

Labour Market and Related Payments

a monthly profile

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

This publication can be found on the Department of Social Services website at [DSS - Labour Market and Related Payments Publication](http://www.dss.gov.au/lmrp) (<http://www.dss.gov.au/lmrp>).

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Introduction

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

This publication covers Newstart (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)) in some detail, and to a lesser extent, Partner Allowance (PA), Widow Allowance (WA), Youth Allowance (Full Time Student)(YA(FTS)) and Youth Allowance (Australian Apprentices) (YA(a)).

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

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

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

Please note: With the release of the July 2014 edition, Table 7 has incorporated a re-alignment of Service Centres within Service Zone boundaries, for administrative reasons, which were implemented in July 2014. Details of the changes are listed in Appendix 2.

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 DSS Media Team on (02) 6146 3242. 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 24 September 2014.

Statistical Highlights – July 2014

Between July 2013 and July 2014

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)) recipients **increased 3.2 per cent** overall from 820 333 to 846 582.

- NSA recipients increased 4.4 per cent from 704 005 to 734 817.
- YA(o) recipients decreased 3.9 per cent from 116 328 to 111 765.

The number of job seekers **increased 0.6 per cent** overall from 411 513 to 413 883.

- NSA job seekers increased 0.6 per cent from 357 859 to 359 859.
- YA(o) job seekers increased 0.7 per cent from 53 654 to 54 024.

Long-term job seekers increased 5.8 per cent from 235 643 to 249 220.

Short-term job seekers decreased 6.4 per cent from 175 870 to 164 663.

NOTE: There is a break in the series between June and July 2012. From July 2012 allowee data is not wholly comparable with previously published data, due to changes in eligibility for Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) (see Explanatory Notes).

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

Figure 1: Line Graph – Newstart and Youth Allowance (other) time series

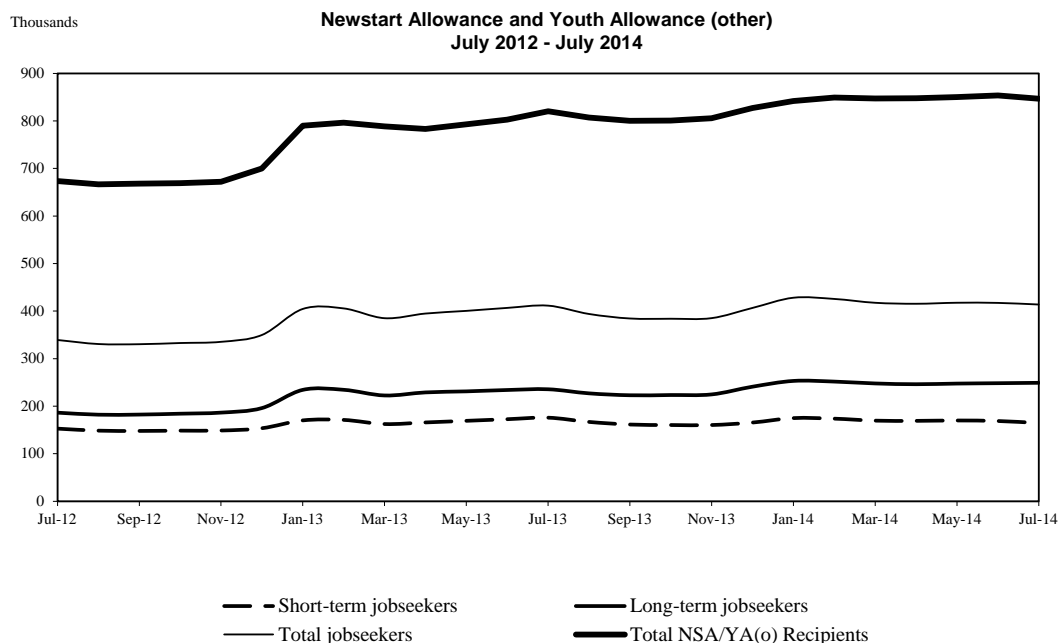


Table 1 - Labour Market Payments - Time Series

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance			Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
	Long Term	Total	Other	Full-time Students	Australian Apprentices		
February 1994	472,785	977,796
July 2012	354,823	586,745	86,889	262,157	5,012	13,742	29,031
August 2012	352,855	581,305	85,525	268,867	5,156	13,368	28,791
September 2012	353,622	580,857	87,215	267,488	5,385	12,977	28,516
October 2012	354,955	580,867	88,174	263,263	5,497	12,659	28,284
November 2012	356,010	581,309	90,753	241,435	5,332	12,297	28,058
December 2012	364,803	595,248	104,885	200,222	5,234	11,974	27,838
January 2013	442,932	682,873	107,103	194,172	5,233	11,675	27,590
February 2013	444,457	686,852	109,306	207,266	5,540	11,361	27,329
March 2013	443,932	682,120	106,244	225,583	6,086	11,009	27,006
April 2013	439,863	677,527	105,767	236,305	6,349	10,700	26,660
May 2013	443,320	684,973	107,974	244,878	6,373	10,393	26,397
June 2013	447,172	691,771	110,830	246,009	6,428	10,091	26,057
July 2013	454,506	704,005	116,328	234,497	6,667	9,929	25,925
August 2013	453,446	697,212	109,963	241,992	6,825	9,841	26,043
September 2013	453,405	693,589	106,540	245,298	6,891	9,790	26,285
October 2013	456,087	695,797	104,790	243,165	6,830	9,728	26,420
November 2013	460,205	701,640	103,758	220,015	6,374	9,697	26,674
December 2013	468,076	711,438	115,601	185,423	6,357	9,652	26,894
January 2014	477,743	726,740	115,310	180,207	6,219	9,472	26,777
February 2014	482,383	732,654	116,570	198,165	6,496	9,224	26,575
March 2014	485,069	733,601	113,456	216,363	6,682	9,002	26,423
April 2014	486,898	734,866	112,776	228,852	6,736	8,769	26,280
May 2014	490,612	738,128	112,274	238,592	6,890	8,513	25,961
June 2014	495,633	741,051	112,705	239,768	7,055	8,289	25,674
July 2014	495,895	734,817	111,765	227,625	6,909	8,065	25,317
Variation June 2014 - July 2014							
Number	262	-6,234	-940	-12,143	-146	-224	-357
Per cent	0.1	-0.8	-0.8	-5.1	-2.1	-2.7	-1.4

Notes:

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

Table 2 - Newstart Allowees - Derivation of the Job Seeker Population

	June			June 2014	Variation J u n e - J u l y	
	Persons	Males	Females		Number	Percent
Short Term Newstart Allowees	238,922	148,525	90,397	245,418	-6,496	-2.6
CPS Recipients (a)	247	181	66	291	-44	-15.1
Did not receive a payment (b)	13,155	7,403	5,752	13,794	-639	-4.6
Received a payment	225,520	140,941	84,579	231,333	-5,813	-2.5
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	7,757	2,057	5,700	7,708	49	0.6
Other activities without job search (d)	39,048	23,055	15,993	39,958	-910	-2.3
Incapacitated (e)	24,352	14,052	10,300	24,926	-574	-2.3
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	13,351	7,566	5,785	13,541	-190	-1.4
Short-term NSA job seekers (g)	141,012	94,211	46,801	145,200	-4,188	-2.9
Short-term NSA training/education (h)	35,439	19,972	15,467	36,486	-1,047	-2.9
Long Term Newstart Allowees	495,895	238,630	257,265	495,633	262	0.1
CPS Recipients (a)	1,828	1,218	610	1,899	-71	-3.7
Did not receive a payment (b)	15,905	6,643	9,262	16,976	-1,071	-6.3
Received a payment	478,162	230,769	247,393	476,758	1,404	0.3
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	55,077	11,946	43,131	54,251	826	1.5
Other activities without job search (d)	120,838	55,842	64,996	121,089	-251	-0.2
Incapacitated (e)	43,388	20,965	22,423	43,570	-182	-0.4
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	40,012	17,876	22,136	39,845	167	0.4
Long-term NSA job seekers (g)	218,847	124,140	94,707	218,003	844	0.4
Long-term NSA training/education (h)	157,963	79,266	78,697	160,206	-2,243	-1.4
All Newstart Allowees	734,817	387,155	347,662	741,051	-6,234	-0.8
CPS Recipients (a)	2,075	1,399	676	2,190	-115	-5.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	29,060	14,046	15,014	30,770	-1,710	-5.6
Received a payment	703,682	371,710	331,972	708,091	-4,409	-0.6
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	62,834	14,003	48,831	61,959	875	1.4
Other activities without job search (d)	159,886	78,897	80,989	161,047	-1,161	-0.7
Incapacitated (e)	67,740	35,017	32,723	68,496	-756	-1.1
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	53,363	25,442	27,921	53,386	-23	0.0
All NSA job seekers (g)	359,859	218,351	141,508	363,203	-3,344	-0.9
All NSA training/education (h)	193,402	99,238	94,164	196,692	-3,290	-1.7

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

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

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

(d) Allowees who are undertaking one or more other activities (which may include training or education) but not job search. This includes allowees undertaking self-employment development.

(e) Allowees who are temporarily ill or incapacitated.

(f) Includes allowees who are known not to have participation requirements and allowees participating in Disability Management Services.

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

(h) All allowees who are undertaking training or education which may be in conjunction with job search and/or other activities. This category is a subset of all allowees who received a payment.

Notes:

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

Table 3 - Youth Allowees (Other) - Derivation of the Job Seeker Population

	June			June 2014	Variation J u n e - J u l y	
	Persons	Males	Females		Number	Percent
Short Term Youth Allowees	48,800	27,258	21,542	49,238	-438	-0.9
CPS Recipients (a)	8	6	2	12	-4	-33.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,114	494	620	1,147	-33	-2.9
Received a payment	47,678	26,758	20,920	48,079	-401	-0.8
Other activities without job search (c)	20,062	11,831	8,231	20,393	-331	-1.6
Incapacitated (d)	2,094	1,093	1,001	2,169	-75	-3.5
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	1,871	859	1,012	1,846	25	1.4
Short-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	23,651	12,975	10,676	23,671	-20	-0.1
Short-term YA (other) training/education (g)	14,225	7,800	6,425	14,475	-250	-1.7
Long Term Youth Allowees	62,965	32,449	30,516	63,467	-502	-0.8
CPS Recipients (a)	25	20	5	25	0	0.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,628	659	969	1,631	-3	-0.2
Received a payment	61,312	31,770	29,542	61,811	-499	-0.8
Other activities without job search (c)	25,936	13,693	12,243	26,351	-415	-1.6
Incapacitated (d)	2,565	1,132	1,433	2,615	-50	-1.9
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	2,438	1,021	1,417	2,442	-4	-0.2
Long-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	30,373	15,924	14,449	30,403	-30	-0.1
Long-term YA (other) training/education (g)	25,973	13,176	12,797	27,003	-1,030	-3.8
All Youth Allowees	111,765	59,707	52,058	112,705	-940	-0.8
CPS Recipients (a)	33	26	7	37	-4	-10.8
Did not receive a payment (b)	2,742	1,153	1,589	2,778	-36	-1.3
Received a payment	108,990	58,528	50,462	109,890	-900	-0.8
Other activities without job search (c)	45,998	25,524	20,474	46,744	-746	-1.6
Incapacitated (d)	4,659	2,225	2,434	4,784	-125	-2.6
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	4,309	1,880	2,429	4,288	21	0.5
All YA (other) job seekers (f)	54,024	28,899	25,125	54,074	-50	-0.1
All YA (other) training/education (g)	40,198	20,976	19,222	41,478	-1,280	-3.1

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

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

(c) Allowees who are undertaking one or more other activities (which may include training or education) but not job search. This includes allowees undertaking self-employment development.

(d) Allowees who are temporarily ill or incapacitated.

(e) Includes allowees who are known not to have participation requirements and allowees participating in Disability Management Services.

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

(g) All allowees who are undertaking training or education which may be in conjunction with job search and/or other activities. This category is a subset of all allowees who received a payment.

Notes:

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

**Table 4 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other)
Time Series**

	Short-term	Long-term	Total
July 2012	152,845	186,422	339,267
August 2012	148,597	182,177	330,774
September 2012	147,989	182,417	330,406
October 2012	148,639	184,263	332,902
November 2012	148,884	186,543	335,427
December 2012	153,702	196,080	349,782
January 2013	170,179	234,387	404,566
February 2013	171,180	234,508	405,688
March 2013	162,494	222,611	385,105
April 2013	165,858	229,031	394,889
May 2013	169,282	231,218	400,500
June 2013	172,666	234,093	406,759
July 2013	175,870	235,643	411,513
August 2013	166,945	227,053	393,998
September 2013	161,475	223,046	384,521
October 2013	160,437	223,525	383,962
November 2013	160,424	224,812	385,236
December 2013	165,649	241,054	406,703
January 2014	174,982	253,178	428,160
February 2014	173,817	251,800	425,617
March 2014	169,647	247,876	417,523
April 2014	169,197	246,262	415,459
May 2014	169,980	247,615	417,595
June 2014	168,871	248,406	417,277
July 2014	164,663	249,220	413,883
Variation June 2014 - July 2014			
Number	-4208	814	-3394
Per cent	-2.5	0.3	-0.8

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.

Table 5 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By State

State	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			Number	Per cent
Short-Term Job Seekers				
New South Wales	48,185	47,131	-1,054	-2.2
Victoria	41,051	40,337	-714	-1.7
Queensland	42,266	40,757	-1,509	-3.6
South Australia	12,586	12,231	-355	-2.8
Western Australia	16,965	16,632	-333	-2.0
Tasmania	3,930	3,847	-83	-2.1
Northern Territory	2,175	2,048	-127	-5.8
Australian Capital Territory	1,709	1,677	-32	-1.9
Australia	168,871	164,663	-4,208	-2.5
Long-Term Job Seekers				
New South Wales	76,346	77,095	749	1.0
Victoria	57,630	57,553	-77	-0.1
Queensland	55,523	55,766	243	0.4
South Australia	22,370	22,495	125	0.6
Western Australia	21,069	21,098	29	0.1
Tasmania	9,029	8,988	-41	-0.5
Northern Territory	4,392	4,130	-262	-6.0
Australian Capital Territory	2,045	2,092	47	2.3
Australia	248,406	249,220	814	0.3
Total Job seekers				
New South Wales	124,531	124,226	-305	-0.2
Victoria	98,681	97,890	-791	-0.8
Queensland	97,789	96,523	-1,266	-1.3
South Australia	34,956	34,726	-230	-0.7
Western Australia	38,034	37,730	-304	-0.8
Tasmania	12,959	12,835	-124	-1.0
Northern Territory	6,567	6,178	-389	-5.9
Australian Capital Territory	3,754	3,769	15	0.4
Australia	417,277	413,883	-3,394	-0.8

Notes:

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

Table 6 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Age and Sex

Age	Short-term job seekers		Long-term job seekers		Total job seekers	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Males						
Less than 18 years	1,518	1.4	272	0.2	1,790	0.7
18 - 20 years	9,007	8.4	11,361	8.1	20,368	8.2
21 - 24 years	16,135	15.1	21,097	15.1	37,232	15.1
25 - 29 years	17,002	15.9	21,493	15.3	38,495	15.6
30 - 39 years	25,138	23.5	32,383	23.1	57,521	23.3
40 - 49 years	19,728	18.4	26,799	19.1	46,527	18.8
50 - 59 years	13,730	12.8	19,786	14.1	33,516	13.6
60 years and over	4,926	4.6	6,872	4.9	11,798	4.8
Total	107,184	100.0	140,063	100.0	247,247	100.0
Females						
Less than 18 years	1,449	2.5	355	0.3	1,804	1.1
18 - 20 years	7,662	13.3	10,512	9.6	18,174	10.9
21 - 24 years	9,050	15.7	14,242	13.0	23,292	14.0
25 - 29 years	7,018	12.2	10,918	10.0	17,936	10.8
30 - 39 years	9,030	15.7	21,306	19.5	30,336	18.2
40 - 49 years	10,913	19.0	28,782	26.4	39,695	23.8
50 - 59 years	9,488	16.5	18,933	17.3	28,421	17.1
60 years and over	2,869	5.0	4,109	3.8	6,978	4.2
Total	57,479	100.0	109,157	100.0	166,636	100.0
Persons						
Less than 18 years	2,967	1.8	627	0.3	3,594	0.9
18 - 20 years	16,669	10.1	21,873	8.8	38,542	9.3
21 - 24 years	25,185	15.3	35,339	14.2	60,524	14.6
25 - 29 years	24,020	14.6	32,411	13.0	56,431	13.6
30 - 39 years	34,168	20.8	53,689	21.5	87,857	21.2
40 - 49 years	30,641	18.6	55,581	22.3	86,222	20.8
50 - 59 years	23,218	14.1	38,719	15.5	61,937	15.0
60 years and over	7,795	4.7	10,981	4.4	18,776	4.5
Total	164,663	100.0	249,220	100.0	413,883	100.0

Notes:

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

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Sydney				
AS1 Community Team	23	28	%	%
Bankstown	3,585	3,643	58	1.6
Bondi Junction	1,227	1,161	-66	-5.4
Burwood	1,804	1,822	18	1.0
Cabramatta	2,590	2,614	24	0.9
Camden	748	774	26	3.5
Campbelltown	2,213	2,180	-33	-1.5
Campsie	2,538	2,527	-11	-0.4
Caringbah	924	941	17	1.8
Chatswood	1,327	1,316	-11	-0.8
Darlinghurst	1,578	1,535	-43	-2.7
Fairfield	2,844	2,886	42	1.5
Hornsby	1,109	1,082	-27	-2.4
Hurstville	1,631	1,642	11	0.7
Ingleburn	1,324	1,297	-27	-2.0
Leichhardt	1,356	1,283	-73	-5.4
Liverpool	3,725	3,779	54	1.4
Maroubra	1,593	1,580	-13	-0.8
Marrickville	1,420	1,439	19	1.3
Northern Beaches	1,385	1,366	-19	-1.4
Redfern	1,306	1,333	27	2.1
Rockdale	1,496	1,499	3	0.2
Ryde	1,230	1,227	-3	-0.2
Sutherland	888	905	17	1.9
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	39,864	39,859	-5	0.0

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
North New South Wales				
Ballina	1,027	1,035	8	0.8
Brunswick Heads	938	903	-35	-3.7
Byron Bay	315	322	7	2.2
Casino	641	646	5	0.8
Cessnock	863	872	9	1.0
Charlestown	2,058	2,033	-25	-1.2
Coffs Harbour	2,057	2,052	-5	-0.2
Comm Support Team	21	23	%	%
Ettalong	838	823	-15	-1.8
Forster	846	876	30	3.5
Gosford	1,780	1,750	-30	-1.7
Grafton	869	899	30	3.5
Kempsey	863	864	1	0.1
King Street	1,213	1,247	34	2.8
Kurri Kurri	522	518	-4	-0.8
Lakehaven	1,748	1,740	-8	-0.5
Lismore	1,674	1,658	-16	-1.0
Maitland	1,641	1,620	-21	-1.3
Mayfield	1,066	1,058	-8	-0.8
Murwillumbah	682	681	-1	-0.1
Muswellbrook	702	723	21	3.0
Nambucca Heads	751	734	-17	-2.3
Nelson Bay	540	549	9	1.7
Port Macquarie	1,758	1,780	22	1.3
Raymond Terrace	1,028	1,029	1	0.1
Singleton	381	392	11	2.9
Taree	1,636	1,626	-10	-0.6
The Entrance	1,335	1,282	-53	-4.0
Toronto	992	976	-16	-1.6
Tweed Heads	1,661	1,688	27	1.6
Wallsend	1,548	1,555	7	0.5
Woy Woy	589	601	12	2.0
Wyong	708	694	-14	-2.0
Yamba	420	418	-2	-0.5
Other (a)	2	2	%	%
Total	35,713	35,669	-44	-0.1

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Central New South Wales				
Armidale	966	974	8	0.8
Auburn	2,284	2,342	58	2.5
Bathurst	759	769	10	1.3
Baulkham Hills	1,005	974	-31	-3.1
Blacktown	3,403	3,355	-48	-1.4
Bourke	361	354	-7	-1.9
Dubbo	1,874	1,877	3	0.2
Glen Innes	366	356	-10	-2.7
Gunnedah	459	447	-12	-2.6
Hawkesbury	985	982	-3	-0.3
Inverell	683	664	-19	-2.8
Katoomba	671	660	-11	-1.6
Lightning Ridge	197	181	-16	-8.1
Lithgow	703	715	12	1.7
Merrylands	2,396	2,330	-66	-2.8
Moree	453	431	-22	-4.9
Mt Druitt	2,504	2,501	-3	-0.1
Mudgee	596	596	0	0.0
Narrabri	351	361	10	2.8
Orange	909	911	2	0.2
Parkes	697	708	11	1.6
Parramatta	2,406	2,396	-10	-0.4
Penrith	2,029	2,002	-27	-1.3
Springwood	427	421	-6	-1.4
St Marys	1,618	1,595	-23	-1.4
Tamworth	1,850	1,843	-7	-0.4
Walgett	154	162	8	5.2
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	31,106	30,907	-199	-0.6

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Southern New South Wales				
Batemans Bay	752	727	-25	-3.3
Bega	729	719	-10	-1.4
Belconnen	1,119	1,135	16	1.4
Bowral	468	445	-23	-4.9
Braddon	785	798	13	1.7
Cooma	416	401	-15	-3.6
Corrimal	1,144	1,120	-24	-2.1
Cowra	485	476	-9	-1.9
Dapto	1,199	1,208	9	0.8
Goulburn	758	757	-1	-0.1
Griffith	539	551	12	2.2
Gungahlin	385	396	11	2.9
Leeton	393	390	-3	-0.8
Narooma	263	257	-6	-2.3
Nowra	1,786	1,778	-8	-0.4
Queanbeyan	578	580	2	0.3
Shellharbour	1,451	1,448	-3	-0.2
Tuggeranong	927	909	-18	-1.9
Tumut	279	284	5	1.8
Ulladulla	485	471	-14	-2.9
Wagga	1,112	1,127	15	1.3
Woden	495	500	5	1.0
Wollongong	1,397	1,414	17	1.2
Yass	86	88	%	%
Young	563	553	-10	-1.8
Other (a)	7	4	%	%
Total	18,601	18,536	-65	-0.3

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Northern Victoria				
Airport West	1,299	1,259	-40	-3.1
Albury	2,465	2,463	-2	-0.1
Box Hill	2,266	2,228	-38	-1.7
Broadmeadows	4,074	4,072	-2	0.0
Darebin	2,806	2,782	-24	-0.9
Deniliquin	239	253	14	5.9
Echuca	557	532	-25	-4.5
Epping	2,933	2,909	-24	-0.8
Greensborough	1,755	1,743	-12	-0.7
Heidelberg	1,341	1,324	-17	-1.3
Moreland	2,827	2,806	-21	-0.7
Newmarket	1,628	1,616	-12	-0.7
Seymour	741	721	-20	-2.7
Shepparton	1,920	1,871	-49	-2.6
Sth Melbourne	1,081	1,077	-4	-0.4
Sunbury	967	950	-17	-1.8
Wangaratta	1,374	1,365	-9	-0.7
Windsor Vic	2,682	2,610	-72	-2.7
Yarra	2,313	2,257	-56	-2.4
Other (a)	9	9	%	%
Total	35,277	34,847	-430	-1.2

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Eastern Victoria				
Bairnsdale	1,060	1,053	-7	-0.7
Belgrave	542	544	2	0.4
Boronia	1,283	1,265	-18	-1.4
Cheltenham	1,814	1,799	-15	-0.8
Cranbourne	1,899	1,886	-13	-0.7
Dandenong	2,908	2,857	-51	-1.8
Fountain Gate	2,450	2,489	39	1.6
Frankston	2,699	2,661	-38	-1.4
Glen Waverley	1,255	1,266	11	0.9
Hastings	624	604	-20	-3.2
Lilydale	1,462	1,437	-25	-1.7
Mornington	590	579	-11	-1.9
Morwell	2,468	2,381	-87	-3.5
Oakleigh	1,625	1,616	-9	-0.6
Pakenham	1,039	1,080	41	3.9
Ringwood	1,845	1,793	-52	-2.8
Rosebud	896	856	-40	-4.5
Rowville	725	737	12	1.7
Sale	738	739	1	0.1
Springvale	2,095	2,085	-10	-0.5
Warragul	689	678	-11	-1.6
Wonthaggi	971	972	1	0.1
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	31,677	31,377	-300	-0.9

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
West Victoria				
Ararat	214	204	-10	-4.7
Ballarat	3,042	3,028	-14	-0.5
Bendigo	2,569	2,561	-8	-0.3
Colac	649	651	2	0.3
Corio	1,732	1,730	-2	-0.1
Footscray	1,574	1,601	27	1.7
Geelong	3,491	3,467	-24	-0.7
Hamilton	419	412	-7	-1.7
Horsham	692	701	9	1.3
Maryborough	521	547	26	5.0
Melton	2,041	2,032	-9	-0.4
Mildura	1,851	1,873	22	1.2
Newport	1,185	1,136	-49	-4.1
Portland	381	367	-14	-3.7
Stawell	185	177	-8	-4.3
Sunshine	3,726	3,696	-30	-0.8
Swan Hill	715	695	-20	-2.8
Warrnambool	881	870	-11	-1.2
Watergardens	3,593	3,620	27	0.8
Werribee	4,380	4,428	48	1.1
Other (a)	2	2	%	%
Total	33,843	33,798	-45	-0.1

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Northern Queensland				
Atherton	948	940	-8	-0.8
Ayr	473	429	-44	-9.3
Biloela	216	206	-10	-4.6
Bowen	495	451	-44	-8.9
Cairns Aplin	5,517	5,377	-140	-2.5
Charters Towers	462	468	6	1.3
Emerald	478	489	11	2.3
Gladstone	1,102	1,110	8	0.7
Indigenous Service Centre	787	759	-28	-3.6
Ingham	450	417	-33	-7.3
Innisfail	1,002	978	-24	-2.4
Longreach	170	160	-10	-5.9
Mackay	2,194	2,154	-40	-1.8
Mareeba	803	789	-14	-1.7
Mossman	568	512	-56	-9.9
Mt Isa	703	656	-47	-6.7
Normanton	55	52	%	%
Nth Peninsula Remote Area Service Centre	131	139	8	6.1
Palm Island	84	73	%	%
Rockhampton	2,237	2,213	-24	-1.1
Thursday Is	62	63	%	%
Townsville	4,918	4,847	-71	-1.4
Western Cape Remote Area Service Centre	252	247	-5	-2.0
Whitsunday	691	659	-32	-4.6
Yarrabah Remote Area Service Centre	451	434	-17	-3.8
Yeppoon	579	575	-4	-0.7
Other (a)	50	55	%	%
Total	25,878	25,252	-626	-2.4

- Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Central Queensland				
Bundaberg	3,379	3,355	-24	-0.7
Caboolture	3,537	3,483	-54	-1.5
Caloundra	1,526	1,517	-9	-0.6
Cherbourg	262	261	-1	-0.4
Chermside	1,334	1,358	24	1.8
Deception Bay	2,854	2,706	-148	-5.2
Fortitude Valley	1,384	1,326	-58	-4.2
Gympie	1,565	1,539	-26	-1.7
Hervey Bay	1,844	1,807	-37	-2.0
Kawana Waters	749	742	-7	-0.9
Kingaroy	822	808	-14	-1.7
Margate	47	63	%	%
Maroochydore	1,749	1,739	-10	-0.6
Maryborough	1,364	1,353	-11	-0.8
Mitchelton	1,613	1,625	12	0.7
Mt Gravatt	2,471	2,459	-12	-0.5
Nambour	1,201	1,190	-11	-0.9
Noosa	1,242	1,238	-4	-0.3
Nundah	1,584	1,599	15	0.9
South Brisbane	1,124	1,148	24	2.1
Stones Corner	2,144	2,137	-7	-0.3
Strathpine	2,077	2,052	-25	-1.2
Toowong	1,447	1,446	-1	-0.1
Other (a)	2	2	%	%
Total	37,321	36,953	-368	-1.0

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
South Queensland				
Beaudesert	686	664	-22	-3.2
Beenleigh	2,527	2,531	4	0.2
Biggera Waters	3,763	3,775	12	0.3
Browns Plains	2,231	2,238	7	0.3
Capalaba	970	933	-37	-3.8
Charleville	185	185	0	0.0
Cleveland	1,181	1,202	21	1.8
Dalby	527	535	8	1.5
Goodna	1,830	1,779	-51	-2.8
Goondiwindi	347	357	10	2.9
Inala	2,141	2,117	-24	-1.1
Ipswich	3,301	3,263	-38	-1.2
Nerang	3,907	3,870	-37	-0.9
Palm Beach	4,133	4,092	-41	-1.0
Roma	144	153	9	6.3
Southport	168	156	-12	-7.1
Stanthorpe	377	374	-3	-0.8
Toowoomba	2,119	2,102	-17	-0.8
Warwick	505	493	-12	-2.4
Woodridge	2,336	2,299	-37	-1.6
Wynnum	1,094	1,051	-43	-3.9
Other (a)	175	157	%	%
Total	34,647	34,326	-321	-0.9

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
South Australia				
Berri	932	915	-17	-1.8
Broken Hill	758	759	1	0.1
Ceduna	251	234	-17	-6.8
Coober Pedy	123	115	-8	-6.5
Elizabeth	3,287	3,283	-4	-0.1
Enfield	1,790	1,837	47	2.6
Gawler	1,457	1,414	-43	-3.0
Glenelg	949	934	-15	-1.6
Kadina	761	748	-13	-1.7
Kilkenny	1,607	1,610	3	0.2
Marion	2,567	2,572	5	0.2
Modbury	2,212	2,171	-41	-1.9
Mt Barker	707	693	-14	-2.0
Mt Gambier	1,284	1,282	-2	-0.2
Murray Bridge	1,052	1,064	12	1.1
Noarlunga	3,075	3,061	-14	-0.5
Norwood	1,900	1,893	-7	-0.4
Port Adelaide	1,713	1,677	-36	-2.1
Port Augusta	820	794	-26	-3.2
Port Lincoln	629	637	8	1.3
Port Pirie	1,000	1,009	9	0.9
Salisbury	3,238	3,192	-46	-1.4
Torrens ville	1,776	1,742	-34	-1.9
Victor Harbor	801	780	-21	-2.6
Whyalla	883	906	23	2.6
Other (a)	0	0	%	%
Total	35,572	35,322	-250	-0.7

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Western Australia				
Albany	1,295	1,283	-12	-0.9
Armadale	1,637	1,616	-21	-1.3
Bunbury	2,394	2,337	-57	-2.4
Busselton	1,105	1,070	-35	-3.2
Cannington	2,170	2,167	-3	-0.1
Carnarvon	229	196	-33	-14.4
Esperance	381	390	9	2.4
Fremantle	1,540	1,505	-35	-2.3
Geraldton	1,576	1,563	-13	-0.8
Gosnells	1,538	1,586	48	3.1
Innaloo	1,415	1,388	-27	-1.9
Joondalup	2,293	2,273	-20	-0.9
Kalgoorlie	851	806	-45	-5.3
Karratha	483	435	-48	-9.9
Laverton Remote Area Service Centre	92	81	%	%
Mandurah	1,892	1,917	25	1.3
Meekatharra	219	221	2	0.9
Midland	2,054	2,092	38	1.9
Mirrabooka	2,273	2,267	-6	-0.3
Morley	2,408	2,403	-5	-0.2
Newman Remote Area Service Centre	93	115	%	%
Northam	1,245	1,251	6	0.5
Rockingham	2,339	2,331	-8	-0.3
South Hedland	472	478	6	1.3
Spearwood	1,423	1,272	-151	-10.6
Victoria Park	2,194	2,184	-10	-0.5
Warwick Grove	1,151	1,130	-21	-1.8
Other (a)	5	7	%	%
Total	36,767	36,463	-304	-0.8

- Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Tasmania				
Bridgewater	1,124	1,052	-72	-6.4
Burnie	1,606	1,600	-6	-0.4
Devonport	1,440	1,446	6	0.4
Glenorchy	1,440	1,448	8	0.6
Hobart	1,545	1,536	-9	-0.6
Huonville	416	398	-18	-4.3
Launceston	4,054	4,055	1	0.0
Rosny Park	1,322	1,302	-20	-1.5
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	12,947	12,837	-110	-0.8
North Australia				
Alice Springs	704	705	1	0.1
Angurugu RSC	110	97	%	%
Borroloola	21	21	%	%
Broome	498	514	16	3.2
Casuarina	709	699	-10	-1.4
Central Aust RST	1,367	1,337	-30	-2.2
Darwin	430	409	-21	-4.9
Derby	132	161	29	22.0
Fitzroy Crossing	77	67	%	%
Galiwinku RSC	83	84	%	%
Halls Creek	231	206	-25	-10.8
Katherine	275	247	-28	-10.2
Kimberley RST	78	85	%	%
Kununurra	184	175	-9	-4.9
Maningrida	192	148	-44	-22.9
Nhulunbuy	23	20	%	%
Palmerston	933	928	-5	-0.5
Tennant Creek	291	270	-21	-7.2
Tiwi Islands	109	125	16	14.7
Top End East	320	248	-72	-22.5
Top End Hub	38	36	%	%
Top End South	408	379	-29	-7.1
Top End West	431	383	-48	-11.1
Wadeye	273	226	-47	-17.2
Yuendumu RSC	35	37	%	%
Other (a)	15	13	%	%
Total	7,967	7,620	-347	-4.4

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 7 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Service Zone and Service Centre	June 2014	July 2014	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
Other				
Centrelink Call Centres	2	2	%	%
Not Coded To A Zone	141	162	%	%
Rounding Adjustment	-46	-47	%	%
Australia	417,277	413,883	-3,394	-0.8

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

Notes:

- Variations for Service Centres with small populations (less than 100) are displayed as % and not reported.
- Data in this table are rounded monthly averages.
- In order to protect individuals' privacy, populations less than 20 for specific Service Centres are reported as "<20" and other data that would allow these populations to be derived are reported as not available "na".
- Area Support Office boundaries changed to Service Zones from July 2011. The July 2011 edition of this publication includes a description of the changes.

**Table 8 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other)
Fortnightly Earnings and Sex, Fortnight Ending 18 July 2014**

Fortnightly Earnings	Short-term job seekers	Long-term job seekers	Total job seekers
Males			
Did not earn an income	86.7	82.8	84.5
Earned an income	13.3	17.2	15.5
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.6	0.7	0.7
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.4	2.0	1.7
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.0	2.6	2.3
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.4	2.0	1.7
Over \$316.00	8.0	9.8	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)	106,811	140,177	246,988
Females			
Did not earn an income	75.8	71.0	72.7
Earned an income	24.2	29.0	27.3
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.8	0.9	0.9
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.4	2.6	2.5
\$142.01 - \$236.00	3.1	3.4	3.3
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.4	2.7	2.6
Over \$316.00	15.5	19.3	18.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)	57,256	109,332	166,588
Persons			
Did not earn an income	82.9	77.7	79.7
Earned an income	17.1	22.3	20.3
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.6	0.8	0.8
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.7	2.3	2.1
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.4	3.0	2.7
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.7	2.3	2.1
Over \$316.00	10.6	13.9	12.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)	164,067	249,509	413,576

Note:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.

Explanatory Notes

Introduction

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

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

Scope

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

Methodology

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

Due to a technical fault, the November 2010 figures are based on an average of data collected on the first and last Friday of the month, while the December 2010 figures are based on an average of data collected on the last three Fridays of the month, rather than an average of each Friday in the reference month.

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

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

The earnings data in Table 8 is derived using a different methodology from that of the other tables in the publication. Table 8 is based on the combined population of job seekers who are eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) at the end of the second last week in the month. The data obtained from this table will not be directly comparable with those calculated using monthly averages in other tables.

Payment History

Youth Allowance

The maximum age for Youth Allowance (other) was increased for new claimants from 20 to 21 years of age from 1 July 2012 and the income free area was increased to \$143.

To receive Youth Allowance young people without a Year 12 or equivalent qualification will usually need to:

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

The above earn or learn arrangements were phased in, applying from 1 July 2009 to all new recipients of Youth Allowance and from 1 July 2010 for all job seekers in receipt of Youth Allowance prior to 1 July 2009.

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

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

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

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

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

Newstart Allowance

On 1 January 2013, grandfathering provisions ceased for Parenting Payment recipients who had been receiving payment prior to 1 July 2006 and had a youngest child aged 6+ years (partnered recipients) or 8+ years (single recipients). The change caused a large one-off increase in the number of Newstart Allowees, as previously grandfathered Parenting Payment recipients who were eligible transferred to Newstart Allowance.

On 1 July 2012, the qualification age for Newstart Allowance was increased for new claimants from 21 to 22 years of age.

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

Sickness Allowance

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

Under current arrangements, these recipients remain on their existing payments but are exempt from the activity test for the duration of their medical certificates. People who become unemployed because of illness, and those who suffer a potential loss of income due to sickness, are paid Newstart Allowance because they are unemployed.

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

Partner Allowance

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

From 1 July 1995 Partner Allowance has only been granted to persons who are dependent partners of pensioners and allowees and who were born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Other dependent partners have to qualify for an income support payment in their own right, such as Newstart Allowance.

Partner Allowance was introduced in October 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*).

Widow Allowance

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

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

Mature Age Allowance

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

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 October 2003.

Comparability of Data

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

- the method of counting recipients;
- the inclusion of some CDEP recipients in the total recipient numbers;
- the introduction of Youth Allowance in July 1998;
- the way 'job seeker' is defined;
- the way duration is calculated; and
- the eligibility for Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) from July 2012.
- the cessation of grandfathered Parenting Payment provisions, which saw an increase in the number of Newstart recipients in January 2013.

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

Definition of Recipients

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

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

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

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

Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)

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

Introduction of Youth Allowance

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

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

A pre and post July 1998 comparison will reflect the exclusion of some 18 to 20 year old unemployed people due to the application of the Youth Allowance parental means test (see the *Youth Allowance* section under Payment History).

Job seekers

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

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

From July 1998, the definition of job seekers excludes all people who did not receive a payment due to their own and/or their partner's income, or where applicable, parental income, and those known not to be required to search for work.

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

Duration

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

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

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

The term Area Support Office was replaced by Service Zone in July 2011.

Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP)

The CDEP program is administered by the Department of Social Services. Reforms to CDEP were introduced from 1 July 2009. Operating mainly in remote areas, the CDEP program aims to help unemployed Indigenous Australians to find and keep jobs. Under the CDEP program, there are two main ways ('streams') that CDEP providers assist Indigenous Australians: Work Readiness Services help individuals to develop their skills, improve their chances of getting a job, and move to work outside of the CDEP program; and Community Development focuses on supporting and developing Indigenous communities and organisations.

CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS)

The CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS) is payable to eligible CDEP participants. It can be paid fortnightly or as a 12 weekly payment.

Customer Service Centre

Customer Service Centre was replaced by the term Service Centre in July 2011.

Did not receive a payment

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

Fortnightly earnings

Amount of income earned, derived, or received by a person for the person's own use or benefit in the previous fortnight.

Incapacitated

A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who has an activity test status indicating they are temporarily ill or incapacitated. Refer to the entry for Sickness Allowance in the Explanatory Notes.

Job seeker

A person on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other) who would usually be engaged in job search. See Explanatory Notes for definition and history.

Long-term recipients

Persons who have been receiving income support for 12 months or more. Duration of long-term recipients can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 13 weeks.

Newstart Allowance (NSA)

Newstart Allowance is payable to eligible unemployed persons aged 22 years and over (but below Age Pension age) who satisfy the activity test. See Explanatory Notes for history.

Partner Allowance (PA)

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

Partner Allowance was for dependent partners of pensioners and allowees. Partners had to be born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Partner Allowance had no job search requirement. See Explanatory Notes for history.

Service Centre

A Service Centre that provides DSS and other payments and related information and services to recipients. Service Centres are managed by Service Zones.

Service Zone

A set of Service Centres, grouped together for operational purposes on a geographic basis. Service Zones replaced Areas and Area Support Offices in July 2011.

Short-term recipients

Persons on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance who have been receiving income support for less than 12 months. Duration of short-term recipients can be reset to zero if they exited from payments for more than 6 weeks.

Widow Allowance (WA)

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

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.

Youth Training Allowance (YTA)

From 1 January 1995 eligible persons aged under 18 years who were registered as unemployed with the CES were paid Youth Training Allowance. From 1 July 1998, Youth Training Allowance was replaced by Youth Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.

Youth Allowance (YA)

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.

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.

To receive Youth Allowance young people under 22 years of age without a Year 12 or equivalent qualification will usually need to:

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

Youth Allowance (other)

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

Zero paid

See 'Did not receive a payment'.

Appendix

Comparisons Between DSS 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 Organization 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.

DSS 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 DSS labour market payment data. There are a number of reasons why the two series cannot be directly compared.

Duration

Both DSS and the ABS classify long-term duration as over 12 months, but use substantially different definitions of duration:

DSS measures duration of **income support**. This includes not just time on unemployment benefits but time on any income support payment.

The ABS measures length of time **unemployed** using their unemployment definition.

DSS unemployed recipients can have breaks without payment and still be classified as long-term income support recipients:

- Recipients who do not receive a payment due to their earnings can have up to 12 weeks without a payment before they are automatically cancelled. This reduces disincentives to accept short-term work.

- Long-term recipients can have 13 weeks off payment after payment is cancelled and keep their long-term status if they return to income support. This means they keep access to assistance such as the higher payment rate for recipients over 60.

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

The difference between these two concepts, together with the fact that DSS recipients are able to have ongoing part-time work (see 'employment' below) mean that many unemployed recipients remain classified by DSS 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 DSS 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:

- DSS reports monthly average numbers of people both eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other). These monthly averages are calculated using figures collected for each Friday throughout the reference month.
- ABS numbers are based on a sample survey which interviews occupants of selected dwellings covering around 0.33% of the total Australian population. These persons are generally interviewed during the two weeks beginning the Sunday between the 5th and 11th of each month and the information obtained relates to the week before the interview takes place.

Treatment of partners

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

Pensioners

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

Non job seekers

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.

Waiting periods

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.

Survey

The ABS figures are derived from a Labour Force Survey which is a sample survey, whereas the DSS statistics are a complete count of those both eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other).

Appendix 2

Table A – Changes to Service Zones (Pre and Post July 2014)

Previous Service Zone	Current Service Zone
<i>Central New South Wales</i>	
Auburn	Central New South Wales
Baulkham Hills	Central New South Wales
Blacktown	Central New South Wales
Cabramatta	Sydney
Camden	Sydney
Campbelltown	Sydney
Fairfield	Sydney
Hawkesbury	Central New South Wales
Ingleburn	Sydney
Katoomba	Central New South Wales
Lithgow	Central New South Wales
Liverpool	Sydney
Merrylands	Central New South Wales
Mt Druitt	Central New South Wales
Parramatta	Central New South Wales
Penrith	Central New South Wales
Springwood	Central New South Wales
St Marys	Central New South Wales
<i>Northern New South Wales</i>	
Armidale	Central New South Wales
Ballina	North New South Wales
Bourke	Central New South Wales
Brunswick Heads	North New South Wales
Byron Bay	North New South Wales
Casino	North New South Wales
Coffs Harbour	North New South Wales
Forster	North New South Wales
Glen Innes	Central New South Wales
Grafton	North New South Wales
Gunnedah	Central New South Wales
Inverell	Central New South Wales
Kempsey	North New South Wales
Lightning Ridge	Central New South Wales
Lismore	North New South Wales
Moree	Central New South Wales
Murwillumbah	North New South Wales
Nambucca Heads	North New South Wales
Narrabri	Central New South Wales
Port Macquarie	North New South Wales
Tamworth	Central New South Wales
Taree	North New South Wales
Tweed Heads	North New South Wales
Walgett	Central New South Wales
Yamba	North New South Wales

Table A – Changes to Service Zones (Pre and Post July 2014)

Previous Service Zone	Current Service Zone
<i>Mid New South Wales</i>	
Bathurst	Central New South Wales
Cessnock	North New South Wales
Charlestown	North New South Wales
Comm Support Team	North New South Wales
Dubbo	Central New South Wales
Ettalong	North New South Wales
Gosford	North New South Wales
King Street	North New South Wales
Kurri Kurri	North New South Wales
Lakehaven	North New South Wales
Maitland	North New South Wales
Mayfield	North New South Wales
Mudgee	Central New South Wales
Muswellbrook	North New South Wales
Nelson Bay	North New South Wales
Orange	Central New South Wales
Parkes	Central New South Wales
Raymond Terrace	North New South Wales
Singleton	North New South Wales
The Entrance	North New South Wales
Toronto	North New South Wales
Wallsend	North New South Wales
Woy Woy	North New South Wales
Wyang	North New South Wales

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, Parenting Payment, Sickness Allowance, ABSTUDY and Widow Allowance.

For enquiries email:

IncomeSupportInformation@dss.gov.au

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

Director
Income Support Information
Social Security Performance and Analysis Branch
Social Policy Group
Department of Social Services
PO Box 7576
Canberra Business Centre ACT 2610

Other recipient information

The Department of Social Services publishes statistics about the various pensions, benefits and family payments which the Department administers, on a quarterly basis on the Australian Government's centralised data publishing site, [data.gov.au](http://www.data.gov.au) (<http://www.data.gov.au/organization/about/department-of-social-services>). A statistical overview is published on an annual basis on the Department's website, [DSS - Statistical Paper Series](http://www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/publications-articles/research-publications/statistical-paper-series) (<http://www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/publications-articles/research-publications/statistical-paper-series>).