

LIVING IN AUSTRALIA



**YOUR CASH
BONUS AND
TERRIFIC
OFFER**



**YOUR PRIVACY
EXPLAINED**

**Self Completion
Questionnaire
Prize Offer**



HILDA and the Reserve Bank of Australia



Glenn Stevens *Governor, Reserve Bank of Australia*

Glenn Stevens assumed office as the 7th Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia in September 2006. He talks here about the significance of the Living In Australia data towards Reserve Bank policy decisions.

“Findings from the HILDA Survey are used as an input into much of the detailed analysis of economic developments undertaken at the Reserve bank, including on issues related to financial stability and the transmission of monetary policy”. Mr Stevens says that understanding differences across households is important for policy makers of all types. He adds, “obtaining data from one year to the next from the same set of households provides invaluable insights into household behaviour on a wide range of critical questions.”

HILDA and the Reserve Bank of Australia

The Reserve Bank of Australia uses the HILDA data to inform on the Bank's key roles of stabilising the Australian currency; maintaining full employment; and the economic prosperity and welfare of the people of Australia. These challenging tasks are made easier by using HILDA's longitudinal data, informing key work such as:

- Examining the debt that households have entered in to and their ability to repay that debt;
- Estimating the effect of the superannuation guarantee on household saving, work which was later referenced in the Henry Tax Review.

To those involved in the Living In Australia study you can be sure that your life circumstances contribute to a greater understanding of Australia and impact decisions for all Australians.

What's new this year?

The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia HILDA (also known as Living in Australia) Survey is now in its fourteenth year. Your continued support for this essential study means that we can build a comprehensive picture of REAL people, REAL outcomes and REAL life situations and use this data to contribute to change.

This year, our interviewers will ask you and your household questions about assets, liabilities and wealth. The last time HILDA asked you these questions, the Melbourne Institute found that the country was “Absolutely, unambiguously” financially better off than it was a decade ago.

How will Australians fare four years later?

Whether you are 15 or 115, your responses contribute to a ‘bigger picture’ that communicates an invaluable story to key policy and decision makers that make a difference to all of our lives.

Why are YOU so important to this study?

We're glad you asked! HILDA is a longitudinal study - this means we seek to tell the story of the same group of people over a period of time. The HILDA study uses a longitudinal design to put together a true, detailed story of Australians for decision makers to help plan for our future. It's the only study of its kind in Australia.

There is no one like you! You are irreplaceable. The strict statistical guidelines that this study is conducted by means you cannot be replaced or represented by any other person. The success of the study is dependent upon your participation. Your participation represents the voice of 1,000 other Australians just like you.

So help us to find out how things are changing in Australia. Your participation will give you the satisfaction of knowing you are part of an important and unique study that will contribute to changing the lives for present and future Australians.

Our thanks to you

Thank you for the important contribution you make to this study. As a small gift for your participation we will give you \$35 cash at the end of your interview. When every eligible member in the household has taken part, your household will receive an additional \$35.

With your ongoing support and assistance, this important national study will continue to be a valuable tool in helping shape our nation.

Our study is BIG NEWS



Household wealth grew more slowly between 2006 and 2010, as people deserted shares

In 2002, 2006 and 2010, the HILDA Survey has obtained a measure of household wealth by asking a detailed set of questions on most financial assets, non-financial assets and debts.

The results have shown that the wealth of Australian households continued to grow between 2006 and 2010, but the pace of growth was considerably lower than between 2002 and 2006, reflecting weaker share and house prices than prevailed over the 2002 to 2006 period. Those aged 25 to 54 appear to have been worst-affected by the slowing in house and share prices (see Table 1).

The family home continued to be the most important asset in household wealth in 2010. However, direct holdings of shares declined between 2002 and 2010, with the proportion of households holding any shares falling from 39 per cent in 2002 to 34 per cent in 2010.

Table 1: Average (median) wealth by age group (\$ at December 2010 prices)

	2002	2006	2010
Under 25	17,965	25,147	34,238
25–34	124,815	153,549	150,616
35–44	294,619	397,625	426,883
45–54	520,681	610,240	601,470
55–64	549,987	748,575	847,349
65 and over	361,568	484,451	568,256

Rebate review for Australian Families

Babysit push for childcare payment, The Adelaide Advertiser, Adelaide, 28 Sep 2013

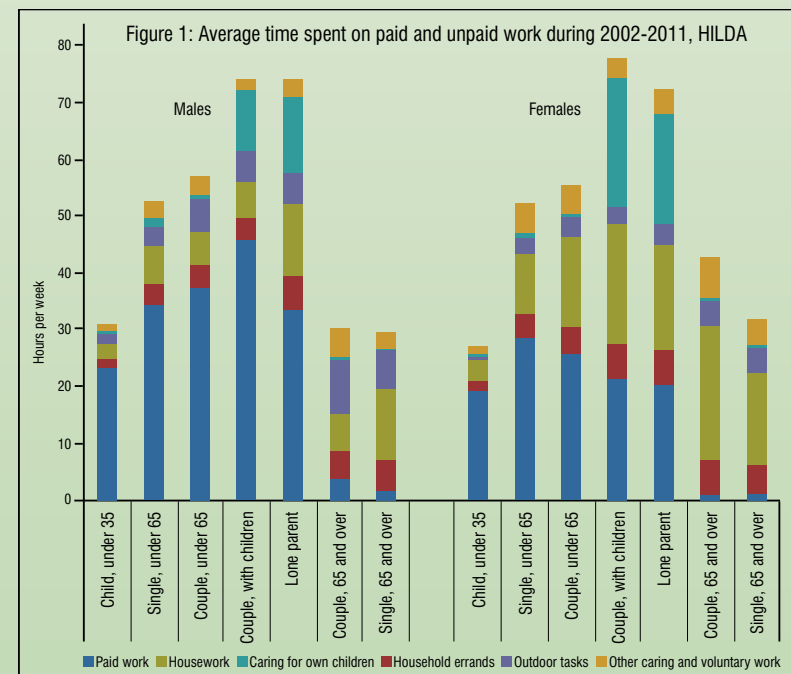
The HILDA data has found that rebates for babysitters, nannies and casual care would help free up working mums. The HILDA study has been cited as the first major study into the working hours of mothers using childcare. It was found that almost 40 per cent of women sending their preschool - aged children to formal centres are also recruiting family and friends for extra help looking after their kids - revealing the extent of the juggle facing Australian families. Based on results from the study, an Education Department spokesman said the Productivity Commission would conduct an inquiry into the childcare system, which would include a review of rebates.

Total time spent on paid and unpaid work

Unpaid work is largely invisible in conventional economic statistics, yet it is likely to be an important component of the 'real' economy that comprises both market and non-market production. Much of this non-market work can be classified as household production involving child care, housework and preparation of meals, but non-market work also includes unpaid caring for elderly people and people with disability, and voluntary work (for example, for a charity).

The figure shows that men and women with dependent children have the longest weekly working hours, averaging over 70 hours per week on paid and unpaid work combined. Partnered women with children have the longest average working hours (76), followed by partnered men with children (73), lone parent men (72) and lone parent women (70).

The composition of working hours differs markedly between men and women, with a significantly higher proportion of men's working hours being paid. Interestingly, this is even true when comparing lone parent men and women.





Meet the TEAM

Just turned 15?

Welcome to the Living in Australia study!



Have you just started work, have you left school, have you moved? By participating in the Living in Australia study you will have the opportunity to have your say and ensure the youth of Australia are represented in this important study.

But why?

Believe it or not, your individual responses will represent 1,000 others who don't have the opportunity to share their experiences. So we would like to extend a warm welcome to those turning 15 this year, and we hope that you will enjoy taking part for the first time.

What about privacy?

Your information is protected.

The people involved in the study are committed to ethical research and legally bound to ensure your information is secure. All people involved in the project must sign and comply with the Privacy Act 1988. Your rights are protected by Australian law. Your identifying information is collected for the purpose of the Living in Australia study only. Access to your identifying information is restricted to only those who require it for the purpose of administering or conducting the study.



In the Living In Australia study there are approximately 150 interviewers conducting interviews in each state across Australia. We would like to introduce you to some of the interviewers from Roy Morgan Research who, like you, contribute to the Living in Australia study each year.

I love my job! As a Living in Australia Interviewer I have the best of ALL worlds. The people I work for are amazing and all of the support team are phenomenal! With this as a foundation, collecting data for this most comprehensive study in this country is both enjoyable and valuable. Each year I look forward to catching up with my respondents in my local area and some in other states. I hope they look forward to seeing me too!

There are some respondents I've been interviewing over the phone. I've never seen some of their faces but I know their voice and love to catch up for our annual chat. It's funny how each year both the respondents and I learn so much about ourselves!

The best part is the friendships I've built over the years and that our catch ups lead to invaluable knowledge of living in Australia. This means that the policy makers are taking real people into account.

I am so proud to be part of this study and plan to be here for many, many years! *Lynda. Queensland*



Like many other HILDA interviewers, I am a people person. I really enjoy my work talking to and engaging with people each year. In my experience with HILDA, my households are always so pleased to see me each year, and always welcome me into their homes.

I'm thrilled and proud that my households say 'We'll see you again next year'. I very much look forward to seeing my households again this year.

David. South Australia

Information and Insight

Offer to all Living in Australia participants

We are pleased to offer a free printed copy of the most recent HILDA Statistical Report.

The report is full of interesting statistics about our nation.

If you would like to receive your own personal colour printed and bound report, simply call 1800 656 670.

The report is also available for free download from <http://www.melbourneinstitute.com/hilda/Reports/statreport.html>



Your chance to win 1 of 5 iPad Air or Samsung Galaxy tablets!

This year we are thrilled to offer you the chance to win 1 of 5 iPad Air or Samsung Galaxy tablets. Simply complete and return your Self Complete Questionnaire to be entered into the draw. For Terms and Conditions, you can visit www.livinginaustralia.org/scqprizedraw

Thinking of moving?

Your participation is critical to the success of the study, so please let us know if you are moving. Just freecall 1800 656 670 or email your new address to HILDA@roymorgan.com

More information about Living in Australia

If you have any questions, would like more information, or would like to contact your interviewer please freecall **1800 656 670** or visit us online at **www.livinginaustralia.org**. Your interviewer will also be able to help you with any queries you may have when he or she visits you.

If you should have any concerns about the conduct of this study, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Human Research Ethics, The University of Melbourne by calling 03 8344 2073 or by sending a fax to 03 9347 6739.