6
Total females	2,429.0	1,860.1	1,032.0	626.7	579.9	200.9	32.3	102.0	6,863.1
PERSONS									
Persons with -									
No chronic conditions (b)	2,603.4	2,130.2	1,111.6	690.2	648.6	212.2	44.1	121.1	7,561.6
One or more chronic conditions	2,254.6	1,591.4	963.9	566.9	526.8	190.7	28.5	86.9	6,209.8
One or more chronic limiting conditions (c)	482.2	344.1	231.4	125.0	113.9	41.0	7.5	22.5	1,367.6
Total	4,858.0	3,721.6	2,075.6	1,257.1	1,175.5	403.0	72.6	208.1	13,771.4

(a) Excluding children under 2 years of age as questions on limiting chronic conditions were not asked in respect of this group. (b) Includes a total of 14,000 persons who did not state whether they had a chronic condition. (c) 136,900 persons had one or more chronic conditions but did not state whether they had any associated activity limitation. Of these 23,000 were males and 113,900 were females.



CHRONIC ILLNESS:
CONDITIONS

TABLE 11. TYPE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED BY PERSONS, BY AGE AND SEX

International code number	Type of condition Condition group	Number of conditions experienced by persons aged							
		All ages				Persons			
		Under 15 years (⁰⁰⁰)	15-44 years (⁰⁰⁰)	45-64 years (⁰⁰⁰)	65 years or more (⁰⁰⁰)	Males (⁰⁰⁰)	Females (⁰⁰⁰)	(⁰⁰⁰)	(per cent)
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	*5.4	26.9	19.7	*6.6	30.8	27.7	58.6	0.5
140-239	Neoplasms	*3.8	23.8	37.5	29.3	53.3	41.0	94.3	0.9
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	*8.5	72.0	153.9	92.5	169.0	157.9	326.8	2.9
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	15.1	69.0	27.7	22.6	25.2	109.1	134.3	1.2
290-315	Mental disorders	101.0	131.0	80.4	18.1	172.3	158.1	330.5	3.0
320-389	Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	138.8	627.5	444.0	348.2	737.6	820.9	1,558.6	14.1
390-458	Diseases of the circulatory system	23.1	484.0	920.7	643.1	825.5	1,245.4	2,070.8	18.7
460-519	Diseases of the respiratory system	524.7	1,142.6	514.0	233.7	1,231.5	1,183.5	2,415.0	21.8
520-577	Diseases of the digestive system	29.7	164.0	228.5	106.5	302.9	225.9	528.8	4.8
580-629	Diseases of the genito-urinary system	13.6	85.4	60.5	41.4	67.8	133.0	200.8	1.8
630-678	Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, etc. and certain causes of perinatal morbidity	*	*	*	*	*	*4.0	*4.8	*0.1
680-709	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	177.6	386.2	163.2	61.5	343.1	445.5	788.6	7.1
710-738	Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	14.1	532.0	831.7	488.7	794.2	1,072.3	1,866.5	16.8
740-759	Congenital anomalies	47.8	30.9	10.8	*5.3	43.4	51.4	94.8	0.9
780-796	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	21.0	73.6	55.1	30.9	94.8	93.4	188.2	1.7
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings, and violence	27.8	112.9	59.9	27.2	133.4	94.4	227.9	2.1
..	Absence of limbs or organs	*4.6	71.7	74.9	36.9	107.8	80.3	188.0	1.7
Total conditions		1,165.3	4,035.4	3,684.3	2,192.6	5,133.6	5,944.0	11,077.5	100.0

TABLE 12. TYPE OF CHRONIC ILLNESS CONDITIONS EXPERIENCED BY PERSONS,
BY STATES
(⁰⁰⁰)

International code number	Type of condition									
	Condition group	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
000-136	Infective and parasitic diseases	14.2	18.5	11.4	*5.0	6.4	*2.3	*0.5	*	58.6
140-239	Neoplasms	29.1	29.0	20.6	*4.9	6.6	*2.2	*0.2	1.6	94.3
240-279	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	121.8	75.1	61.9	31.0	21.4	10.0	0.8	5.1	326.8
280-289	Diseases of blood and blood-forming organs	44.9	38.7	19.5	13.0	12.6	2.7	0.8	2.1	134.3
290-315	Mental disorders	110.4	79.3	55.1	32.7	29.7	12.8	1.9	5.6	330.5
320-389	Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	573.1	364.3	241.6	151.5	146.2	52.9	6.9	22.1	1,558.6
390-458	Diseases of the circulatory system	825.9	525.5	298.3	175.2	148.1	66.3	6.9	24.8	2,070.8
460-519	Diseases of the respiratory system	920.1	625.6	336.4	243.4	185.7	60.3	10.4	33.1	2,415.0
520-577	Diseases of the digestive system	223.6	131.6	75.2	36.5	35.0	19.0	1.4	6.4	528.8
580-629	Diseases of the genito-urinary system	84.1	42.9	40.0	9.7	14.4	5.5	0.9	3.4	200.8
630-678	Complications of pregnancy, childbirth, etc. and certain causes of perinatal morbidity	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*4.8
680-709	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	274.6	185.5	128.8	62.0	85.3	32.5	4.5	15.4	788.6
710-738	Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	737.0	427.0	287.1	150.3	176.8	64.9	4.9	18.6	1,866.5
740-759	Congenital anomalies	31.0	31.6	12.7	*4.6	7.9	4.4	0.8	1.9	94.8
780-796	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	52.1	37.0	63.0	9.9	15.6	8.1	1.0	*1.5	188.2
N800-N999	Accidents, poisonings, and violence	79.6	58.7	39.0	18.3	20.4	4.9	2.2	4.7	227.9
..	Absence of limbs or organs	60.9	60.7	28.4	20.5	10.5	4.6	*	2.3	188.0
Total conditions		4,182.2	2,732.7	1,723.5	969.0	923.5	353.4	44.2	149.1	11,077.5

TABLE 13. PERSONS, INDICATING PERIOD SINCE DOCTOR LAST CONSULTED, BY AGE AND SEX

	Age group						Total	
	Under 5 years (^{'000})	5-14 years (^{'000})	15-24 years (^{'000})	25-44 years (^{'000})	45-64 years (^{'000})	65 years and over (^{'000})	(^{'000})	(per cent)
MALES								
Period since last consulted a doctor -								
2 weeks ago or less	120.3	143.3	129.8	234.4	259.9	157.0	1,044.6	15.1
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	184.7	304.2	263.3	491.1	421.9	200.3	1,865.6	27.0
More than 3 months to 6 months	120.4	233.4	198.9	346.4	203.4	56.7	1,159.1	16.8
More than 6 months to 12 months	97.6	234.3	229.1	314.9	189.8	36.9	1,102.6	16.0
More than 12 months (a)	74.0	371.4	362.4	552.8	300.1	73.4	1,734.0	25.1
Total males (b)	596.9	1,288.4	1,183.9	1,939.8	1,375.1	524.2	6,908.3	100.0
FEMALES								
Period since last consulted a doctor -								
2 weeks ago or less	125.0	137.5	233.3	403.2	281.8	214.8	1,395.6	20.3
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	191.8	268.2	362.8	625.9	496.8	287.7	2,233.1	32.5
More than 3 months to 6 months	102.3	202.9	206.2	332.8	208.4	82.2	1,134.8	16.5
More than 6 months to 12 months	83.4	228.8	156.2	226.1	138.3	45.0	877.7	12.8
More than 12 months (a)	64.3	379.6	197.2	272.9	233.3	70.7	1,218.0	17.8
Total females (b)	566.8	1,219.4	1,156.7	1,861.0	1,358.8	700.4	6,863.1	100.0
PERSONS								
Period since last consulted a doctor -								
2 weeks ago or less	245.3	280.8	363.1	637.5	541.7	371.7	2,440.1	17.7
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	376.5	572.4	626.1	1,117.0	918.7	488.0	4,098.7	29.8
More than 3 months to 6 months	222.7	436.3	405.1	679.2	411.7	138.9	2,293.8	16.7
More than 6 months to 12 months	180.9	463.1	385.3	541.1	328.0	81.9	1,980.4	14.4
More than 12 months (a)	138.3	751.0	559.6	825.7	533.4	144.1	2,952.0	21.4
Total persons (b)	1,163.7	2,507.7	2,340.7	3,800.8	2,733.9	1,224.6	13,771.4	100.0

(a) Includes 58,800 persons who stated that they have never consulted a doctor. Of these 27,700 were males and 31,100 were females. (b) Includes persons who did not state when they last consulted a doctor.

TABLE 14. PERSONS, INDICATING PERIOD SINCE DOCTOR LAST CONSULTED, BY STATES AND SEX
(^{'000})

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Aust.
MALES									
Period since last consulted a doctor -									
2 weeks ago or less	388.7	249.9	170.5	99.3	81.4	32.1	5.7	17.0	1,044.6
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	696.2	463.0	286.1	166.6	164.9	52.2	10.5	26.1	1,865.6
More than 3 months to 6 months	391.3	343.5	159.0	108.0	98.4	31.6	7.5	20.0	1,159.1
More than 6 months to 12 months	405.2	281.0	157.1	103.4	94.9	35.8	6.7	18.5	1,102.6
More than 12 months (a)	547.2	522.6	270.8	152.9	155.9	50.3	9.9	24.4	1,734.0
Total males (b)	2,429.0	1,861.5	1,043.5	630.4	595.6	202.1	40.3	106.0	6,908.3
FEMALES									
Period since last consulted a doctor -									
2 weeks ago or less	509.9	364.2	219.8	116.6	118.9	40.0	6.7	19.3	1,395.6
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	831.0	583.4	319.7	204.8	182.6	66.1	9.8	35.7	2,233.1
More than 3 months to 6 months	398.9	302.7	167.8	109.3	98.9	31.8	5.5	19.8	1,134.8
More than 6 months to 12 months	291.4	246.5	137.1	80.4	76.6	28.6	4.8	12.5	877.7
More than 12 months (a)	397.8	360.9	187.4	115.5	101.9	34.4	5.5	14.6	1,218.0
Total females (b)	2,429.0	1,860.1	1,032.0	626.7	579.9	200.9	32.3	102.0	6,863.1
PERSONS									
Period since last consulted a doctor -									
2 weeks ago or less	898.7	614.1	390.3	215.8	200.3	72.1	12.4	36.4	2,440.1
More than 2 weeks to 3 months	1,527.2	1,046.4	605.9	371.4	347.4	118.3	20.3	61.8	4,098.7
More than 3 months to 6 months	790.2	646.2	326.8	217.3	197.3	63.4	12.9	39.8	2,293.8
More than 6 months to 12 months	696.6	527.5	294.1	183.7	171.5	64.4	11.5	31.1	1,980.4
More than 12 months (a)	945.0	883.4	458.2	268.4	257.8	84.7	15.4	39.1	2,952.0
Total persons (b)	4,858.0	3,721.6	2,075.6	1,257.1	1,175.5	403.0	72.6	208.1	13,771.4

(a) Includes 58,800 persons who stated that they have never consulted a doctor. Of these 27,700 were males and 31,100 were females. (b) Includes persons who did not state when they last consulted a doctor.

TABLE 15. PERSONS WHO CONSULTED A DOCTOR IN THE TWO WEEKS BEFORE INTERVIEW
BY PLACE OF CONSULTATION

Place of consultation	Number of persons (a) (<i>'000</i>)	Number of consultations (b) (<i>'000</i>)	Number of consultations per person
Doctor's surgery	1,989.1	2,485.3	1.25
Patient's home	123.8	165.1	1.33
Hospital as an inpatient	103.0	394.9	3.83
Hospital Outpatient Department	230.8	306.3	1.33
Hospital Casualty Department	67.9	86.0	1.27
Work or school clinic	52.1	66.7	1.28
Over telephone or through another person	39.5	47.7	1.21
Total, all places	(a)2,440.1	3,552.0	1.46

(a) A person who consulted a doctor at more than one place of consultation is counted at each place. However, the total number of persons at all places is an unduplicated total. (b) Includes all consultations made by persons who consulted a doctor more than once at a particular place of consultation.

TABLE 16. PERSONS WHO CONSULTED A DOCTOR IN THE THREE MONTHS BEFORE INTERVIEW (a)
BY MAIN REASON FOR LAST CONSULTATION, BY AGE AND SEX

Main reason for last consultation	Age group					Total	
	Under 5 years (<i>'000</i>)	5-14 years (<i>'000</i>)	15-24 years (<i>'000</i>)	25-44 years (<i>'000</i>)	45-64 years (<i>'000</i>)	65 years and over (<i>'000</i>)	(<i>per cent</i>)
MALES							
Immunisation or vaccination	16.1	18.7	11.4	19.0	12.6	*5.8	83.7
Eye test	*4.7	*6.9	*5.1	*8.2	13.9	8.9	47.8
Renewal of prescription	*3.0	9.9	*6.1	19.9	88.8	55.0	182.8
A certificate, other than a prescription	*	*	12.7	24.6	*8.8	*3.4	51.3
Any sickness, illness, injury or infection	241.3	372.4	319.6	570.3	468.2	226.7	2,198.6
Other reason	29.9	27.2	32.5	75.0	77.9	47.3	289.8
Total males	295.5	436.5	387.4	717.1	670.3	347.1	2,853.9
FEMALES							
Immunisation or vaccination	18.0	14.6	12.4	14.9	16.7	10.5	87.2
Eye test	*	10.1	12.3	15.3	10.6	*6.5	56.7
Pre or post-natal care	..	..	79.1	118.5	*	*	198.3
Renewal of prescription	*3.0	*4.7	67.5	114.4	124.4	97.4	411.3
A certificate, other than a prescription	*	*	*5.1	*6.0	*7.6	*2.5	22.9
Any sickness, illness, injury or infection	246.7	331.3	349.9	583.6	509.7	296.0	2,317.2
Other reason	30.9	36.9	53.8	135.8	89.5	75.6	422.5
Total females	301.9	397.9	580.1	988.4	759.2	488.5	3,516.1
PERSONS							
Immunisation and vaccination	34.1	33.4	23.8	33.9	29.4	16.4	170.9
Eye test	*6.6	17.0	17.4	23.5	24.5	15.4	104.5
Pre or post-natal care	..	..	79.1	118.5	*	*	198.3
Renewal of prescription	*6.0	14.6	73.6	134.2	213.2	152.4	594.1
A certificate, other than a prescription	*	*	17.8	30.6	16.4	*5.9	74.2
Any sickness, illness, injury or infection	488.0	703.7	669.6	1,153.9	977.9	522.7	4,515.8
Other reason	60.8	64.0	86.3	210.8	167.4	122.8	712.2
Total persons	597.5	834.4	967.6	1,705.5	1,429.5	835.6	6,370.0

(a) Excluded from the table are 168,700 persons who last consulted a doctor in the three month period during a stay in hospital or over the telephone or through some other person. Of these 56,100 were males and 112,600 were females.

OTHER HEALTH WORKER
UTILISATIONTABLE 17. PERSONS WHO CONSULTED A HEALTH WORKER (OTHER THAN A DOCTOR OR DENTIST)
IN THE FOUR WEEKS BEFORE INTERVIEW, BY AGE AND SEX, BY TYPE OF HEALTH WORKER

Type of health worker	Number of persons (a)			Number of consultations (b)			Number of consultations per person
	Males ('000)	Females ('000)	Persons ('000)	Males ('000)	Females ('000)	Persons ('000)	
PERSONS UNDER 15 YEARS OF AGE (c)							
Baby health centre nurse (d)	95.2	83.2	178.4	140.2	127.4	267.5	1.50
School, community or other nurse	43.9	48.0	91.9	51.9	62.4	114.2	1.24
Optician or optometrist	11.9	13.0	24.9	13.2	13.4	26.5	1.06
Chemist (e)	53.1	50.3	103.4	61.2	56.7	117.8	1.14
Social worker or welfare officer	10.6	*5.5	16.1	16.4	*8.9	25.3	1.57
Physiotherapist	10.0	*3.1	13.1	31.0	16.3	47.3	3.61
PERSONS AGED 15-44 YEARS							
District, home or community nurse	13.5	15.7	29.2	21.9	27.6	49.5	1.70
Optician or optometrist	28.4	48.1	76.5	33.2	58.4	91.6	1.20
Chiropodist	*4.4	10.9	15.3	*5.7	12.1	17.9	1.17
Chemist (e)	71.1	116.2	187.3	78.7	132.9	211.6	1.13
Social worker or welfare officer	*5.1	11.5	16.5	*8.0	25.1	33.1	2.01
Chiropactor, naturopath or osteopath	54.7	68.6	123.2	88.2	130.7	218.9	1.78
Physiotherapist	26.5	41.4	77.9	114.5	113.4	227.9	2.93
PERSONS AGED 45 YEARS OR MORE							
District, home or community nurse	19.7	28.2	47.9	68.3	124.9	193.1	4.03
Optician or optometrist	49.2	63.7	112.9	58.1	76.9	135.0	1.20
Chiropodist	18.4	60.7	79.1	18.4	61.5	79.9	1.01
Chemist (e)	22.7	35.7	58.4	27.7	39.7	67.4	1.15
Social worker or welfare officer	*7.3	16.9	24.2	13.4	33.2	46.6	1.93
Chiropactor, naturopath or osteopath	39.5	49.6	89.2	76.5	90.6	167.1	1.87
Physiotherapist	34.0	33.3	67.3	136.6	146.0	282.5	4.20

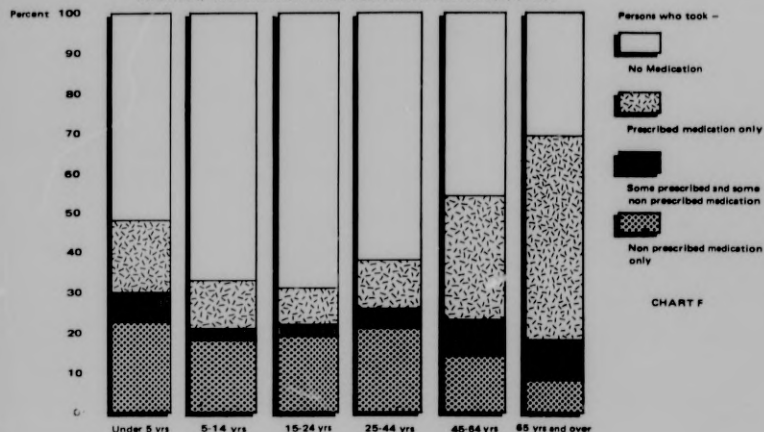
(a) A person who consulted more than one type of health worker in the four week period is recorded against each type consulted. (b) Includes all consultations made by persons who consulted one particular type of health worker more than once. (c) Questions about consultations with chiropodists, chiropactors, naturopaths or osteopaths were not asked in respect of persons under 15 years of age. (d) Only ascertained for persons aged 5 years or less. (e) Includes only visits to chemists where medical advice was sought.

TABLE 18. PERSONS AGED 6 YEARS OR MORE INDICATING PERIOD SINCE
DENTIST LAST CONSULTED, BY AGE AND SEX

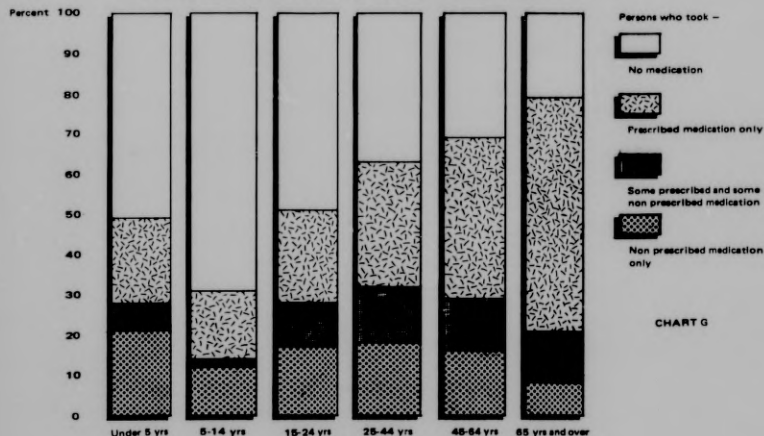
Period since dentist last consulted	Age group					Total	
	6-14 years ('000)	15-24 years ('000)	25-44 years ('000)	45-64 years ('000)	65 years and over ('000)	('000)	(per cent)
MALES							
6 months or less	549.5	349.2	456.1	278.0	64.0	1,696.8	27.5
More than 6 months to 12 months	318.4	286.7	340.0	169.0	42.0	1,156.1	18.7
More than 12 months (a)	280.3	546.4	1,140.8	927.4	417.8	3,312.7	53.7
Total males (b)	1,148.2	1,182.3	1,936.9	1,374.4	523.8	6,165.6	100.0
FEMALES							
6 months or less	533.5	432.7	616.5	264.6	78.7	1,926.0	31.3
More than 6 months to 12 months	272.6	290.1	373.9	173.6	47.3	1,157.5	18.8
More than 12 months (a)	275.0	429.3	867.3	918.8	573.7	3,064.0	49.7
Total females (b)	1,081.1	1,151.9	1,857.7	1,356.8	700.0	6,147.5	100.0
PERSONS							
6 months or less	1,083.0	782.0	1,072.6	542.6	142.7	3,622.8	29.4
More than 6 months to 12 months	591.0	576.8	713.9	342.6	89.2	2,313.6	18.8
More than 12 months (a)	555.3	975.7	2,008.1	1,846.1	991.6	6,376.8	51.7
Total persons (b)	2,229.3	2,334.5	3,794.6	2,731.3	1,123.5	12,333.2	100.0

(a) Includes 287,200 persons who stated that they have never visited a dentist. Of these 157,300 were males and 129,900 were females. (b) Includes 19,000 persons who did not state how long it had been since they had consulted a dentist.

MALES, INDICATING WHETHER MEDICATION TAKEN IN THE TWO DAYS BEFORE INTERVIEW, AND WHETHER OR NOT MEDICATION PRESCRIBED, BY AGE



FEMALES, INDICATING WHETHER MEDICATION TAKEN IN THE TWO DAYS BEFORE INTERVIEW, AND WHETHER OR NOT MEDICATION PRESCRIBED, BY AGE ¹¹



¹¹ Prescribed medication includes females aged 18-60 yrs taking birth control pills

TABLE 19. PERSONS TAKING MEDICATION IN THE TWO DAYS BEFORE INTERVIEW
BY TYPE OF MEDICATION TAKEN, BY AGE AND SEX

Type of medication (a)	AGE GROUP						Total	
	Under 5 years (⁰⁰⁰)	5-14 years (⁰⁰⁰)	15-24 years (⁰⁰⁰)	25-44 years (⁰⁰⁰)	45-64 years (⁰⁰⁰)	65 years and over (⁰⁰⁰)	(⁰⁰⁰)	(b) (per cent)
MALES								
Common pain relievers	57.2	82.2	127.9	290.9	267.3	98.9	924.5	13.4
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	75.3	107.1	48.9	70.5	75.8	39.6	417.1	6.0
Allergy tablets and medicines	*7.6	41.5	28.6	39.5	30.1	16.0	163.2	2.4
Skin ointments and salves (c)	47.6	48.9	93.0	121.4	87.8	40.4	439.1	6.4
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	*8.0	13.2	14.8	66.7	91.7	55.2	249.6	3.6
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	9.5	14.4	13.3	52.9	113.0	50.2	253.4	3.7
Sleeping pills and medicines	*5.0	*	*5.0	15.3	54.5	49.0	130.7	1.9
Vitamins and tonics	113.3	139.1	90.9	190.0	131.9	46.1	711.4	10.3
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	*	31.8	217.8	170.7	421.0	6.1
Other medications	74.7	101.1	55.0	103.9	179.0	114.6	628.3	9.1
Total males taking medication (a)	286.6	417.9	370.7	721.9	740.8	360.7	2,898.6	42.0
FEMALES								
Common pain relievers	62.2	87.2	215.6	446.6	350.7	194.5	1,356.8	19.8
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	72.6	85.2	63.9	83.5	58.7	40.8	404.7	5.9
Allergy tablets and medicines	*4.6	24.6	34.8	80.4	43.1	21.6	209.1	3.0
Skin ointments and salves (c)	49.1	59.9	106.0	132.0	105.7	57.4	510.0	7.4
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	12.6	15.4	36.4	106.3	131.4	82.3	384.4	5.6
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	*6.1	*6.8	21.7	97.9	179.4	97.0	408.8	6.0
Sleeping pills and medicines	*2.7	*	*8.3	35.4	101.5	104.1	252.7	3.7
Vitamins and tonics	113.9	102.0	142.3	318.0	183.9	92.0	952.1	13.9
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	13.9	100.7	307.3	311.9	733.8	10.7
Birth control pills (d)	..	..	247.6	344.0	25.2	..	616.9	(d) 19.9
Other medications	77.4	93.9	79.4	145.0	193.3	158.7	747.8	10.9
Total females taking medication (a)	276.9	374.1	650.1	1,170.3	936.9	553.0	3,961.3	57.7
PERSONS								
Common pain relievers	119.4	169.4	343.5	737.5	618.0	293.5	2,281.3	16.6
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	147.9	192.3	112.8	153.9	134.5	80.4	821.8	6.0
Allergy tablets and medicines	12.2	66.1	63.4	119.9	73.2	37.5	372.2	2.7
Skin ointments and salves (c)	96.7	108.8	199.0	253.3	193.6	97.8	949.1	6.9
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	20.6	28.6	51.2	172.9	223.2	137.5	634.0	4.6
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	15.6	21.2	35.1	150.8	292.4	147.2	662.2	4.8
Sleeping pills and medicines	*7.7	*2.5	13.3	50.8	156.0	153.1	383.4	2.8
Vitamins and tonics	227.2	241.2	233.2	508.0	315.8	138.1	1,663.5	12.1
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	14.7	132.5	525.1	482.6	1,154.8	8.4
Birth control pills (d)	..	..	247.6	344.0	25.2	..	616.9	(d) 19.9
Other medications	152.1	195.1	134.4	248.9	372.3	273.3	1,376.2	10.0
Total persons taking medication (a)	563.5	792.0	1,020.8	1,892.2	1,677.7	913.7	6,859.9	49.8

(a) A person who took more than one type of medication is counted in each type of medication taken; however the total taking medication is an unduplicated total. (b) Percentage figures relate the numbers of males, females and persons taking medication to the total number of males, females and persons respectively. (c) Excludes cosmetic creams or preparations. (d) Includes only female population aged 18 to 50 years; per cent of female population aged 18-50 years.

MEDICATION
TAKEN

TABLE 20. PERSONS TAKING PRESCRIBED MEDICATION IN THE TWO DAYS BEFORE
INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF MEDICATION TAKEN, BY AGE AND SEX

Type of prescribed medication (a)	Age group						Total	
	Under 5 years (⁰⁰⁰)	5-14 years (⁰⁰⁰)	15-24 years (⁰⁰⁰)	25-44 years (⁰⁰⁰)	45-64 years (⁰⁰⁰)	65 years and over (⁰⁰⁰)	(⁰⁰⁰)	(b)(per cent)
MALES								
Common pain relievers	22.8	18.6	22.5	56.2	117.1	58.5	295.7	4.3
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	39.5	38.5	13.6	28.8	40.2	29.1	189.7	2.7
Allergy tablets and medicines	*7.0	38.1	24.2	35.2	25.8	15.8	146.1	2.1
Skin ointments and salves (c)	29.9	18.9	41.3	61.3	59.0	30.6	241.0	3.5
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	*4.0	*5.9	*2.6	33.5	57.9	38.4	142.3	2.1
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	*8.3	11.8	11.7	48.6	111.9	49.9	242.3	3.5
Sleeping pills and medicines	*3.8	*	*2.8	11.4	52.3	47.6	119.6	1.7
Vitamins and tonics	30.8	23.5	11.3	26.0	40.4	20.0	152.1	2.2
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	*	31.6	216.1	170.0	418.6	6.1
Other medications	51.4	73.7	47.4	89.0	173.0	112.0	546.5	7.9
Total males taking prescribed medication (a)	151.8	185.7	149.9	326.7	546.9	317.3	1,678.2	24.3
FEMALES								
Common pain relievers	30.4	19.8	38.6	133.0	157.7	125.6	505.2	7.4
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	41.9	31.9	26.8	34.6	31.3	24.2	190.8	2.8
Allergy tablets and medicines	*4.6	23.1	28.1	74.4	39.2	20.7	190.1	2.8
Skin ointments and salves (c)	30.1	28.7	62.2	85.6	74.3	46.7	327.6	4.8
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	*5.8	*6.4	16.1	55.2	73.1	51.8	209.4	3.1
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	*4.5	*6.7	20.0	94.2	176.1	95.9	397.5	5.8
Sleeping pills and medicines	*2.7	*	*8.0	32.6	97.7	103.9	245.2	3.6
Vitamins and tonics	32.2	19.4	62.8	120.2	58.3	52.5	345.4	5.0
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	12.9	96.2	306.4	309.5	725.0	10.6
Birth control pills (c)	..	..	247.6	344.0	25.2	..	616.9	(d)19.9
Other medications	49.8	64.4	67.4	135.4	187.4	154.2	658.6	9.6
Total females taking prescribed medication (a)	146.9	164.7	451.2	838.8	725.4	498.4	2,825.3	41.2
PERSONS								
Common pain relievers	53.2	38.4	61.1	189.3	274.8	184.1	800.8	5.8
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	81.5	70.4	40.4	63.4	71.5	53.2	380.5	2.8
Allergy tablets and medicines	11.6	61.2	52.4	109.6	65.0	36.5	336.2	2.4
Skin ointments and salves (c)	60.0	47.6	103.4	146.9	133.3	77.3	568.6	4.1
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	9.8	12.4	18.6	89.7	131.0	90.1	351.6	2.6
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	12.9	18.5	31.7	142.8	288.1	145.8	639.8	4.6
Sleeping pills and medicines	*6.4	*2.2	10.8	44.0	150.0	151.4	364.9	2.6
Vitamins and tonics	63.1	42.9	74.1	146.2	98.7	72.5	497.5	3.6
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	13.6	127.9	522.6	479.5	1,143.6	8.3
Birth control pills (c)	..	..	247.6	344.0	25.2	..	616.9	(d)19.9
Other medications	101.2	138.1	114.8	224.4	360.4	266.2	1,205.2	8.8
Total persons taking prescribed medication (a)	298.6	350.4	601.1	1,165.5	1,272.3	815.8	4,503.6	32.7

(a) A person who took more than one type of medication is counted in each type of medication taken; however the total taking medication is an unduplicated total. (b) Percentage figures relate the numbers of males, females and persons taking medication to the total number of males, females and persons respectively. (c) Excludes cosmetic creams or preparations. (d) Includes only female population aged 18 to 50 years; per cent of female population aged 18-50 years.

TABLE 21. PERSONS TAKING NON-PRESCRIBED MEDICATION IN THE TWO DAYS BEFORE
INTERVIEW BY TYPE OF MEDICATION TAKEN, BY AGE AND SEX

Type of non-prescribed medication (a)	Age group						Total	
	Under 5 years (¹ 000)	5-14 years (¹ 000)	15-24 years (¹ 000)	25-44 years (¹ 000)	45-64 years (¹ 000)	65 years and over (¹ 000)	(¹ 000)	(b)(per cent)
MALES								
Common pain relievers	34.4	63.7	105.4	234.7	150.2	40.5	628.9	9.1
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	35.8	68.6	35.3	41.7	35.6	10.5	227.4	3.3
Allergy tablets and medicines	*	*3.4	*4.3	*4.3	*4.3	*	17.1	0.2
Skin ointments and salves (b)	17.7	29.9	51.7	60.0	28.8	9.8	198.0	2.9
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	*4.0	*7.3	12.3	33.1	33.8	16.8	107.3	1.5
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	*	*2.6	*	*4.3	*	*	11.1	0.2
Sleeping pills and medicines	*	*	*2.2	*4.0	*2.2	*	11.1	0.2
Vitamins and tonics	82.5	115.6	79.6	164.0	91.5	26.1	559.3	8.1
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	*	*	*	*	*2.4	*0.0
Other medications	23.3	27.4	*7.5	15.0	*6.0	*2.6	81.8	1.2
Total males taking non-prescribed medication (a)	176.1	266.2	257.2	490.9	313.8	94.4	1,598.6	23.2
FEMALES								
Common pain relievers	31.8	67.4	177.0	313.5	193.0	68.9	851.5	12.3
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	30.7	53.3	37.1	48.8	27.4	16.7	214.0	3.1
Allergy tablets and medicines	*	*	*6.7	*6.0	*3.9	*	19.0	0.3
Skin ointments and salves (b)	19.0	31.2	43.8	46.4	31.4	10.7	182.5	2.6
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	*6.8	9.0	20.3	50.1	58.4	30.5	175.0	2.5
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous conditions	*	*	*	*3.7	*3.3	*	11.3	0.2
Sleeping pills and medicines	*	*	*	*2.8	*3.8	*	*7.5	*0.1
Vitamins and tonics	81.6	82.6	79.5	197.8	125.6	39.5	606.6	8.9
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	*	*4.5	*	*2.4	*8.8	*0.1
Other medications	27.6	29.6	12.1	9.6	*5.9	*4.5	89.2	1.3
Total females taking non-prescribed medication (a)	160.3	236.2	332.1	588.7	391.9	152.7	1,861.9	27.2
PERSONS								
Common pain relievers	66.3	131.0	282.4	548.2	343.2	109.4	1,480.4	10.7
Cough medicines and other remedies for colds	66.5	121.9	72.4	90.5	63.0	27.2	441.4	3.2
Allergy tablets and medicines	*	*4.9	11.0	10.3	*8.2	*	36.0	0.3
Skin ointments and salves (b)	36.7	61.1	95.5	106.4	60.2	20.5	380.5	2.8
Laxatives and medicines for the stomach	10.8	16.3	32.6	83.2	92.2	47.3	282.4	2.1
Tranquillisers, sedatives and other medicines for nervous system	*2.8	*2.7	*3.4	*7.9	*4.3	*	22.4	0.2
Sleeping pills and medicines	*	*	*2.5	*6.8	*6.0	*	18.6	0.1
Vitamins and tonics	164.1	198.2	159.1	361.8	217.1	65.7	1,166.0	8.5
Medicines for heart conditions, blood pressure or fluid tablets	*	*	*	*4.6	*2.5	*3.1	11.2	0.1
Other medications	50.9	57.0	19.6	24.6	11.9	*7.1	171.0	1.2
Total persons taking non-prescribed medication (a)	336.4	502.3	589.3	1,079.6	705.7	247.1	3,460.4	25.1

(a) A person who took more than one type of medication is counted in each type of medication taken; however the total taking medication is an unduplicated total. (b) Percentage figures relate the numbers of males, females and persons taking medication to the total number of males, females and persons respectively. (c) Excludes cosmetic creams or preparations.