

LABOUR MARKET AND RELATED PAYMENTS

a monthly profile

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

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

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INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The next issue of this publication is scheduled for release on 23 September 2009.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS – July 2009

Between July 2008 and July 2009

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)) recipients **increased 29.9 per cent** overall from 495 503 to 643 641.

- ◆ NSA recipients increased 30.1 per cent from 429 989 to 559 577
- ◆ YA(o) recipients increased 28.3 per cent from 65 514 to 84 064.

The number of job seekers **increased 45.5 per cent** overall from 293 881 to 427 537.

- ◆ NSA job seekers increased 45.4 per cent from 242 663 to 361 493
- ◆ YA(o) job seekers increased 29.6 per cent from 51 218 to 66 044.

Long-term job seekers increased 21.9 per cent from 150 831 to 183 825.

Short-term job seekers increased 70.4 per cent from 143 050 to 243 712.

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes). This change does not affect overall recipient numbers.

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

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

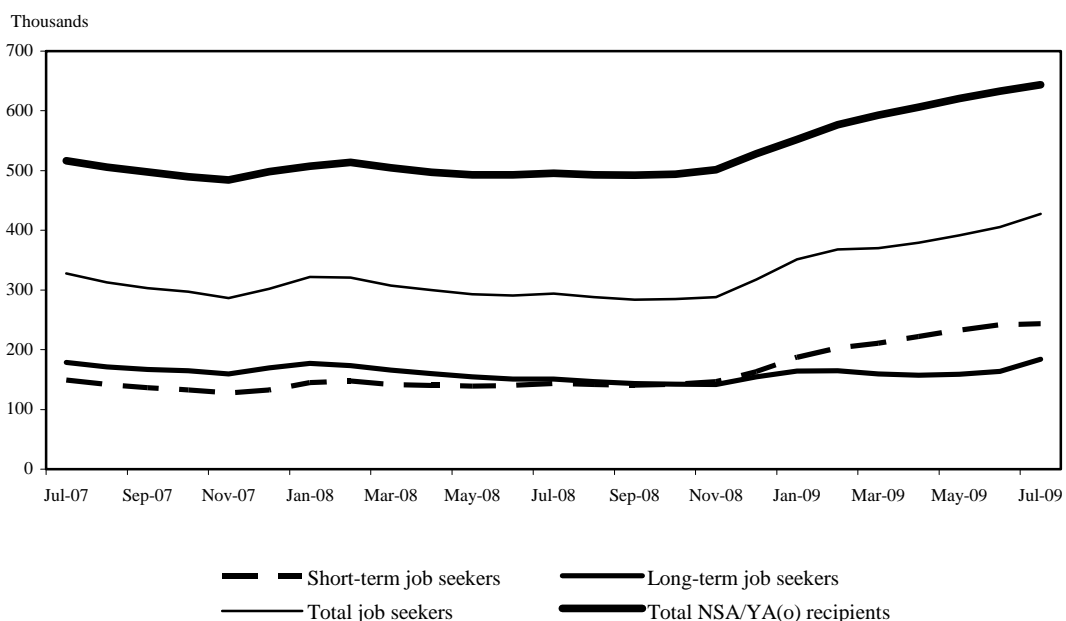


TABLE 1 - LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance			Mature Age Allowance	Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
	Long-term	Total	Other	Full-time Students	Australian Apprentices			
February 1994	472,785	977,796	..	..	..	..	..	..
July 2007	269,816	448,833	67,617	256,808	4,416	4,796	45,917	40,735
August 2007	267,972	442,112	63,717	263,166	4,490	4,381	45,459	40,853
September 2007	266,180	435,711	62,042	265,669	4,509	3,981	45,058	41,019
October 2007	264,434	429,811	59,920	264,829	4,350	3,619	44,695	41,156
November 2007	261,930	424,168	59,967	249,546	4,093	3,242	44,358	41,278
December 2007	264,127	428,962	69,320	215,158	3,956	2,868	43,997	41,400
January 2008	266,199	437,918	69,709	206,509	3,746	2,518	43,434	41,297
February 2008	266,368	443,916	69,728	213,384	3,897	2,149	42,512	41,014
March 2008	263,759	438,786	65,889	227,301	4,094	1,797	41,528	40,729
April 2008	260,541	433,674	63,680	236,930	4,274	1,503	40,708	40,503
May 2008	257,363	429,363	63,395	245,421	4,419	1,166	39,804	40,124
June 2008	255,550	428,896	63,972	252,180	4,444	856	38,915	39,702
July 2008	254,723	429,989	65,514	248,493	4,402	586	38,109	39,321
August 2008	253,131	429,459	63,347	254,853	4,256	307	37,226	38,946
September 2008	251,987	429,426	62,832	258,973	4,018	47	36,411	38,640
October 2008	251,529	431,546	62,227	259,337	3,882	0	35,572	38,375
November 2008	251,170	437,270	64,053	247,471	3,683	0	34,733	38,142
December 2008	254,327	453,485	74,786	218,371	3,665	0	34,011	37,989
January 2009	258,403	475,183	76,613	208,624	3,506	0	33,234	37,753
February 2009	261,232	498,020	78,868	218,999	3,570	0	32,480	37,561
March 2009	262,162	514,265	78,259	238,274	3,707	0	31,802	37,364
April 2009	262,468	527,686	78,441	253,363	3,815	0	31,171	37,128
May 2009	264,337	540,729	79,787	264,591	3,873	0	30,423	36,847
June 2009	266,942	551,067	81,783	274,033	3,987	0	29,691	36,549
July 2009	270,978	559,577	84,064	272,840	4,051	0	29,218	36,442
<i>Variation June 2009 - July 2009</i>								
Number	4,036	8,510	2,281	-1,193	64	0	-473	-107
Per cent	1.5	1.5	2.8	-0.4	2	0.0	-1.6	-0.3

Notes:

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

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

	June 2009	July			Variation June - July	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term Newstart Allowees	284,125	193,800	94,798	288,598	4,473	1.6
CPS recipients (a)	2,445	1,608	547	2,155	-290	-11.9
Did not receive a payment (b)	14,793	9,212	5,970	15,182	389	2.6
Received a payment	266,887	182,980	88,281	271,261	4,374	1.6
Self-employment development (c)	617	6	3	9	-608	-98.5
Voluntary/part-time work (d)	6,398	2,445	4,406	6,851	453	7.1
Other activities without job search (e)	16,912	14,762	9,121	23,883	6,971	41.2
Incapacitated (f)	20,525	10,722	6,872	17,594	-2,931	-14.3
Other/temporary exemptions (g)	18,112	9,511	6,684	16,195	-1,917	-10.6
Short-term NSA job seekers (h)	204,323	145,536	61,194	206,730	2,407	1.2
<i>Short-term NSA training/education (i)</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	..	..
Long-term Newstart Allowees	266,942	155,502	115,476	270,978	4,036	1.5
CPS recipients (a)	5,969	3,543	1,681	5,224	-745	-12.5
Did not receive a payment (b)	7,507	3,217	3,966	7,183	-324	-4.3
Received a payment	253,466	148,742	109,829	258,571	5,105	2.0
Self-employment development (c)	182	3	1	4	-178	-97.8
Voluntary/part-time work (d)	17,962	8,323	10,562	18,885	923	5.1
Other activities without job search (e)	55,188	26,276	19,242	45,518	-9,670	-17.5
Incapacitated (f)	16,499	7,250	6,591	13,841	-2,658	-16.1
Other/temporary exemptions (g)	28,853	14,463	11,098	25,561	-3,292	-11.4
Long-term NSA job seekers (h)	134,782	92,429	62,334	154,763	19,981	14.8
<i>Long-term NSA training/education (i)</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	..	..
All Newstart Allowees	551,067	349,302	210,274	559,576	8,509	1.5
CPS recipients (a)	8,414	5,151	2,228	7,379	-1,035	-12.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	22,300	12,429	9,936	22,365	65	0.3
Received a payment	520,353	331,722	198,110	529,832	9,479	1.8
Self-employment development (c)	799	9	4	13	-786	-98.4
Voluntary/part-time work (d)	24,360	10,768	14,968	25,736	1,376	5.6
Other activities without job search (e)	72,100	41,038	28,363	69,401	-2,699	-3.7
Incapacitated (f)	37,024	17,972	13,463	31,435	-5,589	-15.1
Other/temporary exemptions (g)	46,965	23,974	17,782	41,756	-5,209	-11.1
All NSA job seekers (h)	339,105	237,965	123,528	361,493	22,388	6.6
<i>NSA training/education total (i)</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	..	..

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

- (a) Allowees eligible for NSA who received the CDEP Participant Supplement or add ons.
- (b) Allowees who did not receive a payment due to their own income and/or that of their partner or parents, where applicable. This group is often referred to as zero-paid.
- (c) Allowees exempted from job search while they develop self-employment opportunities.
- (d) Allowees who are not required to seek work because they are undertaking approved full-time voluntary work or a combination of voluntary and part-time work.
- (e) Allowees who are undertaking one or more other activities (which may include training or education) but not job search.
- (f) Allowees who are temporarily ill or incapacitated.
- (g) Other allowees who are known not to have participation requirements.
- (h) Allowees who received a payment and generally are required to search for work. These allowees are classified as job seekers and form the basis of the population group in Tables 4 - 7.
- (i) All allowees who are undertaking training or education which may be in conjunction with job search and/or other activities. This category is a subset of all allowees who received a payment. These data will be published from August 2009.

Notes:

- Long-term allowees have received income support for 12 months or more.
- From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report. Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity.

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

	June 2009	July			Variation June - July	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term Youth Allowees	45,432	26,494	19,967	46,461	1,029	2.3
CPS recipients (a)	1,020	541	272	813	-207	-20.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	923	429	478	907	-16	-1.7
Received a payment	43,489	25,524	19,217	44,741	1,252	2.9
Self-employment development (c)	8	0	0	0	-8	%
Voluntary/part-time work (d)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other activities without job search (e)	1,941	2,567	1,881	4,448	2,507	129.2
Incapacitated (f)	1,790	729	732	1,461	-329	-18.4
Other/temporary exemptions (g)	1,999	814	1,036	1,850	-149	-7.5
Short-term YA (other) job seekers (h)	37,751	21,413	15,569	36,982	-769	-2.0
<i>Short-term YA (other) training/education (i)</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>
Long-term Youth Allowees	36,351	18,286	19,317	37,603	1,252	-2.1
CPS recipients (a)	743	395	228	623	-120	-16.2
Did not receive a payment (b)	886	304	476	780	-106	-12.0
Received a payment	34,722	17,587	18,613	36,200	1,478	4.3
Self-employment development (c)	5	0	0	0	-5	%
Voluntary/part-time work (d)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other activities without job search (e)	3,437	2,501	2,369	4,870	1,433	41.7
Incapacitated (f)	1,130	349	537	886	-244	-21.6
Other/temporary exemptions (g)	1,498	517	865	1,382	-116	-7.7
Long-term YA (other) job seekers (h)	28,652	14,219	14,843	29,062	410	1.4
<i>Long-term YA (other) training/education (i)</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>
All YA Youth Allowees	81,783	44,780	39,284	84,064	2,281	2.8
CPS recipients (a)	1,763	936	500	1,436	-327	-18.5
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,809	733	954	1,687	-122	-6.7
Received a payment	78,211	43,111	37,830	80,941	2,730	3.5
Self-employment development (c)	13	0	0	0	-13	%
Voluntary/part-time work (d)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other activities without job search (e)	5,378	5,068	4,250	9,318	3,940	73.3
Incapacitated (f)	2,920	1,078	1,269	2,347	-573	-19.6
Other/temporary exemptions (g)	3,497	1,331	1,901	3,232	-265	-7.6
All YA (other) job seekers (h)	66,403	35,632	30,412	66,044	-359	-0.5
<i>All YA (other) training/education (i)</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

(a) Allowees eligible for NSA who received the CDEP Participant Supplement or add ons.

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

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

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

(e) Allowees who are undertaking one or more other activities (which may include training or education) but not job search.

(f) Allowees who are temporarily ill or incapacitated.

(g) Other allowees who are known not to have participation requirements.

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

(i) All allowees who are undertaking training or education which may be in conjunction with job search and/or other activities. This category is a subset of all allowees who received a payment. These data will be published from August 2009.

Notes:

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

– From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report. Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity.

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

	Short-term	Long-term	Total
July 2007	149,043	178,467	327,510
August 2007	141,433	171,107	312,540
September 2007	136,186	166,762	302,948
October 2007	132,332	164,716	297,048
November 2007	127,425	159,046	286,471
December 2007	132,454	169,573	302,027
January 2008	145,046	177,005	322,051
February 2008	147,610	173,316	320,926
March 2008	141,568	165,748	307,316
April 2008	139,811	160,030	299,841
May 2008	138,808	154,313	293,121
June 2008	140,066	150,517	290,583
July 2008	143,050	150,831	293,881
August 2008	141,458	146,533	287,991
September 2008	140,447	143,357	283,804
October 2008	142,254	142,368	284,622
November 2008	146,670	141,488	288,158
December 2008	163,109	154,285	317,394
January 2009	186,990	164,229	351,219
February 2009	203,173	164,752	367,925
March 2009	210,786	159,449	370,235
April 2009	221,803	157,339	379,142
May 2009	232,629	158,978	391,607
June 2009	242,074	163,434	405,508
July 2009	243,712	183,825	427,537
<i>Variation June 2009 - July 2009</i>			
Number	1,638	20,391	22,029
Per cent	0.7	12.5	5.4

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report. Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity.

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

<i>State</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
SHORT-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	78,037	77,574	-463	-0.6
Victoria	54,317	54,081	-236	-0.4
Queensland	59,169	59,649	480	0.8
South Australia	16,437	16,500	63	0.4
Western Australia	23,352	24,355	1,003	4.3
Tasmania	5,823	6,045	222	3.8
Northern Territory	3,207	3,148	-59	-1.8
Australian Capital Territory	1,732	1,781	49	2.8
AUSTRALIA	242,074	243,712	1,638	0.7
LONG-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	59,757	65,492	5,735	9.6
Victoria	37,921	42,010	4,089	10.8
Queensland	27,268	32,361	5,093	18.7
South Australia	15,130	16,492	1,362	9.0
Western Australia	11,092	13,141	2,049	18.5
Tasmania	5,922	6,690	768	13.0
Northern Territory	4,949	5,170	221	4.5
Australian Capital Territory	1,395	1,700	305	21.9
AUSTRALIA	163,434	183,825	20,391	12.5
TOTAL JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	137,794	143,066	5,272	3.8
Victoria	92,238	96,091	3,853	4.2
Queensland	86,437	92,010	5,573	6.4
South Australia	31,567	32,992	1,425	4.5
Western Australia	34,444	37,496	3,052	8.9
Tasmania	11,745	12,735	990	8.4
Northern Territory	8,156	8,318	162	2.0
Australian Capital Territory	3,127	3,481	354	11.3
AUSTRALIA	405,508	427,537	22,029	5.4

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report. Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity.
- From July 2009, the National total includes job seekers who are not allocated to a particular State. Before July 2009 these recipients were included in New South Wales job seeker numbers.

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

Age	Short-term job seekers		Long-term job seekers		Total job seekers	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
MALES						
Less than 18 years	5,119	3.1	2,300	2.2	7,419	2.7
18 - 20 years	16,294	9.8	11,919	11.2	28,213	10.3
21 - 24 years	27,989	16.8	13,581	12.7	41,570	15.2
25 - 29 years	27,124	16.2	14,736	13.8	41,860	15.3
30 - 39 years	40,072	24.0	25,333	23.8	65,405	23.9
40 - 49 years	27,605	16.5	19,239	18.0	46,844	17.1
50 - 59 years	16,876	10.1	13,215	12.4	30,091	11.0
60 years and over	5,870	3.5	6,324	5.9	12,194	4.5
Total	166,949	100	106,647	100	273,596	100
FEMALES						
Less than 18 years	4,653	6.1	2,586	3.4	7,239	4.7
18 - 20 years	10,916	14.2	12,256	15.9	23,172	15.1
21 - 24 years	13,505	17.6	9,467	12.3	22,972	14.9
25 - 29 years	9,100	11.9	7,188	9.3	16,288	10.6
30 - 39 years	12,312	16.0	13,454	17.4	25,766	16.7
40 - 49 years	13,711	17.9	16,888	21.9	30,599	19.9
50 - 59 years	10,215	13.3	12,200	15.8	22,415	14.6
60 years and over	2,351	3.1	3,139	4.1	5,490	3.6
Total	76,763	100	77,178	100	153,941	100
PERSONS						
Less than 18 years	9,772	4.0	4,886	2.7	14,658	3.4
18 - 20 years	27,210	11.2	24,175	13.2	51,385	12.0
21 - 24 years	41,494	17.0	23,048	12.5	64,542	15.1
25 - 29 years	36,224	14.9	21,924	11.9	58,148	13.6
30 - 39 years	52,384	21.5	38,787	21.1	91,171	21.3
40 - 49 years	41,316	17.0	36,127	19.7	77,443	18.1
50 - 59 years	27,091	11.1	25,415	13.8	52,506	12.3
60 years and over	8,221	3.4	9,463	5.1	17,684	4.1
Total	243,712	100.0	183,825	100.0	427,537	100.0

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report. Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SYDNEY EAST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Bankstown	3,944	4,194	250	6.3
Bondi Junction	1,375	1,482	107	7.8
Burwood	1,928	2,075	147	7.6
Campsie	2,721	2,729	8	0.3
Caringbah	1,476	1,564	88	6.0
Chatswood	1,395	1,457	62	4.4
Corrimal	1,286	1,400	114	8.9
Dapto	1,447	1,517	70	4.8
Darlinghurst	1,839	2,220	381	20.7
Darlinghurst CCU	70	92	22	31.4
Hornsby	1,153	1,293	140	12.1
Hurstville	1,637	1,756	119	7.3
Lakemba	30	30	0	0.0
Leichhardt	1,612	1,766	154	9.6
Maroubra	1,654	1,745	91	5.5
Marrickville	1,632	1,762	130	8.0
Northern Beaches	1,710	1,838	128	7.5
Redfern	1,365	1,581	216	15.8
Rockdale	1,561	1,640	79	5.1
Ryde	1,261	1,379	118	9.4
Shellharbour	1,637	1,837	200	12.2
Sutherland	618	713	95	15.4
Wollongong	1,583	1,686	103	6.5
Other (a)	23	18	-5	%
Total	34,957	37,774	2,817	8.1

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SYDNEY WEST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Auburn	2,340	2,417	77	3.3
Baulkham Hills	991	1,028	37	3.7
Blacktown	3,687	3,964	277	7.5
Cabramatta	2,285	2,448	163	7.1
Camden	861	882	21	2.4
Campbelltown	2,544	2,654	110	4.3
Fairfield	3,463	3,780	317	9.2
Hawkesbury	1,099	1,211	112	10.2
Ingleburn	1,580	1,678	98	6.2
Katoomba	833	904	71	8.5
Liverpool	4,346	4,727	381	8.8
Merrylands	2,116	2,295	179	8.5
Mt Druitt	3,322	3,531	209	6.3
Parramatta	2,369	2,620	251	10.6
Penrith	2,234	2,285	51	2.3
Springwood	459	467	8	1.7
St Marys	1,806	1,898	92	5.1
Other (a)	16	15	-1	-6.3
Total	36,351	38,804	2,453	6.7

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
HUNTER NEW SOUTH WALES				
Armidale	887	927	40	4.5
Cessnock	938	955	17	1.8
Charlestown	2,179	2,314	135	6.2
Ettalong	983	845	-138	-14.0
Glen Innes	274	289	15	5.5
Gosford	1,988	2,006	18	0.9
Gunnedah	414	399	-15	-3.6
Inverell	750	736	-14	-1.9
Kempsey	1,104	1,132	28	2.5
Kurri Kurri	488	499	11	2.3
Lakehaven	2,004	2,004	0	0.0
Maitland	1,743	1,810	67	3.8
Mayfield	965	956	-9	-0.9
Muswellbrook	582	657	75	12.9
Nambucca Heads	866	885	19	2.2
Nelson Bay	610	612	2	0.3
Newcastle	1,323	1,418	95	7.2
Port Macquarie	1,767	1,864	97	5.5
Raymond Terrace	1,171	1,268	97	8.3
Singleton	306	339	33	10.8
Tamworth	1,858	1,843	-15	-0.8
Taree	1,834	1,909	75	4.1
The Entrance	1,549	1,621	72	4.6
Toronto	1,067	1,165	98	9.2
Tuncurry (Forster)	959	1,025	66	6.9
Wallsend	1,491	1,583	92	6.2
Woy Woy	362	546	184	50.8
Wyong	900	920	20	2.2
Other (a)	46	61	15	32.6
Total	31,408	32,588	1,180	3.8

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH WEST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Batemans Bay	974	916	-58	-6.0
Bathurst	1,032	1,038	6	0.6
Bega	762	734	-28	-3.7
Belconnen	946	1,035	89	9.4
Bowral	592	590	-2	-0.3
Braddon	842	967	125	14.8
Cooma	374	400	26	7.0
Cowra	491	513	22	4.5
Dubbo	2,155	1,989	-166	-7.7
Goulburn	824	752	-72	-8.7
Griffith	618	656	38	6.1
Gungahlin	78	84	6	%
Lanyon	30	39	9	%
Leeton	395	402	7	1.8
Lithgow	586	574	-12	-2.0
Mudgee	694	678	-16	-2.3
Narooma	436	379	-57	-13.1
Nowra	2,278	2,260	-18	-0.8
Orange	1,154	1,086	-68	-5.9
Parkes	1,059	1,008	-51	-4.8
Queanbeyan	432	522	90	20.8
Tuggeranong	693	763	70	10.1
Tumut	271	275	4	1.5
Ulladulla	570	551	-19	-3.3
Wagga	1,485	1,501	16	1.1
Woden	524	595	71	13.5
Yass	121	115	-6	-5.0
Young	438	443	5	1.1
Other (a)	11	10	-1	%
Total	20,865	20,875	10	0.0

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>NORTH CENTRAL VICTORIA</i>				
Airport West	1,160	1,209	49	4.2
Albury	2,390	2,330	-60	-2.5
Box Hill	2,042	2,159	117	5.7
Broadmeadows	3,942	4,190	248	6.3
Camberwell	975	1,011	36	3.7
Darebin	3,224	3,451	227	7.0
Deniliquin	355	370	15	4.2
Echuca	536	525	-11	-2.1
Epping	2,191	2,240	49	2.2
Heidelberg	1,949	2,017	68	3.5
Moreland	2,170	2,442	272	12.5
Newmarket	1,357	1,555	198	14.6
Seymour	643	670	27	4.2
Shepparton	2,063	2,181	118	5.7
South Melbourne	744	818	74	9.9
Sunbury	834	893	59	7.1
Wangaratta	1,534	1,464	-70	-4.6
Windsor	2,515	2,703	188	7.5
Yarra	1,811	1,971	160	8.8
Other (a)	16	27	11	%
Total	32,451	34,226	1,775	5.5

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH EAST VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	803	812	9	1.1
Belgrave	496	562	66	13.3
Cheltenham	1,794	1,915	121	6.7
Cranbourne	1,583	1,618	35	2.2
Dandenong	2,800	2,909	109	3.9
Fountain Gate	2,125	2,202	77	3.6
Frankston	2,935	3,097	162	5.5
Glen Waverley	1,156	1,219	63	5.4
Hastings	572	628	56	9.8
Lilydale	1,663	1,717	54	3.2
Mornington	514	538	24	4.7
Morwell	2,541	2,451	-90	-3.5
Oakleigh	1,930	2,069	139	7.2
Pakenham	730	782	52	7.1
Ringwood	2,126	2,192	66	3.1
Rosebud	1,020	1,101	81	7.9
Rowville	476	521	45	9.5
Sale	851	845	-6	-0.7
Springvale	2,177	2,279	102	4.7
Wantirna	1,382	1,442	60	4.3
Warragul	625	641	16	2.6
Wonthaggi	673	704	31	4.6
Other (a)	7	6	-1	%
Total	30,979	32,250	1,271	4.1

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
WEST VICTORIA				
Ararat	245	248	3	1.2
Ballarat	2,881	2,955	74	2.6
Bendigo	2,645	2,531	-114	-4.3
Bendigo Central	539	527	-12	-2.2
Colac	527	539	12	2.3
Corio	1,790	1,831	41	2.3
Footscray	1,521	1,568	47	3.1
Geelong	3,162	3,168	6	0.2
Hamilton	420	389	-31	-7.4
Horsham	611	618	7	1.1
Maryborough	465	444	-21	-4.5
Melton	1,518	1,636	118	7.8
Mildura	1,760	1,909	149	8.5
Newport	1,240	1,276	36	2.9
Portland	474	469	-5	-1.1
Stawell	208	195	-13	-6.3
Sunshine	2,789	3,028	239	8.6
Swan Hill	939	963	24	2.6
Warrnambool	862	881	19	2.2
Watergardens	3,336	3,471	135	4.0
Werribee	3,442	3,572	130	3.8
Other (a)	18	19	1	%
Total	31,392	32,237	845	2.7

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL & NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	778	832	54	6.9
Ayr	437	402	-35	-8.0
Bamaga RASC (Nth Peninsula RASC)	33	33	0	%
Biloela	176	187	11	6.3
Bowen	396	364	-32	-8.1
Cairns Jobseekers	4,719	4,984	265	5.6
Cairns Remote (Indigenous ISC)	785	767	-18	-2.3
Charters Towers	375	384	9	2.4
Emerald	318	322	4	1.3
Gladstone	1,138	1,208	70	6.2
Ingham	353	314	-39	-11.0
Innisfail	780	849	69	8.8
Longreach	107	111	4	3.7
Mackay Jobseekers	1,652	1,658	6	0.4
Mareeba	635	728	93	14.6
Mossman	547	555	8	1.5
Mt Isa	931	895	-36	-3.9
Normanton	143	137	-6	-4.2
Palm Island	341	307	-34	-10.0
Rockhampton Jobseekers	2,154	2,276	122	5.7
Students Area CNQ	46	50	4	8.7
Thursday Island	267	262	-5	-1.9
Townsville Jobseekers	3,535	3,596	61	1.7
Western Cape RASC	274	249	-25	-9.1
Whitsunday	529	514	-15	-2.8
Yarrabah RASC	464	574	110	23.7
Yeppoon	500	502	2	0.4
Other (a)	56	94	38	%
Total	22,469	23,154	685	3.0

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH & EAST QUEENSLAND</i>				
Bundaberg	3,109	3,205	96	3.1
Caboolture	2,944	3,126	182	6.2
Caloundra	1,437	1,561	124	8.6
Cherbourg	194	220	26	13.4
Chermside	1,269	1,383	114	9.0
Deception Bay	694	740	46	6.6
Fortitude Valley	1,267	1,437	170	13.4
Gympie	1,363	1,440	77	5.6
Hervey Bay	1,699	1,863	164	9.7
Kawana Waters	736	768	32	4.3
Kingaroy	704	774	70	9.9
Kippa-Ring	1,256	1,376	120	9.6
Maroochydore	1,823	1,931	108	5.9
Maryborough	1,253	1,372	119	9.5
Mitchelton	1,174	1,259	85	7.2
Nambour	1,152	1,280	128	11.1
Noosa	1,246	1,282	36	2.9
Nundah	1,264	1,345	81	6.4
Strathpine	1,574	1,679	105	6.7
Toowong	1,009	1,020	11	1.1
Other (a)	11	11	0	0.0
Total	27,178	29,072	1,894	7.0

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH & WEST QUEENSLAND</i>				
Beenleigh	2,471	2,622	151	6.1
Browns Plains	2,050	2,163	113	5.5
Capalaba	837	898	61	7.3
Charleville	208	213	5	2.4
Cleveland	993	1,062	69	6.9
Dalby	541	587	46	8.5
Goodna	1,548	1,751	203	13.1
Goondiwindi	301	347	46	15.3
Inala	1,849	2,024	175	9.5
Ipswich	2,611	2,886	275	10.5
Mt Gravatt	2,020	2,130	110	5.4
Roma	182	186	4	2.2
South Brisbane	994	1,065	71	7.1
Stanthorpe	394	464	70	17.8
Stones Corner	1,810	1,968	158	8.7
Toowoomba	2,406	2,641	235	9.8
Warwick	506	545	39	7.7
Woodridge	2,232	2,478	246	11.0
Wynnum	1,065	1,123	58	5.4
Other (a)	13	8	-5	%
Total	25,031	27,161	2,130	8.5

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
SOUTH AUSTRALIA				
Berri	971	954	-17	-1.8
Broken Hill	862	845	-17	-2.0
Ceduna	274	303	29	10.6
Cooper Pedy	156	155	-1	-0.6
Elizabeth	2,728	2,845	117	4.3
Enfield	1,706	1,803	97	5.7
Gawler	1,210	1,209	-1	-0.1
Glenelg	932	952	20	2.1
Kadina	689	705	16	2.3
Kilkenny	1,711	1,779	68	4.0
Marion	2,176	2,378	202	9.3
Modbury	1,794	1,854	60	3.3
Mt Barker	685	709	24	3.5
Mt Gambier	1,359	1,411	52	3.8
Murray Bridge	873	911	38	4.4
Noarlunga	2,807	2,944	137	4.9
Norwood	1,865	2,024	159	8.5
Port Adelaide	1,586	1,635	49	3.1
Port Augusta	753	811	58	7.7
Port Lincoln	628	633	5	0.8
Port Pirie	941	953	12	1.3
Salisbury	2,684	2,789	105	3.9
Torrensville	1,488	1,570	82	5.5
Victor Harbor	719	759	40	5.6
Whyalla	774	867	93	12.0
Other (a)	20	17	-3	%
Total	32,391	33,815	1,424	4.4

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
WEST AUSTRALIA				
Albany	1,008	1,019	11	1.1
Armadale	1,396	1,561	165	11.8
Bunbury	1,887	2,085	198	10.5
Busselton	720	785	65	9.0
Cannington	2,082	2,258	176	8.5
Carnarvon	313	298	-15	-4.8
Cocos Islands	31	32	1	%
Community Team Perth	69	90	21	%
Esperance	317	340	23	7.3
Fremantle	1,543	1,700	157	10.2
Geraldton	1,289	1,407	118	9.2
Gosnells	1,287	1,450	163	12.7
Innaloo	1,526	1,707	181	11.9
Joondalup	2,076	2,278	202	9.7
Kalgoorlie	924	918	-6	-0.6
Karratha	356	358	2	0.6
Laverton RASC	60	57	-3	%
Mandurah	1,744	1,855	111	6.4
Meekatharra RASC	162	169	7	4.3
Midland	2,621	2,868	247	9.4
Mirrabooka	2,040	2,360	320	15.7
Morley	2,077	2,305	228	11.0
Newman RASC	233	223	-10	-4.3
Northam	584	617	33	5.7
Rockingham	2,181	2,299	118	5.4
South Hedland	474	473	-1	-0.2
Spearwood	1,337	1,480	143	10.7
Victoria Park	2,044	2,286	242	11.8
Warwick Grove	934	1,066	132	14.1
Other (a)	44	67	23	%
Total	33,359	36,411	3,052	9.1

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
TASMANIA				
Bridgewater	628	684	56	8.9
Burnie	1,538	1,690	152	9.9
Devonport	1,475	1,629	154	10.4
Glenorchy	1,766	1,845	79	4.5
Hobart	1,297	1,376	79	6.1
Huonville	409	449	40	9.8
Launceston	3,165	3,453	288	9.1
Rosny Park	973	1,048	75	7.7
Sorell	530	587	57	10.8
Other (a)	38	40	2	%
Total	11,819	12,801	982	8.3
NORTH AUSTRALIA				
Alice Springs	2,533	2,549	16	0.6
Borrooloola RASC	32	29	-3	%
Broome	540	569	29	5.4
Casuarina	861	981	120	13.9
Derby	161	162	1	0.6
Fitzroy Crossing RASC	62	73	11	%
Halls Creek RASC	208	200	-8	-3.8
Katherine	1,038	1,069	31	3.0
Knuckey Street	504	578	74	14.7
Kununurra	260	250	-10	-3.8
Maningrida	266	203	-63	-23.7
Nhulunbuy	583	466	-117	-20.1
Palmerston	888	1,032	144	16.2
Tangentyere	63	70	7	%
Tennant Creek	196	222	26	13.3
Tennant Creek Remote	62	63	1	%
Tiwi Islands RASC	207	179	-28	-13.5
Top End Remote	683	672	-11	-1.6
Wadeye RASC	196	179	-17	-8.7
Yuendumu RASC	115	106	-9	-7.8
Other (a)	32	30	-2	%
Total	9,490	9,682	192	2.0

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2009	July 2009	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
PACIFIC CENTRAL				
Ballina	1,114	1,151	37	3.3
Beaudesert	603	673	70	11.6
Biggera Waters	2,587	2,734	147	5.7
Bourke	525	543	18	3.4
Brunswick Heads	648	676	28	4.3
Byron Bay	657	680	23	3.5
Casino	640	686	46	7.2
Coffs Harbour	2,561	2,539	-22	-0.9
Grafton	1,578	1,593	15	1.0
Lightning Ridge	184	182	-2	-1.1
Lismore	1,745	1,773	28	1.6
Moree	521	601	80	15.4
Murwillumbah	659	699	40	6.1
Narrabri	321	326	5	1.6
Nerang	2,814	2,997	183	6.5
Palm Beach	3,115	3,364	249	8.0
Southport	2,938	3,172	234	8.0
Tweed Heads	1,818	1,903	85	4.7
Walgett	270	269	-1	-0.4
Other (a)	43	69	26	%
Total	25,341	26,630	1,289	5.1
OTHER				
Centrelink Call Centre	60	57	-3	%
Not coded to an area	23	10	-13	%
Rounding adjustment	3	-10	-13	%
AUSTRALIA	405,508	427,537	22,029	5.4

(a) Job seekers who are not allocated to any of the reported offices.

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

Notes:

- Variations for Customer Service Centres with small populations (less than 100) are displayed as % and not reported.
- Data in this table are rounded monthly averages.
- Area Support Office boundaries changed from July 2007. The July 2007 edition of this publication includes a description of the changes.
- The rounding adjustment was included prior to the July 2007 publication, in the Fairfield Customer Service Centre.
- From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report. Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity.

**TABLE 8 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)
FORTNIGHTLY EARNINGS (%) AND SEX (a), FORTNIGHT ENDING 24 JULY 2009**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term job seekers	Long-term job seekers	Total job seekers
MALES			
Did not earn an income	87.7	87.3	87.6
Earned an income	12.3	12.7	12.4
Amount earned			
\$0.01-\$62.00	0.5	0.6	0.6
\$62.01-\$142.00	1.6	1.9	1.7
\$142.01-\$236.00	2.0	2.2	2.1
\$236.01-\$316.00	1.5	1.6	1.5
Over \$316.00	6.6	6.4	6.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>163,991</i>	<i>101,710</i>	<i>265,701</i>
FEMALES			
Did not earn an income	77.7	77.0	77.4
Earned an income	22.3	23.0	22.6
Amount earned			
\$0.01-\$62.00	0.9	1.0	0.9
\$62.01-\$142.00	2.6	2.6	2.6
\$142.01-\$236.00	3.2	3.3	3.2
\$236.01-\$316.00	2.6	2.6	2.6
Over \$316.00	12.9	13.6	13.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>74,940</i>	<i>73,211</i>	<i>148,151</i>
PERSONS			
Did not earn an income	84.6	83.0	83.9
Earned an income	15.4	17.0	16.1
Amount earned			
\$0.01-\$62.00	0.6	0.8	0.7
\$62.01-\$142.00	1.9	2.2	2.0
\$142.01-\$236.00	2.4	2.6	2.5
\$236.01-\$316.00	1.8	2.0	1.9
Over \$316.00	8.6	9.4	8.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>238,931</i>	<i>174,921</i>	<i>413,852</i>

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report. Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

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

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

Scope

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

Methodology

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

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

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

The earnings data in Table 8 is derived using a different methodology from that of the other tables in the publication. Table 8 is based on the combined population of job seekers who are eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) at the end of the second last week in the month. 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 2009 young people under 21 years of age without a Year 12 or equivalent qualification will usually need to:

- participate in education and training full-time; or
- participate full-time (that is, for at least 25 hours a week) in part-time study or training, in combination with other approved activities, until they attain Year 12 or an equivalent Certificate Level II or above qualification.

Job seekers already in receipt of Youth Allowance before 1 July 2009 who do not have Year 12 or an equivalent qualification will transition to the new requirements between 1 January 2010 and 30 June 2010.

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

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

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

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

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

Newstart Allowance

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

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

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

Job Search Allowance From 20 September 1996, the payment was combined with Newstart Allowance to form one payment called Newstart Allowance (see *Newstart Allowance*). All Job Search Allowance recipients were transferred to Newstart Allowance.

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.

Sickness Allowance From 17 March 1996, persons in receipt of Newstart Allowance or Youth Training Allowance who became temporarily incapacitated no longer transferred to Sickness Allowance after 13 weeks. This change had the effect of increasing total Newstart Allowance/Youth Training Allowance figures but did not affect job seeker figures as those recipients who were incapacitated were excluded from the Newstart and Youth Training job seeker populations.

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.

Sickness Allowance for 16 to 20 year olds (and certain 15 year olds) was replaced by Youth Allowance, which was introduced on 1 July 1998 (see *Youth Allowance*).

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

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.

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.

Youth Training Allowance

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

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

Widow Allowance

From 1 July 2005 Widow Allowance new grants may only be made to women born on or before 1 July 1955.

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

Mature Age Allowance

From 20 September 2003, Mature Age Allowance was closed to new claimants. The payment ceased by October 2008 .

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

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

Comparability of Data

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Introduction of Youth Allowance The sum of the number of Newstart Allowees and Youth Training Allowees prior to July 1998 is broadly comparable with the sum of Newstart Allowees and Youth Allowees (other) after July 1998, other than the inclusion of Sickness Allowees in the Youth Allowance (other) population.

There is greater comparability between total Newstart Allowance and Youth Training Allowance job seekers prior to July 1998 and total Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) job seekers after July 1998. This is because the Sickness Allowance group is excluded from the job seeker total.

A pre and post July 1998 comparison will reflect 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).

Job seekers From July 2009, all recipients with job search requirements are classified as job seekers in this report.

Prior to 1 July 2009, some people with another activity (such as training) in addition to job search were classified according to that other activity and not as job seekers. Other people who were receiving Intensive Support Customised Assistance under Job Network arrangements were classified as job seekers although they may not always have been undertaking job search.

From July 1998, the definition of job seekers excludes all people

who did not receive a payment due to their own and/or their partner's income, or where applicable, parental income, and all those known not to be required to search for work.

Before July 1998, job seekers excluded allowees who did not receive a payment, allowees who were incapacitated, and allowees who were undertaking training. Some people who were not required to search for work were classified as job seekers, including people undertaking full-time voluntary work, people on jury duty and pregnant women around the time of the birth of their child.

Duration

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

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

Closure of Mature Age and Partner Allowances

From 20 September 2003, Mature Age Allowance and Partner Allowance were closed to new claimants. and payments of Mature Age Allowance ceased in October 2008. People on these allowances before 20 September 2003 can remain on that allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance. The majority of people who would previously have claimed these payments will now claim Newstart Allowance.

Symbols

n.a. not available
.. not applicable

GLOSSARY

Activity test status	The activity that a Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) recipient has agreed to undertake in order to meet the activity test. To satisfy the activity test recipients must be actively seeking and willing to take up work or undertaking activities to improve their employment prospects.
Age	Age in years at time of data collection.
Area Support Office	A Centrelink office that supports a set of Customer Service Centres for a specified area. These are generally not confined to State boundaries.
Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)	The CDEP program is administered by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Reforms to CDEP were introduced from 1 July 2009. Operating mainly in remote areas, the CDEP program aims to help unemployed Indigenous Australians to find and keep jobs. Under the CDEP program, there are two main ways ('streams') that CDEP providers assist Indigenous Australians: Work Readiness Services help individuals to develop their skills, improve their chances of getting a job, and move to work outside of the CDEP program; and Community Development focuses on supporting and developing Indigenous communities and organisations.
CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS)	The CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS) is payable to eligible CDEP participants. It can be paid fortnightly or as a 12 weekly payment.
Customer Service Centre	A Customer Service Centre set within a particular region that provides FaHCSIA, DEEWR and other payments and related information and services to recipients. Customer Service Centres are managed by Area Support Offices.
Did not receive a payment	Persons who did not receive a payment due to their own income and/or that of their partner, or parents, where applicable. This group is often referred to as 'zero paid'.
Fortnightly earnings	Amount of income earned, derived, or received by a person for the person's own use or benefit in the previous fortnight.
Incapacitated	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who has an activity test status indicating they are temporarily ill or incapacitated. Refer to the entry for Sickness Allowance in the Explanatory Notes.
Job seeker	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who would usually be engaged in job search. See Explanatory Notes for definition and history.
Job Search Allowance (JSA)	Up to 20 September 1996, Job Search Allowance was payable to eligible persons who had been registered as unemployed with the Commonwealth Employment Service for up to 12 months. From 20 September 1996, the payment was combined with Newstart Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.

Long-term recipients	Persons who have been receiving income support for 12 months or more. Duration of long-term recipients can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 13 weeks.
Mature Age Allowance (MAA)	<p>From 20 September 2003, Mature Age Allowance was closed to new claimants. The payment ceased by October 2008.</p> <p>Mature Age Allowance was a payment for unemployed people aged 60 years and over (but below Age Pension age) with little or no recent workforce experience. These people were not required to look for work to be eligible for the payment. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Newstart Allowance (NSA)	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.
Partner Allowance (PA)	<p>From 20 September 2003, Partner Allowance was closed to new claimants. People on Partner Allowance before this date can remain on the allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance.</p> <p>Partner Allowance was for dependent partners of pensioners and allowees. Partners had to be born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Partner Allowance had no job search requirement. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Short-term recipients	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.
Widow Allowance (WA)	<p>From 1 July 2005 Widow Allowance new grants may only be made to women 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)	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.
Youth Allowance (YA)	<p>Youth Allowance is payable to eligible full-time students aged 16 to 25 years, and to eligible unemployed persons aged 16 to 20 years who satisfy the activity test. Note, there are certain exceptions for some 15 and 25 year olds. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p> <p>Youth Allowees may be undertaking full-time study, full-time job search or a combination of approved activities. Some young</p>

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.

From 1 July 2009 young people under 21 years of age without a Year 12 or equivalent qualification will usually need to:

- participate in education and training full-time; or
- participate full-time (that is, for at least 25 hours a week) in part-time study or training, in combination with other approved activities, until they attain Year 12 or an equivalent Certificate Level II or above qualification.

Job seekers already in receipt of Youth Allowance before 1 July 2009 who do not have Year 12 or an equivalent qualification will transition to the new requirements between 1 January 2010 and 30 June 2010.

Youth Allowance (other)

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

Zero paid

See 'Did not receive a payment'.

APPENDIX

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Timing The timing of collections of the series are different:

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

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

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

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Labour market information

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

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

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

Director
Income Support Information Section
Working Age Payment Programs Branch
Income Support and Stakeholder Group
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PO Box 9879
Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2601

or forwarded via facsimile to (02) 6204 2912.

Other recipient information

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

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