

LABOUR MARKET AND RELATED PAYMENTS

a monthly profile

Note: The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) produces the official unemployment statistics. The figures contained in this publication are different from the ABS unemployment figures as the ABS and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) use different definitions to identify the unemployed and different methods of counting (see the Appendix for more information).

This publication can be found at <http://www.workplace.gov.au/lmrp>

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INTRODUCTION

This publication presents statistical information on a monthly basis for the various types of labour market payments delivered by Centrelink on behalf of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). This publication was produced previously by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR).

This publication covers NSA and YA(o) in some detail, and to a lesser extent, MAA, PA, WA, YA(FTS) and YA (Australian Apprentices).

Table 1 provides information on the total number of NSA and YA recipients. The YA population is broken down into YA(o), YA(FTS) and YA(Australian Apprentices) categories. The total numbers of MAA, PA and WA recipients are also provided in this table.

Tables 2 and 3 show the derivation of the NSA and YA(o) job seeker populations (see the reference to job seekers in the 'Comparability of data' section of the Explanatory Notes). These populations are added together to derive the total number of job seekers.

Tables 4 to 8 provide information on the total job seeker population.

When using time series figures, it is important to note that changes have occurred over time to the conditions of eligibility for different payments. Details of these changes are provided in the Explanatory Notes.

All media inquiries should be directed to the DEEWR Media Team on (02) 6240 7300 or by email to media@deewr.gov.au. For more general inquiries regarding further statistical information please refer to the last page of this publication for other contact details.

The next issue of this publication is scheduled for release on 19 August 2009.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS – June 2009

Between June 2008 and June 2009

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)) recipients **increased 28.4 %** overall from 492 868 to 632 850.

- ◆ NSA recipients increased 28.5 % from 428 896 to 551 067 and
- ◆ YA(o) recipients increased 27.8 % from 63 972 to 81 783.

The number of job seekers **increased 39.5 %** overall from 290 583 to 405 508.

- ◆ NSA job seekers increased 40.8 % from 240 869 to 339 105; and
- ◆ YA(o) job seekers increased 33.6 % from 49 714 to 66 403.

Long-term job seekers increased 8.6 % from 150 517 to 163 434.

Short-term job seekers increased 72.8 % from 140 066 to 242 074.

For comparisons between DEEWR unemployment labour market payment numbers and ABS labour force unemployment statistics, see Appendix.

**Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other)
June 2007 to June 2009**

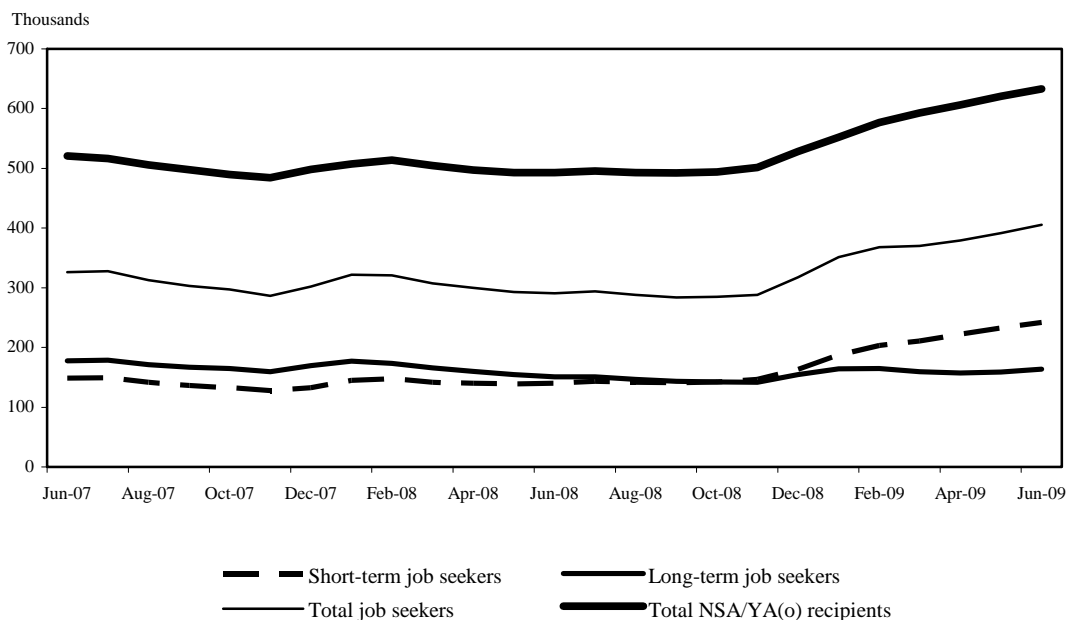


TABLE 1 - LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES (a)

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance			Mature Age Allowance	Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
	Long-term (b) Total		Other	Full-time Students (c)	Australian Apprentices (d)			
February 1994	472,785	977,796
June 2007	271,439	452,733	67,852	261,197	4,435	5,284	46,709	40,886
July 2007	269,816	448,833	67,617	256,808	4,416	4,796	45,917	40,735
August 2007	267,972	442,112	63,717	263,166	4,490	4,381	45,459	40,853
September 2007	266,180	435,711	62,042	265,669	4,509	3,981	45,058	41,019
October 2007	264,434	429,811	59,920	264,829	4,350	3,619	44,695	41,156
November 2007	261,930	424,168	59,967	249,546	4,093	3,242	44,358	41,278
December 2007	264,127	428,962	69,320	215,158	3,956	2,868	43,997	41,400
January 2008	266,199	437,918	69,709	206,509	3,746	2,518	43,434	41,297
February 2008	266,368	443,916	69,728	213,384	3,897	2,149	42,512	41,014
March 2008	263,759	438,786	65,889	227,301	4,094	1,797	41,528	40,729
April 2008	260,541	433,674	63,680	236,930	4,274	1,503	40,708	40,503
May 2008	257,363	429,363	63,395	245,421	4,419	1,166	39,804	40,124
June 2008	255,550	428,896	63,972	252,180	4,444	856	38,915	39,702
July 2008	254,723	429,989	65,514	248,493	4,402	586	38,109	39,321
August 2008	253,131	429,459	63,347	254,853	4,256	307	37,226	38,946
September 2008	251,987	429,426	62,832	258,973	4,018	47	36,411	38,640
October 2008	251,529	431,546	62,227	259,337	3,882	0	35,572	38,375
November 2008	251,170	437,270	64,053	247,471	3,683	0	34,733	38,142
December 2008	254,327	453,485	74,786	218,371	3,665	0	34,011	37,989
January 2009	258,403	475,183	76,613	208,624	3,506	0	33,234	37,753
February 2009	261,232	498,020	78,868	218,999	3,570	0	32,480	37,561
March 2009	262,162	514,265	78,259	238,274	3,707	0	31,802	37,364
April 2009	262,468	527,686	78,441	253,363	3,815	0	31,171	37,128
May 2009	264,337	540,729	79,787	264,591	3,873	0	30,423	36,847
June 2009	266,942	551,067	81,783	274,033	3,987	0	29,691	36,549
<i>Variation May 2009 - June 2009</i>								
Number	2,605	10,338	1,996	9,442	114	0	-732	-298
Per cent	1.0	1.9	2.5	3.6	3	0.0	-2.4	-0.8

Notes:

- Long-term Allowees have received income support for 12 months or more.
- The method of measuring the number of people receiving labour market payments was revised in July 2002. The July 2002 publication includes revised historical data from May 1998 to June 2002.
- February 1994 data is included as it represents a peak in the number of recipients.

TABLE 2 - NEWSTART ALLOWEES - DERIVATION OF THE JOB SEEKER POPULATION

	May 2009	June			Variation May - June	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term NSA Customers	276,392	190,392	93,733	284,125	7,733	2.8
CPS recipients (a)	2,463	1,828	617	2,445	-18	-0.7
Did not receive a payment (b)	14,259	8,788	6,005	14,793	534	3.7
Received a payment	259,670	179,776	87,111	266,887	7,217	2.8
Incapacitated (c)	20,124	12,575	7,950	20,525	401	2.0
Training	16,874	10,811	6,101	16,912	38	0.2
Self-employment development (d)	799	377	240	617	-182	-22.8
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	6,135	2,308	4,090	6,398	263	4.3
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	19,056	10,856	7,256	18,112	-944	-5.0
Short-term NSA job seekers (g)	196,682	142,849	61,474	204,323	7,641	3.9
Long-term NSA Customers	264,337	153,012	113,930	266,942	2,605	1.0
CPS recipients (a)	6,047	4,038	1,931	5,969	-78	-1.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	7,525	3,317	4,190	7,507	-18	-0.2
Received a payment	250,765	145,657	107,809	253,466	2,701	1.1
Incapacitated (c)	16,538	8,719	7,780	16,499	-39	-0.2
Training	55,563	33,329	21,859	55,188	-375	-0.7
Self-employment development (d)	195	103	79	182	-13	-6.7
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	17,586	8,053	9,909	17,962	376	2.1
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	29,917	16,443	12,410	28,853	-1,064	-3.6
Long-term NSA job seekers (g)	130,966	79,010	55,772	134,782	3,816	2.9
All NSA Customers	540,729	343,404	207,663	551,067	10,338	1.9
CPS recipients (a)	8,510	5,866	2,548	8,414	-96	-1.1
Did not receive a payment (b)	21,784	12,105	10,195	22,300	516	2.4
Received a payment	510,435	325,433	194,920	520,353	9,918	1.9
Incapacitated (c)	36,662	21,294	15,730	37,024	362	1.0
Training	72,437	44,140	27,960	72,100	-337	-0.5
Self-employment development (d)	994	480	319	799	-195	-19.6
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	23,721	10,361	13,999	24,360	639	2.7
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	48,973	27,299	19,666	46,965	-2,008	-4.1
All NSA job seekers (g)	327,648	221,859	117,246	339,105	11,457	3.5

(a) Allowees eligible for NSA who received CDEP Participant Supplement or add ons while participating in CDEP projects.

(b) Allowees who did not receive a payment due to their own income and/or that of their partner or parents, where applicable. This group is often referred to as zero-paid.

(c) Allowees who are temporarily ill or incapacitated.

(d) Allowees exempted from job search while they develop self-employment opportunities.

(e) Allowees who are not required to seek work because they are undertaking approved full-time voluntary work or a combination of voluntary and part-time work.

(f) Other allowees who are temporarily exempt from job search, for example because they live in an area severely affected by bushfires.

(g) Allowees who received a payment and generally are required to search for work. These allowees are classified as job seekers and form the basis of the population group in Tables 4 - 7.

Notes:

– Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.

TABLE 3 - YOUTH ALLOWEES (OTHER) - DERIVATION OF THE JOB SEEKER POPULATION

	May 2009	June			Variation May - June	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term YA (other) Customers	43,731	25,905	19,527	45,432	1,701	3.9
CPS recipients (a)	1,059	686	334	1,020	-39	-3.7
Did not receive a payment (b)	889	427	496	923	34	3.8
Received a payment	41,783	24,792	18,697	43,489	1,706	4.1
Part-time study & work (c)	5	1	2	3	-2	-40.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	78	39	51	90	12	15.4
Incapacitated (e)	1,764	910	880	1,790	26	1.5
Training	1,792	1,143	705	1,848	56	3.1
Self-employment development (e)	12	5	3	8	-4	-33.3
Full-time voluntary work	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other non-job seekers (e)	2,185	948	1,051	1,999	-186	-8.5
Short-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	35,947	21,746	16,005	37,751	1,804	5.0
Long-term YA (other) Customers	36,056	17,537	18,814	36,351	295	0.8
CPS recipients (a)	774	476	267	743	-31	-4.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,033	337	549	886	-147	-14.2
Received a payment	34,249	16,724	17,998	34,722	473	1.4
Part-time study & work (c)	4	0	2	2	-2	-50.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	72	29	47	76	4	5.6
Incapacitated (e)	1,137	429	701	1,130	-7	-0.6
Training	3,319	1,791	1,568	3,359	40	1.2
Self-employment development (e)	7	4	1	5	-2	-28.6
Full-time voluntary work	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other non-job seekers (e)	1,698	618	880	1,498	-200	-11.8
Long-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	28,012	13,853	14,799	28,652	640	2.3
All YA (other) Customers	79,787	43,442	38,341	81,783	1,996	2.5
CPS recipients (a)	1,833	1,162	601	1,763	-70	-3.8
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,922	764	1,045	1,809	-113	-5.9
Received a payment	76,032	41,516	36,695	78,211	2,179	2.9
Part-time study & work (c)	9	1	4	5	-4	-44.4
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	150	68	98	166	16	10.7
Incapacitated (e)	2,901	1,339	1,581	2,920	19	0.7
Training	5,111	2,934	2,273	5,207	96	1.9
Self-employment development (e)	19	9	4	13	-6	-31.6
Full-time voluntary work	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other non-job seekers (e)	3,883	1,566	1,931	3,497	-386	-9.9
All YA (other) job seekers (f)	63,959	35,599	30,804	66,403	2,444	3.8

(a) Allowees eligible for Youth Allowance who received CDEP Participant Supplement or add ons while participating in CDEP projects.

(b) Allowees who did not receive a payment due to their own income and/or that of their partner or parents, where applicable. This group is often referred to as zero-paid.

(c) Allowees who, by undertaking approved part-time study and work, have a full activity load and are not required to seek work.

(d) Allowees who, by undertaking approved part-time study and other activities, have a full activity load and are not required to seek work.

(e) Allowees who are temporarily ill or incapacitated.

(f) Allowees exempted from job search while they develop self-employment opportunities.

(g) Allowees who received a payment and generally are required to search for work. These allowees are classified as job seekers and form the basis of the population group in Tables 4 - 7.

Notes:

– Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.

**TABLE 4 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
TIME SERIES (a)**

	Short-term	Long-term	Total
June 2007	148,602	177,562	326,164
July 2007	149,043	178,467	327,510
August 2007	141,433	171,107	312,540
September 2007	136,186	166,762	302,948
October 2007	132,332	164,716	297,048
November 2007	127,425	159,046	286,471
December 2007	132,454	169,573	302,027
January 2008	145,046	177,005	322,051
February 2008	147,610	173,316	320,926
March 2008	141,568	165,748	307,316
April 2008	139,811	160,030	299,841
May 2008	138,808	154,313	293,121
June 2008	140,066	150,517	290,583
July 2008	143,050	150,831	293,881
August 2008	141,458	146,533	287,991
September 2008	140,447	143,357	283,804
October 2008	142,254	142,368	284,622
November 2008	146,670	141,488	288,158
December 2008	163,109	154,285	317,394
January 2009	186,990	164,229	351,219
February 2009	203,173	164,752	367,925
March 2009	210,786	159,449	370,235
April 2009	221,803	157,339	379,142
May 2009	232,629	158,978	391,607
June 2009	242,074	163,434	405,508
<i>Variation May 2009 - June 2009</i>			
Number	9,445	4,456	13,901
Per cent	4.1	2.8	3.5

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- The method of measuring the number of people receiving labour market payments was revised in July 2002. The July 2002 publication includes revised historical data from May 1998 to June 2002.

**TABLE 5 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
BY STATE**

<i>State</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
SHORT-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	75,565	78,037	2,472	3.3
Victoria	51,785	54,317	2,532	4.9
Queensland	56,927	59,169	2,242	3.9
South Australia	16,081	16,437	356	2.2
Western Australia	21,814	23,352	1,538	7.1
Tasmania	5,566	5,823	257	4.6
Northern Territory	3,173	3,207	34	1.1
Australian Capital Territory	1,718	1,732	14	0.8
AUSTRALIA	232,629	242,074	9,445	4.1
LONG-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	58,546	59,757	1,211	2.1
Victoria	36,195	37,921	1,726	4.8
Queensland	26,258	27,268	1,010	3.8
South Australia	15,088	15,130	42	0.3
Western Australia	10,805	11,092	287	2.7
Tasmania	5,723	5,922	199	3.5
Northern Territory	5,017	4,949	-68	-1.4
Australian Capital Territory	1,346	1,395	49	3.6
AUSTRALIA	158,978	163,434	4,456	2.8
TOTAL JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	134,111	137,794	3,683	2.7
Victoria	87,980	92,238	4,258	4.8
Queensland	83,185	86,437	3,252	3.9
South Australia	31,169	31,567	398	1.3
Western Australia	32,619	34,444	1,825	5.6
Tasmania	11,289	11,745	456	4.0
Northern Territory	8,190	8,156	-34	-0.4
Australian Capital Territory	3,064	3,127	63	2.1
AUSTRALIA	391,607	405,508	13,901	3.5

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- The method of measuring the number of people receiving labour market payments was revised in July 2002. The July 2002 publication includes revised historical data from May 1998 to June 2002.

**TABLE 6 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
BY AGE AND SEX, AS AT JUNE 2009**

Age	Short-term job seekers		Long-term job seekers		Total job seekers	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
MALES						
Less than 18 years	5,551	3.4	2,448	2.6	7,999	3.1
18 - 20 years	16,195	9.8	11,405	12.3	27,600	10.7
21 - 24 years	27,268	16.6	11,510	12.4	38,778	15.1
25 - 29 years	26,468	16.1	11,936	12.9	38,404	14.9
30 - 39 years	39,092	23.8	20,107	21.7	59,199	23.0
40 - 49 years	27,054	16.4	16,088	17.3	43,142	16.8
50 - 59 years	16,772	10.2	12,481	13.4	29,253	11.4
60 years and over	6,196	3.8	6,888	7.4	13,084	5.1
Total	164,596	100.0	92,863	100.0	257,459	100.0
FEMALES						
Less than 18 years	4,997	6.4	2,816	4.0	7,813	5.3
18 - 20 years	11,007	14.2	11,983	17.0	22,990	15.5
21 - 24 years	13,429	17.3	8,380	11.9	21,809	14.7
25 - 29 years	9,030	11.7	5,924	8.4	14,954	10.1
30 - 39 years	12,222	15.8	11,133	15.8	23,355	15.8
40 - 49 years	13,567	17.5	14,885	21.1	28,452	19.2
50 - 59 years	10,494	13.5	11,949	16.9	22,443	15.2
60 years and over	2,732	3.5	3,501	5.0	6,233	4.2
Total	77,478	100.0	70,571	100.0	148,049	100.0
PERSONS						
Less than 18 years	10,548	4.4	5,264	3.2	15,812	3.9
18 - 20 years	27,202	11.2	23,388	14.3	50,590	12.5
21 - 24 years	40,697	16.8	19,890	12.2	60,587	14.9
25 - 29 years	35,498	14.7	17,860	10.9	53,358	13.2
30 - 39 years	51,314	21.2	31,240	19.1	82,554	20.4
40 - 49 years	40,621	16.8	30,973	19.0	71,594	17.7
50 - 59 years	27,266	11.3	24,430	14.9	51,696	12.7
60 years and over	8,928	3.7	10,389	6.4	19,317	4.8
Total	242,074	100.0	163,434	100.0	405,508	100.0

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- The method of measuring the number of people receiving labour market payments was revised in July 2002. The July 2002 publication includes revised historical data from May 1998 to June 2002.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SYDNEY EAST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Bankstown	3,833	3,944	111	2.9
Bondi Junction	1,370	1,375	5	0.4
Burwood	1,900	1,928	28	1.5
Campsie	2,666	2,721	55	2.1
Caringbah	1,481	1,476	-5	-0.3
Chatswood	1,380	1,395	15	1.1
Corrimal	1,259	1,286	27	2.1
Dapto	1,413	1,447	34	2.4
Darlinghurst	1,800	1,839	39	2.2
Darlinghurst CCU	55	70	15	%
Haymarket	< 20	< 20	1	%
Hornsby	1,103	1,153	50	4.5
Hurstville	1,595	1,637	42	2.6
Lakemba	26	30	4	%
Leichhardt	1,572	1,612	40	2.5
Maroubra	1,626	1,654	28	1.7
Marrickville	1,643	1,632	-11	-0.7
Northern Beaches	1,637	1,710	73	4.5
Participation Sydney East	< 20	< 20	0	%
Redfern	1,325	1,365	40	3.0
Revesby	< 20	< 20	0	%
Rockdale	1,527	1,561	34	2.2
Ryde	1,189	1,261	72	6.1
Shellharbour	1,580	1,637	57	3.6
Sutherland	580	618	38	6.6
Wollongong	1,533	1,583	50	3.3
Customer Service Centre not coded	< 20	< 20	-3	%
Total	34,118	34,957	839	2.5

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SYDNEY WEST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Auburn	2,338	2,340	2	0.1
Baulkham Hills	964	991	27	2.8
Blacktown	3,554	3,687	133	3.7
Cabramatta	2,241	2,285	44	2.0
Camden	808	861	53	6.6
Campbelltown	2,494	2,544	50	2.0
Fairfield	3,347	3,463	116	3.5
Hawkesbury	1,057	1,099	42	4.0
Ingleburn	1,514	1,580	66	4.4
Katoomba	802	833	31	3.9
Liverpool	4,236	4,346	110	2.6
Merrylands	2,058	2,116	58	2.8
Mt Druitt	3,222	3,322	100	3.1
Parramatta	2,238	2,369	131	5.9
Penrith	2,153	2,234	81	3.8
Springwood	450	459	9	2.0
St Marys	1,737	1,806	69	4.0
Customer Service Centre not coded	< 20	< 20	-2	%
Total	35,231	36,351	1,120	3.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
HUNTER NEW SOUTH WALES				
Armidale	870	887	17	2.0
Cessnock	889	938	49	5.5
Charlestown	2,106	2,179	73	3.5
Ettalong	1,096	983	-113	-10.3
Glen Innes	260	274	14	5.4
Gosford	1,929	1,988	59	3.1
Gunnedah	404	414	10	2.5
Inverell	724	750	26	3.6
Kempsey	1,092	1,104	12	1.1
Kurri Kurri	485	488	3	0.6
Lakehaven	1,941	2,004	63	3.2
Maitland	1,728	1,743	15	0.9
Mayfield	964	965	1	0.1
Muswellbrook	579	582	3	0.5
Nambucca Heads	850	866	16	1.9
Nelson Bay	586	610	24	4.1
Newcastle	1,318	1,323	5	0.4
Port Macquarie	1,715	1,767	52	3.0
Raymond Terrace	1,128	1,171	43	3.8
Singleton	299	306	7	2.3
Tamworth	1,801	1,858	57	3.2
Taree	1,802	1,834	32	1.8
The Entrance	1,470	1,549	79	5.4
Toronto	1,037	1,067	30	2.9
Tuncurry (Forster)	945	959	14	1.5
Wallsend	1,459	1,491	32	2.2
Wyong	841	900	59	7.0
Customer Service Centre not coded	217	408	191	88.0
Total	30,535	31,408	873	2.9

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH WEST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Batemans Bay	963	974	11	1.1
Bathurst	993	1,032	39	3.9
Bega	759	762	3	0.4
Belconnen	938	946	8	0.9
Bowral	584	592	8	1.4
Braddon	806	842	36	4.5
Cooma	320	374	54	16.9
Cowra	487	491	4	0.8
Dubbo	2,054	2,155	101	4.9
Goulburn	790	824	34	4.3
Griffith	599	618	19	3.2
Gungahlin	73	78	5	%
Lanyon	27	30	3	%
Leeton	362	395	33	9.1
Lithgow	595	586	-9	-1.5
Mudgee	687	694	7	1.0
Narooma	438	436	-2	-0.5
Nowra	2,224	2,278	54	2.4
Orange	1,144	1,154	10	0.9
Parkes	1,046	1,059	13	1.2
Queanbeyan	427	432	5	1.2
Tuggeranong	675	693	18	2.7
Tumut	271	271	0	0.0
Ulladulla	553	570	17	3.1
Wagga	1,452	1,485	33	2.3
Woden	533	524	-9	-1.7
Yass	119	121	2	1.7
Young	454	438	-16	-3.5
Customer Service Centre not coded	< 20	< 20	-5	%
Total	20,389	20,865	476	2.3

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>NORTH CENTRAL VICTORIA</i>				
Airport West	1,100	1,160	60	5.5
Albury	2,230	2,390	160	7.2
Box Hill	1,995	2,042	47	2.4
Broadmeadows	3,902	3,942	40	1.0
Camberwell	962	975	13	1.4
Darebin	3,066	3,224	158	5.2
Deniliquin	336	355	19	5.7
Echuca	534	536	2	0.4
Epping	2,007	2,191	184	9.2
Greensborough	< 20	< 20	1	%
Heidelberg	1,751	1,949	198	11.3
Moreland	2,135	2,170	35	1.6
Newmarket	1,289	1,357	68	5.3
Seymour	438	643	205	46.8
Shepparton	1,955	2,063	108	5.5
South Melbourne	729	744	15	2.1
Sunbury	799	834	35	4.4
Wangaratta	1,401	1,534	133	9.5
Windsor	2,511	2,515	4	0.2
Yarra	1,761	1,811	50	2.8
Customer Service Centre not coded	< 20	< 20	-1	%
Total	30,917	32,451	1,534	5.0

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH EAST VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	771	803	32	4.2
Belgrave	481	496	15	3.1
Cheltenham	1,761	1,794	33	1.9
Cranbourne	1,518	1,583	65	4.3
Dandenong	2,775	2,800	25	0.9
Fountain Gate	2,097	2,125	28	1.3
Frankston	2,830	2,935	105	3.7
Glen Waverley	1,119	1,156	37	3.3
Hastings	560	572	12	2.1
Lilydale	1,315	1,663	348	26.5
Mornington	468	514	46	9.8
Morwell	2,016	2,541	525	26.0
Oakleigh	1,872	1,930	58	3.1
Pakenham	693	730	37	5.3
Ringwood	2,076	2,126	50	2.4
Rosebud	964	1,020	56	5.8
Rowville	448	476	28	6.3
Sale	711	851	140	19.7
Springvale	2,115	2,177	62	2.9
Wantirna	1,332	1,382	50	3.8
Warragul	558	625	67	12.0
Wonthaggi	632	673	41	6.5
Customer Service Centre not coded	< 20	< 20	2	%
Total	29,117	30,979	1,862	6.4

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
WEST VICTORIA				
Ararat	247	245	-2	-0.8
Ballarat	2,817	2,881	64	2.3
Bendigo	2,634	2,645	11	0.4
Bendigo Central	420	539	119	28.3
Colac	502	527	25	5.0
Corio	1,716	1,790	74	4.3
Footscray	1,505	1,521	16	1.1
Geelong	3,089	3,162	73	2.4
Hamilton	411	420	9	2.2
Horsham	571	611	40	7.0
Maryborough	456	465	9	2.0
Melton	1,469	1,518	49	3.3
Mildura	1,681	1,760	79	4.7
Newport	1,260	1,240	-20	-1.6
Portland	437	474	37	8.5
Stawell	206	208	2	1.0
Sunshine	2,694	2,789	95	3.5
Swan Hill	869	939	70	8.1
Warrnambool	824	862	38	4.6
Watergardens	3,293	3,336	43	1.3
Werribee	3,278	3,442	164	5.0
Customer Service Centre not coded	< 20	< 20	4	%
Total	30,393	31,392	999	3.3

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL & NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	772	778	6	0.8
Ayr	476	437	-39	-8.2
Bamaga RASC (Nth Peninsula RASC)	31	33	2	%
Biloela	185	176	-9	-4.9
Bowen	429	396	-33	-7.7
Cairns Families	< 20	< 20	0	%
Cairns Jobseekers	4,524	4,719	195	4.3
Cairns Remote (Indigenous ISC)	760	785	25	3.3
Cairns Seniors & Carers	< 20	< 20	3	%
Charters Towers	382	375	-7	-1.8
Edmonton	< 20	< 20	2	%
Emerald	315	318	3	1.0
Gladstone	1,080	1,138	58	5.4
Greenfields	< 20	< 20	2	%
Ingham	369	353	-16	-4.3
Innisfail	769	780	11	1.4
Longreach	110	107	-3	-2.7
Mackay Jobseekers	1,612	1,652	40	2.5
Mackay Seniors & Carers	< 20	< 20	0	%
Mareeba	595	635	40	6.7
Mossman	554	547	-7	-1.3
Mt Isa	927	931	4	0.4
Normanton	143	143	0	0.0
Palm Island	335	341	6	1.8
Rockhampton Families	< 20	< 20	0	%
Rockhampton Jobseekers	2,045	2,154	109	5.3
Rockhampton Seniors & Carers	< 20	< 20	-1	%
Smithfield	< 20	< 20	0	%
Thursday Island	265	267	2	0.8
Townsville City	< 20	< 20	3	%
Townsville Families	< 20	< 20	0	%
Townsville Jobseekers	3,554	3,535	-19	-0.5
Townsville Seniors & Carers	< 20	< 20	-2	%
Western Cape RASC	267	274	7	2.6
Whitsunday	502	529	27	5.4
Yarrabah RASC	443	464	21	4.7
Yeppoon	472	500	28	5.9
Customer Service Centre not coded	61	58	-3	%
Total	22,014	22,469	455	2.1

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH & EAST QUEENSLAND</i>				
Bundaberg	3,086	3,109	23	0.7
Caboolture	2,816	2,944	128	4.5
Caboolture FCC and SC&R	< 20	< 20	0	%
Caloundra	1,369	1,437	68	5.0
Cherbourg	174	194	20	11.5
Chermside	1,203	1,269	66	5.5
Fortitude Valley	1,216	1,267	51	4.2
Gympie	1,328	1,363	35	2.6
Hervey Bay	1,615	1,699	84	5.2
Kawana Waters	700	736	36	5.1
Kingaroy	691	704	13	1.9
Kippa-Ring	1,177	1,256	79	6.7
Maroochydore	1,733	1,823	90	5.2
Maryborough	1,217	1,253	36	3.0
Mitchelton	1,151	1,174	23	2.0
Nambour	1,103	1,152	49	4.4
Noosa	1,203	1,246	43	3.6
Nundah	1,227	1,264	37	3.0
Strathpine	1,438	1,574	136	9.5
Toowong	1,031	1,009	-22	-2.1
Customer Service Centre not coded	672	705	33	4.9
Total	26,150	27,178	1,028	3.9

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH & WEST QUEENSLAND</i>				
Beenleigh	2,326	2,471	145	6.2
Browns Plains	1,926	2,050	124	6.4
Capalaba	824	837	13	1.6
Charleville	208	208	0	0.0
Cleveland	944	993	49	5.2
Dalby	517	541	24	4.6
Goodna	1,421	1,548	127	8.9
Goondiwindi	284	301	17	6.0
Inala	1,746	1,849	103	5.9
Ipswich	2,478	2,611	133	5.4
Mt Gravatt	1,932	2,020	88	4.6
Roma	185	182	-3	-1.6
South Brisbane	942	994	52	5.5
Stanthorpe	368	394	26	7.1
Stones Corner	1,681	1,810	129	7.7
Toowoomba	2,353	2,406	53	2.3
Warwick	511	506	-5	-1.0
Woodridge	2,135	2,232	97	4.5
Wynnum	1,044	1,065	21	2.0
Customer Service Centre not coded	< 20	< 20	8	%
Total	23,830	25,031	1,201	5.0

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Berri	960	971	11	1.1
Broken Hill	834	862	28	3.4
Ceduna	276	274	-2	-0.7
Coober Pedy	161	156	-5	-3.1
Currie Street	< 20	< 20	0	%
Elizabeth	2,629	2,728	99	3.8
Enfield	1,660	1,706	46	2.8
Gawler	1,209	1,210	1	0.1
Glenelg	887	932	45	5.1
Kadina	678	689	11	1.6
Kilkenny	1,669	1,711	42	2.5
Marion	2,144	2,176	32	1.5
Modbury	1,775	1,794	19	1.1
Mt Barker	685	685	0	0.0
Mt Gambier	1,300	1,359	59	4.5
Murray Bridge	884	873	-11	-1.2
Noarlunga	2,843	2,807	-36	-1.3
Norwood	1,881	1,865	-16	-0.9
Port Adelaide	1,548	1,586	38	2.5
Port Augusta	749	753	4	0.5
Port Lincoln	621	628	7	1.1
Port Pirie	938	941	3	0.3
Salisbury	2,642	2,684	42	1.6
Torrensville	1,501	1,488	-13	-0.9
Victor Harbor	692	719	27	3.9
Whyalla	757	774	17	2.2
Customer Service Centre not coded	20	< 20	-1	%
Total	31,944	32,391	447	1.4

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
WEST AUSTRALIA				
Albany	927	1,008	81	8.7
Armadale	1,277	1,396	119	9.3
Bunbury	1,770	1,887	117	6.6
Busselton	580	720	140	24.1
Cannington	1,917	2,082	165	8.6
Carnarvon	300	313	13	4.3
Cocos Islands	36	31	-5	%
Collie	< 20	< 20	8	%
Community Team Perth	70	69	-1	%
Curtin on Campus SSC	< 20	< 20	-2	%
Esperance	325	317	-8	-2.5
Fremantle	1,472	1,543	71	4.8
Fremantle SACC	< 20	< 20	-1	%
Fremantle SSC	< 20	< 20	0	%
Geraldton	1,272	1,289	17	1.3
Gosnells	1,238	1,287	49	4.0
Innaloo	1,472	1,526	54	3.7
Joondalup	1,966	2,076	110	5.6
Joondalup SACC	< 20	< 20	-1	%
Joondalup SSC	< 20	< 20	0	%
Kalgoorlie	923	924	1	0.1
Karratha	334	356	22	6.6
Laverton RASC	64	60	-4	%
Mandurah	1,641	1,744	103	6.3
Meekatharra RASC	161	162	1	0.6
Midland	2,437	2,621	184	7.6
Mirrabooka	1,904	2,040	136	7.1
Morley	1,979	2,077	98	5.0
Morley - Dewar Street	< 20	< 20	1	%
Morley SSC	< 20	< 20	0	%
Newman RASC	214	233	19	8.9
Northam	569	584	15	2.6
Rockingham	2,067	2,181	114	5.5
South Hedland	441	474	33	7.5
Spearwood	1,231	1,337	106	8.6
Victoria Park	1,994	2,044	50	2.5
Warwick Grove	858	934	76	8.9
Customer Service Centre not coded	21	23	2	%
Total	31,476	33,359	1,883	6.0

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
TASMANIA				
Bridgewater	632	628	-4	-0.6
Burnie	1,457	1,538	81	5.6
Devonport	1,350	1,475	125	9.3
Glenorchy	1,751	1,766	15	0.9
Hobart	1,260	1,297	37	2.9
Huonville	409	409	0	0.0
Launceston	2,992	3,165	173	5.8
Mowbray	< 20	< 20	0	%
Rosny Park	949	973	24	2.5
Sorell	508	530	22	4.3
Customer Service Centre not coded	38	38	0	%
Total	11,346	11,819	473	4.2
NORTH AUSTRALIA				
Alice Springs	2,555	2,533	-22	-0.9
Borrooloola RASC	36	32	-4	%
Broome	547	540	-7	-1.3
Casuarina	861	861	0	0.0
Derby	172	161	-11	-6.4
Fitzroy Crossing RASC	62	62	0	%
Halls Creek RASC	211	208	-3	-1.4
Katherine	1,044	1,038	-6	-0.6
Knuckey Street	481	504	23	4.8
Kununurra	279	260	-19	-6.8
Maningrida	269	266	-3	-1.1
Nhulunbuy	600	583	-17	-2.8
Palmerston	891	888	-3	-0.3
Tangentyere	73	63	-10	%
Tennant Creek	186	196	10	5.4
Tennant Creek Remote	66	62	-4	%
Tiwi Islands RASC	210	207	-3	-1.4
Top End Remote	689	683	-6	-0.9
Wadeye RASC	193	196	3	1.6
Yuendumu RASC	118	115	-3	-2.5
Customer Service Centre not coded	30	32	2	%
Total	9,573	9,490	-83	-0.9

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE
(OTHER) BY AREA SUPPORT OFFICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	May 2009	June 2009	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>PACIFIC CENTRAL</i>				
Ballina	1,100	1,114	14	1.3
Beaudesert	570	603	33	5.8
Biggera Waters	2,420	2,587	167	6.9
Bourke	516	525	9	1.7
Brunswick Heads	659	648	-11	-1.7
Byron Bay	642	657	15	2.3
Casino	624	640	16	2.6
Coffs Harbour	2,551	2,561	10	0.4
Grafton	1,552	1,578	26	1.7
Lightning Ridge	181	184	3	1.7
Lismore	1,703	1,745	42	2.5
Maclean	< 20	< 20	0	%
Moree	506	521	15	3.0
Murwillumbah	636	659	23	3.6
Narrabri	304	321	17	5.6
Nerang	2,624	2,814	190	7.2
Palm Beach	2,990	3,115	125	4.2
Robina SCR	< 20	< 20	0	%
Southport	2,874	2,938	64	2.2
Tweed Heads	1,735	1,818	83	4.8
Walgett	263	270	7	2.7
Customer Service Centre not coded	30	35	5	%
Total	24,488	25,341	853	3.5
<i>OTHER</i>				
Centrelink Call Centres	60	62	2	%
Not coded to an area	23	7	-16	%
Rounding adjustment	3	-42	-45	%
AUSTRALIA	391,607	405,508	13,901	3.5

Notes:

- Variations for Customer Service Centres with small populations (less than 100) are displayed as % and not reported.
- Data in this table are rounded monthly averages.
- Area Support Office boundaries changed from July 2007. The July 2007 edition of this publication includes a description of the changes.
- Prior to the July 2007 publication, the rounding adjustment was included in the Fairfield Customer Service Centre.

**TABLE 8 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
FORTNIGHTLY EARNINGS (%) AND SEX (a), FORTNIGHT ENDING 19 JUNE 2009**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term job seekers	Long-term job seekers	Total job seekers
MALES			
Did not earn an income	87.1	84.2	86.0
Earned an income	12.9	15.8	14.0
Amount earned			
\$0.01-\$62.00	0.5	0.7	0.6
\$62.01-\$142.00	1.8	2.3	2.0
\$142.01-\$236.00	2.2	2.5	2.3
\$236.01-\$316.00	1.6	1.9	1.7
Over \$316.00	6.7	8.3	7.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>165,187</i>	<i>93,374</i>	<i>258,561</i>
FEMALES			
Did not earn an income	76.9	72.2	74.6
Earned an income	23.1	27.8	25.4
Amount earned			
\$0.01-\$62.00	0.8	1.0	0.9
\$62.01-\$142.00	2.8	2.9	2.8
\$142.01-\$236.00	3.4	3.7	3.5
\$236.01-\$316.00	2.7	3.0	2.9
Over \$316.00	13.4	17.2	15.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>77,899</i>	<i>70,842</i>	<i>148,741</i>
PERSONS			
Did not earn an income	83.8	79.0	81.9
Earned an income	16.2	21.0	18.1
Amount earned			
\$0.01-\$62.00	0.6	0.8	0.7
\$62.01-\$142.00	2.1	2.6	2.3
\$142.01-\$236.00	2.6	3.0	2.8
\$236.01-\$316.00	2.0	2.4	2.1
Over \$316.00	8.8	12.2	10.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>243,086</i>	<i>164,216</i>	<i>407,302</i>

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication provides monthly statistical information on DEEWR labour market and related payments delivered by Centrelink. These Explanatory Notes provide details of the scope and methodology of the publication, as well as the policy changes which have affected the data since the publication was introduced in December 1995 by the then Department of Social Security.

Prior to December 1995, this publication was titled the *Monthly Job Search and Newstart Allowance Statistics*.

Scope

The primary focus of the publication is to provide information on unemployed people on Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance, with a particular focus on the total number of job seekers. The number of people on Mature Age Allowance, Partner Allowance and Widow Allowance are also reported.

Methodology

Data in this publication relate to the average number of people who are both eligible (eg. meet 'unemployed' qualification) and entitled (eg. meet income and assets criteria) to receive a payment calculated over a reference month. Averages are calculated using figures collected for each Friday throughout the reference month.

Table 1 provides information on the total number of unemployed people on Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance. The Youth Allowance population is split into Youth Allowance (full-time students), Youth Allowance (Australian Apprentices) and Youth Allowance (other) categories. Numbers of people on Mature Age Allowance, Partner Allowance and Widow Allowance are also provided.

Tables 2 and 3 provide a summary of the Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) populations and show the derivation of the respective job seeker populations (see the reference to job seekers in the Comparability of Data section of these Explanatory Notes). These populations are added together to derive the total number of job seekers. Tables 4 to 8 provide information on the total job seeker population.

The earnings data in Table 8 is derived using a different methodology from that of the other tables in the publication. Table 8 is based on the combined population of job seekers who are eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) at the end of the second last week in the month. Thus, the data obtained from this table will not be directly comparable with those calculated using monthly averages in other tables.

Payment History

Youth Allowance

From 1 July 1998 Youth Allowance was introduced to provide income support to young people, including students, those looking for work, and those who are sick. Youth Allowees may be undertaking full-time study, full-time job search or a combination of approved activities. Some young people will be exempt from the activity test because of their personal circumstances, eg. illness, homelessness or major personal crisis. The Youth Allowance replaced:

- AUSTUDY for 16-24 year olds (and certain 15 year olds);
- Newstart Allowance for 16-20 year olds (and certain 15 year olds);
- Youth Training Allowance for 16-17 year olds (and certain 15 year olds);
- Sickness Allowance for 16-20 year olds (and certain 15 year olds); and
- More-than-minimum rate Family Payment for secondary students aged 16-18 not getting AUSTUDY.

Youth Allowance recipients are subject to the parental means test. Under previous arrangements, unemployed people aged 18 to 20 were not subject to the parental means test, unlike 18 to 20 year old students.

Special provisions applied for 18 to 20 year olds who were already on Newstart or Sickness Allowance at the date of announcement of Youth Allowance, and who remained on payment when Youth Allowance commenced on 1 July 1998. This group were able to remain on their existing payment and retain their existing benefits.

Youth Allowance had a significant downward effect on Newstart Allowance numbers from July 1998 and total job seeker numbers due to the parental means test.

Newstart Allowance

From 1 July 1998, Newstart Allowance for 16-20 year olds (and certain 15 year olds) was replaced by Youth Allowance. Young people aged 18 to 20 years old who were on Newstart or Sickness Allowance at the date of announcement of Youth Allowance and when Youth Allowance commenced on 1 July 1998, were able to remain on Newstart Allowance.

From 20 September 1996, Job Search Allowance and Newstart Allowance were combined into one payment - Newstart Allowance - which was payable to eligible recipients aged 18 years and over and to some people who were in receipt of Job Search Allowance and aged under 18 at 31 December 1994 (see Job Search Allowance).

Prior to 20 September 1996, Newstart Allowance was payable to eligible persons over 18 years who had been registered as unemployed with the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) for 12 months or more.

<i>Job Search Allowance</i>	<p>From 20 September 1996, the payment was combined with Newstart Allowance to form one payment called Newstart Allowance. All Job Search Allowance recipients were transferred to Newstart Allowance.</p> <p>Prior to 20 September 1996, Job Search Allowance was payable to eligible persons who had been registered as unemployed with the CES for up to 12 months. It was also payable to eligible persons who were in receipt of Job Search Allowance and under 18 years of age at 31 December 1994. Persons aged 15 to 18 years who were not receiving Job Search Allowance prior to 1 January 1995 commenced on Youth Training Allowance.</p>
<i>Sickness Allowance</i>	<p>From 17 March 1996, persons in receipt of Newstart Allowance or Youth Training Allowance who became temporarily incapacitated no longer transferred to Sickness Allowance after 13 weeks. This change had the effect of increasing total Newstart Allowance/Youth Training Allowance figures but did not affect job seeker figures as those recipients who were incapacitated were excluded from the Newstart and Youth Training job seeker populations.</p> <p>Under current arrangements, these recipients remain on their existing payments but are exempt from the activity test for the duration of their medical certificates. People who become unemployed because of illness, and those who suffer a potential loss of income due to sickness, are paid Newstart Allowance because they are unemployed.</p> <p>Sickness Allowance for 16 to 20 year olds (and certain 15 year olds) was replaced by Youth Allowance, which was introduced on 1 July 1998 (see Youth Allowance).</p>
<i>Partner Allowance</i>	<p>From 20 September 2003, Partner Allowance was closed to new claimants. People on Partner Allowance before this date can remain on the allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance.</p> <p>From 1 July 1995 Partner Allowance has only been granted to persons who are dependent partners of pensioners and allowees and who were born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Other dependent partners have to qualify for an income support payment in their own right, such as Newstart Allowance.</p> <p>Partner Allowance was introduced in September 1994, and was paid to partners of persons receiving Job Search Allowance, Newstart Allowance, Sickness Allowance or Special Benefit if certain eligibility criteria were satisfied.</p>

Youth Training Allowance

Youth Training Allowance was replaced by Youth Allowance on 1 July 1998 (see *Youth Allowance*).

From 1 January 1995, eligible persons aged under 18 years who were new entrants to the job search pool were paid Youth Training Allowance. (People who were in receipt of Job Search Allowance and aged under 18 years at 31 December 1994 continued to be paid Job Search Allowance. From 20 September 1996, those young persons still being paid Job Search Allowance were transferred to Newstart Allowance.)

Widow Allowance

Widow Allowance, introduced on 1 January 1995, is payable to females aged 50 years or over who have become widowed, divorced or separated since turning 40 years (50 prior to 20 March 1997), if they meet a number of other criteria relating to current marital status and recent work experience. This has had a slight downwards effect on Newstart Allowance numbers from January 1995.

Mature Age Allowance

From 20 September 2003, Mature Age Allowance was closed to new claimants. People on Mature Age Allowance before this date can remain on the allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance.

From 1 July 1996, the qualification conditions for Mature Age Allowance changed for new claimants. The requirement for 12 months prior receipt of income support was reduced to 9 months for people transferring from Newstart Allowance and removed entirely for people transferring from non-activity tested payments. The requirement to have been registered as unemployed for 9 months was replaced with a requirement to have no recent workforce experience. Reporting of these new claimants commenced from September 1996.

Mature Age Allowance was introduced on 24 March 1994, and was paid to long-term unemployed persons aged 60 years and over (but below Age Pension age) who had been receiving income support for 9 months or more and who were eligible for Newstart Allowance. The introduction of Mature Age Allowance had a downwards effect on Newstart Allowance numbers from April 1994 until September 2003.

Comparability of Data

There have been significant changes to the data presented in this publication due to a number of events. The main changes are:

- the method of counting recipients;
- the inclusion of some CDEP recipients in the total recipient numbers;
- the introduction of Youth Allowance in July 1998;
- the way 'job seeker' is defined; and
- the way duration is calculated.

People using this data to construct time series should note the following comments.

Definition of Recipient

From July 2002, the number of people receiving labour market and related payments reports recipients who are both eligible and entitled to receive a payment. These recipients are otherwise known as 'current' recipients.

Revised historical data (using this methodology) from May 1998 to June 2002 is in the July 2002 publication.

Due to improved data sources, data from July 2003 has slight differences from the recipient numbers used in previous editions.

Before July 2002, all recipients who received a payment within a given fortnight were counted. From mid 1998, recipients who received a 'one-off' payment were excluded. One-off payments can occur, for instance, when a normal payment is interrupted (eg. payment is cancelled and then restored within that pay period) and a portion of the normal payment is paid.

Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)

From 20 March 2000, eligible participants in CDEP started receiving CDEP participant supplement and other add-ons, such as rent assistance, as part of income support payments. This added a number of new recipients to those eligible for payments reported in this publication.

Introduction of Youth Allowance

The sum of the number of Newstart Allowees and Youth Training Allowees prior to July 1998 is broadly comparable with the sum of Newstart Allowees and Youth Allowees (other) after July 1998. There are two main problems in comparing these two series. The first is the exclusion of some 18 to 20 year old unemployed people due to the application of the Youth Allowance parental means test (see the Youth Allowance section under Payment History). The second is the inclusion of Sickness Allowees in the Youth Allowance (other) population.

There is greater comparability between total Newstart Allowance and Youth Training Allowance job seekers prior to July 1998 and total Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) job seekers after July 1998. This is because the Sickness Allowance group is excluded from the job seeker total. The problem, however, of the exclusion of some recipients through the application of the Youth Allowance parental means test still remains.

Job seekers

From July 1998, the definition of job seekers excludes all people who did not receive a payment due to their own and/or their partner's income, or where applicable, parental income, and all those known not to be required to search for work. People receiving Intensive Support Customised Assistance under Job Network arrangements are classified as job seekers although they may not always be undertaking job search. These people negotiate their activity agreement with their Job Network member.

Before July 1998, job seekers excluded allowees who did not receive a payment, allowees who were incapacitated, and allowees who were undertaking training. Some people who were

not required to search for work were classified as job seekers, including people undertaking full-time voluntary work, people on jury duty and pregnant women around the time of the birth of their child.

Duration

Since May 1998, duration has been defined according to the time a recipient spends on income support - short-term recipients are those who have been on income support for up to 12 months and long-term recipients are those who have been on income support for 12 months or more.

Prior to 1998, duration was defined according to the time a recipient was registered as unemployed - short-term recipients were people who were registered as unemployed for up to 12 months and long-term recipients were people who were registered for 12 months or more.

Closure of Mature Age and Partner Allowances

From 20 September 2003, Mature Age Allowance and Partner Allowance were closed to new claimants. People on these allowances before this date can remain on that allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance. The majority of people who would previously have claimed these payments will now claim Newstart Allowance.

Symbols

n.a. not available
.. not applicable

GLOSSARY

Activity test status	The activity that a Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) recipient has agreed to undertake in order to meet the activity test. To satisfy the activity test recipients must be actively seeking and willing to take up work or undertaking activities to improve their employment prospects.
Age	Age in years at time of data collection.
Area Support Office	A Centrelink office that supports a set of Customer Service Centres for a specified area. These are generally not confined to State boundaries.
Community Development (CDEP)	<p>CDEP provides unemployed Indigenous people with activities designed to meet community needs and which develop participants' skills and improve their employability in order to assist them to move to employment outside the CDEP organisation. These activities can also lead to the development of business enterprises.</p> <p>The CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS) is payable to eligible CDEP participants. It can be paid fortnightly or as a 12 weekly payment.</p>
Customer Service Centre	A Customer Service Centre set within a particular region that provides FaHCSIA, DEEWR and other payments and related information and services to recipients. Customer Service Centres are managed by Area Support Offices.
Did not receive a payment	Persons who did not receive a payment due to their own income and/or that of their partner, or parents, where applicable. This group is often referred to as 'zero paid'.
Fortnightly earnings	Amount of income earned, derived, or received by a person for the person's own use or benefit in the previous fortnight.
Incapacitated	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who has an activity test status indicating they are temporarily ill or incapacitated. Refer to the entry for Sickness Allowance in the Explanatory Notes.
Job seeker	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who would usually be engaged in job search. See Explanatory Notes for definition and history.
Job Search Allowance (JSA)	Up to 20 September 1996, Job Search Allowance was payable to eligible persons who had been registered as unemployed with the Commonwealth Employment Service for up to 12 months. From 20 September 1996, the payment was combined with Newstart Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.
Long-term recipients	Persons who have been receiving income support for 12 months or more. Duration of long-term recipients can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 13 weeks.

Mature Age Allowance (MAA)	<p>From 20 September 2003, Mature Age Allowance was closed to new claimants. People on Mature Age Allowance before this date can remain on the allowance while they retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance.</p> <p>Mature Age Allowance was a payment for unemployed people aged 60 years and over (but below Age Pension age) with little or no recent workforce experience. These people were not required to look for work to be eligible for the payment. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Newstart Allowance (NSA)	<p>Newstart Allowance is payable to eligible unemployed persons aged 21 years and over (but below Age Pension age) who satisfy the activity test. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Partner Allowance (PA)	<p>From 20 September 2003, Partner Allowance was closed to new claimants. People on Partner Allowance before this date can remain on the allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance.</p> <p>Partner Allowance was for dependent partners of pensioners and allowees. Partners had to be born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Partner Allowance had no job search requirement. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Short-term recipients	<p>Persons on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance who have been receiving income support for less than 12 months. Duration of short-term recipients can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 6 weeks.</p>
States	<p>States and Territories of Australia derived from the postcode of the recipient's residence as held on the Centrelink payment system.</p>
Widow Allowance (WA)	<p>From 1 July 2005 Widow Allowance was closed to new claimants, unless the woman was born on or before 1 July 1955.</p> <p>Widow Allowance, a non-activity tested payment, is payable to females aged 50 years or over who have become widowed, divorced or separated since turning 40 years if they have little or no recent work experience and meet a number of other criteria relating to current marital status. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Youth Training Allowance (YTA)	<p>From 1 January 1995 eligible persons aged under 18 years who were registered as unemployed with the CES were paid Youth Training Allowance. From 1 July 1998, Youth Training Allowance was replaced by Youth Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Youth Allowance (YA)	<p>Youth Allowance is payable to eligible full-time students aged 16 to 25 years, and to eligible unemployed persons aged 16 to 20 years who satisfy the activity test. Note, there are certain exceptions for some 15 and 25 year olds. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>

Youth Allowees may be undertaking full-time study, full-time job search or a combination of approved activities. Some young people will be exempt from the activity test because of their personal circumstances, eg. illness, homelessness or major personal crisis. See the Explanatory Notes for more information.

Youth Allowance (other)

Youth Allowance recipients who are not full-time students or full-time Australian Apprentices.

Zero paid

See 'Did not receive a payment'.

APPENDIX

COMPARISONS BETWEEN DEEWR UNEMPLOYMENT LABOUR MARKET PAYMENT NUMBERS AND ABS LABOUR FORCE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Official statistics	Official unemployment statistics are released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The ABS uses definitions recommended by the International Labour Office which have been accepted internationally as the most appropriate for the compilation of official statistics of unemployment.
ABS definition	The ABS unemployment statistics measure the number of persons who, for a particular reference period, did not undertake any paid work, were actively looking for work and were available to start work.
DEEWR Unemployment Labour Market Payment Statistics	The labour market payment statistics give the number of persons who are both eligible and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other). The criteria for receipt of these payments do not match those the ABS uses to determine whether a person is classed as unemployed or employed for statistical purposes.
Differences	Care should be taken when comparing the ABS labour force and DEEWR labour market payment data. There are a number of reasons why the two series cannot be directly compared.
<i>Duration</i>	<p>Both DEEWR and the ABS classify long-term duration as over 12 months, but use substantially different definitions of duration:</p> <p>DEEWR measures duration of income support. This includes not just time on unemployment benefits but time on any income support payment.</p> <p>The ABS measures length of time unemployed using their unemployment definition.</p> <p>DEEWR unemployed recipients can have breaks without payment for up to 25 weeks but still be classified as long-term income support recipients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recipients who do not receive a payment due to their earnings can have up to 12 weeks without a payment before they are automatically cancelled. This reduces disincentives to accept short-term work.• Long-term recipients can have another 13 weeks off payment after payment is cancelled and still keep their long-term status if they return to income support. This means they keep access to assistance such as the Employment Entry Payment and the higher payment rate for recipients over 60.

For the ABS statistics, any hours of work for a period as short as two weeks count as a break from unemployment and so are enough to reset a person's unemployment duration.

The difference between these two concepts, together with the fact that DEEWR recipients are able to have ongoing part-time work (see 'employment' below) mean that many unemployed recipients remain classified by DEEWR as long-term recipients when they would be classified as short-term unemployed under the ABS definition.

Seasonal adjustment The ABS produces a seasonally adjusted series. The DEEWR labour market payment numbers data are not seasonally adjusted.

Classification The ABS classifies a person as unemployed if he or she is aged 15 years and over, was not employed during the week before the interview, has actively looked for full-time or part-time work and is available to start work. From February 2004, people who had not actively looked for work because they were waiting to start a job within four weeks are also classified as unemployed.

The Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) series generally count people who are eligible for and entitled to receive a payment between the ages of 15 years and 64 years in the case of men and 15 to 63 years in the case of women.

Employment Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients may be employed part-time, but within an income test limit; the ABS classifies a person as "employed" if, among other things, he or she has worked for one hour or more during the survey period.

Timing The timing of collections of the series are different:

- DEEWR reports monthly average numbers of people both eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other). These monthly averages are calculated using figures collected for each Friday throughout the reference month.
- ABS numbers are based on a sample survey which interviews occupants of selected dwellings covering around 0.27% of the total Australian population. These persons are generally interviewed during the two weeks beginning the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month and the information obtained relates to the week before the interview takes place.

Treatment of partners The ABS series includes unemployed persons whose spouse is working, irrespective of income, whereas Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients are subject to an income and assets test for themselves and their spouse.

Pensioners The ABS series includes persons being paid a pension but looking for work (eg. sole parents in receipt of Parenting Payments looking for work).

<i>Non job seekers</i>	The overall Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) series includes persons who are not required to undertake jobsearch. These persons are separately identified in Tables 2 and 3, and have then been excluded in subsequent tables. These people may be undertaking training, the development of self-employment opportunities, full-time voluntary work or a combination of voluntary and part-time work which excludes them from jobsearch obligations. They may also be incapacitated or have another temporary exemption from jobsearch.
<i>Waiting periods</i>	The ABS series includes persons who are serving a waiting period before being granted Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other), or whose allowance was deferred.
<i>Survey</i>	The ABS figures are derived from a Labour Force Survey which is a sample survey, whereas the DEEWR statistics are a complete count of those both eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Labour market information

Other statistics on recipients of labour market related payments are available on request.

In addition to Newstart and Youth Allowances, statistics are also available on Partner Allowance, Mature Age Allowance and Widow Allowance.

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Written correspondence concerning this publication or statistics on labour market related payments should be addressed to:

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or forwarded via facsimile to (02) 6204 2912.

Other recipient information

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs has published:
Income Support Customers: a Statistical Overview
1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Statistics also collates statistics about the various pensions, benefits and family payments which that Department administers.