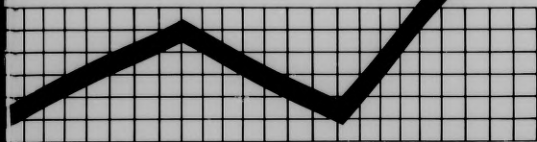




Australian  
Bureau of  
Statistics

# 1986 INCOME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY

Income Units  
Australia



Catalogue No. 6523.0

**1986 INCOME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY,  
INCOME UNITS,  
AUSTRALIA**

*(Previously: Income and Housing Survey:  
Income of Income Units, Australia)*

**IAN CASTLES**  
Australian Statistician

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## PREFACE

This publication is one of a series presenting results from the 1986 Income Distribution Survey, the fifth ABS survey that has been designed specifically for the collection of income data from households. The data in this publication relate to the level and distribution of income for income units which approximate closely the spending unit in households.

The data relate to the period September to December 1986 and refer to income usually received over a one-week period at the time of the interview.

Information on the concepts and methods used in the survey, definitions, interpretation and reliability of results is contained in Appendixes 1-3. Details of the publication and data dissemination program are contained in Appendix 4.

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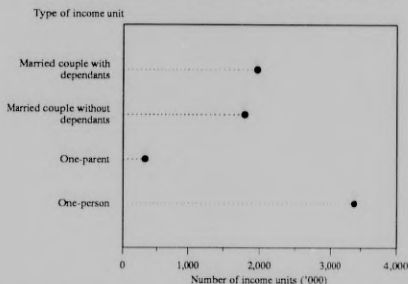
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Belconnen, ACT 2616  
January 1989

## ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

## Overview

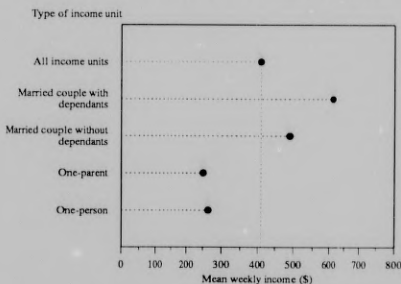
An income unit is a group of people who live together and form a single spending unit. In this publication, income units comprise married couple income units, one-parent income units, and one-person income units. Weekly income refers to gross weekly income (see Glossary for further details).

DIAGRAM 1. NUMBER OF INCOME UNITS BY TYPE OF INCOME UNIT



In 1986 there were 7,464,100 income units in Australia. Half (50.3 per cent) were married couple units, almost half (45.4 per cent) were one-person units and the remainder (4.2 per cent) were one-parent units.

DIAGRAM 2. MEAN WEEKLY INCOME BY TYPE OF INCOME UNIT



The mean weekly income for all income units was \$410. Married couples with dependants had the highest of all mean weekly incomes at \$614, with a substantial drop to \$491 for the next group - married couples without dependants. Among the factors which explain this difference are:

- More married couples with dependants had wages and salaries as their principal source of income and less relied on government pensions and benefits. Three quarters of married couple income units with dependants had wages and salaries as their principal source of income and less than 10 per cent relied principally on government pensions and benefits. For married couples without dependants, only one half had wages and salaries as their principal source, and nearly one third relied on government pensions and benefits.*

- *Married couples with dependants had more earners.* 47.4 per cent of married couples with dependants had two earners (see Glossary for definition of "earner"), 43.6 per cent had one earner, and 9.0 per cent had no earners. For married couples without dependants, 36.0 per cent had two earners, 23.6 per cent had one, and 40.4 per cent had no earners.
- *Married couples with dependants were concentrated more in the age groups with higher incomes.* The age distribution of married couple units with dependants was relatively concentrated in the high income earning years of 25-44, compared to the age distribution of units without dependants which was relatively concentrated in the ages 55 and over.
- *Family allowance.* Married couples with dependants are eligible for family allowance. (This added, on average, approximately \$14 to their overall mean weekly income).

Mean weekly incomes for one-parent and one-person income units were much lower at \$251 and \$264 respectively. The fact that they comprise only one person is of course a major reason for this. Other factors include the high reliance by one-parent income units on government pensions and benefits (this being the principal source of income for 64.4 per cent of such units), and the concentration in the youngest (15-24 years) and oldest (65 years and over) groups of the age distribution of one-person income units.

For all income units, the mean weekly income of the highest decile group was \$1,150 compared to \$77 for the lowest decile group. Income units in the highest decile group mainly comprised married couple units with both partners receiving earned income. Income units in the lowest decile group mainly comprised one-person units who did not receive any earned income. Over all decile groups, income units with two earners had a mean weekly income of \$774, those with one earner, \$411, and for income units with no earners, the mean weekly income was \$168.

Income units whose principal source of income was government pensions and benefits had a much lower mean weekly income (\$145) than those whose principal source of income was wages and salaries (\$526). Dependence on government pensions and benefits was highest in the older age groups. For income units where the reference person (see Glossary for definition of "reference person") was aged 65 years and over, most (78.8 per cent) had government pensions and benefits as their principal source of income. Over one third (38.0 per cent) of units where the reference person was aged 55-64 years relied mainly on government pensions and benefits, as did one fifth (19.5 per cent) of units where the reference person was aged 15-24 years.

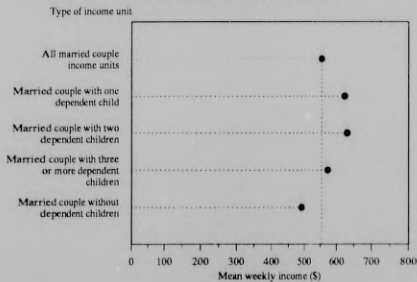
The following sections cover in more detail the income distribution within the three main types of income units - married couple units, one-parent units and one-person units.

### Married couple income units

The differences in mean weekly income between married couple income units with and without dependent children, one-person and one-parent income units have already been discussed. This section looks in more detail at the differences in mean weekly income between various types of married couple units in terms of number of dependent children, principal source of income, number of earners, age of reference person and age of oldest dependent child.

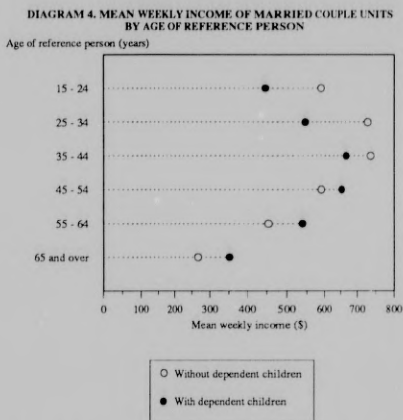
Half (52.4 per cent) of the 3,756,800 married couple income units had dependent children; 21.9 per cent had two children, 17.2 per cent had one child, and 13.4 per cent had three or more children.

DIAGRAM 3. MEAN WEEKLY INCOME OF MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS  
BY NUMBER OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN



As previously noted, married couples with dependants had a higher mean weekly income than those without dependants. In fact, mean weekly income was highest when there were two dependants (\$631), just above the level where there was one dependant (\$624), which is in turn well above the level where there were three or more dependants (\$573). This is consistent with the fact that units with two dependants had the highest level of principal source of income being wages and salaries (78.8 per cent), the lowest level of reliance on government pensions and benefits (6.9 per cent), and the lowest incidence of units with zero earners (7.5 per cent). On the other hand, units with three or more dependants had the lowest level of principal source of income being wages and salaries (70.5 per cent), the highest level of reliance on government pensions and benefits (10.9 per cent), and the highest incidence of units with zero earners (10.2 per cent).

Diagrams 4 and 5 illustrate the mean weekly income for married couple income units classified by age of reference person or age of oldest dependent child and allow the difference in overall mean weekly income between married couples with and without dependent children to be considered more closely.



For married couple units both with and without dependent children, mean weekly income increased with age of the reference person, peaking at 35-44 years and then declining. The peak was higher for units without dependants.

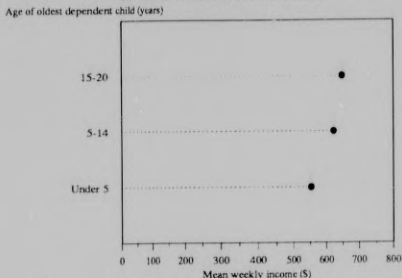
Units whose reference person was aged less than 45 had a higher level of income when they did not have dependent children. For units where the reference person was older, the position was reversed; those with dependants had a higher level of income than those without.

Among the factors to consider in analysing the relationship between these age distributions of married couple income units with and without dependent children are:

- availability of family allowance to married couples with dependants.
- regardless of whether or not there were dependants, mean weekly income of the reference person could reasonably have been expected to increase steadily through at least the younger age groups.
- differing relationships between the number of earners and age of reference person. (See Appendix 4 for advice regarding the provision of further tables from this survey).
- differing relationships between the level of dependence on government pensions and benefits, and the age of reference person (not shown in the tables of this publication).
- reduced numbers of dependants (in the case of couples with dependants), reduced housing debt, health problems and desire for a more relaxed lifestyle are all factors which help explain the fall in mean weekly income of both groups as reference persons reach the older age groups.

Diagram 5 shows that the mean weekly income of married couple units with the oldest dependent child under 5 was \$554, and it increased to \$648 where the oldest dependent child was aged 15-20 years. This was related to the fact that the presence of two earners also increased with the age of the oldest dependent child. The proportion of two income earners increased with the increased age of the oldest dependent child (from 37.6 per cent where the oldest dependent child was under 5 years, to 54.0 per cent where the oldest dependent child was aged 15-20 years). Conversely, the proportion of income units having one income earner fell with the increased age of the oldest dependent child (from 55.2 per cent for the group with the child under 5 years to 34.5 per cent for the group with the child aged 15-20 years).

DIAGRAM 5. MEAN WEEKLY INCOME OF MARRIED COUPLE UNITS WITH DEPENDANTS BY AGE OF OLDEST DEPENDENT CHILD



(It should be noted from Diagram 5 that the mean weekly income of an individual unit does not increase consistently with an increase in the age of the oldest dependent child. The oldest child entering the workforce may well cause the unit to be reclassified to a lower mean weekly income group if the unit has a child in the 5-14 or under 5 years age categories).

The proportion of married couple income units where housing was owned outright was much higher for those without dependent children (53.9 per cent) than for those with dependent children (25.9 per cent). Conversely, the proportion of such units buying housing was higher for those with dependent children (51.1 per cent) compared to those without dependent children (26.7 per cent). Nearly a tenth (9.6 per cent) of all married couples rented privately and 3.4 per cent rented from government bodies.

#### One-parent income units

The mean weekly income for the 315,100 one-parent income units was \$251. Most (64.4 per cent) received their principal source of income from government pensions and benefits, with 30.7 per cent relying on wages and salaries as the principal source. The mean weekly income was much higher when the parent was in the labour force (\$339) than when the parent was not in the labour force (\$163). Almost ninety per cent (88.6) of one-parent income units were female. One-parent income units were mainly in the 25-34 years (31.2 per cent) and 35-44 years (35.7 per cent) age categories.

DIAGRAM 6. MEAN WEEKLY INCOME OF ONE-PARENT INCOME UNITS BY PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT PENSIONS AND BENEFITS

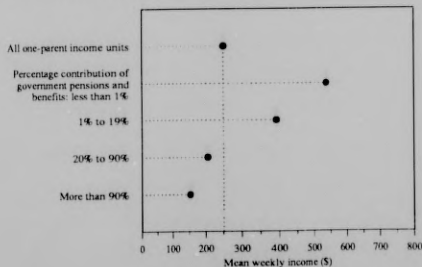


Diagram 6 shows the relationship between mean weekly income and level of reliance on government pensions and benefits for one-parent income units. Those units which received less than 1 per cent of their mean weekly income from government pensions and benefits had a mean weekly income of \$538. (This was substantially greater than for the corresponding group of one-person income units (\$346), but substantially less than for the corresponding group of married couple income units (\$731).) Mean weekly income fell consistently as reliance on government pensions and benefits increased, to a level of \$154 for one-parent units relying on the benefits for more than 90% of their income.

The mean weekly income for male one-parent income units was higher (\$358) than for female one-parent units (\$237). This was related to the higher proportion of male one-parent income units whose principal source of income was wages and salaries (57.3 per cent compared to 27.3 per cent for females). More female one-parent income units had government pensions and benefits as the principal source of income (68.3 per cent) than male (33.9 per cent).

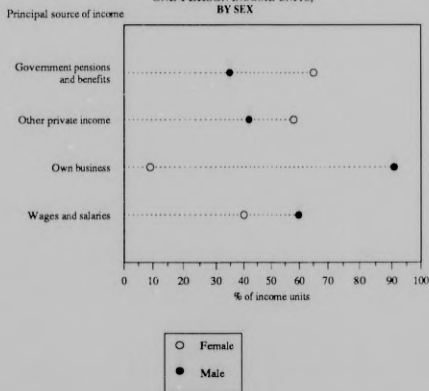
Just over half (51.5 per cent) of one-parent units had one child. Female one-parent income units had a greater number of dependent children than male one-parent income units. Half (50.4 per cent) of the females had two or more dependent children, compared to 33.5 per cent for male one-parent income units.

#### One-person income units

There were approximately 3,392,200 one-person income units, evenly distributed between males and females. These one-person income units included people who were living alone, or with a group of unrelated individuals, or with an income unit to whose members they were related. The group included non-dependent children living with their parents.

The mean weekly income for one-person income units was \$264. Over half (56.5 per cent) received their principal source of income from wages and salaries and one third (33.3 per cent) from government pensions and benefits. These income characteristics were different for males and females. For instance, the mean weekly income was higher for males (\$309) than for females (\$217). Diagram 7 shows that there was a higher proportion of males whose principal source of income was wages and salaries (59.8 per cent) compared to 40.2 per cent for females. There was a higher proportion of females whose principal source of income was government pensions and benefits (65.2 per cent) compared to 34.8 per cent for males.

DIAGRAM 7. PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME OF ONE-PERSON INCOME UNITS, BY SEX



More than half of one-person income units were employed (62.3 per cent), nearly one third (30.4 per cent) were not in the labour force, and nearly one tenth (7.3 per cent) were unemployed.

One-person income units were mainly in the youngest age category 15-24 years (41.3 per cent) and the oldest age category 65 years and over (19.0 per cent).

A greater proportion of females than males owned their housing outright (29.3 per cent for females compared to 10.5 per cent for males).

TABLE 1. ALL INCOME UNITS : INCOME UNIT DECILE GROUPS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Characteristics of income units	Gross weekly income decile										All units
	Lowest 10%	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	Highest 10%	
	- Dollars per week -										
Upper boundary of decile group	102	149	197	255	327	399	493	614	812	n.a.	n.a.
Mean income	77	120	174	225	293	362	442	550	706	1,150	410
Median income	92	117	174	224	294	361	442	549	702	998	328
	- Per cent of income units -										
Principal source of gross income:											
Wages or salary	5.9	12.9	24.1	42.1	71.9	81.3	85.1	89.0	89.3	84.8	58.7
Own business, trade or profession	3.1	3.2	3.8	9.2	8.8	8.9	9.1	6.9	6.2	9.4	6.9
Other private income	11.9	4.4	6.4	8.0	10.3	8.1	5.2	4.0	4.2	5.7	6.8
Government pensions and benefits	79.2	79.5	65.8	40.8	8.9	1.7	* 0.7	* 0.1	* 0.3	* 0.0	27.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Type of income unit:											
Married couple units-											
With dependent children	6.1	3.0	6.8	15.0	16.2	27.7	35.7	47.5	51.7	53.9	26.4
Without dependent children	5.8	4.2	42.8	33.1	18.2	17.3	21.5	23.1	34.9	38.1	24.0
One-parent units	2.2	5.8	13.9	6.2	4.1	4.3	2.1	1.8	* 0.8	* 0.7	4.2
One-person units	85.9	87.0	36.5	45.8	61.5	50.7	40.8	27.6	12.5	7.3	45.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:											
Nil	90.0	79.8	69.4	44.5	16.3	7.9	4.7	3.2	2.4	1.8	32.0
One	9.4	19.4	29.6	51.2	79.0	84.4	77.5	59.8	34.8	23.7	46.9
Two	* 0.6	* 0.7	* 1.0	4.2	4.6	7.7	17.8	37.0	62.8	74.6	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:											
Nil and less than 1	18.2	17.1	26.8	47.5	69.0	63.3	59.9	51.8	61.9	67.5	48.3
1 and less than 20	* 0.9	1.4	3.9	7.6	16.0	31.3	38.0	47.3	37.8	32.3	21.7
20 and less than 50	1.8	2.0	3.5	4.2	6.4	3.8	1.5	* 0.8	* 0.1	* 0.3	2.4
50 and less than 90	3.4	21.5	12.0	25.3	4.8	* 0.7	* 0.3	* 0.1	* 0.0	* 0.0	6.8
90 and over	75.7	58.0	53.7	15.4	3.9	* 1.0	* 0.3	* 0.0	* 0.2	* 0.0	20.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:											
Owned outright	29.2	38.2	39.3	36.5	21.7	22.6	23.9	27.4	24.5	28.9	29.2
Being bought	6.8	4.2	10.9	10.9	14.1	22.4	33.4	39.1	48.2	52.4	24.3
Renting - government	5.9	9.6	8.3	4.4	3.3	3.4	2.1	1.9	2.0	* 0.6	4.1
- private	10.8	14.4	12.0	12.4	18.3	20.3	18.0	15.0	13.2	8.1	14.2
Other (includes rent-free)	43.3	31.5	28.7	34.2	41.2	29.2	20.3	15.5	10.9	8.7	26.3
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	- '000 -										
Estimated number of income units in:											
Metropolitan areas	441.6	475.8	470.2	442.8	478.8	466.4	513.5	495.8	510.0	553.8	4,848.6
Other urban areas	216.6	210.0	218.5	217.1	205.1	202.7	196.7	197.2	181.1	141.6	1,986.7
Rural areas	81.0	54.2	74.9	77.4	68.8	64.3	46.4	55.9	53.8	52.1	628.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>739.2</b>	<b>739.9</b>	<b>763.6</b>	<b>737.4</b>	<b>752.6</b>	<b>733.4</b>	<b>756.6</b>	<b>748.9</b>	<b>745.0</b>	<b>747.6</b>	<b>7,464.1</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 2. ALL INCOME UNITS: INCOME SHARE FOR DECILE GROUPS BY TYPE OF INCOME UNIT, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Type of income unit	Gross weekly income decile									Total	Gini coefficient	
	Lowest 10%	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th			Highest 10%
- Income share (per cent) -												
Married couples:												
With dependent children and reference person aged -												
15 - 24 years	4.4	5.3	6.5	8.3	9.9	9.8	11.6	11.9	15.5	16.8	100.0	0.22
25 - 34 years	2.8	5.6	6.8	7.6	8.6	9.9	11.0	12.5	14.7	20.6	100.0	0.27
35 - 44 years	2.6	5.1	6.5	7.5	8.2	9.6	10.8	12.2	14.5	23.0	100.0	0.30
45 - 54 years	2.3	4.1	5.5	6.9	8.3	9.1	10.6	12.9	15.2	25.1	100.0	0.34
55 - 64 years	2.0	3.6	4.6	5.2	5.9	7.8	8.9	10.1	12.8	39.1	100.0	0.46
65 years and over	4.9	5.6	4.6	7.7	5.4	9.1	7.1	10.5	21.4	23.6	100.0	0.32
Total	2.5	4.8	6.2	7.1	8.5	9.4	10.8	12.4	14.8	23.6	100.0	0.31
Without dependent children and reference person aged -												
15 - 24 years	2.4	5.1	7.7	9.0	10.1	11.3	11.1	12.8	14.3	16.2	100.0	0.23
25 - 34 years	3.0	5.7	7.3	8.3	10.0	10.1	11.3	12.3	14.1	17.9	100.0	0.23
35 - 44 years	2.9	5.1	6.1	8.0	8.6	9.6	11.6	12.5	15.3	20.2	100.0	0.27
45 - 54 years	2.7	4.2	6.1	7.2	8.1	9.5	11.1	12.3	15.6	23.3	100.0	0.32
55 - 64 years	1.7	4.5	4.5	5.4	6.9	8.3	9.9	13.0	16.3	29.6	100.0	0.40
65 years and over	3.2	8.0	6.2	7.0	7.4	8.1	8.2	10.2	12.7	29.0	100.0	0.30
Total	3.0	3.3	4.2	5.1	6.8	9.1	11.4	13.9	17.0	26.1	100.0	0.38
All married couples												
2.4	3.7	4.9	6.6	8.1	9.6	11.1	13.0	15.8	24.7	100.0	0.35	
One-parent												
2.5	6.0	6.0	7.1	7.1	8.0	10.1	12.0	15.6	25.5	100.0	0.32	
One-person												
2.8	3.5	4.3	5.1	7.3	9.5	11.7	13.6	16.3	26.0	100.0	0.37	
All income units												
1.9	2.9	4.3	5.4	7.2	8.7	10.9	13.5	17.2	28.1	100.0	0.41	
- Mean weekly income (\$) -												
Married couples:												
With dependent children and reference person aged -												
15 - 24 years	183	247	314	362	425	467	510	545	642	782	447	..
25 - 34 years	156	300	367	423	475	535	599	680	801	1,128	546	..
35 - 44 years	173	340	427	500	561	633	718	820	959	1,537	667	..
45 - 54 years	149	266	364	444	538	610	695	834	999	1,632	653	..
55 - 64 years	116	191	231	283	340	401	469	547	703	2,160	539	..
65 years and over	162	181	191	229	233	282	337	365	560	1,086	352	..
Total	156	294	378	446	513	578	656	760	907	1,447	614	..
Without dependent children and reference person aged -												
15 - 24 years	147	286	470	527	588	650	687	730	820	1,005	590	..
25 - 34 years	221	411	539	627	690	753	824	910	1,014	1,304	729	..
35 - 44 years	223	363	472	562	645	713	827	963	1,103	1,499	737	..
45 - 54 years	157	250	353	426	488	559	643	746	897	1,387	591	..
55 - 64 years	95	175	203	247	315	379	453	581	740	1,333	454	..
65 years and over	113	170	175	186	196	212	228	266	349	776	268	..
Total	136	180	207	252	339	440	559	682	834	1,288	491	..
All married couples												
134	204	275	366	448	533	621	726	874	1,371	555	..	
One-parent												
71	141	154	165	179	202	244	314	385	646	251	..	
One-person												
69	101	110	137	191	251	306	361	437	678	264	..	
All income units												
77	120	174	225	293	362	442	550	706	1,150	410	..	

TABLE 3. ALL INCOME UNITS : TYPE OF INCOME UNIT BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS,  
AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Type of income unit					All units
	Married couples		All married couples	One-parent	One-person	
	With dependent children	Without dependent children				
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -					
1 - 149	67.8	73.8	141.5	59.4	1,278.2	1,479.1
150 - 199	53.6	340.4	394.1	108.1	288.5	790.7
200 - 249	97.2	208.4	305.6	42.5	278.4	626.5
250 - 299	78.9	106.9	185.9	19.4	298.4	503.7
300 - 349	111.9	94.6	206.5	24.1	338.3	568.9
350 - 399	145.5	83.6	229.1	20.5	247.5	497.2
400 - 449	138.7	89.9	228.6	11.3	195.4	435.2
450 - 499	142.1	77.5	219.6	* 4.9	124.2	348.7
500 - 549	160.0	74.9	234.8	* 6.9	105.4	347.2
550 - 599	152.2	64.7	216.9	* 4.6	65.1	286.7
600 - 649	118.0	74.5	192.6	* 4.1	46.6	243.2
650 - 699	104.4	80.9	185.4	* 0.5	23.0	208.8
700 - 749	89.0	60.6	149.6	* 2.8	25.6	178.0
750 - 799	85.5	54.5	139.7	* 0.0	17.1	157.1
800 - 849	68.1	56.4	124.4	* 0.6	11.5	136.5
850 - 899	55.5	39.8	95.3	* 1.9	9.4	106.7
900 - 949	49.1	29.2	78.2	* 0.7	10.3	89.2
950 - 999	49.9	30.5	80.4	* 0.0	* 5.3	85.7
1000 - 1049	33.0	27.9	60.9	* 0.8	* 3.7	65.4
1050 - 1099	34.1	22.4	56.4	* 0.0	* 4.7	61.1
1100 and over	134.4	96.8	231.2	* 1.9	15.5	248.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,968.6</b>	<b>1,788.2</b>	<b>3,756.8</b>	<b>315.1</b>	<b>3,392.2</b>	<b>7,464.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -					
Mean income	614	491	555	251	264	410
Median income	546	392	490	190	221	328
	- Per cent of income units -					
Principal source of gross income:						
Wages or salary	75.6	49.2	63.0	30.7	56.5	58.7
Own business, trade or profession	12.8	7.1	10.1	* 2.2	3.8	6.9
Other private income	3.2	12.1	7.4	2.8	6.5	6.8
Government pensions and benefits	8.4	31.6	19.5	64.4	33.3	27.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:						
Nil	9.0	40.4	24.0	59.8	38.2	32.0
One	43.6	23.6	34.1	40.2	61.8	46.9
Two	47.4	36.0	42.0	--	--	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:						
Nil and less than 1	17.0	60.7	37.8	6.8	63.8	48.3
1 and less than 20	72.4	4.2	40.0	25.1	1.1	21.7
20 and less than 50	2.2	3.6	2.8	3.6	1.9	2.4
50 and less than 90	1.7	12.5	6.8	17.2	5.8	6.8
90 and over	6.7	19.0	12.5	47.3	27.5	20.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:						
Owned outright	25.9	53.9	39.2	14.0	19.6	29.2
Being bought	51.1	26.7	39.5	20.8	7.8	24.3
Renting - government	3.6	3.2	3.4	20.5	3.4	4.1
- private	10.1	9.0	9.6	26.7	18.2	14.2
Other (includes rent-free)	8.7	5.9	7.4	17.0	48.1	26.3
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 4. ALL INCOME UNITS : AGE OF REFERENCE PERSON BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Age of reference person (years)						All units
	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 and over	
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -						
1 - 149	403.4	132.1	96.0	99.7	231.9	516.1	1,479.1
150 - 199	198.8	74.3	51.4	53.3	113.0	299.8	790.7
200 - 249	201.7	81.5	60.5	55.2	80.5	147.0	626.5
250 - 299	202.8	75.4	57.3	42.2	59.8	66.2	503.7
300 - 349	192.4	151.5	69.5	56.9	64.5	34.2	568.9
350 - 399	120.6	137.0	84.2	68.5	61.8	25.2	497.2
400 - 449	95.9	120.8	87.1	61.6	52.3	17.5	435.2
450 - 499	40.3	118.6	83.1	60.9	34.8	10.8	348.7
500 - 549	40.1	113.3	102.1	50.8	31.9	8.9	347.2
550 - 599	20.9	92.1	86.9	56.0	25.4	* 5.4	286.7
600 - 649	17.8	86.3	68.8	42.3	23.8	* 4.2	243.2
650 - 699	15.1	58.1	68.0	42.5	19.5	* 5.7	208.8
700 - 749	15.8	54.3	59.0	30.2	15.1	* 3.6	178.0
750 - 799	* 8.0	48.0	51.7	30.8	14.5	* 4.1	157.1
800 - 849	9.2	41.7	41.1	25.9	15.1	* 3.5	136.5
850 - 899	* 3.7	31.4	43.4	17.7	8.9	* 1.6	106.7
900 - 949	* 2.6	27.3	32.0	20.5	* 5.2	* 1.7	89.2
950 - 999	* 2.1	27.2	34.0	15.9	* 5.6	* 0.9	85.7
1000 - 1049	* 1.7	20.4	24.3	13.6	* 5.3	* 0.0	65.4
1050 - 1099	* 1.4	22.8	18.2	11.3	* 6.2	* 1.2	61.1
1100 and over	* 1.5	41.8	101.2	65.8	29.9	* 8.4	248.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,595.8</b>	<b>1,555.8</b>	<b>1,319.8</b>	<b>921.4</b>	<b>905.1</b>	<b>1,166.2</b>	<b>7,464.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -						
Mean income	269	495	595	545	377	200	410
Median income	247	451	532	464	268	170	328
	- Per cent of income units -						
Principal source of gross income:							
Wages or salary	76.2	76.9	74.2	68.2	37.4	1.8	58.7
Own business, trade or profession	2.7	8.5	10.9	11.2	8.0	1.4	6.9
Other private income	1.6	2.1	3.0	5.5	16.6	18.0	6.8
Government pensions and benefits	19.5	12.5	11.9	15.1	38.0	78.8	27.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Type of income unit:							
Married couple units-							
With dependent children	3.6	39.2	64.4	39.4	8.3	1.1	26.4
Without dependent children	5.2	16.4	10.0	33.2	55.6	43.6	24.0
One-parent units	3.3	6.3	8.5	4.7	* 0.6	* 0.1	4.2
One-person units	87.8	38.1	17.1	22.7	35.4	55.2	45.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:							
Nil	19.4	12.1	12.7	18.0	49.9	94.5	32.0
One	75.7	58.8	44.7	44.6	36.1	+	46.9
Two	4.9	29.1	42.6	37.4	14.0	1.1	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:							
Nil and less than 1	77.3	54.8	31.2	56.1	52.2	10.1	48.3
1 and less than 20	2.6	31.2	54.8	27.6	6.9	4.4	21.7
20 and less than 50	0.6	1.5	2.2	1.4	3.0	7.0	2.4
50 and less than 90	1.8	2.7	2.9	2.4	10.5	24.0	6.8
90 and over	17.7	9.8	8.9	12.5	27.4	54.6	20.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	0.7	6.8	23.6	43.1	62.1	68.1	29.2
Being bought	3.8	38.3	48.2	33.5	15.5	6.2	24.3
Renting - government	1.8	4.2	4.2	4.2	5.0	6.4	4.1
- private	20.3	24.8	12.4	8.2	6.4	4.9	14.2
Other (includes rent-free)	71.2	23.8	10.6	9.2	9.5	12.6	26.3
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 5. ALL INCOME UNITS : PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Principal source of income						All units
	Private income			Total private income	Government pensions and benefits		
	Earned income		Total earned income				
	Wages or salary	Own business		Other private income			
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -						
1 - 149	138.6	47.0	185.6	120.1	305.7	1,173.5	1,479.1
150 - 199	190.4	31.4	221.8	51.5	273.3	517.4	790.7
200 - 249	252.0	58.0	310.0	48.6	358.7	267.9	626.5
250 - 299	319.7	53.0	372.7	58.1	430.9	72.8	503.7
300 - 349	459.4	45.2	504.5	48.7	553.2	15.7	568.9
350 - 399	409.9	40.9	450.9	37.5	488.4	8.8	497.2
400 - 449	375.2	34.2	409.3	22.1	431.5	* 3.8	435.2
450 - 499	288.4	39.2	327.6	19.3	346.9	* 1.8	348.7
500 - 549	304.4	25.7	330.1	17.1	347.2	* 0.0	347.2
550 - 599	262.0	17.3	279.3	* 7.3	286.7	* 0.0	286.7
600 - 649	219.4	14.8	234.1	* 8.5	242.6	* 0.6	243.2
650 - 699	189.3	9.1	198.3	9.5	207.9	* 1.0	208.8
700 - 749	154.9	14.0	168.9	9.1	178.0	* 0.0	178.0
750 - 799	143.6	* 8.0	151.6	* 4.7	156.3	* 0.7	157.1
800 - 849	122.7	* 7.7	130.4	* 6.0	136.5	* 0.0	136.5
850 - 899	94.8	* 8.4	103.2	* 3.5	106.7	* 0.0	106.7
900 - 949	75.0	11.5	86.5	* 2.8	89.2	* 0.0	89.2
950 - 999	75.7	* 6.2	81.9	* 3.8	85.7	* 0.0	85.7
1000 - 1049	61.4	* 3.1	64.4	* 0.9	65.4	* 0.0	65.4
1050 - 1099	53.3	* 2.9	56.2	* 4.9	61.1	* 0.0	61.1
1100 and over	189.5	35.4	224.9	23.8	248.7	* 0.0	248.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,379.5</b>	<b>512.8</b>	<b>4,892.3</b>	<b>507.9</b>	<b>5,400.3</b>	<b>2,063.9</b>	<b>7,464.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -						
Mean income	526	488	522	408	511	145	410
Median income	456	377	448	278	430	127	328
	- Per cent of income units -						
Type of income unit:							
Married couple units:							
With dependent children	34.0	49.0	35.6	12.3	33.4	8.0	26.4
Without dependent children	20.1	24.7	20.6	42.6	22.6	27.4	24.0
One-parent units	2.2	* 1.3	2.1	1.7	2.1	9.8	4.2
One-person units	43.7	24.9	41.8	43.3	41.9	54.7	45.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:							
Nil	..	..	..	83.6	7.9	95.0	32.0
One	70.2	52.6	68.3	12.4	63.1	4.7	46.9
Two	29.8	47.4	31.7	4.0	29.1	* 0.3	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:							
Nil and less than 1	69.2	53.9	67.6	59.1	66.8	..	48.3
1 and less than 20	29.7	42.1	31.0	20.2	29.9	..	21.7
20 and less than 50	1.1	4.1	1.4	20.8	3.3	..	2.4
50 and less than 90	..	..	..	..	..	24.5	6.8
90 and over	..	..	..	..	..	75.3	20.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	17.3	37.3	19.4	66.3	23.8	43.4	29.2
Being bought	32.4	32.1	32.3	12.1	30.4	8.2	24.3
Renting - government	2.0	* 0.7	1.9	* 0.5	1.8	10.4	4.1
- private	16.3	10.7	15.7	7.2	14.9	12.6	14.2
Other (includes rent-free)	30.4	18.2	29.1	12.5	27.5	23.2	26.3
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 6. ALL INCOME UNITS : NUMBER OF EARNERS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Number of earners						All units
	Nil earners and age of reference person (years)			Total nil earners	One earner	Two earners	
	15 - 44	45 - 64	65 and over				
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -						
1 - 149	442.7	301.8	511.3	1,255.8	213.5	9.8	1,479.1
150 - 199	116.2	136.4	293.8	546.4	234.2	10.1	790.7
200 - 249	68.3	81.4	138.5	288.2	315.9	22.4	626.5
250 - 299	21.6	33.2	59.7	114.4	363.9	25.4	503.7
300 - 349	9.2	15.7	27.7	52.6	487.0	29.3	568.9
350 - 399	* 2.6	14.9	19.6	37.1	417.4	42.7	497.2
400 - 449	* 1.4	* 8.1	12.3	21.8	348.7	64.7	435.2
450 - 499	* 0.8	* 6.4	9.5	16.6	256.7	75.3	348.7
500 - 549	* 0.4	* 5.1	* 7.7	13.3	223.3	110.6	347.2
550 - 599	* 0.0	* 1.8	* 4.1	* 5.9	154.3	126.4	286.7
600 - 649	* 0.0	* 1.9	* 3.7	* 5.6	115.3	122.3	243.2
650 - 699	* 0.8	* 2.9	* 3.3	* 7.1	72.8	129.0	208.8
700 - 749	* 1.0	* 1.1	* 1.8	* 3.9	58.5	115.6	178.0
750 - 799	* 0.0	* 0.7	* 1.3	* 2.0	50.1	105.0	157.1
800 - 849	* 0.4	* 1.4	* 2.4	* 4.2	35.2	97.1	136.5
850 - 899	* 0.0	* 2.4	* 0.9	* 3.3	29.9	73.5	106.7
900 - 949	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	22.6	66.7	89.2
950 - 999	* 0.0	* 0.6	* 0.9	* 1.5	17.0	67.2	85.7
1000 - 1049	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	14.0	51.3	65.4
1050 - 1099	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	17.1	44.1	61.1
1100 and over	* 0.0	* 2.0	* 4.1	* 6.0	54.6	188.1	248.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>665.5</b>	<b>617.6</b>	<b>1,102.6</b>	<b>2,385.6</b>	<b>3,502.0</b>	<b>1,576.6</b>	<b>7,464.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -						
Mean income	126	184	185	168	411	774	410
Median income	103	159	168	139	364	709	328
	- Per cent of income units -						
Principal source of gross income:							
Wages or salary	..	..	..	..	87.7	82.9	58.7
Own business, trade or profession	..	..	..	..	7.7	15.4	6.9
Other private income	10.0	25.3	18.2	17.8	1.8	1.3	6.8
Government pensions and benefits	90.0	74.7	81.8	82.2	2.8	* 0.4	27.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Type of income unit:							
Married couple units-							
With dependent children	15.8	10.2	0.9	7.4	24.5	59.2	26.4
Without dependent children	3.1	39.2	41.7	30.3	12.1	40.8	24.0
One-parent units	24.7	3.6	* 0.1	7.9	3.6	..	4.2
One-person units	56.4	47.0	57.3	54.4	59.8	..	45.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:							
Nil and less than 1	7.0	17.9	8.0	10.3	70.9	55.6	48.3
1 and less than 20	1.5	4.3	3.6	3.2	24.5	43.2	21.7
20 and less than 50	1.6	3.4	6.7	4.4	1.8	0.8	2.4
50 and less than 90	8.2	16.0	23.9	17.5	2.4	* 0.3	6.8
90 and over	81.7	58.5	57.8	64.6	0.3	* 0.1	20.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	7.2	57.6	68.0	48.3	17.0	27.4	29.2
Being bought	10.4	11.6	5.7	8.6	22.7	51.5	24.3
Renting - government	12.0	8.9	6.6	8.7	2.0	1.9	4.1
Other (includes rent-free)	43.2	11.6	13.0	21.1	38.7	6.8	26.3
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 7. ALL INCOME UNITS : PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT PENSIONS AND BENEFITS TO INCOME, BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Per cent of income from government pensions and benefits				All units
	Nil and less than 1	1 and less than 20	20 and less than 90	90 and over	
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -				
1 - 149	260.5	16.9	212.4	989.3	1,479.1
150 - 199	212.4	31.2	132.1	415.0	790.7
200 - 249	286.4	47.7	194.5	98.0	626.5
250 - 299	330.7	62.9	75.6	34.5	503.7
300 - 349	403.2	129.8	29.1	* 6.9	568.9
350 - 399	305.4	164.3	21.7	* 5.8	497.2
400 - 449	271.6	152.9	9.1	* 1.7	435.2
450 - 499	195.8	147.2	* 5.1	* 0.5	348.7
500 - 549	179.9	163.1	* 4.2	* 0.0	347.2
550 - 599	132.0	153.1	* 1.6	* 0.0	286.7
600 - 649	151.0	91.7	* 0.0	* 0.6	243.2
650 - 699	124.0	83.8	* 0.0	* 1.0	208.8
700 - 749	113.6	64.4	* 0.0	* 0.0	178.0
750 - 799	99.5	56.8	* 0.7	* 0.0	157.1
800 - 849	93.0	43.4	* 0.0	* 0.0	136.5
850 - 899	70.3	35.4	* 0.9	* 0.0	106.7
900 - 949	53.8	35.4	* 0.0	* 0.0	89.2
950 - 999	57.1	27.6	* 1.0	* 0.0	85.7
1000 - 1049	45.4	20.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	65.4
1050 - 1099	38.2	23.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	61.1
1100 and over	181.8	66.8	* 0.0	* 0.0	248.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,605.7</b>	<b>1,617.3</b>	<b>687.9</b>	<b>1,553.3</b>	<b>7,464.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -				
Mean income	499	566	204	133	410
Median income	401	518	200	111	328
	- Per cent of income units -				
Principal source of gross income:					
Wages or salary	84.0	80.3	7.4	..	58.7
Own business, trade or profession	7.7	13.3	3.0	..	6.9
Other private income	8.3	6.3	15.3	..	6.8
Government pensions and benefits	..	..	74.2	100.0	27.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Type of income unit:					
Married couple units-					
With dependent children	9.3	88.2	10.9	8.5	26.4
Without dependent children	30.1	4.7	41.8	21.8	24.0
One-parent units	0.6	4.9	9.5	9.6	4.2
One-person units	60.0	2.3	37.7	60.1	45.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:					
Nil	6.8	4.7	75.9	99.3	32.0
One	68.9	53.2	21.6	0.6	46.9
Two	24.3	42.2	2.6	* 0.1	21.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:					
Owned outright	21.5	25.7	62.9	35.9	29.2
Being bought	21.6	51.6	11.1	8.0	24.3
Renting - government	1.2	2.8	3.2	12.7	4.1
-private	17.2	10.0	10.6	13.4	14.2
Other (includes rent-free)	36.3	9.4	11.2	27.3	26.3
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.



**TABLE 9. MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS : INCOME UNIT QUINTILE GROUPS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986**

Characteristics of income units	Gross weekly income quintile					All married couple units
	Lowest 20%	2nd	3rd	4th	Highest 20%	
<i>- Dollars per week -</i>						
Upper boundary of quintile group	230	406	574	788	n.a.	n.a.
Mean income	170	321	490	673	1,123	555
Median income	182	327	491	669	980	490
<i>- Per cent of income units -</i>						
Principal source of gross income:						
Wages or salary	5.0	51.7	82.3	90.5	85.8	63.0
Own business, trade or profession	9.1	15.3	11.0	5.8	9.1	10.1
Other private income	8.2	14.4	6.1	3.4	5.1	7.4
Government pensions and benefits	77.7	18.6	0.6	0.3	* 0.0	19.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Type of income unit:						
With dependent children -						
1 child	10.3	15.4	20.3	18.7	21.1	17.2
2 children	8.9	18.7	29.3	27.8	24.7	21.9
3 or more children	5.1	17.6	17.2	14.2	12.8	13.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>60.6</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>52.4</b>
Without dependent children and reference person aged -						
15 - 44 years	4.0	6.6	10.0	19.9	22.1	12.5
45 - 64 years	26.7	26.5	19.8	17.7	17.0	21.5
65 years and over	44.9	15.2	3.5	1.7	2.2	13.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>75.7</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>39.4</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>47.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:						
Nil	82.4	28.3	5.1	2.1	1.7	24.0
One	13.4	55.8	54.9	29.1	17.2	34.1
Two	4.1	15.8	40.0	68.8	81.2	42.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:						
Nil and less than 1	11.1	28.9	32.1	52.2	65.0	37.8
1 and less than 20	7.5	44.8	65.3	47.5	34.7	40.0
20 and less than 50	3.7	8.1	2.0	* 0.1	* 0.3	2.8
50 and less than 90	24.3	9.5	* 0.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	6.8
90 and over	53.5	8.7	* 0.3	* 0.2	* 0.0	12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:						
Owned outright	61.4	43.8	33.3	27.5	29.8	39.2
Being bought	17.3	31.5	45.9	49.5	53.3	39.5
Renting - government	5.9	5.6	2.6	2.5	* 0.6	3.4
- private	6.2	11.9	10.4	11.5	8.1	9.6
Other (includes rent-free)	8.5	6.3	7.1	7.7	7.2	7.4
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Estimated number of income units ('000)	752.6	750.3	754.7	746.3	752.9	3,756.8

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 10. MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS : TYPE OF INCOME UNIT  
BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Type of income unit					All married couple units
	With dependent children			Total with dependent children	Without dependent children	
	1 child	2 children	3 or more children			
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -					
1 - 149	23.0	24.1	20.7	67.8	73.8	141.5
150 - 199	30.1	14.1	9.4	53.6	340.4	394.1
200 - 249	30.5	39.1	27.6	97.2	208.4	305.6
250 - 299	19.8	24.6	34.5	78.9	106.9	185.9
300 - 349	35.6	43.8	32.5	111.9	94.6	206.5
350 - 399	47.5	55.5	42.4	145.5	83.6	229.1
400 - 449	37.6	66.3	34.8	138.7	89.9	228.6
450 - 499	51.5	52.3	38.3	142.1	77.5	219.6
500 - 549	46.3	75.1	38.6	160.0	74.9	234.8
550 - 599	48.5	63.2	40.5	152.2	64.7	216.9
600 - 649	35.9	51.9	30.2	118.0	74.5	192.6
650 - 699	27.3	52.7	24.4	104.4	80.9	185.4
700 - 749	28.5	40.9	19.6	89.0	60.6	149.6
750 - 799	30.9	40.2	14.4	85.5	54.5	139.9
800 - 849	24.0	27.2	16.8	68.1	56.4	124.4
850 - 899	21.0	19.7	14.8	55.5	39.8	95.3
900 - 949	13.0	28.6	* 7.5	49.1	29.2	78.2
950 - 999	23.8	20.2	* 6.0	49.9	30.5	80.4
1000 - 1049	16.6	10.5	* 5.9	33.0	27.9	60.9
1050 - 1099	10.6	13.2	10.3	34.1	22.4	56.4
1100 and over	43.4	57.9	33.1	134.4	96.8	231.2
Total	645.2	821.2	502.2	1,968.6	1,788.2	3,756.8
	- Dollars per week -					
Mean income	624	631	573	614	491	555
Median income	550	562	515	546	392	490
	- Per cent of income units -					
Principal source of gross income:						
Wages or salary	75.5	78.8	70.5	75.6	49.2	63.0
Own business, trade or profession	12.2	11.2	16.0	12.8	7.1	10.1
Other private income	3.8	3.0	2.6	3.2	12.1	7.4
Government pensions and benefits	8.4	6.9	10.9	8.4	31.6	19.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of earners:						
Nil	10.0	7.5	10.2	9.0	40.4	24.0
One	39.6	43.7	48.5	43.6	23.6	34.1
Two	50.3	48.8	41.3	47.4	36.0	42.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:						
Nil and less than 1	44.4	5.1	* 1.3	17.0	60.7	37.8
1 and less than 20	46.3	86.5	83.0	72.4	4.2	40.0
20 and less than 50	* 0.9	1.5	4.9	2.2	3.6	2.8
50 and less than 90	* 1.3	1.5	2.3	1.7	12.5	6.8
90 and over	7.1	5.3	8.5	6.7	19.0	12.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nature of housing occupancy:						
Owned outright	29.4	24.9	22.9	25.9	53.9	39.2
Being bought	46.2	52.6	55.0	51.1	26.7	39.5
Renting - government	3.3	3.1	5.0	3.6	3.2	3.4
- private	11.9	9.5	8.8	10.1	9.0	9.6
Other (includes rent-free)	8.6	9.2	7.9	8.7	5.9	7.4
Total (a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.



TABLE 11. MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS : AGE OF REFERENCE PERSON  
 BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986 - *continued*

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Age of reference person (years)						All married couple units
	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 and over	
	- Per cent of income units -						
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	* 2.5	9.5	26.5	47.6	70.0	77.1	39.2
Being bought	28.9	56.2	54.6	39.6	17.9	10.0	39.5
Renting - government	6.1	3.5	3.1	3.4	2.9	3.9	3.4
- private	42.6	18.8	8.1	4.0	3.3	2.5	9.6
Other (includes rent-free)	19.0	10.9	6.9	4.2	5.1	5.7	7.4
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.



TABLE 12. MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS : PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME  
 BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986 -continued

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Principal source of income						All married couple units
	Private income				Total	Government pensions and benefits	
	Earned income		Total earned income	Other private income			
	Wages or salary	Own business					
- Per cent of income units -							
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	27.1	43.1	29.3	76.5	33.7	61.9	39.2
Being bought	50.0	39.4	48.6	16.0	45.6	14.4	39.5
Renting - government	2.8	* 0.9	2.5	* 0.1	2.3	8.2	3.4
- private	11.3	7.8	10.8	4.5	10.3	6.9	9.6
Other (includes rent-free)	7.8	7.9	7.8	* 2.1	7.2	7.9	7.4
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.



TABLE 13. MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS : NUMBER OF EARNERS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS,  
AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986 -continued

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Number of earners				All married couple units		
	Nil earners and age of reference person (years)			Total nil earners		One earner	Two earners
	15 - 44	45 - 64	65 and over				
- Per cent of income units -							
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	15.1	70.5	78.2	66.8	34.3	27.4	39.2
Being bought	32.0	15.2	9.1	14.4	42.4	51.5	39.5
Renting - government	16.7	5.8	4.0	6.4	3.3	1.9	3.4
- private	24.3	3.4	1.9	5.5	10.2	11.5	9.6
Other (includes rent-free)	11.1	4.3	5.9	6.1	9.0	6.8	7.4
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 14. MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS : NUMBER OF EARNERS BY NUMBER OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN BY INCOME, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income (\$)	Number of earners											All married couple units	
	Nil earners			One earner				Two earners					
	Without dependent children	One dependent child	2 or more dependent children	Total	Without dependent children	One dependent child	2 or more dependent children	Total	Without dependent children	One dependent child	2 or more dependent children		Total
	'000 -												
1 - 149	55.4	16.3	28.3	100.1	16.2	* 4.8	10.6	31.6	* 2.2	* 1.8	* 5.8	9.8	141.5
150 - 199	320.1	22.9	* 8.5	351.6	16.2	* 4.9	11.3	32.4	* 4.2	* 2.3	* 3.6	10.1	394.1
200 - 249	164.9	16.3	43.1	224.3	31.4	13.3	14.2	58.9	12.1	* 1.0	9.4	22.4	305.6
250 - 299	67.4	* 3.2	18.3	88.9	30.5	11.0	30.1	71.6	9.0	* 5.7	10.7	25.4	185.9
300 - 349	27.3	* 3.4	8.8	39.5	57.6	24.0	56.0	137.7	9.6	* 8.2	11.5	29.3	206.5
350 - 399	22.4	* 0.8	* 1.1	24.2	52.0	36.7	73.4	162.1	9.2	10.1	23.5	42.7	229.1
400 - 449	15.2	* 0.0	* 2.1	17.3	50.7	28.3	67.5	146.5	23.9	9.4	31.4	64.7	228.6
450 - 499	12.2	* 0.0	* 1.4	13.6	38.9	34.8	57.0	130.7	26.4	16.7	32.1	75.3	219.6
500 - 549	9.5	* 0.0	* 0.4	9.9	26.9	23.2	64.1	114.3	38.4	23.1	49.1	110.6	234.8
550 - 599	* 3.7	* 0.9	* 0.0	* 4.6	21.7	18.1	46.0	85.8	39.3	29.5	57.7	126.4	216.9
600 - 649	* 4.0	* 0.0	* 0.5	* 4.5	15.6	12.0	38.1	65.7	54.9	23.9	43.5	122.3	192.6
650 - 699	* 3.8	* 0.4	* 0.0	* 4.3	12.4	12.7	27.1	52.1	64.8	14.1	50.1	129.0	185.4
700 - 749	* 2.4	* 0.5	* 0.0	* 3.0	9.5	* 1.8	19.7	31.0	48.7	26.1	40.8	115.6	149.6
750 - 799	* 1.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 1.3	9.6	* 5.2	18.9	33.7	43.6	25.6	35.8	105.0	139.9
800 - 849	* 3.2	* 0.0	* 0.4	* 3.6	* 8.1	* 4.1	11.5	23.7	45.1	19.9	32.1	97.1	124.4
850 - 899	* 2.6	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 2.6	* 3.7	* 4.9	10.6	19.2	33.5	16.1	23.9	73.5	95.3
900 - 949	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 2.6	* 2.2	* 6.7	11.5	26.6	10.7	29.4	66.7	78.2
950 - 999	* 1.5	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 1.5	* 1.9	* 4.8	* 5.0	11.7	27.0	19.0	21.2	67.2	80.4
1000 - 1049	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 3.6	* 0.9	* 5.1	9.6	24.3	15.7	11.3	51.3	60.9
1050 - 1099	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 2.0	* 2.8	* 7.5	12.4	20.4	* 7.8	15.9	44.1	56.4
1100 and over	* 5.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 5.0	11.1	* 5.3	21.7	38.2	80.8	38.1	69.3	188.1	231.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>722.1</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>112.9</b>	<b>899.9</b>	<b>422.3</b>	<b>255.8</b>	<b>602.3</b>	<b>1,280.4</b>	<b>643.8</b>	<b>324.6</b>	<b>608.2</b>	<b>1,576.6</b>	<b>3,756.8</b>
	- Dollars per week -												
Mean income	244	189	206	235	466	492	551	511	784	814	740	774	555
Median income	197	193	224	200	404	454	482	450	726	730	674	709	490

**TABLE 15. MARRIED COUPLE INCOME UNITS : PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT PENSIONS AND BENEFITS TO INCOME, BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986**

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Per cent of income from government pensions and benefits				All married couple units
	Nil and less than 1	1 and less than 20	20 and less than 90	90 and over	
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -				
1 - 149	41.3	13.0	36.6	50.7	141.5
150 - 199	20.1	18.9	63.1	292.1	394.1
200 - 249	39.8	37.3	145.9	82.5	305.6
250 - 299	45.7	52.6	56.7	30.9	185.9
300 - 349	68.3	109.4	22.9	* 5.9	206.5
350 - 399	63.6	143.8	15.9	* 5.8	229.1
400 - 449	77.4	140.3	9.1	* 1.7	228.6
450 - 499	72.5	141.9	* 4.7	* 0.5	219.6
500 - 549	76.0	154.9	* 3.9	* 0.0	234.8
550 - 599	67.5	147.8	* 1.6	* 0.0	216.9
600 - 649	103.3	88.7	* 0.0	* 0.6	192.6
650 - 699	101.9	82.5	* 0.0	* 1.0	185.4
700 - 749	85.6	63.9	* 0.0	* 0.0	149.6
750 - 799	82.4	56.8	* 0.7	* 0.0	139.9
800 - 849	81.0	43.4	* 0.0	* 0.0	124.4
850 - 899	59.0	35.4	* 0.9	* 0.0	95.3
900 - 949	42.8	35.4	* 0.0	* 0.0	78.2
950 - 999	51.8	27.6	* 1.0	* 0.0	80.4
1000 - 1049	40.9	20.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	60.9
1050 - 1099	33.5	23.0	* 0.0	* 0.0	56.4
1100 and over	166.4	64.8	* 0.0	* 0.0	231.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,420.9</b>	<b>1,501.5</b>	<b>363.0</b>	<b>471.5</b>	<b>3,756.8</b>
	- Dollars per week -				
Mean income	731	581	240	186	555
Median income	668	530	222	180	490
	- Per cent of income units -				
Principal source of gross income:					
Wages or salary	79.0	81.0	7.7	..	63.0
Own business, trade or profession	10.5	14.1	4.8	..	10.1
Other private income	10.4	4.9	15.9	..	7.4
Government pensions and benefits	..	..	71.6	100.0	19.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Type of income unit:					
With dependent children -					
1 child	20.2	19.9	3.9	9.7	17.2
2 children	3.0	47.3	6.8	9.3	21.9
3 or more children	* 0.5	27.8	10.0	9.1	13.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>95.0</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>52.4</b>
Without dependent children and reference person aged -					
15 - 44 years	30.6	0.8	* 2.1	3.3	12.5
45 - 64 years	41.9	2.0	22.1	22.0	21.5
65 years and over	3.9	2.2	55.1	46.6	13.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>76.4</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>47.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:					
Nil	7.7	3.3	75.1	99.5	24.0
One	30.7	51.3	20.0	* 0.3	34.1
Two	61.7	45.4	4.8	* 0.2	42.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:					
Owned outright	40.3	25.7	72.2	53.4	39.2
Being bought	39.0	53.3	13.6	16.9	39.5
Renting - government	2.0	2.5	2.9	11.2	3.4
- private	11.4	9.2	5.7	8.4	9.6
Other (includes rent-free)	5.8	8.8	5.0	9.3	7.4
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.



TABLE 17. ONE-PARENT INCOME UNITS: INCOME UNIT QUINTILE GROUPS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Characteristics of income units	Gross weekly income quintile					All one-parent units
	Lowest 20%	2nd	3rd	4th	Highest 20%	
	- Dollars per week -					
Upper boundary of quintile group	150	171	217	346	n.a.	n.a.
Mean income	109	159	190	278	514	251
Median income	137	161	190	280	434	190
	- Per cent of income units -					
Principal source of gross income:						
Wages or salary	* 0.0	* 1.0	* 2.1	57.4	92.7	30.7
Own business, trade or profession	* 0.8	* 1.1	* 1.5	* 3.6	* 3.8	* 2.2
Other private income	* 5.3	* 0.0	* 1.5	* 3.9	* 3.4	2.8
Government pensions and benefits	94.0	97.9	94.9	35.2	* 0.0	64.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sex:						
Male	* 10.2	* 5.5	* 7.2	* 12.8	21.3	11.4
Female	89.8	94.5	92.8	87.2	78.7	88.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age:						
15 - 24 years	23.1	33.1	15.6	* 7.2	* 5.4	16.9
25 - 44 years	57.2	56.7	77.1	76.9	66.7	66.9
45 years and over	19.7	* 10.2	* 7.2	15.9	27.9	16.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of dependent children:						
1 child	80.7	56.6	21.1	42.0	57.9	51.5
2 or more children	19.3	43.4	78.9	58.0	42.1	48.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Labour force status:						
In the labour force	21.8	19.1	32.7	76.3	98.1	49.6
Not in the labour force	78.2	80.9	67.3	23.7	* 1.9	50.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:						
Nil and less than 1	* 1.5	* 0.0	* 2.5	* 9.7	20.1	6.8
1 and less than 20	* 2.8	* 2.1	* 2.6	40.1	77.8	25.1
20 and less than 50	* 1.7	* 0.0	* 1.3	* 13.1	* 2.1	3.6
50 and less than 90	* 3.8	18.6	34.0	29.2	* 0.0	17.2
90 and over	90.1	79.3	59.6	* 7.9	* 0.0	47.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nature of housing occupancy:						
Owned outright	20.7	* 3.7	16.5	17.9	* 12.0	14.0
Being bought	* 11.8	13.9	* 12.4	22.9	42.7	20.8
Renting - government	27.7	29.5	27.5	* 13.0	* 5.0	20.5
- private	16.2	33.3	33.1	26.5	24.0	26.7
Other (includes rent-free)	23.6	19.6	* 8.8	16.9	16.4	17.0
Total (a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Estimated number of income units ('000)	61.2	64.9	62.9	62.9	63.3	315.1

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 18. ONE-PARENT INCOME UNITS : AGE OF PARENT BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS,  
AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Age of parent (years)			All one-parent units
	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 and over	
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -			
1 - 149	13.5	33.9	12.1	59.4
150 - 199	31.0	65.9	11.2	108.1
200 - 249	* 3.1	36.3	* 3.2	42.5
250 - 299	* 1.1	16.3	* 2.1	19.4
300 - 349	* 1.4	17.2	* 5.5	24.1
350 - 399	* 1.7	11.6	* 7.3	20.5
400 - 449	* 1.0	8.7	* 1.6	11.3
450 - 499	* 0.0	* 3.2	* 1.6	* 4.9
500 and over	* 0.7	17.8	* 6.3	24.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>210.8</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>315.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -			
Mean income	183	260	284	251
Median income	164	203	240	190
	- Per cent of income units -			
Principal source of gross income:				
Wages or salary	* 9.9	31.8	47.9	30.7
Own business, trade or profession	* 1.9	* 2.8	* 0.0	* 2.2
Other private income	* 0.0	* 3.3	* 3.6	2.8
Government pensions and benefits	88.2	62.1	48.5	64.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:				
Male	* 7.1	11.4	* 15.6	11.4
Female	92.9	88.6	84.4	88.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of dependent children:				
1 child	62.8	44.4	69.1	51.5
2 or more children	37.2	55.6	30.9	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:				
In the labour force	26.0	53.8	56.9	49.6
Not in the labour force	74.0	46.2	43.1	50.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:				
Nil and less than 1	* 4.0	7.6	* 6.1	6.8
1 and less than 20	* 5.7	26.1	41.6	25.1
20 and less than 50	* 2.1	* 3.6	* 5.4	3.6
50 and less than 90	* 12.4	20.3	* 9.6	17.2
90 and over	75.8	42.5	37.3	47.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:				
Owned outright	* 0.0	12.6	34.9	14.0
Being bought	* 4.4	25.9	* 16.6	20.8
Renting - government	27.7	20.8	* 12.0	20.5
- private	36.4	26.1	19.4	26.7
Other (includes rent-free)	30.9	13.5	17.2	17.0
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 19. ONE-PARENT INCOME UNITS : PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Principal source of income				All one-parent units
	Private income		Total private income (b)	Government pensions and benefits	
	Wages or salary	Total earned income (a)			
Gross weekly income (\$)			- '000 -		
1 - 149	* 0.0	* 0.5	* 3.7	55.7	59.4
150 - 199	* 2.0	* 2.7	* 3.6	104.5	108.1
200 - 249	* 5.9	* 6.9	* 6.9	35.7	42.5
250 - 299	11.1	12.3	13.1	* 6.4	19.4
300 - 349	19.9	20.9	23.5	* 0.6	24.1
350 - 399	19.3	19.3	20.5	* 0.0	20.5
400 - 449	11.3	11.3	11.3	* 0.0	11.3
450 - 499	* 3.9	* 4.9	* 4.9	* 0.0	* 4.9
500 and over	23.4	24.9	24.9	* 0.0	24.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>103.6</b>	<b>112.3</b>	<b>202.8</b>	<b>315.1</b>
			- Dollars per week -		
Mean income	425	423	406	164	251
Median income	368	366	359	165	190
			- Per cent of income units -		
Sex:					
Male	21.2	22.9	21.1	6.0	11.4
Female	78.8	77.1	78.9	94.0	88.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:					
15 - 24 years	* 5.5	* 6.1	* 5.6	23.2	16.9
25 - 44 years	69.3	70.4	71.1	64.6	66.9
45 years and over	25.2	23.6	23.3	12.2	16.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of dependent children:					
1 child	60.4	59.3	58.5	47.6	51.5
2 or more children	39.6	40.7	41.5	52.4	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:					
In the labour force	100.0	100.0	94.5	24.7	49.6
Not in the labour force	..	..	* 5.5	75.3	50.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:					
Nil and less than 1	19.0	19.7	19.0	..	6.8
1 and less than 20	72.2	71.3	70.5	..	25.1
20 and less than 50	* 7.6	* 7.9	9.4	* 0.4	3.6
50 and less than 90	* 1.3	* 1.2	* 1.1	26.1	17.2
90 and over	..	..	..	73.5	47.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:					
Owned outright	13.3	13.3	13.2	14.5	14.0
Being bought	37.1	37.5	36.7	11.9	20.8
Renting - government	* 6.7	* 6.2	* 6.2	28.5	20.5
- private	24.7	24.0	24.3	28.0	26.7
Other (includes rent-free)	17.3	18.1	18.8	16.0	17.0
<b>Total (c)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income from own business. (b) Includes other private income. (c) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 20. ONE-PARENT INCOME UNITS : SEX, NUMBER OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN AND LABOUR FORCE STATUS, BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Male parent	Female parent	One dependent child	Two or more dependent children	Parent in the labour force	Parent not in the labour force	All one-parent units
Gross weekly income (\$)							
- '000 -							
1 - 149	* 6.2	53.2	48.7	10.7	13.4	46.1	59.4
150 - 199	* 5.2	102.9	47.2	60.9	25.2	82.9	108.1
200 - 249	* 2.9	39.6	9.2	33.4	19.9	22.7	42.5
250 - 299	* 4.0	15.4	* 7.7	11.7	15.2	* 4.2	19.4
300 - 349	* 4.0	20.1	14.7	9.5	22.5	* 1.7	24.1
350 - 399	* 2.0	18.5	13.5	* 7.1	19.3	* 1.2	20.5
400 - 449	* 2.4	8.8	* 6.4	* 4.9	11.3	* 0.0	11.3
450 - 499	* 0.7	* 4.2	* 0.9	* 4.0	* 4.9	* 0.0	* 4.9
500 and over	* 8.3	16.5	14.1	10.7	24.9	* 0.0	24.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>279.3</b>	<b>162.3</b>	<b>152.8</b>	<b>156.4</b>	<b>158.8</b>	<b>315.1</b>
- Dollars per week -							
Mean income	358	237	249	253	339	163	251
Median income	293	186	168	203	310	163	190
- Per cent of income units -							
Principal source of gross income:							
Wages or salary	57.3	27.3	36.0	25.1	61.9	..	30.7
Own business, trade or profession	* 8.8	* 1.3	* 1.8	* 2.5	* 4.4	..	* 2.2
Other private income	* 0.0	3.1	* 2.7	* 2.9	* 1.7	* 3.9	2.8
Government pensions and benefits	33.9	68.3	59.5	69.5	32.1	96.1	64.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:							
Male	100.0	..	14.7	7.8	18.7	* 4.1	11.4
Female	..	100.0	85.3	92.2	81.3	95.9	88.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:							
15 - 24 years	* 10.6	17.8	20.7	13.0	8.9	24.9	16.9
25 - 44 years	67.3	66.8	57.7	76.7	72.6	61.3	66.9
45 years and over	* 22.1	15.4	21.7	10.3	18.5	13.8	16.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of dependent children:							
1 child	66.5	49.6	100.0	..	55.7	47.4	51.5
2 or more children	33.5	50.4	..	100.0	44.3	52.6	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:							
Nil and less than 1	35.5	3.1	10.5	* 2.8	13.0	* 0.6	6.8
1 and less than 20	29.7	24.5	26.7	23.5	48.7	* 1.9	25.1
20 and less than 50	* 0.8	4.0	* 3.8	* 3.4	5.9	* 1.3	3.6
50 and less than 90	* 2.7	19.1	13.5	21.1	15.4	18.9	17.2
90 and over	31.2	49.4	45.5	49.2	16.9	77.2	47.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	* 17.8	13.6	13.9	14.2	12.3	15.8	14.0
Being bought	26.4	20.0	18.6	23.1	29.1	12.6	20.8
Renting - government	* 8.3	22.1	18.3	22.9	12.1	28.9	20.5
- private	30.6	26.2	27.6	25.8	26.3	27.2	26.7
Other (includes rent-free)	* 16.8	17.0	21.0	12.8	18.7	15.4	17.0
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 21. ONE-PARENT INCOME UNITS : PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT PENSIONS AND BENEFITS TO INCOME, BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross weekly income				All one-parent units
	Nil and less than 1	1 and less than 20	20 and less than 90	90 and over	
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -				
1 - 149	* 0.9	* 1.7	* 3.4	53.4	59.4
150 - 199	* 0.6	* 3.0	22.5	82.0	108.1
200 - 249	* 1.0	* 2.5	28.1	10.9	42.5
250 - 299	* 2.8	* 4.8	9.6	* 2.2	19.4
300 - 349	* 3.3	19.6	* 0.7	* 0.6	24.1
350 - 399	* 0.9	18.3	* 1.3	* 0.0	20.5
400 - 449	* 0.0	11.3	* 0.0	* 0.0	11.3
450 - 499	* 0.7	* 4.2	* 0.0	* 0.0	* 4.9
500 and over	11.1	13.7	* 0.0	* 0.0	24.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>65.6</b>	<b>149.0</b>	<b>315.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -				
Mean income	538	393	206	154	251
Median income	533	366	207	156	190
	- Per cent of income units -				
Principal source of gross income:					
Wages or salary	86.3	88.1	* 13.0	..	30.7
Own business, trade or profession	* 9.3	* 5.0	* 1.3	..	* 2.2
Other private income	* 4.4	* 6.8	* 3.7	..	2.8
Government pensions and benefits	..	..	82.0	100.0	64.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:					
Male	59.7	13.5	* 2.0	7.5	11.4
Female	40.3	86.5	98.0	92.5	88.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:					
15 - 24 years	* 10.0	* 3.9	* 11.8	27.2	16.9
25 - 44 years	75.4	69.4	76.6	60.1	66.9
45 years and over	* 14.6	26.7	* 11.6	12.8	16.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of dependent children:					
1 child	80.1	54.7	42.8	49.6	51.5
2 or more children	* 19.9	45.3	57.2	50.4	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:					
In the labour force	95.6	96.2	50.9	17.7	49.6
Not in the labour force	* 4.4	* 3.8	49.1	82.3	50.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:					
Owned outright	* 10.9	14.5	19.1	12.0	14.0
Being bought	40.7	35.3	24.1	8.8	20.8
Renting - government	* 0.0	* 7.9	* 10.3	34.7	20.5
- private	* 34.8	22.8	29.8	26.3	26.7
Other (includes rent-free)	* 13.6	19.5	* 13.0	18.0	17.0
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 22. ONE-PARENT INCOME UNITS: NATURE OF HOUSING OCCUPANCY BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Nature of housing occupancy					All one-parent units (a)
	Owned outright	Being bought	Renting		Other (includes rent-free)	
			Government	Private		
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -					
1 - 149	11.5	* 7.2	17.0	9.9	13.8	59.4
150 - 199	10.8	12.4	31.2	35.4	17.9	108.1
200 - 249	* 8.3	* 7.3	* 7.3	12.6	* 4.5	42.5
250 - 299	* 2.9	* 3.5	* 3.8	* 5.8	* 3.5	19.4
300 - 349	* 3.2	8.8	* 2.3	* 6.2	* 3.5	24.1
350 - 399	* 1.4	* 6.0	* 2.7	* 5.9	* 4.5	20.5
400 - 449	* 2.1	* 4.5	* 0.0	* 3.1	* 1.6	11.3
450 - 499	* 0.0	* 1.8	* 0.4	* 0.7	* 1.9	* 4.9
500 and over	* 4.1	13.8	* 0.0	* 4.6	* 2.3	24.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>64.7</b>	<b>84.2</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>315.1</b>
	- Dollars per week -					
Mean income	236	357	188	240	227	251
Median income	199	311	167	184	173	190
	- Per cent of income units -					
Principal source of gross income:						
Wages or salary	29.1	54.8	* 10.0	28.3	31.2	30.7
Own business, trade or profession	* 2.0	* 4.6	* 0.0	* 1.2	* 3.6	* 2.2
Other private income	* 2.3	* 3.6	* 0.7	* 2.9	* 4.6	2.8
Government pensions and benefits	66.6	37.0	89.3	67.5	60.6	64.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:						
Male	* 14.4	14.5	* 4.6	13.0	* 11.3	11.4
Female	85.6	85.5	95.4	87.0	88.7	88.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:						
15 - 24 years	* 0.0	* 3.6	22.8	23.1	30.7	16.9
25 - 44 years	59.9	83.5	67.8	65.2	52.9	66.9
45 years and over	40.1	* 12.9	* 9.4	11.7	16.4	16.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of dependent children:						
1 child	51.0	46.0	46.0	53.2	63.6	51.5
2 or more children	49.0	54.0	54.0	46.8	36.4	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:						
In the labour force	43.4	69.5	29.2	48.8	54.4	49.6
Not in the labour force	56.6	30.5	70.8	51.2	45.6	50.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:						
Nil and less than 1	* 5.3	13.2	* 0.0	* 8.8	* 5.4	6.8
1 and less than 20	26.0	32.7	* 9.7	21.4	28.9	25.1
20 and less than 50	* 2.2	* 6.1	* 1.0	* 2.5	* 5.2	3.6
50 and less than 90	26.2	18.0	* 9.4	20.7	* 10.7	17.2
90 and over	40.4	19.9	79.9	46.6	49.9	47.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 23. ONE-PERSON INCOME UNITS: INCOME UNIT QUINTILE GROUPS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Characteristics of income units	Gross weekly income quintile					All one-person units
	Lowest 20%	2nd	3rd	4th	Highest 20%	
	- Dollars per week -					
Upper boundary of quintile group	103	160	280	395	n.a.	n.a.
Mean income	84	123	221	333	559	264
Median income	95	119	221	331	500	221
	- Per cent of income units -					
Principal source of gross income:						
Wages or salary	6.3	21.0	74.8	89.5	90.5	56.5
Own business, trade or profession	1.3	2.2	4.9	5.2	5.1	3.8
Other private income	8.6	3.6	10.8	5.0	4.4	6.5
Government pensions and benefits	83.7	73.2	9.4	* 0.3	* 0.1	33.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:						
Male	41.8	37.4	47.3	59.8	71.3	51.5
Female	58.2	62.6	52.7	40.2	28.7	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:						
15 - 24 years	39.5	24.9	62.9	52.7	26.7	41.3
25 - 44 years	12.3	9.5	13.9	30.9	53.9	24.1
45 - 64 years	18.9	20.5	9.4	12.4	17.0	15.6
65 years and over	29.3	45.1	13.9	4.0	2.4	19.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:						
Employed	10.4	27.1	81.1	95.6	97.1	62.3
Unemployed	31.2	4.8	* 0.7	* 0.0	* 0.0	7.3
Not in the labour force	58.4	68.1	18.1	4.4	2.9	30.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:						
Nil and less than 1	15.8	24.7	82.3	97.3	98.6	63.8
1 and less than 20	* 0.2	* 0.3	2.9	* 0.7	1.3	1.1
20 and less than 50	* 0.2	1.8	5.4	1.9	* 0.0	1.9
50 and less than 90	1.8	23.3	3.5	* 0.0	* 0.1	5.8
90 and over	81.9	49.9	5.9	* 0.1	* 0.0	27.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:						
Owned outright	27.8	34.3	14.4	9.2	12.4	19.6
Being bought	3.5	2.6	4.3	7.8	20.8	7.8
Renting - government	6.7	7.5	* 0.7	* 0.9	* 1.2	3.4
- private	11.0	14.8	14.2	25.1	26.0	18.2
Other (includes rent-free)	46.3	38.4	65.1	54.7	36.2	48.1
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Estimated number of income units ('000)	671.0	685.0	680.3	677.7	678.2	3,392.2

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 24. ONE-PERSON INCOME UNITS: AGE OF PERSON BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS,  
AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Age of person (years)						All one-person units
	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 and over	
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -						
1 - 99	244.7	46.9	18.2	20.3	29.4	43.0	402.5
100 - 149	141.1	46.4	28.8	50.8	160.5	448.0	875.6
150 - 199	159.8	16.8	* 6.7	10.8	17.7	76.8	288.5
200 - 249	192.2	27.8	11.7	* 8.2	14.6	23.8	278.4
250 - 299	192.7	43.0	16.5	15.4	14.7	16.0	298.4
300 - 399	296.7	155.8	39.9	38.3	35.9	19.3	585.9
400 - 499	116.4	109.9	39.2	24.6	22.6	* 6.9	319.6
500 - 599	34.7	78.3	26.4	17.3	9.9	* 4.0	170.6
600 - 699	10.1	29.1	15.6	* 6.1	* 5.7	* 3.0	69.5
700 and over	13.2	38.6	22.2	17.0	9.7	* 2.5	103.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,401.6</b>	<b>592.6</b>	<b>225.1</b>	<b>209.0</b>	<b>320.6</b>	<b>643.3</b>	<b>3,392.2</b>
	- Dollars per week -						
Mean income	245	385	396	341	222	143	264
Median income	240	367	374	298	121	112	221
	- Per cent of income units -						
Principal source of gross income:							
Wages or salary	77.9	78.1	71.5	56.0	24.9	* 0.3	56.5
Own business, trade or profession	2.8	6.8	6.7	5.8	5.0	* 0.9	3.8
Other private income	1.8	3.1	3.9	8.0	13.3	16.7	6.5
Government pensions and benefits	17.5	12.0	17.9	30.2	56.8	82.1	33.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:							
Male	58.6	67.2	67.5	52.0	39.0	21.9	51.5
Female	41.4	32.8	32.5	48.0	61.0	78.1	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:							
Employed	82.5	87.1	80.1	65.2	34.0	2.3	62.3
Unemployed	12.0	5.3	8.6	8.1	3.6	-	7.3
Not in the labour force	5.5	7.6	11.4	26.7	62.5	97.7	30.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:							
Nil and less than 1	81.8	86.5	78.1	68.1	39.4	9.4	63.8
1 and less than 20	* 0.2	* 0.5	* 3.0	* 1.1	* 2.1	2.4	1.1
20 and less than 50	* 0.6	* 0.9	* 1.0	* 0.6	* 2.0	6.2	1.9
50 and less than 90	1.4	* 1.3	* 2.7	* 3.2	11.8	18.4	5.8
90 and over	16.1	10.7	15.2	26.9	44.7	63.7	27.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	* 0.6	3.5	12.2	30.2	48.2	60.9	19.6
Being bought	1.3	15.6	27.3	17.2	11.1	3.1	7.8
Renting - government	* 0.4	* 1.3	* 3.4	5.5	8.9	8.3	3.4
- private	17.5	32.4	26.5	19.5	11.5	6.9	18.2
Other (includes rent-free)	78.0	43.4	27.5	22.9	17.6	18.2	48.1
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 25. ONE-PERSON INCOME UNITS: PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Principal source of income						All one-person units
	Private income					Government pensions and benefits	
	Earned income		Total earned income	Other private income	Total private income		
	Wages or salary	Own business					
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -						
1 - 99	32.3	* 8.4	40.7	56.9	97.5	305.0	402.5
100 - 149	96.9	13.9	110.8	20.9	131.7	744.0	875.6
150 - 199	175.9	10.4	186.3	40.3	226.6	62.0	288.5
200 - 249	220.5	15.8	236.3	26.8	263.0	15.3	278.4
250 - 299	258.2	18.6	276.8	20.2	296.9	* 1.5	298.4
300 - 399	533.1	26.1	559.1	25.3	584.4	* 1.4	585.9
400 - 499	295.7	15.3	311.1	* 8.1	319.2	* 0.4	319.6
500 - 599	159.5	* 6.0	165.5	* 5.1	170.6	* 0.0	170.6
600 - 699	61.2	* 2.1	63.3	* 6.2	69.5	* 0.0	69.5
700 and over	81.7	11.2	92.9	10.2	103.2	* 0.0	103.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,914.9</b>	<b>127.8</b>	<b>2,042.7</b>	<b>219.9</b>	<b>2,262.6</b>	<b>1,129.6</b>	<b>3,392.2</b>
	- Dollars per week -						
Mean income	351	358	352	250	342	108	264
Median income	325	293	323	193	314	104	221
	- Per cent of income units -						
Sex:							
Male	59.8	90.8	61.8	42.0	59.8	34.8	51.5
Female	40.2	9.2	38.2	58.0	40.2	65.2	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:							
15 - 24 years	57.0	30.4	55.4	11.6	51.1	21.7	41.3
25 - 44 years	32.6	43.3	33.2	12.5	31.2	9.9	24.1
45 - 64 years	10.3	21.9	11.0	27.0	12.6	21.7	15.6
65 years and over	* 0.1	* 4.4	* 0.4	48.9	5.1	46.7	19.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:							
Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	13.6	91.6	3.6	62.3
Unemployed	"	"	"	5.1	0.5	20.9	7.3
Not in the labour force	"	"	"	81.3	7.9	75.5	30.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:							
Nil and less than 1	98.6	97.5	98.5	68.7	95.6	"	63.8
1 and less than 20	0.7	* 0.6	0.6	10.7	1.6	"	1.1
20 and less than 50	0.8	* 1.9	0.8	20.7	2.8	"	1.9
50 and less than 90	"	"	"	"	"	17.3	5.8
90 and over	"	"	"	"	"	82.6	27.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	5.4	21.4	6.4	55.5	11.1	36.6	19.6
Being bought	10.2	10.0	10.2	6.5	9.9	3.5	7.8
Renting - government	0.9	* 0.0	0.8	* 0.8	0.8	8.6	3.4
Other (includes rent-free)	21.9	18.9	21.8	9.7	20.6	13.5	18.2
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

TABLE 26. ONE-PERSON INCOME UNITS: SEX AND LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Sex		Labour force status				All one-person units
	Male	Female	Employed	Unemployed	Total in labour force	Not in labour force	
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -						
1 - 99	220.9	181.7	57.5	198.8	256.3	146.2	402.5
100 - 149	278.3	597.3	138.7	43.3	182.1	693.6	875.6
150 - 199	116.3	172.2	190.1	* 2.5	192.6	96.0	288.5
200 - 249	136.6	141.7	241.9	* 1.5	243.4	35.0	278.4
250 - 299	160.0	138.4	278.6	* 1.0	279.6	18.8	298.4
300 - 399	357.8	228.1	563.4	* 0.0	563.4	22.4	585.9
400 - 499	217.1	102.5	312.1	* 0.0	312.1	* 7.5	319.6
500 - 599	118.4	52.1	165.9	* 0.0	165.9	* 4.7	170.6
600 - 699	53.0	16.5	65.6	* 0.0	65.6	* 3.9	69.5
700 and over	88.6	14.5	99.3	* 0.0	99.3	* 3.9	103.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,747.1</b>	<b>1,645.1</b>	<b>2,113.0</b>	<b>247.2</b>	<b>2,360.3</b>	<b>1,031.9</b>	<b>3,392.2</b>
	- Dollars per week -						
Mean income	309	217	349	87	322	133	264
Median income	288	163	320	92	301	109	221
	- Per cent of income units -						
Principal source of gross income:							
Wages or salary	65.6	46.7	90.6	..	81.1	..	56.5
Own business, trade or profession	6.6	0.7	6.0	..	5.4	..	3.8
Other private income	5.3	7.8	1.4	4.5	1.7	17.3	6.5
Government pensions and benefits	22.5	44.8	1.9	95.5	11.7	82.7	33.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:							
Male	100.0	..	61.5	64.3	61.7	28.1	51.5
Female	..	100.0	38.5	35.7	38.3	71.9	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:							
15 - 24 years	47.0	35.2	54.7	68.0	56.1	7.5	41.3
25 - 44 years	31.5	16.3	33.0	20.5	31.7	6.8	24.1
45 - 64 years	13.4	18.0	11.6	11.5	11.6	24.8	15.6
65 years and over	8.1	30.5	0.7	..	0.6	60.9	19.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:							
Nil and less than 1	75.6	51.3	96.6	4.3	86.9	10.9	63.8
1 and less than 10	1.0	1.2	0.7	* 0.0	0.6	2.2	1.1
20 and less than 50	0.9	2.9	0.9	* 0.3	0.8	4.3	1.9
50 and less than 90	2.8	9.0	1.4	* 2.7	1.5	15.5	5.8
90 and over	19.7	35.8	0.5	92.8	10.2	67.0	27.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:							
Owned outright	10.5	29.3	6.9	4.6	6.7	49.2	19.6
Being bought	8.9	6.6	10.2	* 2.5	9.4	4.1	7.8
Renting - government	1.7	5.2	0.8	* 2.3	1.0	8.9	3.4
- private	20.9	15.4	21.7	20.2	21.6	10.6	18.2
Other (includes rent-free)	55.2	40.7	57.8	66.6	58.7	23.9	48.1
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.



TABLE 28. ONE-PERSON INCOME UNITS: NATURE OF HOUSING OCCUPANCY  
BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	Nature of housing occupancy					All one-person units (a)
	Owned outright	Being bought	Renting		Other (includes rent-free)	
			Government	Private		
Gross weekly income (\$)	- '000 -					
1 - 99	51.2	12.0	10.4	64.4	248.5	402.5
100 - 149	360.6	26.0	84.1	102.5	273.9	875.6
150 - 199	57.6	12.5	* 4.3	35.3	175.0	288.5
200 - 249	35.5	8.6	* 1.3	38.1	191.6	278.4
250 - 299	24.4	16.5	* 1.9	53.3	194.3	298.4
300 - 399	54.5	47.7	* 6.9	154.4	308.3	585.9
400 - 499	35.1	53.2	* 4.9	90.8	123.2	319.6
500 - 599	24.1	37.5	* 0.9	47.8	57.5	170.6
600 - 699	* 8.4	19.0	* 0.4	13.6	26.9	69.5
700 and over	14.2	30.6	* 0.0	18.1	34.1	103.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>665.7</b>	<b>263.5</b>	<b>115.1</b>	<b>618.3</b>	<b>1,633.2</b>	<b>3,392.2</b>
	- Dollars per week -					
Mean income	207	430	145	305	252	264
Median income	125	411	106	305	229	221
	- Per cent of income units -					
Principal source of gross income:						
Wages or salary	15.4	74.5	14.4	68.0	69.1	56.5
Own business, trade or profession	4.1	4.9	* 0.0	3.9	3.8	3.8
Other private income	18.3	5.5	* 1.6	3.5	3.4	6.5
Government pensions and benefits	62.1	15.2	84.0	24.7	23.7	33.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Sex:						
Male	27.6	58.7	25.6	58.9	59.0	51.5
Female	72.4	41.3	74.4	41.1	41.0	48.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Age:						
15 - 24 years	* 1.2	6.8	* 5.3	39.6	66.9	41.3
25 - 44 years	7.2	58.4	13.5	40.7	19.6	24.1
45 - 64 years	32.7	27.2	34.8	12.5	6.4	15.6
65 years and over	58.8	7.6	46.4	7.2	7.2	19.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Labour force status:						
Employed	22.0	81.4	14.9	74.2	74.8	62.3
Unemployed	1.7	* 2.4	* 5.0	8.1	10.1	7.3
Not in the labour force	76.3	16.2	80.2	17.7	15.1	30.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:						
Nil and less than 1	30.2	81.4	13.4	73.0	75.0	63.8
1 and less than 20	2.9	* 2.2	* 1.2	* 0.9	* 0.3	1.1
20 and less than 50	5.0	* 1.2	* 1.4	1.5	1.0	1.9
50 and less than 90	18.8	* 3.0	* 3.0	3.8	2.1	5.8
90 and over	43.2	12.2	81.0	20.9	21.6	27.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.

**TABLE 29. SELECTED INCOME UNITS: LIFE CYCLE GROUP BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1986**

Gross weekly income and characteristics of income units	One-person units aged under 35 years	Married couple without dependent children, reference person aged under 35 years	Married couple with dependent children and age of eldest child (years)			Married couple without dependent children, reference person aged (years)		One-person units aged 65 years and over
			Under 5	5 - 14	15 - 20	55 - 64	65 and over	
- '000 -								
Gross weekly income (\$)								
1 - 149	479.1	* 8.4	11.3	36.1	20.4	33.0	24.5	491.0
150 - 199	176.5	* 8.2	16.9	24.2	12.5	87.7	218.3	76.8
200 - 249	220.0	8.6	21.0	49.3	26.9	56.9	120.6	23.8
250 - 299	235.7	* 6.0	15.3	38.5	25.1	37.0	49.2	16.0
300 - 349	272.0	15.2	26.7	60.9	24.2	37.8	22.8	9.3
350 - 399	180.5	* 4.9	42.2	77.6	25.7	39.4	14.5	9.3
400 - 449	143.5	10.9	37.9	67.2	33.5	34.4	12.9	* 4.6
450 - 499	82.8	14.1	44.5	70.3	27.3	20.3	* 8.5	* 2.3
500 - 549	70.8	20.4	35.0	96.2	28.7	20.9	* 6.3	* 2.7
550 - 599	42.2	20.0	30.1	86.1	35.9	15.4	* 2.4	* 1.3
600 - 649	28.0	28.2	30.9	61.2	26.0	18.7	* 3.1	* 1.1
650 - 699	11.1	31.6	17.3	56.1	31.1	17.6	* 3.8	* 2.0
700 - 749	14.6	26.6	14.1	47.0	27.9	12.6	* 2.6	* 0.9
750 - 799	* 7.8	23.3	15.4	48.2	21.9	10.7	* 3.1	* 1.0
800 - 849	* 7.1	21.4	9.9	41.6	16.5	14.1	* 2.9	* 0.6
850 - 899	* 3.6	17.3	13.6	21.6	20.3	* 7.1	* 1.6	* 0.0
900 - 949	* 6.8	14.3	* 7.0	22.6	19.5	* 4.3	* 1.7	* 0.0
950 - 999	* 4.0	14.7	* 7.7	26.3	15.9	* 5.6	* 0.9	* 0.0
1000 - 1049	* 1.6	12.0	* 7.7	16.8	* 8.5	* 3.2	* 0.0	* 0.0
1050 - 1099	* 1.1	12.3	* 7.1	17.7	9.3	* 4.2	* 0.2	* 0.0
1100 and over	* 5.3	20.3	15.7	71.9	46.8	22.6	* 8.4	* 0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,994.1</b>	<b>338.7</b>	<b>427.5</b>	<b>1,037.4</b>	<b>503.7</b>	<b>503.5</b>	<b>508.5</b>	<b>643.3</b>
- Dollars per week -								
Mean income	287	695	554	622	648	454	268	143
Median income	274	690	494	550	589	349	205	112
- Per cent of income units -								
Principal source of gross income:								
Wages or salary	78.0	88.7	80.2	76.0	71.0	44.4	3.2	* 0.3
Own business, trade or profession	4.0	5.1	11.1	12.7	14.4	9.0	2.1	* 0.9
Other private income	2.2	* 1.5	* 1.6	2.6	5.7	19.8	19.3	16.7
Government pensions and benefits	15.8	4.7	7.1	8.7	8.9	26.8	75.3	82.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of earners:								
Nil	16.5	4.6	7.2	8.6	11.5	41.1	90.4	98.2
One	83.5	16.0	55.2	43.2	34.5	37.7	7.3	1.8
Two	..	79.4	37.6	48.2	54.0	21.2	2.2	..
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Percentage contribution of government pensions and benefits to gross income:								
Nil and less than 1	83.2	92.3	25.9	10.5	23.0	65.0	10.9	9.4
1 and less than 20	* 0.3	2.6	66.0	78.6	65.1	4.8	6.6	2.4
20 and less than 50	0.7	* 0.3	* 0.9	2.3	3.0	3.5	7.7	6.2
50 and less than 90	1.3	* 1.3	* 1.3	1.8	* 1.7	10.3	31.7	18.4
90 and over	14.5	3.5	5.8	6.9	7.2	16.5	43.2	63.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Nature of housing occupancy:								
Owned outright	1.4	5.4	11.6	24.8	40.1	71.0	77.8	60.9
Being bought	5.5	49.1	54.9	51.8	46.6	17.1	9.9	3.1
Renting - government	0.7	* 1.3	3.2	4.8	* 1.7	2.8	3.9	8.3
- private	21.9	31.4	18.0	9.7	4.3	3.2	2.2	6.9
Other (includes rent-free)	67.7	10.8	11.4	8.5	6.8	4.8	5.4	18.2
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes income units whose nature of housing occupancy was not reported.



## APPENDIX 1

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Scope

*Geographical areas*

2. The survey covered both rural and urban areas in all States and Territories.

*Dwellings*

3. The survey covered both private and special dwellings. Private dwellings are houses, flats, home units, garages, tents and any other structures used as private places of residence at the time of the survey. Special dwellings are hotels, boarding houses, construction camps, caravan parks, etc.

*Persons*

4. The survey included all persons aged 15 or over except:

- (a) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- (b) overseas residents in Australia;
- (c) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia;
- (d) persons who migrated to Australia after 30 June 1986; and
- (e) students in boarding schools and residents of institutions such as hospitals and sanatoria, and inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc.

## Survey design

5. The survey was based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings and non-private dwellings, and covered about one-sixth of one per cent of the population of Australia. The following table shows the number of responding households across States and Territories.

1986 INCOME DISTRIBUTION SURVEY:  
NUMBER OF RESPONDING HOUSEHOLDS

State or Territory	Metro- politan	Other urban	Rural	Total
New South Wales	1,313	587	159	2,059
Victoria	1,221	326	116	1,663
Queensland	659	552	190	1,401
South Australia	842	193	107	1,142
Western Australia	842	194	79	1,115
Tasmania	222	242	99	563
Northern Territory	..	68	4	72
Australian Capital Territory	..	134	40	174
<b>Australia</b>	<b>5,099</b>	<b>2,296</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>8,189</b>

## Data collection method

6. The survey was conducted throughout Australia in the period September to December 1986. The information was obtained by trained interviewers in a personal interview conducted with each resident aged 15 or over in the selected dwelling.

7. Respondents were asked to refer to personal records such as taxation assessment or return forms, group certificates, pay slips, etc. to enhance the accuracy of the data.

8. Persons with income from their own business who did not know their annual income were asked if the interviewers could call back when their records were available. Call-backs were made in February to March 1987. (Annual income data were converted to weekly equivalents - see definition of *Income* in Appendix 2, Glossary.)

## Reliability of the estimates

9. The estimates provided in this publication are subject to two types of error - sampling error and non-sampling error.

*Sampling error*

10. This is the difference which would be expected between the estimate and the corresponding figure that would have been obtained from a collection based on the whole population using the same questionnaires and procedures. A measure of the sampling error for a given estimate is provided by the standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate (relative standard error). In this publication, estimates with a relative standard error greater than 30 per cent are preceded by an \*. Appendix 3 contains a discussion of sampling error as well as giving details for calculating the relative standard error for selected estimates in this publication.

*Non-sampling error*

11. These errors can occur whether the estimates are derived from a sample or from a complete enumeration, and are usually referred to as non-sampling errors. Three major sources of non-sampling error are:

- (a) inability to obtain comprehensive data from all persons included in the sample. These errors arise because of differences which exist between the characteristics of respondents and non-respondents;
- (b) errors in reporting on the part of both respondents and interviewers. These reporting errors may arise through inappropriate wording of questions, misunderstanding of what data are required, inability or unwillingness to provide

accurate information and mistakes in answers to questions; and

- (c) errors arising during processing of the survey data. These processing errors may arise through mistakes in coding and data recording.

12. Non-sampling errors are difficult to measure in any collection. However, every effort was made to minimise these errors. In particular, the effect of the reporting and processing errors described above was minimised by careful questionnaire design, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, asking respondents to refer to records whenever possible and extensive editing and quality control checking at all stages of data processing.

#### Interpretation of results

13. As the estimates are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. In addition, estimates are subject to reporting errors. Although some respondents referred to their records, in many cases the answers to the questions on income were based on memory. Some understatement in the estimates may be expected because of imperfect recall or misunderstanding, particularly of minor sources of income.

14. For a number of reasons income received by a person does not necessarily reflect his or her living standard. Gifts and donations, for example those made by relatives or charities, were not counted as income even though they may have been an important means of support. Some people may have chosen to live off savings. Others have received benefits not involving direct cash payments, e.g. employment benefits of various kinds.

15. Income units which had zero income have been excluded from tables.

#### Symbols and other usages

16. The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures or elsewhere in tables mean:

.. not applicable

n.a. not available

\* estimates preceded by an \* indicate a relative standard error for that estimate of more than 30 per cent.

17. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Published percentages in tables are calculated prior to rounding of the figures and therefore some discrepancy may exist between these percentages and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

#### Electronic services

VIATEL. Key\*656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements.

Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

#### Floppy disk service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (062) 52 6684.

## APPENDIX 2

## GLOSSARY

*Deciles.* Ten per cent groupings of the estimated population when income units are ranked in ascending order according to each income unit's income. Deciles in Tables 1 and 2 are based on all income units.

*Dependent child.* Person aged under 15 years, or aged 15 to 20 years and a full-time student, who has a parent/guardian in the income unit and is neither a spouse nor parent of anyone in the income unit.

*Earned income.* Income from wages or salary, and from own business, trade or profession, paid to persons who worked for one hour or more during the survey week.

*Earners.* Persons aged fifteen years or more (excluding dependants) who received earned income.

*Employed person.* Person aged fifteen years or more, who in his or her main job during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm; or
- (c) was an employee who had a job but was not at work and was: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks prior to the placement date; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks prior to the placement date; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) was an employer or self-employed person who had a job, business or farm, but was not at work.

*Gini coefficient.* This is an index for measuring inequality of income. The index, always between 0 and 1, is low for populations with relatively equal income distributions and high for populations with relatively unequal distributions.

*Government pensions and benefits* includes income received through programs of assistance to aged persons, incapacitated and handicapped persons, unemployed and sick persons, veterans and their dependants, widowed and single parents, families and children, and other social

security and welfare programs. Family allowance payments are included.

*Gross weekly income.* See *Income*.

*Income* refers to gross weekly income and is defined as the sum of amounts usually received per week (before tax or any other deductions) at the time of interview. It includes moneys received from wages or salary, government pensions and benefits and other regular payments such as superannuation, maintenance, etc. It also includes derived weekly equivalent amounts of income received annually from own business, partnerships, interest, rent, dividends, etc. during 1985-86.

*Income share* is the proportion of the total income of all income units acquired by each decile group.

*Income unit* is a person or group of persons consisting of either:

- married couple income units;
- one-parent income units, or
- one-person income units.

*Interest, rent, dividends, etc.* includes income from interest on savings, bonds, debentures, etc., dividends from stocks and shares, net income from rental of a house or other property and net royalties. Income from these sources was estimated by deriving a weekly equivalent of amounts received from these sources in 1985-86.

*Labour force.* Persons were classified as being in the labour force if they were employed or unemployed.

*Married couple income units* consist of a husband, wife and dependent children (if any) as defined. De facto relationships are included.

*Mean income* is the amount obtained by dividing the total income of a group by the number in that group.

*Median income* is that level of income which divides a group of income units into two equal parts, one half having incomes above the median and the other having incomes below it.

*One-parent income units* consist of a parent and at least one dependent child.

*One-person income units* consist of persons who are not included in married couple or one-parent income units. Non-dependent children living with their parents are classed as one-person income units.

*Other housing occupancy* comprises income units which:

- rented from relatives or non-relatives living in the same dwelling
- rented from an employer
- boarded or lodged with a relative or non-relative, or
- had a rent-free living arrangement.

*Other private income* comprises income from superannuation, interest, rent and dividends and other sources. Other sources comprises income from items such as private educational scholarships; maintenance or alimony; a trust or will; and an annuity. Income paid at regular intervals and received by a beneficiary under a will, settlement, deed, gift or instrument or trust was included. However, a lump sum payment from any of these sources was not included.

*Own business, trade or profession (including income from a share in a partnership)*. In these cases, income was defined to be net of business expenses. If income had not been received in 1985-86 or a loss had been made, income from these sources was recorded as nil. Income from these sources was estimated by deriving a weekly equivalent of amounts received from these sources in 1985-86. Income from limited liability companies is included in *Wages or salary*.

*Principal source of income* is the source which contributed most (i.e. the greatest proportion) to total income.

*Private income* comprises income from wages or salary; own business, trade or profession; superannuation; interest, rent and dividends; and other sources.

*Quintiles*. Twenty per cent groupings of the estimated population when income units are ranked in ascending order according to each income unit's income. Quintiles in Table 9 are based on all married couple income units, while quintiles in Table 17 and Table 23 are based on one-parent income units and one-person income units respectively.

*Reference person* is the husband in a married couple income unit, the parent in a one-parent income unit and the person in a one-person income unit.

*Renting, government*. Income units renting from a State Housing Department, Trust or Commission, the Department of Territories in the Australian Capital Territory or the Northern Territory Housing Commission.

*Renting, private*. Income units renting from landlords (i.e. real estate agents and other individuals not occupying the same household).

*Superannuation* comprises income from regular payments made to a person or their survivors by a former employer, either directly or through a superannuation fund, insurance company, etc. Any lump sum payment received by a person on their retirement was excluded.

*Unemployed person*. Person aged fifteen years and over who was not employed during the survey week, and:

(a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and;

- was available for work in the survey week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or
- was waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the survey week and would have started in the survey week if the job had been available then; or

(b) was waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week (including the whole of that week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

*Wages or salary* was defined as the income from all wage or salary jobs and limited liability companies. The value of items such as payments in kind, employer contributions to board or rent, gratuities and tips, etc. were not recorded as income.

## APPENDIX 3.

## TECHNICAL NOTE ON SAMPLING VARIABILITY

## Estimation Procedure

Estimates derived from the survey were obtained by using a complex ratio estimation procedure which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

## Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants from a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that the sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of the likely difference is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all the estimates in this publication. Standard errors of estimates of the number of income units can be obtained from Table A. Standard errors of mean and median income estimates are obtained by using the appropriate factor from Table B in conjunction with Table A.

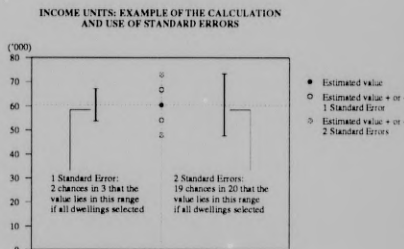
## Standard errors of number of income units estimates

4. The size of the standard error increases with the level of the estimate, so that the larger the estimate the larger is the standard error. However, it should be noted that the larger the sample estimate the smaller will be the standard error in percentage terms. Thus, larger sample estimates will be relatively more reliable than smaller estimates.

5. As the standard errors in Table A show, the *smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. Only estimates with relative standard errors less than 30% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger standard errors have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (\*) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

6. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors is as follows:

From Table 4 the estimated number of income units with the reference person in the 35-44 year age group earning \$200-249 per week is 60,500. From Table A we see that since the estimate is between 50,000 and 100,000, the standard error is between 5,900 and 7,900. By interpolating we estimate the standard error to be 6,300 (to nearest 100). Therefore there are two chances in three that the value would have fallen within the range 54,200 to 66,800 if all dwellings were included and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value would have fallen in the range 47,900 to 73,100. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



## Standard errors of mean and median income estimates

7. The standard errors of estimates of mean and median incomes obtained by multiplying the *relative standard errors* of the corresponding population estimates by the appropriate factor from Table B. For example:

From Table 4, the mean income for income units with the reference person aged 15 to 24 is \$269. This estimate corresponds to an estimated 1,595,800 people in that category, which has a relative standard error of 1.4% (from Table A). From Table B, the factor for the mean income of all income units is 1.1, hence the estimate of mean has a relative standard error of 1.5% which corresponds to a standard error of \$4.

## Standard errors of proportions and percentages

8. Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. An approximate formula

for the relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion is given below:

$$\text{RSE \% } (x/y) = \sqrt{[\text{RSE \% } (x)]^2 - [\text{RSE \% } (y)]^2}$$

For example:

From Table 1, 15.0% of the fourth decile of income units are married couples with dependent children. Since the decile estimate of total income units is 737,400, the estimate of married couples with dependent children in the decile must have been 110,600. Hence the 15.0% estimate will have a relative standard error per cent:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sqrt{[\text{RSE \% } (110,600)]^2 - [\text{RSE \% } (737,400)]^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(7.4)^2 - (2.3)^2} \\ &= 7.0\% \end{aligned}$$

giving a standard error of 1.0.

9. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the percentage that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey is in the range 14.0 to 16.0, and about nineteen chances in twenty that it is in the range 13.0 to 17.0.

10. The difference between survey estimates is also an estimate and is therefore subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the difference between two survey estimates depends on the standard errors of the original estimates and on the relationship (correlation) between the two original estimates. An approximate standard error of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Standard Error } (x-y) &= \\ &= \sqrt{[\text{Standard error}(x)]^2 + [\text{Standard error}(y)]^2} \end{aligned}$$

11. While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated (unrelated) characteristics or sub-populations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest.

For example:

From Table 4, 75,400 and 57,300 income units with the reference persons aged 25-34 and 35-44 years, respectively, earn between \$250 and \$299 per week. The difference between these figures is 18,100 which will have a standard error:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Standard Error} &= \sqrt{6,900^2 + 6,200^2} \\ &= 9,300 \text{ (to nearest 100)} \end{aligned}$$

12. Thus there are about two chances in three that the difference that would be obtained if all dwellings had

been included in the survey is within the range 8,800 to 27,400 and nineteen chances in twenty that this difference is between -500 and 36,700.

13. Table C shows the estimated standard errors of the upper boundaries of the decile groups featured in Tables 1 and 2.

TABLE A. STANDARD ERRORS FOR ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF INCOME UNITS

Size of estimate	Standard error	Relative standard error (percent)
3,500	1,650	46.7
4,000	1,750	43.8
4,500	1,850	41.3
5,000	1,950	39.3
6,000	2,150	35.9
10,000	2,750	27.7
20,000	3,850	19.3
50,000	5,900	11.7
100,000	7,900	7.9
200,000	10,500	5.3
300,000	12,300	4.1
500,000	15,000	3.0
1,000,000	19,300	1.9
2,000,000	24,600	1.2
5,000,000	33,000	0.7
10,000,000	40,600	0.4
20,000,000	49,400	0.2

TABLE B. RELATIVE STANDARD ERROR FACTORS FOR ESTIMATES OF MEAN AND MEDIAN INCOMES.

Income Units:	
Mean Income	1.1
Mean Income, one-parent and subcategorised married couple units	0.8
Mean Income within deciles	
- highest and lowest deciles	0.6
- deciles 2-9	0.1
Mean Income within quintiles	
- highest and lowest quintiles	0.6
- quintiles 2-4	0.1
Median Income	1.5
Median Income, one-parent and subcategorised married couple income units	0.8

TABLE C. STANDARD ERRORS OF UPPER BOUNDARIES OF DECILE GROUPS

Decile	Standard Error
1	0.7
2	2.2
3	2.3
4	3.4
5	3.3
6	3.8
7	4.8
8	6.0
9	8.8
10	..

## APPENDIX 4

## PUBLICATION AND DATA DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

## 1986 Income Distribution Survey

To fulfil users' requirements from the survey, a dissemination program has been drawn up. This program consists of three major components:

- *Publications.* A number of ABS publications were designed to meet the needs of most users. These publications are briefly described below and may be purchased through the mail or over the counter from offices of the Australian Bureau of Statistics in each capital city.
- *A public use unit record tape* has been released (1 February 1988) with unit record data 'confidentialised'.
- *Unpublished data.* More detailed classifications of the data in this publication may be made available on request. Generally a charge is made for providing this information. Inquiries should be made to the officer identified in the Phone Inquiries box or by writing to Income and Expenditure Section, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616. Extra tables are derived from a computer data base, and detailed specifications of the data items existing on that data base are available from the above sources.

2. Details of all publications from this survey, including a summary of their contents, are given below.

*1986 Income Distribution Survey, Preliminary Results (6545.0)* - released 26 November 1987.

Contains preliminary data for income units on a current and annual basis, and for persons with earned income on an annual basis.

*1986 Income Distribution Survey, Persons with Earned Income (6546.0)* (\$8.00, including postage) - released 23 May 1988.

Contains data on persons with earned income and examines the relationship between levels of earned income and demographic and social characteristics of the recipients, e.g. age, sex, labour force experience, educational qualifications, occupation, etc.

*Information Paper: 1986 Income Distribution Survey, Sample file on Magnetic Tape (6543.0)* - released 1 February 1988.

This information paper provides technical and other details of the sample file, conditions of use and how to order it.

## Related publications

3. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

*1986 Income Distribution Survey, Australia - Preliminary Results (6545.0)*

*1986 Income Distribution Survey, Australia - Persons with Earned Income (6546.0)*

*Information Paper: 1986 Income Distribution Survey, Sample File on Magnetic Tape (6543.0)*

*Income of Individuals, Australia, 1981-82 (6502.0)*

*Income of Income Units, Australia, 1981-82 (6523.0)*

*Social Indicators No. 4, 1984 (4101.0)*

*Australian Families, 1982 (4408.0)*

4. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia (1101.0)*. The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice (1105.0)* which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The *Catalogue and Publications Advice* are available from any ABS office.



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