

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 (Australian Apprentices).

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

Tables 2 and 3 show the derivation of the NSA and YA(O) 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 25 October 2006.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS - August 2006

Between August 2005 and August 2006:

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) recipients and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(O)) recipients **decreased by 3.2%** overall from 563,282 to 545,082

- ◆ by 2.8% for NSA from 485,823 to 472,448 and
- ◆ 6.2% for YA(O) from 77,459 to 72,634.

The number of jobseekers **decreased by 0.6%** overall from 371,949 to 369,834 and

- ◆ increased by 0.7% for NSA recipients from 310,665 to 312,816 and
- ◆ decreased by 7.0% for YA(O) recipients from 61,284 to 57,018.

Long-term jobseekers decreased by 0.7% from 209,424 to 207,905.

Short-term jobseekers decreased by 0.4% from 162,525 to 161,929.

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).

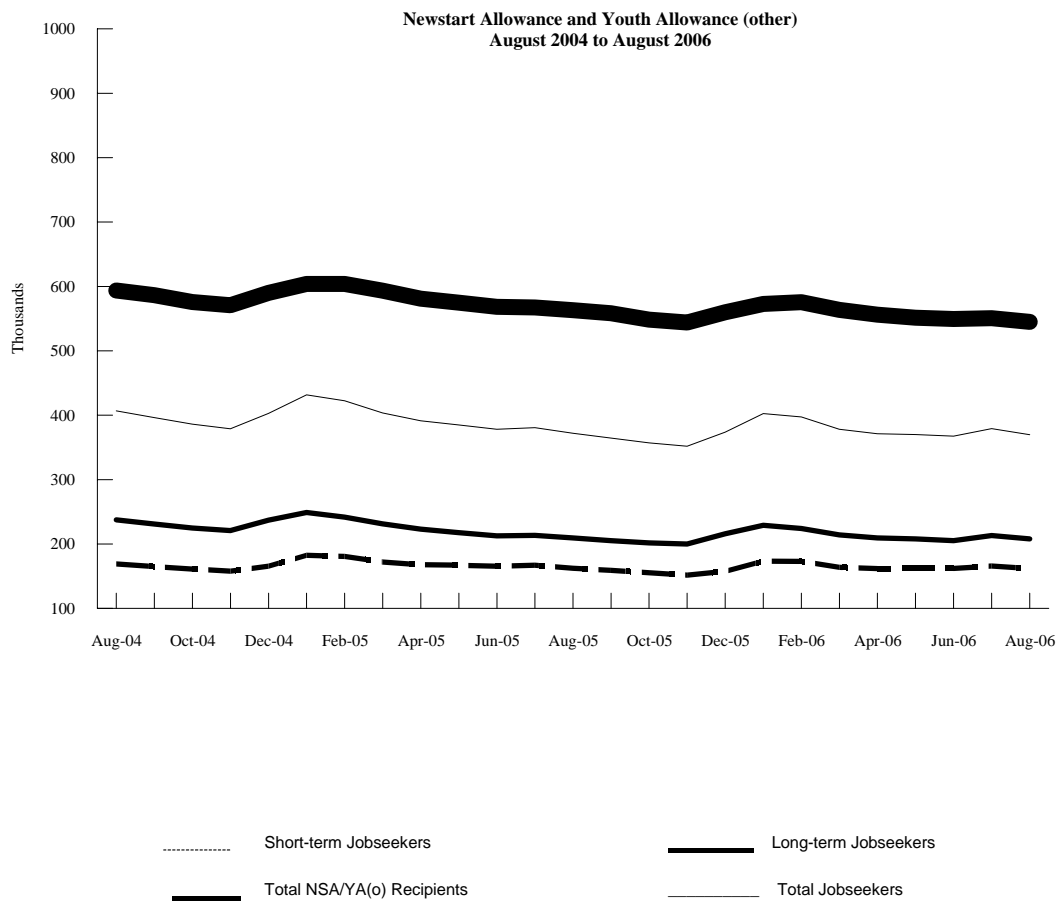


TABLE 1 - LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES (a)

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance			Mature Age Allowance	Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
	Long-term (b)	Total	Other	Full-time Students (c)	Apprentices (d)			
February 1994 (e)	472,785	977,796
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
July 2006	285,152	474,477	76,173	264,863	3,376	11,379	59,401	44,639
August 2006	284,943	472,448	72,634	271,591	3,472	10,731	58,213	44,184
<i>Variation July 2006 - August 2006</i>								
Number	-209	-2,029	-3,539	6,728	96	-648	-1,188	-455
Per cent	-0.1	-0.4	-4.6	2.5	2.8	-5.7	-2.0	-1.0

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

	July 2006	August			Variation July - August	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term NSA Customers	189,325	128,897	58,608	187,505	-1,820	-1.0
CPS recipients (a)	3,827	2,693	1,029	3,722	-105	-2.7
Did not receive a payment (b)	10,180	6,406	3,479	9,885	-295	-2.9
Received a payment	175,318	119,798	54,100	173,898	-1,420	-0.8
Incapacitated (c)	17,532	11,161	6,211	17,372	-160	-0.9
Training	8,256	5,746	3,010	8,756	500	6.1
Self-employment development (d)	395	328	174	502	107	27.1
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	2,109	885	1,139	2,024	-85	-4.0
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	10,489	6,785	4,357	11,142	653	6.2
Short-term NSA Jobseekers (g)	136,537	94,893	39,209	134,102	-2,435	-1.8
Long-term NSA Customers	285,152	180,282	104,661	284,943	-209	-0.1
CPS recipients (a)	8,715	6,004	2,635	8,639	-76	-0.9
Did not receive a payment (b)	8,760	5,257	3,588	8,845	85	1.0
Received a payment	267,677	169,021	98,438	267,459	-218	-0.1
Incapacitated (c)	22,775	13,234	9,425	22,659	-116	-0.5
Training	34,472	23,606	13,959	37,565	3,093	9.0
Self-employment development (d)	181	172	79	251	70	38.7
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	9,984	5,530	4,160	9,690	-294	-2.9
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	17,959	11,095	7,485	18,580	621	3.5
Long-term NSA Jobseekers (g)	182,306	115,384	63,330	178,714	-3,592	-2.0
All NSA Customers (h)	474,477	309,179	163,269	472,448	-2,029	-0.4
CPS recipients (a)	12,542	8,697	3,664	12,361	-181	-1.4
Did not receive a payment (b)	18,940	11,663	7,067	18,730	-210	-1.1
Received a payment	442,995	288,819	152,538	441,357	-1,638	-0.4
Incapacitated (c)	40,307	24,395	15,636	40,031	-276	-0.7
Training	42,728	29,352	16,969	46,321	3,593	8.4
Self-employment development (d)	576	500	253	753	177	30.7
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	12,093	6,415	5,299	11,714	-379	-3.1
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	28,448	17,880	11,842	29,722	1,274	4.5
All NSA Jobseekers (g)	318,843	210,277	102,539	312,816	-6,027	-1.9

(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.

(h) On 1 July 2006, the Australian Government introduced the Welfare to Work reforms. These reforms impact on the NSA population.

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

	July 2006	August			Variation July - August	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term YA (other) Customers	37,105	19,360	15,963	35,323	-1,782	-4.8
CPS recipients (a)	2,228	1,325	771	2,096	-132	-5.9
Did not receive a payment (b)	789	336	370	706	-83	-10.5
Received a payment	34,088	17,699	14,822	32,521	-1,567	-4.6
Part-time study & work (c)	2	1	1	2	0	0.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	77	41	43	84	7	9.1
Incapacitated (e)	1,684	843	832	1,675	-9	-0.5
Training	1,209	745	466	1,211	2	0.2
Self-employment development (e)	7	3	3	6	-1	-14.3
Full-time voluntary work	1	0	0	0	-1	-100.0
Other non-jobseekers (e)	1,747	720	996	1,716	-31	-1.8
Short-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	29,361	15,346	12,481	27,827	-1,534	-5.2
Long-term YA (other) Customers	39,068	17,834	19,477	37,311	-1,757	-4.5
CPS recipients (a)	1,540	962	578	1,540	0	0.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,048	407	544	951	-97	-9.3
Received a payment	36,480	16,465	18,355	34,820	-1,660	-4.6
Part-time study & work (c)	6	3	3	6	0	0.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	58	24	40	64	6	10.3
Incapacitated (e)	1,471	558	897	1,455	-16	-1.1
Training	2,494	1,323	1,320	2,643	149	6.0
Self-employment development (e)	9	2	6	8	-1	-11.1
Full-time voluntary work	6	3	2	5	-1	-16.7
Other non-jobseekers (e)	1,461	540	908	1,448	-13	-0.9
Long-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	30,975	14,012	15,179	29,191	-1,784	-5.8
All YA (other) Customers (g)	76,173	37,194	35,440	72,634	-3,539	-4.6
CPS recipients (a)	3,768	2,287	1,349	3,636	-132	-3.5
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,837	743	914	1,657	-180	-9.8
Received a payment	70,568	34,164	33,177	67,341	-3,227	-4.6
Part-time study & work (c)	8	4	4	8	0	0.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	135	65	83	148	13	9.6
Incapacitated (e)	3,155	1,401	1,729	3,130	-25	-0.8
Training	3,703	2,068	1,786	3,854	151	4.1
Self-employment development (e)	16	5	9	14	-2	-12.5
Full-time voluntary work	7	3	2	5	-2	-28.6
Other non-jobseekers (e)	3,208	1,260	1,904	3,164	-44	-1.4
All YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	60,336	29,358	27,660	57,018	-3,318	-5.5

(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.

(g) On 1 July 2006, the Australian Government introduced the Welfare to Work reforms. These reforms impact on the YA (o) population.

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
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
July 2006	165,898	213,281	379,179
August 2006	161,929	207,905	369,834
<i>Variation July 2006 - August 2006</i>			
<i>Number</i>	-3,969	-5,376	-9,345
<i>Per cent</i>	-2.4	-2.5	-2.5

(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**

State	July 2006	August 2006	Variation July - August	
			Number	Per cent
SHORT-TERM JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	58,467	57,522	-945	-1.6
Victoria	40,094	39,391	-703	-1.8
Queensland	33,594	31,995	-1,599	-4.8
South Australia	13,495	13,378	-117	-0.9
Western Australia	12,483	11,909	-574	-4.6
Tasmania	4,607	4,716	109	2.4
Northern Territory	1,751	1,650	-101	-5.8
Australian Capital Territory	1,407	1,368	-39	-2.8
AUSTRALIA	165,898	161,929	-3,969	-2.4
LONG-TERM JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	76,867	75,106	-1,761	-2.3
Victoria	52,686	51,724	-962	-1.8
Queensland	35,743	34,417	-1,326	-3.7
South Australia	19,067	18,760	-307	-1.6
Western Australia	14,532	13,767	-765	-5.3
Tasmania	9,147	9,122	-25	-0.3
Northern Territory	3,022	2,870	-152	-5.0
Australian Capital Territory	2,217	2,139	-78	-3.5
AUSTRALIA	213,281	207,905	-5,376	-2.5
TOTAL JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	135,334	132,628	-2,706	-2.0
Victoria	92,780	91,115	-1,665	-1.8
Queensland	69,337	66,412	-2,925	-4.2
South Australia	32,562	32,138	-424	-1.3
Western Australia	27,015	25,676	-1,339	-5.0
Tasmania	13,754	13,838	84	0.6
Northern Territory	4,773	4,520	-253	-5.3
Australian Capital Territory	3,624	3,507	-117	-3.2
AUSTRALIA	379,179	369,834	-9,345	-2.5

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 (AUGUST 2006)**

Age	Short-term Jobseekers		Long-term Jobseekers		Total Jobseekers	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
MALES						
Less than 18 years	4,504	4.1	2,484	1.9	6,988	2.9
18 - 20 years	10,841	9.8	11,526	8.9	22,367	9.3
21 - 24 years	19,315	17.5	15,959	12.3	35,274	14.7
25 - 29 years	17,605	16.0	16,442	12.7	34,047	14.2
30 - 39 years	26,039	23.6	27,976	21.6	54,015	22.5
40 - 49 years	16,236	14.7	23,490	18.2	39,726	16.6
50 - 59 years	11,333	10.3	21,841	16.9	33,174	13.8
60 years and over	4,367	4.0	9,678	7.5	14,045	5.9
TOTAL	110,240	100.0	129,396	100.0	239,636	100.0
FEMALES						
Less than 18 years	4,506	8.7	2,855	3.6	7,361	5.7
18 - 20 years	7,975	15.4	12,324	15.7	20,299	15.6
21 - 24 years	9,661	18.7	10,704	13.6	20,365	15.6
25 - 29 years	5,851	11.3	7,093	9.0	12,944	9.9
30 - 39 years	6,389	12.4	9,890	12.6	16,279	12.5
40 - 49 years	7,262	14.0	16,203	20.6	23,465	18.0
50 - 59 years	8,097	15.7	15,637	19.9	23,734	18.2
60 years and over	1,948	3.8	3,803	4.8	5,751	4.4
TOTAL	51,689	100.0	78,509	100.0	130,198	100.0
PERSONS						
Less than 18 years	9,010	5.6	5,339	2.6	14,349	3.9
18 - 20 years	18,816	11.6	23,850	11.5	42,666	11.5
21 - 24 years	28,976	17.9	26,663	12.8	55,639	15.0
25 - 29 years	23,456	14.5	23,535	11.3	46,991	12.7
30 - 39 years	32,428	20.0	37,866	18.2	70,294	19.0
40 - 49 years	23,498	14.5	39,693	19.1	63,191	17.1
50 - 59 years	19,430	12.0	37,478	18.0	56,908	15.4
60 years and over	6,315	3.9	13,481	6.5	19,796	5.4
TOTAL	161,929	100.0	207,905	100.0	369,834	100.0

**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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>EAST COAST (SYDNEY)</i>				
Bondi Junction	1,283	1,262	-21	-1.6
Chatswood	1,050	1,036	-14	-1.3
Darlinghurst	1,689	1,646	-43	-2.5
Darlinghurst YSU	51	56	5	%
Hornsby	877	831	-46	-5.2
Leichhardt	1,512	1,465	-47	-3.1
Maroubra	1,262	1,254	-8	-0.6
Marrickville	1,537	1,479	-58	-3.8
Northern Beaches	1,069	1,030	-39	-3.6
Sydney Central YSU	0	0	0	%
Other (a)	12	11	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	10,342	10,070	-272	-2.6
<i>EAST COAST (WOLLONGONG)</i>				
Caringbah	1,491	1,440	-51	-3.4
Corrimal	1,454	1,462	8	0.6
Dapto	1,251	1,222	-29	-2.3
Hurstville	1,522	1,484	-38	-2.5
Nowra	2,276	2,266	-10	-0.4
Redfern	1,414	1,397	-17	-1.2
Rockdale	1,586	1,544	-42	-2.6
Shellharbour	1,581	1,572	-9	-0.6
Sutherland	96	99	3	%
Ulladulla	605	608	3	0.5
Wollongong	1,976	1,926	-50	-2.5
Other (a)	36	35	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	15,288	15,055	-233	-1.5

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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>HUNTER NSW</i>				
Armidale	1,294	1,248	-46	-3.6
Cessnock	936	916	-20	-2.1
Charlestown	2,696	2,587	-109	-4.0
Ettalong	1,211	1,202	-9	-0.7
Forster	958	963	5	0.5
Gosford*	1,969	1,947	-22	-1.1
Gunnedah	464	457	-7	-1.5
Inverell	754	742	-12	-1.6
Kempsey	1,354	1,347	-7	-0.5
Kurri Kurri	611	619	8	1.3
Lakehaven	1,951	1,902	-49	-2.5
Maitland	1,763	1,730	-33	-1.9
Mayfield	1,237	1,217	-20	-1.6
Muswellbrook	598	581	-17	-2.8
Nambucca Heads	1,185	1,164	-21	-1.8
Nelson Bay	597	597	0	0.0
Newcastle	1,732	1,666	-66	-3.8
Port Macquarie	1,944	1,890	-54	-2.8
Raymond Terrace	1,122	1,065	-57	-5.1
Singleton	311	289	-22	-7.1
Tamworth	1,857	1,840	-17	-0.9
Taree	1,801	1,834	33	1.8
The Entrance	1,221	1,227	6	0.5
Toronto	1,267	1,245	-22	-1.7
Wallsend	1,785	1,715	-70	-3.9
Wyong	683	686	3	0.4
Other (a)	92	99	7	%
<i>Total</i>	33,393	32,775	-618	-1.9

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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH METROPOLITAN NSW</i>				
Ashfield	0	0	0	%
Bankstown	4,169	4,158	-11	-0.3
Burwood*	1,745	1,722	-23	-1.3
Cabramatta	2,266	2,203	-63	-2.8
Camden	557	567	10	1.8
Campbelltown	2,645	2,546	-99	-3.7
Campsie	2,482	2,384	-98	-3.9
Fairfield	3,881	3,734	-147	-3.8
Ingleburn	1,348	1,312	-36	-2.7
Lakemba	11	14	3	%
Liverpool	4,289	4,148	-141	-3.3
Revesby	4	5	1	%
Strathfield	1	1	0	%
Other (a)	6	8	2	%
<i>Total</i>	23,404	22,802	-602	-2.6
<i>WEST NSW</i>				
Auburn	2,510	2,455	-55	-2.2
Baulkham Hills	740	720	-20	-2.7
Blacktown	3,251	3,166	-85	-2.6
Hawkesbury	921	874	-47	-5.1
Katoomba	706	686	-20	-2.8
Lithgow	748	730	-18	-2.4
Merrylands	1,926	1,909	-17	-0.9
Mt Druitt	2,696	2,665	-31	-1.1
Mudgee	697	688	-9	-1.3
Parramatta	2,081	2,049	-32	-1.5
Penrith	1,869	1,819	-50	-2.7
Ryde	1,036	1,003	-33	-3.2
Springwood	408	386	-22	-5.4
St Marys	1,957	1,832	-125	-6.4
Other (a)	17	23	6	%
<i>Total</i>	21,563	21,005	-558	-2.6

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 - 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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH WEST NSW</i>				
Albury	2,213	2,185	-28	-1.3
Batemans Bay	964	964	0	0.0
Bathurst	958	921	-37	-3.9
Bega	755	766	11	1.5
Belconnen	1,154	1,114	-40	-3.5
Bourke	442	446	4	0.9
Bowral	543	537	-6	-1.1
Braddon	1,010	976	-34	-3.4
Cooma	335	317	-18	-5.4
Cowra	422	449	27	6.4
Deniliquin	289	273	-16	-5.5
Dubbo	1,919	1,926	7	0.4
Goulburn	736	742	6	0.8
Griffith	554	538	-16	-2.9
Gungahlin	100	101	1	1.0
Lanyon	44	42	-2	%
Leeton	321	311	-10	-3.1
Narooma	410	410	0	0.0
Orange	1,119	1,100	-19	-1.7
Parkes	951	937	-14	-1.5
Queanbeyan	499	480	-19	-3.8
Tuggeranong	703	681	-22	-3.1
Tumut	352	363	11	3.1
Wagga	1,769	1,725	-44	-2.5
Woden	609	572	-37	-6.1
Yass	116	111	-5	-4.3
Young	428	430	2	0.5
Other (a)	25	25	0	%
<i>Total</i>	19,740	19,442	-298	-1.5

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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>NORTH-CENTRAL VICTORIA</i>				
Box Hill	1,719	1,710	-9	-0.5
Broadmeadows	3,811	3,669	-142	-3.7
Darebin	3,771	3,726	-45	-1.2
Echuca	467	491	24	5.1
Epping	2,075	2,002	-73	-3.5
Greensborough	1,615	1,565	-50	-3.1
Heidelberg	32	28	-4	%
Lilydale	1,480	1,449	-31	-2.1
Moreland	2,543	2,489	-54	-2.1
Newmarket	1,750	1,699	-51	-2.9
Ringwood	1,784	1,750	-34	-1.9
Seymour	593	606	13	2.2
Shepparton	2,303	2,312	9	0.4
Sth Melbourne	743	743	0	0.0
Wangaratta	1,642	1,650	8	0.5
Windsor (VIC)	3,146	2,972	-174	-5.5
Yarra*	2,525	2,479	-46	-1.8
Other (a)	30	29	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	32,029	31,369	-660	-2.1

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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH-EAST VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	973	978	5	0.5
Belgrave*	529	520	-9	-1.7
Camberwell	1,052	1,010	-42	-4.0
Cheltenham	2,044	1,944	-100	-4.9
Cranbourne	1,253	1,236	-17	-1.4
Dandenong	2,782	2,660	-122	-4.4
Fountain Gate	2,339	2,267	-72	-3.1
Frankston	3,294	3,215	-79	-2.4
Glen Waverley	1,057	1,014	-43	-4.1
Leongatha	0	0	0	%
Mornington	539	498	-41	-7.6
Morwell	2,442	2,408	-34	-1.4
Oakleigh	1,902	1,811	-91	-4.8
Rosebud	944	948	4	0.4
Rowville	425	400	-25	-5.9
Sale	852	844	-8	-0.9
Springvale	2,536	2,452	-84	-3.3
Wantirna*	1,295	1,252	-43	-3.3
Warragul	501	496	-5	-1.0
Wonthaggi	650	680	30	4.6
Other (a)	14	18	4	%
<i>Total</i>	27,423	26,651	-772	-2.8

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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>WEST VICTORIA</i>				
Ararat	337	328	-9	-2.7
Ballarat	2,908	2,863	-45	-1.5
B Central*	988	957	-31	-3.1
Bendigo	2,264	2,266	2	0.1
Colac	455	465	10	2.2
Corio	2,025	1,998	-27	-1.3
Essendon (Airport West)	1,262	1,261	-1	-0.1
Footscray	1,637	1,639	2	0.1
Geelong	3,191	3,150	-41	-1.3
Hamilton	388	389	1	0.3
Horsham	727	732	5	0.7
Maryborough (VIC)	601	562	-39	-6.5
Melton	1,175	1,167	-8	-0.7
Mildura	1,722	1,713	-9	-0.5
Newport	1,222	1,202	-20	-1.6
Portland	486	512	26	5.3
Stawell	195	207	12	6.2
Sunbury	744	747	3	0.4
Sunshine	3,073	3,027	-46	-1.5
Swan Hill	896	880	-16	-1.8
Warrnambool	907	895	-12	-1.3
Watergardens	3,578	3,522	-56	-1.6
Werribee	2,421	2,481	60	2.5
Other (a)	26	27	1	%
<i>Total</i>	33,228	32,990	-238	-0.7

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 - 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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>BRISBANE</i>				
Annerley	894	832	-62	-6.9
Bundaberg	2,661	2,564	-97	-3.6
Caboolture	2,194	2,050	-144	-6.6
Caloundra	1,237	1,206	-31	-2.5
Capalaba	692	683	-9	-1.3
Chermside	872	854	-18	-2.1
Cleveland	786	760	-26	-3.3
Fortitude Valley	1,497	1,431	-66	-4.4
Gympie	1,174	1,167	-7	-0.6
Hervey Bay	1,218	1,156	-62	-5.1
Kawana Waters	576	543	-33	-5.7
Kingaroy	760	755	-5	-0.7
Maroochydore	1,648	1,547	-101	-6.1
Maryborough	1,190	1,167	-23	-1.9
Mitchelton	1,042	970	-72	-6.9
Mt Gravatt	1,857	1,829	-28	-1.5
Nambour	1,032	988	-44	-4.3
Noosa	1,147	1,110	-37	-3.2
Nundah	1,131	1,075	-56	-5.0
Redcliffe	1,550	1,526	-24	-1.5
Stones Corner	1,542	1,454	-88	-5.7
Strathpine	1,043	983	-60	-5.8
Toowong	883	852	-31	-3.5
Wynnum	797	780	-17	-2.1
Other (a)	14	11	-3	%
<i>Total</i>	29,437	28,293	-1,144	-3.9

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**

Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL & NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	680	673	-7	-1.0
Ayr	386	351	-35	-9.1
Biloela	131	135	4	3.1
Bowen	425	392	-33	-7.8
Cairns EMS (3)	2,849	2,720	-129	-4.5
Cairns FAO (3)	4	7	3	%
Cairns Ret (3)	1	1	0	%
Charters Towers	290	287	-3	-1.0
Edmonton	0	2	2	%
Emerald	304	285	-19	-6.3
Gladstone	876	815	-61	-7.0
Greenfields	2	2	0	%
Indigenous ISC (2)	436	450	14	3.2
Ingham	276	246	-30	-10.9
Innisfail	844	707	-137	-16.2
Longreach (4)	97	92	-5	%
Mackay	1,568	1,457	-111	-7.1
Mareeba	467	453	-14	-3.0
Mossman	323	300	-23	-7.1
Mt Isa	746	740	-6	-0.8
Normanton	112	111	-1	-0.9
Palm Island (2)	262	258	-4	-1.5
Rockhampton	2,010	1,943	-67	-3.3
Smithfield	15	22	7	%
Thursday Is	186	178	-8	-4.3
Townsville City (1)	5	5	0	%
Townsville Employment Services (1)	3,084	2,980	-104	-3.4
Townsville FAO (1)	2	7	5	%
Townsville Retirement (1)	1	2	1	%
Whitsunday	377	357	-20	-5.3
Yarrabah RASC (2)	122	124	2	1.6
Yeppoon	410	382	-28	-6.8
Other (a)	210	209	-1	-0.5
<i>Total</i>	17,501	16,693	-808	-4.6

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 - 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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Berri	929	912	-17	-1.8
Broken Hill	926	917	-9	-1.0
Ceduna	190	181	-9	-4.7
Cooper Pedy	131	129	-2	-1.5
Currie St (Adelaide)	664	648	-16	-2.4
Edwardstown	2,424	2,377	-47	-1.9
Elizabeth	2,553	2,526	-27	-1.1
Enfield	1,627	1,576	-51	-3.1
Gawler	1,195	1,152	-43	-3.6
Glenelg	975	965	-10	-1.0
Kadina	710	712	2	0.3
Kilkenny	1,831	1,813	-18	-1.0
Modbury	2,049	2,004	-45	-2.2
Mt Barker	740	711	-29	-3.9
Mt Gambier	1,443	1,422	-21	-1.5
Murray Bridge	878	860	-18	-2.1
Noarlunga	2,973	2,904	-69	-2.3
Norwood	1,803	1,783	-20	-1.1
Parkside	0	0	0	%
Port Adelaide	1,696	1,676	-20	-1.2
Port Augusta	722	705	-17	-2.4
Port Lincoln	591	591	0	0.0
Port Pirie	1,010	1,040	30	3.0
Salisbury	2,453	2,425	-28	-1.1
Torrens ville	1,495	1,491	-4	-0.3
Victor Harbor	682	682	0	0.0
Whyalla	917	928	11	1.2
Other (a)	50	52	2	%
<i>Total</i>	33,657	33,182	-475	-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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</i>				
Albany	984	945	-39	-4.0
Armadale	935	869	-66	-7.1
Bunbury	1,596	1,542	-54	-3.4
Busselton (3)	317	317	0	0.0
Cannington	1,424	1,348	-76	-5.3
Carnarvon	180	185	5	2.8
Centrelink City (2)	0	0	0	%
Christmas Island	14	14	0	%
Cocos Island	32	36	4	%
Collie	6	6	0	%
Esperance	282	278	-4	-1.4
Fremantle	1,328	1,276	-52	-3.9
Geraldton	1,406	1,425	19	1.4
Gosnells	959	923	-36	-3.8
Innaloo	1,594	1,492	-102	-6.4
Joondalup	1,242	1,144	-98	-7.9
Kalgoorlie	610	587	-23	-3.8
Karratha	253	253	0	0.0
Mandurah	1,203	1,177	-26	-2.2
Midland	1,682	1,618	-64	-3.8
Mirrabooka	1,780	1,642	-138	-7.8
Morley	1,951	1,839	-112	-5.7
Northam	577	561	-16	-2.8
Rockingham (1)	1,649	1,484	-165	-10.0
South Hedland	317	338	21	6.6
Spearwood	961	932	-29	-3.0
Victoria Park	2,107	1,945	-162	-7.7
Warwick Grove	785	730	-55	-7.0
Other (a)	378	339	-39	-10.3
<i>Total</i>	26,552	25,245	-1,307	-4.9

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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>TASMANIA</i>				
Bridgewater	609	588	-21	-3.4
Burnie	1,712	1,685	-27	-1.6
Devonport	1,971	2,039	68	3.5
Glenorchy	1,952	1,970	18	0.9
Hobart	1,669	1,635	-34	-2.0
Huonville	580	576	-4	-0.7
Launceston	3,656	3,699	43	1.2
Mowbray	14	13	-1	%
Rosny Park	1,100	1,123	23	2.1
Sorell	547	564	17	3.1
Other (a)	26	25	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	13,836	13,917	81	0.6
<i>NORTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Alice Springs	855	780	-75	-8.8
Alice Springs (Remote)*	0	0	0	%
Broome	319	301	-18	-5.6
Casuarina	986	962	-24	-2.4
SSC Nth Australia (1)	3	3	0	%
Derby	84	84	0	%
Katherine	596	559	-37	-6.2
Knuckey Street	639	627	-12	-1.9
Kununurra	153	140	-13	-8.5
Nhulunbuy	92	81	-11	%
Palmerston	868	817	-51	-5.9
Tangentyere	258	288	30	11.6
Tennant Creek	187	185	-2	-1.1
Tennant Creek (Remote)	14	11	-3	%
Other (a)	332	295	-37	-11.1
<i>Total</i>	5,386	5,133	-253	-4.7

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

(1) On 1 July 2006, Casuarina YSC became SSC (Student Services Centre) Nth Australia.

**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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>PACIFIC CENTRAL</i>				
Ballina	1,190	1,165	-25	-2.1
Beaudesert	390	374	-16	-4.1
Beenleigh	1,668	1,616	-52	-3.1
Biggera Waters	1,663	1,606	-57	-3.4
Browns Plains	1,451	1,407	-44	-3.0
Brunswick Heads	643	603	-40	-6.2
Byron Bay	711	709	-2	-0.3
Casino	721	695	-26	-3.6
Charleville	158	141	-17	-10.8
Coffs Harbour	3,021	2,991	-30	-1.0
Dalby	573	572	-1	-0.2
Goodna	1,158	1,087	-71	-6.1
Goondiwindi	294	312	18	6.1
Grafton	1,689	1,669	-20	-1.2
Inala	1,416	1,340	-76	-5.4
Ipswich	2,193	2,119	-74	-3.4
Lightning Ridge	5	5	0	%
Lismore	2,099	2,050	-49	-2.3
Moree	508	537	29	5.7
Murwillumbah	640	617	-23	-3.6
Narrabri	341	362	21	6.2
Nerang	1,823	1,740	-83	-4.6
Palm Beach	2,101	1,945	-156	-7.4
Roma	143	135	-8	-5.6
Southport	2,352	2,272	-80	-3.4
Stanthorpe	383	379	-4	-1.0
Toowoomba	2,313	2,193	-120	-5.2
Tweed Heads	1,574	1,560	-14	-0.9
Walgett	406	411	5	1.2
Warwick	546	514	-32	-5.9
Woodridge	2,148	2,007	-141	-6.6
Other (a)	28	29	1	%
<i>Total</i>	36,349	35,162	-1,187	-3.3

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>	July 2006	August 2006	Variation	
			July - August Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRELINK CALL CENTRES*</i>				
Adelaide	0	0	0	%
Bendigo	1	0	-1	%
Brisbane	0	1	1	%
Bunbury	0	0	0	%
Cairns	0	0	0	%
Cardiff	0	0	0	%
Coffs Harbour	0	0	0	%
Geelong	0	0	0	%
Gosford	0	0	0	%
Hobart	0	0	0	%
Illawarra	0	1	1	%
Latrobe	4	3	-1	%
Liverpool	0	0	0	%
Maryborough	0	1	1	%
Moorabbin	0	1	1	%
Moreland	0	0	0	%
Newcastle	2	1	-1	%
Perth	3	1	-2	%
Port Augusta	0	0	0	%
Port Macquarie	5	6	1	%
Sydney	0	0	0	%
Toowoomba	0	0	0	%
Townsville	4	2	-2	%
Tweed Heads	1	0	-1	%
Warilla	0	0	0	%
Wendouree	0	0	0	%
<i>Total</i>	20	17	-3	%
NOT CODED TO AN AREA	31	33	2	%
AUSTRALIA	379,179	369,834	-9,345	-2.5

(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 18 AUGUST 2006**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term Jobseekers	Long-term Jobseekers	Total Jobseekers
MALES			
Did not earn an income	84.7	81.9	83.2
Earned an income	15.3	18.1	16.8
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.7	1.0	0.9
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.4	3.0	2.8
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.7	3.4	3.1
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.9	2.3	2.1
Over \$316.00	7.5	8.5	8.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>109,846</i>	<i>129,237</i>	<i>239,083</i>
FEMALES			
Did not earn an income	74.9	71.9	73.1
Earned an income	25.1	28.1	26.9
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	1.1	1.4	1.3
\$62.01 - \$142.00	3.8	4.0	3.9
\$142.01 - \$236.00	4.1	4.6	4.4
\$236.01 - \$316.00	3.1	3.6	3.4
Over \$316.00	12.9	14.5	13.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>51,554</i>	<i>78,299</i>	<i>129,853</i>
PERSONS			
Did not earn an income	81.6	78.1	79.6
Earned an income	18.4	21.9	20.4
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.8	1.2	1.0
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.9	3.4	3.2
\$142.01 - \$236.00	3.2	3.8	3.5
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.3	2.8	2.6
Over \$316.00	9.3	10.7	10.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>161,400</i>	<i>207,536</i>	<i>368,936</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 (Australian Apprentices) and Youth Allowance (other) categories. Numbers of people on Mature Age Allowance, Partner Allowance and Widow Allowance are also provided.

Tables 2 and 3 provide a summary of the Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) populations and show the derivation of the respective 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 and who were born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Other dependent partners have to qualify for an income support payment in their own right, such as Newstart Allowance.</p> <p>Partner Allowance was introduced in September 1994, and was paid to partners of persons receiving Job Search Allowance, Newstart Allowance, Sickness Allowance or Special Benefit if certain eligibility criteria were satisfied.</p>
<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 FaCSIA, 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 and 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 63 years in the case of women.

Employment

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

Timing

The timing of collections of the series are different:

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 FaCSIA 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.*