

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.

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 23 September 2015.

Statistical Highlights – July 2015

Between July 2014 and July 2015

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)) recipients **increased 3.8 per cent** overall from 846 582 to 878 339.

- NSA recipients increased 4.8 per cent from 734 817 to 769 902.
- YA(o) recipients decreased 3.0 per cent from 111 765 to 108 437.

The number of job seekers **increased 15.9 per cent** overall from 413 883 to 479 702.

- NSA job seekers increased 14.9 per cent from 359 859 to 413 599.
- YA(o) job seekers increased 22.4 per cent from 54 024 to 66 103.

Long-term job seekers increased 24.6 per cent from 249 220 to 310 466.

Short-term job seekers increased 2.8 per cent from 164 663 to 169 236.

NOTE: The June & July 2015 data is influenced by the transition to ‘jobactive’, the new employment services model implemented on 1 July 2015. Short term transitional arrangements have impacted on the number of current recipients throughout these reporting periods.

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

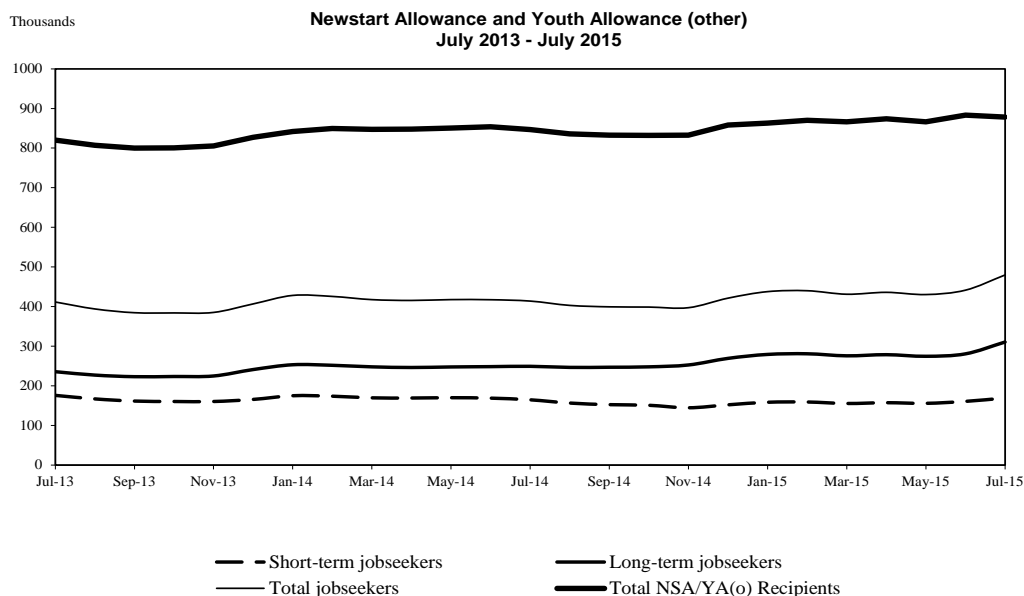


Table 1 - Labour Market Payments - Time Series

Month/Year	Newstart Allowance Long Term	Newstart Allowance Total	Youth Allowance (Other)	Youth Allowance (Full-time Student)	Youth Allowance (Australian Apprentice)	Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
February 1994	472,785	977,796
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
August 2014	498,293	729,716	106,332	236,156	6,762	7,818	24,980
September 2014	502,196	728,126	104,395	238,785	6,714	7,589	24,711
October 2014	505,815	729,549	102,714	236,622	6,460	7,373	24,404
November 2014	516,763	731,126	101,405	211,398	5,988	7,157	24,180
December 2014	527,318	746,294	112,079	182,733	5,857	6,967	23,988
January 2015	532,903	754,340	108,657	173,161	5,502	6,756	23,604
February 2015	537,533	760,149	109,888	188,529	5,417	6,552	23,336
March 2015	538,587	759,924	106,436	210,765	5,599	6,356	23,058
April 2015	543,245	765,988	107,978	219,279	5,701	6,149	22,794
May 2015	540,239	760,928	105,558	230,469	5,710	5,971	22,467
June 2015	549,111	774,072	109,165	232,088	5,676	5,790	22,151
July 2015	547,590	769,902	108,437	216,773	5,447	5,612	21,768
Variation June 2015 - July 2015							
Number	-1,521	-4,170	-728	-15,315	-229	-178	-383
Per cent	-0.3	-0.5	-0.7	-6.6	-4.0	-3.1	-1.7

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.
- June & July 2015 data is influenced by the transition to 'jobactive', the new employment services model implemented on 1 July 2015. Short term transitional arrangements have impacted on the number of current recipients throughout these reporting periods.

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

Newstart Allowance	July 2015	July 2015	July 2015	June	Variation	Variation June
	Persons	Males	Females	2015	June - July Number	- July per cent
Short Term Newstart Allowees	222,312	139,676	82,636	224,961	-2,649	-1.2
CPS Recipients (a)	0	0	0	63	-63	-100.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	12,347	6,852	5,495	13,058	-711	-5.4
Received a payment	209,965	132,824	77,141	211,840	-1,875	-0.9
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	6,715	1,845	4,870	6,937	-222	-3.2
Other activities without job search (d)	28,433	17,078	11,355	32,197	-3,764	-11.7
Incapacitated (e)	21,208	12,465	8,743	22,419	-1,211	-5.4
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	12,512	7,044	5,468	12,966	-454	-3.5
Short-term NSA job seekers (g)	141,097	94,392	46,705	137,321	3,776	2.7
Short-term NSA training/education (h)	24,337	13,505	10,832	30,087	-5,750	-19.1
Long Term Newstart Allowees	547,590	266,172	281,418	549,111	-1,521	-0.3
CPS Recipients (a)	0	0	0	406	-406	-100.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	18,804	7,655	11,149	21,074	-2,270	-10.8
Received a payment	528,786	258,517	270,269	527,631	1,155	0.2
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	58,215	12,892	45,323	58,787	-572	-1.0
Other activities without job search (d)	112,518	52,907	59,611	133,784	-21,266	-15.9
Incapacitated (e)	39,768	19,491	20,277	41,082	-1,314	-3.2
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	45,783	20,873	24,910	45,231	552	1.2
Long-term NSA job seekers (g)	272,502	152,354	120,148	248,747	23,755	9.5
Long-term NSA training/education (h)	128,455	62,449	66,006	172,515	-44,060	-25.5
All Newstart Allowees	769,902	405,848	364,054	774,072	-4,170	-0.5
CPS Recipients (a)	0	0	0	469	-469	-100.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	31,151	14,507	16,644	34,132	-2,981	-8.7
Received a payment	738,751	391,341	347,410	739,471	-720	-0.1
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	64,930	14,737	50,193	65,724	-794	-1.2
Other activities without job search (d)	140,951	69,985	70,966	165,981	-25,030	-15.1
Incapacitated (e)	60,976	31,956	29,020	63,501	-2,525	-4.0
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	58,295	27,917	30,378	58,197	98	0.2
All NSA job seekers (g)	413,599	246,746	166,853	386,068	27,531	7.1
All NSA training/education (h)	152,792	75,954	76,838	202,602	-49,810	-24.6

(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

Youth Allowance (other)	July 2015	July 2015	July 2015	June	Variation	Variation
	Persons	July 2015 Males	July 2015 Females	June 2015	June - July Number	June - July per cent
Short Term Youth Allowees	45,307	25,360	19,947	45,323	-16	0.0
CPS Recipients (a)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,114	520	594	1,162	-48	-4.1
Received a payment	44,193	24,840	19,353	44,161	32	0.1
Other activities without job search (c)	12,686	7,518	5,168	17,269	-4,583	-26.5
Incapacitated (d)	1,802	913	889	1,906	-104	-5.5
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	1,566	716	850	1,607	-41	-2.6
Short-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	28,139	15,693	12,446	23,379	4,760	20.4
Short-term YA (other) training/education (g)	8,877	4,796	4,081	11,400	-2,523	-22.1
Long Term Youth Allowees	63,130	32,741	30,389	63,842	-712	-1.1
CPS Recipients (a)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,733	731	1,002	1,917	-184	-9.6
Received a payment	61,397	32,010	29,387	61,925	-528	-0.9
Other activities without job search (c)	18,763	10,146	8,617	25,124	-6,361	-25.3
Incapacitated (d)	2,249	1,013	1,236	2,393	-144	-6.0
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	2,421	1,006	1,415	2,484	-63	-2.5
Long-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	37,964	19,845	18,119	31,924	6,040	18.9
Long-term YA (other) training/education (g)	17,408	8,725	8,683	24,478	-7,070	-28.9
All Youth Allowees	108,437	58,101	50,336	109,165	-728	-0.7
CPS Recipients (a)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	2,847	1,251	1,596	3,079	-232	-7.5
Received a payment	105,590	56,850	48,740	106,086	-496	-0.5
Other activities without job search (c)	31,449	17,664	13,785	42,393	-10,944	-25.8
Incapacitated (d)	4,051	1,926	2,125	4,299	-248	-5.8
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	3,987	1,722	2,265	4,091	-104	-2.5
All YA (other) job seekers (f)	66,103	35,538	30,565	55,303	10,800	19.5
All YA (other) training/education (g)	26,285	13,521	12,764	35,878	-9,593	-26.7

(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**

Month/Year	Short-term	Long-term	Total
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
August 2014	156,467	246,504	402,971
September 2014	152,447	246,892	399,339
October 2014	150,865	247,895	398,760
November 2014	144,549	252,616	397,165
December 2014	151,992	269,253	421,245
January 2015	158,486	279,232	437,718
February 2015	159,147	280,864	440,011
March 2015	155,412	275,725	431,137
April 2015	157,385	278,562	435,947
May 2015	155,786	274,542	430,328
June 2015	160,700	280,671	441,371
July 2015	169,236	310,466	479,702
Variation June 2015 - July 2015			
Number	8,536	29,795	38,331
Per cent	5.3	10.6	8.7

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 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per cent
Short-Term Job Seekers				
New South Wales	43,582	45,482	1,900	4.4
Victoria	37,458	39,257	1,799	4.8
Queensland	42,687	43,578	891	2.1
South Australia	12,839	13,909	1,070	8.3
Western Australia	17,091	18,705	1,614	9.4
Tasmania	3,511	3,855	344	9.8
Northern Territory	2,076	2,842	766	36.9
Australian Capital Territory	1,456	1,608	152	10.4
Australia	160,700	169,236	8,536	5.3
Long-Term Job Seekers				
New South Wales	85,208	93,591	8,383	9.8
Victoria	63,941	70,314	6,373	10.0
Queensland	65,261	70,409	5,148	7.9
South Australia	25,408	28,216	2,808	11.1
Western Australia	24,821	28,564	3,743	15.1
Tasmania	9,526	10,310	784	8.2
Northern Territory	4,063	6,284	2,221	54.7
Australian Capital Territory	2,443	2,778	335	13.7
Australia	280,671	310,466	29,795	10.6
Total Job seekers				
New South Wales	128,790	139,073	10,283	8.0
Victoria	101,399	109,571	8,172	8.1
Queensland	107,948	113,987	6,039	5.6
South Australia	38,247	42,125	3,878	10.1
Western Australia	41,912	47,269	5,357	12.8
Tasmania	13,037	14,165	1,128	8.7
Northern Territory	6,139	9,126	2,987	48.7
Australian Capital Territory	3,899	4,386	487	12.5
Australia	441,371	479,702	38,331	8.7

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 Number	Short-term job seekers Per Cent	Long-term job seekers Numbers	Long-term job seekers Per Cent	Total job seekers Number	Total job seekers Per Cent
Males						
Less than 18 years	1,775	1.6	457	0.3	2,232	0.8
18 - 20 years	11,185	10.2	13,569	7.9	24,754	8.8
21 - 24 years	16,268	14.8	25,673	14.9	41,941	14.9
25 - 29 years	17,075	15.5	26,035	15.1	43,110	15.3
30 - 39 years	25,554	23.2	39,404	22.9	64,958	23.0
40 - 49 years	19,695	17.9	33,348	19.4	53,043	18.8
50 - 59 years	13,637	12.4	24,655	14.3	38,292	13.6
60 years and over	4,895	4.4	9,059	5.3	13,954	4.9
Total	110,084	100.0	172,200	100.0	282,284	100.0
Females						
Less than 18 years	1,752	3.0	599	0.4	2,351	1.2
18 - 20 years	9,075	15.3	12,847	9.3	21,922	11.1
21 - 24 years	8,810	14.9	17,705	12.8	26,515	13.4
25 - 29 years	6,866	11.6	13,768	10.0	20,634	10.5
30 - 39 years	8,844	15.0	26,653	19.3	35,497	18.0
40 - 49 years	10,910	18.4	36,050	26.1	46,960	23.8
50 - 59 years	9,654	16.3	24,850	18.0	34,504	17.5
60 years and over	3,241	5.5	5,794	4.2	9,035	4.6
Total	59,152	100.0	138,266	100.0	197,418	100.0
Persons						
Less than 18 years	3,527	2.1	1,056	0.3	4,583	1.0
18 - 20 years	20,260	12.0	26,416	8.5	46,676	9.7
21 - 24 years	25,078	14.8	43,378	14.0	68,456	14.3
25 - 29 years	23,941	14.1	39,803	12.8	63,744	13.3
30 - 39 years	34,398	20.3	66,057	21.3	100,455	20.9
40 - 49 years	30,605	18.1	69,398	22.4	100,003	20.8
50 - 59 years	23,291	13.8	49,505	15.9	72,796	15.2
60 years and over	8,136	4.8	14,853	4.8	22,989	4.8
Total	169,236	100.0	310,466	100.0	479,702	100.0

Notes:

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

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

Sydney Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Bankstown	3,444	3,853	409	11.9
Bondi Junction	1,123	1,125	2	0.2
Burwood	1,727	1,862	135	7.8
Cabramatta	2,533	2,658	125	4.9
Camden	731	798	67	9.2
Campbelltown	2,200	2,478	278	12.6
Campsie	2,596	2,777	181	7.0
Caringbah	863	929	66	7.6
Chatswood	1,092	1,184	92	8.4
Darlinghurst	1,546	1,603	57	3.7
Fairfield	3,037	3,268	231	7.6
Hornsby	1,041	1,162	121	11.6
Hurstville	1,563	1,694	131	8.4
Ingleburn	1,268	1,421	153	12.1
Leichhardt	1,354	1,443	89	6.6
Liverpool	3,862	4,095	233	6.0
Maroubra	1,460	1,579	119	8.2
Marrickville	1,156	1,223	67	5.8
Northern Beaches	1,292	1,441	149	11.5
Redfern	1,597	1,742	145	9.1
Rockdale	1,615	1,729	114	7.1
Ryde	1,232	1,337	105	8.5
Sutherland	842	909	67	8.0
Other (a)	9	12	%	%
Total	39,183	42,322	3,139	8.0

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

North New South Wales Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Ballina	1,003	1,058	55	5.5
Brunswick Heads	1,103	1,119	16	1.5
Byron Bay	240	256	16	6.7
Casino	727	846	119	16.4
Cessnock	984	993	9	0.9
Charlestown	2,070	2,184	114	5.5
Coffs Harbour	2,151	2,370	219	10.2
Comm Support Team	35	45	%	%
Ettalong	773	823	50	6.5
Forster	961	1,012	51	5.3
Gosford	1,781	1,960	179	10.1
Grafton	990	1,077	87	8.8
Kempsey	978	997	19	1.9
King Street	1,258	1,359	101	8.0
Kurri Kurri	578	606	28	4.8
Lakehaven	1,886	2,015	129	6.8
Lismore	1,720	1,876	156	9.1
Maitland	1,791	1,918	127	7.1
Mayfield	1,148	1,180	32	2.8
Murwillumbah	735	751	16	2.2
Muswellbrook	836	852	16	1.9
Nambucca Heads	759	774	15	2.0
Nelson Bay	583	587	4	0.7
Port Macquarie	1,920	1,990	70	3.6
Raymond Terrace	1,130	1,209	79	7.0
Singleton	437	451	14	3.2
Taree	1,670	1,845	175	10.5
The Entrance	1,295	1,422	127	9.8
Toronto	993	1,066	73	7.4
Tweed Heads	1,643	1,816	173	10.5
Wallsend	1,738	1,802	64	3.7
Woy Woy	528	559	31	5.9
Wyong	704	755	51	7.2
Yamba	429	459	30	7.0
Other (a)	10	10	%	%
Total	37,587	40,042	2,455	6.5

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Central New South Wales Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Armidale	1,061	1,076	15	1.4
Auburn	2,260	2,345	85	3.8
Bathurst	823	954	131	15.9
Baulkham Hills	965	1,003	38	3.9
Blacktown	3,464	3,685	221	6.4
Bourke	344	439	95	27.6
Dubbo	1,980	2,268	288	14.5
Glen Innes	383	413	30	7.8
Gunnedah	475	480	5	1.1
Hawkesbury	993	1,049	56	5.6
Inverell	772	784	12	1.6
Katoomba	685	742	57	8.3
Lightning Ridge	196	217	21	10.7
Lithgow	734	796	62	8.4
Merrylands	2,195	2,301	106	4.8
Moree	498	529	31	6.2
Mt Druitt	2,584	2,853	269	10.4
Mudgee	679	710	31	4.6
Narrabri	394	384	-10	-2.5
Orange	974	1,100	126	12.9
Parkes	811	925	114	14.1
Parramatta	2,377	2,506	129	5.4
Penrith	1,977	2,065	88	4.5
Springwood	366	405	39	10.7
St Marys	1,837	1,812	-25	-1.4
Tamworth	2,057	2,118	61	3.0
Walgett	163	243	80	49.1
Other (a)	1	4	%	%
Total	32,048	34,206	2,158	6.7

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Southern New South Wales Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Batemans Bay	709	794	85	12.0
Bega	723	749	26	3.6
Belconnen	1,217	1,321	104	8.5
Bowral	444	490	46	10.4
Braddon	817	958	141	17.3
Cooma	409	431	22	5.4
Corrimal	1,159	1,216	57	4.9
Cowra	472	543	71	15.0
Dapto	1,165	1,297	132	11.3
Goulburn	877	846	-31	-3.5
Griffith	604	766	162	26.8
Gungahlin	476	537	61	12.8
Leeton	396	438	42	10.6
Narooma	263	286	23	8.7
Nowra	1,774	2,077	303	17.1
Queanbeyan	632	693	61	9.7
Shellharbour	1,583	1,755	172	10.9
Tuggeranong	855	943	88	10.3
Tumut	275	342	67	24.4
Ulladulla	481	558	77	16.0
Wagga	1,140	1,518	378	33.2
Woden	513	601	88	17.2
Wollongong	1,505	1,716	211	14.0
Yass	114	117	3	2.6
Young	626	673	47	7.5
Other (a)	8	11	%	%
Total	19,237	21,676	2,439	12.7

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Northern Victoria Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Airport West	1,288	1,403	115	8.9
Albury	2,733	3,159	426	15.6
Box Hill	2,091	2,304	213	10.2
Broadmeadows	4,003	4,534	531	13.3
Darebin	2,989	3,136	147	4.9
Deniliquin	278	322	44	15.8
Echuca	576	693	117	20.3
Epping	3,122	3,328	206	6.6
Greensborough	1,721	1,745	24	1.4
Heidelberg	1,379	1,491	112	8.1
Moreland	2,886	2,934	48	1.7
Newmarket	1,828	1,899	71	3.9
Seymour	863	930	67	7.8
Shepparton	1,898	2,139	241	12.7
Sth Melbourne	1,130	1,189	59	5.2
Sunbury	986	1,088	102	10.3
Wangaratta	1,386	1,547	161	11.6
Windsor Vic	2,640	2,716	76	2.9
Yarra	2,490	2,566	76	3.1
Other (a)	35	46	%	%
Total	36,322	39,169	2,847	7.8

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Eastern Victoria Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Bairnsdale	1,121	1,244	123	11.0
Belgrave	541	598	57	10.5
Boronia	1,258	1,352	94	7.5
Cheltenham	1,812	1,945	133	7.3
Cranbourne	2,005	2,246	241	12.0
Dandenong	2,653	3,009	356	13.4
Fountain Gate	2,406	2,642	236	9.8
Frankston	2,748	3,036	288	10.5
Glen Waverley	1,177	1,270	93	7.9
Hastings	677	726	49	7.2
Lilydale	1,433	1,601	168	11.7
Mornington	601	638	37	6.2
Morwell	2,741	3,030	289	10.5
Oakleigh	1,696	1,851	155	9.1
Pakenham	1,103	1,182	79	7.2
Ringwood	1,800	1,968	168	9.3
Rosebud	863	938	75	8.7
Rowville	671	721	50	7.5
Sale	787	908	121	15.4
Springvale	2,027	2,275	248	12.2
Warragul	772	821	49	6.3
Wonthaggi	1,002	1,099	97	9.7
Other (a)	2	3	%	%
Total	31,896	35,103	3,207	10.1

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

West Victoria Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Ararat	234	288	54	23.1
Ballarat	3,196	3,415	219	6.9
Bendigo	2,706	3,140	434	16.0
Colac	635	635	0	0.0
Corio	1,950	2,069	119	6.1
Footscray	1,723	1,832	109	6.3
Geelong	3,354	3,520	166	4.9
Hamilton	414	436	22	5.3
Horsham	696	753	57	8.2
Maryborough	561	647	86	15.3
Melton	2,237	2,347	110	4.9
Mildura	2,153	2,197	44	2.0
Newport	1,172	1,246	74	6.3
Portland	356	375	19	5.3
Stawell	166	164	-2	-1.2
Sunshine	3,746	3,997	251	6.7
Swan Hill	755	851	96	12.7
Warrnambool	800	904	104	13.0
Watergardens	3,668	3,909	241	6.6
Werribee	4,715	4,929	214	4.5
Other (a)	22	29	%	%
Total	35,259	37,683	2,424	6.9

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Northern Queensland Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Atherton	953	960	7	0.7
Ayr	517	500	-17	-3.3
Biloela	270	268	-2	-0.7
Bowen	562	538	-24	-4.3
Cairns Aplin	5,828	5,801	-27	-0.5
Charters Towers	493	520	27	5.5
Emerald	594	609	15	2.5
Gladstone	1,640	1,657	17	1.0
Indigenous Service Centre	640	1,205	565	88.3
Ingham	488	455	-33	-6.8
Innisfail	1,189	1,134	-55	-4.6
Longreach	93	83	%	%
Mackay	2,994	3,003	9	0.3
Mareeba	839	936	97	11.6
Mossman	532	606	74	13.9
Mt Isa	872	978	106	12.2
Normanton	61	138	%	%
Nth Peninsula Remote Area Service Centre	83	185	%	%
Palm Island	96	271	%	%
Rockhampton	2,833	2,868	35	1.2
Thursday Is	65	112	%	%
Townsville	5,857	6,030	173	3.0
Western Cape Remote Area Service Centre	178	376	198	111.2
Whitsunday	795	787	-8	-1.0
Yarrabah Remote Area Service Centre	517	520	3	0.6
Yeppoon	674	706	32	4.7
Other (a)	78	85	%	%
Total	29,741	31,331	1,590	5.3

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Central Queensland Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Bundaberg	3,883	3,923	40	1.0
Caboolture	4,042	4,229	187	4.6
Caloundra	1,770	1,812	42	2.4
Cherbourg	313	275	-38	-12.1
Chermside	1,396	1,502	106	7.6
Deception Bay	2,611	2,629	18	0.7
Fortitude Valley	1,455	1,536	81	5.6
Gympie	1,721	1,714	-7	-0.4
Hervey Bay	2,075	2,125	50	2.4
Kawana Waters	809	874	65	8.0
Kingaroy	857	894	37	4.3
Margate	270	413	143	53.0
Maroochydore	1,776	1,848	72	4.1
Maryborough	1,512	1,571	59	3.9
Mitchelton	1,696	1,801	105	6.2
Mt Gravatt	2,548	2,695	147	5.8
Nambour	1,276	1,340	64	5.0
Noosa	1,218	1,252	34	2.8
Nundah	1,770	1,810	40	2.3
South Brisbane	1,183	1,273	90	7.6
Stones Corner	2,153	2,292	139	6.5
Strathpine	2,388	2,507	119	5.0
Toowong	1,395	1,455	60	4.3
Other (a)	6	9	%	%
Total	40,123	41,779	1,656	4.1

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

South Queensland Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Beaudesert	753	775	22	2.9
Beenleigh	2,770	2,993	223	8.1
Biggera Waters	3,963	4,121	158	4.0
Browns Plains	2,354	2,557	203	8.6
Capalaba	975	987	12	1.2
Charleville	189	250	61	32.3
Cleveland	1,251	1,327	76	6.1
Dalby	807	802	-5	-0.6
Goodna	1,955	2,135	180	9.2
Goondiwindi	420	428	8	1.9
Inala	2,386	2,578	192	8.0
Ipswich	3,633	4,033	400	11.0
Nerang	3,865	4,099	234	6.1
Palm Beach	4,105	4,278	173	4.2
Roma	180	201	21	11.7
Southport	271	350	79	29.2
Stanthorpe	432	486	54	12.5
Toowoomba	2,967	3,244	277	9.3
Warwick	573	643	70	12.2
Woodridge	2,618	2,810	192	7.3
Wynnum	1,176	1,265	89	7.6
Other (a)	22	36	%	%
Total	37,665	40,398	2,733	7.3

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

South Australia Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Berri	1,008	1,128	120	11.9
Broken Hill	812	954	142	17.5
Ceduna	240	371	131	54.6
Cooper Pedy	131	171	40	30.5
Elizabeth	3,851	4,170	319	8.3
Enfield	1,926	2,081	155	8.0
Gawler	1,616	1,791	175	10.8
Glenelg	972	1,061	89	9.2
Kadina	823	888	65	7.9
Kilkenny	1,628	1,787	159	9.8
Marion	2,733	3,106	373	13.6
Modbury	2,450	2,580	130	5.3
Mt Barker	796	907	111	13.9
Mt Gambier	1,312	1,536	224	17.1
Murray Bridge	1,154	1,189	35	3.0
Noarlunga	3,428	3,914	486	14.2
Norwood	2,024	2,165	141	7.0
Port Adelaide	1,875	2,037	162	8.6
Port Augusta	918	905	-13	-1.4
Port Lincoln	620	648	28	4.5
Port Pirie	1,136	1,222	86	7.6
Salisbury	3,663	4,008	345	9.4
Torrensvile	1,864	2,075	211	11.3
Victor Harbor	828	893	65	7.9
Whyalla	1,003	1,098	95	9.5
Other (a)	10	20	%	%
Total	38,821	42,705	3,884	10.0

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

Table 71 - Job Seekers Receiving Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (Other) By Service Zone and Service Centre

Western Australia Service Zone by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Albany	1,400	1,502	102	7.3
Armadale	1,991	2,244	253	12.7
Bunbury	2,647	2,749	102	3.9
Busselton	1,207	1,259	52	4.3
Cannington	2,289	2,535	246	10.7
Carnarvon	264	355	91	34.5
Esperance	331	396	65	19.6
Fremantle	1,950	2,069	119	6.1
Geraldton	1,728	1,865	137	7.9
Gosnells	1,918	2,121	203	10.6
Innaloo	1,528	1,624	96	6.3
Joondalup	2,621	2,851	230	8.8
Kalgoorlie	813	894	81	10.0
Karratha	230	473	243	105.7
Laverton Remote Area Service Centre	60	134	%	%
Mandurah	2,169	2,375	206	9.5
Meekatharra	165	251	86	52.1
Midland	2,583	2,747	164	6.3
Mirrabooka	2,601	2,925	324	12.5
Morley	2,679	2,881	202	7.5
Newman Remote Area Service Centre	87	163	%	%
Northam	1,273	1,381	108	8.5
Rockingham	2,650	3,048	398	15.0
South Hedland	318	588	270	84.9
Success	1,446	1,593	147	10.2
Victoria Park	2,451	2,775	324	13.2
Warwick Grove	1,319	1,420	101	7.7
Other (a)	23	35	%	%
Total	40,741	45,253	4,512	11.1

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Tasmania and North Australia Service Zones by Service Centre	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Tasmania				
Bridgewater	1,029	1,133	104	10.1
Burnie	1,549	1,666	117	7.6
Devonport	1,544	1,646	102	6.6
Glenorchy	1,524	1,712	188	12.3
Hobart	1,517	1,609	92	6.1
Huonville	387	420	33	8.5
Launceston	4,060	4,329	269	6.6
Rosny Park	1,388	1,582	194	14.0
Other (a)	5	10	%	%
Total	13,003	14,107	1,104	8.5
North Australia				
Alice Springs	784	865	81	10.3
Angurugu RSC	82	132	%	%
Borroloola	<20	188	na	na
Broome	534	680	146	27.3
Casuarina	936	1,003	67	7.2
Central Australia	846	1,738	892	105.4
Darwin	492	496	4	0.8
Derby	80	187	%	%
Fitzroy Crossing	47	113	%	%
Galiwinku RSC	110	181	71	64.5
Halls Creek	157	260	103	65.6
Hermannsburg RSC	<20	20	na	na
Katherine	169	275	106	62.7
Kimberley Katherine	287	797	510	177.7
Kununurra	160	301	141	88.1
Maningrida	220	359	139	63.2
Nhulunbuy	27	162	%	%
Northern Region	639	1,280	641	100.3
Palmerston	1,076	1,188	112	10.4
Santa Teresa RSC	<20	30	na	na
Tennant Creek	214	275	61	28.5
Tiwi Islands	120	222	102	85.0
Wadeye	293	367	74	25.3
Yuendumu RSC	<20	50	na	na
Other (a)	13	22	%	%
Total	7,333	11,191	3,858	52.6

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

Other Service Zone by Service Centre and Australian Total	June 2015	July 2015	Variation Number	Variation Per Cent
Other				
Centrelink Call Centres	524	603	%	%
Not Coded To A Zone	1,943	2,130	%	%
Rounding Adjustment	-55	4	%	%
Australia	441,371	479,702	38,331	8.7

(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 17 July 2015**

Fortnightly Earnings	Short-term job seekers %	Long-term job seekers %	Total job seekers %
Males			
Did not earn an income	86.9	84.1	85.2
Earned an income	13.1	15.9	14.8
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.5	0.6	0.6
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.3	1.8	1.6
\$142.01 - \$236.00	1.7	2.3	2.1
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.2	1.7	1.5
Over \$316.00	8.3	9.6	9.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)	112,346	178,300	290,646
Females			
Did not earn an income	76.8	72.1	73.5
Earned an income	23.2	27.9	26.5
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.7	0.7	0.7
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.1	2.3	2.3
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.7	3.1	3.0
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.2	2.5	2.4
Over \$316.00	15.5	19.2	18.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)	60,807	146,391	207,198
Persons			
Did not earn an income	83.4	78.7	80.3
Earned an income	16.6	21.3	19.7
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.6	0.7	0.6
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.6	2.0	1.9
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.1	2.7	2.5
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.6	2.0	1.9
Over \$316.00	10.8	13.9	12.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)	173,153	324,691	497,844

Note:
 - Long-term job seekers have received income support for 12 months or more.
 - The earnings data in Table 8 is derived using a different methodology from that of the other tables. 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.

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).

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/organization/about/departments-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>).