

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 Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) use different definitions to identify the unemployed and different methods of counting (see the Appendix for more information).

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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 largely on behalf of the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR). After the Machinery of Government (MOG) changes, announced in October 2004, the responsibility for Newstart Allowance (NSA), Youth Allowance (other) (YA(O)), Mature Age Allowance (MAA), Partner Allowance (PA) and Widow Allowance (WA) was transferred to DEWR and responsibility for Youth Allowance (full-time students) (YA(FTS)) was transferred to the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST). This publication covers NSA and YA(O) in some detail and, to a lesser extent, MAA, PA, WA, YA(FTS) and YA(Apprentices).

Table 1 provides information on the total number of NSA and YA recipients. The YA population is broken down into YA(FTS), YA(Apprentices) and YA(O) categories. The total number 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) jobseeker populations (see the reference to Jobseekers in the 'Comparability of Data' section of the *Explanatory Notes*). These populations are added together to derive the total number of jobseekers.

Tables 4 to 8 provide information on the total jobseeker 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 Centrelink National Media Officer on (02) 6284 6442. 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 23 August 2006.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS - June 2006

Between June 2005 and June 2006:

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) recipients and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(O)) recipients **decreased by 3.3%** overall from 568,474 to 549,491

- ◆ by 3.0% for NSA from 488,910 to 474,125 and
- ◆ 5.3% for YA(O) from 79,564 to 75,366.

The number of jobseekers **decreased by 2.9%** overall from 378,350 to 367,543

- ◆ by 2.0% for NSA recipients from 315,152 to 308,828 and
- ◆ 7.1% for YA(O) recipients from 63,198 to 58,715.

Long-term jobseekers decreased by 3.5% from 212,595 to 205,212.

Short-term jobseekers decreased by 2.1% from 165,755 to 162,331.

Long-term recipients have been on income support for 12 months or more and can be without payment for up to 25 weeks before being reclassified as short-term. This differs significantly from the ABS definition of long-term unemployment (see Appendix).

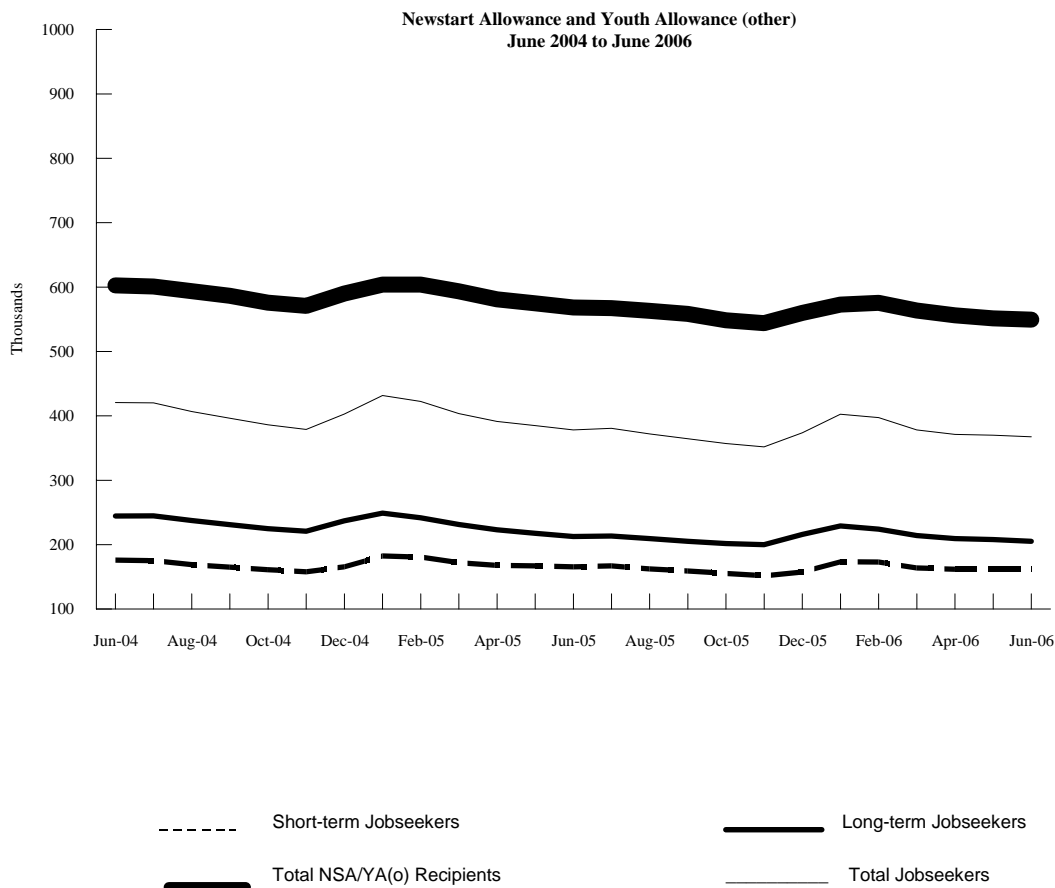


TABLE 1 - LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES (a)

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance		Mature Age Apprentices Allowance	Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance	
	Long-term (b)	Total	Other Students (c)	Full-time (d)				
February 1994 (e)	472,785	977,796	
June 2004	313,883	517,895	84,841	296,560	..	33,310	92,058	45,781
July 2004	313,274	515,686	85,357	290,210	..	32,175	90,056	45,644
August 2004	311,282	511,799	81,939	297,594	..	31,046	88,133	45,544
September 2004	308,214	506,457	80,129	300,177	..	30,055	86,495	45,531
October 2004	304,351	499,388	76,376	294,394	..	28,921	84,565	45,438
November 2004	301,742	494,289	76,497	287,438	..	27,844	82,782	45,369
December 2004	306,022	502,350	87,732	245,322	..	26,820	81,078	45,282
January 2005	309,214	514,579	89,453	235,537	..	25,770	79,482	45,206
February 2005	307,987	516,730	87,258	245,621	..	24,864	78,040	45,173
March 2005	304,783	509,892	83,604	263,308	..	23,918	76,588	45,100
April 2005	299,698	500,391	80,661	274,240	..	22,935	75,014	45,009
May 2005	295,728	494,847	79,896	281,184	..	22,032	73,601	44,976
June 2005	291,977	488,910	79,564	284,926	0	21,144	72,331	44,864
July 2005	291,683	487,653	79,816	279,040	742	20,258	71,140	44,841
August 2005	291,607	485,823	77,459	285,864	1,655	19,462	70,365	45,009
September 2005	289,974	482,072	76,272	288,479	2,285	18,697	69,624	45,158
October 2005	287,468	475,490	72,915	280,308	2,416	17,939	68,919	45,287
November 2005	286,345	470,557	73,576	274,547	2,471	17,335	68,420	45,538
December 2005	290,391	476,028	84,022	233,273	2,486	16,623	67,762	45,830
January 2006	294,100	487,251	85,628	223,059	2,478	15,869	66,905	45,849
February 2006	294,250	491,955	83,559	232,189	2,731	15,111	65,681	45,760
March 2006	291,020	484,784	78,913	250,079	2,994	14,271	64,282	45,622
April 2006	288,017	479,378	76,747	260,349	3,190	13,547	62,924	45,438
May 2006	285,853	475,830	75,533	266,392	3,181	12,836	61,863	45,212
June 2006	284,288	474,125	75,366	270,081	3,323	12,110	60,829	45,096
<i>Variation May 2006 - June 2006</i>								
Number	-1,565	-1,705	-167	3,689	142	-726	-1,034	-116
Per cent	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	1.4	4.5	-5.7	-1.7	-0.3

(a) This table presents data using the revised method of measuring the number of people receiving labour market payments introduced in July 2002. Revised historical data from May 1998 to June 2002 is in Table A (May 1998 - June 2000) and Table 1 (July 2000 - July 2002) of July 2002 publication.

(b) Long-term Newstart allowees are persons who have been receiving income support for 12 months or more.

(c) The number of full time students does not include those who have traded in their entire Youth Allowance entitlement for a loan under the Student Financial Supplement Loan Scheme. The Government announced on 24 April 2003 that no further loans would be issued under this Scheme from 1 January 2004. For further details, refer to the Explanatory Notes at the back of this publication.

(d) New Apprenticeships combine employment with structured training to provide a nationally recognised qualification. New Apprentices enter formal agreements known as either 'Training Agreements' or 'Contracts of Training' which set out the relationship between the employer and the New Apprentice and their respective rights and responsibilities.

(e) February 1994 data has been included for comparison purposes due to the peak in the number of persons receiving JSA/NSA at this point in time.

Note: Most of the figures in this publication are averages and have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals, and in the calculation of variations.

TABLE 2 - NEWSTART ALLOWEES - DERIVATION OF THE JOBSEEKER POPULATION

	May 2006	June			Variation May - June	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term NSA Customers	189,977	130,811	59,026	189,837	-140	-0.1
CPS recipients (a)	3,911	2,858	1,042	3,900	-11	-0.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	11,298	7,378	4,146	11,524	226	2.0
Received a payment	174,768	120,575	53,838	174,413	-355	-0.2
Incapacitated (c)	17,069	11,408	6,428	17,836	767	4.5
Training	10,158	6,458	3,521	9,979	-179	-1.8
Self-employment development (d)	551	334	156	490	-61	-11.1
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	2,382	955	1,339	2,294	-88	-3.7
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	10,830	6,434	3,864	10,298	-532	-4.9
Short-term NSA Jobseekers (g)	133,778	94,986	38,530	133,516	-262	-0.2
Long-term NSA Customers	285,853	180,272	104,016	284,288	-1,565	-0.5
CPS recipients (a)	8,722	6,166	2,673	8,839	117	1.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	10,699	6,280	4,651	10,931	232	2.2
Received a payment	266,432	167,826	96,692	264,518	-1,914	-0.7
Incapacitated (c)	21,706	13,363	9,336	22,699	993	4.6
Training	37,484	23,413	14,181	37,594	110	0.3
Self-employment development (d)	254	123	77	200	-54	-21.3
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	10,596	5,926	4,535	10,461	-135	-1.3
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	19,019	10,819	7,433	18,252	-767	-4.0
Long-term NSA Jobseekers (g)	177,373	114,182	61,130	175,312	-2,061	-1.2
All NSA Customers	475,830	311,083	163,042	474,125	-1,705	-0.4
CPS recipients (a)	12,633	9,024	3,715	12,739	106	0.8
Did not receive a payment (b)	21,997	13,658	8,797	22,455	458	2.1
Received a payment	441,200	288,401	150,530	438,931	-2,269	-0.5
Incapacitated (c)	38,775	24,771	15,764	40,535	1,760	4.5
Training	47,642	29,871	17,702	47,573	-69	-0.1
Self-employment development (d)	805	457	233	690	-115	-14.3
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	12,978	6,881	5,874	12,755	-223	-1.7
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	29,849	17,253	11,297	28,550	-1,299	-4.4
All NSA Jobseekers (g)	311,151	209,168	99,660	308,828	-2,323	-0.7

(a) Persons with NSA eligibility who received CDEP Participant Supplement or add ons while participating in CDEP Projects.

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

(c) Activity code "incapacitated" relates to NSA recipients who have become temporarily ill or incapacitated.

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

(e) Those customers undertaking approved full-time voluntary work or combinations of voluntary and part-time work who are not required to seek work.

(f) Includes other customers known not to have job search obligations. See 'Jobseekers' in Explanatory Notes.

(g) Those customers who received a payment and generally are required to search for work. These customers form the basis of the population group in Tables 2 - 7.

Notes:

- For information on short-term and long-term categories please refer to the Glossary.

- Most of the figures in this publication are averages and have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals, and in the calculation of variations.

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

	May 2006	June			Variation May - June	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term YA (other) Customers	36,315	20,142	16,738	36,880	565	1.6
CPS recipients (a)	2,241	1,443	822	2,265	24	1.1
Did not receive a payment (b)	915	446	489	935	20	2.2
Received a payment	33,159	18,253	15,427	33,680	521	1.6
Part-time study & work (c)	1	1	1	2	1	0.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	71	34	39	73	2	2.8
Incapacitated (e)	1,652	839	869	1,708	56	3.4
Training	1,326	804	550	1,354	28	2.1
Self-employment development (e)	7	2	3	5	-2	-28.6
Full-time voluntary work	1	1	0	1	0	0.0
Other non-jobseekers (e)	1,697	776	946	1,722	25	1.5
Short-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	28,404	15,796	13,019	28,815	411	1.4
Long-term YA (other) Customers	39,218	18,236	20,250	38,486	-732	-1.9
CPS recipients (a)	1,511	967	581	1,548	37	2.4
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,411	520	748	1,268	-143	-10.1
Received a payment	36,296	16,749	18,921	35,670	-626	-1.7
Part-time study & work (c)	3	1	2	3	0	0.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	80	25	53	78	-2	-2.5
Incapacitated (e)	1,460	550	945	1,495	35	2.4
Training	2,678	1,343	1,338	2,681	3	0.1
Self-employment development (e)	15	8	4	12	-3	-20.0
Full-time voluntary work	5	1	4	5	0	0.0
Other non-jobseekers (e)	1,493	597	899	1,496	3	0.2
Long-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	30,562	14,224	15,676	29,900	-662	-2.2
All YA (other) Customers	75,533	38,378	36,988	75,366	-167	-0.2
CPS recipients (a)	3,752	2,410	1,403	3,813	61	1.6
Did not receive a payment (b)	2,326	966	1,237	2,203	-123	-5.3
Received a payment	69,455	35,002	34,348	69,350	-105	-0.2
Part-time study & work (c)	4	2	3	5	1	25.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	151	59	92	151	0	0.0
Incapacitated (e)	3,112	1,389	1,814	3,203	91	2.9
Training	4,004	2,147	1,888	4,035	31	0.8
Self-employment development (e)	22	10	7	17	-5	-22.7
Full-time voluntary work	6	2	4	6	0	0.0
Other non-jobseekers (e)	3,190	1,373	1,845	3,218	28	0.9
All YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	58,966	30,020	28,695	58,715	-251	-0.4

(a) Persons with YA eligibility who received CDEP Participant Supplement or add ons while participating in CDEP projects.

(b) 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.

(c) Those customers undertaking approved part-time study and work who are considered to have a full activity load and are not required to seek work.

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

(e) These categories are defined in the same way as in Table 2, except that those customers combining these activities with part-time study are classified under part-time study and other activities.

(f) Those customers who received a payment and generally are required to search for work. These customers form the basis of the population group in Tables 2 - 7.

Notes:

- For information on short-term and long-term categories please refer to the Glossary.

- Most of the figures in this publication are averages and have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals, and in the calculation of variations.

TABLE 4 - JOBSEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
TIME SERIES (a)

	Short-term	Long-term	Total
June 2004	176,087	244,647	420,734
July 2004	175,344	244,846	420,190
August 2004	169,186	237,526	406,712
September 2004	165,156	231,221	396,377
October 2004	161,169	224,985	386,154
November 2004	157,970	220,919	378,889
December 2004	165,824	236,981	402,805
January 2005	182,718	248,933	431,651
February 2005	180,830	241,737	422,567
March 2005	172,254	231,336	403,590
April 2005	168,095	223,258	391,353
May 2005	167,200	217,727	384,927
June 2005	165,755	212,595	378,350
July 2005	167,154	213,585	380,739
August 2005	162,525	209,424	371,949
September 2005	159,378	205,254	364,632
October 2005	155,525	201,678	357,203
November 2005	151,863	200,077	351,940
December 2005	157,829	215,881	373,710
January 2006	173,502	229,230	402,732
February 2006	173,305	224,048	397,353
March 2006	164,016	214,293	378,309
April 2006	161,900	209,435	371,335
May 2006	162,182	207,935	370,117
June 2006	162,331	205,212	367,543
<i>Variation May 2006 - June 2006</i>			
<i>Number</i>	149	-2,723	-2,574
<i>Per cent</i>	0.1	-1.3	-0.7

(a) This table presents data using the revised method of measuring the number of people receiving labour market payment introduced in July 2002. Revised historical data from May 1998 to June 2002 is in Table B of July 2002 publication.

Notes:

- For information on short-term and long-term categories please refer to the Glossary.
- Most of the figures in this publication are averages and have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals, and in the calculation of variations.

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

<i>State</i>	May 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
SHORT-TERM JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	55,803	56,384	581	1.0
Victoria	38,643	39,100	457	1.2
Queensland	34,251	33,647	-604	-1.8
South Australia	13,377	13,230	-147	-1.1
Western Australia	12,405	12,311	-94	-0.8
Tasmania	4,321	4,435	114	2.6
Northern Territory	1,962	1,856	-106	-5.4
Australian Capital Territory	1,420	1,368	-52	-3.7
AUSTRALIA	162,182	162,331	149	0.1
LONG-TERM JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	73,823	73,643	-180	-0.2
Victoria	51,755	50,951	-804	-1.6
Queensland	35,143	34,315	-828	-2.4
South Australia	18,662	18,324	-338	-1.8
Western Australia	14,219	13,801	-418	-2.9
Tasmania	8,950	8,902	-48	-0.5
Northern Territory	3,296	3,198	-98	-3.0
Australian Capital Territory	2,087	2,078	-9	-0.4
AUSTRALIA	207,935	205,212	-2,723	-1.3
TOTAL JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	129,626	130,027	401	0.3
Victoria	90,398	90,051	-347	-0.4
Queensland	69,394	67,962	-1,432	-2.1
South Australia	32,039	31,554	-485	-1.5
Western Australia	26,624	26,112	-512	-1.9
Tasmania	13,271	13,337	66	0.5
Northern Territory	5,258	5,054	-204	-3.9
Australian Capital Territory	3,507	3,446	-61	-1.7
AUSTRALIA	370,117	367,543	-2,574	-0.7

Note: The majority of figures in this publication are averages, and have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals. The discrepancies may also affect the calculation of the variations in Table 2, 3, 5 and 7.

**TABLE 6 - JOBSEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
BY AGE AND SEX (JUNE 2006)**

Age	Short-term Jobseekers		Long-term Jobseekers		Total Jobseekers	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
MALES						
Less than 18 years	4,731	4.3	2,551	2.0	7,282	3.0
18 - 20 years	11,064	10.0	11,673	9.1	22,737	9.5
21 - 24 years	19,677	17.8	15,758	12.3	35,435	14.8
25 - 29 years	17,937	16.2	16,347	12.7	34,284	14.3
30 - 39 years	25,959	23.4	28,088	21.9	54,047	22.6
40 - 49 years	16,011	14.5	23,430	18.2	39,441	16.5
50 - 59 years	11,200	10.1	21,530	16.8	32,730	13.7
60 years and over	4,203	3.8	9,029	7.0	13,232	5.5
TOTAL	110,782	100.0	128,406	100.0	239,188	100.0
FEMALES						
Less than 18 years	4,701	9.1	2,986	3.9	7,687	6.0
18 - 20 years	8,318	16.1	12,690	16.5	21,008	16.4
21 - 24 years	10,118	19.6	10,562	13.8	20,680	16.1
25 - 29 years	5,924	11.5	6,947	9.0	12,871	10.0
30 - 39 years	6,144	11.9	9,656	12.6	15,800	12.3
40 - 49 years	6,810	13.2	15,855	20.6	22,665	17.7
50 - 59 years	7,673	14.9	14,721	19.2	22,394	17.4
60 years and over	1,861	3.6	3,389	4.4	5,250	4.1
TOTAL	51,549	100.0	76,806	100.0	128,355	100.0
PERSONS						
Less than 18 years	9,432	5.8	5,537	2.7	14,969	4.1
18 - 20 years	19,382	11.9	24,363	11.9	43,745	11.9
21 - 24 years	29,795	18.4	26,320	12.8	56,115	15.3
25 - 29 years	23,861	14.7	23,294	11.4	47,155	12.8
30 - 39 years	32,103	19.8	37,744	18.4	69,847	19.0
40 - 49 years	22,821	14.1	39,285	19.1	62,106	16.9
50 - 59 years	18,873	11.6	36,251	17.7	55,124	15.0
60 years and over	6,064	3.7	12,418	6.1	18,482	5.0
TOTAL	162,331	100.0	205,212	100.0	367,543	100.0

**TABLE 7 - JOBSSEKERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>EAST COAST (SYDNEY)</i>				
Bondi Junction	1,306	1,254	-52	-4.0
Chatswood	1,083	1,034	-49	-4.5
Darlinghurst	1,653	1,628	-25	-1.5
Darlinghurst YSU	38	41	3	%
Hornsby	814	851	37	4.5
Leichhardt	1,513	1,490	-23	-1.5
Maroubra	1,249	1,197	-52	-4.2
Marrickville	1,531	1,477	-54	-3.5
Northern Beaches	985	1,003	18	1.8
Sydney Central YSU	0	0	0	%
Other (a)	9	8	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	10,181	9,983	-198	-1.9
<i>EAST COAST (WOLLONGONG)</i>				
Caringbah	1,439	1,434	-5	-0.3
Corrimal	1,389	1,382	-7	-0.5
Dapto	1,198	1,211	13	1.1
Hurstville	1,464	1,439	-25	-1.7
Nowra	2,081	2,135	54	2.6
Redfern	1,339	1,326	-13	-1.0
Rockdale	1,516	1,522	6	0.4
Shellharbour	1,495	1,508	13	0.9
Sutherland	74	87	13	%
Ulladulla	566	591	25	4.4
Wollongong	1,876	1,866	-10	-0.5
Other (a)	36	39	3	%
<i>Total</i>	14,473	14,540	67	0.5

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>HUNTER NSW</i>				
Armidale	1,231	1,236	5	0.4
Cessnock	875	891	16	1.8
Charlestown	2,539	2,575	36	1.4
Ettalong	1,159	1,180	21	1.8
Forster	877	911	34	3.9
Gosford*	1,835	1,901	66	3.6
Gunnedah	473	464	-9	-1.9
Inverell	698	721	23	3.3
Kempsey	1,310	1,302	-8	-0.6
Kurri Kurri	583	604	21	3.6
Lakehaven	1,809	1,860	51	2.8
Maitland	1,685	1,683	-2	-0.1
Mayfield	1,151	1,164	13	1.1
Muswellbrook	583	586	3	0.5
Nambucca Heads	1,155	1,159	4	0.3
Nelson Bay	554	566	12	2.2
Newcastle	1,651	1,667	16	1.0
Port Macquarie	1,890	1,908	18	1.0
Raymond Terrace	1,015	1,052	37	3.6
Singleton	300	292	-8	-2.7
Tamworth	1,821	1,806	-15	-0.8
Taree	1,798	1,797	-1	-0.1
The Entrance	1,161	1,171	10	0.9
Toronto	1,185	1,221	36	3.0
Wallsend	1,764	1,751	-13	-0.7
Wyong	639	656	17	2.7
Other (a)	91	82	-9	%
<i>Total</i>	31,832	32,206	374	1.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

*12/05/2003 recipients transferred from Gosford NSS to Gosford CSC.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH METROPOLITAN NSW</i>				
Ashfield	0	0	0	%
Bankstown	3,931	3,995	64	1.6
Burwood*	1,625	1,637	12	0.7
Cabramatta	2,217	2,203	-14	-0.6
Camden	525	521	-4	-0.8
Campbelltown	2,528	2,543	15	0.6
Campsie	2,394	2,377	-17	-0.7
Fairfield	3,587	3,663	76	2.1
Ingleburn	1,223	1,234	11	0.9
Lakemba	11	10	-1	%
Liverpool	4,119	4,117	-2	-0.0
Revesby	2	2	0	%
Strathfield	1	1	0	%
Other (a)	4	7	3	%
<i>Total</i>	22,167	22,310	143	0.6
<i>WEST NSW</i>				
Auburn	2,394	2,359	-35	-1.5
Baulkham Hills	730	714	-16	-2.2
Blacktown	3,088	3,099	11	0.4
Hawkesbury	843	846	3	0.4
Katoomba	634	666	32	5.0
Lithgow	709	718	9	1.3
Merrylands	1,867	1,847	-20	-1.1
Mt Druitt	2,509	2,529	20	0.8
Mudgee	734	728	-6	-0.8
Parramatta	1,962	1,970	8	0.4
Penrith	1,732	1,781	49	2.8
Ryde	1,051	1,034	-17	-1.6
Springwood	403	387	-16	-4.0
St Marys	1,884	1,881	-3	-0.2
Other (a)	17	16	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	20,557	20,575	18	0.1

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

*Burwood CSC was opened on 24/10/05 and recipients previously serviced by Ashfield and Strathfield will be serviced in Burwood.

Ashfield and Strathfield CSCs closed on 21/10/05.

**TABLE 7 - JOBSEEKERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH WEST NSW</i>				
Albury	2,149	2,136	-13	-0.6
Batemans Bay	922	918	-4	-0.4
Bathurst	911	911	0	0.0
Bega	742	728	-14	-1.9
Belconnen	1,112	1,110	-2	-0.2
Bourke	406	415	9	2.2
Bowral	528	520	-8	-1.5
Braddon	954	933	-21	-2.2
Cooma	296	335	39	13.2
Cowra	447	430	-17	-3.8
Deniliquin	272	272	0	0.0
Dubbo	1,868	1,859	-9	-0.5
Goulburn	683	697	14	2.0
Griffith	520	531	11	2.1
Gungahlin	89	91	2	%
Lanyon	41	39	-2	%
Leeton	327	320	-7	-2.1
Narooma	390	385	-5	-1.3
Orange	1,037	1,065	28	2.7
Parkes	933	920	-13	-1.4
Queanbeyan	541	508	-33	-6.1
Tuggeranong	670	672	2	0.3
Tumut	343	346	3	0.9
Wagga	1,697	1,729	32	1.9
Woden	642	613	-29	-4.5
Yass	108	112	4	3.7
Young	416	418	2	0.5
Other (a)	24	19	-5	%
<i>Total</i>	19,068	19,032	-36	-0.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>NORTH-CENTRAL VICTORIA</i>				
Box Hill	1,740	1,703	-37	-2.1
Broadmeadows	3,640	3,671	31	0.9
Darebin	3,694	3,602	-92	-2.5
Echuca	434	447	13	3.0
Epping	2,078	2,063	-15	-0.7
Greensborough	1,518	1,535	17	1.1
Heidelberg	38	32	-6	%
Lilydale	1,411	1,452	41	2.9
Moreland	2,562	2,491	-71	-2.8
Newmarket	1,712	1,730	18	1.1
Ringwood	1,725	1,753	28	1.6
Seymour	565	572	7	1.2
Shepparton	2,159	2,212	53	2.5
Sth Melbourne	688	700	12	1.7
Wangaratta	1,584	1,607	23	1.5
Windsor (VIC)	3,112	3,105	-7	-0.2
Yarra*	2,588	2,504	-84	-3.2
Other (a)	27	32	5	%
<i>Total</i>	31,275	31,211	-64	-0.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

* Yarra CSC was opened on 27/6/05. Recipients previously serviced by Fitzroy and Richmond CSCs have been transferred to Yarra CSC.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH-EAST VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	839	870	31	3.7
Belgrave*	550	523	-27	-4.9
Camberwell	1,016	1,001	-15	-1.5
Cheltenham	1,943	1,966	23	1.2
Cranbourne	1,196	1,187	-9	-0.8
Dandenong	2,641	2,602	-39	-1.5
Fountain Gate	2,253	2,284	31	1.4
Frankston	3,139	3,163	24	0.8
Glen Waverley	1,051	1,040	-11	-1.0
Leongatha	0	1	1	%
Mornington	506	511	5	1.0
Morwell	2,344	2,330	-14	-0.6
Oakleigh	1,929	1,891	-38	-2.0
Rosebud	871	874	3	0.3
Rowville	438	398	-40	-9.1
Sale	840	831	-9	-1.1
Springvale	2,463	2,445	-18	-0.7
Wantirna*	1,260	1,247	-13	-1.0
Warragul	431	449	18	4.2
Wonthaggi	627	640	13	2.1
Other (a)	9	11	2	%
<i>Total</i>	26,346	26,264	-82	-0.3

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

* Belgrave and Wantirna CSCs were previously included under Knox. Knox no longer exists and has been removed from list.

Belgrave and Wantirna CSCs are shown independently.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>WEST VICTORIA</i>				
Ararat	330	330	0	0.0
Ballarat	2,924	2,898	-26	-0.9
B Central*	1,070	1,012	-58	-5.4
Bendigo	2,007	2,089	82	4.1
Colac	449	445	-4	-0.9
Corio	1,836	1,811	-25	-1.4
Essendon (Airport West)	1,267	1,263	-4	-0.3
Footscray	1,637	1,564	-73	-4.5
Geelong	3,266	3,267	1	0.0
Hamilton	374	369	-5	-1.3
Horsham	722	716	-6	-0.8
Maryborough (VIC)	553	560	7	1.3
Melton	1,131	1,165	34	3.0
Mildura	1,790	1,723	-67	-3.7
Newport	1,166	1,204	38	3.3
Portland	485	480	-5	-1.0
Stawell	198	192	-6	-3.0
Sunbury	698	727	29	4.2
Sunshine	3,124	3,013	-111	-3.6
Swan Hill	886	872	-14	-1.6
Warrnambool	919	890	-29	-3.2
Watergardens	3,447	3,516	69	2.0
Werribee	2,406	2,375	-31	-1.3
Other (a)	21	21	0	%
<i>Total</i>	32,706	32,502	-204	-0.6

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

*On 10/10/05 B Central was opened and recipients previously serviced by Bendigo will be serviced in B Central.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>BRISBANE</i>				
Annerley	805	786	-19	-2.4
Bundaberg	2,816	2,720	-96	-3.4
Caboolture	2,235	2,174	-61	-2.7
Caloundra	1,265	1,222	-43	-3.4
Capalaba	694	663	-31	-4.5
Chermside	872	805	-67	-7.7
Cleveland	789	756	-33	-4.2
Fortitude Valley	1,487	1,465	-22	-1.5
Gympie	1,215	1,152	-63	-5.2
Hervey Bay	1,225	1,215	-10	-0.8
Kawana Waters	570	588	18	3.2
Kingaroy	686	718	32	4.7
Maroochydore	1,658	1,630	-28	-1.7
Maryborough	1,165	1,163	-2	-0.2
Mitchelton	1,007	988	-19	-1.9
Mt Gravatt	1,733	1,688	-45	-2.6
Nambour	1,053	996	-57	-5.4
Noosa	1,139	1,124	-15	-1.3
Nundah	1,078	1,054	-24	-2.2
Redcliffe	1,495	1,461	-34	-2.3
Stones Corner	1,536	1,451	-85	-5.5
Strathpine	1,040	1,005	-35	-3.4
Toowong	902	848	-54	-6.0
Wynnum	782	748	-34	-4.3
Other (a)	11	16	5	%
<i>Total</i>	29,258	28,436	-822	-2.8

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation	
			May - June Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL & NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	747	705	-42	-5.6
Ayr	456	408	-48	-10.5
Biloela	149	142	-7	-4.7
Bowen	500	466	-34	-6.8
Cairns EMS (3)	2,944	2,912	-32	-1.1
Cairns FAO (3)	12	9	-3	%
Cairns Ret (3)	3	2	-1	%
Charters Towers	304	294	-10	-3.3
Edmonton	4	1	-3	%
Emerald	298	303	5	1.7
Gladstone	925	906	-19	-2.1
Greenfields	4	2	-2	%
Indigenous ISC (2)	324	438	114	35.2
Ingham	336	324	-12	-3.6
Innisfail	1,223	996	-227	-18.6
Longreach (4)	106	103	-3	-2.8
Mackay	1,712	1,686	-26	-1.5
Mareeba	472	466	-6	-1.3
Mossman	342	320	-22	-6.4
Mt Isa	875	750	-125	-14.3
Normanton	152	126	-26	-17.1
Palm Island (2)	268	259	-9	-3.4
Rockhampton	1,981	1,986	5	0.3
Smithfield	86	28	-58	%
Thursday Is	178	172	-6	-3.4
Townsville City (1)	17	11	-6	%
Townsville Employment Services (1)	3,219	3,087	-132	-4.1
Townsville FAO (1)	10	6	-4	%
Townsville Retirement (1)	1	2	1	%
Whitsunday	351	381	30	8.5
Yarrabah RASC (2)	120	121	1	0.8
Yeppoon	395	387	-8	-2.0
Other (a)	193	202	9	4.7
<i>Total</i>	18,707	18,001	-706	-3.8

Note: For footnotes see end of the table.

(1). As of November 2003 the above offices have changed names. Townsville Employment Services was previously known as Aitkenvale (Centrepoint), Townsville FAO was previously known as Ross River (Elizabeth St) and Townsville Retirement was previously known as Willows.

Unemployment recipients are being transferred from Townsville Retirement to Townsville Employment Services. Townsville City is now an access point only and recipients are being transferred within the Townsville area to the appropriate CSCs.

(2). As of 29 March 2004 Cairns YAC is now known as Yarrabah RASC, Cairns Remote is now known as Indigenous ISC and Townsville YSC, is now known as Palm Island. Recipients are being transferred from these sites to better service the needs of Indigenous and rural recipients.

(3). As of 28 May 2004, Cairns is now known as Cairns EMS, Earville is now known as Cairns FAO and Cairns Grafton St is now known as Cairns Ret.

(4). Longreach CSC was opened on 25/2/05. Recipients previously serviced by Rockhampton will be serviced in Longreach.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Berri	948	925	-23	-2.4
Broken Hill	901	910	9	1.0
Ceduna	190	179	-11	-5.8
Cooper Pedy	125	125	0	0.0
Currie St (Adelaide)	680	676	-4	-0.6
Edwardstown	2,455	2,361	-94	-3.8
Elizabeth	2,512	2,471	-41	-1.6
Enfield	1,568	1,565	-3	-0.2
Gawler	1,155	1,132	-23	-2.0
Glenelg	966	957	-9	-0.9
Kadina	659	662	3	0.5
Kilkenny	1,844	1,807	-37	-2.0
Modbury	1,974	1,977	3	0.2
Mt Barker	762	741	-21	-2.8
Mt Gambier	1,410	1,389	-21	-1.5
Murray Bridge	838	843	5	0.6
Noarlunga	2,995	2,943	-52	-1.7
Norwood	1,764	1,704	-60	-3.4
Parkside	0	0	0	%
Port Adelaide	1,661	1,621	-40	-2.4
Port Augusta	658	691	33	5.0
Port Lincoln	554	545	-9	-1.6
Port Pirie	1,010	1,006	-4	-0.4
Salisbury	2,431	2,376	-55	-2.3
Torrensville	1,467	1,442	-25	-1.7
Victor Harbor	606	628	22	3.6
Whyalla	890	878	-12	-1.3
Other (a)	35	43	8	%
<i>Total</i>	33,058	32,597	-461	-1.4

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</i>				
Albany	979	981	2	0.2
Armadale	871	889	18	2.1
Bunbury	1,504	1,503	-1	-0.1
Busselton (3)	309	306	-3	-1.0
Cannington	1,386	1,379	-7	-0.5
Carnarvon	214	197	-17	-7.9
Centrelink City (2)	0	0	0	%
Christmas Island	11	11	0	%
Cocos Island	37	32	-5	%
Collie	5	6	1	%
Esperance	279	277	-2	-0.7
Fremantle	1,288	1,253	-35	-2.7
Geraldton	1,307	1,318	11	0.8
Gosnells	949	893	-56	-5.9
Innaloo	1,595	1,534	-61	-3.8
Joondalup	1,220	1,181	-39	-3.2
Kalgoorlie	597	580	-17	-2.8
Karratha	264	263	-1	-0.4
Mandurah	1,175	1,159	-16	-1.4
Midland	1,717	1,673	-44	-2.6
Mirrabooka	1,665	1,680	15	0.9
Morley	1,976	1,877	-99	-5.0
Northam	526	555	29	5.5
Rockingham (1)	1,647	1,644	-3	-0.2
South Hedland	304	302	-2	-0.7
Spearwood	973	935	-38	-3.9
Victoria Park	2,128	2,067	-61	-2.9
Warwick Grove	836	781	-55	-6.6
Other (a)	346	326	-20	-5.8
<i>Total</i>	26,108	25,602	-506	-1.9

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

- (1). As of 30 May 2003 Kwinana became a sub office of Rockingham.
- (2). From 30 June 2003 processes at Centerlink City, formerly known as Milligan Street, became limited to forms lodgement and quick general enquiries only.
- (3). On 14 February 2005 Busselton was established as a full time office. Recipients previously serviced by Bunbury will be serviced in Busselton.

**TABLE 7 - JOBSEEKERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>TASMANIA</i>				
Bridgewater	607	603	-4	-0.7
Burnie	1,599	1,627	28	1.8
Devonport	1,791	1,870	79	4.4
Glenorchy	1,809	1,860	51	2.8
Hobart	1,697	1,677	-20	-1.2
Huonville	580	588	8	1.4
Launceston	3,681	3,593	-88	-2.4
Mowbray	11	11	0	%
Rosny Park	1,036	1,059	23	2.2
Sorell	526	535	9	1.7
Other (a)	27	21	-6	%
<i>Total</i>	13,364	13,444	80	0.6
<i>NORTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Alice Springs	1,033	1,054	21	2.0
Alice Springs (Remote)*	2	0	-2	%
Broome	306	317	11	3.6
Casuarina	1,049	980	-69	-6.6
Casuarina YSC	2	2	0	%
Derby	104	92	-12	-11.5
Katherine	694	625	-69	-9.9
Knuckey Street	655	616	-39	-6.0
Kununurra	152	140	-12	-7.9
Nhulunbuy	137	130	-7	-5.1
Palmerston	898	850	-48	-5.3
Tangentyere	254	247	-7	-2.8
Tennant Creek	185	182	-3	-1.6
Tennant Creek (Remote)	56	44	-12	%
Other (a)	415	413	-2	-0.5
<i>Total</i>	5,942	5,692	-250	-4.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

* In October 2005, region codes were transferred from Alice Springs (Remote) CSC to Alice Springs CSC.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>PACIFIC CENTRAL</i>				
Ballina	1,144	1,148	4	0.3
Beaudesert	388	386	-2	-0.5
Beenleigh	1,582	1,581	-1	-0.1
Biggera Waters	1,551	1,575	24	1.5
Browns Plains	1,355	1,388	33	2.4
Brunswick Heads	634	640	6	0.9
Byron Bay	736	695	-41	-5.6
Casino	708	725	17	2.4
Charleville	151	152	1	0.7
Coffs Harbour	2,894	2,942	48	1.7
Dalby	557	547	-10	-1.8
Goodna	1,095	1,129	34	3.1
Goondiwindi	284	289	5	1.8
Grafton	1,684	1,647	-37	-2.2
Inala	1,367	1,363	-4	-0.3
Ipswich	2,131	2,122	-9	-0.4
Lightning Ridge	1	3	2	%
Lismore	2,078	2,022	-56	-2.7
Moree	490	498	8	1.6
Murwillumbah	638	621	-17	-2.7
Narrabri	317	320	3	0.9
Nerang	1,656	1,693	37	2.2
Palm Beach	2,056	2,042	-14	-0.7
Roma	165	155	-10	-6.1
Southport	2,256	2,308	52	2.3
Stanthorpe	428	412	-16	-3.7
Toowoomba	2,286	2,241	-45	-2.0
Tweed Heads	1,495	1,516	21	1.4
Walgett	397	391	-6	-1.5
Warwick	517	533	16	3.1
Woodridge	1,962	1,987	25	1.3
Other (a)	23	21	-2	%
<i>Total</i>	35,026	35,092	66	0.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEERS 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 2006	June 2006	Variation May - June	
			Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRELINK CALL CENTRES*</i>				
Adelaide	4	2	-2	%
Bendigo	2	2	0	%
Brisbane	0	0	0	%
Bunbury	0	0	0	%
Cairns	1	0	-1	%
Cardiff	0	0	0	%
Coffs Harbour	0	0	0	%
Geelong	0	0	0	%
Gosford	0	0	0	%
Hobart	0	0	0	%
Illawarra	1	0	-1	%
Latrobe	4	3	-1	%
Liverpool	0	0	0	%
Maryborough	1	0	-1	%
Moorabbin	0	0	0	%
Moreland	0	0	0	%
Newcastle	0	1	1	%
Perth	1	1	0	%
Port Augusta	0	0	0	%
Port Macquarie	4	6	2	%
Sydney	0	0	0	%
Toowoomba	0	0	0	%
Townsville	1	4	3	%
Tweed Heads	2	4	2	%
Warilla	0	0	0	%
Wendouree	0	0	0	%
<i>Total</i>	21	23	2	%
NOT CODED TO AN AREA	28	33	5	%
AUSTRALIA	370,117	367,543	-2,574	-0.7

(a) Recipients not coded to a Customer Service Centre.

% Monthly variations in percentage terms are not included where the Customer Service Centre has a population less than 100 in both of the reported months.

*Jobseekers receiving NSA / YA (o) in the Centrelink Call Centres were previously counted in various Area Offices.

Note: The majority of figures in this publication are averages, and have been rounded. As a result, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals. The discrepancies may also affect the calculation of the variations in Table 2, 3, 5 and 7.

**TABLE 8 - JOBBEERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
BY FORTNIGHTLY EARNINGS (%) AND SEX (a), FORTNIGHT TO 23 JUNE 2006**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term Jobseekers	Long-term Jobseekers	Total Jobseekers
MALES			
Did not earn an income	85.7	82.6	84.1
Earned an income	14.3	17.4	15.9
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.7	1.1	0.9
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.7	3.2	3.0
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.7	3.4	3.0
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.9	2.3	2.1
Over \$316.00	6.3	7.3	6.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>110,938</i>	<i>128,243</i>	<i>239,181</i>
FEMALES			
Did not earn an income	76.7	73.3	74.7
Earned an income	23.3	26.7	25.3
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	1.3	1.6	1.4
\$62.01 - \$142.00	3.9	4.4	4.2
\$142.01 - \$236.00	4.5	4.9	4.7
\$236.01 - \$316.00	3.1	3.4	3.3
Over \$316.00	10.6	12.3	11.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>51,660</i>	<i>76,627</i>	<i>128,287</i>
PERSONS			
Did not earn an income	82.9	79.2	80.8
Earned an income	17.1	20.8	19.2
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.9	1.3	1.1
\$62.01 - \$142.00	3.1	3.7	3.4
\$142.01 - \$236.00	3.2	4.0	3.6
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.3	2.8	2.5
Over \$316.00	7.7	9.2	8.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>162,598</i>	<i>204,870</i>	<i>367,468</i>

(a) Total figures in this table are different from Tables 2 to 7 because of different methodologies applied. Tables 2 to 7 are based on averages of weekly figures while this table is based on point in time data. See Explanatory Notes for further information.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication provides monthly statistical information on DEWR labour market and related payments administered 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 (which became FaCS in October 1998).

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 jobseekers. 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 (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 jobseeker populations (see the reference to *Jobseekers* in the Comparability of Data section of these Explanatory Notes). These populations are added together to derive the total number of jobseekers. Tables 4 to 8 provide information on the total jobseeker population.

The earnings data in Table 8 is derived using a different methodology to that of the other tables in the publication. Table 8 is based on the combined population of jobseekers 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 jobseeker 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 Jobseeker figures as those recipients who were incapacitated were excluded from the Newstart and Youth Training Jobseeker 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) has now been replaced by Youth Allowance, which was introduced on 1 July 1998 (see <i>Youth Allowance</i>).</p>
<i>Partner Allowance</i>	<p>From 20 September 2003, Partner Allowance was closed off 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 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>
<i>Youth Training Allowance</i>	<p>Youth Training Allowance was replaced by Youth Allowance on 1 July 1998 (see <i>Youth Allowance</i>).</p> <p>From 1 January 1995, eligible persons aged under 18 years who were new entrants to the job search pool were paid Youth</p>

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 in 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 off 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 'jobseeker' 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, FaCS introduced a new method to more accurately measure the number of people receiving labour market and related payments. For those receiving labour market and related payments, their eligibility and entitlement status is administered by a payment system called Newstart Common Platform System. Within this system recipients who are both eligible and entitled to receive a payment have a determination

status of 'current'. The new method therefore counts these 'current' recipients.

The old method of counting recipients was specified to include all paid recipients – those who received a payment within a given fortnight. As compiled, however, this count excluded, from mid 1998, recipients who received a 'one-off' payment. These 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.

The time series in Tables 1 and 4 reflect the revised method, as does the remainder of the publication. Revised historical data for these time series from May 1998 to June 2002 can be found in the July 2002 publication.

From July 2003 FaCS introduced a more sustainable methodology for this revised recipient count. Due to limitations in available data sources in 2002, the revised recipient count had to be derived through a complicated process. This more sustainable methodology resulted in slight differences from the recipient numbers used in previous editions.

*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 who are normally 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 jobseekers prior to July 1998 and total Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) jobseekers after July 1998. This is because the Sickness Allowance group is excluded from the jobseeker total. The problem, however, of the exclusion of some recipients through the application of the Youth Allowance parental means test still remains.

Jobseekers

Prior to July 1998, the jobseeker category was defined by excluding all Newstart Allowees who did not receive a payment, recipients who were incapacitated, and those receiving a payment who were undertaking training. Some people who were not required to engage in job search were classified as jobseekers, including people undertaking full-time voluntary work, people on jury duty and pregnant women around the time of the birth of their child.

From July 1998, the definition of jobseekers has been placed on a sounder conceptual basis. It is now derived for Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients by excluding 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 jobseekers although they may not always be undertaking job search. These people negotiate their activity agreement with their Job Network member.

The total number of jobseekers (comparable to pre-July 1998 estimates) is calculated by adding together the number of jobseekers in receipt of Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) – see the Explanatory Notes on *Youth Allowance*.

Duration

Following system changes in 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 off 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.
Centrelink Youth Service Centre	A Centrelink Youth Service Centre consists of specialised staff who provide young people with improved access to Government services and income support. This is done by offering a mainstream service, as well as specialist case management to help access educational, labour market, job search, housing, health and general welfare assistance; and by providing a regular FaCS visiting service to youth via hostels, refuges and voluntary agencies.
Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)	<p>The CDEP scheme is a program funded currently by DEWR and in the past by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC). The scheme enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils and other approved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups to offer work to community members in activities that assist individuals in acquiring skills which benefit the community, develop business enterprises and/or lead to unsubsidised employment. The scheme also aims to develop management and business skills in an environment conducive to the principles of self-determination.</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 FaCS, DEWR 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'.
Eligibility and Payment Status	Refer to the Methodology entry in the Explanatory Notes.
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.

Jobseekers	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who would usually be engaged in jobsearch. See Explanatory Notes for definition and history.
Job Search Allowance (JSA)	Up to 20 September 1996, Job Search Allowance was payable to CES eligible persons who had been registered as unemployed with the CES for up to 12 months. From 20 September 1996, the payment was combined with Newstart Allowance to form one payment called Newstart Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.
Long-term Recipients	Persons on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance 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 off 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.</p> <p>Mature Age Allowance, a non-activity-tested payment, is payable to unemployed people aged 60 years and over (but below Age Pension age) with little or no recent workforce experience who meet certain requirements for previous receipt of income support. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Newstart Allowance (NSA)	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.
Newstart Common Platform System (NCP)	The Newstart Common Platform System (NCP) was introduced in May 1998. The NCP administers all labour market and related payments. This includes primary payments such as Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance, Mature Age Allowance, Widow Allowance and Partner Allowance. Other payments on the NCP include Special Benefit, Sickness Allowance, Exceptional Circumstances Relief, Farm Help and Austudy.
Partner Allowance (PA)	<p>From 20 September 2003, Partner Allowance was closed off 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, a non-activity-tested payment, is payable to persons who are dependent partners of pensioners and allowees who were born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Short-term Recipients	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.
States	States and Territories of Australia derived from the postcode of the recipient's residence as held on the Centrelink payment system.

Widow Allowance (WA)	<p>From 1 July 2005 Widow Allowance was closed off 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 21 years who satisfy the activity test. Note, there are certain exceptions for some 15 and 25 year olds. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p> <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.</p>
Youth Allowance (other)	<p>Youth Allowance recipients who are not full-time students or full-time new apprentices.</p>
Zero-Paid	<p>See 'Did Not Receive a Payment'.</p>

APPENDIX

COMPARISONS BETWEEN DEWR 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.
DEWR 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 DEWR labour market payment data. There are a number of reasons why the two series cannot be directly compared.
<i>Duration</i>	<p>Both DEWR and the ABS classify long term duration as over 12 months, but use substantially different definitions of duration:</p> <p>DEWR 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>DEWR unemployed recipients can have breaks without payment for up to 25 weeks but still be classified 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 DEWR recipients are able to have ongoing part-time work (see 'employment' below) mean that many unemployed recipients remain classified by DEWR 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 DEWR 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 62 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:

DEWR 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 interview survey of occupants of selected dwellings covering around 0.5% of the total Australian population. These persons are interviewed during the two weeks beginning the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month and the information obtained is based on the week before the interview takes place.

<i>Treatment of Partners</i>	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.
<i>Pensioners</i>	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-jobseekers</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 DEWR 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.

For publication distribution enquiries email :
MI.WORKINGAGE.PAYMENTS@centrelink.gov.au

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

Director
Working Age Payments Performance and Monitoring Section
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
PO Box 9879
Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2601

or forwarded via facsimile to (02) 6275 3312.

Other Recipient Information

Statistics relating to other recipients are also available, including recipient numbers and characteristics for the various FaCS pensions, benefits and family payments.

Other Statistical Outputs:

The following statistical output is available on request:

*Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services
Customers - A Statistical Overview, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001.*