

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 number of MAA, PA and WA recipients are also provided in this table.

Tables 2 and 3 show the derivation of the NSA and YA(O) jobseeker populations (see the reference to Jobseekers in the 'Comparability of Data' section of the *Explanatory Notes*). These populations are added together to derive the total number of jobseekers.

Tables 4 to 8 provide information on the total jobseeker population.

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

All media inquiries should be directed to the Centrelink National Media Officer on (02) 6284 6442. For more general inquiries regarding further statistical information please refer to the last page of this publication for other contact details.

The next issue of this publication is scheduled for release on 27 September 2006.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS - July 2006

Between July 2005 and July 2006:

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) recipients and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(O)) recipients **decreased by 3.0%** overall from 567,469 to 550,650

- ◆ by 2.7% for NSA from 487,653 to 474,477 and
- ◆ 4.6% for YA(O) from 79,816 to 76,173.

The number of jobseekers **decreased by 0.4%** overall from 380,739 to 379,179 and

- ◆ increased by 0.6% for NSA recipients from 316,808 to 318,843 and
- ◆ decreased by 5.6% for YA(O) recipients from 63,931 to 60,336.

Long-term jobseekers decreased by 0.1% from 213,585 to 213,281.

Short-term jobseekers decreased by 0.8% from 167,154 to 165,898.

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).

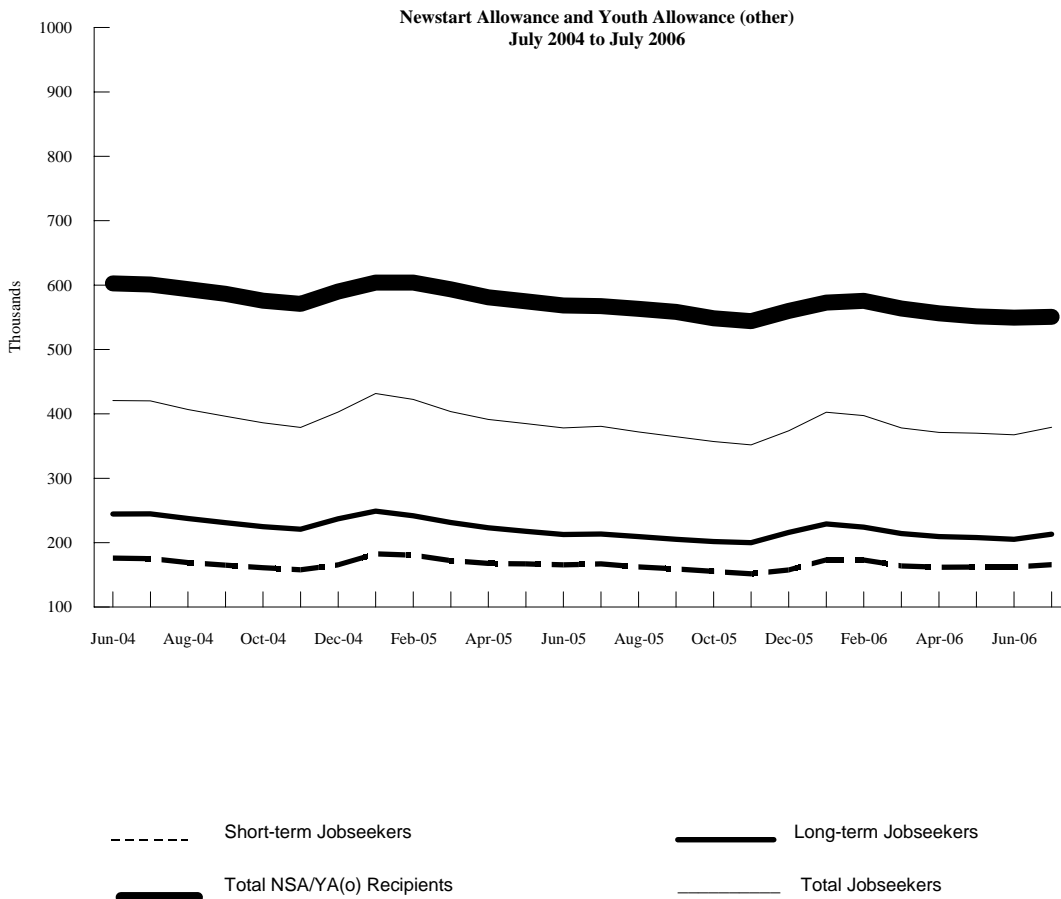


TABLE 1 - LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES (a)

	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
July 2004	313,274	515,686	85,357	290,210	..	32,175	90,056	45,644
August 2004	311,282	511,799	81,939	297,594	..	31,046	88,133	45,544
September 2004	308,214	506,457	80,129	300,177	..	30,055	86,495	45,531
October 2004	304,351	499,388	76,376	294,394	..	28,921	84,565	45,438
November 2004	301,742	494,289	76,497	287,438	..	27,844	82,782	45,369
December 2004	306,022	502,350	87,732	245,322	..	26,820	81,078	45,282
January 2005	309,214	514,579	89,453	235,537	..	25,770	79,482	45,206
February 2005	307,987	516,730	87,258	245,621	..	24,864	78,040	45,173
March 2005	304,783	509,892	83,604	263,308	..	23,918	76,588	45,100
April 2005	299,698	500,391	80,661	274,240	..	22,935	75,014	45,009
May 2005	295,728	494,847	79,896	281,184	..	22,032	73,601	44,976
June 2005	291,977	488,910	79,564	284,926	0	21,144	72,331	44,864
July 2005	291,683	487,653	79,816	279,040	742	20,258	71,140	44,841
August 2005	291,607	485,823	77,459	285,864	1,655	19,462	70,365	45,009
September 2005	289,974	482,072	76,272	288,479	2,285	18,697	69,624	45,158
October 2005	287,468	475,490	72,915	280,308	2,416	17,939	68,919	45,287
November 2005	286,345	470,557	73,576	274,547	2,471	17,335	68,420	45,538
December 2005	290,391	476,028	84,022	233,273	2,486	16,623	67,762	45,830
January 2006	294,100	487,251	85,628	223,059	2,478	15,869	66,905	45,849
February 2006	294,250	491,955	83,559	232,189	2,731	15,111	65,681	45,760
March 2006	291,020	484,784	78,913	250,079	2,994	14,271	64,282	45,622
April 2006	288,017	479,378	76,747	260,349	3,190	13,547	62,924	45,438
May 2006	285,853	475,830	75,533	266,392	3,181	12,836	61,863	45,212
June 2006	284,288	474,125	75,366	270,081	3,323	12,110	60,829	45,096
July 2006	285,152	474,477	76,173	264,863	3,376	11,379	59,401	44,639
<i>Variation June 2006 - July 2006</i>								
Number	864	352	807	-5,218	53	-731	-1,428	-457
Per cent	0.3	0.1	1.1	-1.9	1.6	-6.0	-2.3	-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

	June 2006	July			Variation June - July	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term NSA Customers	189,837	130,775	58,550	189,325	-512	-0.3
CPS recipients (a)	3,900	2,795	1,032	3,827	-73	-1.9
Did not receive a payment (b)	11,524	6,676	3,504	10,180	-1,344	-11.7
Received a payment	174,413	121,304	54,014	175,318	905	0.5
Incapacitated (c)	17,836	11,275	6,257	17,532	-304	-1.7
Training	9,979	5,448	2,808	8,256	-1,723	-17.3
Self-employment development (d)	490	266	129	395	-95	-19.4
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	2,294	892	1,217	2,109	-185	-8.1
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	10,298	6,556	3,933	10,489	191	1.9
Short-term NSA Jobseekers (g)	133,516	96,867	39,670	136,537	3,021	2.3
Long-term NSA Customers	284,288	180,773	104,379	285,152	864	0.3
CPS recipients (a)	8,839	6,063	2,652	8,715	-124	-1.4
Did not receive a payment (b)	10,931	5,193	3,567	8,760	-2,171	-19.9
Received a payment	264,518	169,517	98,160	267,677	3,159	1.2
Incapacitated (c)	22,699	13,377	9,398	22,775	76	0.3
Training	37,594	21,643	12,829	34,472	-3,122	-8.3
Self-employment development (d)	200	119	62	181	-19	-9.5
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	10,461	5,672	4,312	9,984	-477	-4.6
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	18,252	10,662	7,297	17,959	-293	-1.6
Long-term NSA Jobseekers (g)	175,312	118,044	64,262	182,306	6,994	4.0
All NSA Customers	474,125	311,548	162,929	474,477	352	0.1
CPS recipients (a)	12,739	8,858	3,684	12,542	-197	-1.5
Did not receive a payment (b)	22,455	11,869	7,071	18,940	-3,515	-15.7
Received a payment	438,931	290,821	152,174	442,995	4,064	0.9
Incapacitated (c)	40,535	24,652	15,655	40,307	-228	-0.6
Training	47,573	27,091	15,637	42,728	-4,845	-10.2
Self-employment development (d)	690	385	191	576	-114	-16.5
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	12,755	6,564	5,529	12,093	-662	-5.2
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	28,550	17,218	11,230	28,448	-102	-0.4
All NSA Jobseekers (g)	308,828	214,911	103,932	318,843	10,015	3.2

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

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

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

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

	June 2006	July			Variation June - July	
		Males	Females	Persons	Number	Per cent
Short-term YA (other) Customers	36,880	20,252	16,853	37,105	225	0.6
CPS recipients (a)	2,265	1,405	823	2,228	-37	-1.6
Did not receive a payment (b)	935	380	409	789	-146	-15.6
Received a payment	33,680	18,467	15,621	34,088	408	1.2
Part-time study & work (c)	2	1	1	2	0	0.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	73	34	43	77	4	5.5
Incapacitated (e)	1,708	822	862	1,684	-24	-1.4
Training	1,354	744	465	1,209	-145	-10.7
Self-employment development (e)	5	4	3	7	2	40.0
Full-time voluntary work	1	0	1	1	0	0.0
Other non-jobseekers (e)	1,722	739	1,008	1,747	25	1.5
Short-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	28,815	16,123	13,238	29,361	546	1.9
Long-term YA (other) Customers	38,486	18,583	20,485	39,068	582	1.5
CPS recipients (a)	1,548	971	569	1,540	-8	-0.5
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,268	435	613	1,048	-220	-17.4
Received a payment	35,670	17,177	19,303	36,480	810	2.3
Part-time study & work (c)	3	2	4	6	3	100.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	78	20	38	58	-20	-25.6
Incapacitated (e)	1,495	554	917	1,471	-24	-1.6
Training	2,681	1,261	1,233	2,494	-187	-7.0
Self-employment development (e)	12	4	5	9	-3	-25.0
Full-time voluntary work	5	3	3	6	1	20.0
Other non-jobseekers (e)	1,496	554	907	1,461	-35	-2.3
Long-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	29,900	14,779	16,196	30,975	1,075	3.6
All YA (other) Customers	75,366	38,835	37,338	76,173	807	1.1
CPS recipients (a)	3,813	2,376	1,392	3,768	-45	-1.2
Did not receive a payment (b)	2,203	815	1,022	1,837	-366	-16.6
Received a payment	69,350	35,644	34,924	70,568	1,218	1.8
Part-time study & work (c)	5	3	5	8	3	60.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	151	54	81	135	-16	-10.6
Incapacitated (e)	3,203	1,376	1,779	3,155	-48	-1.5
Training	4,035	2,005	1,698	3,703	-332	-8.2
Self-employment development (e)	17	8	8	16	-1	-5.9
Full-time voluntary work	6	3	4	7	1	16.7
Other non-jobseekers (e)	3,218	1,293	1,915	3,208	-10	-0.3
All YA (other) Jobseekers (f)	58,715	30,902	29,434	60,336	1,621	2.8

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

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

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

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

	Short-term	Long-term	Total
July 2004	175,344	244,846	420,190
August 2004	169,186	237,526	406,712
September 2004	165,156	231,221	396,377
October 2004	161,169	224,985	386,154
November 2004	157,970	220,919	378,889
December 2004	165,824	236,981	402,805
January 2005	182,718	248,933	431,651
February 2005	180,830	241,737	422,567
March 2005	172,254	231,336	403,590
April 2005	168,095	223,258	391,353
May 2005	167,200	217,727	384,927
June 2005	165,755	212,595	378,350
July 2005	167,154	213,585	380,739
August 2005	162,525	209,424	371,949
September 2005	159,378	205,254	364,632
October 2005	155,525	201,678	357,203
November 2005	151,863	200,077	351,940
December 2005	157,829	215,881	373,710
January 2006	173,502	229,230	402,732
February 2006	173,305	224,048	397,353
March 2006	164,016	214,293	378,309
April 2006	161,900	209,435	371,335
May 2006	162,182	207,935	370,117
June 2006	162,331	205,212	367,543
July 2006	165,898	213,281	379,179
<i>Variation June 2006 - July 2006</i>			
<i>Number</i>	3,567	8,069	11,636
<i>Per cent</i>	2.2	3.9	3.2

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

Notes:

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

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

<i>State</i>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation June - July	
			Number	Per cent
SHORT-TERM JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	56,384	58,467	2,083	3.7
Victoria	39,100	40,094	994	2.5
Queensland	33,647	33,594	-53	-0.2
South Australia	13,230	13,495	265	2.0
Western Australia	12,311	12,483	172	1.4
Tasmania	4,435	4,607	172	3.9
Northern Territory	1,856	1,751	-105	-5.7
Australian Capital Territory	1,368	1,407	39	2.9
AUSTRALIA	162,331	165,898	3,567	2.2
LONG-TERM JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	73,643	76,867	3,224	4.4
Victoria	50,951	52,686	1,735	3.4
Queensland	34,315	35,743	1,428	4.2
South Australia	18,324	19,067	743	4.1
Western Australia	13,801	14,532	731	5.3
Tasmania	8,902	9,147	245	2.8
Northern Territory	3,198	3,022	-176	-5.5
Australian Capital Territory	2,078	2,217	139	6.7
AUSTRALIA	205,212	213,281	8,069	3.9
TOTAL JOBSEEKERS				
New South Wales	130,027	135,334	5,307	4.1
Victoria	90,051	92,780	2,729	3.0
Queensland	67,962	69,337	1,375	2.0
South Australia	31,554	32,562	1,008	3.2
Western Australia	26,112	27,015	903	3.5
Tasmania	13,337	13,754	417	3.1
Northern Territory	5,054	4,773	-281	-5.6
Australian Capital Territory	3,446	3,624	178	5.2
AUSTRALIA	367,543	379,179	11,636	3.2

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 (JULY 2006)**

Age	Short-term Jobseekers		Long-term Jobseekers		Total Jobseekers	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
MALES						
Less than 18 years	4,730	4.2	2,640	2.0	7,370	3.0
18 - 20 years	11,390	10.1	12,137	9.1	23,527	9.6
21 - 24 years	20,093	17.8	16,271	12.3	36,364	14.8
25 - 29 years	18,178	16.1	16,925	12.7	35,103	14.3
30 - 39 years	26,497	23.5	28,907	21.8	55,404	22.5
40 - 49 years	16,308	14.4	24,117	18.2	40,425	16.4
50 - 59 years	11,430	10.1	22,268	16.8	33,698	13.7
60 years and over	4,366	3.9	9,559	7.2	13,925	5.7
TOTAL	112,992	100.0	132,824	100.0	245,816	100.0
FEMALES						
Less than 18 years	4,750	9.0	3,030	3.8	7,780	5.8
18 - 20 years	8,483	16.0	13,161	16.4	21,644	16.2
21 - 24 years	10,187	19.3	10,970	13.6	21,157	15.9
25 - 29 years	6,045	11.4	7,296	9.1	13,341	10.0
30 - 39 years	6,321	11.9	10,093	12.5	16,414	12.3
40 - 49 years	7,058	13.3	16,562	20.6	23,620	17.7
50 - 59 years	8,120	15.3	15,648	19.4	23,768	17.8
60 years and over	1,942	3.7	3,697	4.6	5,639	4.2
TOTAL	52,906	100.0	80,457	100.0	133,363	100.0
PERSONS						
Less than 18 years	9,480	5.7	5,670	2.7	15,150	4.0
18 - 20 years	19,873	12.0	25,298	11.9	45,171	11.9
21 - 24 years	30,280	18.3	27,241	12.8	57,521	15.2
25 - 29 years	24,223	14.6	24,221	11.4	48,444	12.8
30 - 39 years	32,818	19.8	39,000	18.3	71,818	18.9
40 - 49 years	23,366	14.1	40,679	19.1	64,045	16.9
50 - 59 years	19,550	11.8	37,916	17.8	57,466	15.2
60 years and over	6,308	3.8	13,256	6.2	19,564	5.2
TOTAL	165,898	100.0	213,281	100.0	379,179	100.0

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>EAST COAST (SYDNEY)</i>				
Bondi Junction	1,254	1,283	29	2.3
Chatswood	1,034	1,050	16	1.5
Darlinghurst	1,628	1,689	61	3.7
Darlinghurst YSU	41	51	10	%
Hornsby	851	877	26	3.1
Leichhardt	1,490	1,512	22	1.5
Maroubra	1,197	1,262	65	5.4
Marrickville	1,477	1,537	60	4.1
Northern Beaches	1,003	1,069	66	6.6
Sydney Central YSU	0	0	0	%
Other (a)	8	12	4	%
<i>Total</i>	9,983	10,342	359	3.6
<i>EAST COAST (WOLLONGONG)</i>				
Caringbah	1,434	1,491	57	4.0
Corrimal	1,382	1,454	72	5.2
Dapto	1,211	1,251	40	3.3
Hurstville	1,439	1,522	83	5.8
Nowra	2,135	2,276	141	6.6
Redfern	1,326	1,414	88	6.6
Rockdale	1,522	1,586	64	4.2
Shellharbour	1,508	1,581	73	4.8
Sutherland	87	96	9	%
Ulladulla	591	605	14	2.4
Wollongong	1,866	1,976	110	5.9
Other (a)	39	36	-3	%
<i>Total</i>	14,540	15,288	748	5.1

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**TABLE 7 - JOBBEEKERS 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 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>HUNTER NSW</i>				
Armidale	1,236	1,294	58	4.7
Cessnock	891	936	45	5.1
Charlestown	2,575	2,696	121	4.7
Ettalong	1,180	1,211	31	2.6
Forster	911	958	47	5.2
Gosford*	1,901	1,969	68	3.6
Gunnedah	464	464	0	0.0
Inverell	721	754	33	4.6
Kempsey	1,302	1,354	52	4.0
Kurri Kurri	604	611	7	1.2
Lakehaven	1,860	1,951	91	4.9
Maitland	1,683	1,763	80	4.8
Mayfield	1,164	1,237	73	6.3
Muswellbrook	586	598	12	2.0
Nambucca Heads	1,159	1,185	26	2.2
Nelson Bay	566	597	31	5.5
Newcastle	1,667	1,732	65	3.9
Port Macquarie	1,908	1,944	36	1.9
Raymond Terrace	1,052	1,122	70	6.7
Singleton	292	311	19	6.5
Tamworth	1,806	1,857	51	2.8
Taree	1,797	1,801	4	0.2
The Entrance	1,171	1,221	50	4.3
Toronto	1,221	1,267	46	3.8
Wallsend	1,751	1,785	34	1.9
Wyong	656	683	27	4.1
Other (a)	82	92	10	%
<i>Total</i>	32,206	33,393	1,187	3.7

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

**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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH METROPOLITAN NSW</i>				
Ashfield	0	0	0	%
Bankstown	3,995	4,169	174	4.4
Burwood*	1,637	1,745	108	6.6
Cabramatta	2,203	2,266	63	2.9
Camden	521	557	36	6.9
Campbelltown	2,543	2,645	102	4.0
Campsie	2,377	2,482	105	4.4
Fairfield	3,663	3,881	218	6.0
Ingleburn	1,234	1,348	114	9.2
Lakemba	10	11	1	%
Liverpool	4,117	4,289	172	4.2
Revesby	2	4	2	%
Strathfield	1	1	0	%
Other (a)	7	6	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	22,310	23,404	1,094	4.9
<i>WEST NSW</i>				
Auburn	2,359	2,510	151	6.4
Baulkham Hills	714	740	26	3.6
Blacktown	3,099	3,251	152	4.9
Hawkesbury	846	921	75	8.9
Katoomba	666	706	40	6.0
Lithgow	718	748	30	4.2
Merrylands	1,847	1,926	79	4.3
Mt Druitt	2,529	2,696	167	6.6
Mudgee	728	697	-31	-4.3
Parramatta	1,970	2,081	111	5.6
Penrith	1,781	1,869	88	4.9
Ryde	1,034	1,036	2	0.2
Springwood	387	408	21	5.4
St Marys	1,881	1,957	76	4.0
Other (a)	16	17	1	%
<i>Total</i>	20,575	21,563	988	4.8

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

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

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH WEST NSW</i>				
Albury	2,136	2,213	77	3.6
Batemans Bay	918	964	46	5.0
Bathurst	911	958	47	5.2
Bega	728	755	27	3.7
Belconnen	1,110	1,154	44	4.0
Bourke	415	442	27	6.5
Bowral	520	543	23	4.4
Braddon	933	1,010	77	8.3
Cooma	335	335	0	0.0
Cowra	430	422	-8	-1.9
Deniliquin	272	289	17	6.3
Dubbo	1,859	1,919	60	3.2
Goulburn	697	736	39	5.6
Griffith	531	554	23	4.3
Gungahlin	91	100	9	%
Lanyon	39	44	5	%
Leeton	320	321	1	0.3
Narooma	385	410	25	6.5
Orange	1,065	1,119	54	5.1
Parkes	920	951	31	3.4
Queanbeyan	508	499	-9	-1.8
Tuggeranong	672	703	31	4.6
Tumut	346	352	6	1.7
Wagga	1,729	1,769	40	2.3
Woden	613	609	-4	-0.7
Yass	112	116	4	3.6
Young	418	428	10	2.4
Other (a)	19	25	6	%
<i>Total</i>	19,032	19,740	708	3.7

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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>NORTH-CENTRAL VICTORIA</i>				
Box Hill	1,703	1,719	16	0.9
Broadmeadows	3,671	3,811	140	3.8
Darebin	3,602	3,771	169	4.7
Echuca	447	467	20	4.5
Epping	2,063	2,075	12	0.6
Greensborough	1,535	1,615	80	5.2
Heidelberg	32	32	0	%
Lilydale	1,452	1,480	28	1.9
Moreland	2,491	2,543	52	2.1
Newmarket	1,730	1,750	20	1.2
Ringwood	1,753	1,784	31	1.8
Seymour	572	593	21	3.7
Shepparton	2,212	2,303	91	4.1
Sth Melbourne	700	743	43	6.1
Wangaratta	1,607	1,642	35	2.2
Windsor (VIC)	3,105	3,146	41	1.3
Yarra*	2,504	2,525	21	0.8
Other (a)	32	30	-2	%
<i>Total</i>	31,211	32,029	818	2.6

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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH-EAST VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	870	973	103	11.8
Belgrave*	523	529	6	1.1
Camberwell	1,001	1,052	51	5.1
Cheltenham	1,966	2,044	78	4.0
Cranbourne	1,187	1,253	66	5.6
Dandenong	2,602	2,782	180	6.9
Fountain Gate	2,284	2,339	55	2.4
Frankston	3,163	3,294	131	4.1
Glen Waverley	1,040	1,057	17	1.6
Leongatha	1	0	-1	%
Mornington	511	539	28	5.5
Morwell	2,330	2,442	112	4.8
Oakleigh	1,891	1,902	11	0.6
Rosebud	874	944	70	8.0
Rowville	398	425	27	6.8
Sale	831	852	21	2.5
Springvale	2,445	2,536	91	3.7
Wantirna*	1,247	1,295	48	3.8
Warragul	449	501	52	11.6
Wonthaggi	640	650	10	1.6
Other (a)	11	14	3	%
<i>Total</i>	26,264	27,423	1,159	4.4

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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>WEST VICTORIA</i>				
Ararat	330	337	7	2.1
Ballarat	2,898	2,908	10	0.3
B Central*	1,012	988	-24	-2.4
Bendigo	2,089	2,264	175	8.4
Colac	445	455	10	2.2
Corio	1,811	2,025	214	11.8
Essendon (Airport West)	1,263	1,262	-1	-0.1
Footscray	1,564	1,637	73	4.7
Geelong	3,267	3,191	-76	-2.3
Hamilton	369	388	19	5.1
Horsham	716	727	11	1.5
Maryborough (VIC)	560	601	41	7.3
Melton	1,165	1,175	10	0.9
Mildura	1,723	1,722	-1	-0.1
Newport	1,204	1,222	18	1.5
Portland	480	486	6	1.3
Stawell	192	195	3	1.6
Sunbury	727	744	17	2.3
Sunshine	3,013	3,073	60	2.0
Swan Hill	872	896	24	2.8
Warrnambool	890	907	17	1.9
Watgardens	3,516	3,578	62	1.8
Werribee	2,375	2,421	46	1.9
Other (a)	21	26	5	%
<i>Total</i>	32,502	33,228	726	2.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>BRISBANE</i>				
Annerley	786	894	108	13.7
Bundaberg	2,720	2,661	-59	-2.2
Caboolture	2,174	2,194	20	0.9
Caloundra	1,222	1,237	15	1.2
Capalaba	663	692	29	4.4
Chermside	805	872	67	8.3
Cleveland	756	786	30	4.0
Fortitude Valley	1,465	1,497	32	2.2
Gympie	1,152	1,174	22	1.9
Hervey Bay	1,215	1,218	3	0.2
Kawana Waters	588	576	-12	-2.0
Kingaroy	718	760	42	5.8
Maroochydore	1,630	1,648	18	1.1
Maryborough	1,163	1,190	27	2.3
Mitchelton	988	1,042	54	5.5
Mt Gravatt	1,688	1,857	169	10.0
Nambour	996	1,032	36	3.6
Noosa	1,124	1,147	23	2.0
Nundah	1,054	1,131	77	7.3
Redcliffe	1,461	1,550	89	6.1
Stones Corner	1,451	1,542	91	6.3
Strathpine	1,005	1,043	38	3.8
Toowong	848	883	35	4.1
Wynnum	748	797	49	6.6
Other (a)	16	14	-2	%
<i>Total</i>	28,436	29,437	1,001	3.5

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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL & NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	705	680	-25	-3.5
Ayr	408	386	-22	-5.4
Biloela	142	131	-11	-7.7
Bowen	466	425	-41	-8.8
Cairns EMS (3)	2,912	2,849	-63	-2.2
Cairns FAO (3)	9	4	-5	%
Cairns Ret (3)	2	1	-1	%
Charters Towers	294	290	-4	-1.4
Edmonton	1	0	-1	%
Emerald	303	304	1	0.3
Gladstone	906	876	-30	-3.3
Greenfields	2	2	0	%
Indigenous ISC (2)	438	436	-2	-0.5
Ingham	324	276	-48	-14.8
Innisfail	996	844	-152	-15.3
Longreach (4)	103	97	-6	-5.8
Mackay	1,686	1,568	-118	-7.0
Mareeba	466	467	1	0.2
Mossman	320	323	3	0.9
Mt Isa	750	746	-4	-0.5
Normanton	126	112	-14	-11.1
Palm Island (2)	259	262	3	1.2
Rockhampton	1,986	2,010	24	1.2
Smithfield	28	15	-13	%
Thursday Is	172	186	14	8.1
Townsville City (1)	11	5	-6	%
Townsville Employment Services (1)	3,087	3,084	-3	-0.1
Townsville FAO (1)	6	2	-4	%
Townsville Retirement (1)	2	1	-1	%
Whitsunday	381	377	-4	-1.0
Yarrabah RASC (2)	121	122	1	0.8
Yeppoon	387	410	23	5.9
Other (a)	202	210	8	4.0
<i>Total</i>	18,001	17,501	-500	-2.8

Note: For footnotes see end of the table.

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

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

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

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

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

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

<i>Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre</i>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Berri	925	929	4	0.4
Broken Hill	910	926	16	1.8
Ceduna	179	190	11	6.1
Cooper Pedy	125	131	6	4.8
Currie St (Adelaide)	676	664	-12	-1.8
Edwardstown	2,361	2,424	63	2.7
Elizabeth	2,471	2,553	82	3.3
Enfield	1,565	1,627	62	4.0
Gawler	1,132	1,195	63	5.6
Glenelg	957	975	18	1.9
Kadina	662	710	48	7.3
Kilkenny	1,807	1,831	24	1.3
Modbury	1,977	2,049	72	3.6
Mt Barker	741	740	-1	-0.1
Mt Gambier	1,389	1,443	54	3.9
Murray Bridge	843	878	35	4.2
Noarlunga	2,943	2,973	30	1.0
Norwood	1,704	1,803	99	5.8
Parkside	0	0	0	%
Port Adelaide	1,621	1,696	75	4.6
Port Augusta	691	722	31	4.5
Port Lincoln	545	591	46	8.4
Port Pirie	1,006	1,010	4	0.4
Salisbury	2,376	2,453	77	3.2
Torrens ville	1,442	1,495	53	3.7
Victor Harbor	628	682	54	8.6
Whyalla	878	917	39	4.4
Other (a)	43	50	7	%
<i>Total</i>	32,597	33,657	1,060	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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</i>				
Albany	981	984	3	0.3
Armadale	889	935	46	5.2
Bunbury	1,503	1,596	93	6.2
Busselton (3)	306	317	11	3.6
Cannington	1,379	1,424	45	3.3
Carnarvon	197	180	-17	-8.6
Centrelink City (2)	0	0	0	%
Christmas Island	11	14	3	%
Cocos Island	32	32	0	%
Collie	6	6	0	%
Esperance	277	282	5	1.8
Fremantle	1,253	1,328	75	6.0
Geraldton	1,318	1,406	88	6.7
Gosnells	893	959	66	7.4
Innaloo	1,534	1,594	60	3.9
Joondalup	1,181	1,242	61	5.2
Kalgoorlie	580	610	30	5.2
Karratha	263	253	-10	-3.8
Mandurah	1,159	1,203	44	3.8
Midland	1,673	1,682	9	0.5
Mirrabooka	1,680	1,780	100	6.0
Morley	1,877	1,951	74	3.9
Northam	555	577	22	4.0
Rockingham (1)	1,644	1,649	5	0.3
South Hedland	302	317	15	5.0
Spearwood	935	961	26	2.8
Victoria Park	2,067	2,107	40	1.9
Warwick Grove	781	785	4	0.5
Other (a)	326	378	52	16.0
<i>Total</i>	25,602	26,552	950	3.7

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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>TASMANIA</i>				
Bridgewater	603	609	6	1.0
Burnie	1,627	1,712	85	5.2
Devonport	1,870	1,971	101	5.4
Glenorchy	1,860	1,952	92	4.9
Hobart	1,677	1,669	-8	-0.5
Huonville	588	580	-8	-1.4
Launceston	3,593	3,656	63	1.8
Mowbray	11	14	3	%
Rosny Park	1,059	1,100	41	3.9
Sorell	535	547	12	2.2
Other (a)	21	26	5	%
<i>Total</i>	13,444	13,836	392	2.9
<i>NORTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Alice Springs	1,054	855	-199	-18.9
Alice Springs (Remote)*	0	0	0	%
Broome	317	319	2	0.6
Casuarina	980	986	6	0.6
SSC Nth Australia x	2	3	1	%
Derby	92	84	-8	-8.7
Katherine	625	596	-29	-4.6
Knuckey Street	616	639	23	3.7
Kununurra	140	153	13	9.3
Nhulunbuy	130	92	-38	-29.2
Palmerston	850	868	18	2.1
Tangentyere	247	258	11	4.5
Tennant Creek	182	187	5	2.7
Tennant Creek (Remote)	44	14	-30	%
Other (a)	413	332	-81	-19.6
<i>Total</i>	5,692	5,386	-306	-5.4

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

x 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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>PACIFIC CENTRAL</i>				
Ballina	1,148	1,190	42	3.7
Beaudesert	386	390	4	1.0
Beenleigh	1,581	1,668	87	5.5
Biggera Waters	1,575	1,663	88	5.6
Browns Plains	1,388	1,451	63	4.5
Brunswick Heads	640	643	3	0.5
Byron Bay	695	711	16	2.3
Casino	725	721	-4	-0.6
Charleville	152	158	6	3.9
Coffs Harbour	2,942	3,021	79	2.7
Dalby	547	573	26	4.8
Goodna	1,129	1,158	29	2.6
Goondiwindi	289	294	5	1.7
Grafton	1,647	1,689	42	2.6
Inala	1,363	1,416	53	3.9
Ipswich	2,122	2,193	71	3.3
Lightning Ridge	3	5	2	%
Lismore	2,022	2,099	77	3.8
Moree	498	508	10	2.0
Murwillumbah	621	640	19	3.1
Narrabri	320	341	21	6.6
Nerang	1,693	1,823	130	7.7
Palm Beach	2,042	2,101	59	2.9
Roma	155	143	-12	-7.7
Southport	2,308	2,352	44	1.9
Stanthorpe	412	383	-29	-7.0
Toowoomba	2,241	2,313	72	3.2
Tweed Heads	1,516	1,574	58	3.8
Walgett	391	406	15	3.8
Warwick	533	546	13	2.4
Woodridge	1,987	2,148	161	8.1
Other (a)	21	28	7	%
<i>Total</i>	35,092	36,349	1,257	3.6

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>	June 2006	July 2006	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRELINK CALL CENTRES*</i>				
Adelaide	2	0	-2	%
Bendigo	2	1	-1	%
Brisbane	0	0	0	%
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	0	0	%
Latrobe	3	4	1	%
Liverpool	0	0	0	%
Maryborough	0	0	0	%
Moorabbin	0	0	0	%
Moreland	0	0	0	%
Newcastle	1	2	1	%
Perth	1	3	2	%
Port Augusta	0	0	0	%
Port Macquarie	6	5	-1	%
Sydney	0	0	0	%
Toowoomba	0	0	0	%
Townsville	4	4	0	%
Tweed Heads	4	1	-3	%
Warilla	0	0	0	%
Wendouree	0	0	0	%
<i>Total</i>	23	20	-3	%
NOT CODED TO AN AREA	33	31	-2	%
AUSTRALIA	367,543	379,179	11,636	3.2

(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 21 JULY 2006**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term Jobseekers	Long-term Jobseekers	Total Jobseekers
MALES			
Did not earn an income	85.2	82.5	83.8
Earned an income	14.8	17.5	16.2
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.7	1.1	0.9
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.6	3.1	2.9
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.6	3.3	3.0
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.9	2.2	2.0
Over \$316.00	7.0	7.8	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>113,377</i>	<i>133,469</i>	<i>246,846</i>
FEMALES			
Did not earn an income	76.3	73.3	74.5
Earned an income	23.7	26.7	25.5
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	1.2	1.5	1.4
\$62.01 - \$142.00	3.9	4.1	4.0
\$142.01 - \$236.00	4.1	4.7	4.5
\$236.01 - \$316.00	3.0	3.3	3.2
Over \$316.00	11.4	13.1	12.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>53,208</i>	<i>81,034</i>	<i>134,242</i>
PERSONS			
Did not earn an income	82.4	79.0	80.5
Earned an income	17.6	21.0	19.5
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.9	1.2	1.1
\$62.01 - \$142.00	3.0	3.5	3.3
\$142.01 - \$236.00	3.1	3.8	3.5
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.2	2.6	2.4
Over \$316.00	8.4	9.8	9.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	<i>166,585</i>	<i>214,503</i>	<i>381,088</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 who were born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Other dependent partners have to qualify for an income support payment in their own right, such as Newstart Allowance.</p> <p>Partner Allowance was introduced in September 1994, and was paid to partners of persons receiving Job Search Allowance, Newstart Allowance, Sickness Allowance or Special Benefit if certain eligibility criteria were satisfied.</p>
<i>Youth Training Allowance</i>	<p>Youth Training Allowance was replaced by Youth Allowance on 1 July 1998 (see <i>Youth Allowance</i>).</p> <p>From 1 January 1995, eligible persons aged under 18 years who were new entrants to the job search pool were paid Youth</p>

Training Allowance. (People who were in receipt of Job Search Allowance and aged under 18 years at 31 December 1994 continued to be paid Job Search Allowance. From 20 September 1996, those young persons still being paid Job Search Allowance were transferred to Newstart Allowance.)

Widow Allowance

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

Mature Age Allowance

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

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

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

Comparability of Data

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

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

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

Definition of Recipient

From July 2002, FaCS introduced a new method to more accurately measure the number of people receiving labour market and related payments. For those receiving labour market and related payments, their eligibility and entitlement status is administered by a payment system called Newstart Common Platform System. Within this system recipients who are both eligible and entitled to receive a payment have a determination

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

The old method of counting recipients was specified to include all paid recipients – those who received a payment within a given fortnight. As compiled, however, this count excluded, from mid 1998, recipients who received a 'one-off' payment. These can occur, for instance, when a normal payment is interrupted (eg. payment is cancelled and then restored within that pay period) and a portion of the normal payment is paid.

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

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

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

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

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

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

From July 1998, the definition of jobseekers has been placed on a sounder conceptual basis. It is now derived for Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients by excluding all people who did not receive a payment due to their own and/or their partner's income, or where applicable, parental income, and all those known not to be required to search for work. People receiving Intensive Support Customised Assistance under Job Network arrangements are classified as jobseekers although they may not always be undertaking job search. These people negotiate their activity agreement with their Job Network member.

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

Duration

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

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

Closure of Mature Age and Partner Allowances

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

Symbols

n.a. not available
.. not applicable

GLOSSARY

Activity Test Status	The activity that a Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) recipient has agreed to undertake in order to meet the activity test. To satisfy the activity test recipients must be actively seeking and willing to take up work or undertaking activities to improve their employment prospects.
Age	Age in years at time of data collection.
Area Support Office	A Centrelink office that supports a set of Customer Service Centres for a specified area. These are generally not confined to State boundaries.
Centrelink Youth Service Centre	A Centrelink Youth Service Centre consists of specialised staff who provide young people with improved access to Government services and income support. This is done by offering a mainstream service, as well as specialist case management to help access educational, labour market, job search, housing, health and general welfare assistance; and by providing a regular FaCS visiting service to youth via hostels, refuges and voluntary agencies.
Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)	<p>The CDEP scheme is a program funded currently by DEWR and in the past by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC). The scheme enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils and other approved Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups to offer work to community members in activities that assist individuals in acquiring skills which benefit the community, develop business enterprises and/or lead to unsubsidised employment. The scheme also aims to develop management and business skills in an environment conducive to the principles of self-determination.</p> <p>The CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS) is payable to eligible CDEP participants. It can be paid fortnightly or as a 12 weekly payment.</p>
Customer Service Centre	A Customer Service Centre set within a particular region that provides FaCS, DEWR and other payments and related information and services to recipients. Customer Service Centres are managed by Area Support Offices.
Did Not Receive a Payment	Persons who did not receive a payment due to their own income and/or that of their partner, or parents, where applicable. This group is often referred to as 'zero-paid'.
Eligibility and Payment Status	Refer to the Methodology entry in the Explanatory Notes.
Fortnightly Earnings	Amount of income earned, derived, or received by a person for the person's own use or benefit in the previous fortnight.
Incapacitated	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who has an activity test status indicating they are temporarily ill or incapacitated. Refer to the entry for Sickness Allowance in the Explanatory Notes.

Jobseekers	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who would usually be engaged in jobsearch. See Explanatory Notes for definition and history.
Job Search Allowance (JSA)	Up to 20 September 1996, Job Search Allowance was payable to CES eligible persons who had been registered as unemployed with the CES for up to 12 months. From 20 September 1996, the payment was combined with Newstart Allowance to form one payment called Newstart Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.
Long-term Recipients	Persons on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance who have been receiving income support for 12 months or more. Duration of long-term recipients can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 13 weeks.
Mature Age Allowance (MAA)	<p>From 20 September 2003, Mature Age Allowance was closed off to new claimants. People on Mature Age Allowance before this date can remain on the allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance.</p> <p>Mature Age Allowance, a non-activity-tested payment, is payable to unemployed people aged 60 years and over (but below Age Pension age) with little or no recent workforce experience who meet certain requirements for previous receipt of income support. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Newstart Allowance (NSA)	Newstart Allowance is payable to eligible unemployed persons aged 21 years and over (but below Age Pension age) who satisfy the activity test. See Explanatory Notes for history.
Newstart Common Platform System (NCP)	The Newstart Common Platform System (NCP) was introduced in May 1998. The NCP administers all labour market and related payments. This includes primary payments such as Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance, Mature Age Allowance, Widow Allowance and Partner Allowance. Other payments on the NCP include Special Benefit, Sickness Allowance, Exceptional Circumstances Relief, Farm Help and Austudy.
Partner Allowance (PA)	<p>From 20 September 2003, Partner Allowance was closed off to new claimants. People on Partner Allowance before this date can remain on the allowance while they remain 'current', that is retain eligibility and entitlement for the allowance.</p> <p>Partner Allowance, a non-activity-tested payment, is payable to persons who are dependent partners of pensioners and allowees who were born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Short-term Recipients	Persons on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance who have been receiving income support for less than 12 months. Duration of short-term recipients can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 6 weeks.
States	States and Territories of Australia derived from the postcode of the recipient's residence as held on the Centrelink payment system.

Widow Allowance (WA)	<p>From 1 July 2005 Widow Allowance was closed off to new claimants, unless the woman was born on or before 1 July 1955.</p> <p>Widow Allowance, a non-activity-tested payment, is payable to females aged 50 years or over who have become widowed, divorced or separated since turning 40 years if they have little or no recent work experience and meet a number of other criteria relating to current marital status. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Youth Training Allowance (YTA)	<p>From 1 January 1995 eligible persons aged under 18 years who were registered as unemployed with the CES were paid Youth Training Allowance. From 1 July 1998, Youth Training Allowance was replaced by Youth Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Youth Allowance (YA)	<p>Youth Allowance is payable to eligible full-time students aged 16 to 25 years, and to eligible unemployed persons aged 16 to 21 years who satisfy the activity test. Note, there are certain exceptions for some 15 and 25 year olds. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p> <p>Youth Allowees may be undertaking full-time study, full-time job search or a combination of approved activities. Some young people will be exempt from the activity test because of their personal circumstances, eg. illness, homelessness or major personal crisis. See the Explanatory Notes for more information.</p>
Youth Allowance (other)	<p>Youth Allowance recipients who are not full-time students or full-time new apprentices.</p>
Zero-Paid	<p>See 'Did Not Receive a Payment'.</p>

APPENDIX

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

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

Employment Entry Payment and the higher payment rate for recipients over 60.

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

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

Seasonal Adjustment

The ABS produces a seasonally adjusted series. The DEWR labour market payment numbers data are not seasonally adjusted.

Classification

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

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

Other Statistical Outputs:

The following statistical output is available on request:

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