



**Australian Government**

**Department of Employment and  
Workplace Relations**

# **Labour Market and Related Payments**

a monthly profile

December 2004

# 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 DEWR use different definitions to identify the unemployed and different methods of counting (see the Appendix for more information).**

This publication was produced in the past by FaCS and since October 2004 by  
DEWR

December 2004

Embargoed  
Until 11.30 am, 28 January 2005

*Annual Subscription - \$65.00*

# CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Introduction</b>	1
<b>Statistical Highlights</b>	2
<b>Tables</b>	
1. Labour Market Payments - Time Series	3
2. Newstart Allowees - Derivation of the Jobseeker Population	4
3. Youth Allowees (other) - Derivation of the Jobseeker Population	5
4. Jobseekers receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) - Time Series	6
5. Jobseekers receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) by State	7
6. Jobseekers receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) by Age and Sex	8
7. Jobseekers receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) by Area Support Office and Customer Service Centre	9
8. Jobseekers receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) by Fortnightly Earnings and Sex	23
<b>Explanatory Notes</b>	24
<b>Glossary</b>	30
<b>Appendix</b>	33
<b>For More Information ....</b>	36

## 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 DEST. This publication covers NSA and YA in some detail and, to a lesser extent MAA, PA and WA.

Table 1 provides information on the total number of NSA and YA recipients. The YA population is broken down into YA(FTS) 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 25 February 2005.

## STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS - December 2004

### Between December 2003 and December 2004:

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) customers and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(O)) customers **decreased by 4.2%** overall from 615,778 to 590,082

{ by 4.0% for NSA from 523,107 to 502,350 and

{ 5.3% for YA(O) from 92,671 to 87,732.

The number of jobseekers **decreased by 8.5%** overall from 440,118 to 402,805

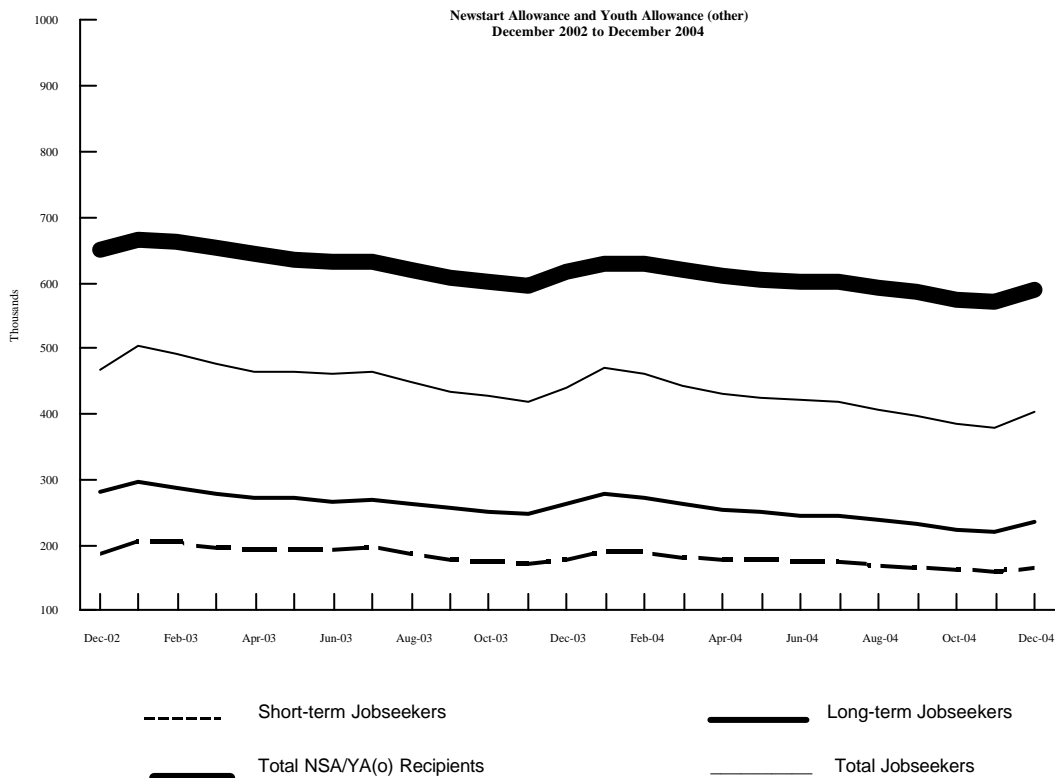
{ by 8.9% for NSA from 363,591 to 331,091 and

{ 6.3% for YA(O) customers from 76,527 to 71,714.

Long-term jobseekers decreased by 10.2% from 263,768 to 236,981.

Short-term jobseekers decreased by 6.0% from 176,350 to 165,824.

Long-term clients 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 - FaCS LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES (a)**

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance		Mature Age Allowance	Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
	Long-term (b)	Total	Full-time Students (c)	Other			
February 1994 (d)	472,785	977,796	..	..	..	..	..
December 2002	339,563	552,637	262,659	96,808	40,131	103,743	42,680
January 2003	345,446	569,009	251,475	97,748	40,050	103,898	42,766
February 2003	343,677	570,613	260,961	93,043	40,282	104,054	42,938
March 2003	338,684	562,353	276,382	89,986	40,527	103,874	43,089
April 2003	333,806	554,505	289,342	89,501	40,682	103,787	43,206
May 2003	330,294	548,554	297,514	87,457	40,784	103,765	43,308
June 2003	327,544	545,685	304,491	87,574	41,372	104,080	43,550
July 2003	326,980	543,578	298,178	89,479	41,582	104,363	43,797
August 2003	324,559	535,399	305,220	85,340	41,882	105,173	44,188
September 2003	320,932	524,947	309,974	82,836	42,625	106,144	44,644
October 2003	318,997	520,317	306,946	80,666	42,140	105,973	45,014
November 2003	316,791	515,849	297,405	81,332	41,124	104,772	45,401
December 2003	321,781	523,107	256,770	92,671	40,117	103,495	45,760
January 2004	326,578	535,559	243,087	94,664	39,027	101,894	45,859
February 2004	326,028	539,098	255,944	91,562	37,835	99,912	45,892
March 2004	322,730	532,043	274,602	88,396	36,761	97,958	45,925
April 2004	318,836	524,504	286,058	85,607	35,507	95,817	45,840
May 2004	316,092	520,434	292,511	84,534	34,314	93,843	45,816
June 2004	313,883	517,895	296,560	84,841	33,310	92,058	45,781
July 2004	313,274	515,686	290,210	85,357	32,175	90,056	45,644
August 2004	311,282	511,799	297,594	81,939	31,046	88,133	45,544
September 2004	308,214	506,457	300,177	80,129	30,055	86,495	45,531
October 2004	304,351	499,388	294,394	76,376	28,921	84,565	45,438
November 2004	301,742	494,289	287,438	76,497	27,844	82,782	45,369
December 2004	306,022	502,350	245,322	87,732	26,820	81,078	45,282
<i>Variation November 2004 - December 2004</i>							
Number	4,280	8,061	-42,116	11,235	-1,024	-1,704	-87
Per cent	1.4	1.6	-14.7	14.7	-3.7	-2.1	-0.2

(a) This table presents data using the revised method of measuring the number of people receiving FaCS labour market payments introduced in July 2002. Revised historical data back to May 1998 is in Table A, 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 will be issued under this Scheme from 1 January 2004. For further details, refer to the Explanatory Notes at the back of this publication.

(d) 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 JOBSSEEKER POPULATION**

	November 2004	December			Variation	
		Males	Females	Persons	November - December Number	Per cent
<b>Short-term NSA Customers</b>	<b>192,547</b>	<b>132,089</b>	<b>64,239</b>	<b>196,328</b>	<b>3,781</b>	<b>2.0</b>
CPS recipients (a)	2,660	2,091	718	2,809	149	5.6
Did not receive a payment (b)	12,607	8,174	4,656	12,830	223	1.8
Received a payment	177,280	121,824	58,865	180,689	3,409	1.9
Incapacitated (c)	21,472	13,694	8,095	21,789	317	1.5
Training	9,556	4,868	2,638	7,506	-2,050	-21.5
Self-employment development (d)	546	286	132	418	-128	-23.4
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	3,096	1,511	1,654	3,165	69	2.2
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	13,523	8,180	5,495	13,675	152	1.1
<b>Short-term NSA Jobseekers (g)</b>	<b>129,087</b>	<b>93,285</b>	<b>40,851</b>	<b>134,136</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Long-term NSA Customers</b>	<b>301,742</b>	<b>199,800</b>	<b>106,222</b>	<b>306,022</b>	<b>4,280</b>	<b>1.4</b>
CPS recipients (a)	7,174	5,148	2,147	7,295	121	1.7
Did not receive a payment (b)	13,193	8,016	5,049	13,065	-128	-1.0
Received a payment	281,375	186,636	99,026	285,662	4,287	1.5
Incapacitated (c)	30,726	18,696	12,153	30,849	123	0.4
Training	33,811	18,640	11,094	29,734	-4,077	-12.1
Self-employment development (d)	245	126	73	199	-46	-18.8
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	7,046	4,714	2,724	7,438	392	5.6
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	20,063	12,464	8,023	20,487	424	2.1
<b>Long-term NSA Jobseekers (g)</b>	<b>189,484</b>	<b>131,996</b>	<b>64,959</b>	<b>196,955</b>	<b>7,471</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>All NSA Customers</b>	<b>494,289</b>	<b>331,889</b>	<b>170,461</b>	<b>502,350</b>	<b>8,061</b>	<b>1.6</b>
CPS recipients (a)	9,834	7,239	2,865	10,104	270	2.7
Did not receive a payment (b)	25,800	16,190	9,705	25,895	95	0.4
Received a payment	458,655	308,460	157,891	466,351	7,696	1.7
Incapacitated (c)	52,198	32,390	20,248	52,638	440	0.8
Training	43,367	23,508	13,732	37,240	-6,127	-14.1
Self-employment development (d)	791	412	205	617	-174	-22.0
Voluntary/part-time work (e)	10,142	6,225	4,378	10,603	461	4.5
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	33,586	20,644	13,518	34,162	576	1.7
<b>All NSA Jobseekers (g)</b>	<b>318,571</b>	<b>225,281</b>	<b>105,810</b>	<b>331,091</b>	<b>12,520</b>	<b>3.9</b>

(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 JOBSITEER POPULATION**

	November 2004	December			Variation	
		Males	Females	Persons	November - December	
					Number	Per cent
<b>Short-term YA (other) Customers</b>	<b>36,680</b>	<b>20,929</b>	<b>18,550</b>	<b>39,479</b>	<b>2,799</b>	<b>7.6</b>
CPS recipients (a)	1,091	720	499	1,219	128	11.7
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,012	464	561	1,025	13	1.3
Received a payment	34,577	19,745	17,490	37,235	2,658	7.7
Part-time study & work (c)	4	1	1	2	-2	-50.0
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	80	28	27	55	-25	-31.3
Incapacitated (e)	2,102	1,037	1,119	2,156	54	2.6
Training	1,394	698	443	1,141	-253	-18.1
Self-employment development (e)	13	7	4	11	-2	-15.4
Full-time voluntary work	8	4	1	5	-3	-37.5
Other non-jobseekers (e)	2,093	1,083	1,094	2,177	84	4.0
<b>Short-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)</b>	<b>28,883</b>	<b>16,887</b>	<b>14,801</b>	<b>31,688</b>	<b>2,805</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Long-term YA (other) Customers</b>	<b>39,817</b>	<b>23,282</b>	<b>24,971</b>	<b>48,253</b>	<b>8,436</b>	<b>21.2</b>
CPS recipients (a)	1,055	676	403	1,079	24	2.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,303	585	781	1,366	63	4.8
Received a payment	37,459	22,021	23,787	45,808	8,349	22.3
Part-time study & work (c)	11	0	5	5	-6	-54.5
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	124	31	47	78	-46	-37.1
Incapacitated (e)	1,789	648	1,163	1,811	22	1.2
Training	2,416	1,111	1,070	2,181	-235	-9.7
Self-employment development (e)	10	3	3	6	-4	-40.0
Full-time voluntary work	19	6	9	15	-4	-21.1
Other non-jobseekers (e)	1,655	772	914	1,686	31	1.9
<b>Long-term YA (other) Jobseekers (f)</b>	<b>31,435</b>	<b>19,450</b>	<b>20,576</b>	<b>40,026</b>	<b>8,591</b>	<b>27.3</b>
<b>All YA (other) Customers</b>	<b>76,497</b>	<b>44,211</b>	<b>43,521</b>	<b>87,732</b>	<b>11,235</b>	<b>14.7</b>
CPS recipients (a)	2,146	1,396	902	2,298	152	7.1
Did not receive a payment (b)	2,315	1,049	1,342	2,391	76	3.3
Received a payment	72,036	41,766	41,277	83,043	11,007	15.3
Part-time study & work (c)	15	1	6	7	-8	-53.3
Part-time study & other YA activities (d)	204	59	74	133	-71	-34.8
Incapacitated (e)	3,891	1,685	2,282	3,967	76	2.0
Training	3,810	1,809	1,513	3,322	-488	-12.8
Self-employment development (e)	23	10	7	17	-6	-26.1
Full-time voluntary work	27	10	10	20	-7	-25.9
Other non-jobseekers (e)	3,748	1,855	2,008	3,863	115	3.1
<b>All YA (other) Jobseekers (f)</b>	<b>60,318</b>	<b>36,337</b>	<b>35,377</b>	<b>71,714</b>	<b>11,396</b>	<b>18.9</b>

(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
December 2002	187,986	280,614	468,600
January 2003	206,675	297,166	503,841
February 2003	203,922	288,718	492,640
March 2003	196,529	279,421	475,950
April 2003	193,214	272,157	465,371
May 2003	194,400	271,109	465,509
June 2003	194,490	267,506	461,996
July 2003	195,487	270,316	465,803
August 2003	186,399	263,215	449,614
September 2003	178,316	256,054	434,370
October 2003	175,181	252,009	427,190
November 2003	170,868	247,695	418,563
December 2003	176,350	263,768	440,118
January 2004	191,981	278,371	470,352
February 2004	189,985	272,224	462,209
March 2004	180,650	262,525	443,175
April 2004	177,247	255,059	432,306
May 2004	176,366	249,705	426,071
June 2004	176,087	244,647	420,734
July 2004	175,344	244,846	420,190
August 2004	169,186	237,526	406,712
September 2004	161,169	224,985	386,154
October 2004	161,169	224,985	386,154
November 2004	157,970	220,919	378,889
December 2004	165,824	236,981	402,805
<i>Variation November 2004 - December 2004</i>			
<i>Number</i>	7,854	16,062	23,916
<i>Per cent</i>	5.0	7.3	6.3

(a) This table presents data using the revised method of measuring the number of people receiving FaCS labour market payment introduced in July 2002. Revised historical data back to May 1998 is in Table B, 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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<b>SHORT-TERM JOBSEEKERS</b>				
New South Wales	50,998	53,773	2,775	5.4
Victoria	38,575	40,039	1,464	3.8
Queensland	32,938	35,357	2,419	7.3
South Australia	12,366	12,956	590	4.8
Western Australia	15,238	15,465	227	1.5
Tasmania	4,470	4,653	183	4.1
Northern Territory	1,717	1,851	134	7.8
Australian Capital Territory	1,668	1,730	62	3.7
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>157,970</b>	<b>165,824</b>	<b>7,854</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>LONG-TERM JOBSEEKERS</b>				
New South Wales	72,762	78,140	5,378	7.4
Victoria	54,005	58,490	4,485	8.3
Queensland	40,465	43,822	3,357	8.3
South Australia	19,347	20,611	1,264	6.5
Western Australia	18,207	19,081	874	4.8
Tasmania	10,487	10,938	451	4.3
Northern Territory	3,472	3,550	78	2.2
Australian Capital Territory	2,174	2,349	175	8.0
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>220,919</b>	<b>236,981</b>	<b>16,062</b>	<b>7.3</b>
<b>TOTAL JOBSEEKERS</b>				
New South Wales	123,760	131,913	8,153	6.6
Victoria	92,580	98,529	5,949	6.4
Queensland	73,403	79,179	5,776	7.9
South Australia	31,713	33,567	1,854	5.8
Western Australia	33,445	34,546	1,101	3.3
Tasmania	14,957	15,591	634	4.2
Northern Territory	5,189	5,401	212	4.1
Australian Capital Territory	3,842	4,079	237	6.2
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>378,889</b>	<b>402,805</b>	<b>23,916</b>	<b>6.3</b>

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 - JOBBEERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)  
BY AGE AND SEX (DECEMBER 2004)**

Age	Short-term Jobseekers		Long-term Jobseekers		Total Jobseekers	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
<b>MALES</b>						
Less than 18 years	5,177	4.7	4,090	2.7	9,267	3.5
18 - 20 years	11,710	10.6	15,313	10.1	27,023	10.3
21 - 24 years	20,270	18.4	21,032	13.9	41,302	15.8
25 - 29 years	18,225	16.5	20,825	13.8	39,050	14.9
30 - 39 years	25,837	23.5	33,350	22.0	59,187	22.6
40 - 49 years	15,025	13.6	27,985	18.5	43,010	16.4
50 - 59 years	10,377	9.4	23,406	15.5	33,783	12.9
60 years and over	3,552	3.2	5,444	3.6	8,996	3.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110,173</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>151,445</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>261,618</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>						
Less than 18 years	5,325	9.6	4,576	5.3	9,901	7.0
18 - 20 years	9,475	17.0	15,942	18.6	25,417	18.0
21 - 24 years	11,656	20.9	14,816	17.3	26,472	18.7
25 - 29 years	6,899	12.4	8,794	10.3	15,693	11.1
30 - 39 years	6,790	12.2	11,190	13.1	17,980	12.7
40 - 49 years	7,103	12.8	17,559	20.5	24,662	17.5
50 - 59 years	7,157	12.9	11,481	13.4	18,638	13.2
60 years and over	1,246	2.2	1,178	1.4	2,424	1.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55,651</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>85,536</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>141,187</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>						
Less than 18 years	10,502	6.3	8,666	3.7	19,168	4.8
18 - 20 years	21,185	12.8	31,255	13.2	52,440	13.0
21 - 24 years	31,926	19.3	35,848	15.1	67,774	16.8
25 - 29 years	25,124	15.2	29,619	12.5	54,743	13.6
30 - 39 years	32,627	19.7	44,540	18.8	77,167	19.2
40 - 49 years	22,128	13.3	45,544	19.2	67,672	16.8
50 - 59 years	17,534	10.6	34,887	14.7	52,421	13.0
60 years and over	4,798	2.9	6,622	2.8	11,420	2.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>165,824</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>236,981</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>402,805</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>EAST COAST (SYDNEY)</i>				
Bondi Junction	1,226	1,303	77	6.3
Chatswood	1,073	1,195	122	11.4
Darlinghurst	1,664	1,720	56	3.4
Darlinghurst YSU	20	16	-4	%
Hornsby	853	936	83	9.7
Leichhardt	1,390	1,506	116	8.3
Maroubra	1,150	1,256	106	9.2
Marrickville	1,451	1,591	140	9.6
Northern Beaches	1,140	1,219	79	6.9
Sydney Central YSU	1	0	-1	%
Other (a)	28	31	3	%
<i>Total</i>	9,996	10,773	777	7.8
<i>EAST COAST (WOLLONGONG)</i>				
Caringbah	1,318	1,459	141	10.7
Corrimal	1,319	1,428	109	8.3
Dapto	1,124	1,187	63	5.6
Hurstville	1,209	1,299	90	7.4
Nowra	1,904	1,968	64	3.4
Redfern	1,334	1,399	65	4.9
Rockdale	1,438	1,561	123	8.6
Shellharbour	1,509	1,578	69	4.6
Sutherland	27	30	3	%
Ulladulla	516	527	11	2.1
Wollongong	1,916	2,059	143	7.5
Other (a)	23	32	9	%
<i>Total</i>	13,637	14,527	890	6.5

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>HUNTER NSW</i>				
Armidale	1,203	1,366	163	13.5
Cessnock	856	928	72	8.4
Charlestown	2,716	2,797	81	3.0
Ettalong	1,073	1,107	34	3.2
Forster	839	888	49	5.8
Gosford	1,852	1,968	116	6.3
Gunnedah	445	495	50	11.2
Inverell	650	701	51	7.8
Kempsey	1,296	1,371	75	5.8
Kurri Kurri	563	595	32	5.7
Lakehaven	1,673	1,770	97	5.8
Maitland	1,698	1,776	78	4.6
Mayfield	1,225	1,264	39	3.2
Muswellbrook	604	643	39	6.5
Nambucca Heads	1,144	1,186	42	3.7
Nelson Bay	598	616	18	3.0
Newcastle	1,821	1,957	136	7.5
Port Macquarie	1,658	1,785	127	7.7
Raymond Terrace	987	1,024	37	3.7
Singleton	308	349	41	13.3
Tamworth	1,789	1,884	95	5.3
Taree	1,757	1,797	40	2.3
The Entrance	1,083	1,140	57	5.3
Toronto	1,167	1,260	93	8.0
Tuggerah	0	0	0	%
Wallsend	1,824	1,908	84	4.6
Wyong	592	630	38	6.4
Other (a)	60	68	8	%
<i>Total</i>	31,481	33,273	1,792	5.7

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH METROPOLITAN NSW</i>				
Ashfield	15	18	3	%
Bankstown	3,494	3,663	169	4.8
Cabramatta	2,039	2,169	130	6.4
Camden	382	437	55	14.4
Campbelltown	2,307	2,515	208	9.0
Campsie	1,779	1,942	163	9.2
Fairfield	3,631	3,984	353	9.7
Ingleburn	997	1,066	69	6.9
Lakemba	16	17	1	%
Liverpool	3,603	3,873	270	7.5
Revesby	4	7	3	%
Strathfield	1,341	1,484	143	10.7
Other (a)	5	5	0	%
<i>Total</i>	19,613	21,180	1,567	8.0
<i>WEST NSW</i>				
Auburn	1,898	2,082	184	9.7
Baulkham Hills	561	648	87	15.5
Blacktown	2,775	2,971	196	7.1
Hawkesbury	800	826	26	3.3
Katoomba	649	714	65	10.0
Lithgow	702	758	56	8.0
Merrylands	1,664	1,779	115	6.9
Mt Druitt	2,196	2,327	131	6.0
Mudgee	697	696	-1	-0.1
Parramatta	1,860	2,029	169	9.1
Penrith	1,491	1,632	141	9.5
Ryde	989	1,104	115	11.6
Springwood	336	360	24	7.1
St Marys	1,559	1,632	73	4.7
Other (a)	20	20	0	%
<i>Total</i>	18,197	19,578	1,381	7.6

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH WEST NSW</i>				
Albury	2,094	2,255	161	7.7
Batemans Bay	718	728	10	1.4
Bathurst	852	944	92	10.8
Bega	748	770	22	2.9
Belconnen	1,241	1,330	89	7.2
Bourke	465	482	17	3.7
Bowral	424	471	47	11.1
Braddon	1,009	1,092	83	8.2
Cooma	358	380	22	6.1
Cowra	453	457	4	0.9
Deniliquin	297	324	27	9.1
Dubbo	1,817	1,939	122	6.7
Goulburn	672	696	24	3.6
Griffith	562	584	22	3.9
Gungahlin	109	116	7	6.4
Lanyon	51	46	-5	%
Leeton	337	355	18	5.3
Narooma	382	409	27	7.1
Orange	1,003	1,056	53	5.3
Parkes	958	1,024	66	6.9
Queanbeyan	576	613	37	6.4
Tuggeranong	796	842	46	5.8
Tumut	312	328	16	5.1
Wagga	1,610	1,781	171	10.6
Woden	648	675	27	4.2
Yass	93	106	13	14.0
Young	452	484	32	7.1
Other (a)	11	13	2	%
<i>Total</i>	19,048	20,300	1,252	6.6

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>NORTH-CENTRAL VICTORIA</i>				
Box Hill	1,737	1,885	148	8.5
Broadmeadows	3,531	3,723	192	5.4
Darebin	3,392	3,644	252	7.4
Echuca	575	592	17	3.0
Epping	2,117	2,274	157	7.4
Fitzroy	1,738	1,885	147	8.5
Greensborough	1,266	1,411	145	11.5
Heidelberg	995	1,102	107	10.8
Lilydale	1,390	1,502	112	8.1
Moreland	2,975	3,187	212	7.1
Newmarket	1,723	1,840	117	6.8
Richmond	999	1,074	75	7.5
Ringwood	1,723	1,843	120	7.0
Seymour	649	653	4	0.6
Shepparton	2,407	2,513	106	4.4
Sth Melbourne	990	1,026	36	3.6
Wangaratta	1,714	1,831	117	6.8
Windsor (VIC)	3,173	3,362	189	6.0
Other (a)	39	30	-9	%
<i>Total</i>	33,133	35,377	2,244	6.8

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH-EAST VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	907	915	8	0.9
Belgrave*	516	567	51	9.9
Camberwell	1,049	1,185	136	13.0
Cheltenham	2,001	2,118	117	5.8
Cranbourne	1,158	1,238	80	6.9
Dandenong	2,486	2,642	156	6.3
Fountain Gate	1,896	2,063	167	8.8
Frankston	3,133	3,334	201	6.4
Glen Waverley	1,263	1,312	49	3.9
Leongatha	3	3	0	%
Mornington	599	608	9	1.5
Morwell	2,665	2,821	156	5.9
Oakleigh	1,928	2,050	122	6.3
Rosebud	981	1,011	30	3.1
Rowville	439	468	29	6.6
Sale	953	991	38	4.0
Springvale	2,399	2,532	133	5.5
Wantirna*	1,275	1,350	75	5.9
Warragul	402	437	35	8.7
Wonthaggi	593	611	18	3.0
Other (a)	6	5	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	26,652	28,261	1,609	6.0

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 - 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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>WEST VICTORIA</i>				
Ararat	285	308	23	8.1
Ballarat	2,950	3,281	331	11.2
Bendigo	3,252	3,451	199	6.1
Colac	502	524	22	4.4
Corio	1,809	1,877	68	3.8
Essendon (Airport West)	1,463	1,508	45	3.1
Footscray	1,867	2,045	178	9.5
Geelong	3,356	3,595	239	7.1
Hamilton	354	377	23	6.5
Horsham	718	773	55	7.7
Maryborough (VIC)	568	582	14	2.5
Melton	1,107	1,174	67	6.1
Mildura	1,692	1,817	125	7.4
Newport	1,156	1,198	42	3.6
Portland	511	516	5	1.0
Stawell	157	190	33	21.0
Sunbury	688	728	40	5.8
Sunshine	2,867	2,947	80	2.8
Swan Hill	757	800	43	5.7
Warrnambool	959	1,024	65	6.8
Watergardens	3,304	3,481	177	5.4
Werribee	2,294	2,437	143	6.2
Other (a)	20	19	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	32,636	34,652	2,016	6.2

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>BRISBANE</i>				
Annerley	899	993	94	10.5
Bundaberg	2,708	2,952	244	9.0
Caboolture	2,313	2,518	205	8.9
Caloundra	1,257	1,348	91	7.2
Capalaba	755	812	57	7.5
Chermside	994	1,061	67	6.7
Cleveland	760	839	79	10.4
Fortitude Valley	1,729	1,804	75	4.3
Gympie	1,228	1,330	102	8.3
Hervey Bay	1,246	1,375	129	10.4
Kawana Waters	528	587	59	11.2
Kingaroy	678	800	122	18.0
Maroochydore	1,599	1,698	99	6.2
Maryborough	1,299	1,399	100	7.7
Mitchelton	984	1,132	148	15.0
Mt Gravatt	1,749	1,967	218	12.5
Nambour	1,128	1,213	85	7.5
Noosa	1,279	1,335	56	4.4
Nundah	1,124	1,264	140	12.5
Redcliffe	1,522	1,680	158	10.4
Stones Corner	1,787	1,906	119	6.7
Strathpine	1,046	1,141	95	9.1
Toowong	1,242	1,493	251	20.2
Wynnum	883	935	52	5.9
Other (a)	1	1	0	%
<i>Total</i>	30,738	33,583	2,845	9.3

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL &amp; NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	806	858	52	6.5
Ayr	368	440	72	19.6
Biloela	210	220	10	4.8
Bowen	439	548	109	24.8
Cairns EMS (3)	3,028	3,129	101	3.3
Cairns FAO (3)	97	59	-38	-39.2
Cairns Ret (3)	7	6	-1	%
Charters Towers	337	370	33	9.8
Edmonton	139	144	5	3.6
Emerald	414	452	38	9.2
Gladstone	1,080	1,158	78	7.2
Greenfields	2	2	0	%
Indigenous ISC (2)	449	403	-46	-10.2
Ingham	259	334	75	29.0
Innisfail	753	847	94	12.5
Mackay	2,311	2,565	254	11.0
Mareeba	453	451	-2	-0.4
Mossman	203	264	61	30.0
Mt Isa	909	975	66	7.3
Normanton	198	208	10	5.1
Palm Island (2)	268	276	8	3.0
Rockhampton	2,629	2,740	111	4.2
Smithfield	362	410	48	13.3
Thursday Is	258	265	7	2.7
Townsville City (1)	49	44	-5	%
Townsville Employment Services (1)	3,136	3,359	223	7.1
Townsville FAO (1)	11	11	0	%
Townsville Retirement (1)	6	5	-1	%
Whitsunday	458	518	60	13.1
Yarrabah RASC (2)	119	124	5	4.2
Yeppoon	538	572	34	6.3
Other (a)	185	196	11	%
<i>Total</i>	20,481	21,953	1,472	7.2

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. Townsville FAO was previously known as Ross River (Elizabeth St) and Townsville Retirement was previously known as Willows.

Unemployment customers are being transferred from Townsville Retirement to Townsville Employment Services. Townsville City is now an access point only and customers are being transferred within the Townsville area to the appropriate CSC's.

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. Customers are being transferred from these sites to better service the needs of Indigenous and rural customers.

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.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Berri	938	997	59	6.3
Broken Hill	929	966	37	4.0
Ceduna	176	181	5	2.8
Cooper Pedy	169	161	-8	-4.7
Currie St (Adelaide)	1,049	1,165	116	11.1
Currie St (Adelaide) SAC	0	0	0	%
Edwardstown	2,293	2,499	206	9.0
Elizabeth	2,421	2,475	54	2.2
Enfield	1,550	1,648	98	6.3
Gawler	1,035	1,106	71	6.9
Glenelg	971	1,065	94	9.7
Kadina	592	587	-5	-0.8
Kilkenny	1,837	1,929	92	5.0
Modbury	1,797	1,923	126	7.0
Mt Barker	596	659	63	10.6
Mt Gambier	1,305	1,332	27	2.1
Murray Bridge	834	883	49	5.9
Noarlunga	2,708	2,849	141	5.2
Norwood	1,407	1,515	108	7.7
Parkside	597	663	66	11.1
Port Adelaide	1,612	1,733	121	7.5
Port Augusta	706	718	12	1.7
Port Lincoln	677	706	29	4.3
Port Pirie	1,067	1,091	24	2.2
Salisbury	2,487	2,596	109	4.4
Torrensville	1,475	1,605	130	8.8
Victor Harbor	562	567	5	0.9
Whyalla	1,007	1,050	43	4.3
Other (a)	16	17	1	%
<i>Total</i>	32,813	34,686	1,873	5.7

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</i>				
Albany	1,162	1,183	21	1.8
Armadale	1,112	1,102	-10	-0.9
Bunbury	2,183	2,203	20	0.9
Cannington	1,768	1,847	79	4.5
Carnarvon	258	256	-2	-0.8
Centrelink City*	1	1	0	%
Christmas Island	32	21	-11	%
Cocos Island	40	43	3	%
Collie	0	0	0	%
Esperance	320	331	11	3.4
Fremantle	1,841	1,966	125	6.8
Geraldton	1,669	1,579	-90	-5.4
Gosnells	1,136	1,150	14	1.2
Innaloo	2,099	2,192	93	4.4
Joondalup	1,687	1,756	69	4.1
Kalgoorlie	681	678	-3	-0.4
Karratha	267	279	12	4.5
Kwinana*	5	4	-1	%
Mandurah	1,536	1,554	18	1.2
Midland	2,063	2,055	-8	-0.4
Mirrabooka	2,131	2,200	69	3.2
Morley	2,591	2,728	137	5.3
Northam	536	558	22	4.1
Rockingham	1,955	1,967	12	0.6
South Hedland	314	300	-14	-4.5
Spearwood	1,322	1,324	2	0.2
Victoria Park	2,676	2,809	133	5.0
Warwick Grove	1,152	1,227	75	6.5
Other (a)	396	750	354	89.4
<i>Total</i>	32,933	34,063	1,130	3.4

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

\*As of 30 May 2003 Kwinana became a sub office of Rockingham.

\*From 30 June 2003 processes at Centerlink City, formerly known as Milligan Street, became limited to forms lodgement and quick general enquiries only.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>TASMANIA</i>				
Bridgewater	879	895	16	1.8
Burnie	1,792	1,835	43	2.4
Devonport	1,939	1,966	27	1.4
Glenorchy	1,804	1,932	128	7.1
Hobart	2,072	2,294	222	10.7
Huonville	592	601	9	1.5
Launceston	4,151	4,287	136	3.3
Mowbray	8	11	3	%
Rosny Park	1,199	1,240	41	3.4
Sorell	586	595	9	1.5
Other (a)	13	12	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	15,035	15,668	633	4.2
<i>NORTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Alice Springs	448	451	3	0.7
Alice Springs (Remote)	482	465	-17	-3.5
Broome	285	254	-31	-10.9
Casuarina	1,034	1,111	77	7.4
Casuarina YSC	1	1	0	%
Derby	85	97	12	%
Katherine	588	705	117	19.9
Katherine (Remote)	51	0	-51	-100.0
Knuckey Street	642	694	52	8.1
Kununurra	156	169	13	8.3
Nhulunbuy	223	243	20	9.0
Palmerston	859	921	62	7.2
Tangentyere	287	264	-23	-8.0
Tennant Creek	144	152	8	5.6
Tennant Creek (Remote)	101	100	-1	%
Other (a)	458	418	-40	-8.7
<i>Total</i>	5,844	6,045	201	3.4

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>PACIFIC CENTRAL</i>				
Ballina	1,167	1,248	81	6.9
Beaudesert	376	418	42	11.2
Beenleigh	1,648	1,754	106	6.4
Biggera Waters	1,664	1,750	86	5.2
Browns Plains	1,431	1,515	84	5.9
Brunswick Heads	759	798	39	5.1
Byron Bay	978	1,004	26	2.7
Casino	738	775	37	5.0
Charleville	162	171	9	5.6
Coffs Harbour	2,811	2,936	125	4.4
Dalby	674	722	48	7.1
Goodna	1,026	1,127	101	9.8
Goondiwindi	293	319	26	8.9
Grafton	1,701	1,784	83	4.9
Inala	1,306	1,392	86	6.6
Ipswich	2,103	2,234	131	6.2
Lightning Ridge	14	12	-2	%
Lismore	2,215	2,372	157	7.1
Moree	564	597	33	5.9
Murwillumbah	717	763	46	6.4
Narrabri	389	417	28	7.2
Nerang	1,571	1,650	79	5.0
Palm Beach	2,205	2,292	87	3.9
Roma	152	173	21	13.8
Southport	2,577	2,730	153	5.9
Stanthorpe	1	0	-1	%
Toowoomba	2,390	2,631	241	10.1
Tweed Heads	1,571	1,670	99	6.3
Walgett	417	430	13	3.1
Warwick	1,024	1,064	40	3.9
Woodridge	1,969	2,099	130	6.6
Other (a)	28	27	-1	%
<i>Total</i>	36,641	38,874	2,233	6.1

Note: For footnotes see end of table.

**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>	November 2004	December 2004	Variation	
			November - December Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRELINK CALL CENTRES*</i>				
Adelaide	1	1	0	%
Bendigo	1	0	-1	%
Brisbane	0	0	0	%
Bunbury	0	0	0	%
Cairns	0	0	0	%
Cardiff	0	0	0	%
Coffs Harbour	0	0	0	%
Geelong	1	0	-1	%
Gosford	0	0	0	%
Hobart	0	0	0	%
Illawarra	0	0	0	%
Indigenous	0	0	0	%
Latrobe	0	1	1	%
Liverpool	0	0	0	%
Maryborough	0	0	0	%
Moorabbin	0	0	0	%
Moreland	0	0	0	%
Newcastle	3	0	-3	%
Perth	0	1	1	%
Port Augusta	0	0	0	%
Port Macquarie	1	2	1	%
Sydney	0	0	0	%
Toowoomba	1	1	0	%
Townsville	1	3	2	%
Warilla	0	0	0	%
Wendouree	0	0	0	%
<i>Total</i>	9	9	0	%
NOT CODED TO AN AREA	2	3	1	%
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>378,889</b>	<b>402,805</b>	<b>23,916</b>	<b>6.3</b>

(a) Customers 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.

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 - JOBSEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER)  
BY FORTNIGHTLY EARNINGS (%) AND SEX (a), FORTNIGHT TO 24 DECEMBER 2004**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term Jobseekers	Long-term Jobseekers	Total Jobseekers
<b>MALES</b>			
Did not earn an income	84.1	80.7	82.1
Earned an income	15.9	19.3	17.9
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	1.1	1.3	1.2
\$62.01 - \$142.00	3.0	3.6	3.3
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.9	3.6	3.3
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.0	2.4	2.2
Over \$316.00	6.9	8.4	7.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b><i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i></b>	<b><i>114,187</i></b>	<b><i>155,609</i></b>	<b><i>269,796</i></b>
<b>FEMALES</b>			
Did not earn an income	75.3	71.2	72.8
Earned an income	24.7	28.8	27.2
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	1.6	1.8	1.8
\$62.01 - \$142.00	4.4	4.9	4.7
\$142.01 - \$236.00	4.5	5.2	4.9
\$236.01 - \$316.00	3.2	3.6	3.4
Over \$316.00	11.1	13.4	12.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b><i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i></b>	<b><i>57,954</i></b>	<b><i>89,327</i></b>	<b><i>147,281</i></b>
<b>PERSONS</b>			
Did not earn an income	81.1	77.2	78.8
Earned an income	18.9	22.8	21.2
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	1.3	1.5	1.4
\$62.01 - \$142.00	3.5	4.0	3.8
\$142.01 - \$236.00	3.4	4.2	3.9
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.4	2.8	2.6
Over \$316.00	8.3	10.2	9.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b><i>Jobseekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i></b>	<b><i>172,141</i></b>	<b><i>244,936</i></b>	<b><i>417,077</i></b>

(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) and Youth Allowance (other) categories. Numbers of people on Mature Age Allowance, Partner Allowance and Widow Allowance customers 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 customers 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 customers 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. All Job Search Allowance customers 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 Jobseeker figures as those customers who were incapacitated were excluded from the Newstart and Youth Training Jobseeker populations.

Under current arrangements, these customers 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) has now been replaced by Youth Allowance, which was introduced on 1 July 1998 (see *Youth Allowance*).

*Partner Allowance* 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.

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.

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*

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 12 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 customers; the inclusion of some CDEP customers in the total customer 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 Customer* 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 customers who are both eligible and entitled to receive a payment have a determination status of 'current'. The new method therefore counts these 'current' customers.

The old method of counting customers was specified to include all paid customers – those who received a payment within a given fortnight. As compiled, however, this count excluded, from mid 1998, customers 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 back to May 1998 can be found in the July 2002 publication.

From July 2003 FaCS introduced a more sustainable methodology was introduced for this revised customer count. Due to limitations in available data sources in 2002, the revised customer count had to be derived through a complicated process. This more sustainable methodology resulted in slight differences from the customer 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 customers 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 customers 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, customers 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) customers by excluding all people who did not receive a payment due to their own and/or their partner's income, or where applicable, their parent's, 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 customer spends on income support – short-term customers are those who have been on income support for up to 12 months and long-term customers are those who have been on income support for 12 months or more.

Prior to 1998, duration was defined according to the time a customer was registered as unemployed – short-term customers were people who were registered as unemployed for up to 12 months and long-term customers 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

<b>Activity Test Status</b>	The activity that a Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) customer has agreed to undertake in order to meet the activity test. To satisfy the activity test customers must be actively seeking and willing to take up work or undertaking activities to improve their employment prospects.
<b>Age</b>	Age in years at time of data collection.
<b>Area Support Office</b>	A Centrelink office that supports a set of Customer Service Centres for a specified area. These are generally not confined to State boundaries.
<b>Centrelink Youth Service Centre</b>	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.
<b>Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)</b>	<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>
<b>Customer Service Centre</b>	A Customer Service Centre set within a particular region that provides FaCS, DEWR and other payments and related information and services to customers. Customer Service Centres are managed by Area Support Offices.
<b>Did Not Receive a Payment</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'.
<b>Eligibility and Payment Status</b>	Refer to the Methodology entry in the Explanatory Notes.
<b>Fortnightly Earnings</b>	Amount of income earned, derived, or received by a person for the person's own use or benefit in the previous fortnight.
<b>Incapacitated</b>	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.

<b>Jobseekers</b>	A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who would usually be engaged in jobsearch. See Explanatory Notes for definition and history.
<b>Job Search Allowance (JSA)</b>	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.
<b>Long-term Customers</b>	Persons on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance who have been receiving income support for 12 months or more. Duration of long-term customers can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 13 weeks.
<b>Mature Age Allowance (MAA)</b>	<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>
<b>Newstart Allowance (NSA)</b>	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.
<b>Newstart Common Platform System (NCP)</b>	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.
<b>Partner Allowance (PA)</b>	<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>
<b>Short-term Customers</b>	Persons on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance who have been receiving income support for less than 12 months. Duration of short-term customers can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 6 weeks.

<b>States</b>	States and Territories of Australia derived from the postcode of the customer's residence as held on the Centrelink payment system.
<b>Widow Allowance (WA)</b>	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.
<b>Youth Training Allowance (YTA)</b>	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.
<b>Youth Allowance (YA)</b>	<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>
<b>Youth Allowance (other)</b>	Youth Allowance customers who are not full-time students.
<b>Zero-Paid</b>	See 'Did Not Receive a Payment'.

## APPENDIX

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

<b>Official Statistics</b>	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.
<b>ABS Definition</b>	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.
<b>DEWR Unemployment Labour Market Payment Statistics</b>	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.
<b>Differences</b>	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 <b>income support</b>. This includes not just time on unemployment benefits but time on any income support payment.</p> <p>The ABS measures length of time <b>unemployed</b> using their unemployment definition.</p> <p>DEWR unemployed customers can have breaks without payment for up to 25 weeks but still be classified long term income support customers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Customers 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.</li><li>- Long-term customers 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</li></ul>

assistance such as the Employment Entry Payment and the higher payment rate for customers 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 customers are able to have ongoing part-time work (see 'employment' below) mean that many unemployed customers remain classified by DEWR as long-term customers when they would be classified as short-term unemployed under the ABS definition.

*Seasonal Adjustment*

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

*Classification*

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

The Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) series generally count people who are eligible for and entitled to receive a payment between the ages of 15 years and 64 years in the case of men and 15 to 62 years in the case of women.

*Employment*

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

*Timing*

The timing of collections of the series are different:

DEWR reports monthly average numbers of people both eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other). These monthly averages are calculated using figures collected for each Friday throughout the reference month.

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

<i>Treatment of Partners</i>	The ABS series includes unemployed persons whose spouse is working, irrespective of income, whereas Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) recipients are subject to an income and assets test for themselves and their spouse.
<i>Pensioners</i>	The ABS series includes persons being paid a pension but looking for work (eg sole parents in receipt of Parenting Payments looking for work).
<i>Non-jobseekers</i>	The overall Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) series includes persons who are not required to undertake jobsearch. These persons are separately identified in Tables 2 and 3, and have then been excluded in subsequent tables. These people may be undertaking training, the development of self-employment opportunities, full-time voluntary work or a combination of voluntary and part-time work which excludes them from jobsearch obligations. They may also be incapacitated or have another temporary exemption from jobsearch.
<i>Waiting Periods</i>	The ABS series includes persons who are serving a waiting period before being granted Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other), or whose allowance was deferred.
<i>Survey</i>	The ABS figures are derived from a Labour Force Survey which is a sample survey, whereas the DEWR statistics are a complete count of those both eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other).

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### **Labour Market Information**

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

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

For further information please contact the Business Information Help Desk on (02) 6244 7270.

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

Director  
Newstart and Working Credit Section  
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations  
CW3  
PO Box 7788  
Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610

or forwarded via facsimile to (02) 6244 7978.

### **Other Customer Information**

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

For further information please contact the Business Information Help Desk on (02) 6244 7270.

### **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.*