



**Australian
Bureau of
Statistics**

**April 1988
Persons Who Have Left
The Labour Force
Australia**

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**PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE,
AUSTRALIA
APRIL 1988**

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CATALOGUE NO. 6267.0

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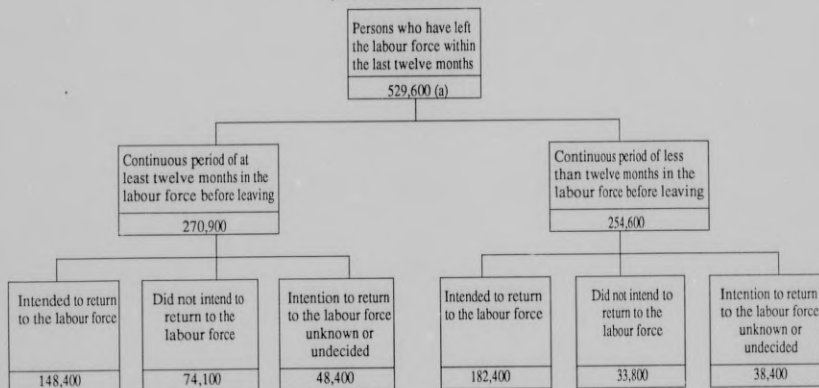
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This survey covered persons not in the labour force at April 1988 who left the labour force within the previous twelve months, their reasons for doing so, their past labour force experience, their current activities and whether or not they intend to return to the labour force.

In April 1988 there were an estimated 4,669,600 persons who were not in the labour force (37 per cent of the civilian population aged 15 and over). Of these persons 529,600 had left the labour force within the last twelve months.

**DIAGRAM 1. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS:
DURATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD IN THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHETHER INTENDED TO
RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988**

(Source of data: Table 2)



(a) Includes 4,100 persons whose duration of continuous period in the labour force could not be determined.

PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS.

The majority of persons who have left the labour force in the twelve months to April 1988 were female (364,100 or 69 per cent), of whom more than half were in the age group 25 to 44 years.

Married females who left the labour force in the last twelve months (245,300) outnumbered unmarried females (118,700) by two to one. (For females in the labour force at April 1988, the ratio of married females to unmarried females was 1.4 to one.)

For males who left the labour force in the twelve months to April 1988, the dominant age group was 15 to 24 years. Not married males (96,700) outnumbered married males (68,900).

Persons born in Australia comprised 75 per cent of those who left the labour force in the twelve months to April 1988 - much the same as the percentage of Australian born persons in the labour force at April 1988.

The main activities in April 1988 of those who left the labour force in the previous twelve months, were home duties/child care (50 per cent) and attending an educational institution (22 per cent).

An estimated 290,800 persons (55 per cent of those who had left the labour force) stated that they are dependent on someone else's income for their main source of income.

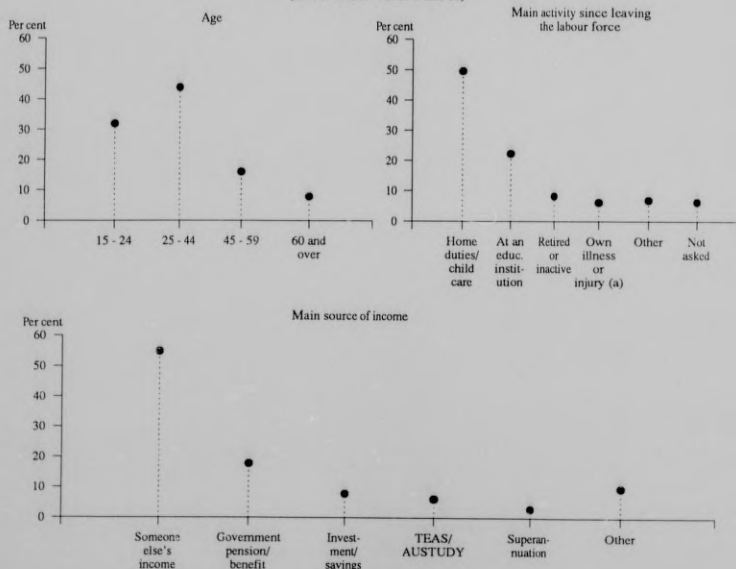
Almost half (48 per cent) of those who left had had a continuous period in the labour force of less than twelve months.

Of those who had left the labour force in the twelve months to April 1988,
 - 62 per cent intended to return at some time, 33 per cent intended to return within one year
 - 20 per cent did not intend to return
 - and for 17 per cent, their intentions were not known or undecided.

Of the 105,100 males aged 15 to 44 who left the labour force in the twelve months to April 1988, 79 per cent intended to return to the labour force. For females aged 15 to 44, 296,800 left the labour force and 67 per cent intended to return.

For persons who had left the labour force in the twelve months to April 1988, who knew whether or not they intended to return to the labour force, 75 per cent said they would do so.

DIAGRAM 2. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS :
 SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, APRIL 1988
 (Source of data : Tables 6 and 10)



(a) Includes own disability/handicap.

PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING.

Of the 335,200 persons whose last labour force activity was working, 23 per cent were previously Salespersons or personal service workers, 23 per cent were Labourers or related workers and 20 per cent were Clerks.

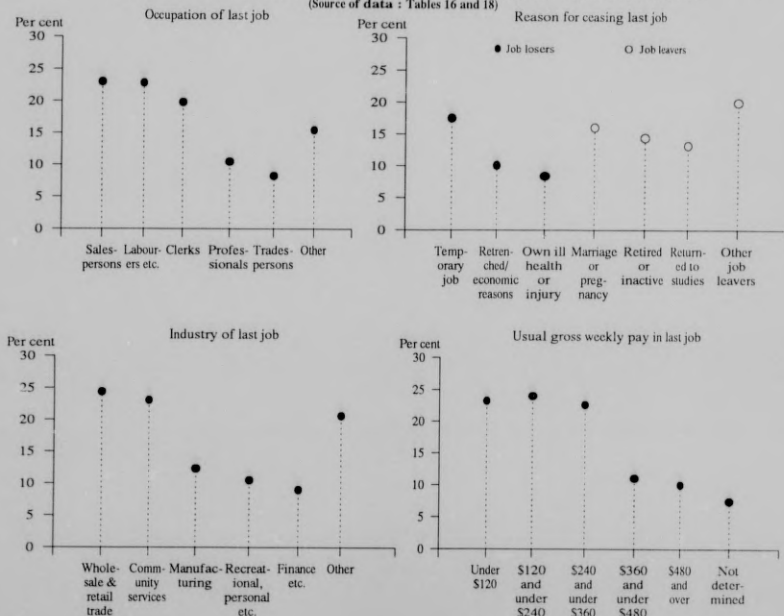
An estimated 24 per cent were previously employed in the Wholesale and retail trade industry and 23 per cent in Community services.

The numbers of persons previously employed full-time and part-time were 172,700 and 155,500 respectively. (By comparison, persons employed full-time at April 1988 outnumbered persons employed part-time by four to one).

Of the 213,800 persons who left their last job voluntarily, 25 per cent indicated marriage or having children as their main reason for doing so. Other major reasons were retirement /no longer wanted to work (23 per cent) and a return to studies (21 per cent).

Of the 121,400 persons who lost their jobs involuntarily, 48 per cent reported that their job had been temporary or seasonal, 26 per cent had been retrenched and 24 per cent reported own illness /injury as the reason for job loss.

DIAGRAM 3. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING : SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS, APRIL 1988
(Source of data : Tables 16 and 18)



PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS LOOKING FOR WORK.

Of the 194,400 persons in this category 58 per cent had spent less than one year in continuous labour force activity prior to leaving. Some 45 per cent of persons had left the labour force in the previous 3 weeks.

The principal activities in April 1988 of persons who were previously looking for work were performing home duties or caring for children (44 per cent) and attending an educational institution (20 per cent).

An estimated 72 per cent of persons who were previously looking for work intended to return to the labour force.

PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS AND WHO INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE

Of the persons who had been working before leaving the labour force and who intended to return, 63 per cent (120,500) had left their jobs voluntarily. Of the 140,600 persons who had looked for work prior to leaving the labour force who intended to return to the labour force, and for whom reasons for stopping looking were reported, 71 per cent cited personal or family reasons.

SECTION 1. ALL PERSONS AGED 15 AND OVER, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988

TABLE 1. ALL PERSONS AGED 15 AND OVER: LABOUR FORCE STATUS, WHETHER LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS, DURATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING AND LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988 ('000)

	November 1985			April 1988		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
All persons aged 15 and over	5,926.6	6,112.9	12,039.3	6,237.4	6,428.5	12,665.9
In the labour force	4,496.0	2,894.0	7,390.0	4,743.9	3,252.4	7,996.3
Not in the labour force	1,430.5	3,218.9	4,649.4	1,493.5	3,176.1	4,669.6
Did not leave the labour force within the last twelve months	1,292.6	2,895.5	4,188.1	1,328.0	2,812.0	4,140.0
Left the labour force within the last twelve months(a)	137.9	323.4	461.3	165.5	364.1	529.6
Continuous period of less than twelve months in the labour force before leaving	59.9	170.3	230.2	83.0	171.6	254.6
Worked	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	47.7	94.4	142.1
Looked for work	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	35.3	77.2	112.5
Continuous period of at least twelve months in the labour force before leaving	78.0	153.0	231.1	80.1	190.8	270.9
Worked	70.4	136.5	206.9	56.4	136.7	193.1
Looked for work	7.6	16.5	24.1	23.7	54.1	77.7

(a) Includes persons whose duration of continuous period in the labour force could not be determined.

SECTION 2. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988

TABLE 2. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: DURATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988 ('000)

Whether intended to return to the labour force	November 1985			April 1988		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF LESS THAN TWELVE MONTHS IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING						
Intended to return	45.3	99.1	144.4	62.4	120.1	182.4
Did not intend to return	8.7	41.8	50.5	8.9	24.9	33.8
Undecided	5.8	29.5	35.3	4.8	13.9	18.8
Not asked	..	..	..	7.0	12.7	19.6
Total	59.9	170.3	230.2	83.0	171.6	254.6
CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF AT LEAST TWELVE MONTHS IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING						
Intended to return	31.1	67.8	98.9	40.6	107.8	148.4
Did not intend to return	34.7	57.5	92.2	28.4	45.7	74.1
Undecided	12.2	27.8	40.0	9.2	29.2	38.4
Not asked	..	..	..	*1.9	8.1	10.0
Total	78.0	153.0	231.1	80.1	190.8	270.9
TOTAL(a)						
Intended to return	76.4	166.8	243.3	103.0	227.9	330.9
Did not intend to return	43.5	99.2	142.7	37.3	70.6	107.8
Undecided	18.0	57.3	75.3	14.0	43.1	57.1
Not asked	..	..	..	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	137.9	323.4	461.3	165.5	364.1	529.6

(a) Includes persons whose duration of continuous period in the labour force could not be determined.

TABLE 3. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: SUMMARY OF CHARACTERISTICS, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

	November 1985			April 1988		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Age group—</i>						
15-24	47.6	83.9	131.5	66.8	102.3	169.1
25-44	31.0	177.3	208.2	38.3	194.5	232.7
45-59	21.9	46.2	68.2	29.9	56.0	85.9
60 and over	37.4	16.0	53.4	30.6	11.4	41.9
<i>Birthplace—</i>						
Born in Australia	99.7	246.3	346.0	122.2	275.9	398.0
Born outside Australia	38.2	77.0	115.3	43.4	88.2	131.6
<i>Marital status—</i>						
Married	64.6	233.1	297.6	68.9	245.3	314.2
Not-married	73.4	90.3	163.6	96.7	118.7	215.4
<i>Main source of income—</i>						
Investments/savings	26.2	18.9	45.1	26.1	15.5	41.6
Superannuation	10.4	*3.2	13.7	13.3	*3.3	16.6
TEAS/AUSTUDY	10.7	6.7	17.4	17.7	15.7	33.4
Unemployment/sickness benefit	20.1	13.8	33.9	22.6	16.0	38.6
Invalide/age/supporting parent's/widow's pension	17.4	37.9	55.3	15.9	36.0	51.9
War disability/repatriation/service/war widow's pension	6.3	*2.7	8.9	*3.3	*1.3	4.5
Dependent on someone else's income	32.7	229.4	262.1	44.1	246.7	290.8
Other(s)	14.2	10.8	24.9	11.4	7.1	18.5
Not asked	..	..	..	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	137.9	323.4	461.3	165.5	364.1	529.6

(a) Includes life assurance, other retirement schemes; and persons permanently unable to work who were not asked their main source of income.

TABLE 4. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: SUMMARY OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

	November 1985			April 1988		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Duration of continuous period in the labour force before leaving (years)—</i>						
Under 1	59.9	170.3	230.2	83.0	171.6	254.6
1 and under 3	15.5	46.8	62.4	20.4	84.4	104.8
3 and under 5	8.7	24.8	33.5	8.5	30.2	38.8
5 and under 10	8.3	38.4	46.7	8.9	36.9	45.8
10 and under 20	10.6	32.8	43.4	10.1	28.0	38.1
20 and over	34.9	10.2	45.0	32.1	11.2	43.3
Not determined	..	..	..	*2.4	*1.7	*4.1
<i>Time since left the labour force (weeks)—</i>						
1 and under 4	16.1	38.8	54.9	38.7	92.3	131.0
4 and under 8	15.3	41.6	56.9	27.2	51.8	79.0
8 and under 13	18.0	43.2	61.2	38.4	58.4	96.8
13 and under 26	29.2	69.8	99.0	36.5	92.3	128.8
26 and under 39	26.3	59.9	86.2	13.5	45.3	58.8
39 and under 52	33.0	70.1	103.1	11.3	24.1	35.3
<i>Whether intended to return to the labour force—</i>						
Intended to return	76.4	166.8	243.3	103.0	227.9	330.9
Under 1 year	53.0	108.2	161.3	61.7	114.9	176.7
Under 3 months	43.4	70.2	113.7	32.4	59.2	91.6
3 and under 6 months	6.1	26.5	32.6	7.2	20.3	27.5
6 and under 12 months	*3.5	11.5	15.0	22.1	35.4	57.6
1 and under 3 years	6.0	23.6	29.6	9.0	27.8	36.8
3 and under 5 years	*1.2	5.1	6.4	*1.6	7.6	9.2
5 years and over	*0.2	*4.2	4.5	*0.7	*2.1	*2.9
Did not know	16.0	25.6	41.6	30.0	75.4	105.4
Did not intend to return	43.5	99.2	142.7	37.3	70.6	107.8
Undecided	18.0	57.3	75.3	14.0	43.1	57.1
Not asked	..	..	..	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	137.9	323.4	461.3	165.5	364.1	529.6

SECTION 3. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AFTER A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF AT LEAST TWELVE MONTHS IN THE LABOUR FORCE, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988

TABLE 5. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AFTER A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF AT LEAST TWELVE MONTHS IN THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN ACTIVITY SINCE LEAVING THE LABOUR FORCE AND AGE, NOVEMBER 1985 AND APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

Main activity since leaving the labour force	November 1985				April 1988				
	Age group				Age group				
	15-24	25-44	45-59	60 and over	Total	15-24	25-44	45-59	60 and over
Home duties/child care	20.6	73.0	21.3	9.0	123.9	19.8	94.4	30.4	7.7
Attending an educational institution	13.0	6.6	*1.2	*0.2	21.1	21.0	7.1	*1.7	*0.0
Retired/voluntarily inactive	*0.2	*3.6	9.9	27.0	40.7	*1.1	*3.2	9.9	18.6
Own illness/injury (a)	*3.0	10.0	8.8	*2.8	24.5	*2.0	7.8	8.0	*3.2
Other	5.3	7.2	*3.7	4.7	20.9	4.9	8.3	7.4	*4.3
Not asked	..	..	..	..	..	*2.8	4.6	*2.3	*0.4
Total	42.2	100.4	44.8	43.7	231.1	51.7	125.4	59.6	34.1

(a) Includes own disability/handicap.

SECTION 4. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE

TABLE 6. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: SUMMARY OF CHARACTERISTICS AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

	Whether intended to return to the labour force									
	Intended to return			Did not intend to return				Total(a)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Undecided	Males	Females	Persons
Age group—										
15-24	52.6	76.3	128.9	*3.9	9.1	13.1	9.4	66.8	102.3	169.1
25-44	30.7	123.6	154.4	*2.4	33.8	36.2	29.6	38.3	194.5	232.7
45-59	12.0	25.7	37.6	11.1	19.5	30.5	14.6	29.9	56.0	85.9
60 and over	7.7	*2.2	9.9	19.9	8.2	28.1	*3.6	30.6	11.4	41.9
Birthplace—										
Born in Australia	76.7	173.6	250.2	27.2	53.5	80.7	42.2	122.2	275.9	398.0
Born outside Australia	26.4	54.3	80.7	10.0	17.1	27.2	15.0	43.4	88.2	131.6
Marital status—										
Married	33.4	141.9	175.3	26.2	58.5	84.7	42.1	68.9	245.3	314.2
Not-married	69.6	86.0	155.6	11.1	12.1	23.2	15.0	96.7	118.7	215.4
Main source of income—										
Investments/savings	18.7	9.6	28.3	5.7	*4.1	9.8	*3.5	26.1	15.5	41.6
Superannuation	*2.7	*0.8	*3.5	9.2	*2.1	11.3	*1.8	13.3	*3.3	16.6
TEAS/AUSTUDY	15.5	14.1	29.6	*1.9	*0.8	*2.7	*1.1	17.7	15.7	33.4
Unemployment/sickness benefit	15.5	12.4	28.0	*2.8	*2.2	5.0	5.6	22.6	16.0	38.6
Invalid/age/supporting parent's/widow's pension	5.1	21.4	26.5	9.4	9.8	19.2	6.2	15.9	36.0	51.9
War disability/repatriation/service/war widow's pension	*0.2	*0.4	*0.6	*3.1	*0.5	*3.6	*0.4	*3.3	*1.3	4.5
Dependent on someone else's income	38.5	163.2	201.7	*2.8	50.2	53.0	36.1	44.1	246.7	290.8
Other	6.9	6.0	12.8	*2.4	*0.8	*3.2	*2.4	11.4	7.1	18.5
Not asked	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	103.0	227.9	330.9	37.3	70.6	107.8	57.1	165.5	364.1	529.6

(a) Includes persons whose intention to return to the labour force could not be determined.

TABLE 7. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

Educational attainment	Whether intended to return to the labour force									
	Intended to return			Did not intend to return				Total(a)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Undecided	Males	Females	Persons
With post-school qualifications	30.5	82.7	113.3	14.7	22.5	37.2	19.9	50.4	119.9	170.3
Degree	7.9	14.8	22.7	*1.9	*1.9	*3.8	*2.1	10.3	18.3	28.6
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	15.6	5.9	21.5	9.0	*2.0	11.0	*4.2	27.6	9.1	36.7
Certificate or diploma	7.1	60.7	67.8	*3.8	18.3	22.1	13.5	12.5	90.9	103.4
Other	*0.0	*1.2	*1.2	*0.0	*0.3	*0.3	*0.0	*0.0	*1.5	*1.5
Without post-school qualifications	52.1	122.7	174.8	21.0	46.3	67.4	35.0	80.7	196.5	277.2
Attended highest level of secondary school available	24.8	35.4	60.2	*2.8	8.8	11.7	7.2	28.6	50.5	79.0
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	27.1	87.3	114.4	18.2	37.2	55.4	27.4	51.5	145.7	197.2
Left at age—										
16 years and over	12.4	34.5	46.8	*3.5	13.0	16.5	12.8	17.7	58.4	76.1
15 years and under	14.7	52.9	67.5	14.7	24.3	39.0	14.6	33.8	87.3	121.1
Never attended school	*0.3	*0.0	*0.3	*0.0	*0.3	*0.3	*0.4	*0.7	*0.3	*0.9
Still at school	20.4	22.4	42.8	*1.5	*1.8	*3.3	*2.3	23.1	25.3	48.4
Not asked	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	103.0	227.9	330.9	37.3	70.6	107.8	57.1	165.5	364.1	529.6

(a) Includes persons whose intention to return to the labour force could not be determined.

TABLE 8. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE AND AGE, APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

Educational attainment	Age group				Total
	15-24	25-44	45-59	60 and over	
	INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE				
With post-school qualifications	17.6	74.4	16.6	4.6	113.3
Degree	*2.8	17.0	*1.6	*1.3	22.7
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	*2.8	10.9	6.2	*1.6	21.5
Certificate or diploma/other	11.9	46.5	8.8	*1.7	69.0
Without post-school qualifications	68.6	80.0	21.0	5.3	174.8
Attended highest level of secondary school available	39.9	18.4	*1.0	*0.9	60.2
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	28.6	61.6	19.7	*4.4	114.4
Left at age—					
16 and over	14.5	28.2	*3.4	*0.7	46.8
15 and under	14.2	33.4	16.3	*3.7	67.5
Never attended school	*0.0	*0.0	*0.3	*0.0	*0.3
Still at school	42.8	..	..	..	42.8
Total	128.9	154.4	37.6	9.9	330.9
DID NOT INTEND TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE					
With post-school qualifications	*1.8	12.8	10.5	12.0	37.2
Without post-school qualifications	7.9	23.4	20.0	16.0	67.4
Still at school	*3.3	..	..	..	*3.3
Total	13.1	36.2	30.5	28.1	107.8
TOTAL(a)					
With post-school qualifications	20.2	97.8	34.2	18.1	170.3
Degree	*2.8	19.0	*4.1	*2.7	28.6
Trade qualification or apprenticeship	*3.2	12.9	13.3	7.4	36.7
Certificate or diploma/other	14.2	65.9	16.8	8.0	104.9
Without post-school qualifications	82.9	122.4	48.5	23.5	277.2
Attended highest level of secondary school available	44.9	26.9	4.6	*2.6	79.0
Did not attend highest level of secondary school available	38.0	95.2	43.3	20.7	197.2
Left at age—					
16 and over	20.3	44.6	9.0	*2.3	76.1
15 and under	17.7	50.6	34.4	18.4	121.1
Never attended school	*0.0	*0.2	*0.5	*0.3	*0.9
Still at school	48.4	..	..	..	48.4
Not asked	17.6	12.6	*3.2	*0.4	33.8
Total	169.1	232.7	85.9	41.9	529.6

(a) Includes persons who were undecided about whether they would return to the labour force, and persons whose intention to return to the labour force could not be determined.

TABLE 9. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

	Whether intended to return to the labour force									
	Intended to return			Did not intend to return				Total (a)		
Housing arrangements	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Undecided	Males	Females	Persons
Owned own home	15.8	31.1	46.8	22.9	24.4	47.3	15.2	43.7	65.6	109.3
Paying off home	10.7	75.9	86.6	5.7	27.7	33.3	20.2	18.5	121.7	140.2
Renting—										
Housing Commission	*4.0	15.1	19.1	*1.1	*3.7	4.8	*3.6	6.2	21.2	27.5
Other(b)	28.1	56.7	84.9	*3.9	11.0	14.9	11.2	34.8	76.3	111.1
Other	44.4	49.1	93.5	*3.7	*3.8	7.5	6.9	51.0	56.8	107.8
Not asked	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	103.0	227.9	330.9	37.3	70.6	107.8	57.1	165.5	364.1	529.6

(a) Includes persons whose intention to return to the labour force could not be determined. (b) Includes paying rent to another person in the dwelling.

TABLE 10. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, MAIN ACTIVITY SINCE LEAVING THE LABOUR FORCE AND AGE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

Main activity since leaving the labour force	Age group			60 and over	Total
	15-24	25-44	45-59		
INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE					
Home duties/child care	25.7	112.6	21.2	*1.7	161.1
Attending an educational institution	89.2	13.9	*1.9	*0.0	105.1
Retired/voluntarily inactive	*3.6	4.9	*2.5	5.0	16.0
Own illness/injury(a)	*2.3	10.9	5.8	*1.4	20.4
Other	8.1	12.1	6.2	*1.8	28.3
Total	128.9	154.4	37.6	9.9	330.9
DID NOT INTEND TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE					
Home duties/child care	6.2	33.2	17.4	7.1	63.8
Other	6.9	*3.0	13.1	21.0	44.0
Total	13.1	36.2	30.5	28.1	107.8
TOTAL(b)					
Home duties/child care	36.1	170.7	46.7	9.6	263.1
Attending an educational institution	100.1	16.1	*2.1	*0.0	118.4
Retired/voluntarily inactive	*3.6	5.5	11.5	23.4	44.0
Own illness/injury(a)	*3.1	14.4	11.8	*4.0	33.3
Other	8.5	13.3	10.6	4.6	37.1
Not asked	17.6	12.6	*3.2	*0.4	33.8
Total	169.1	232.7	85.9	41.9	529.6

(a) Includes own disability/handicap. (b) Includes persons who were undecided about whether they would return to the labour force and persons whose intention to return to the labour force could not be determined.

TABLE 11. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN ACTIVITY SINCE LEAVING THE LABOUR FORCE AND DURATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING, APRIL 1988 ('000)

Main activity since leaving the labour force	Duration of continuous period in the labour force before leaving							
	Under 1 year				Total	1 and under 5 years		
	Under 5 months	5 and under 6 months	6 and under 9 months	9 and under 12 months		5 and under 20 years	20 years and over	Total(a)
Home duties/child care	56.4	24.1	20.5	9.8	110.8	87.0	57.1	263.1
Attending an educational institution	56.9	18.1	8.6	5.0	88.6	24.9	4.6	118.4
Retired/voluntarily inactive	6.7	*1.2	*2.7	*0.5	11.1	6.4	*3.8	22.6
Own illness/injury(b)	5.9	*2.6	*2.7	*1.0	12.2	7.6	7.9	33.3
Other	6.1	*3.1	*2.2	*0.8	12.2	10.8	8.0	37.1
Not asked	13.6	*3.3	*2.2	*0.6	19.6	6.9	*2.6	33.8
Total	145.6	52.4	38.8	17.8	254.6	143.6	84.0	529.6

(a) Includes persons whose duration of continuous period in the labour force could not be determined. (b) Includes own disability/handicap.

TABLE 12. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME AND DURATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING, APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

	Duration of continuous period in the labour force before leaving				
	Under 1 year				
Main source of income	Under 3 months	3 and under 12 months	Total	1 year and over	Total(a)
	MALES				
Investments/savings	5.0	5.0	9.9	16.2	26.1
TEAS/AUSTUDY	8.1	6.2	14.2	*3.5	17.7
Unemployment/sickness benefit	*2.6	5.4	8.0	14.6	22.6
Invalid/age/supporting parent's/widow's pension	*2.0	*1.2	*3.2	12.7	15.9
Dependent on someone else's income	21.7	10.7	332.4	11.7	44.1
Other	5.4	*2.9	8.3	19.6	28.0
Not asked	5.0	*2.0	7.0	*1.9	11.3
Total	49.7	33.3	83.0	80.1	165.5
	FEMALES				
Investments/savings	*2.3	*1.5	*3.8	11.7	15.5
TEAS/AUSTUDY	7.5	*4.1	11.6	*4.1	15.7
Unemployment/sickness benefit	*3.3	4.6	8.0	8.0	16.0
Invalid/age/supporting parent's/widow's pension	*9.5	6.0	15.5	20.5	36.0
Dependent on someone else's income	62.8	53.4	116.1	130.6	246.7
Other	*1.9	*2.0	*3.9	7.7	11.6
Not asked	8.6	*4.1	12.7	8.1	22.5
Total	95.9	75.7	171.6	190.8	364.1
	PERSONS				
Investments/savings	7.3	6.5	13.7	27.9	41.6
TEAS/AUSTUDY	15.6	10.2	25.8	7.6	33.4
Unemployment/sickness benefit	5.9	10.0	16.0	22.6	38.6
Invalid/age/supporting parent's/widow's pension	11.4	7.2	18.7	33.2	51.9
Dependent on someone else's income	84.5	64.0	148.5	142.3	290.8
Other	7.3	4.9	12.3	27.3	39.6
Not asked	13.6	6.0	19.6	10.0	33.8
Total	145.6	109.0	254.6	270.9	529.6

(a) Includes persons whose duration of continuous period in the labour force could not be determined.

TABLE 13. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE AND MARITAL STATUS, APRIL 1988
(^{'000})

Whether intended to return to the labour force	Married			Not-married			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Intended to return	33.4	141.9	175.3	69.6	86.0	155.6	103.0	227.9	330.9
Under 1 year	17.4	67.7	85.1	44.3	47.2	91.5	61.7	114.9	176.7
Under 3 months	13.3	37.4	50.7	19.1	21.9	41.0	32.4	59.2	91.6
3 and under 6 months	*1.8	12.6	14.5	5.3	7.7	13.0	7.2	20.3	27.5
6 and under 12 months	*2.3	17.7	20.0	19.9	17.7	37.5	22.1	35.4	57.6
1 and under 3 years	*2.0	18.9	20.9	7.0	8.8	15.9	9.0	27.8	36.8
3 and under 5 years	*0.7	4.8	5.5	*0.9	*2.8	*3.7	*1.6	7.6	9.2
5 years and over	*0.3	*2.1	*2.4	*0.5	*0.0	*0.5	*0.7	*2.1	*2.9
Did not know	13.1	48.3	61.4	16.9	27.1	44.0	30.0	75.4	105.4
Did not intend to return	26.2	58.5	84.7	11.1	12.1	23.2	37.3	70.6	107.8
Undecided	7.5	34.6	42.1	6.5	8.5	15.0	14.0	43.1	57.1
Not asked	*1.7	10.4	12.1	9.5	12.1	21.6	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	68.9	245.3	314.2	96.6	118.7	215.3	165.5	364.1	529.6

TABLE 14. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE: WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, FAMILY STATUS AND DURATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING, APRIL 1988 ('000)

	Duration of continuous period in the labour force before leaving					
	Under 1 year					
Family status	Under 6 months	6 and under 12 months	Total	1 and under 5 years	5 years and over	Total
INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE						
Member of a family	114.9	33.4	148.3	81.5	46.0	275.8
Husband or wife	53.8	20.1	74.0	50.7	39.2	163.9
With dependents present	37.9	15.9	53.8	37.5	25.3	116.7
Without dependents present	15.9	*4.2	20.1	13.2	13.9	47.3
Not-married family head	9.4	*3.0	12.4	9.2	*3.3	24.9
Full-time student aged 15-24 (a)	45.3	7.8	53.1	14.5	*0.7	68.2
Other child/relative of family head	6.4	*2.5	8.9	7.1	*2.8	18.8
Not a member of a family	15.7	*4.2	19.9	7.0	4.6	31.5
Family status not determined	10.4	*3.9	14.3	6.3	*3.0	23.6
Total	140.9	41.5	182.4	94.8	53.6	330.9
DID NOT INTEND TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE						
Member of a family	23.6	5.7	29.3	20.0	42.4	91.6
Husband or wife	18.5	4.9	23.3	17.5	39.7	80.5
With dependents present	10.0	*3.2	13.2	10.3	6.9	30.4
Without dependents present	8.5	*1.6	10.1	7.2	32.8	50.1
Not-married family head	*1.2	*0.2	*1.4	*1.6	*0.9	*3.9
Full-time student aged 15-24 (a)	*3.9	*0.7	4.6	*0.2	*0.0	4.8
Other child/relative of family head	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	*1.8	*2.4
Not a member of a family	*1.9	*0.3	*2.2	*1.7	6.3	10.2
Family status not determined	*2.3	*0.0	*2.3	*2.4	*1.4	6.0
Total	27.8	6.0	33.8	24.1	50.0	107.8
TOTAL(b)						
Member of a family	163.3	46.8	210.1	123.2	107.8	444.9
Husband or wife	83.4	31.6	115.0	84.7	95.6	296.0
With dependents present	55.9	23.6	79.6	59.6	39.7	179.4
Without dependents present	27.5	7.9	35.4	25.1	55.8	116.6
Not-married family head	13.2	*3.4	16.5	13.0	6.5	36.3
Full-time student aged 15-24 (a)	59.8	8.9	68.7	16.5	*0.7	88.4
Other child/relative of family head	6.9	*3.0	9.8	8.9	5.1	24.3
Not a member of a family	19.4	4.9	24.3	10.3	13.6	48.3
Family status not determined	15.3	4.9	20.3	10.1	5.9	36.4
Total	198.0	56.6	254.6	143.6	127.3	529.6

(a) Excludes persons aged 20-24 attending school. (b) Includes persons who were undecided about whether they would return to the labour force and persons whose intention to return to the labour force could not be determined.

SECTION 5. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING

TABLE 15. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING: MAIN ACTIVITY SINCE LEAVING THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

Main activity since leaving the labour force	Whether intended to return to the labour force							Total		
	Intended to return			Did not intend to return			Undecided	Males	Females	Persons
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons				
Home duties/child care	*1.6	86.8	88.5	*2.4	55.1	57.4	31.4	5.3	172.0	177.3
Attending an educational institution	35.8	32.3	68.1	*2.9	*3.4	6.2	5.0	40.2	39.1	79.3
Retired/voluntarily inactive	7.6	*1.3	8.9	19.9	*3.8	23.7	*2.9	30.1	5.5	35.6
Own illness/injury(a)	6.4	*3.0	9.4	5.7	*0.4	6.1	4.6	15.8	*4.2	20.1
Other	8.5	6.8	15.3	*2.8	*1.8	4.6	*3.1	12.7	10.3	23.0
Total	60.0	130.3	190.2	33.7	64.4	98.1	46.9	104.1	231.1	335.2

(a) Includes own disability/handicap.

TABLE 16. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING: SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS JOB CHARACTERISTICS AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

	Whether intended to return to the labour force									
	Intended to return			Did not intend to return				Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Undecided	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Occupation in last job—</i>										
Managers and administrators	*2.7	*2.1	4.8	*3.4	*1.6	5.0	*2.6	6.8	5.6	12.4
Professionals	8.1	16.5	24.6	*2.6	4.6	7.2	*3.5	11.4	23.9	35.3
Para-professionals	*1.8	8.8	10.6	*1.8	*3.6	5.3	*2.6	*3.9	14.7	18.6
Tradespersons	8.1	5.6	13.7	8.0	*3.2	11.2	*2.8	18.2	9.6	27.7
Clerks	4.5	31.9	36.4	*2.8	16.3	19.1	10.8	7.8	58.5	66.3
Salespersons and personal service workers	7.1	38.5	45.6	*1.8	18.4	20.1	11.5	9.5	67.7	77.2
Plant and machine operators, and drivers	5.6	4.5	10.0	5.4	*2.5	7.9	*3.0	13.0	7.9	21.0
Labourers and related workers	22.1	22.4	44.5	7.9	14.3	22.1	10.1	33.5	43.3	76.7
<i>Industry of last job—</i>										
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	*4.2	5.4	9.6	*2.4	*2.3	4.8	*1.9	7.2	9.1	16.2
Mining	*0.5	*0.7	*1.3	*0.4	*0.1	*0.6	*0.3	*1.2	*0.8	*2.1
Manufacturing	9.2	11.5	20.6	6.6	7.1	13.7	7.0	18.3	23.0	41.3
Electricity, gas and water	*1.1	*0.6	*1.6	*2.3	*0.3	*2.6	*0.4	*3.5	*1.1	4.6
Construction	7.5	*1.3	8.8	*1.4	*0.6	*2.0	*1.0	9.7	*2.2	11.9
Wholesale and retail trade	14.7	34.8	49.5	*3.0	17.9	20.9	11.4	19.2	62.6	81.8
Transport and storage, communication	*3.2	*3.8	7.1	5.7	*1.9	7.6	*1.1	9.3	6.5	15.9
Finance, property and business services	4.8	12.6	17.4	*1.8	6.3	8.1	4.6	7.9	22.2	30.1
Public administration and defence	*2.1	5.7	7.9	*2.8	*3.5	6.3	*3.5	6.4	11.4	17.7
Community services	6.3	38.5	44.8	*4.2	16.7	20.9	11.6	11.7	65.5	77.3
Recreation, personal and other services	6.4	15.1	21.5	*2.6	7.0	9.6	*4.2	9.2	26.1	35.2
Unpaid voluntary workers	*0.0	*0.2	*0.2	*0.4	*0.5	*0.9	*0.0	*0.4	*0.8	*1.1
<i>Full-time or part-time workers in last job—</i>										
Full-time workers	36.0	59.2	95.2	26.3	26.2	52.5	25.0	70.5	102.2	172.7
Part-time workers	23.0	67.2	90.2	7.4	37.2	44.6	20.8	32.5	123.0	155.5
Varied/did not know	*1.0	*3.8	4.9	*0.0	*1.0	*1.0	*1.1	*1.0	5.9	6.9
<i>Usual gross weekly pay before leaving (\$)—</i>										
Wage and salary earners(a)	53.1	124.6	177.7	30.5	58.3	88.7	43.7	93.2	217.0	310.2
Under 120	16.5	33.4	49.9	*3.3	16.1	19.4	8.9	21.1	57.1	78.2
120 and under 240	9.8	38.7	48.5	*2.7	16.6	19.3	12.6	14.4	65.9	80.3
240 and under 360	11.2	30.9	42.0	7.6	16.6	24.2	9.8	20.3	55.7	76.0
360 and under 480	7.1	11.8	18.9	7.2	4.7	11.9	6.5	16.8	20.4	37.3
480 and under 600	*3.7	6.4	10.1	4.7	*2.4	7.1	*2.8	9.8	10.2	20.1
600 and over	*4.2	*2.1	6.3	4.5	*1.3	5.8	*1.8	9.8	*4.1	13.9
Other (b)	6.9	5.6	12.5	*3.2	6.1	9.3	*3.2	10.9	14.2	25.1
Total	60.0	130.3	190.2	33.7	64.4	98.1	46.9	104.1	231.1	335.2

(a) Includes not paid in Australian currency and payment in kind. (b) Comprises employers, self-employed, unpaid family helpers and unpaid voluntary workers.

TABLE 17. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING: DURATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD IN THE LABOUR FORCE BEFORE LEAVING AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988
('000)

Duration of continuous period in the labour force before leaving	Whether intended to return to the labour force									
	Intended to return			Did not intend to return				Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Undecided	Males	Females	Persons
Under 1 year	36.7	60.3	97.1	7.1	22.4	29.5	15.5	47.7	94.4	142.1
Under 3 months	24.0	31.7	55.7	4.9	12.8	17.7	6.9	30.5	49.9	80.4
3 and under 6 months	6.3	12.5	18.8	*1.8	5.6	7.4	*3.6	9.0	20.8	29.8
6 and under 9 months	*4.0	11.4	15.4	*0.4	*2.7	*3.1	*3.0	5.1	16.3	21.4
9 and under 12 months	*2.4	4.7	7.1	*0.1	*1.2	*1.3	*2.1	*3.1	7.4	10.5
1 and under 3 years	7.4	32.2	39.5	*1.7	12.6	14.3	9.1	9.8	53.1	62.9
3 and under 5 years	*2.9	13.0	15.9	*0.4	5.8	6.2	4.8	*3.8	23.1	26.9
5 and under 10 years	*3.9	15.1	19.0	*1.5	7.1	8.6	5.1	5.6	27.1	32.7
10 and under 20 years	4.6	7.3	12.0	*2.3	11.0	13.3	6.2	8.3	23.3	31.5
20 years and over	*4.4	*2.4	6.8	20.6	5.6	26.2	6.1	28.8	10.2	39.1
Total	60.0	130.3	190.2	33.7	64.4	98.1	46.9	104.1	231.1	335.2

TABLE 18. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING: REASON FOR CEASING LAST JOB AND WHETHER INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988
('000)

Whether intended to return to the labour force										
Reason for ceasing last job	Intended to return			Did not intend to return				Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Undecided	Males	Females	Persons
Job loser	23.9	45.8	69.7	13.8	22.2	35.9	15.8	43.4	78.0	121.4
Retrenched	6.1	13.6	19.7	*3.0	6.3	9.2	*2.6	9.7	21.8	31.5
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave										
to return to studies	11.5	26.2	37.7	*3.4	10.8	14.3	6.5	15.8	42.7	58.5
Own ill health or injury	5.5	5.5	10.9	7.2	*4.3	11.5	6.2	16.8	11.8	28.6
Business closed down for economic reasons	*0.9	*0.5	*1.4	*0.2	*0.8	*0.9	*0.5	*1.1	*1.7	*2.8
Job leaver	36.1	84.4	120.5	19.9	42.2	62.1	31.2	60.7	153.2	213.8
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	*1.7	7.1	8.8	*0.1	*2.9	*3.0	*2.6	*2.1	12.3	14.4
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	*3.7	*2.0	5.7	*0.0	*0.2	*0.2	*0.5	*4.2	*2.1	6.4
Retired/did not want to work any longer	*2.9	4.6	7.5	17.8	17.0	34.8	6.2	24.0	24.5	48.5
Returned to studies	17.1	15.6	32.7	*1.5	*1.7	*3.2	*2.3	18.7	19.5	38.2
To get married; pregnancy/no have children	*0.0	30.7	30.7	*0.0	11.1	11.1	11.9	*0.0	53.8	53.8
To look after family, house or someone else	*0.9	6.6	7.5	*0.0	4.5	4.5	*2.2	*1.1	13.1	14.2
Other	9.7	17.8	27.5	*0.5	4.9	5.4	5.5	10.5	27.9	38.4
Total	60.0	130.3	190.2	33.7	64.4	98.1	46.9	104.1	231.1	335.2

SECTION 6. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS LOOKING FOR WORK

TABLE 19. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS LOOKING FOR WORK: SUMMARY OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS AND AGE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

	Age group			Total		
	15-24	25-44	45 and over	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Duration of continuous period in the labour force before leaving (years)—</i>						
Under 1	50.0	51.2	11.3	35.3	77.2	112.5
1 and under 5	15.9	24.5	13.3	15.3	38.5	53.8
5 and over	*2.6	12.6	8.8	8.4	15.6	24.0
<i>Time since left the labour force (weeks)—</i>						
1 and under 4	28.1	43.1	16.4	24.9	62.7	87.6
4 and under 8	13.0	14.0	4.9	11.0	20.9	31.9
8 and under 13	13.6	12.7	*4.4	12.4	18.3	30.7
13 and under 26	14.1	12.3	*2.9	7.8	21.5	29.3
26 and under 39	*2.2	5.1	*3.1	*3.0	7.3	10.3
39 and under 52	*0.5	*2.2	*1.9	*2.3	*2.2	4.6
<i>Whether intended to return to the labour force—</i>						
Intended to return	50.2	67.0	23.5	43.0	97.6	140.6
Did not intend to return	*2.1	4.7	*3.0	*3.6	6.2	9.8
Undecided	*1.6	5.0	*3.6	*3.6	6.7	10.2
Not asked	17.6	12.6	*3.5	11.3	22.5	33.8
<i>Main activity since leaving the labour force—</i>						
Home duties/child care	11.7	58.4	15.7	4.9	80.9	85.8
Attending an educational institution	33.9	*4.3	10.8	18.8	20.3	39.0
Retired/voluntarily inactive	*2.3	*2.4	*3.7	7.7	*0.8	8.4
Own illness/injury (a)	*1.1	7.4	4.8	10.8	*2.4	13.2
Other	4.9	*4.2	5.1	8.0	6.1	14.1
Not asked	17.6	12.6	*3.5	11.3	22.5	33.8
Total	71.6	89.2	33.6	61.4	132.9	194.4

(a) Includes own disability/handicap.

TABLE 20. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS LOOKING FOR WORK: REASON CEASED LOOKING FOR WORK, WHETHER LOOKED FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK BEFORE LEAVING AND AGE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

	Age group			Total		
	15-24	25-44	15 and over	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Reason ceased looking for work—</i>						
Personal	29.5	16.0	8.2	25.4	28.3	53.7
Family	5.6	23.5	4.8	4.6	29.3	33.9
Became discouraged	4.6	6.9	*3.6	*4.1	10.9	15.0
Other	6.0	10.1	*2.7	5.2	13.5	18.7
Not asked	25.9	32.8	14.3	22.2	50.9	73.1
<i>Whether looked for full-time or part-time work before leaving—</i>						
Full-time	16.0	22.6	10.2	22.8	26.0	48.8
Part-time	26.9	31.1	8.8	14.9	52.0	66.8
Varied/both	*2.8	*2.7	*0.3	*1.6	*4.1	5.7
Not asked	25.9	32.8	14.3	22.2	50.9	73.1
Total	71.6	89.2	33.6	61.4	132.9	194.4

SECTION 7. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE

TABLE 21. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN ACTIVITY SINCE LEAVING THE LABOUR FORCE AND ANTICIPATED TIME BEFORE RE-ENTRANCE TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

Main activity since leaving the labour force	Anticipated time before re-entrance to the labour force						
	Under 1 year			Total	1 year and over	Did not know	Total
	Under 3 months	3 and under 6 months	6 and under 12 months				
Home duties/child care	41.1	12.9	19.3	73.3	27.7	60.1	161.1
Attending an educational institution	22.3	9.4	34.3	66.1	18.3	20.7	105.1
Retired/voluntarily inactive	6.6	*1.3	*0.7	8.6	*0.4	7.0	16.0
Own illness/injury(a)	7.6	*1.5	*1.1	10.2	*0.4	9.7	20.4
Other	14.0	*2.3	*2.1	18.4	*2.0	7.9	28.3
Total	91.6	27.5	57.6	176.7	48.8	105.4	330.9

(a) Includes own disability/handicap.

TABLE 22. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN ACTIVITY SINCE LEAVING THE LABOUR FORCE AND TYPE OF WORK PREFERRED ON RE-ENTRANCE TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

Main activity since leaving the labour force	Type of work preferred on re-entrance to the labour force								
	Full-time			Part-time			Total(a)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Home duties/child care	*4.1	30.3	34.3	*0.6	119.8	120.4	5.6	155.5	161.1
Attending an educational institution	30.8	26.0	56.8	20.0	24.6	44.5	52.8	52.3	105.1
Retired/voluntarily inactive	7.6	*1.1	8.7	5.2	*1.0	6.2	13.9	*2.1	16.0
Own illness/injury(b)	10.7	*3.1	13.8	*3.4	*2.2	5.6	15.0	5.4	20.4
Other	12.8	5.4	18.2	*2.2	6.4	8.6	15.8	12.5	28.3
Total	65.9	65.8	131.8	31.4	154.0	185.3	103.0	227.9	330.9

(a) Includes persons who had no preference as to whether they worked full-time or part-time upon return to the labour force. (b) Includes own disability/handicap.

TABLE 23. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME AND ANTICIPATED TIME BEFORE RE-ENTRANCE TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

Main source of income	Anticipated time before re-entrance to the labour force								
	Under 3 months			3 months and over			Total(a)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Investments/savings	8.5	5.6	14.1	*3.9	*2.0	5.9	18.7	9.6	28.3
TEAS/AUSTUDY	*3.2	*3.1	6.2	9.2	9.3	18.5	15.5	14.1	29.6
Unemployment/sickness benefit	6.7	*2.8	9.6	*2.5	*4.0	6.5	15.5	12.4	28.0
Invalid/age/supporting parent's/widow's pension	*2.4	5.6	8.0	*0.1	6.8	6.9	5.1	21.4	26.5
Dependent on someone else's income	9.8	39.6	49.4	20.7	68.8	89.5	38.5	163.2	201.7
Other	*1.8	*2.5	*4.3	*4.1	*2.3	6.4	9.7	7.2	16.9
Total	32.4	59.2	91.6	40.6	93.2	133.9	103.0	227.9	330.9

(a) Includes persons who did not know when they would return to the labour force.

TABLE 24. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT LABOUR FORCE AND INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE: LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY, REASON LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE AND AGE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

Reason left the labour force	Age group			Total
	15-24	25-44	45 and over	
WORKED				
Job loser	25.0	31.2	13.5	69.7
Retrenched	8.2	8.6	*2.9	19.7
Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	15.0	16.0	6.6	37.7
Own ill health or injury	*1.4	6.1	*3.4	10.9
Business closed down for economic reasons	*0.5	*0.4	*0.5	*1.4
Job leaver	53.7	56.2	10.6	120.5
Unsatisfactory work arrangements	*3.3	5.0	*0.5	8.8
Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	5.6	*0.1	*0.0	5.7
To get married; pregnancy/to have children	10.5	20.2	*0.0	30.7
To look after family, house or someone else	*1.1	5.9	*0.5	7.5
Returned to studies	25.5	6.6	*0.6	32.7
Other	7.7	18.4	9.0	35.1
Total	78.7	87.4	24.1	190.2
LOOKED FOR WORK				
Personal	27.9	13.3	7.1	48.3
Family	5.5	22.5	*4.4	32.4
Became discouraged	*4.2	6.9	*3.3	14.5
Other	6.0	9.8	*2.5	18.4
Not asked	6.5	14.5	6.1	27.1
Total	50.2	67.0	23.5	140.6

SECTION 8. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WHO INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING

TABLE 25. PERSONS WHO HAVE LEFT THE LABOUR FORCE WHO INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE LABOUR FORCE AND WHOSE LAST LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY WAS WORKING: OCCUPATION IN LAST JOB, WHETHER PREFERRED THE SAME OCCUPATION AND TYPE OF WORK PREFERRED ON RE-ENTRANCE TO THE LABOUR FORCE, APRIL 1988 ('000)

	Whether preferred the same occupation on re-entrance to the labour force							
	Same Occupation			Different Occupation (b) No Preference	Total(a)			
Occupation in last job	Full-time	Part-time	Total(b)		Full-time	Part-time	Total(b)	
Managers and administrators/ Professionals	6.9	14.0	21.5	*4.4	*3.5	10.8	17.4	29.4
Para-professionals	*1.8	5.5	7.4	*3.0	*0.2	*3.7	6.7	10.6
Tradespersons	4.6	*3.3	8.1	*3.7	*1.9	8.1	5.1	13.7
Clerks	6.2	13.4	20.2	10.6	5.6	13.8	21.2	36.4
Salespersons and personal service workers	*3.3	15.3	18.7	17.3	9.4	13.9	30.7	45.6
Plant and machine operators, and drivers	*2.6	*1.3	*4.2	*4.1	*1.7	6.0	*3.0	10.0
Labourers and related workers	5.7	8.6	14.5	22.2	7.9	20.1	23.1	44.5
Total	31.1	61.4	94.5	65.3	30.2	76.4	107.1	190.2

(a) Includes unpaid voluntary workers. (b) Includes persons who were undecided about the type of work they preferred on re-entrance to the labour force.

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

Became discouraged: persons who ceased looking for a job because they believed they would not be able to find a job for any of the following reasons - considered to be too young or too old by employers; difficulties with language or ethnic background; lacked the necessary schooling, training, skills or experience; no jobs in their locality or line of work; or no jobs at all.

Ceased last job: persons who left or lost their last job.

Ceased looking for work: persons who stopped looking for work for personal, family or other reasons or who *became discouraged* (as defined).

Certificate or diploma: completion of an approved certificate or diploma in secretarial or business studies, administration, teaching, nursing, etc.

Degree: a bachelor degree (including honours), a graduate or post-graduate diploma, masters degree or a doctorate.

Duration of continuous period in the labour force before leaving: the total number of weeks/years persons either *worked* and/or *looked for work* in an unbroken period immediately prior to leaving the labour force.

Educational attainment: measures the highest qualification obtained by the respondent. Qualifications may include those obtained at other than educational institutions (e.g. nursing qualifications obtained at a hospital).

Highest level of secondary school available: the highest level of secondary schooling (or equivalent) offered by the education system at the time the respondent left school.

Job leavers: persons who voluntarily ceased their last job.

Job losers: persons who involuntarily ceased their last job.

Labour force: persons who either *worked* or *looked for work* (as defined).

Looked for work: persons who were out of work and looking for a job.

Main source of income: current main source of income in the reference week.

Not in the labour force: persons who were neither *working* nor *looking for work* (as defined).

Other post-school qualifications: completion of other types of education, e.g. adult education, preparatory/bridging course or hobby course.

Persons with a post-school qualification: those who had left school and answered 'Yes' to the question: 'Since leaving school have you obtained a trade qualification, certificate, diploma, degree or any other qualification?'. Respondents indicated which of the following groups best described their highest qualification: *Degree; Trade qualification or apprenticeship; Certificate or diploma; Other post-school qualification.*

Persons who have left the labour force: persons who were *working* or *looking for work* (as defined) at some time in the twelve months prior to the survey and were not in the labour force in the week prior to the interview (i.e. the reference week).

Still at school: current school attendance was recorded only for persons aged fifteen to twenty years.

TEAS: Tertiary education assistance scheme.

Time since left the labour force: the total number of weeks since last *worked* or *looked for work*.

Trade qualification or apprenticeship: completion of an approved trade/technical apprenticeship in fitting and turning, hairdressing, plumbing, carpentry, etc.

Usual gross weekly pay before leaving: the amount of 'usual weekly pay before tax or anything else was taken out' from last job (where the last job was a wage and salary job).

Worked: persons who had either *worked* or been on paid leave.

APPENDIX B

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The monthly population survey (which is described in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) comprises the monthly labour force survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains some results of a supplementary survey run in association with the April 1988 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia.

2. Of the respondents to the labour force survey, those who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were personally asked additional questions. They were asked about the time since they left the labour force, their main activity since then, their main source of income, their intentions of returning to the labour force, their educational attainment, and their housing arrangements. Respondent whose last labour force activity was working were asked details of previous job and reason for leaving that job; respondents whose last labour force activity was looking for work were asked their reason for no longer looking for work.

Scope

3. The scope of this supplementary survey was the same as that used for the labour force survey (described in full in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) except that it was restricted to persons who have left the labour force and excluded students who were boarding at school, some patients in hospitals and sanatoriums and inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc.

Coverage

4. In the population survey, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection. See *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for more details.

Definitions

5. Definitions of labour force and demographic classifications appearing in this publication are given in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

6. Unless otherwise stated, all characteristics referenced in this publication relate to the week before the interview.

Results of the survey

7. Due to differences in the method of estimation used in this supplementary survey and that used in the labour force survey, there are some small variations between estimates in this publication and those in the corresponding issue of *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

8. The estimates in this publication refer to information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

9. Results of the only other similar survey, conducted in November 1985, have been released in a previous issue of this publication.

Unpublished tables

10. In some cases, the ABS can also make available information which is not published. This information may be made available in one or more of the following forms:

microfiche, photocopy, data tape, computer printout, manually-extracted tabulation. In general, a charge is made for providing unpublished information. Inquiries should be made to the officer whose name appears in the *Phone Inquiries* section at the front of this publication, or to Information Services in the nearest ABS Office.

Comparability of series

11. It is impracticable to obtain information relating to a long period of time which is strictly comparable with that obtained in the monthly labour force survey for which the reference period is one week. The definitions used in determining the labour force status of persons in the monthly survey depend on a detailed set of questions asked about a person's labour force activity during the reference period. For the survey of persons who have left the labour force a person is assigned to labour force categories at various points in time on the basis of a more limited set of questions. It is for this reason that the terms *worked* and *looked for work* are used in this survey rather than the rigidly defined terms *employed* and *unemployed* used in the monthly labour force survey.

Discontinuities in the series

12. Estimates for 1988 are based on a revised labour force questionnaire introduced in April 1986. The definition of employment was expanded, resulting in small decreases in the estimates of unemployed persons and persons not in the labour force. Further information is contained in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) and in an information paper *Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey* (6232.0).

13. Classification of occupation according to the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO 1986) was introduced in the August 1986 labour force survey, replacing the Classification and Classified List of Occupations (CCLO) used in previous surveys. The main difference between these classifications is the ASCO occupations classified on the basis of the level and specialisation of skill required for the satisfactory performance of primary tasks. For a more detailed explanation of ASCO see the appendix to *The Labour Force, Australia, August 1986* (6203.0).

14. To provide a link between the two classifications, a matrix has been produced and is shown in Table 41 of *The Labour Force, Australia, August 1986* (6203.0). It shows the relationship between ASCO and CCLO at the broadest classification level (the Major Group). The estimates in the matrix are based on a sub-sample of respondents to the May 1986 labour force survey.

15. The family status classification in this publication varies from that shown in the November 1985 issue. Dependents are now identified rather than children aged 0 to 14. Dependents comprise all family members under 15 years of age; all family members aged 15 to 19 attending school; and all family members aged 15 to 24 who were full-time students at a tertiary or further educational institution.

16. For April 1988 an expanded classification of post-school qualifications has been used. As a result a small number of persons previously categorised as "Degree" or "Other" may now be included in the categories "Trade

qualification or apprenticeship" or "Certificate or diploma".

Survey sample redesign

17. The labour force survey sample has been redesigned and reselected using information collected in the 1986 Population Census. The new sample was phased in over the period September 1987 to December 1987. For details see Information Paper-Labour Force Survey Sample Design (6269.0).

Reliability of the estimates

18. Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling error. For more information refer to the Technical Note, Appendix C.

Related publications

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

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly

Labour Force Experience, Australia (6206.0)—issued annually

Persons who had Re-entered the Labour Force, Australia, May 1987 (6260.0)—issued irregularly

Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia (6220.0)—issued annually

20. 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.

Symbols and other usages

- * Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See the Technical Note, Appendix C
- ... not applicable
- n.a. not available

21. Because estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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 services

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

APPENDIX C

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population for each capital city and remainder of State by age and gender, rather than to the corresponding distribution within the sample itself.

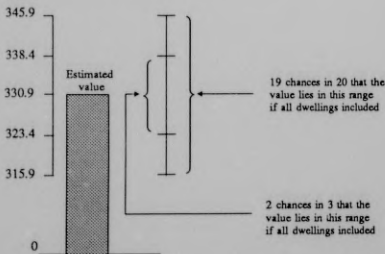
Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from those 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 a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the number 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 estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors for general application is given on the following page. Since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics these numbers will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

4. An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 2 shows the estimated number of persons in Australia who have left the labour force but intended to return to the labour force was 330,900. Since this estimate is between 300,000 and 500,000 in the standard error table, the standard error for Australia will be between 7,300 and 8,900 and can be approximated as 7,500 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range 323,400 to 338,400 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 315,900 to 345,900. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.

('000)



5. As can be seen from the standard error table, the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication only estimates with relative standard errors of 25 per cent or less and percentages based on such estimates are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates and percentages with larger relative standard errors have been included, and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

6. 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. A formula to approximate the relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion is:

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

7. Considering the example from paragraph 4 above, of the 330,900 persons who have left the labour force but intended to return to the labour force 227,900 or 68.9 per cent were females. The standard error of 227,900 is approximately 6,600 so the relative standard error is 2.9 per cent. The relative standard error for 330,900 is 2.3 per cent. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is $\sqrt{(2.9)^2 + (2.3)^2}$ or 3.8 per cent, giving a standard error for the proportion (68.9 per cent) of 1.2 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of females who have left the labour force but intended to return to the labour force is between 67.7 per cent and 70.1 per cent and nineteen chances in twenty the proportion is within the range 66.5 per cent to 71.3 per cent.

8. Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their standard errors and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate standard error (SE) of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

9. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

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