CHAPTER 7

HOURS OF WORK

The ABS Monthly Labour Force survey provides the principal source of information about actual, average and aggregate hours worked by employed persons. Hours worked data from this survey are provided for males and females, full-time and part-time employed persons, and by broad industry group.

In addition to the statistics on hours worked collected in the Labour Force Survey, data on hours paid for are collected from surveys of employers. Information on overtime hours paid for is presented in this chapter.

Hours of work

Average hours of work were slightly lower in August 1991 than in August 1981, although there was some variability over the ten-year period. The average weekly hours worked declined from 36.2 hours in August 1981 to 35.3 hours in August 1991, although over the same period the average hours worked by full-time workers increased (40.2 hours per week in August 1981 compared with 41.1 hours per week in August 1991). The average weekly hours worked by part-time workers has decreased to 15.3 hours in August 1991 from 15.8 hours in August 1981.

Average hours of work were higher for males than females. For full-time female workers the average weekly hours worked were 38.6 hours in August 1991, compared with 42.3 hours for full-time male workers.

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			Females		
	Males	Not Married	Married	Total	Persons
	AU	GUST 1981			
Weekly hours worked-					
0	207.7	45.8	68.5	114.3	322.1
1-15	137.0	118.1	290.4	408.5	545.5
16-29	208.6	94.8	271.5	366.3	574.9
30-34	259.7	78.5	126.6	205.1	464.8
35-39	458.3	189.8	167.4	357.2	815.5
40	1,362.6	297.6	291.3	588.9	1,951.5
41-44	255.8	52.4	44.1	96.5	352.4
45-48	383.3	35.7	38.3	73.9	457.2
49 and over	784.9	46.8	78.2	125.0	909.9
Total	4,057.9	959.6	1,376.3	2,335.8	6,393.7
	AUG	UST 1991(a)			
Weekly hours worked-					
0	214.6	60.0	99.0	159.0	373.6
1-15	246.0	240.8	396.8	637.6	883.6
16-29	275.8	143.3	435.2	578.5	854,3
30-34	329.2	109.3	186.6	295.8	625.0
35-39	744.0	256.9	319.1	576.0	1320.0
40	904.5	215.2	249.8	464.9	1369.4
41-44	250.7	59.1	64.1	123.2	373.9
45-48	412.9	54.8	79.9	134.8	547.6
49 and over	1,066.1	96.2	159.5	255.7	1,321.7
Total	4,443.7	1,235.5	1,990.0	3,225.5	7,669.2

TABLE 7.1. HOURS WORKED BY EMPLOYED PERSONS, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1981 AND AUGUST 1991 ('000)

(a) Estimates are based on a revised definition introduced in April 1986, See the Technical Notes for further information.

Source: The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

	Aggregate w	Aggregate weekly hours worked (million)	(uotimu) p		Avera	Average weekly hours worked	s worked	
	E.M time					Wage and		
Augusi	ruut-time workers	r an-lune workers	Total	r un-ture workers	ran-tune workers	satary earners	Other(a)	Total
			W	MALES				
1981	157.9	3.6	161.5	41.2	16.3	38.2	47.1	39.8
1982	154.7	4.0	158.7	40.9	16.7	37.9	46.7	39.4
E361	150.4	4.0	154.4	41.0	16.7	37.9	47.1	39.6
1984	156.8	3.9	160.8	41.6	16.1	38.4	46.8	40.0
1985	159.4	4.1	163.5	41.3	16.2	38.1	47.0	39.8
1986(b)	163.3	4.3	167.7	41.6	15.4	38.4	46.5	39.9
1987	165.5	4.9	170.4	41.8	15.3	38.3	46.6	.39.8
1988	173.2	4.6	177.8	42.5	15.0	39.1	47.2	40.6
1989	181.1	5.1	186.2	42.9	14.4	39.5	46.3	40.7
1990	179.9	5.4	185.3	42.6	14.8	39.4	45.1	40.4
1661	170.6	6.1	176.6	42.3	14.9	38.6	45.0	39.8
			FEM	FEMALES				
1981	56.7	13.1	8.69	37.8	15.7	30.0	29.1	29.9
1982	56.3	13.1	69.4	37.4	15.4	29.5	29.2	29.5
1361	56.5	13.1	69.69	38.0	15.4	29.7	30.3	29.8
1984	59.0	14.3	73.2	38.1	15.8	29.9	29.9	29.9
5861	60.5	15.1	75.7	37.7	15.8	29.4	30.2	29.5
1986(b)	63.8	15.9	T.9T	37.8	15.5	29.5	28.7	29.4
1987	64.8	17.2	82.0	37.9	15.6	29.2	28.4	29.1
1988	68.7	18.3	87.1	38.2	15.6	29.5	28.0	29.3
1989	73.2	19.7	93.0	38.7	15.6	29.5	29.0	29.5
1990	75.4	20.2	92.6	38.8	15.6	29.7	28.3	29.5
1661	73.6	20.4	94.0	38.6	15.5	29.2	29.0	29.2
			PER	PERSONS				
1981	214.6	16.7	231.3	40.2	15.8	35.1	41.8	36.2
1982	210.9	17.2	228.1	9 .9E	15.7	34.7	41.5	35.8
1983	206.8	17.1	223.9	40.2	15.7	34.7	42.1	35.9
1984	215.8	18.2	234.0	40.6	15.9	35.1	42.0	36.2
1985	220.0	19.3	239.2	40.3	15.9	34.7	41.9	35.8
1986(b)	227.1	20.2	247.4	40.5	15.5	34.7	40.7	35.8
1961	230.3	22.1	252.4	40.6	15.5	34.6	40.8	35.6
1988	241.9	29	264.8	41.2	15.5	35.1	40.9	36.0
1989	254.3	24.8	279.2	41.6	15.3	35.3	40.7	36.1
0661	255.2	25.6	280.8	41.4	15.4	35.2	39.5	35.9
1991	C 88C	225			~ ~ ~ ~	1		1

TABLE 7.2. EMPLOYED PERSONS : AGGREGATE AND AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1981 TO AUGUST 1991

(a) Comprises employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers. (b) Estimates from August 1986 are based on a revised definition introduced in April 1986. See the Technical Notes for further information.

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Source: The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

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						Au	gust				
- Industry	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986(a)	1987	1988	1989	1990	199
			MALI	ES							
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	47.8	47.9	48.0	47.8	48.0	48.6	48.2	48.0	46.0	47.3	47.
Mining	39.9	38.7	37.2	36.9	39.2	38.6	38.6	41.5	42.2	42.1	40.
Manufacturing	39.2	38.5	38.4	39.4	39.1	39.5	39.3	40.5 33.8	40.9 36.4	40.9 35.6	39. 36.
electricity, gas and water	36.4	35.3	35.3	35.5	34.5	35.0 38.3	35.5 39.2	33.8 40.4	30.4 40.9	33.0 38.7	38.
Construction Wholesale and retail trade	38.3 40.8	38.1 40.8	37.9 41.5	38.9 41.6	38.7 41.3	41.5	40.9	40.4	40.9	40.7	40.
Fransport and storage	40.8	39.3	39.3	39.7	40.4	39.9	39.5	40.3	40.9	41.3	41.
Communication	34.1	33.9	33.5	33.7	35.7	34.1	34.5	34.4	36.5	35.3	35.
inance, property and business services	39.5	38.7	39.7	40.7	40.2	40.4	40.5	42.0	42.0	41.2	40.
ublic administration and defence	36.1	35.2	35.5	36.2	34.8	35.4	35.6	36.2	36.2	37.4	35
Community services	39.1	38.9	39.2	39.1	37.9	38.4	38.5	39.2	39.4	39.1	38.
Recreation, personal and other services	40.8	41.1	39.4	39. 9	39.1	39.6	39.2	38.9	39.0	38.6	37.
Total employed	39.8	39.4	39.5	40.0	39.8	39.9	39.8	4 0. 6	40.7	40.4	39.
		MA	RRIED F	EMALES	3		_				_
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	28.3	26.3	28.8	27.5	27.4	27.9	29.3	26.6	26.5	28.1	29.
Mining	28.9	32.5	37.9	30.2	28.5	34.5	32.5	34.4	32.9	36.2	38.
Manufacturing	33.2	31.7	32.1	32.4	31.0	31.6	31.9	32.1	32.5	32.0	31.
Electricity, gas and water	26.7	35.6	30.7	26.5	27.7	29.4	30.5	27.0	31.6	27.9	33
Construction	18.4	18.1	19.1	18.3	18.5	17.9	17.7	18.8	17.7	18.3	17
Wholesale and retail trade	28.6	29.1	29.4	29.5	29.7	29.5	29.0	28.7	28.8	29.5	29
fransport and storage	26.7	26.0	24.1	28.9	27.0	26.7	25.3	27.0	28.8	28.1	27
Communication	28.6	27.0	28.1	29.8	28.4	28.1	27.9	30.1 28.2	31.1 28.8	29.5 28.5	28 28
Finance, property and business services	27.0	26.1 28.3	27.6 28.5	28.9 28.3	27.0 27.6	27.0 28.6	27.6 28.3	28.2	28.2	28.5	28
Public administration and defence Community services	28.8 27.6	26.5	28.5	28.5 27.4	26.9	28.0	26.5	29.5	20.2	27.7	28
Recreation, personal and other services	25.5	26.4	25.5	26.7	28.5	27.8	23.7	27.5	28.1	28.7	27
Total employed	28.2	27.8	28.2	28.5	28.0	28.0	28.0	28.2	28.3	28.6	28
	_		ALL FEM	IALES	-						
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	29.8	27.4	29.7	28.7	29.2	28.5	29.2	27.3	26.8	28.3	29.
Mining	32.1	34.7	36.8	32.3	30.8	34.9	33.3	37.2	35.1	35.1	39
Manufacturing	33.9	32.8	33.1	33.5	32.2	32.7	33.1	33.0	33.4	32.9	32
Electricity, gas and water	30.7	33.3	31.4	32.2	30.7	31.9	33.1	30.0	31.6	31.8	33
Construction Wholesale and retail trade	21.5 28.7	21.2 28.7	21.5 28.9	21.2 28.5	21.6 28.9	20.0 28.7	20.1 27.7	21.1 27.5	20.6 27.7	21.3	19
Transport and storage	30.2	29.8	29.8	20.3 32.8	29.9	30.0	29.3	30.3	31.9	27.8 31.6	27 30
Communication	29.7	29.0	29.0	30.5	31.2	30.3	29.3	29.8	31.6	30.3	30
Finance, property and business services	30.9	29.7	30.5	31.1	30.5	30.0	30.6	31.3	31.8.	31.1	31
Public administration and defence	30.6	30.3	30.6	31.1	29.9	30.9	30.6	31.3	30.7	31.4	30
Community services	30.3	29.9	30.1	29.9	29.3	29.3	29.1	29.5	29.2	29.6	29
Recreation, personal and other services	26.1	27.2	26.3	27.8	28.4	27.7	27.4	27.6	28.3	28.0	27
Total employed	29.9	29.5	29.8	29.9	29.5	29.4	29.1	29.3	29.5	29.5	29
·			PERSO	ONS					_		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	43.1	42.7	43.7	43.2	43.0	43.0	43.1	42.0	40.5	41.9	42
Mining Manufacturing	39.2	38.3	37.2	36.5	38.4	38.3	38.1	41.2	41.5	41.4	40
Manufacturing Electricity, gas and water	37.9	37.1	37.1	37.9	37.3	37.6	37.7	38.5	38.8	38.8	37
Construction	35.8 36.6	35.2 36.5	35.0 36.1	35.2 37.1	34.2 36.6	34.7 35.9	35.3 36.8	33.5 38.0	36.0 38.3	35.2 36.5	36 36
Wholesale and retail trade	35.6	35.6	36.0	35.9	36.0	35.9	35.1	35.1	34.9	34.9	34
Transport and storage	38.1	37.8	37.9	38.6	38.8	38.2	37.7	38.3	39.1	39.3	39
Communication	33.0	32.7	32.6	32.9	34.6	33.1	32.9	33.2	35.2	34.0	33
Finance, property and business services	35.6	34.5	35.3	36.2	35.8	35.4	35.8	36.7	37.1	36.2	30
Public administration and defence	34.3	33.6	33.9	34.5	33.0		33.7	34.4	34.0	34.9	3
Community services	33.6	33.3	33.5	33.2	32.4		32.4	32.9	32.8	32.9	3
Recreation, personal and other services	32.6	33.1	31.9	33.4	33.1	32.9	32.5	32.4	32.9	32.6	31
Total employed	36.2	35.8	35.9	36.2	35.8	35.8	35.6	36.0	36.1	35.9	3

TABLE 7.3. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED: EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1981 TO AUGUST 1991

(a) Estimates from August 1986 are based on a revised definition introduced in April 1986. See the Technical Notes for further information.

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Source: The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

Overtime

In the five years to November 1991 overtime has grown to a peak in November 1989 followed by a fall for two years to November 1991.

Average weekly overtime hours per employee rose by 24 per cent from 1.29 hours in November 1986 to 1.60 hours in November 1989 and then fell by 29 per cent to 1.14 hours in November 1991.

Average weekly overtime hours worked per person who worked overtime rose by 13 per cent from 6.92 hours in November 1986 to 7.79 hours in November 1989 and then fell by 11 per cent to 6.96 hours in November 1991.

The percentage of employed persons who worked overtime was 18.68 per cent in November 1986, rose to 20.48 per cent in November 1989 and then fell to 16.31 in November 1991.

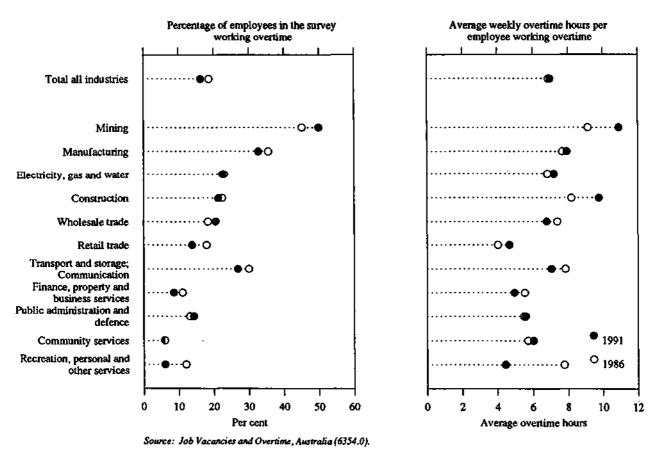


CHART 7.1. OVERTIME HOURS PAID FOR, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 1986 AND NOVEMBER 1991

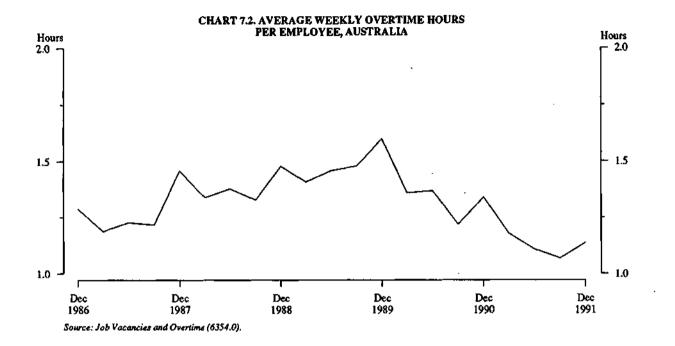


TABLE 7.4. AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PAID FOR : INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 1986 TO NOVEMBER 1991

Industry	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
AVERAGE	WEEKLY OVERT	IME HOURS PER	R EMPLOYEE IN	THE SURVEY		
Mining	4.12	4.00	5.66	5.92	5.25	5.44
Manufacturing	2.73	2.99	3.16	3.71	2.69	2.59
Electricity, gas and water	1.57	1.75	1.98	1.85	1.99	1.62
Construction	1.84	2.81	2.27	2.96	3.45	2.08
Wholesale trade	1.35	1.35	1.14	1.41	1.04	1.40
Retail trade	0.72	0.79	0.72	0.77	0.81	0.64
Transport and storage; Communication	2.35	2.70	3.44	2.82	2.55	1.89
Public administration and defence	0.73	0.77	0.88	0.87	0.84	0.80
Community services	0.34	0.40	0.36	0.39	0.42	0.37
Other(a)	0.73	0.64	0.68	0.70	0.53	0.37
All industries	1.29	1.46	1.48	1.60	1.34	1.14
AVERAGE WI	EEKLY OVERTIM	E HOURS PER E	MPLOYEE WORI	KING OVERTIME		
Mining	9.13	9.98	12.39	11.51	11.38	10.89
Manufacturing	7.67	8.11	8.63	9.25	8.23	7.93
Electricity, gas and water	6.84	7.30	7.51	7.40	7.91	7.20
Construction	8.19	8.72	7.77	9.50	10.72	9.76
Wholesale trade	7.40	7.24	6.47	7.04	6.25	6.79
Retail trade	4.02	4.27	4.39	4.54	4.96	4.67
Transport and storage; Communication	7.85	8.92	10.34	8.98	8.27	7.05
Public administration and defence	5.54	5.61	6.10	6.04	5.62	5.60
Community services	5.72	5.70	6.22	5.94	5.96	6.05
Other(a)	6.41	5.77	5.48	5.65	5.70	4.83
All Industries	6.92	7.27	7.59	7.79	7.44	6.96
PERCENT	AGE OF EMPLOY	TEES IN THE SU	RVEY WORKING	GOVERTIME		
Mining	45.15	40.07	45.65	51.45	46.12	49.92
Manufacturing	35.52	36.85	36.59	40.15	32.68	32.69
Electricity, gas and water	22.96	24.00	26.31	25.00	25.14	22.45
Construction	22.41	32.17	29.27	31.12	32.24	21.32
Wholesale trade	18.30	18.64	17.60	19.97	16.67	20.57
Retail trade	17.91	18.49	16.49	17.01	16.26	13.75
Transport and storage; Communication	29.92	30.23	33.26	31.38	30.79	26.77
Public administration and defence	13.21	13.79	14.40	14.46	15.02	14.26
Community services	5.98	7.03	5.82	6.50	7.12	6.07
Other(a)	11.43	11.03	12.11	12.46	9.28	7.71
All Industries	18.68	20.05	19.51	20.48	17.98	16.31

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(a) Comprises Finance, property and business services and Recreation, personal and other services.

Source: Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia (6354.0).

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