

Labour Market Assistance Outcomes

Year ending March 2003

This report contains information about placements, commencements and post labour market assistance outcomes achieved for Job Network services and other employment programmes managed by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR).

Main features

Outcomes

The positive outcomes (employment and/or education/training) rate achieved in the year to end March 2003, three months after leaving assistance were:

- 54% for Intensive Assistance;
- 51% for Job Search Training;
- 71% for Job Matching;
- 82% for New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS);
- 32% for Work for the Dole;
- 62% for Indigenous Employment Programme Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP);
- 67% for Indigenous Employment Programme Wage Assistance; and
- 52% for Transition to Work.

Job Vacancies

In the year to end March 2003, over 747,000 vacancies were notified on the Australian Job Search database.

Job Placements

In the year to end March 2003, over 309,000 job seekers were placed into Job Matching vacancies. These include placements for those receiving other services, such as Intensive Assistance.

Commencements

In the year to end March 2003, commencements by job seekers in the various types of labour market assistance included:

- 281,100 in Intensive Assistance;
- 82,700 in Job Search Training;
- 6,700 in NEIS;
- 6,500 in the STEP and Wage Assistance elements of the Indigenous Employment Programme;
- 61,800 in Work for the Dole;
- 2,200 in Community Work Placement;
- 9,900 in Transition to Work; and
- 12,500 in the Training Accounts and Credits.

Income Support

In the year to end March 2003, the number of job seekers in receipt of Newstart or Youth Allowance (Other) decreased by over 59,900 to just over 652,300 job seekers. The number of job seekers who were long term recipients (ie on allowances for 12 months or more) decreased by around 10,100 while the number of short term recipients decreased by around 49,800.

In this issue

Section 1: Labour Market Assistance Outcomes	Page 3
Table 1.1 Post assistance labour market outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 3
Table 1.2 Post assistance employment and positive outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 4
Table 1.3 Intensive Assistance: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 5
Table 1.4 Job Search Training: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 6
Table 1.5 Job Matching: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 7
Table 1.6 New Enterprise Incentive Scheme : Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 8
Table 1.7 Work for the Dole: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 9
Section 2: Access to and Participation in Labour Market Assistance	Page 10
Table 2.1 Participation by type of labour market assistance in each of the past two years	Page 10
Table 2.2 Access to Job Matching by JNE job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003	Page 11
Table 2.3 Access to Job Search Training by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003	Page 12
Table 2.4 Access to Intensive Assistance by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003	Page 13
Table 2.5 Access to NEIS by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003	Page 14
Table 2.6 Access to Work for the Dole by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003	Page 15
Section 3: Participation and Outcomes by Region	Page 16
Table 3.1 Commencements in labour market assistance by region year to end March 2003	Page 16
Table 3.2 Job Matching placements by region year to end March 2003	Page 17
Table 3.3 Comparison of labour market assistance by region year to end March 2003	Page 18
Table 3.4 Regional labour market post assistance employment outcomes year to end March 2003	Page 19
Section 4: Impact on Income Support Recipients	Page 20
Technical Notes	Page 26

Time periods used in this report

The Department's Post Programme Monitoring (PPM) Survey measures outcomes achieved by job seekers three months after they exit labour market assistance. This report contains outcomes data for job seekers who exited assistance in the 12 months to 31 December 2002 and their post assistance outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003.

Intensive Assistance post assistance outcomes should not be confused with *paid interim* or *paid final* outcomes. Post assistance outcomes are *all* employment and education outcomes while paid outcomes relate to a subset of employment and education outcomes where Job Network members receive payment for outcomes.

Commencement and placement data, derived from DEWR and Centrelink administrative systems, relate to job seekers who were placed in a job or commenced assistance between 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003 and 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2002.

More information.....

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Section 1: Labour Market Assistance Outcomes

Post assistance labour market outcomes

Table 1.1 shows labour market outcomes and further assistance levels of all job seekers three months after leaving the various types of employment assistance. Job seekers are categorised as employed, unemployed, not in the labour force or in further assistance. Care should be taken when comparing outcomes for current services with labour market programmes operating before the introduction of Job Network where outcome rates were affected by

excluding those who proceeded to further labour market programme assistance. The Technical Notes at the end of this report discuss this issue further.

The Transition to Work programme was introduced in July 2002 and outcomes relate to those job seekers who exited in the 6 month period July to December 2002, with outcomes to the year to end March 2003. Seasonal factors are therefore likely to affect both employment and education/training outcome levels for this programme.

Table 1.1: Post assistance labour market outcomes year to end March 2003

Labour market assistance	Employed (%)	Unemployed (%)	Not in the Labour Force (%)	Further Assistance ¹ (%)	Exits (number)
Intensive Assistance ²	45.8	34.8	14.4	5.1	277,000
Funding level A ³	50.9	30.9	13.2	5.0	197,904
Funding level B ³	33.7	43.9	17.2	5.3	79,096
Job Search Training ²	41.9	41.9	5.0	11.2	81,330
Job Matching ⁴	66.8	28.8	4.4	na	236,866
Job Network Eligible (JNE) ⁵	62.0	34.3	3.7	na	135,648
Job Matching Only (JMO) ⁶	73.7	20.9	5.4	na	101,218
NEIS ²	79.9	11.2	6.9	2.1	6,270
SEDS ²	28.2	33.1	14.3	24.4	1,795
Work for the Dole ²	22.5	40.5	7.9	29.1	53,049
IEP - STEP ²	52.6	36.6	7.5	3.4	4,675
IEP - Wage Assistance ²	62.4	26.5	5.6	5.6	2,160
Transition to Work ²	38.3	43.2	16.4	2.1	890

1. Further assistance includes commencements in DEWR funded labour market assistance. Further assistance is not measured for Job Matching and job seekers who do not achieve an employment outcome are treated as either unemployed or not in the labour force.
 2. Post assistance outcomes are measured three months after the job seeker ceases assistance and relate to job seekers who ceased Intensive Assistance, Job Search Training, NEIS, Self Employment Development Scheme (SEDS), Work for the Dole, Transition to Work Programme, Indigenous Employment Programme (IEP), Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP) and IEP Wage Assistance between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.
 3. The funding level refers to the level of disadvantage as defined by the Job Seeker Classification Instrument (JSCI) with B being the most disadvantaged.
 4. Post assistance outcomes for Job Matching relate to job seekers who were placed in a job between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003. For job seekers who achieved a Job Matching placement within three months of leaving labour market assistance such as Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance and Work for the Dole, the outcome is excluded from Job Matching but included under the programme or service they participated in.
 5. Includes Job Network Eligible (JNE) job seekers who may be eligible for all Job Network services.
 6. Includes Job Matching Only (JMO) job seekers who are only eligible for Job Matching services.
- na - not applicable.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

Post assistance employment and positive outcomes

Table 1.2 shows job seekers' shares of full-time and part-time employment, education/training and positive outcomes three months after leaving different types of labour market assistance.

Education and training outcomes include job seekers who are studying at a secondary school or college, TAFE, business college or university three months after ceasing labour market assistance.

Table 1.2: Post assistance employment and positive outcomes year to end March 2003

	Full-time Employed (%)	Part-time Employed (%)	Total Employed (%)	Education & Training (%)	Positive Outcomes ¹ (%)	Exits (number)
Labour market assistance						
Intensive Assistance ²	18.8	27.0	45.8	9.3	53.7	277,000
Funding level A ³	21.5	29.4	50.9	9.5	58.9	197,904
Funding level B ³	12.3	21.4	33.7	8.9	41.7	79,096
Job Search Training ²	21.3	20.6	41.9	13.2	50.5	81,330
Job Matching ⁴	38.1	28.7	66.8	10.7	70.9	236,866
Job Network Eligible (JNE) ⁵	35.0	27.0	62.0	8.6	65.8	135,648
Job Matching Only (JMO) ⁶	42.5	31.3	73.7	13.8	78.2	101,218
NEIS ²	47.5	32.4	79.9	7.2	81.6	6,270
SEDS ²	11.4	16.8	28.2	12.2	37.2	1,795
Work for the Dole ²	11.2	11.4	22.5	11.5	31.5	53,049
IEP - STEP ²	39.9	12.6	52.6	23.5	61.8	4,675
IEP - Wage Assistance ²	49.9	12.4	62.4	19.7	67.0	2,160
Transition to Work ²	8.7	29.6	38.3	18.1	51.7	890

1. Positive outcomes include employment and education/training outcomes. Positive outcomes are less than the sum of employment and education/training outcomes because some job seekers achieve both an employment and an education outcome.

2. Post assistance outcomes are measured three months after participants leave assistance and relate to job seekers who ceased Intensive Assistance, Job Search Training, NEIS, Self Employment Development Scheme (SEDS), Work for the Dole, Transition to Work Programme or Indigenous Employment Programme (IEP) Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP) and IEP Wage Assistance between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.

3. The funding level refers to the level of disadvantage as defined by the Job Seeker Classification Instrument (JSCI) with level B being the most disadvantaged.

4. Post assistance outcomes for Job Matching relate to job seekers who were placed in a job between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003. For job seekers who achieved a Job Matching placement within three months of leaving labour market assistance such as Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance and Work for the Dole, the outcome is excluded from Job Matching but included under the programme or service they participated in.

5. Includes Job Network Eligible (JNE) job seekers who may be eligible for all Job Network services.

6. Includes Job Matching Only (JMO) job seekers who are only eligible for Job Matching services.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

Intensive Assistance

Table 1.3 shows post assistance outcomes for Intensive Assistance participants who exited between

1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and the outcomes they achieved three months later to 31 March 2003.

Table 1.3: Intensive Assistance: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	Employment (%)	Education & Training (%)	Positive Outcomes ² (%)	Exits (number)
Funding level³				
A	50.9	9.5	58.9	197,904
B	33.7	8.9	41.7	79,096
Age group (years)				
15 to 20	42.8	15.0	56.3	36,826
21 to 24	46.5	12.3	56.8	33,569
25 to 34	48.1	9.7	56.1	67,402
35 to 49	47.7	9.3	55.5	90,695
50 or more	42.6	5.9	47.7	48,508
Duration on income support (months)				
0 to less than 6	51.2	9.8	59.5	101,751
6 to less than 12	49.4	9.1	57.1	35,456
12 to less than 24	47.7	9.5	55.8	39,823
24 to less than 36	43.9	9.6	52.0	25,226
36 or more	36.9	8.9	44.5	74,744
Educational attainment				
Less than Year 10	40.4	6.6	46.2	76,921
Year 10 or 11	46.6	8.0	53.5	114,005
Year 12	49.3	13.7	60.8	43,367
Post Secondary	49.2	12.6	59.7	42,707
Gender				
Male	45.1	7.5	51.5	193,508
Female	47.1	13.3	58.3	83,492
Equity groups⁴				
Disability	36.9	8.8	44.5	39,430
Indigenous	33.4	10.0	42.2	21,686
CALD ⁵	44.1	14.1	56.6	52,804
Sole parents	33.9	12.0	43.7	9,691
Total	45.8	9.3	53.7	277,000

1. Job seekers who exited Intensive Assistance between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and achieved outcomes by 31 March 2003. Outcomes estimates are based on a 25% sample of job seekers.
2. Positive outcomes include employment and education/training outcomes. Positive outcomes are less than the sum of employment and education/training outcomes because some job seekers achieve both an employment and an education/training outcome. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.
3. The funding level refers to the level of disadvantage as defined by the Job Seeker Classification Instrument (JSCI), with funding level B being the most disadvantaged.
4. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.
5. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

Job Search Training

Table 1.4 shows post assistance outcomes for Job Search Training participants who exited assistance

between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and the outcomes they achieved three months later, up to 31 March 2003.

Table 1.4: Job Search Training: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	Employment (%)	Education & Training (%)	Positive Outcomes ² (%)	Exits (number)
Age group (years)				
15 to 20	40.3	18.6	52.9	15,607
21 to 24	47.2	17.1	58.1	15,972
25 to 34	43.9	12.5	51.7	24,056
35 to 49	40.5	10.4	47.2	19,965
50 or more	32.7	6.8	37.3	5,730
Duration on income support (months)				
0 to less than 6	43.2	13.7	52.2	59,086
6 to less than 12	40.2	11.7	47.7	15,036
12 to less than 24	35.3	12.1	43.3	4,992
24 to less than 36	31.7	12.1	40.1	1,114
36 or more	33.9	12.5	42.0	1,102
Educational attainment				
Less than Year 10	34.5	6.5	39.9	3,879
Year 10 or 11	39.2	8.6	45.1	24,978
Year 12	43.5	16.6	54.1	21,096
Post Secondary	43.7	14.9	53.2	31,377
Gender				
Male	39.6	11.4	47.3	54,339
Female	46.1	16.6	56.1	26,991
Equity groups³				
Disability	34.1	10.8	41.1	3,581
Indigenous	32.6	6.3	37.8	431
CALD ⁴	36.9	17.6	49.3	10,772
Sole Parents	28.5	9.2	34.8	958
Total	41.9	13.2	50.5	81,330

1. Job seekers who ceased Job Search Training between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003.

2. Positive outcomes include employment and education/training outcomes. Positive outcomes are less than the sum of employment and education/training outcomes because some job seekers achieve both an employment and an education/training outcome. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.

3. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.

4. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

Job Matching

Table 1.5 shows the employment outcomes achieved by job seekers who were placed in an eligible job

between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved three months later, up to 31 March 2003.

Table 1.5: Job Matching: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	Employment (%)	Education & Training (%)	Positive Outcomes ² (%)	Placements ³ (number)
Age group (years)				
15 to 20	65.6	19.3	73.4	52,545
21 to 24	67.7	13.0	72.4	38,065
25 to 34	67.1	9.7	70.7	64,405
35 to 49	67.0	7.1	69.7	62,749
50 or more	66.2	5.6	68.5	19,102
Duration on income support (months)³				
0 to less than 6	67.5	10.2	71.6	68,258
6 to less than 12	62.0	8.0	65.9	20,011
12 to less than 24	58.6	7.8	62.2	18,193
24 to less than 36	55.2	6.6	58.8	8,752
36 or more	51.1	5.5	54.1	20,434
Educational attainment³				
Less than Year 10	55.0	5.0	58.0	27,491
Year 10 or 11	60.4	6.6	63.7	56,603
Year 12	67.8	13.0	72.6	26,786
Post Secondary	66.1	11.4	70.8	24,504
Unknown	69.6	13.0	69.6	264
Gender				
Male	63.2	8.5	66.9	151,369
Female	72.0	13.9	76.7	85,497
Equity groups³				
Disability	56.6	6.6	59.7	13,743
Indigenous	47.3	6.7	51.7	6,354
CALD ⁴	62.4	9.6	67.5	15,231
Sole Parents	61.4	11.1	67.0	3,212
Job Network Eligible (JNE)⁵	62.0	8.6	65.8	135,648
Job Matching Only (JMO)⁶	73.7	13.8	78.2	101,218
Total	66.8	10.7	70.9	236,866

1. Job Matching outcomes are for job seekers placed in an eligible Job Matching job between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003. For job seekers who achieved a Job Matching placement within three months of leaving labour market assistance such as Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance and Work for the Dole, the outcome is excluded from Job Matching but included under the programme or service they participated in. Outcomes estimates are based on a 25% sample of job seekers.
2. Positive outcomes include employment and education/training outcomes. Positive outcomes are less than the sum of employment and education/training outcomes because some job seekers achieve both an employment and an education/training outcome. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.
3. Outcomes refer to Job Network Eligible (JNE) job seekers only as educational attainment and equity group details are not recorded for Job Matching Only (JMO) and JMO job seekers are not on income support. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.
4. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.
5. Includes Job Network Eligible (JNE) job seekers who may be eligible for other Job Network services.
6. Includes Job Matching Only (JMO) job seekers who are only eligible for Job Matching services.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

New Enterprise Incentive Scheme

Table 1.6 shows the post assistance outcomes achieved by those who left the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved three months later, up to 31 March 2003.

Traditionally NEIS has always experienced higher outcomes compared to other types of labour market assistance. This is due in part to the careful selection of viable businesses by NEIS providers prior to the commencement in assistance, as well as the characteristics of job seekers involved.

Table 1.6: New Enterprise Incentive Scheme: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	Employment			Education & Training (%)	Positive Outcomes ³ (%)	Exits (number)
	Self Employed ² (%)	Employed (%)	Total Employed (%)			
Age Group (years)						
15 to 20	na	na	na	na	na	na
21 to 24	61.2	22.1	83.3	9.3	84.5	511
25 to 34	66.8	14.9	81.7	8.1	83.7	2,016
35 to 49	70.6	10.0	80.6	6.5	82.3	2,769
50 or more	64.9	8.8	73.8	5.7	75.0	875
Duration on income support (months)						
0 to less than 6	71.4	13.7	85.1	8.5	87.0	2,986
6 to less than 12	64.7	14.9	79.5	6.8	81.2	1,167
12 to less than 24	66.3	10.4	76.7	6.2	78.4	816
24 to less than 36	65.5	7.2	72.7	6.5	74.0	477
36 or more	61.7	6.6	68.3	4.1	69.7	824
Educational attainment						
Less than Year 10	62.1	9.2	71.3	3.8	73.0	469
Year 10 or 11	65.7	12.0	77.8	5.6	79.7	1,444
Year 12	66.2	13.0	79.2	7.5	81.2	1,185
Post Secondary	70.1	12.2	82.3	8.3	83.9	3,172
Gender						
Males	69.4	12.1	81.6	6.2	82.8	3,642
Females	65.6	12.0	77.7	8.5	80.1	2,628
Equity Groups⁴						
Disability	61.1	10.3	71.4	5.3	73.1	689
Indigenous	na	na	na	na	na	na
CALD ⁵	66.5	10.3	76.8	7.4	79.0	985
Sole Parents	62.6	7.1	69.7	8.7	72.6	226
Total	67.8	12.1	79.9	7.2	81.6	6,270

1. Job seekers who left NEIS placements between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003.
 2. Includes a small proportion of participants who are self employed but in a business not set up under NEIS.
 3. Positive outcomes include employment and education/training outcomes. Positive outcomes are less than the sum of employment and education/training outcomes because some job seekers achieve both an employment and an education/training outcome. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.
 4. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.
 5. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.
- na Not available as the estimate is based on a small number of known outcomes.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

Work for the Dole

The Work for the Dole (WfD) Programme aims to develop the work habits of participants through involving them in quality projects that are of value to the community. Employment outcomes are not part of the programme's immediate objectives but are included here as they demonstrate the success of work experience and increased job search activity. Outcomes relate to WfD participants referred to Community Work Coordinators (CWC).

Job seekers are now required to participate in WfD for up to six months over a twelve month period. This

means that job seekers can participate in a number of projects with different CWC's before completing their placement.

For the purposes of PPM, job seekers are surveyed whenever they have a break between CWC placements of more than 3 months and in relation to their last CWC placement in the twelve month period.

Job seekers aged 35 years or more before 1 July 2002 and 39 years or more from 1 July 2002 who participate in Work for the Dole are volunteers.

Table 1.7: Work for the Dole: Post assistance outcomes year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	Employment (%)	Education & Training (%)	Positive Outcomes ² (%)	Exits (number)
Age group (years)				
15 to 20	25.7	16.4	38.4	11,268
21 to 24	25.8	12.9	35.7	18,074
25 to 34	18.5	8.8	25.5	19,938
35 to 49	21.9	8.1	28.1	3,184
50 or more	14.2	4.6	18.2	585
Duration on income support (months)				
0 to less than 6	34.2	17.0	46.6	6,799
6 to less than 12	32.5	15.7	44.0	8,852
12 to less than 24	24.1	11.6	33.3	14,280
24 to less than 36	19.1	10.4	27.2	6,246
36 or more	13.1	7.7	19.6	16,872
Educational attainment				
Less than Year 10	13.9	5.6	18.7	9,100
Year 10 or 11	19.4	7.5	25.4	20,711
Year 12	26.3	16.8	39.1	13,941
Post Secondary	29.5	15.7	41.4	9,297
Gender				
Males	22.0	9.8	29.7	38,436
Females	23.8	15.2	35.3	14,613
Equity groups³				
Disability	16.2	9.7	24.0	6,513
Indigenous	11.6	10.8	21.2	2,354
CALD ⁴	23.4	18.5	38.9	4,755
Sole Parents	3.3	4.5	7.5	829
Total	22.5	11.5	31.5	53,049

1. Job seekers who left a Work for the Dole project between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003.

2. Positive outcomes include employment and education/training outcomes. Positive outcomes are less than the sum of employment and education/training outcomes because some job seekers achieve both an employment and an education/training outcome. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.

3. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.

4. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

Section 2: Access to and Participation in Labour Market Assistance

Type of labour market assistance

Table 2.1 shows the commencements in Job Network services and other types of labour market assistance between the year to end March 2002 and the year to end March 2003.

The table also shows the proportion of commencements by job seekers who had been receiving income support [Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other)] for 12 months or more (ie long term unemployed).

Table 2.1: Participation by type of labour market assistance in each of the past two years¹

	Year to end March 2002		Year to end March 2003	
	Commencements (number)	Proportion of long term recipients ² (%)	Commencements (number)	Proportion of long term recipients ² (%)
Labour market assistance				
Intensive Assistance	284,382	53.1	281,073	54.1
Job Search Training	80,402	13.2	82,696	6.7
Job Matching ³	318,114	25.8	309,290	27.3
Job Network Eligible (JNE)	195,943	37.3	192,474	40.3
Job Matching Only (JMO)	118,160	na	112,630	na
NEIS	6,092	32.4	6,707	31.5
Self Employment Development Scheme	1,535	60.5	1,566	62.5
Work for the Dole	60,364	74.2	61,836	74.5
IEP - STEP	4,555	42.6	4,045	48.3
IEP - Wage Assistance	1,980	34.2	2,425	38.1
Community Work Placements ⁴	-	-	2,152	79.1
Transition to Work ⁴	-	-	9,905	29.2
Training Accounts ⁴	-	-	7,807	na
Job Search Training	-	-	531	na
Intensive Assistance	-	-	7,070	na
Indigenous Employment Centres	-	-	206	na
Training Credits (Work for the Dole only)⁴	-	-	4,672	na

1. Commencement or placement of job seekers in labour market assistance funded by DEWR for the two years of 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2002 and 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

2. The proportion of job seekers who have been registered as unemployed for twelve months or more and have been receiving income support including Newstart, Youth Allowance (Other) or other types of income support.

3. Job Matching total is greater than the sum of JNE and JMO as it includes commencements in apprenticeships and traineeships. Job Network Eligible (JNE) are job seekers who may be eligible for all Job Network services. Job Matching Only (JMO) are job seekers who are only eligible for Job Matching services.

4. Transition to Work, Community Work Placements, Training Accounts and Training Credits commenced in July 2002 as part of the Australians Working Together strategy.

na – not available.

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Access to Job Matching

Access to services and programmes by job seekers with different characteristics will depend on their eligibility and on their assessed capacity to benefit from the assistance provided. To ensure equity of access for job seekers with different characteristics, the proportion in assistance is compared to their proportion of the eligible population.

Job seekers with particular characteristics may be under-represented in some types of assistance but over-represented in others. Hence, it is important to look at all types of assistance in assessing equity of assistance. For example, while indigenous job seekers may be under-represented in some types of assistance, other more specific programmes are directed towards addressing their particular needs.

Table 2.2 shows, for a range of job seeker characteristics for Job Network Eligible job seekers, the proportion that were eligible for services on 31 March 2003 and the proportion that received a placement under Job Matching in the year to end March 2003. For example, over 20% of those on all income support types were aged 15 to 20 years and these accounted for over a quarter of all Job Matching placements during this time period.

This is shown for all income support types and separately for those on the activity tested payments Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other). All income support types include some job seekers who are not subject to the activity test and volunteer to participate in Job Network services.

Table 2.2: Access to Job Matching by JNE job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	All income support types		Newstart/Youth Allowance (Other)	
	Eligibility for Job Matching ² (%)	Placement in Job Matching ² (%)	Eligibility for Job Matching ³ (%)	Placement in Job Matching ³ (%)
Age group (years)				
15 to 20	20.5	25.3	13.5	19.6
21 to 24	13.7	17.3	15.5	18.5
25 to 34	23.4	25.7	25.8	27.6
35 to 49	27.1	23.9	29.2	25.7
50 or more	15.3	7.7	16.0	8.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Duration on income support (months)				
0 to less than 6	28.4	41.8	29.8	36.5
6 to less than 12	18.0	18.0	16.5	18.8
12 to less than 24	19.6	15.7	17.7	17.0
24 to less than 36	11.0	9.3	11.0	10.1
36 or more	22.9	15.2	25.0	17.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Educational attainment				
Less than Year 10	23.6	22.1	24.0	20.7
Year 10 or 11	37.0	40.6	36.2	41.6
Year 12	19.4	20.4	18.2	19.8
Post secondary	20.0	16.8	21.6	17.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Gender				
Male	64.6	68.4	67.8	70.5
Female	35.4	31.6	32.2	29.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Equity groups⁴				
Disability	20.3	9.1	19.8	9.6
Indigenous	6.8	4.6	6.8	4.7
CALD ⁵	14.3	10.0	15.3	10.8
Sole parents	3.1	1.5	na	na

1. Placements in Job Matching vacancies from 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

2. Includes job seekers registered with Centrelink as unemployed and in receipt of the activity tested allowances Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) or other types of income support payments not subject to activity test requirements at 31 March 2003.

3. Job seekers in receipt of Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) at 31 March 2003.

4. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.

5. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.

na – not applicable

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Access to Job Search Training

Table 2.3 shows, for a range of job seeker characteristics, the proportion of the population that were eligible for Job Search Training compared to the proportion commencing Job Search Training. This is shown for all income support categories and separately for those on the activity tested payments Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other).

All income support types include job seekers who are not subject to the activity test and volunteer to participate in Job Network services.

Only those job seekers assessed as eligible for Job Search Training under the Job Seeker Classification Instrument (JSCI) have been included in the eligible population.

For example, over 34% of those on all income support types were aged 15 to 20 years and these accounted for over 20% of all Job Search Training commencements in the year to end March 2003.

Table 2.3: Access to Job Search Training by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	All income support categories		Newstart/Youth Allowance (Other)	
	Eligibility for Job Search Training ² (%)	Commencement in Job Search Training ² (%)	Eligibility for Job Search Training ³ (%)	Commencement in Job Search Training ³ (%)
Age group (years)				
15 to 20	34.5	20.8	21.5	20.3
21 to 24	18.1	19.9	22.0	20.2
25 to 34	24.5	28.9	29.5	29.1
35 to 49	18.2	23.7	21.4	23.7
50 or more	4.7	6.7	5.6	6.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Duration on income support (months)				
0 to less than 6	62.0	74.9	67.9	75.0
6 to less than 12	24.9	16.6	21.7	15.2
12 to less than 24	10.5	4.8	8.0	4.2
24 to less than 36	1.8	3.2	1.5	5.1
36 or more	0.9	0.4	0.8	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Educational attainment				
Less than Year 10	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.2
Year 10 or 11	31.4	29.7	29.9	29.7
Year 12	30.0	26.6	26.8	26.5
Post secondary	32.3	37.5	36.9	37.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Gender				
Male	61.6	66.4	64.7	66.8
Female	38.4	33.6	35.3	33.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Equity groups⁴				
Disability	6.7	3.9	7.0	3.9
Indigenous	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
CALD ⁵	10.8	13.2	11.9	13.2
Sole parents	2.1	0.4	na	na

1. Commencement of job seekers in Job Search Training from 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

2. Includes job seekers registered with Centrelink as unemployed and in receipt of the activity tested allowances Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) or other types of income support payments not subject to activity test requirements at 31 March 2003.

3. Job seekers in receipt of Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) at 31 March 2003.

4. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.

5. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.

na – not applicable

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Access to Intensive Assistance

Table 2.4 shows, for a range of job seeker characteristics, the proportion of the population eligible for Intensive Assistance compared with the proportion commencing Intensive Assistance. This is shown for all income support categories and separately for those on the activity tested payments Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other).

Those on income support include job seekers who are not subject to the activity test and volunteer to participate in Job Network services.

As with Job Search Training, only those assessed as eligible for Intensive Assistance under the Job Seeker

Classification Instrument (JSCI) have been included in the eligible population.

For example, more than 15% of all income support types were aged 15 to 20 years and these accounted for more than 13% of all Intensive Assistance commencements in the year to end March 2003.

Job seekers assessed as having higher levels of disadvantage may be under-represented in Intensive Assistance but are able to access programmes administered by the Department of Family and Community Services for people with disabilities. This is reflected in the lower levels of access of job seekers with a disability and those in receipt of income support for 3 years or more.

Table 2.4: Access to Intensive Assistance by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	All income support categories		Newstart/Youth Allowance (Other)	
	Eligibility for Intensive Assistance ² (%)	Commencement in Intensive Assistance ² (%)	Eligibility for Intensive Assistance ³ (%)	Commencement in Intensive Assistance ³ (%)
Age group (years)				
15 to 20	15.7	13.6	10.9	13.3
21 to 24	12.5	14.6	13.4	14.9
25 to 34	23.2	24.1	24.6	24.1
35 to 49	29.9	29.6	31.5	29.3
50 or more	18.7	18.1	19.6	18.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Duration on income support (months)				
0 to less than 6	13.4	29.6	13.5	28.4
6 to less than 12	15.4	16.8	14.5	16.8
12 to less than 24	24.1	18.9	22.1	19.1
24 to less than 36	14.8	11.0	15.0	11.2
36 or more	32.3	23.7	34.9	24.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Educational attainment				
Less than Year 10	30.3	26.0	30.5	26.1
Year 10 or 11	39.9	39.8	39.1	39.6
Year 12	15.3	16.9	15.1	16.9
Post secondary	14.5	17.3	15.3	17.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Gender				
Male	65.8	67.5	71.9	68.9
Female	34.2	32.5	28.1	31.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Equity groups⁴				
Disability	17.3	11.0	17.9	11.0
Indigenous	9.4	7.1	9.0	7.0
CALD ⁵	15.7	15.4	16.4	15.4
Sole parents	3.8	1.8	na	na

1. Commencement of job seekers in Intensive Assistance from 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

2. Includes job seekers registered with Centrelink as unemployed and in receipt of the activity tested allowances Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) or other types of income support payments not subject to activity test requirements at 31 March 2003.

3. Job seekers in receipt of Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) at 31 March 2003.

4. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.

5. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.

na – not applicable

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Participation in NEIS

Table 2.5 shows, for a range of job seeker characteristics, the proportion in the eligible population and the proportion commencing NEIS. This is shown only for those on an eligible allowance, such as Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) and who are 18 years of age or older.

NEIS is not targeted directly at job seekers with any particular characteristics. As is the case with Job

Matching, job seekers with particular characteristics may be under-represented in some types of assistance but over-represented in others. Hence, it is important to look at all types of assistance in assessing equity of assistance. For example, while indigenous job seekers may be under-represented in some types of assistance, other more specific programmes are directed towards addressing their particular needs.

Table 2.5: Access to NEIS by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	Eligibility for NEIS ² (%)	Commencement in NEIS (%)
Age group (years)		
15 to 20	20.1	1.8
21 to 24	13.8	8.1
25 to 34	23.3	34.5
35 to 49	27.2	42.0
50 or more	15.6	13.6
Total	100.0	100.0
Duration on income support (months)		
0 to less than 6	26.7	9.1
6 to less than 12	16.5	17.1
12 to less than 24	20.9	49.4
24 to less than 36	11.2	11.2
36 or more	24.7	13.2
Total	100.0	100.0
Educational attainment		
Less than Year 10	23.6	5.5
Year 10 or 11	36.1	23.2
Year 12	20.7	19.4
Post secondary	19.7	51.9
Total	100.0	100.0
Gender		
Male	63.7	58.1
Female	36.3	41.9
Total	100.0	100.0
Equity groups³		
Disability	20.4	15.3
Indigenous	6.8	2.8
CALD ⁴	14.8	15.6
Sole parents	3.8	4.0

1. Commencement of job seekers in NEIS from 1 January 2002 to 31 March 2003.

2. Job seekers receiving Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) and other eligible allowances and 18 or over as at 31 March 2003.

3. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.

4. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries

na – not applicable.

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Participation in Work for the Dole

Table 2.6 shows, for a range of job seeker characteristics, the proportion in the eligible population and the proportion commencing Work for the Dole. This is shown only for those on the activity tested payments Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other).

Job seekers aged 35 years or more before 1 July 2002 and 39 years or more from 1 July 2002 who participate in Work for the Dole are volunteers.

Job seekers are required to participate in WfD for up to six months over a twelve month period. This means that job seekers can participate in a number of different WfD projects and with different CWCs before completing their placement. Each time a job seeker starts with a CWC, a new commencement is recorded.

Table 2.6: Access to Work for the Dole by job seeker characteristics year to end March 2003¹

Job seeker characteristics	Eligibility for Work for Dole ² (%)	Commencement in Work for the Dole (%)
Age group (years)		
15 to 20	15.3	18.4
21 to 24	16.8	26.6
25 to 34	24.9	34.7
35 to 49	27.7	18.7
50 or more	15.3	1.5
Total	100.0	100.0
Duration on income support (months)		
0 to less than 6	30.4	8.2
6 to less than 12	14.5	18.5
12 to less than 24	18.4	25.6
24 to less than 36	10.7	12.4
36 or more	26.0	35.2
Total	100.0	100.0
Educational attainment		
Less than Year 10	23.2	18.6
Year 10 or 11	35.3	39.0
Year 12	20.0	23.7
Post secondary	21.6	18.7
Total	100.0	100.0
Gender		
Male	66.2	72.9
Female	33.8	27.1
Total	100.0	100.0
Equity groups³		
Disability	19.5	14.6
Indigenous	7.2	4.5
CALD ⁴	15.3	10.2
Sole parents	na	na

1. Commencement of job seekers in Work for the Dole from 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

2. Job seekers receiving Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) as at 31 March 2003.

3. Equity groups are not mutually exclusive.

4. People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English

na – not applicable.

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Section 3: Participation and Outcomes by Region

Participation in labour market assistance by region

This section presents data on participation by job seekers in labour market assistance for the DEWR Labour Market Regions used during the second contract period for Job Network. A map of DEWR regions is included in the Technical Notes of this report.

Reporting at a regional level is restricted to the main types of Job Network assistance and Work for the Dole.

Table 3.1 provides details of placements in Job Matching jobs and commencements in Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance and Work for the Dole.

The number of placements and commencements in the various types of labour market assistance will depend on the size of the region, labour market conditions and the relative disadvantage of job seekers in the region.

Table 3.1: Commencements in labour market assistance by region year to end March 2003¹

DEWR Region	Job Matching (JNE) ² (Number)	Job Search Training (Number)	Intensive Assistance (Number)	Work for the Dole (Number)
Sydney	23,869	16,526	41,266	7,987
Hunter and North Coast	10,990	4,716	25,004	4,682
Illawarra and SE NSW	4,849	2,734	8,226	1,943
Western NSW	7,561	1,847	7,938	1,666
Riverina	3,130	632	3,131	557
New South Wales	50,399	26,455	85,565	16,835
Melbourne	26,430	14,476	42,862	10,089
Eastern Victoria	8,161	2,305	8,221	1,465
Western Victoria	10,612	3,325	13,719	2,171
Victoria	45,203	20,106	64,802	13,725
Brisbane	28,654	12,426	36,911	11,484
Southern Queensland	9,706	2,495	10,753	3,372
Central and Northern QLD	14,161	3,842	14,258	2,233
Queensland	52,521	18,763	61,922	17,089
Perth	11,972	6,127	18,475	4,745
South Western Australia	2,927	718	3,805	437
Greater Western Australia	2,030	507	2,959	922
Western Australia	16,929	7,352	25,239	6,104
Adelaide	11,348	5,029	19,110	3,451
South Australia Country	6,297	1,255	7,536	1,097
South Australia	17,645	6,284	26,646	4,548
Tasmania	6,226	1,871	12,039	2,456
Northern Territory	2,166	587	2,654	380
Australian Capital Territory	1,385	1,278	2,206	699
Australia	192,474	82,696	281,073	61,836

1. Commencement or placement in labour market assistance from 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

2. Job Matching for JNE job seeker placements are included while JMO job seeker placements have been excluded.

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Job Matching placements by region

Table 3.2 shows the number of vacancies notified on the Australian Job Search (AJS) database for the month of March 2003 by DEWR region, State and Territory and nationally.

In addition to the 58,309 new vacancies lodged on the AJS, some vacancies lodged in the preceding month remained active during December.

In total, Job Network members listed 747,441 job vacancies on the Australian Job Search database in the year to end March 2003.

Also shown are Job Matching placements for both Job Network eligible (JNE) and Job Matching only (JMO) job seekers in each region in the year to end March 2003. JMOs accounted for over one-third of all Job Matching placements.

Table 3.2: Job Matching placements by region year to end March 2003

DEWR Region	Vacancies notified on AJS in March 2003 ¹ (Number)	Job Matching ² (number)			Share of placements filled by JMO clients (%)
		JNE ³	JMO ⁴	Total ⁵	
Sydney	9,150	23,869	12,207	36,406	33.5
Hunter and North Coast	3,085	10,990	4,479	15,733	28.5
Illawarra and SE NSW	1,443	4,849	2,604	7,544	34.5
Western NSW	1,995	7,561	6,829	14,506	47.1
Riverina	907	3,130	3,231	6,480	49.9
New South Wales	16,580	50,399	29,350	80,669	36.4
Melbourne	8,916	26,430	13,426	40,613	33.1
Eastern Victoria	1,753	8,161	7,296	15,603	46.8
Western Victoria	2,662	10,612	7,662	18,633	41.1
Victoria	13,331	45,203	28,384	74,849	37.9
Brisbane	9,652	28,654	16,156	45,313	35.7
Southern Queensland	2,496	9,706	7,083	16,911	41.9
Central and Northern QLD	3,966	14,161	11,169	25,475	43.8
Queensland	16,114	52,521	34,408	87,699	39.2
Perth	3,853	11,972	4,722	16,774	28.2
South Western Australia	829	2,927	1,800	4,749	37.9
Greater Western Australia	1,225	2,030	2,429	4,474	54.3
Western Australia	5,907	16,929	8,951	25,997	34.4
Adelaide	3,149	11,348	3,002	14,988	20.0
South Australia Country	1,513	6,297	3,512	9,996	35.1
South Australia	4,662	17,645	6,514	24,984	26.1
Tasmania	1,366	6,226	2,202	8,656	25.4
Northern Territory	983	2,166	2,200	4,381	50.2
Australian Capital Territory	608	1,385	621	2,055	30.2
Australia	59,551	192,474	112,630	309,290	36.4

1. Vacancies notified on the Australian Job Search database for the month of March 2003.

2. Placements in eligible Job Matching vacancies between 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003.

3. Job Network Eligible (JNE) job seekers who may be eligible for all Job Network services.

4. Job Matching Only (JMO) are job seekers who are eligible only for Job Matching services.

5. Total is greater than the sum of JNE and JMO placements as this figure includes apprenticeships and traineeships.

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Labour market assistance by region

Table 3.3 shows the proportion of Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) recipients as at March 2003 compared to the proportion of Job Matching job placements for Job Network eligible job seekers and

commencements in Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance and Work for the Dole. This is provided on a DEWR regional and State and Territory basis.

Table 3.3: Comparison of labour market assistance by region year to end March 2003¹

DEWR Region	Newstart/ Youth Allowance (Other) recipients ² (%)	Job Matching (JNE) ³ (%)	Job Search Training (%)	Intensive Assistance (%)	Work for the Dole (%)
Sydney	15.2	12.4	20.0	14.7	12.9
Hunter and North Coast	8.0	5.7	5.7	8.9	7.6
Illawarra and SE NSW	3.0	2.5	3.3	2.9	3.1
Western NSW	3.2	3.9	2.2	2.8	2.7
Riverina	1.2	1.6	0.8	1.1	0.9
New South Wales	30.7	26.2	32.0	30.4	27.2
Melbourne	16.0	13.7	17.5	15.2	16.3
Eastern Victoria	2.4	4.2	2.8	2.9	2.4
Western Victoria	4.1	5.5	4.0	4.9	3.5
Victoria	22.4	23.5	24.3	23.1	22.2
Brisbane	13.4	14.9	15.0	13.1	18.6
Southern Queensland	2.3	5.0	3.0	3.8	5.5
Central and Northern QLD	5.4	7.4	4.6	5.1	3.6
Queensland	21.1	27.3	22.7	22.0	27.6
Perth	6.9	6.2	7.4	6.6	7.7
South Western Australia	3.2	1.5	0.9	1.4	0.7
Greater Western Australia	1.4	1.1	0.6	1.1	1.5
Western Australia	11.4	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.9
Adelaide	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.8	5.6
South Australia Country	1.4	3.3	1.5	2.7	1.8
South Australia	7.5	9.2	7.6	9.5	7.4
Tasmania	3.6	3.2	2.3	4.3	4.0
Northern Territory	2.2	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.6
Australian Capital Territory	1.0	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.1
Australia	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1. Commencement or placement of job seekers in labour market assistance between 1 January 2002 and 31 March 2003.

2. Job Seekers receiving Newstart or Youth Allowance (Other) as at 31 March 2003.

3. Includes Job Network Eligible (JNE) job seekers who may be eligible for all Job Network services and excludes Job Matching Only (JMO) job seekers who are only eligible for Job Matching services.

Source: DEWR administrative systems.

Employment outcomes by region

Table 3.4 shows unsubsidised employment outcomes for job seekers who ceased assistance between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and achieved by 31 March 2003. Employment outcomes are for Job Matching, Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance and Work for the Dole.

Job Matching includes Job Network Eligible and Job Matching Only job seekers. Outcomes are presented on a DEWR regional, State and Territory and national basis.

Table 3.4: Regional labour market post assistance employment outcomes year to end March 2003¹

DEWR Region	Job Matching ² (%)	Job Search Training ³ (%)	Intensive Assistance ³ (%)	Work for the Dole ³ (%)
Sydney	64.4	41.2	42.9	20.9
Hunter and North Coast	66.1	40.2	43.6	18.3
Illawarra and SE NSW	72.7	43.5	41.8	20.9
Western NSW	64.5	40.8	37.7	20.8
Riverina	67.1	40.2	43.1	20.4
New South Wales	65.7	41.2	42.6	20.1
Melbourne	65.9	40.2	48.2	24.7
Eastern Victoria	62.1	47.1	48.1	22.1
Western Victoria	70.5	46.0	49.9	19.5
Victoria	66.2	41.8	48.5	23.6
Brisbane	71.3	41.1	48.4	26.6
Southern Queensland	67.0	40.4	44.4	19.4
Central and Northern QLD	66.2	46.6	43.9	22.5
Queensland	69.2	42.1	46.7	24.9
Perth	67.2	42.4	45.7	24.1
South Western Australia	62.1	39.3	43.5	27.3
Greater Western Australia	67.1	41.0	38.5	26.0
Western Australia	66.3	42.0	44.4	24.8
Adelaide	68.1	43.7	49.8	20.0
South Australia Country	64.2	41.6	48.6	18.4
South Australia	66.5	43.2	49.4	19.6
Tasmania	60.0	40.9	44.7	19.0
Northern Territory	67.9	45.7	44.4	20.8
Australian Capital Territory	69.3	46.7	42.3	21.2
Australia	66.8	41.9	45.8	22.5

1. Employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to a Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) after leaving labour market assistance.
2. Job Matching outcomes are for job seekers placed in an eligible Job Matching job between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003. For job seekers who achieved a Job Matching placement within three months of leaving labour market assistance such as Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance and Work for the Dole, the outcome is excluded from Job Matching but included under the programme or service they participated in. Outcomes for apprenticeships and traineeships are excluded.
3. Post assistance employment outcomes relate to job seekers who ceased Intensive Assistance, Job Search Training or Work for the Dole between 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002 and outcomes achieved by 31 March 2003.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted three months after job seekers cease assistance.

Section 4: Impact on Income Support Recipients

Number of income support recipients

An important goal of employment assistance is to reduce or remove employment barriers experienced by job seekers so they can compete effectively for jobs. Higher levels of employment assistance are provided to the most disadvantaged job seekers.

While this report focuses mainly on the outcomes achieved by individual forms of assistance, it is also important to note that other factors, such as administrative changes and economic conditions, also have a significant impact on the number of income support recipients.

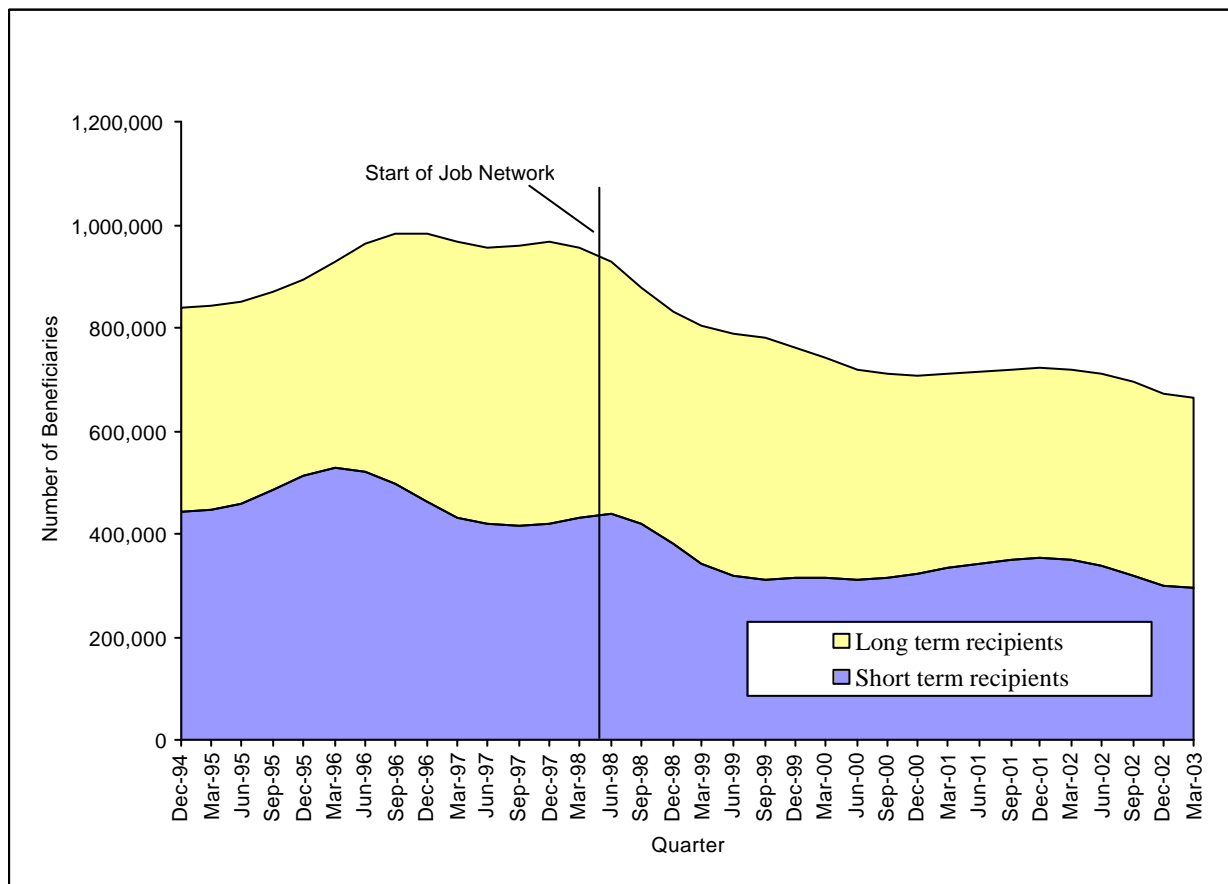
Figure 4.1 shows the changes over time in the number of short and long term income support recipients. Many long term recipients (in receipt of Newstart and Youth Allowance (Other) for 12 months or more) will have had a job at some time

over the last 12 months. These job seekers are reclassified as short term recipients only if they remain totally off benefits for a continuous period of more than 13 weeks.

Hence, long term recipients should not be confused with the long term unemployed as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The long term unemployed are people currently looking for work who have not had a job that lasted for 2 weeks or more in the last year.

Data from the Department of Family and Community Services show that in the 12 months to the end of March 2003, the number of people in receipt of Newstart or Youth Allowance (Other) decreased by over 59,900 to just over 652,300 job seekers. The number of job seekers who were long term recipients decreased by nearly 10,100 while the number of short term recipients decreased by over 49,800.

Figure 4.1: Number of Income Support Recipients¹



Source: Trend series based on data from DEWR administrative system.

- Figures quoted in the text are from the Department of Family and Community Services: "Labour Market and Related Payments a monthly profile, March 2003".

Data sources

The Department uses a number of data sources to determine the outcomes achieved by job seekers during and after they have ceased labour market assistance.

Post Programme Monitoring (PPM) surveys have been undertaken since 1987 and used to assess the employment and education status of former programme participants three months after they exit assistance. The PPM survey attempts a full enumeration of all former programme participants except in the case of Job Matching where a sample of around 10% of job placements are followed up. Job seekers who leave employment assistance and then proceed to another employment assistance place before selection in the PPM survey, are excluded from the survey. For monitoring purposes these job seekers are considered to be in further assistance.

The overall response rate for the PPM survey, at around 60%, provides outcomes estimates that are generally accurate to within plus or minus 1 percentage point at the National level.

DEWR administrative systems record details of placements, commencements and paid outcomes for labour market assistance.

The PPM outcomes for Intensive Assistance are derived from two sources - DEWR administrative systems and the PPM survey. The administrative system provides information on the primary and secondary paid interim outcomes for job seekers three months after their placement into a job. The PPM survey provides the employment and training status of job seekers three months after they exited assistance without having achieved a paid interim outcome. The addition of the paid interim and PPM survey outcomes data for unpaid exits provides the labour force status for participants at the three month point in time and is comparable to measurements for other types of employment assistance.

Post Programme Monitoring Outcomes

PPM Measures of Outcomes

Table A below provides a summary of PPM Outcomes under current employment assistance (Job Network), mutual obligation arrangements (Work for the Dole) and a range of previous labour market programmes that operated in the mid-1990s (under the *Working Nation* banner). There are three measures of Outcomes rates:

- *employment* (the proportion of participants who achieved an employment outcome compared to all those who left assistance);
- *education and/or training* (the proportion of participants who achieved an education and/or training outcome compared to all those who left assistance); and
- *'positive' outcomes* (the proportion of participants who achieved an employment or education and training outcome compared to all those who left assistance).

Methodology for Measuring Outcomes Rates

In calculating PPM outcomes rates, a decision has to be made about the treatment of those participants who left the programme and went on to further assistance: whether they are included or excluded from the measure of outcomes:

- under past PPM methodology, this group was *excluded* from the measure. It is evident, however, that this resulted in higher outcomes rates when there was a high rate of churning between programmes (as reflected in the figures for "Further Assistance" in Table A);
- an improved methodology has been adopted that *includes* all participants who went on to further assistance. This provides a more comprehensive picture of what has happened to all participants in programmes.
 - this methodology is consistent with how the *cost per employment outcome* from programmes has always been measured in the Department's evaluations of labour market programmes.

Measures provided under the new methodology are set out in the final three right-hand columns of Table A. The previous estimates, based on the old method, are in the left-hand columns for comparative purposes only.

Table A: PPM Outcomes (3 months) (%): Old and New Methods

	Old Method			Further Assistance	New Method		
	Employment outcomes	Education & Training Outcomes	Positive Outcomes ¹		Employment outcomes	Education & Training Outcomes	Positive Outcomes ²
Job Network³							
Job Search Training	40.0	13.2	48.9	5.3	37.9	12.5	46.3
Intensive Assistance	35.9	7.9	42.4	2.6	35.0	7.7	41.3
NEIS	81.8	8.9	84.1	0.0	81.8	8.9	84.1
Work for the Dole³	32.9	13.3	42.8	16.6	27.4	11.1	35.7
Working Nation⁴							
Job Clubs	36.4	10.8	43.8	30.7	24.9	7.4	29.9
Working Nation⁵	35.1	12.4	44.3	22.0	27.4	9.7	34.6
Job Skills	30.9	8.9	37.8	11.7	28.1	7.8	33.4
JobTrain	33.7	12.3	42.7	30.0	23.6	8.6	29.9
JobStart	52.8	6.4	56.3	8.5	48.3	5.9	51.5
LEAP	25.8	10.3	33.7	13.1	22.4	8.9	29.3
New Work Opportunities	21.0	5.2	24.8	14.8	17.9	4.4	21.1
SkillShare	36.9	14.0	47.0	17.8	30.3	11.5	38.6
Special Intervention	21.4	20.7	39.4	38.7	13.1	12.7	24.2

1. The proportion of participants that achieved an employment and/or education/ training outcome *excluding* those who went onto further assistance.

2. The proportion of participants that achieved an employment and/or education/ training outcome *including* those who went onto further assistance.

3. Outcomes achieved in the 1999-2000 financial year.

4. This relates to the Working Nation programme, Job Clubs, which is similar to Job Search Training: outcomes for 1995-96 financial year.

5. Working Nation programmes replaced by Intensive Assistance: outcomes are for 1995-96 financial year. The results show the weighted average for the seven programmes and for each programme.

Source: The Post Programme Monitoring Survey conducted 3 months after job seekers cease assistance and DEWR administrative systems.

Labour Market Assistance

Intensive Assistance: provides individually tailored assistance for up to two years to eligible job seekers who are more disadvantaged in the labour market, to prepare for, and obtain, sustainable employment. The level of funding is based on the job seekers' level of disadvantage. There are two funding levels, A and B.

Job seekers who transferred to a new provider as a result of the second contract period are treated as a new commencement but as the job seekers period of assistance has not been completed, they are included in the PPM survey.

Job Search Training: provides training for three weeks in job search techniques (such as résumé preparation, interview techniques and presentation skills) to give unemployed people the skills and confidence to seek and obtain employment.

Job Matching: delivers labour exchange services to job seekers including canvassing for jobs and matching and placing suitable unemployed people to these jobs, as well as preparing résumés for job seekers.

New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS): provides support and training for eligible job seekers who wish to pursue the option of self-employment.

Self-Employment Development Scheme (SEDS): allow job seekers to undertake approved activities to develop self-employment opportunities for three months. The business viability is assessed by a NEIS Managing agent and approved by Centrelink.

Indigenous Employment Programme: replaced the Training for Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders Programme (TAP) and has several components. It includes Wage Assistance which is a wage subsidy paid to employers over 26 weeks providing on-going employment. In Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP) employers in the private sector and regional and community based employment sponsor organisations provide at least 5 jobs, generally involving accredited training, usually a traineeship, to participants for a minimum period of 12 months.

Indigenous Employment Centres: help Community Development Employment Project participants find employment that has strong connections with the local community that is culturally relevant.

Work for the Dole: provides assistance for job seekers to develop work habits, generic work skills and gain work experience by participating in community projects and activities for up to 26 weeks over a 12 month period.

Community Work placements: assists job seekers in gain skills and work experience and provides access to additional benefits such as Training Credits and Passport to Employment after participating in voluntary work for a specified number of hours.

Transition to Work Programme: helps job seekers who are parents, carers and mature age people 50 years and over entering the workforce for the first time or returning to the workforce after an absence of 2 years or more.

Training accounts: helps mature age and indigenous job seekers who participate in Intensive Assistance, Job Search Training or with Indigenous Employment Centres improve their employment prospects through the provision of training.

Training Credits: provides job seekers who participate in Work for the Dole or Community Work Placement for a minimum of 16 weeks to up to 26 weeks with a training credit.

Definitions

Australian Job Search: Lists all vacancies notified to the Job Network and provides information on Job Network members, is available in Centrelink and Job Network member offices and the DEWR Internet site.

Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP): administered by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission - a scheme generally providing opportunities for part time work paid at the equivalent of unemployment allowances to residents of indigenous communities in remote locations. Positive and employment outcomes exclude indigenous job seekers who return to a CDEP after leaving labour market assistance.

Community Work Coordinators: are contracted to develop Community Work placements and Work for the Dole projects/activities and manage the placement of eligible job seekers into those projects/activities.

Educational attainment: refers to the highest educational level completed by job seekers. If a job seeker did not complete Year 12 then they will be included in the Year 10 category.

Eligible vacancy: is a job vacancy listed on the Australian Job Search database that are eligible for a payment under Job Matching.

Further Assistance: includes job seekers who proceed to another DEWR or DEST funded employment assistance within three months of exiting other employment assistance. It includes commencements in Job Search Training, Intensive Assistance, New Apprenticeships, NEIS, Work for the Dole, Green Corps, Advanced English for Migrants Programme

(AEMP) and IEP - STEP and IEP - Wage Assistance. Job Matching is not regarded as further assistance.

Income support recipients: includes job seekers registered with Centrelink as unemployed and in receipt of Newstart Allowance (NSA) or job seekers aged 15 to 24 not in full-time education and in receipt of Youth Allowance (YA).

Job Matching Only (JMO): Job seekers, irrespective of income support who are eligible for Job Matching Only services but not eligible for other Job Network services. JMOs can renew their registration as unemployed every three months with either Centrelink or Job Network members.

Job Matching placements: include placements provided under Job Matching and job placements under Intensive Assistance.

Job Network Eligible (JNE): Job seekers who are receiving income support payments, and young people not in full-time study irrespective of income support. CDEP participants are eligible for Job Matching services. These people may be eligible for other Job Network services, subject to eligibility requirements.

Job Seeker Classification Instrument (JSCI): a measurement of a job seeker's relative disadvantage in obtaining employment and is used to determine the level of labour market assistance required.

Long term recipients: Job seekers who have been registered with Centrelink as unemployed for 12 months or more and receiving income support.

CALD: People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds from other than main English Speaking countries.

Outcomes qualifying for a claim for payment: Intensive Assistance or Job Search Training outcomes where the conditions for a claim for a paid outcome have been met. An actual claim may or may not have been made. This has not been included in this report.

Placed, awaiting an outcome: Placement of an Intensive Assistance or Job Search Training job seeker in employment or study but where the 13 week paid outcome mark has yet to be reached. This has not been included in this report.

Paid Interim Outcomes: Intensive Assistance outcomes where a claim for payment has been approved after placement of a job seeker in employment or study for 13 weeks. This has not been included in this report.

Paid Final Outcomes: Intensive Assistance outcomes where a claim for payment has been approved after placement of a job seeker in employment or study for 26 weeks. This has not been included in this report.

Post Assistance Off-Income Support Outcomes: refers to the proportion of Newstart or Youth

Allowance (Other) recipients who were off Newstart or Youth Allowance (Other) or any other type allowance recorded on the Integrated Employment System three months after leaving assistance. Job seekers who move from Newstart or Youth Allowance (Other) to income support payments not recorded on the Integrated Employment System, such as the Community Employment Development Projects (CDEP), age pension or any other pension where the job seekers is not registered with Centrelink as looking for work, are counted as off-benefit outcomes.

Short Term Recipients: are job seekers who have been registered with Centrelink as unemployed for less than 12 months and in receipt of income support.

Unpaid exits: Exits from Intensive Assistance that do not involve a paid outcome.

Very Long Term Recipients: are job seekers who have been registered with Centrelink as unemployed and in receipt of income support for 24 months or more unless otherwise stated.

Work for the Dole commencement: Job seekers are required to participate in WfD for up to six months over a 12-month period. This means that job seekers can participate in a number of different WfD projects and with different CWCs before completing their placement. Each time a job seeker starts with a CWC, a new commencement is recorded.

Work for the Dole exit: For the purposes of PPM, job seekers are surveyed whenever they have a break between CWC placements of more than 3 months and in relation to their last CWC placement in the 12 month period.

Regional Coverage

Regions used in this report are based on the 19 labour market regions used in contracting for DEWR programmes and services.

DEWR labour market regions

