

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).

This publication can be found at <http://www.deewr.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 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 19 September 2012.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS – July 2012

Between July 2011 and July 2012

Total Newstart Allowance (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)) recipients **increased 5. per cent** overall from 641 266 to 673 634.

- ◆ NSA recipients increased 5.5 per cent from 556 349 to 586 745.
- ◆ YA(o) recipients increased 2.3 per cent from 84 917 to 86 889.

The number of job seekers **increased 7.8 per cent** overall from 314 636 to 339 267.

- ◆ NSA job seekers increased 7.4 per cent from 282 089 to 302 862.
- ◆ YA(o) job seekers increased 11.9 per cent from 32 547 to 36 405.

Long-term job seekers increased 7.3 per cent from 173 761 to 186 422.

Short-term job seekers increased 8.5 per cent from 140 875 to 152 845.

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

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

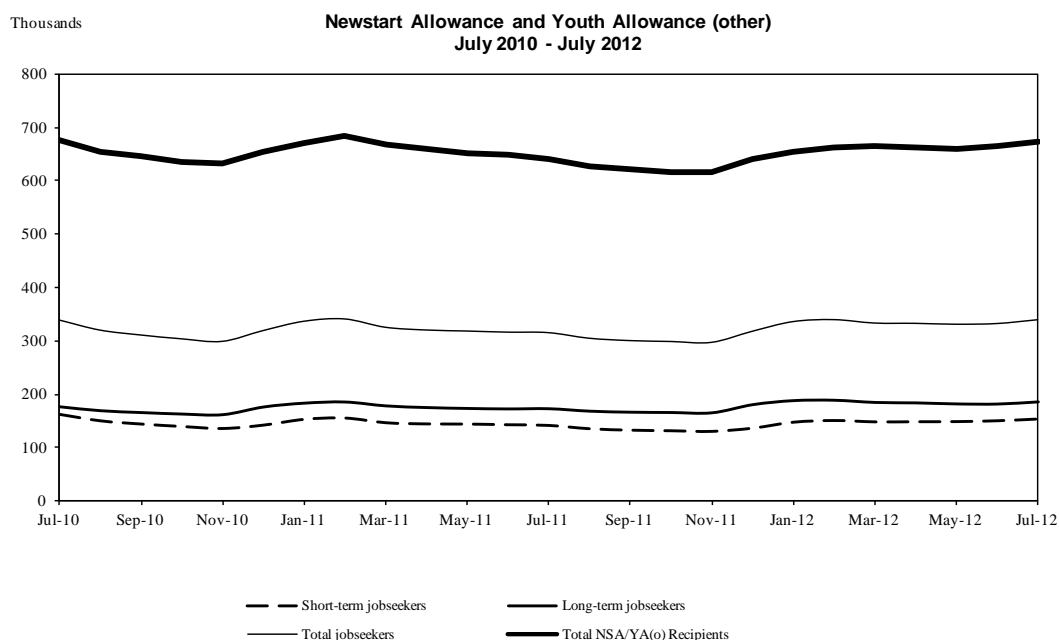


TABLE 1 - LABOUR MARKET PAYMENTS - TIME SERIES

	Newstart Allowance		Youth Allowance			Partner Allowance	Widow Allowance
	Long Term	Total	Other	Full-time Students	Australian Apprentices		
February 1994	472,785	977,796
July 2010	344,840	587,103	88,473	292,238	4,513	23,677	33,997
August 2010	341,360	572,201	82,142	305,856	4,558	23,004	33,687
September 2010	339,783	564,443	80,407	311,048	4,594	22,429	33,358
October 2010	338,191	557,352	78,965	313,211	4,479	21,758	32,917
November 2010	337,056	551,840	79,935	299,007	4,315	21,096	32,482
December 2010	344,362	563,027	91,757	262,407	4,387	20,437	32,021
January 2011	349,806	576,745	92,976	257,713	4,208	19,922	31,646
February 2011	356,375	588,824	94,425	273,004	4,380	19,441	31,300
March 2011	352,479	578,856	90,111	293,377	4,650	18,932	30,959
April 2011	348,597	571,168	88,687	307,093	4,848	18,392	30,564
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
Variation June 2012 - July 2012							
Number	3,346	5,938	3,934	-8,802	112	-395	-311
Per cent	1.0	1.0	4.7	-3.2	2.3	-2.8	-1.1

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, allowance data is not wholly comparable with previously published data, due to changes in eligibility for Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance (other) (see Explanatory Notes).

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

	July 2012			June 2012	Variation J u n e - J u l y	
	Persons	Males	Females		Number	Percent
Short Term Newstart Allowees	231,922	148,479	83,443	229,330	2,592	1.1
CPS Recipients (a)	462	343	119	463	-1	-0.2
Did not receive a payment (b)	12,308	6,843	5,465	12,962	-654	-5.0
Received a payment	219,152	141,293	77,859	215,905	3,247	1.5
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	6,302	1,974	4,328	6,196	106	1.7
Other activities without job search (d)	35,769	22,293	13,476	35,801	-32	-0.1
Incapacitated (e)	24,641	14,438	10,203	24,302	339	1.4
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	13,831	8,061	5,770	13,547	284	2.1
Short-term NSA job seekers (g)	138,609	94,527	44,082	136,059	2,550	1.9
<i>Short-term NSA training/education (h)</i>	<i>27,749</i>	<i>16,372</i>	<i>11,377</i>	<i>29,346</i>	<i>-1,597</i>	<i>-5.4</i>
Long Term Newstart Allowees	354,823	192,893	161,930	351,477	3,346	1.0
CPS Recipients (a)	2,213	1,488	725	2,240	-27	-1.2
Did not receive a payment (b)	12,229	5,477	6,752	13,704	-1,475	-10.8
Received a payment	340,381	185,928	154,453	335,533	4,848	1.4
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	27,982	9,666	18,316	27,543	439	1.6
Other activities without job search (d)	82,220	43,016	39,204	81,465	755	0.9
Incapacitated (e)	35,114	18,176	16,938	34,808	306	0.9
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	30,812	15,824	14,988	30,525	287	0.9
Long-term NSA job seekers (g)	164,253	99,246	65,007	161,192	3,061	1.9
<i>Long-term NSA training/education (h)</i>	<i>86,081</i>	<i>45,521</i>	<i>40,560</i>	<i>90,180</i>	<i>-4,099</i>	<i>-4.5</i>
All Newstart Allowees	586,745	341,372	245,373	580,807	5,938	1.0
CPS Recipients (a)	2,675	1,831	844	2,703	-28	-1.0
Did not receive a payment (b)	24,537	12,320	12,217	26,666	-2,129	-8.0
Received a payment	559,533	327,221	232,312	551,438	8,095	1.5
Voluntary/part-time work (c)	34,284	11,640	22,644	33,739	545	1.6
Other activities without job search (d)	117,989	65,309	52,680	117,266	723	0.6
Incapacitated (e)	59,755	32,614	27,141	59,110	645	1.1
Other/temporary exemptions (f)	44,643	23,885	20,758	44,072	571	1.3
All NSA job seekers (g)	302,862	193,773	109,089	297,251	5,611	1.9
<i>All NSA training/education (h)</i>	<i>113,830</i>	<i>61,893</i>	<i>51,937</i>	<i>119,526</i>	<i>-5,696</i>	<i>-4.8</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

	July 2012			June 2012	Variation J u n e - J u l y	
	Persons	Males	Females		Number	Percent
Short Term Youth Allowees	35,929	20,255	15,674	34,149	1,780	5.2
CPS Recipients (a)	23	17	6	32	-9	-28.1
Did not receive a payment (b)	639	288	351	723	-84	-11.6
Received a payment	35,267	19,950	15,317	33,394	1,873	5.6
Other activities without job search (c)	17,563	10,366	7,197	16,586	977	5.9
Incapacitated (d)	1,814	943	871	1,764	50	2.8
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	1,654	814	840	1,516	138	9.1
Short-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	14,236	7,827	6,409	13,528	708	5.2
<i>Short-term YA (other) training/education (g)</i>	<i>10,685</i>	<i>5,942</i>	<i>4,743</i>	<i>10,940</i>	<i>-255</i>	<i>-2.3</i>
Long Term Youth Allowees	50,960	25,521	25,439	48,806	2,154	4.4
CPS Recipients (a)	74	53	21	79	-5	-6.3
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,176	491	685	1,435	-259	-18.0
Received a payment	49,710	24,977	24,733	47,292	2,418	5.1
Other activities without job search (c)	23,296	12,162	11,134	21,915	1,381	6.3
Incapacitated (d)	2,252	958	1,294	2,178	74	3.4
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	1,993	783	1,210	1,956	37	1.9
Long-term YA (other) job seekers (f)	22,169	11,074	11,095	21,243	926	4.4
<i>Long-term YA (other) training/education (g)</i>	<i>17,442</i>	<i>8,511</i>	<i>8,931</i>	<i>18,031</i>	<i>-589</i>	<i>-3.3</i>
All Youth Allowees	86,889	45,776	41,113	82,955	3,934	4.7
CPS Recipients (a)	97	70	27	111	-14	-12.6
Did not receive a payment (b)	1,815	779	1,036	2,158	-343	-15.9
Received a payment	84,977	44,927	40,050	80,686	4,291	5.3
Other activities without job search (c)	40,859	22,528	18,331	38,501	2,358	6.1
Incapacitated (d)	4,066	1,901	2,165	3,942	124	3.1
Other/temporary exemptions (e)	3,647	1,597	2,050	3,472	175	5.0
All YA (other) job seekers (f)	36,405	18,901	17,504	34,771	1,634	4.7
<i>All YA (other) training/education (g)</i>	<i>28,127</i>	<i>14,453</i>	<i>13,674</i>	<i>28,971</i>	<i>-844</i>	<i>-2.9</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
July 2010	161,411	177,388	338,799
August 2010	149,451	170,111	319,562
September 2010	143,471	166,697	310,168
October 2010	138,927	163,953	302,880
November 2010	135,199	162,796	297,995
December 2010	141,518	176,994	318,512
January 2011	152,223	184,087	336,310
February 2011	154,600	186,195	340,795
March 2011	145,887	179,041	324,928
April 2011	143,728	175,953	319,681
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
Variation June 2012 - July 2012			
Number	3258	3987	7245
Per cent	2.2	2.2	2.2

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

<i>State</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			Number	Per cent
SHORT-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	44,242	44,990	748	1.7
Victoria	36,415	37,570	1,155	3.2
Queensland	36,529	36,944	415	1.1
South Australia	11,962	12,298	336	2.8
Western Australia	12,582	12,888	306	2.4
Tasmania	4,126	4,367	241	5.8
Northern Territory	2,524	2,581	57	2.3
Australian Capital Territory	1,207	1,207	0	0.0
AUSTRALIA	149,587	152,845	3,258	2.2
LONG-TERM JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	58,228	59,567	1,339	2.3
Victoria	39,544	40,434	890	2.3
Queensland	41,393	42,245	852	2.1
South Australia	16,489	16,867	378	2.3
Western Australia	13,820	14,213	393	2.8
Tasmania	6,806	6,913	107	1.6
Northern Territory	5,014	5,009	-5	-0.1
Australian Capital Territory	1,141	1,174	33	2.9
AUSTRALIA	182,435	186,422	3,987	2.2
TOTAL JOB SEEKERS				
New South Wales	102,470	104,557	2,087	2.0
Victoria	75,959	78,004	2,045	2.7
Queensland	77,922	79,189	1,267	1.6
South Australia	28,451	29,165	714	2.5
Western Australia	26,402	27,101	699	2.6
Tasmania	10,932	11,280	348	3.2
Northern Territory	7,538	7,590	52	0.7
Australian Capital Territory	2,348	2,381	33	1.4
AUSTRALIA	332,022	339,267	7,245	2.2

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 JULY 2012

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	1,066	1.0	876	0.8	1,942	0.9
18 - 20 years	6,576	6.4	9,943	9.0	16,519	7.8
21 - 24 years	18,618	18.2	17,896	16.2	36,514	17.2
25 - 29 years	17,332	16.9	16,860	15.3	34,192	16.1
30 - 39 years	24,776	24.2	25,278	22.9	50,054	23.5
40 - 49 years	18,169	17.8	20,366	18.5	38,535	18.1
50 - 59 years	11,789	11.5	14,023	12.7	25,812	12.1
60 years and over	4,029	3.9	5,080	4.6	9,109	4.3
Total	102,355	100.0	110,322	100.0	212,677	100.0
FEMALES						
Less than 18 years	1,019	2.0	1,073	1.4	2,092	1.7
18 - 20 years	5,243	10.4	9,790	12.9	15,033	11.9
21 - 24 years	9,922	19.7	11,999	15.8	21,921	17.3
25 - 29 years	6,341	12.6	7,799	10.2	14,140	11.2
30 - 39 years	8,201	16.2	13,180	17.3	21,381	16.9
40 - 49 years	9,886	19.6	17,132	22.5	27,018	21.3
50 - 59 years	7,793	15.4	12,441	16.3	20,234	16.0
60 years and over	2,085	4.1	2,686	3.5	4,771	3.8
Total	50,490	100.0	76,100	100.0	126,590	100.0
PERSONS						
Less than 18 years	2,085	1.4	1,949	1.0	4,034	1.2
18 - 20 years	11,819	7.7	19,733	10.6	31,552	9.3
21 - 24 years	28,540	18.7	29,895	16.0	58,435	17.2
25 - 29 years	23,673	15.5	24,659	13.2	48,332	14.2
30 - 39 years	32,977	21.6	38,458	20.6	71,435	21.1
40 - 49 years	28,055	18.4	37,498	20.1	65,553	19.3
50 - 59 years	19,582	12.8	26,464	14.2	46,046	13.6
60 years and over	6,114	4.0	7,766	4.2	13,880	4.1
Total	152,845	100.0	186,422	100.0	339,267	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>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SYDNEY</i>				
AS1 Community Team	32	33	%	%
Bankstown	3,099	3,210	111	3.6
Bondi Junction	1,031	1,005	-26	-2.5
Burwood	1,556	1,600	44	2.8
Campsie	1,951	1,969	18	0.9
Caringbah	809	840	31	3.8
Chatswood	1,225	1,231	6	0.5
Darlinghurst	1,352	1,349	-3	-0.2
Hornsby	912	906	-6	-0.7
Hurstville	1,536	1,578	42	2.7
Leichhardt	1,128	1,127	-1	-0.1
Maroubra	1,360	1,378	18	1.3
Marrickville	1,316	1,305	-11	-0.8
Northern Beaches	1,202	1,174	-28	-2.3
Redfern	1,267	1,279	12	0.9
Rockdale	1,332	1,366	34	2.6
Ryde	1,003	1,066	63	6.3
Sutherland	721	722	1	0.1
Other (a)	29	37	%	%
Total	22,861	23,175	314	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>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>CENTRAL NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Auburn	1,949	2,036	87	4.5
Bathurst	682	700	18	2.6
Blacktown	2,610	2,784	174	6.7
Bourke	393	395	2	0.5
Cabramatta	2,058	2,050	-8	-0.4
Camden	592	589	-3	-0.5
Campbelltown	1,888	1,930	42	2.2
Dubbo	1,665	1,653	-12	-0.7
Fairfield	2,381	2,417	36	1.5
Hawkesbury	763	787	24	3.1
Ingleburn	1,227	1,243	16	1.3
Katoomba	506	513	7	1.4
Lightning Ridge	185	185	0	0.0
Lithgow	489	504	15	3.1
Liverpool	2,751	2,823	72	2.6
Mt Druitt	2,315	2,430	115	5.0
Mudgee	451	452	1	0.2
Orange	676	685	9	1.3
Penrith	1,546	1,569	23	1.5
Springwood	348	369	21	6.0
St Marys	1,300	1,301	1	0.1
Walgett	201	208	7	3.5
Other (a)	8	7	%	%
Total	26,984	27,630	646	2.4

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>MID COAST NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Baulkham Hills	809	830	21	2.6
Cessnock	578	589	11	1.9
Charlestown	1,544	1,547	3	0.2
Comm Support Team	25	21	%	%
Ettalong	612	605	-7	-1.1
Forster	707	713	6	0.8
Gosford	1,397	1,433	36	2.6
King Street	955	984	29	3.0
Kurri Kurri	345	359	14	4.1
Lakehaven	1,375	1,415	40	2.9
Maitland	960	965	5	0.5
Mayfield	855	885	30	3.5
Merrylands	1,755	1,813	58	3.3
Muswellbrook	390	403	13	3.3
Nelson Bay	432	446	14	3.2
Parramatta	2,071	2,116	45	2.2
Raymond Terrace	734	749	15	2.0
Singleton	191	189	-2	-1.0
Taree	1,307	1,339	32	2.4
The Entrance	1,175	1,238	63	5.4
Toronto	714	700	-14	-2.0
Wallsend	963	1,007	44	4.6
Woy Woy	429	455	26	6.1
Wyong	616	634	18	2.9
Other (a)	1	2	%	%
Total	20,940	21,437	497	2.4

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES</i>				
Batemans Bay	582	591	9	1.5
Bega	597	629	32	5.4
Belconnen	717	750	33	4.6
Bowral	384	397	13	3.4
Braddon	618	622	4	0.6
Cooma	284	282	-2	-0.7
Corrimal	904	944	40	4.4
Cowra	364	360	-4	-1.1
Dapto	959	1,015	56	5.8
Goulburn	576	548	-28	-4.9
Griffith	475	503	28	5.9
Gungahlin	205	207	2	1.0
Leeton	347	353	6	1.7
Narooma	251	251	0	0.0
Nowra	1,564	1,597	33	2.1
Parkes	652	654	2	0.3
Queanbeyan	367	384	17	4.6
Shellharbour	1,186	1,192	6	0.5
Tuggeranong	452	466	14	3.1
Tumut	237	244	7	3.0
Ulladulla	406	415	9	2.2
Wagga	1,105	1,134	29	2.6
Woden	318	302	-16	-5.0
Wollongong	1,107	1,138	31	2.8
Yass	85	80	%	%
Young	472	461	-11	-2.3
Other (a)	20	14	%	%
Total	15,234	15,533	299	2.0

- 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>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>NORTHERN VICTORIA</i>				
Airport West	939	978	39	4.2
Albury	2,097	2,143	46	2.2
Box Hill	1,873	1,932	59	3.2
Broadmeadows	3,089	3,254	165	5.3
Darebin	2,131	2,168	37	1.7
Deniliquin	188	193	5	2.7
Echuca	417	452	35	8.4
Epping	2,206	2,302	96	4.4
Greensborough	1,246	1,270	24	1.9
Heidelberg	1,111	1,175	64	5.8
Moreland	2,242	2,305	63	2.8
Newmarket	1,368	1,416	48	3.5
Seymour	608	619	11	1.8
Shepparton	1,766	1,841	75	4.2
Sth Melbourne	779	793	14	1.8
Sunbury	757	801	44	5.8
Wangaratta	1,311	1,337	26	2.0
Windsor Vic	1,961	2,002	41	2.1
Yarra	1,844	1,863	19	1.0
Other (a)	13	11	%	%
Total	27,946	28,855	909	3.3

– 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>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>EASTERN VICTORIA</i>				
Bairnsdale	754	757	3	0.4
Belgrave	376	385	9	2.4
Boronia	959	961	2	0.2
Cheltenham	1,447	1,441	-6	-0.4
Cranbourne	1,355	1,422	67	4.9
Dandenong	2,197	2,242	45	2.0
Fountain Gate	1,675	1,760	85	5.1
Frankston	2,213	2,290	77	3.5
Glen Waverley	1,000	994	-6	-0.6
Hastings	574	575	1	0.2
Lilydale	1,094	1,094	0	0.0
Mornington	424	458	34	8.0
Morwell	2,196	2,232	36	1.6
Oakleigh	1,309	1,360	51	3.9
Pakenham	731	767	36	4.9
Ringwood	1,378	1,411	33	2.4
Rosebud	624	648	24	3.8
Rowville	553	577	24	4.3
Sale	631	637	6	1.0
Springvale	1,450	1,503	53	3.7
Warragul	556	583	27	4.9
Wonthaggi	573	596	23	4.0
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	24,069	24,693	624	2.6

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
WEST VICTORIA				
Ararat	159	157	-2	-1.3
Bendigo Central	171	185	14	8.2
Ballarat	2,243	2,307	64	2.9
Bendigo	2,013	2,011	-2	-0.1
Colac	462	473	11	2.4
Corio	1,335	1,367	32	2.4
Footscray	1,125	1,147	22	2.0
Geelong	2,570	2,648	78	3.0
Hamilton	308	335	27	8.8
Horsham	602	629	27	4.5
Maryborough	375	395	20	5.3
Melton	1,362	1,423	61	4.5
Mildura	1,483	1,498	15	1.0
Newport	920	953	33	3.6
Portland	278	276	-2	-0.7
Stawell	147	160	13	8.8
Sunshine	2,841	2,917	76	2.7
Swan Hill	664	655	-9	-1.4
Warrnambool	710	733	23	3.2
Watergardens	2,632	2,668	36	1.4
Werribee	3,281	3,328	47	1.4
Other (a)	2	2	%	%
Total	25,683	26,267	584	2.3

– 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>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>NORTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Atherton	722	757	35	4.8
Ayr	338	321	-17	-5.0
Biloela	161	174	13	8.1
Bowen	310	293	-17	-5.5
Cairns Aplin	4,015	4,081	66	1.6
Charters Towers	296	294	-2	-0.7
Emerald	231	230	-1	-0.4
Gladstone	638	642	4	0.6
Indigenous Service Centre	1,017	1,018	1	0.1
Ingham	330	289	-41	-12.4
Innisfail	747	759	12	1.6
Longreach	87	85	%	%
Mackay	1,085	1,097	12	1.1
Mareeba	629	655	26	4.1
Mossman	525	517	-8	-1.5
Mt Isa	664	662	-2	-0.3
Normanton	121	120	-1	-0.8
Nth Peninsula Remote Area Service Centre	103	98	%	%
Palm Island	272	285	13	4.8
Rockhampton	1,685	1,684	-1	-0.1
Thursday Is	309	307	-2	-0.6
Townsville	3,223	3,273	50	1.6
Western Cape Remote Area Service Centre	392	389	-3	-0.8
Whitsunday	509	499	-10	-2.0
Yarrabah Remote Area Service Centre	441	455	14	3.2
Yeppoon	371	377	6	1.6
Other (a)	25	30	%	%
Total	19,246	19,391	145	0.8

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SUNSHINE COAST</i>				
Bundaberg	2,981	2,938	-43	-1.4
Caboolture	2,887	2,914	27	0.9
Caloundra	1,422	1,414	-8	-0.6
Deception Bay	632	627	-5	-0.8
Gympie	1,234	1,273	39	3.2
Hervey Bay	1,603	1,641	38	2.4
Kawana Waters	690	703	13	1.9
Kippa-Ring	1,182	1,206	24	2.0
Maroochydore	1,480	1,489	9	0.6
Maryborough	1,075	1,097	22	2.0
Nambour	948	949	1	0.1
Noosa	1,282	1,303	21	1.6
Other (a)	%	%	%	%
Total	17,416	17,554	138	0.8
<i>PACIFIC COAST</i>				
APC Community Team	23	25	%	%
Ballina	877	923	46	5.2
Biggera Waters	2,665	2,723	58	2.2
Brunswick Heads	651	674	23	3.5
Byron Bay	577	571	-6	-1.0
Casino	555	566	11	2.0
Coffs Harbour	1,986	2,009	23	1.2
Grafton	809	820	11	1.4
Kempsey	823	826	3	0.4
Lismore	1,421	1,438	17	1.2
Murwillumbah	537	552	15	2.8
Nambucca Heads	688	716	28	4.1
Nerang	2,592	2,595	3	0.1
Palm Beach	2,949	3,019	70	2.4
Port Macquarie	1,444	1,478	34	2.4
Southport	2,601	2,726	125	4.8
Tweed Heads	1,464	1,513	49	3.3
Yamba	365	372	7	1.9
Other (a)	1	3	%	%
Total	23,028	23,549	521	2.3

- 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>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND</i>				
Charleville	134	117	-17	-12.7
Cherbourg	219	228	9	4.1
Chermside	1,127	1,181	54	4.8
Dalby	376	361	-15	-4.0
Fortitude Valley	1,101	1,115	14	1.3
Goodna	1,442	1,469	27	1.9
Ipswich	2,564	2,588	24	0.9
Kingaroy	593	605	12	2.0
Mitchelton	1,240	1,290	50	4.0
Nundah	1,287	1,314	27	2.1
Roma	81	96	%	%
South Brisbane	880	870	-10	-1.1
Stones Corner	1,655	1,716	61	3.7
Strathpine	1,499	1,608	109	7.3
Toowong	1,054	1,090	36	3.4
Toowoomba	1,697	1,741	44	2.6
Other (a)	207	219	%	%
Total	17,156	17,608	452	2.6

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</i>				
Berri	881	873	-8	-0.9
Broken Hill	631	636	5	0.8
Ceduna	248	255	7	2.8
Cooper Pedy	144	141	-3	-2.1
Elizabeth	2,403	2,423	20	0.8
Enfield	1,355	1,423	68	5.0
Gawler	1,122	1,146	24	2.1
Glenelg	804	834	30	3.7
Kadina	582	591	9	1.5
Kilkenny	1,326	1,336	10	0.8
Marion	2,029	2,063	34	1.7
Modbury	1,773	1,890	117	6.6
Mt Barker	665	698	33	5.0
Mt Gambier	1,191	1,240	49	4.1
Murray Bridge	835	848	13	1.6
Noarlunga	2,580	2,625	45	1.7
Norwood	1,658	1,715	57	3.4
Port Adelaide	1,290	1,339	49	3.8
Port Augusta	611	615	4	0.7
Port Lincoln	528	524	-4	-0.8
Port Pirie	780	801	21	2.7
Salisbury	2,495	2,553	58	2.3
Torrens ville	1,412	1,452	40	2.8
Victor Harbor	671	702	31	4.6
Whyalla	731	757	26	3.6
Other (a)	1	1	%	%
Total	28,746	29,481	735	2.6

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
WESTERN AUSTRALIA				
Albany	938	968	30	3.2
Armadale	1,078	1,104	26	2.4
Bunbury	1,437	1,540	103	7.2
Busselton	767	791	24	3.1
Cannington	1,406	1,454	48	3.4
Carnarvon	320	309	-11	-3.4
Cocos Islands	<20	20	na	na
Esperance	231	245	14	6.1
Fremantle	1,136	1,134	-2	-0.2
Geraldton	1,092	1,075	-17	-1.6
Gosnells	929	1,003	74	8.0
Innaloo	1,030	1,070	40	3.9
Joondalup	1,355	1,440	85	6.3
Kalgoorlie	566	595	29	5.1
Karratha	369	381	12	3.3
Laverton Remote Area Service Centre	107	111	4	3.7
Mandurah	1,250	1,276	26	2.1
Meekatharra	189	174	-15	-7.9
Midland	1,392	1,417	25	1.8
Mirrabooka	1,826	1,811	-15	-0.8
Morley	1,630	1,629	-1	-0.1
Newman Remote Area Service Centre	146	147	1	0.7
Northam	833	845	12	1.4
Rockingham	1,552	1,550	-2	-0.1
South Hedland	320	310	-10	-3.1
Spearwood	907	957	50	5.5
Victoria Park	1,483	1,605	122	8.2
Warwick Grove	690	733	43	6.2
Other (a)	na	11	na	na
Total	25,009	25,705	696	2.8

– Note: For footnotes see end of table.

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

<i>Service Zone and Service Centre</i>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
TASMANIA				
Bridgewater	956	981	25	2.6
Burnie	1,209	1,274	65	5.4
Devonport	1,226	1,300	74	6.0
Glenorchy	1,297	1,335	38	2.9
Hobart	1,205	1,239	34	2.8
Huonville	359	354	-5	-1.4
Launceston	3,478	3,596	118	3.4
Rosny Park	815	838	23	2.8
Sorell	395	377	-18	-4.6
Other (a)	1	1	%	%
Total	10,941	11,295	354	3.2
NORTH AUSTRALIA				
Alice Springs	475	491	16	3.4
Borroloola	65	75	%	%
Broome	472	464	-8	-1.7
Casuarina	588	617	29	4.9
Central Aust RST	1,958	1,968	10	0.5
Derby	187	187	0	0.0
Fitzroy Crossing	108	110	2	1.9
Halls Creek	236	231	-5	-2.1
Katherine	283	286	3	1.1
Knuckey Street	359	347	-12	-3.3
Kununurra	295	289	-6	-2.0
Maningrida	245	242	-3	-1.2
Nhulunbuy	108	110	2	1.9
Palmerston	662	684	22	3.3
Tangentyere	144	138	-6	-4.2
Tennant Creek	189	196	7	3.7
Tiwi Islands	200	206	6	3.0
Top End Hub	2,354	2,288	-66	-2.8
Wadeye	272	288	16	5.9
Yuendumu	69	75	%	%
Other (a)	22	19	%	%
Total	9,291	9,311	20	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>	June 2012	July 2012	Variation	
			June - July Number	Per cent
<i>BORDER RANGES</i>				
Armidale	753	790	37	4.9
Beaudesert	487	488	1	0.2
Beenleigh	1,861	1,903	42	2.3
Browns Plains	1,812	1,844	32	1.8
Capalaba	787	783	-4	-0.5
Cleveland	870	902	32	3.7
Glen Innes	254	259	5	2.0
Goondiwindi	318	353	35	11.0
Gunnedah	342	346	4	1.2
Inala	1,512	1,593	81	5.4
Inverell	543	544	1	0.2
Moree	418	415	-3	-0.7
Mt Gravatt	2,095	2,135	40	1.9
Narrabri	228	240	12	5.3
Stanthorpe	363	380	17	4.7
Tamworth	1,571	1,548	-23	-1.5
Warwick	456	490	34	7.5
Woodridge	1,939	1,972	33	1.7
Wynnum	856	831	-25	-2.9
Other (a)	1	1	%	%
Total	17,466	17,817	351	2.0
<i>OTHER</i>				
Centrelink Call Centres	7	8	%	%
Not Coded To A Zone	1	3	%	%
Rounding Adjustment	-2	-45	%	%
<i>AUSTRALIA</i>	332,022	339,267	7,245	2.2

(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 20 JULY 2012**

<i>Fortnightly Earnings</i>	Short-term job seekers	Long-term job seekers	Total job seekers
MALES			
Did not earn an income	86.9	83.8	85.3
Earned an income	13.1	16.2	14.7
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.5	0.8	0.7
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.4	2.1	1.7
\$142.01 - \$236.00	1.9	2.6	2.3
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.5	1.8	1.7
Over \$316.00	7.7	8.8	8.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	102,880	110,958	213,838
FEMALES			
Did not earn an income	76.6	72.9	74.4
Earned an income	23.4	27.1	25.6
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.9	1.0	1.0
\$62.01 - \$142.00	2.4	2.8	2.7
\$142.01 - \$236.00	3.1	3.8	3.5
\$236.01 - \$316.00	2.6	2.9	2.8
Over \$316.00	14.5	16.6	15.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	50,665	76,510	127,175
PERSONS			
Did not earn an income	83.5	79.4	81.2
Earned an income	16.5	20.6	18.8
Amount earned			
\$0.01 - \$62.00	0.6	0.9	0.8
\$62.01 - \$142.00	1.7	2.4	2.1
\$142.01 - \$236.00	2.3	3.1	2.7
\$236.01 - \$316.00	1.9	2.3	2.1
Over \$316.00	10.0	12.0	11.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>Job seekers receiving NSA and YA (other)</i>	153,545	187,468	341,013

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 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.

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, Mature Age Allowance and Widow Allowance.

For publication distribution 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
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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 has 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.