

LABOUR MARKET AND RELATED PAYMENTS

a monthly profile

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

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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 Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE). This publication was produced previously by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR).

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.

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

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

The next issue of this publication is scheduled for release on 24 July 2013.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS – May 2013

Between May 2012 and May 2013

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)) recipients **increased 20.0 per cent** overall from 661 036 to 792 947.

- ◆ NSA recipients increased 18.6 per cent from 577 483 to 684 973.
- ◆ YA(o) recipients increased 29.2 per cent from 83 553 to 107 974.

The number of job seekers **increased 21.1 per cent** overall from 330 686 to 400 500.

- ◆ NSA job seekers increased 18.6 per cent from 295 282 to 350 296.
- ◆ YA(o) job seekers increased 41.8 per cent from 35 404 to 50 204.

Long-term job seekers increased 26.6 per cent from 182 654 to 231 218.

Short-term job seekers increased 14.4 per cent from 148 032 to 169 282.

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

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

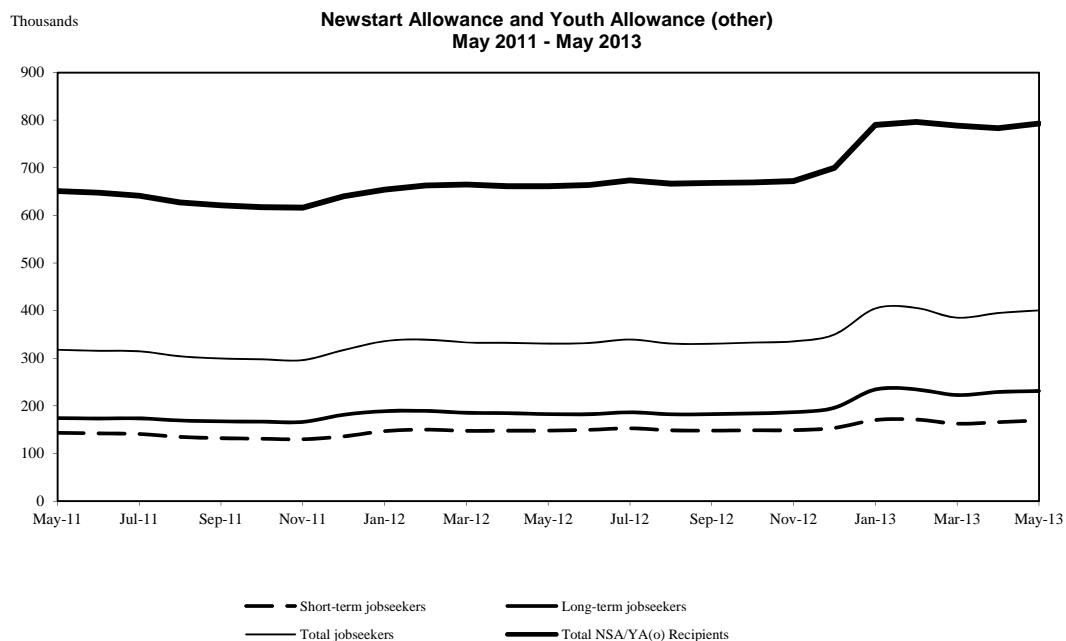


TABLE 1 - LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance			Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
	Long Term	Total	Other	Full-time Students	Australian Apprentices		
February 1994	472,785	977,796
May 2011	345,226	564,805	86,230	315,670	4,859	17,850	30,184
June 2011	343,642	561,839	85,711	320,654	4,948	17,379	29,823
July 2011	341,388	556,349	84,917	315,490	4,772	17,036	29,621
August 2011	337,649	547,029	79,940	324,291	4,681	16,881	29,751
September 2011	336,056	542,845	78,096	329,360	4,671	16,751	29,868
October 2011	335,189	540,910	76,091	330,938	4,566	16,641	30,116
November 2011	334,884	540,527	75,664	311,741	4,352	16,544	30,328
December 2011	342,119	552,983	87,305	269,552	4,256	16,426	30,618
January 2012	346,578	566,287	87,617	241,565	4,110	16,129	30,564
February 2012	348,940	574,458	88,284	246,450	4,214	15,753	30,351
March 2012	351,092	578,219	86,583	262,183	4,495	15,279	30,029
April 2012	350,547	576,620	84,654	271,071	4,637	14,878	29,752
May 2012	350,294	577,483	83,553	273,335	4,786	14,519	29,565
June 2012	351,477	580,807	82,955	270,959	4,900	14,137	29,342
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
Variation April 2013 - May 2013							
Number	3,457	7,446	2,207	8,573	24	-307	-263
Per cent	0.8	1.1	2.1	3.6	0.4	-2.9	-1.0

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.
- 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).

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

	May 2013			April 2013	Variation April - May	
	Persons	Males	Females		Number	Percent
Short Term Newstart Allowees	241,653	153,817	87,836	237,664	3,989	1.7
CPS Recipients (a)	312	235	77	271	41	15.1
Did not receive a payment (b)	13,249	7,552	5,697	12,649	600	4.7
Received a payment	228,092	146,030	82,062	224,744	3,348	1.5
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	6,754	2,011	4,743	6,595	159	2.4
Other activities without job search (d)	33,938	20,568	13,370	33,941	-3	0.0
Incapacitated (e)	23,137	13,570	9,567	22,455	682	3.0
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	15,435	8,812	6,623	15,335	100	0.7
Short-term NSA job seekers (g)	148,828	101,069	47,759	146,418	2,410	1.6
<i>Short-term NSA training/education (h)</i>	<i>31,403</i>	<i>18,474</i>	<i>12,929</i>	<i>29,819</i>	<i>1,584</i>	<i>5.3</i>
Long Term Newstart Allowees	443,320	208,271	235,049	439,863	3,457	0.8
CPS Recipients (a)	2,027	1,309	718	2,023	4	0.2
Did not receive a payment (b)	16,240	6,053	10,187	16,217	23	0.1
Received a payment	425,053	200,909	224,144	421,623	3,430	0.8
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	52,855	11,011	41,844	52,357	498	1.0
Other activities without job search (d)	93,252	42,380	50,872	93,615	-363	-0.4
Incapacitated (e)	38,094	18,095	19,999	37,047	1,047	2.8
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	39,384	17,321	22,063	39,134	250	0.6
Long-term NSA job seekers (g)	201,468	112,102	89,366	199,470	1,998	1.0
<i>Long-term NSA training/education (h)</i>	<i>121,150</i>	<i>58,489</i>	<i>62,661</i>	<i>115,559</i>	<i>5,591</i>	<i>4.8</i>
All Newstart Allowees	684,973	362,088	322,885	677,527	7,446	1.1
CPS Recipients (a)	2,339	1,544	795	2,294	45	2.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	29,489	13,605	15,884	28,866	623	2.2
Received a payment	653,145	346,939	306,206	646,367	6,778	1.0
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	59,609	13,022	46,587	58,952	657	1.1
Other activities without job search (d)	127,190	62,948	64,242	127,556	-366	-0.3
Incapacitated (e)	61,231	31,665	29,566	59,502	1,729	2.9
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	54,819	26,133	28,686	54,469	350	0.6
All NSA job seekers (g)	350,296	213,171	137,125	345,888	4,408	1.3
<i>All NSA training/education (h)</i>	<i>152,553</i>	<i>76,963</i>	<i>75,590</i>	<i>145,378</i>	<i>7,175</i>	<i>4.9</i>

- (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.
- 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).

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

	May 2013			April 2013	Variation April - May	
	Persons	Males	Females		Number	Percent
Short Term Youth Allowees	45,527	25,889	19,638	43,756	1,771	4.0
CPS Recipients (a)	22	14	8	24	-2	-8.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	999	479	520	925	74	8.0
Received a payment	44,506	25,396	19,110	42,807	1,699	4.0
Other activities without job search (c)	19,927	11,943	7,984	19,398	529	2.7
Incapacitated (d)	2,138	1,064	1,074	1,997	141	7.1
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	1,987	969	1,018	1,972	15	0.8
Short-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	20,454	11,420	9,034	19,440	1,014	5.2
<i>Short-term YA (other) training/education (g)</i>	<i>13,888</i>	<i>7,835</i>	<i>6,053</i>	<i>13,174</i>	<i>714</i>	<i>5.4</i>
Long Term Youth Allowees	62,447	31,842	30,605	62,011	436	0.7
CPS Recipients (a)	54	43	11	57	-3	-5.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,405	545	860	1,373	32	2.3
Received a payment	60,988	31,254	29,734	60,581	407	0.7
Other activities without job search (c)	25,864	13,617	12,247	25,881	-17	-0.1
Incapacitated (d)	2,647	1,198	1,449	2,456	191	7.8
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	2,727	1,189	1,538	2,683	44	1.6
Long-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	29,750	15,250	14,500	29,561	189	0.6
<i>Long-term YA (other) training/education (g)</i>	<i>24,185</i>	<i>12,053</i>	<i>12,132</i>	<i>22,943</i>	<i>1,242</i>	<i>5.4</i>
All Youth Allowees	107,974	57,731	50,243	105,767	2,207	2.1
CPS Recipients (a)	76	57	19	81	-5	-6.2
Did not receive a payment (b)	2,404	1,024	1,380	2,298	106	4.6
Received a payment	105,494	56,650	48,844	103,388	2,106	2.0
Other activities without job search (c)	45,791	25,560	20,231	45,279	512	1.1
Incapacitated (d)	4,785	2,262	2,523	4,453	332	7.5
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	4,714	2,158	2,556	4,655	59	1.3
All YA (other) job seekers (f)	50,204	26,670	23,534	49,001	1,203	2.5
<i>All YA (other) training/education (g)</i>	<i>38,073</i>	<i>19,888</i>	<i>18,185</i>	<i>36,117</i>	<i>1,956</i>	<i>5.4</i>

(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.

– 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).

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

	Short-term	Long-term	Total
May 2011	143,422	174,297	317,719
June 2011	142,149	173,418	315,567
July 2011	140,875	173,761	314,636
August 2011	134,716	169,262	303,978
September 2011	132,079	167,384	299,463
October 2011	130,980	166,799	297,779
November 2011	129,846	166,266	296,112
December 2011	135,882	181,357	317,239
January 2012	146,931	188,773	335,704
February 2012	150,028	189,447	339,475
March 2012	147,524	185,409	332,933
April 2012	147,809	184,581	332,390
May 2012	148,032	182,654	330,686
June 2012	149,587	182,435	332,022
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
Variation April 2013 - May 2013			
Number	3424	2187	5611
Per cent	2.1	1.0	1.4

Notes:

- Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
- There is a break in the series between June and July 2009. Post July 2009 job seeker data is not wholly comparable with previously published data (see Explanatory Notes).

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

<i>State</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			Number	Per cent
SHORT-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	47,451	48,429	978	2.1
Victoria	40,496	41,971	1,475	3.6
Queensland	41,839	41,998	159	0.4
South Australia	12,430	12,633	203	1.6
Western Australia	14,903	15,456	553	3.7
Tasmania	4,228	4,248	20	0.5
Northern Territory	3,024	3,049	25	0.8
Australian Capital Territory	1,487	1,498	11	0.7
AUSTRALIA	165,858	169,282	3,424	2.1
LONG-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	71,088	71,571	483	0.7
Victoria	51,892	52,495	603	1.2
Queensland	51,631	51,792	161	0.3
South Australia	20,674	21,066	392	1.9
Western Australia	17,659	18,107	448	2.5
Tasmania	8,466	8,550	84	1.0
Northern Territory	5,944	5,980	36	0.6
Australian Capital Territory	1,677	1,657	-20	-1.2
AUSTRALIA	229,031	231,218	2,187	1.0
TOTAL JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	118,539	120,000	1,461	1.2
Victoria	92,388	94,466	2,078	2.2
Queensland	93,470	93,790	320	0.3
South Australia	33,104	33,699	595	1.8
Western Australia	32,562	33,563	1,001	3.1
Tasmania	12,694	12,798	104	0.8
Northern Territory	8,968	9,029	61	0.7
Australian Capital Territory	3,164	3,155	-9	-0.3
AUSTRALIA	394,889	400,500	5,611	1.4

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, AS AT MAY 2013

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	1,261	1.1	797	0.6	2,058	0.9
18 - 20 years	7,602	6.8	11,294	8.9	18,896	7.9
21 - 24 years	17,527	15.6	19,504	15.3	37,031	15.4
25 - 29 years	19,228	17.1	19,495	15.3	38,723	16.1
30 - 39 years	27,825	24.7	29,510	23.2	57,335	23.9
40 - 49 years	20,975	18.6	24,162	19.0	45,137	18.8
50 - 59 years	13,530	12.0	16,727	13.1	30,257	12.6
60 years and over	4,541	4.0	5,863	4.6	10,404	4.3
Total	112,489	100.0	127,352	100.0	239,841	100.0
FEMALES						
Less than 18 years	1,223	2.2	887	0.9	2,110	1.3
18 - 20 years	6,086	10.7	10,993	10.6	17,079	10.6
21 - 24 years	9,630	17.0	13,229	12.7	22,859	14.2
25 - 29 years	7,536	13.3	10,013	9.6	17,549	10.9
30 - 39 years	9,573	16.9	20,904	20.1	30,477	19.0
40 - 49 years	11,130	19.6	27,649	26.6	38,779	24.1
50 - 59 years	9,196	16.2	16,946	16.3	26,142	16.3
60 years and over	2,419	4.3	3,245	3.1	5,664	3.5
Total	56,793	100.0	103,866	100.0	160,659	100.0
PERSONS						
Less than 18 years	2,484	1.5	1,684	0.7	4,168	1.0
18 - 20 years	13,688	8.1	22,287	9.6	35,975	9.0
21 - 24 years	27,157	16.0	32,733	14.2	59,890	15.0
25 - 29 years	26,764	15.8	29,508	12.8	56,272	14.1
30 - 39 years	37,398	22.1	50,414	21.8	87,812	21.9
40 - 49 years	32,105	19.0	51,811	22.4	83,916	21.0
50 - 59 years	22,726	13.4	33,673	14.6	56,399	14.1
60 years and over	6,960	4.1	9,108	3.9	16,068	4.0
Total	169,282	100.0	231,218	100.0	400,500	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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>SYDNEY</i>				
AS1 Community Team	28	29	%	%
Bankstown	3,645	3,652	7	0.2
Bondi Junction	1,158	1,166	8	0.7
Burwood	1,766	1,771	5	0.3
Campsie	2,399	2,467	68	2.8
Caringbah	844	857	13	1.5
Chatswood	1,308	1,276	-32	-2.4
Darlinghurst	1,701	1,729	28	1.6
Hornsby	1,054	1,107	53	5.0
Hurstville	1,554	1,584	30	1.9
Leichhardt	1,407	1,427	20	1.4
Maroubra	1,543	1,538	-5	-0.3
Marrickville	1,521	1,519	-2	-0.1
Northern Beaches	1,285	1,322	37	2.9
Redfern	1,487	1,472	-15	-1.0
Rockdale	1,533	1,526	-7	-0.5
Ryde	1,146	1,174	28	2.4
Sutherland	841	872	31	3.7
Other (a)	3	2	%	%
Total	26,223	26,490	267	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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Auburn	2,294	2,398	104	4.5
Bathurst	768	807	39	5.1
Blacktown	3,071	3,110	39	1.3
Bourke	399	412	13	3.3
Cabramatta	2,297	2,363	66	2.9
Camden	644	671	27	4.2
Campbelltown	2,091	2,111	20	1.0
Dubbo	1,905	1,935	30	1.6
Fairfield	2,667	2,675	8	0.3
Hawkesbury	901	874	-27	-3.0
Ingleburn	1,353	1,345	-8	-0.6
Katoomba	596	611	15	2.5
Lightning Ridge	198	193	-5	-2.5
Lithgow	598	615	17	2.8
Liverpool	3,318	3,348	30	0.9
Mt Druitt	2,458	2,407	-51	-2.1
Mudgee	521	530	9	1.7
Orange	796	822	26	3.3
Penrith	1,886	1,900	14	0.7
Springwood	410	413	3	0.7
St Marys	1,543	1,560	17	1.1
Walgett	223	228	5	2.2
Other (a)	2	3	%	%
Total	30,939	31,331	392	1.3

- Note: For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER) BY SERVICE ZONE AND SERVICE CENTRE

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>MID COAST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Baulkham Hills	940	915	-25	-2.7
Cessnock	694	704	10	1.4
Charlestown	1,690	1,757	67	4.0
Comm Support Team	24	29	%	%
Ettalong	741	747	6	0.8
Forster	808	825	17	2.1
Gosford	1,673	1,671	-2	-0.1
King Street	1,073	1,121	48	4.5
Kurri Kurri	480	479	-1	-0.2
Lakehaven	1,646	1,675	29	1.8
Maitland	1,236	1,252	16	1.3
Mayfield	958	957	-1	-0.1
Merrylands	2,151	2,227	76	3.5
Muswellbrook	436	451	15	3.4
Nelson Bay	519	551	32	6.2
Parramatta	2,271	2,314	43	1.9
Raymond Terrace	875	896	21	2.4
Singleton	274	283	9	3.3
Taree	1,516	1,540	24	1.6
The Entrance	1,208	1,249	41	3.4
Toronto	879	902	23	2.6
Wallsend	1,312	1,322	10	0.8
Woy Woy	532	549	17	3.2
Wyong	710	698	-12	-1.7
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	24,646	25,114	468	1.9

- Note: For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER) BY SERVICE ZONE AND SERVICE CENTRE

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Batemans Bay	659	689	30	4.6
Bega	684	664	-20	-2.9
Belconnen	942	910	-32	-3.4
Bowral	459	482	23	5.0
Braddon	747	740	-7	-0.9
Cooma	297	319	22	7.4
Corrimal	1,198	1,171	-27	-2.3
Cowra	447	456	9	2.0
Dapto	1,150	1,159	9	0.8
Goulburn	700	732	32	4.6
Griffith	503	501	-2	-0.4
Gungahlin	298	300	2	0.7
Leeton	370	378	8	2.2
Narooma	282	268	-14	-5.0
Nowra	1,745	1,738	-7	-0.4
Parkes	751	776	25	3.3
Queanbeyan	482	475	-7	-1.5
Shellharbour	1,430	1,442	12	0.8
Tuggeranong	696	703	7	1.0
Tumut	275	287	12	4.4
Ulladulla	489	491	2	0.4
Wagga	1,255	1,250	-5	-0.4
Woden	435	452	17	3.9
Wollongong	1,331	1,331	0	0.0
Yass	87	82	%	%
Young	458	474	16	3.5
Other (a)	8	3	%	%
Total	18,178	18,273	95	0.5

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER) BY SERVICE ZONE AND SERVICE CENTRE

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>NORTHERN VICTORIA</i>				
Airport West	1,129	1,158	29	2.6
Albury	2,353	2,398	45	1.9
Box Hill	2,250	2,278	28	1.2
Broadmeadows	3,706	3,773	67	1.8
Darebin	2,630	2,633	3	0.1
Deniliquin	223	253	30	13.5
Echuca	518	538	20	3.9
Epping	2,690	2,736	46	1.7
Greensborough	1,677	1,759	82	4.9
Heidelberg	1,399	1,397	-2	-0.1
Moreland	2,844	2,813	-31	-1.1
Newmarket	1,609	1,633	24	1.5
Seymour	693	699	6	0.9
Shepparton	1,907	1,982	75	3.9
Sth Melbourne	924	928	4	0.4
Sunbury	859	885	26	3.0
Wangaratta	1,505	1,499	-6	-0.4
Windsor Vic	2,443	2,508	65	2.7
Yarra	2,212	2,198	-14	-0.6
Other (a)	20	9	%	%
Total	33,591	34,077	486	1.4

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER) BY SERVICE ZONE AND SERVICE CENTRE

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>EASTERN VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	866	892	26	3.0
Belgrave	487	493	6	1.2
Boronia	1,160	1,217	57	4.9
Cheltenham	1,707	1,812	105	6.2
Cranbourne	1,626	1,738	112	6.9
Dandenong	2,805	2,853	48	1.7
Fountain Gate	2,180	2,315	135	6.2
Frankston	2,497	2,637	140	5.6
Glen Waverley	1,099	1,117	18	1.6
Hastings	669	694	25	3.7
Lilydale	1,368	1,427	59	4.3
Mornington	551	592	41	7.4
Morwell	2,512	2,600	88	3.5
Oakleigh	1,601	1,608	7	0.4
Pakenham	951	1,019	68	7.2
Ringwood	1,726	1,788	62	3.6
Rosebud	737	788	51	6.9
Rowville	679	694	15	2.2
Sale	747	763	16	2.1
Springvale	1,941	2,028	87	4.5
Warragul	657	705	48	7.3
Wonthaggi	786	857	71	9.0
Other (a)	1	0	%	%
Total	29,353	30,637	1,284	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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
WEST VICTORIA				
Ararat	211	216	5	2.4
Bendigo Central	64	<20	na	na
Ballarat	2,746	2,746	0	0.0
Bendigo	2,618	2,660	42	1.6
Colac	574	563	-11	-1.9
Corio	1,591	1,574	-17	-1.1
Footscray	1,418	1,456	38	2.7
Geelong	3,117	3,112	-5	-0.2
Hamilton	358	373	15	4.2
Horsham	680	698	18	2.6
Maryborough	424	437	13	3.1
Melton	1,771	1,791	20	1.1
Mildura	1,739	1,774	35	2.0
Newport	1,075	1,074	-1	-0.1
Portland	343	332	-11	-3.2
Stawell	191	196	5	2.6
Sunshine	3,526	3,580	54	1.5
Swan Hill	750	755	5	0.7
Warrnambool	881	869	-12	-1.4
Watergardens	3,376	3,448	72	2.1
Werribee	3,990	4,149	159	4.0
Other (a)	1	na	na	na
Total	31,444	31,814	370	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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	871	858	-13	-1.5
Ayr	401	386	-15	-3.7
Biloela	191	195	4	2.1
Bowen	429	416	-13	-3.0
Cairns Aplin	5,282	5,390	108	2.0
Charters Towers	363	377	14	3.9
Emerald	343	341	-2	-0.6
Gladstone	812	836	24	3.0
Indigenous Service Centre	1,154	1,149	-5	-0.4
Ingham	408	406	-2	-0.5
Innisfail	915	941	26	2.8
Longreach	125	134	9	7.2
Mackay	1,574	1,537	-37	-2.4
Mareeba	742	747	5	0.7
Mossman	643	651	8	1.2
Mt Isa	734	773	39	5.3
Normanton	138	135	-3	-2.2
Nth Peninsula Remote Area Service Centre	170	160	-10	-5.9
Palm Island	266	277	11	4.1
Rockhampton	1,857	1,824	-33	-1.8
Thursday Is	407	429	22	5.4
Townsville	4,039	4,113	74	1.8
Western Cape Remote Area Service Centre	457	439	-18	-3.9
Whitsunday	569	572	3	0.5
Yarrabah Remote Area Service Centre	511	515	4	0.8
Yeppoon	473	467	-6	-1.3
Other (a)	37	22	%	%
Total	23,911	24,090	179	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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>SUNSHINE COAST</i>				
Bundaberg	3,249	3,176	-73	-2.2
Caboolture	3,379	3,385	6	0.2
Caloundra	1,569	1,563	-6	-0.4
Deception Bay	882	949	67	7.6
Gympie	1,513	1,519	6	0.4
Hervey Bay	1,848	1,857	9	0.5
Kawana Waters	741	708	-33	-4.5
Kippa-Ring	1,369	1,368	-1	-0.1
Maroochydore	1,550	1,677	127	8.2
Maryborough	1,356	1,316	-40	-2.9
Nambour	1,146	1,196	50	4.4
Noosa	1,366	1,356	-10	-0.7
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	19,968	20,070	102	0.5
<i>PACIFIC COAST</i>				
APC Community Team	27	23	%	%
Ballina	1,069	1,066	-3	-0.3
Biggera Waters	3,173	3,210	37	1.2
Brunswick Heads	821	829	8	1.0
Byron Bay	624	623	-1	-0.2
Casino	640	651	11	1.7
Coffs Harbour	2,182	2,177	-5	-0.2
Grafton	898	889	-9	-1.0
Kempsey	912	931	19	2.1
Lismore	1,660	1,668	8	0.5
Murwillumbah	730	743	13	1.8
Nambucca Heads	782	773	-9	-1.2
Nerang	3,064	3,110	46	1.5
Palm Beach	3,350	3,369	19	0.6
Port Macquarie	1,709	1,760	51	3.0
Southport	2,834	2,844	10	0.4
Tweed Heads	1,760	1,723	-37	-2.1
Yamba	454	473	19	4.2
Other (a)	2	3	%	%
Total	26,691	26,865	174	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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Charleville	155	158	3	1.9
Cherbourg	273	281	8	2.9
Chermside	1,281	1,300	19	1.5
Dalby	421	424	3	0.7
Fortitude Valley	1,327	1,330	3	0.2
Goodna	1,770	1,786	16	0.9
Ipswich	3,386	3,339	-47	-1.4
Kingaroy	738	724	-14	-1.9
Mitchelton	1,537	1,543	6	0.4
Nundah	1,660	1,654	-6	-0.4
Roma	122	129	7	5.7
South Brisbane	1,124	1,091	-33	-2.9
Stones Corner	1,908	1,891	-17	-0.9
Strathpine	1,990	1,953	-37	-1.9
Toowong	1,363	1,358	-5	-0.4
Toowoomba	2,087	2,138	51	2.4
Other (a)	213	206	%	%
Total	21,355	21,305	-50	-0.2

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER) BY SERVICE ZONE AND SERVICE CENTRE

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Berri	898	931	33	3.7
Broken Hill	773	781	8	1.0
Ceduna	301	315	14	4.7
Cooper Pedy	185	182	-3	-1.6
Elizabeth	2,899	2,944	45	1.6
Enfield	1,663	1,692	29	1.7
Gawler	1,343	1,393	50	3.7
Glenelg	865	840	-25	-2.9
Kadina	746	764	18	2.4
Kilkenny	1,495	1,560	65	4.3
Marion	2,329	2,410	81	3.5
Modbury	2,118	2,141	23	1.1
Mt Barker	744	750	6	0.8
Mt Gambier	1,341	1,348	7	0.5
Murray Bridge	1,026	1,014	-12	-1.2
Noarlunga	3,020	3,105	85	2.8
Norwood	1,949	1,945	-4	-0.2
Port Adelaide	1,578	1,579	1	0.1
Port Augusta	745	752	7	0.9
Port Lincoln	569	565	-4	-0.7
Port Pirie	958	981	23	2.4
Salisbury	2,919	2,987	68	2.3
Torrens ville	1,663	1,702	39	2.3
Victor Harbor	741	753	12	1.6
Whyalla	808	802	-6	-0.7
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	33,676	34,236	560	1.7

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER) BY SERVICE ZONE AND SERVICE CENTRE

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
WESTERN AUSTRALIA				
Albany	1,050	1,086	36	3.4
Armadale	1,371	1,438	67	4.9
Bunbury	1,760	1,880	120	6.8
Busselton	943	943	0	0.0
Cannington	1,728	1,770	42	2.4
Carnarvon	330	332	2	0.6
Collie	<20	21	na	na
Esperance	294	318	24	8.2
Fremantle	1,391	1,443	52	3.7
Geraldton	1,343	1,378	35	2.6
Gosnells	1,245	1,280	35	2.8
Innaloo	1,292	1,334	42	3.3
Joondalup	1,756	1,787	31	1.8
Kalgoorlie	731	747	16	2.2
Karratha	467	462	-5	-1.1
Laverton Remote Area Service Centre	125	123	-2	-1.6
Mandurah	1,563	1,570	7	0.4
Meekatharra	258	256	-2	-0.8
Midland	1,674	1,763	89	5.3
Mirrabooka	1,999	2,060	61	3.1
Morley	1,862	1,954	92	4.9
Newman Remote Area Service Centre	151	147	-4	-2.6
Northam	1,064	1,094	30	2.8
Rockingham	1,995	2,040	45	2.3
South Hedland	408	388	-20	-4.9
Spearwood	1,173	1,218	45	3.8
Victoria Park	1,898	1,956	58	3.1
Warwick Grove	913	994	81	8.9
Other (a)	na	27	na	na
Total	30,830	31,809	979	3.2

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

TABLE 7 - JOB SEEKERS RECEIVING NEWSTART ALLOWANCE AND YOUTH ALLOWANCE (OTHER) BY SERVICE ZONE AND SERVICE CENTRE

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
TASMANIA				
Bridgewater	1,137	1,142	5	0.4
Burnie	1,461	1,464	3	0.2
Devonport	1,406	1,464	58	4.1
Glenorchy	1,480	1,515	35	2.4
Hobart	1,442	1,402	-40	-2.8
Huonville	362	379	17	4.7
Launceston	4,025	4,036	11	0.3
Rosny Park	1,001	1,014	13	1.3
Sorell	394	389	-5	-1.3
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	12,708	12,805	97	0.8
NORTH AUSTRALIA				
Alice Springs	629	659	30	4.8
Borroloola	92	96	%	%
Broome	579	572	-7	-1.2
Casuarina	680	676	-4	-0.6
Central Aust RST	2,388	2,470	82	3.4
Darwin	408	413	5	1.2
Derby	240	241	1	0.4
Fitzroy Crossing	138	139	1	0.7
Galiwinku RSC	..	71	na	na
Halls Creek	281	304	23	8.2
Katherine	316	302	-14	-4.4
Kimberley RST	20	21	%	%
Kununurra	358	364	6	1.7
Maningrida	330	331	1	0.3
Nhulunbuy	103	105	2	1.9
Palmerston	823	817	-6	-0.7
Tangentyere	116	103	-13	-11.2
Tennant Creek	239	225	-14	-5.9
Tiwi Islands	201	201	0	0.0
Top End Hub	2,658	2,598	-60	-2.3
Wadeye	258	241	-17	-6.6
Yuendumu RSC	77	77	%	%
Other (a)	9	21	%	%
Total	10,943	11,047	104	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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	April 2013	May 2013	Variation	
			April - May Number	Per cent
<i>BORDER RANGES</i>				
Armidale	851	861	10	1.2
Beaudesert	651	650	-1	-0.2
Beenleigh	2,394	2,338	-56	-2.3
Browns Plains	2,074	2,047	-27	-1.3
Capalaba	872	883	11	1.3
Cleveland	1,045	1,053	8	0.8
Glen Innes	292	296	4	1.4
Goondiwindi	350	337	-13	-3.7
Gunnedah	414	408	-6	-1.4
Inala	1,957	1,908	-49	-2.5
Inverell	618	638	20	3.2
Moree	434	430	-4	-0.9
Mt Gravatt	2,340	2,367	27	1.2
Narrabri	295	295	0	0.0
Stanthorpe	388	414	26	6.7
Tamworth	1,636	1,701	65	4.0
Warwick	500	495	-5	-1.0
Woodridge	2,355	2,430	75	3.2
Wynnum	999	975	-24	-2.4
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	20,465	20,526	61	0.3
<i>OTHER</i>				
Centrelink Call Centres	6	4	%	%
Not Coded To A Zone	4	3	%	%
Rounding Adjustment	-42	4	%	%
AUSTRALIA	394,889	400,500	5,611	1.4

(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 24 MAY 2013**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term job seekers	Long-term job seekers	Total job seekers
MALES			
Did not earn an income	87.4	83.1	85.1
Earned an income	12.6	16.9	14.9
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.5	0.8	0.7
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.3	2.1	1.7
\$142.01 - \$236.00	1.8	2.7	2.3
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.5	1.9	1.7
Over \$316.00	7.5	9.4	8.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	112,937	127,928	240,865
FEMALES			
Did not earn an income	76.8	70.8	73.0
Earned an income	23.2	29.2	27.0
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.8	1.0	0.9
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.1	2.7	2.5
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.9	3.5	3.3
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.5	2.8	2.7
Over \$316.00	14.9	19.2	17.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	56,920	103,705	160,625
PERSONS			
Did not earn an income	83.8	77.6	80.2
Earned an income	16.2	22.4	19.8
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.6	0.9	0.8
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.6	2.3	2.0
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.2	3.0	2.7
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.8	2.3	2.1
Over \$316.00	10.0	13.8	12.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	169,857	231,633	401,490

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication provides monthly statistical information on DEEWR and DIISRTE 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 Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Reforms to CDEP were introduced from 1 July 2009. Operating mainly in remote areas, the CDEP program aims to help unemployed Indigenous Australians to find and keep jobs. Under the CDEP program, there are two main ways ('streams') that CDEP providers assist Indigenous Australians: Work Readiness Services help individuals to develop their skills, improve their chances of getting a job, and move to work outside of the CDEP program; and Community Development focuses on supporting and developing Indigenous communities and organisations.
CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS)	The CDEP Participant Supplement (CPS) is payable to eligible CDEP participants. It can be paid fortnightly or as a 12 weekly payment.
Customer Service Centre	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.

	<p>Partner Allowance was for dependent partners of pensioners and allowees. Partners had to be born before 1 July 1955, have no dependent children and have little or no recent workforce experience. Partner Allowance had no job search requirement. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Service Centre	<p>A Service Centre that provides FaHCSIA, DEEWR and other payments and related information and services to recipients. Service Centres are managed by Service Zones.</p>
Service Zone	<p>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.</p>
Short-term recipients	<p>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.</p>
Widow Allowance (WA)	<p>From 1 July 2005 Widow Allowance new grants may only be made to women born on or before 1 July 1955.</p> <p>Widow Allowance, a non-activity tested payment, is payable to females aged 50 years or over who have become widowed, divorced or separated since turning 40 years if they have little or no recent work experience and meet a number of other criteria relating to current marital status. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Youth Training Allowance (YTA)	<p>From 1 January 1995 eligible persons aged under 18 years who were registered as unemployed with the CES were paid Youth Training Allowance. From 1 July 1998, Youth Training Allowance was replaced by Youth Allowance. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p>
Youth Allowance (YA)	<p>Youth Allowance is payable to eligible full-time students aged 16 to 25 years, and to eligible unemployed persons aged 16 to 21 years who satisfy the activity test. Note, there are certain exceptions for some 15 and 25 year olds. See Explanatory Notes for history.</p> <p>Youth Allowees may be undertaking full-time study, full-time job search or a combination of approved activities. Some young people will be exempt from the activity test because of their personal circumstances, eg. illness, homelessness or major personal crisis. See the Explanatory Notes for more information.</p> <p>To receive Youth Allowance young people under 22 years of age without a Year 12 or equivalent qualification will usually need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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)	<p>Youth Allowance recipients who are not full-time students or full-time Australian Apprentices.</p>
Zero paid	<p>See 'Did not receive a payment'.</p>

APPENDIX

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

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

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

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

Seasonal adjustment

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

Classification

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

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

Employment

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

Timing

The timing of collections of the series are different:

- DEEWR reports monthly average numbers of people both eligible for and entitled to receive Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other). These monthly averages are calculated using figures collected for each Friday throughout the reference month.
- ABS numbers are based on a sample survey which interviews occupants of selected dwellings covering around 0.33% 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).

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Labour market information

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

In addition to Newstart and Youth Allowances, statistics are also available on Partner Allowance, Parenting Payment, Sickness Allowance, ABSTUDY and Widow Allowance.

For enquiries email:
IncomeSupportInformation@deewr.gov.au

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

Director
Income Support Information
Income Support Policy and Information Branch
Income Support Group
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
PO Box 9880
Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2601

or forwarded via facsimile to (02) 6204 2912.

Other recipient information

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs publishes “Income Support Customers: a Statistical Overview” on an annual basis.

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