

## CHAPTER 10

### INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

In many countries, including Australia, statistics on labour are based on standard concepts and definitions recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). However, these definitions are applied by individual countries in different ways according to national circumstances with the result that the statistics are often not comparable.

For labour force statistics, this problem is further compounded by the variety of collection methodologies and counting rules used in different countries. Some countries, including Australia, conduct regular household and employer surveys while others obtain their statistics as a by-product of administrative systems. The ILO generally recommends the survey approach as it provides better coverage and a close adherence to the international recommendations.

International comparisons of labour force statistics are compiled by a number of organisations including the ILO and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). These organisations make some adjustments to figures supplied by the various national statistical organisations in order to make the data more comparable and conform more closely to ILO standards.

The following tables have been derived primarily from the data compiled by ILO and OECD and, where possible, data are presented for the period 1983 to 1993. The figures given for Australia may differ slightly from those given earlier in this publication because of the adjustments made to the Australian series to allow for international comparability and to conform fully with ILO standards. The countries shown are those for which comparable data are generally available.

#### Population

Australia's population increased by 6.7 per cent over the five years 1988 to 1993, a rate of increase exceeded among selected OECD countries only by Canada where the increase was 8.3 per cent. Over the same period, the population in the USA increased by 4.6 per cent while increases between 3.3 and 3.9 per cent were recorded in Germany, France, Sweden and New Zealand. Lower increases were experienced by Japan (1.8%) and the UK (1.6%).

Between 1992 and 1993, the Australian population increased by 1.0 per cent reflecting a slow-down in growth from a high in 1989 when the annual rate of increase was 2.1 per cent.

TABLE 10.1. ESTIMATED MID-YEAR POPULATION FOR SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1983 TO 1993  
(million)

Year	Australia	USA	Japan	Germany	Italy	UK	France	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
1983	15.42	234.80	119.26	78.08	56.83	56.38	54.73	24.80	8.33	3.23
1984	15.60	237.01	120.02	77.80	56.98	56.49	54.95	25.00	8.34	3.26
1985	15.82	239.28	120.75	77.62	57.13	56.62	55.17	25.18	8.35	3.27
1986	16.05	241.63	121.49	77.63	57.22	56.76	55.39	25.37	8.37	3.28
1987	16.30	243.94	122.09	77.72	57.33	56.93	55.63	25.64	8.40	3.30
1988	16.58	246.31	122.61	78.12	57.44	57.07	55.88	25.94	8.44	3.32
1989	16.85	248.78	123.12	78.68	57.53	57.24	56.42	26.25	8.49	3.33
1990	17.09	249.92	123.54	79.57	57.65	57.41	56.73	26.61	8.56	3.36
1991	17.31	252.69	123.92	79.82	57.11	57.65	57.05	27.00	8.62	3.41
1992	17.51	255.02	123.34	80.60	56.78	57.85	56.90	27.45	8.68	3.41
1993	17.69	257.59	124.80	81.20	57.07	57.65	57.70	28.10	8.75	3.46

Note: Many of the estimates in the above table have been revised since the previous issue of this publication.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; OECD Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994; United Nations, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, May 1994; 1992 and 1993 World Population Data Sheet, Population Reference Bureau, Inc.; Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0).

### Civilian Labour Force

Between 1992 and 1993, the Australian labour force grew by 0.7 per cent, a similar increase to that recorded in the USA (0.8%) and Japan (0.6%). Canada and New Zealand both recorded increases of 1.1 per cent. This contrasts with growth experienced during the period 1987 to 1992 when the 10 per cent increase in the Australian labour force was the highest experienced among the selected OECD countries, the next highest being Japan (8.1%), Canada (6.0%), the USA (5.9%) and the Federal Republic of Germany (5.8%).

Some other OECD countries recorded falls in the number of persons in the labour force between 1992 and 1993 — Sweden 3.2 per cent and the UK 1.2 per cent. Both of these countries had experienced small increases over the period 1987 to 1992.

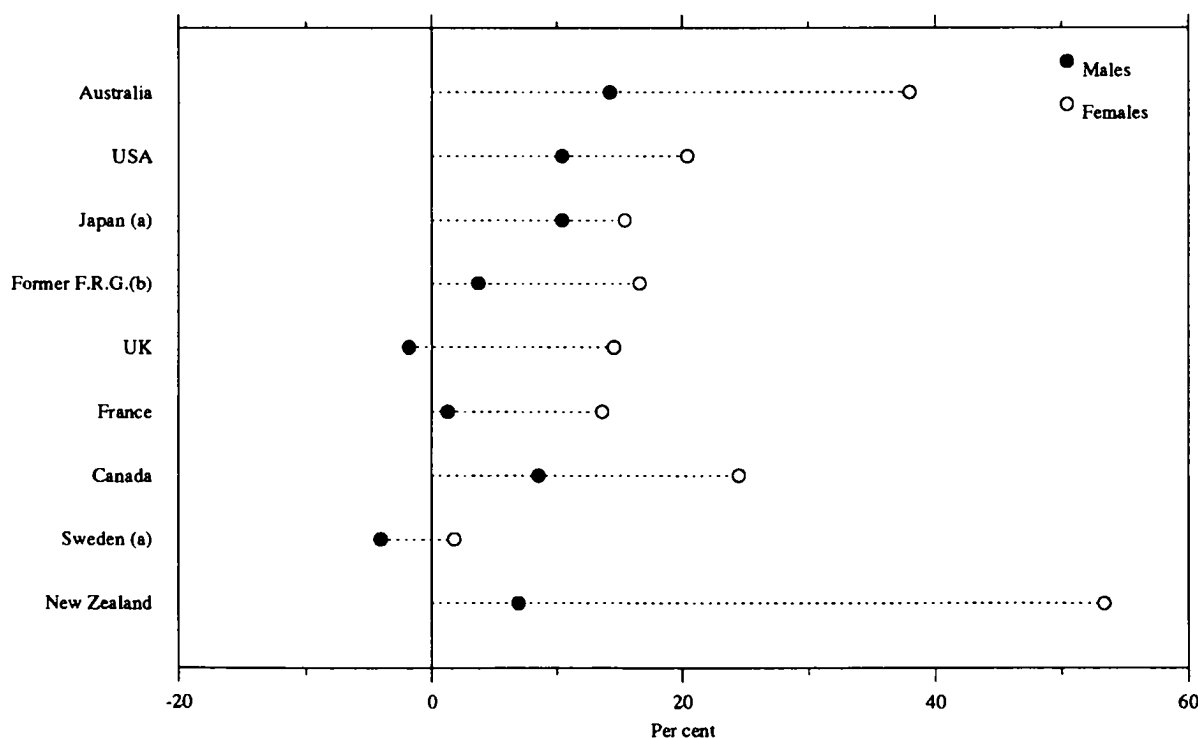
TABLE 10.2. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE: SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1983 TO 1993  
(\*000)

Year(a)	Australia	USA	Japan(b)	Former Federal Republic of Germany	Italy	UK	France	Canada	Sweden(b)	New Zealand
1983	6,928	111,550	58,890	28,067	22,490	26,288	23,142	12,109	4,375	1,342
1984	7,070	113,544	59,270	28,135	22,722	26,939	23,304	12,316	4,391	1,358
1985	7,248	115,461	59,630	28,366	22,890	27,389	23,357	12,532	4,424	1,387
1986	7,516	117,834	60,200	28,659	23,225	27,469	23,445	12,746	4,385	1,608
1987	r7,758	119,865	60,840	28,855	23,416	27,661	23,555	13,011	4,421	1,620
1988	r7,974	121,669	61,660	29,082	23,687	27,939	23,606	13,275	4,471	1,591
1989	r8,228	123,869	62,700	r29,275	r23,700	28,119	r23,742	13,503	4,527	1,573
1990	r8,444	124,787	63,840	29,880	23,966	r28,176	r23,864	13,681	4,577	1,596
1991	r8,490	125,303	65,050	r30,226	24,063	27,998	r24,481	13,757	4,552	1,618
1992	r8,562	126,982	65,780	r30,516	r24,069	r27,859	r24,542	13,797	4,464	(b)1,635
1993	8,619	128,040	66,150	30,524	22,604	27,523	24,615	13,946	4,320	(b)1,653

(a) Annual averages. (b) Total labour force.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; OECD Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994; The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0); Key Statistics, New Zealand, April 1994.

CHART 10.1. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE: PERCENTAGE CHANGE  
BETWEEN 1983 AND 1993 BY SEX, SELECTED COUNTRIES



(a) Total labour force. (b) The former Federal Republic of Germany.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; OECD Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994; Key Statistics, New Zealand, April 1994; The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

TABLE 10.3. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE: PARTICIPATION RATES, SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1982 TO 1992  
(per cent)

Year(a)	Australia	USA	Japan	Former Federal Republic of Germany	Italy(b)	UK	France	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
1982	59.8	60.9	63.4	54.7	49.1	58.6	54.5	62.4	64.5	56.6
1983	59.5	60.9	63.8	54.5	49.1	58.2	54.0	62.7	64.5	55.9
1984	59.7	61.3	63.4	54.5	49.1	59.2	54.0	63.1	r64.5	55.7
1985	60.1	61.6	63.0	54.8	49.1	59.9	53.7	63.5	r64.7	56.2
1986	61.0	62.1	62.8	55.1	49.4	59.8	53.5	63.9	63.9	64.8
1987	61.2	62.6	62.6	55.3	49.4	59.9	53.4	r64.4	64.1	64.4
1988	61.4	63.0	62.6	55.5	49.1	60.3	53.0	64.9	64.5	62.9
1989	62.5	63.6	62.9	55.4	49.3	60.6	52.7	65.1	64.9	61.9
1990	63.1	63.7	63.3	55.7	50.6	60.6	53.6	65.1	65.1	62.2
1991	62.5	63.4	63.8	55.8	50.5	60.2	53.7	64.5	64.5	62.2
1992—										
Males	74.2	71.8	78.0	67.0	64.7	69.6	61.3	68.4	67.0	71.5
Females	51.9	55.9	50.7	45.2	36.8	50.1	46.2	54.2	59.2	52.7
Persons	62.9	63.6	64.0	55.7	50.2	59.5	53.5	61.2	63.0	61.8

(a) Annual averages. (b) For population aged 14 and over.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0); OECD unpublished data.

Note. Many of the figures in the above table have been revised since the previous issue of this publication.

### Civilian Employment

The employment/population ratio in Australia in 1992 was 56.1, lower than in the USA (58.9), Sweden (59.6) and Japan (62.6) but much higher than in France (48.0) and Italy (44.4). The UK (53.8), Canada (54.3) and New Zealand (55.4) each had ratios somewhat lower than Australia's.

Over the ten-year period 1982 to 1992, the employment/population ratio was as high as 58.9 (1989) and as low as 54.4 (1983) in Australia, a variation of 4.5 percentage points. A similar variation was recorded by Sweden (4.4 percentage points). The ratio in the USA showed greater variation (5.2 percentage points) while in Japan, by contrast, it varied by only 1.8 percentage points over the same period. This was close to the variation experienced by Italy (1.7); in France the ratio varied by 2.3 percentage points. Greater variation was evident in the UK (5.8 percentage points).

TABLE 10.4. CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT/POPULATION RATIOS: SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1982 TO 1992  
(per cent)

Year(a)	Australia	USA	Japan	Former Federal Republic of Germany	Italy(b)	UK	France	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
1982	56.4	55.0	61.9	51.1	44.9	52.4	49.9	55.5	62.5	54.6
1983	54.4	55.1	62.1	50.1	44.4	51.5	49.4	55.2	62.3	52.8
1984	55.1	56.7	61.7	50.1	44.1	52.6	48.6	56.0	62.5	52.5
1985	55.8	57.2	61.4	50.3	44.0	53.0	48.1	56.9	62.9	53.9
1986	56.9	57.8	61.0	50.8	43.8	52.7	47.8	57.8	62.2	62.2
1987	56.3	58.7	60.8	51.0	43.4	53.6	47.6	58.7	62.9	61.7
1988	57.2	59.5	61.1	51.2	43.2	55.3	47.6	59.9	63.5	59.1
1989	58.9	60.2	61.5	51.6	43.3	56.8	47.7	60.2	64.0	57.2
1990	58.6	60.2	62.0	52.2	44.8	57.3	48.7	59.8	64.0	57.0
1991	56.5	59.2	62.5	52.7	44.9	55.2	48.5	57.8	62.6	55.5
1992—										
Males	65.8	66.3	76.3	63.3	59.4	60.5	56.2	60.2	62.7	63.6
Females	46.7	52.0	49.6	42.3	30.5	47.5	40.4	48.6	56.7	47.6
Persons	56.1	58.9	62.6	52.4	44.4	53.8	48.0	54.3	59.6	55.4

(a) Annual averages. (b) For population aged 14 and over.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; Key Statistics, New Zealand, April 1994; The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0); OECD Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994; OECD unpublished data.

Note. Many of the figures in the above table have been revised since the previous issue of this publication.

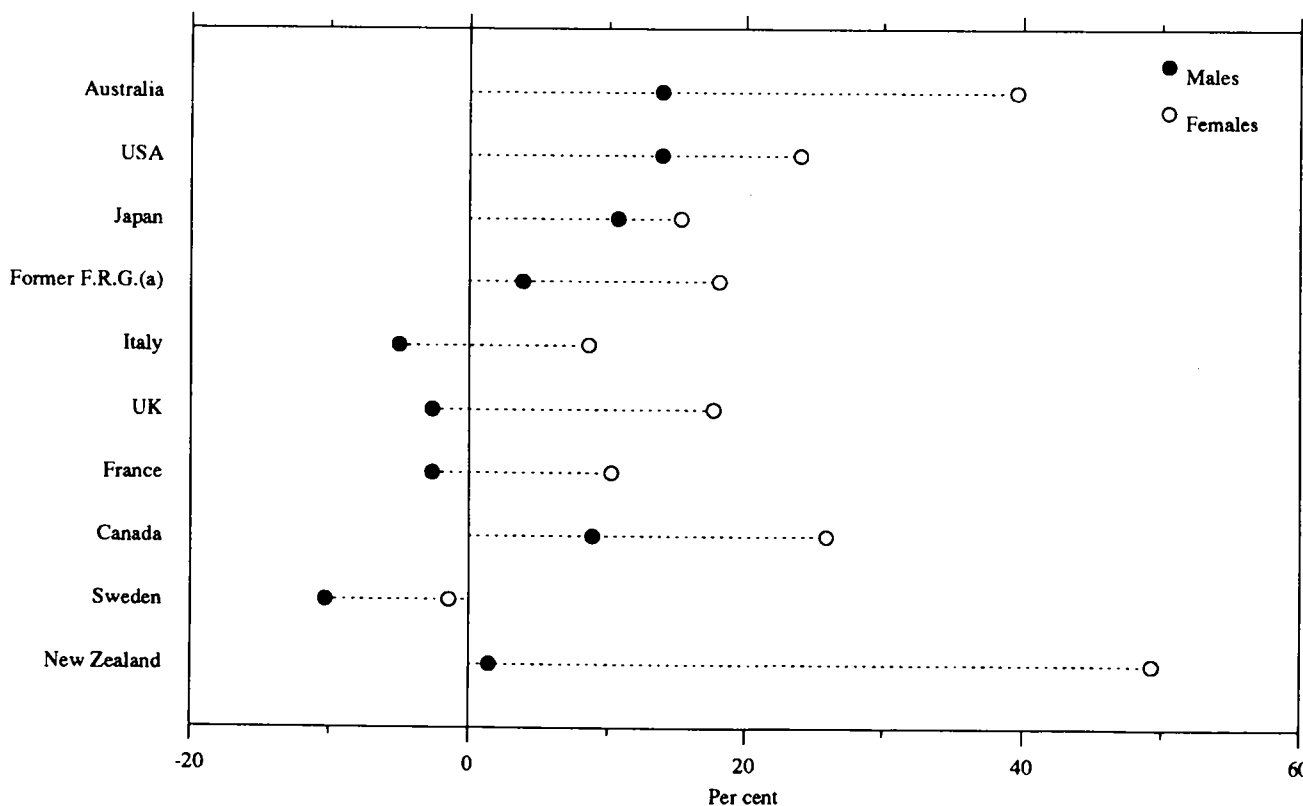
TABLE 10.5. CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT: SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1983 TO 1993  
(\*000)

Year(a)	Australia	USA	Japan	Former Federal Republic of Germany	Italy	UK	France	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
1983	r6,300	100,834	57,330	25,809	20,350	23,304	21,168	10,675	4,224	1,266
1984	r6,494	105,005	57,660	25,869	20,418	23,909	20,981	10,932	4,255	1,281
1985	r6,697	107,150	58,070	26,062	20,508	24,210	20,915	11,221	4,299	1,329
1986	r6,975	109,597	58,530	26,431	20,614	24,240	20,955	11,531	4,269	1,544
1987	r7,129	112,440	59,110	26,626	20,584	24,755	21,023	11,861	4,337	1,554
1988	r7,398	114,968	60,110	26,835	20,818	25,598	21,196	12,245	4,399	1,502
1989	r7,720	117,342	61,280	r27,237	r20,833	26,376	r21,457	12,486	4,466	1,461
1990	r7,859	117,914	62,490	27,997	21,215	r26,620	r21,683	12,572	4,508	1,472
1991	r7,676	116,877	63,690	r28,537	21,410	25,757	r22,133	12,340	4,431	1,461
1992	r7,637	117,598	64,360	r28,708	r21,271	r25,181	21,990	12,246	4,250	1,467
1993	7,680	119,306	64,500	28,254	20,244	24,658	21,704	12,383	3,964	1,496

(a) Annual averages.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; OECD Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994; Key Statistics, New Zealand, April 1994; The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

CHART 10.2. CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT: PERCENTAGE CHANGE  
BETWEEN 1983 AND 1993 BY SEX, SELECTED COUNTRIES



(a) Former Federal Republic of Germany.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994; Key Statistics, New Zealand, April 1994; The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

There was a fall of 3.1 percentage points between 1987 and 1993 in the proportion of persons employed in agriculture in Italy. Smaller falls were recorded in Japan (2.2 percentage points) and France (1.9 percentage points) while in other selected OECD countries the falls were 0.5 percentage points or less (Australia 0.4) except for New Zealand where a small rise was recorded.

Over the same period, decreases were also recorded in the proportions employed in industry in all selected OECD countries with the exception of Italy and Japan, where modest increases were experienced. The largest decreases were in the UK (4.4 percentage points), Sweden (4.3 percentage points) and New Zealand (3.9 percentage points). In Australia the decrease was 2.4 percentage points.

The proportion of persons employed in the services sector increased in all selected OECD countries between 1987 and 1993. Sweden and France experienced the largest increases (both 4.7 percentage points) with the UK next (4.6 percentage points) while the increase in Australia was 2.7 percentage points

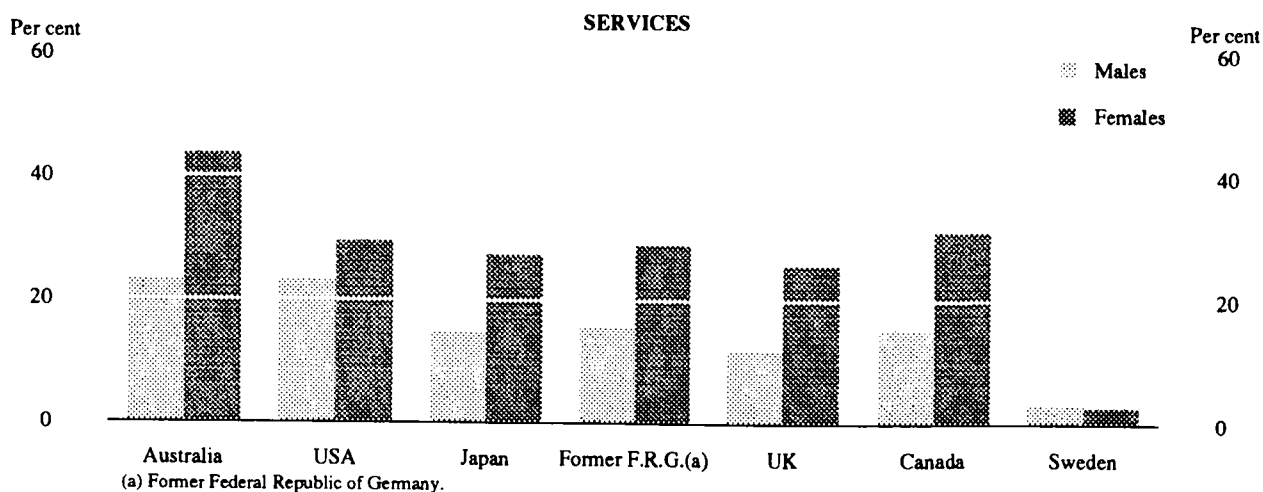
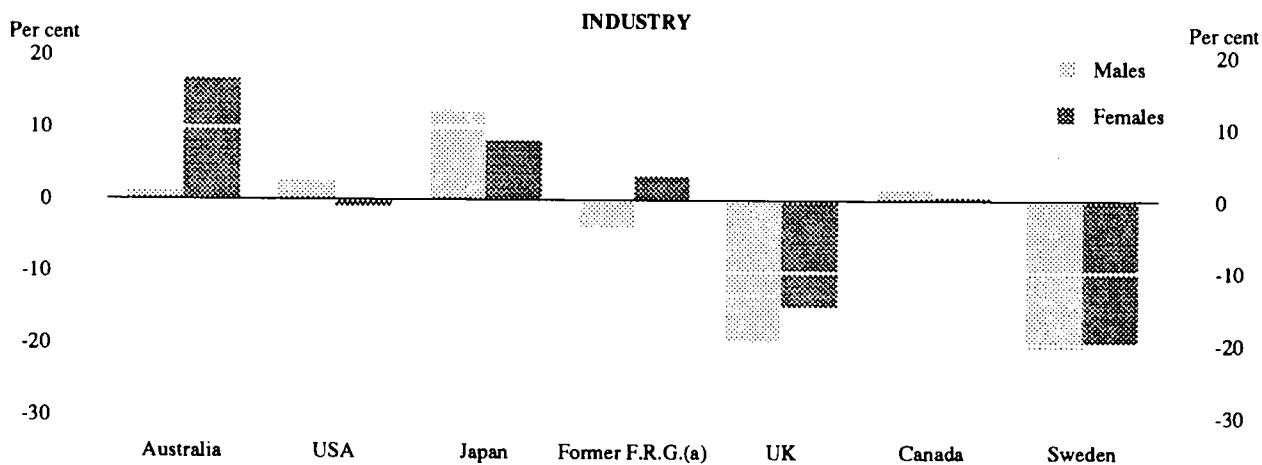
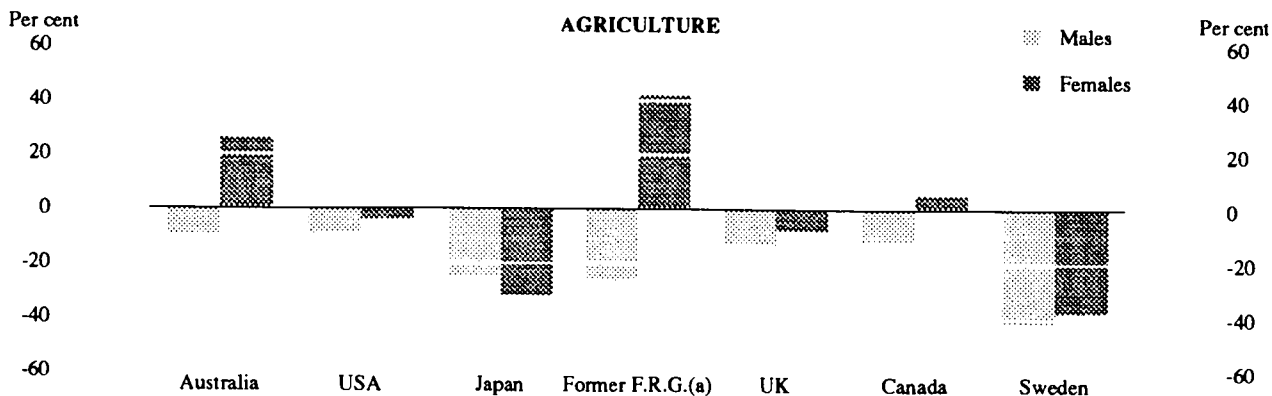
TABLE 10.6. DISTRIBUTION OF CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT BY ECONOMIC SECTOR: SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1983 TO 1993 (per cent)

Year	Australia	USA	Japan	Former Federal Republic of Germany	Italy	UK	France	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
AGRICULTURE(a)										
1983	6.6	3.5	9.3	5.0	12.4	2.7	7.9	5.5	5.4	11.2
1984	6.2	3.3	8.9	4.8	11.9	2.6	7.8	5.4	5.1	11.2
1985	6.2	3.1	8.8	4.6	11.2	2.5	7.6	5.1	4.8	11.1
1986	6.0	3.1	8.5	4.4	10.9	2.5	7.3	4.9	4.2	10.6
1987	5.7	3.0	8.3	4.2	10.5	2.4	7.0	4.8	3.9	10.4
1988	5.8	2.9	7.9	4.0	9.9	2.3	6.7	4.5	3.8	10.4
1989	5.3	2.9	7.6	r3.8	9.3	2.1	6.4	4.3	3.6	10.3
1990	r5.4	2.8	7.2	3.5	r8.9	r2.2	6.0	4.2	3.3	10.6
1991	5.5	2.9	6.7	r3.3	8.5	2.2	r5.4	4.5	3.2	r10.8
1992	5.3	2.9	6.4	r3.1	8.2	2.2	5.2	4.3	3.2	10.8
1993	5.3	2.7	6.1	3.0	7.4	2.2	5.1	4.4	3.4	10.5
INDUSTRY(b)										
1983	28.0	28.0	34.8	41.4	36.1	33.3	33.8	25.5	29.9	32.2
1984	27.9	28.5	34.8	41.1	34.5	32.2	32.9	25.7	29.8	32.1
1985	27.3	28.0	34.9	41.0	33.6	31.6	32.0	25.3	29.8	32.4
1986	26.9	27.7	34.5	40.8	33.1	30.7	31.4	25.1	30.1	28.8
1987	26.2	27.1	33.8	40.4	32.6	30.1	30.8	25.1	29.7	27.3
1988	26.4	26.9	34.1	39.9	32.4	29.7	30.3	25.5	29.5	26.0
1989	26.5	26.7	34.3	39.8	32.4	29.4	30.1	25.5	29.4	25.5
1990	25.4	26.2	34.1	39.8	r32.3	r29.7	29.9	24.6	29.1	24.6
1991	24.2	25.3	34.4	39.2	32.3	27.5	29.5	23.2	28.2	23.5
1992	23.9	24.6	34.6	r38.3	32.2	r26.5	28.8	22.7	26.6	22.8
1993	23.8	24.1	34.3	37.8	33.3	25.7	28.0	22.2	25.4	23.4
SERVICES(c)										
1983	65.3	68.5	56.0	53.6	51.5	64.0	58.3	69.0	64.7	56.6
1984	65.9	68.2	56.3	54.1	53.6	65.2	59.3	69.0	65.1	56.7
1985	66.4	68.8	56.4	54.4	55.2	65.9	60.4	69.6	65.3	56.5
1986	67.1	69.3	57.1	54.8	56.0	66.8	61.3	69.9	65.6	60.6
1987	68.1	69.9	57.9	55.4	56.8	67.5	62.2	70.1	66.3	62.4
1988	67.8	70.2	58.0	56.0	57.7	68.1	63.0	69.9	66.7	63.6
1989	r68.7	70.5	58.2	r56.4	58.2	68.5	63.5	70.2	67.0	64.3
1990	r69.8	70.9	58.7	56.7	r58.8	r68.1	r64.0	r71.3	r67.5	64.9
1991	70.4	71.8	58.9	r57.5	59.2	r70.4	r65.1	72.3	68.4	r65.7
1992	70.8	72.5	59.0	r58.5	59.6	r71.3	66.0	73.0	70.0	66.2
1993	70.8	73.2	59.6	59.2	59.3	72.1	66.9	73.3	71.0	66.0

(a) Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting. (b) Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing; Electricity, gas and water; Construction. (c) Transportation; Communication; Public utilities; Trade; Finance; Public administration; Private household services; and Miscellaneous services.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991; OECD Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994; Key Statistics, New Zealand, April 1994; The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0).

**CHART 10.3. CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT: PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN 1983 AND 1993, SEX AND ECONOMIC SECTOR BY SELECTED COUNTRIES**



(a) Former Federal Republic of Germany.

TABLE 10.7. EMPLOYED PERSONS BY OCCUPATION, SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1992  
(per cent)

	Australia	USA	Japan	Former Federal Republic of Germany(a)	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
Professional, technical and related workers	11.2	17.6	11.7	17.0	18.5	33.4	12.8
Administrative and managerial workers	13.6	12.6	4.0	3.3	13.5	} 16.7 {	12.5
Clerical and related workers	5.9	15.8	19.0	20.9	16.2		11.0
Sales workers	14.9	11.8	14.7	9.1	9.9	9.6	14.1
Service workers	16.6	13.7	8.8	11.2	13.6	9.8	12.9
Agriculture, animal husbandry and forestry workers, fishermen and hunters	15.5	2.9	6.3	3.6	4.4	3.2	10.6
Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers	22.0	25.6	35.0	31.9	24.1	27.0	25.9
Workers not classifiable by occupation	..	..	0.5	3.0	..	0.2	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Data refer to 1991.

Source: ILO Year Book of Labour Statistics, 1993.

### Hours of Work

In 1992, hours worked in manufacturing fell below 40 to 38.8 in Japan (Germany and France also recorded 38.8 in 1992), while remaining above 40 in the UK (43.2), New Zealand (41.1) and the USA (41.0).

In Australia, the estimate of hours worked in manufacturing, which has varied between 37.6 and 38.1 over the last 5 years, was 37.9 in 1992, somewhat lower than Canada (38.3) and Sweden (38.5).

TABLE 10.8. AVERAGE HOURS OF WORK PER WEEK IN NON-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES: SELECTED COUNTRIES  
1982 TO 1992

Year	Australia (a)	USA (b)	Japan (a)	Germany (b)(c)	UK (d)	France (e)	Canada (b)(f)	Sweden	New Zealand (a)(b)
MANUFACTURING									
1982	36.1	38.9	40.9	40.7	41.0	39.3	37.7	37.6	39.6
1983	35.5	40.1	41.1	40.5	42.9	38.9	38.2	37.7	39.5
1984	36.2	40.7	41.7	41.0	43.5	38.7	38.4	38.1	40.4
1985	36.9	40.5	41.5	40.7	43.7	38.6	38.6	38.3	40.7
1986	37.0	40.7	41.1	40.4	43.7	38.7	38.4	38.3	39.6
1987	37.3	41.0	41.3	40.1	43.8	38.7	38.7	38.4	40.2
1988	37.9	41.1	41.8	40.0	44.3	38.8	38.9	38.5	39.9
1989	37.7	41.0	41.4	39.9	44.5	38.8	38.7	38.5	40.5
1990	38.1	40.8	40.8	39.5	44.3	38.8	38.2	38.5	40.7
1991	37.6	40.7	40.0	39.2	42.9	38.7	37.8	38.4	40.4
1992	37.9	41.0	38.8	38.8	43.2	38.8	38.3	38.5	41.1
TOTAL NON-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES									
1982	33.8	34.8	40.3	40.7	..	39.6	..	35.6	38.8
1983	33.5	35.0	40.4	40.5	..	39.3	31.7	35.7	38.9
1984	33.8	35.2	40.7	40.9	..	39.1	32.0	36.0	39.4
1985	34.4	34.9	40.6	40.7	43.6	39.0	32.0	36.3	39.6
1986	34.1	34.8	40.4	40.5	43.6	39.1	31.8	36.5	38.9
1987	34.5	34.8	40.6	40.2	43.7	39.1	31.9	37.1	38.8
1988	34.9	34.7	40.6	40.2	44.1	39.1	32.1	37.2	38.6
1989	34.6	34.6	40.2	40.1	44.3	39.1	31.7	37.5	38.8
1990	34.8	34.5	39.5	39.7	44.2	39.1	31.3	37.5	38.7
1991	34.6	34.3	38.8	39.3	43.5	39.1	30.8	37.3	38.5
1992	34.5	34.4	37.9	39.0	43.6	39.1	30.5	37.2	38.7

(a) Employees. (b) Hours paid for. (c) The series relates to the former Federal Republic of Germany prior to 3 October 1990. (d) Full-time workers on adult rates of pay. (e) Wage earners. (f) Employees paid by the hour.

Source: ILO Yearbook of Labour Statistics, 1992 and 1993; ILO Bulletin of Labour Statistics, 1994-1; OECD unpublished data.

## Unemployment

The standardised unemployment rate in France in 1993 was 11.6 per cent, up from 10.4 per cent in 1992 and the highest of the selected OECD countries. In Canada, the rate decreased slightly to 11.1, while the rate in Australia increased slightly to 10.8 per cent. The USA, like Canada, experienced a decrease, although a larger one, to 6.7 per cent while the relatively low standardised unemployment rates in Japan and the former Federal Republic of Germany increased to the levels of 1988 and 1989.

**TABLE 10.9. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: STANDARDISED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES(a), SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1983 TO 1993**  
(per cent)

Year(b)	Australia	USA	Japan	Former Federal Republic of Germany	Italy	UK	France	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
1983	9.9	9.5	2.6	7.7	8.8	12.4	8.3	11.8	3.5	n.a.
1984	8.9	7.4	2.7	7.1	9.4	11.7	9.7	11.2	3.1	n.a.
1985	8.2	7.1	2.6	7.1	9.6	11.2	10.2	10.4	2.8	n.a.
1986	8.0	6.9	2.8	6.4	10.5	11.2	10.4	9.5	2.7	4.0
1987	8.0	6.1	2.8	6.2	10.9	10.3	10.5	8.8	1.9	4.1
1988	7.2	5.4	2.5	6.2	11.0	8.6	10.0	7.7	1.6	5.6
1989	6.1	5.2	2.3	5.6	10.9	7.2	9.4	7.5	1.4	7.1
1990	6.9	5.4	2.1	r4.8	10.3	6.8	8.9	8.1	1.5	r7.7
1991	9.5	6.6	2.1	r4.2	9.9	8.7	9.4	10.2	2.7	r10.2
1992	10.7	7.3	2.2	r4.6	r10.5	r9.9	r10.4	11.2	4.8	10.3
1993	10.8	6.7	2.5	5.8	10.2	10.3	11.6	11.1	8.2	9.5

(a) National rates will differ where coverage of unemployment differs from that of the ILO, or when a denominator other than the total labour force is used. See the Technical Notes. (b) Annual averages.

Source: OECD Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, 1/1994.

**TABLE 10.10. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES: AGE, SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1982 TO 1992**  
(per cent)

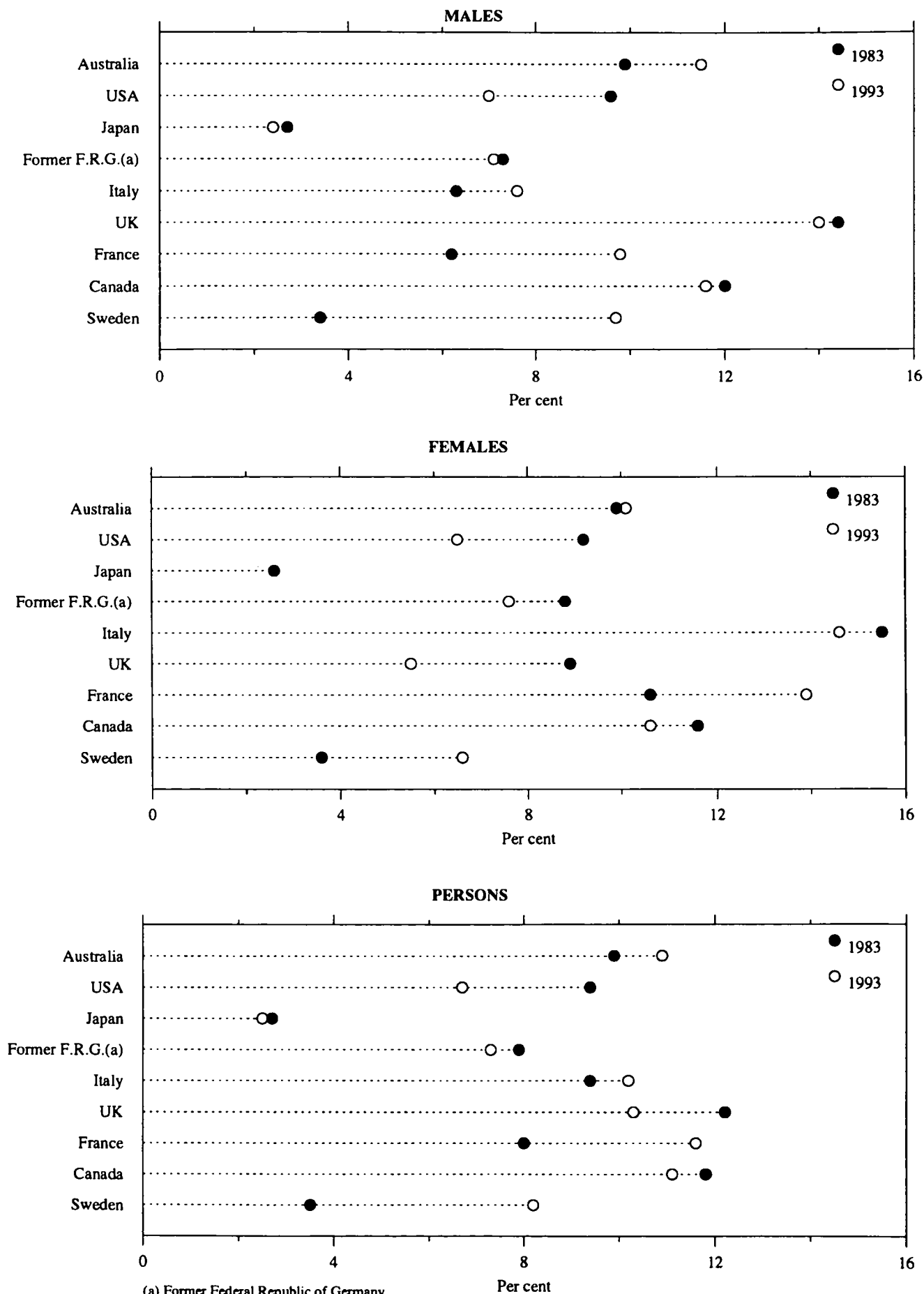
Year(a)	Australia	USA	Japan	Former Federal Republic of Germany	Italy	UK	France	Canada	Sweden	New Zealand
PERSONS AGED UNDER 25 YEARS										
1982	12.9	17.0	3.9	9.3	28.0	23.1	r18.9	18.8	7.6	n.a.
1983	17.9	16.4	4.5	11.0	30.5	23.4	19.7	19.8	8.0	n.a.
1984	16.5	13.3	4.9	10.2	32.9	21.8	r24.5	17.8	6.0	n.a.
1985	14.3	13.0	4.8	9.9	33.9	21.5	25.6	16.3	5.8	n.a.
1986	14.5	12.7	5.2	9.0	34.5	20.5	23.4	15.1	5.6	7.9
1987	14.6	11.7	5.2	8.5	35.5	17.3	r22.9	13.7	r4.3	8.0
1988	12.8	10.6	4.9	7.7	34.5	11.8	r21.6	12.0	r3.6	10.9
1989	10.4	10.5	4.5	6.4	33.6	8.3	r19.0	11.3	r3.2	13.5
1990	13.3	10.7	4.3	5.6	r31.5	8.1	r19.1	12.8	r3.8	14.1
1991	17.2	12.9	4.5	n.a.	30.8	r12.8	r19.4	16.2	r6.5	18.8
1992	19.5	13.7	4.4	n.a.	32.7	15.2	20.8	17.8	11.5	18.5
PERSONS AGED 25 YEARS AND OVER										
1982	4.5	7.3	2.1	5.7	4.0	8.5	r5.6	8.4	2.3	n.a.
1983	7.1	7.4	2.4	7.1	4.6	8.9	5.8	9.4	2.6	n.a.
1984	6.0	5.7	2.4	7.3	4.9	9.0	6.7	9.3	2.6	n.a.
1985	5.8	5.5	2.3	7.3	5.1	9.5	7.4	8.7	2.3	n.a.
1986	5.8	5.4	2.4	7.1	6.0	9.9	7.8	8.0	2.1	2.7
1987	5.7	4.7	2.5	7.4	6.7	8.9	8.5	7.5	r1.5	2.7
1988	5.0	4.2	2.2	7.5	7.1	7.2	8.3	6.7	r1.4	3.9
1989	4.3	4.0	1.9	6.9	7.4	5.5	8.1	6.6	r1.1	5.1
1990	5.1	4.3	1.8	6.3	7.0	4.9	7.8	7.0	r1.3	5.8
1991	7.4	5.3	1.7	n.a.	6.8	7.1	7.7	9.0	r2.3	7.8
1992	8.0	6.0	1.8	n.a.	7.3	8.5	8.7	9.9	4.2	7.9

(a) Annual averages.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 1971-1991.



**CHART 10.4 UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: UNEMPLOYMENT RATES  
BY SEX, SELECTED COUNTRIES**

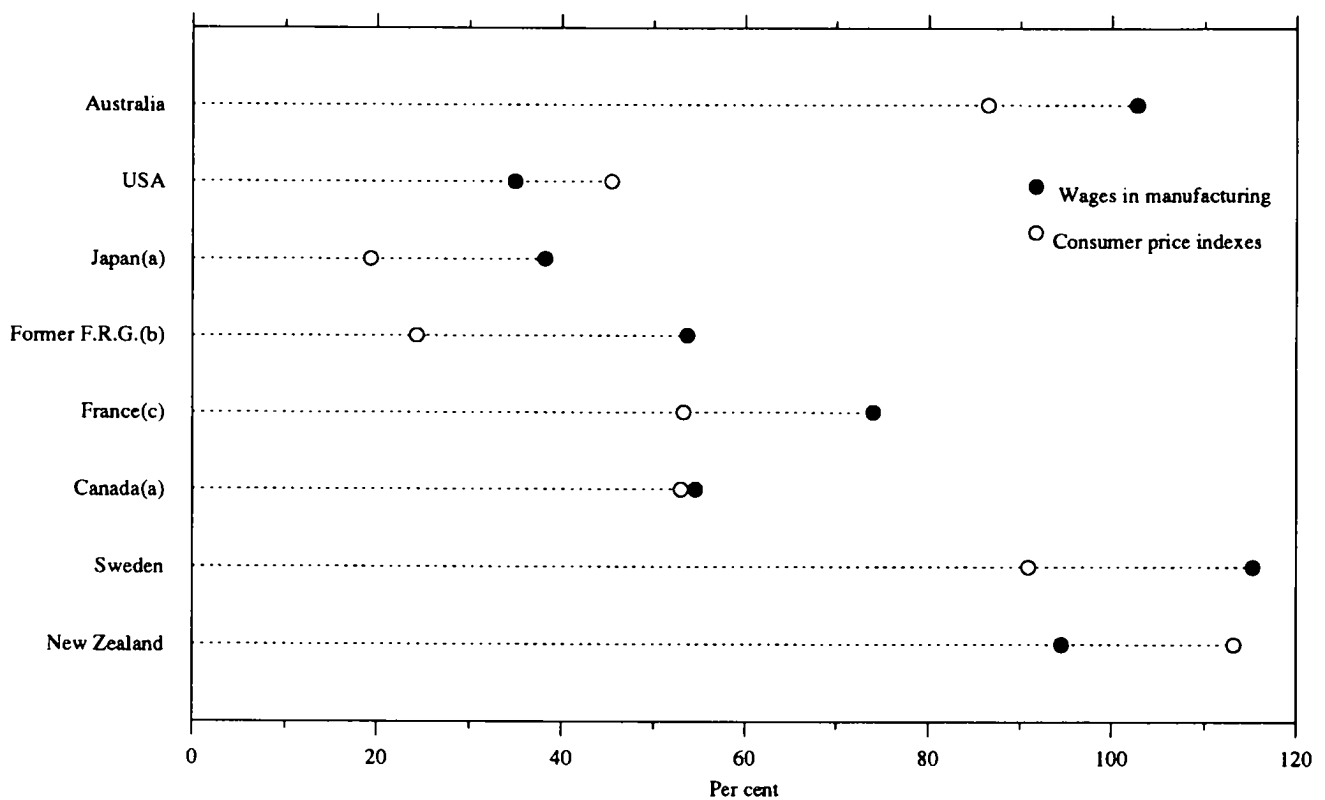


### Movement in Wages and Consumer Price Index

Over the ten-year period 1982 to 1992, wages in manufacturing in Australia increased by 103 per cent, more than the increase in New Zealand (94%) but less than that in Sweden (115%). The former Federal Republic of Germany and Canada recorded increases of about half this magnitude (54% and 55% respectively) while in Japan (38%) and the USA (35%) increases were even lower.

The consumer price index increased by 86 per cent in Australia over the ten-year period 1982 to 1992. This increase was exceeded by that in New Zealand (113%) and also Sweden (90%). A much lower increase was recorded in Canada (53%), and this was matched by France (53%). The increase in the USA was lower still at 45 per cent while quite small increases were recorded in the former Federal Republic of Germany (24%) and Japan (19%).

CHART 10.5. PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES AND WAGES IN MANUFACTURING, SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1982 TO 1992



(a) Employee wages. (b) Former Federal Republic of Germany. The wages in manufacturing series includes the former Democratic People's Republic of Germany from 3 October 1990. (c) Adult wages.

### Industrial Disputes

Between 1991 and 1992, working days lost per thousand employees in Australia decreased by 40 per cent to 158. Decreases were also recorded in the UK (33%), France (25%) and Canada (13%). By contrast, there was a large increase of 600 per cent in working days lost per thousand employees in Germany although the number was still a relatively low 60 in 1992.

TABLE 10.11. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: NUMBER OF DISPUTES, WORKERS INVOLVED, WORKING DAYS LOST, AND WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1982 TO 1992

Year	Australia (a)	USA (b)	Japan (c)	Former Federal Republic of Germany (d)(e)	Italy	UK (d)	France (f)(g)	France (h)	Canada (a)	Sweden	New Zealand (i)
1982	2,060	96	944	n.a.	1,747	1,528	3,113	n.a.	677	46	333
1983	1,787	81	893	n.a.	1,565	1,352	2,837	n.a.	645	92	333
1984	1,965	62	596	n.a.	1,816	1,206	2,537	3,014	717	206	364
1985	1,895	54	627	n.a.	1,341	903	1,901	7,278	829	160	383
1986	1,754	69	620	n.a.	1,469	1,074	1,391	2,681	735	75	215
1987	1,517	46	474	n.a.	1,149	1,016	1,391	1,457	668	72	193
1988	1,508	40	498	n.a.	1,769	781	1,852	1,898	548	144	172
1989	1,402	51	362	n.a.	1,297	701	1,743	1,781	627	139	171
1990	1,193	44	284	n.a.	1,094	630	1,529	1,558	579	126	137
1991	1,036	40	310	n.a.	791	369	1,318	1,330	r463	23	71
1992	728	35	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	253	1,330	1,345	401	20	51
WORKERS INVOLVED ('000)											
1982	706.1	655.8	215.7	40.0	10,483.0	2,102.9	397.7	467.9	444.3	5.1	156.0
1983	470.2	909.4	224.1	94.1	6,844.2	573.8	(j)453.6	617.2	329.3	14.4	140.7
1984	560.3	376.0	155.1	537.3	7,356.5	1,464.3	(j)505.2	555.0	186.8	23.7	160.3
1985	570.5	323.9	123.4	78.2	4,842.8	791.3	(j)273.6	549.1	162.2	124.5	182.2
1986	691.7	533.2	118.0	115.5	3,606.7	720.2	(j)261.6	456.0	483.6	66.3	100.6
1987	608.8	174.3	r101.1	155.0	4,272.7	887.4	(j)223.2	358.5	582.1	10.5	80.1
1988	894.4	118.3	74.9	33.5	2,712.1	r790.3	(j)326.4	403.2	206.8	95.2	104.0
1989	709.8	452.1	85.8	43.9	4,451.8	727.0	(j)243.6	298.5	444.8	34.1	78.9
1990	729.9	184.9	84.3	257.2	1,634.0	298.2	(j)222.0	277.8	270.5	73.2	50.0
1991	1,181.6	392.0	52.8	208.2	2,952.2	176.0	(j)225.6	408.6	r253.7	2.5	51.9
1992	871.5	363.8	n.a.	598.4	n.a.	148.0	(j)195.6	318.7	151.7	18.0	38.7
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)											
1982	1,980.4	9,061.2	538.1	15.1	18,563.0	5,313.0	2,250.2	2,327.2	5,795.4	1.8	330.0
1983	1,641.4	17,461.0	506.9	40.8	(k)14,003.0	3,754.0	1,321.0	1,483.6	4,444.0	36.9	371.8
1984	1,307.4	8,498.8	354.1	5,617.6	(k)8,703.3	27,135.0	1,316.8	1,357.0	3,871.8	31.3	424.9
1985	1,256.2	7,079.1	264.1	34.4	(k)3,830.7	6,402.0	726.7	884.9	3,125.5	504.2	756.4
1986	1,390.7	11,861.0	253.4	28.0	(k)5,643.7	1,920.0	567.6	1,041.4	7,106.4	682.7	1,329.1
1987	1,311.9	4,468.8	256.1	33.3	(k)4,605.7	3,546.0	511.5	969.0	3,811.5	14.7	366.3
1988	1,641.4	4,381.4	173.8	41.9	(k)3,315.1	3,702.0	1,094.0	1,241.6	4,899.1	797.4	381.7
1989	1,202.4	16,530.0	219.1	100.4	(k)4,436.1	4,128.0	800.2	904.3	3,701.4	409.7	193.3
1990	1,376.5	5,925.5	144.5	363.6	(k)5,181.3	1,903.0	528.0	693.7	r5,079.4	770.4	330.9
1991	1,610.6	4,583.6	96.4	153.6	(k)2,985	761.0	497.3	665.5	r2,531.5	21.7	101.5
1992	941.2	3,988.6	n.a.	1,545.3	n.a.	528.0	359.1	490.4	2,199.5	28.1	121.8
WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES											
1982	r358	100	10	(l)	1,280	250	..	130	610	(l)	300
1983	249	190	10	(l)	980	180	..	80	460	10	340
1984	248	90	10	250	610	1,280	..	80	400	10	380
1985	228	70	10	(l)	270	300	..	50	310	130	660
1986	242	120	10	(l)	390	90	..	60	680	170	1,060
1987	223	40	10	(l)	320	160	..	50	360	(l)	290
1988	269	40	(l)	(l)	230	170	..	70	440	200	320
1989	190	150	(l)	(l)	300	180	..	50	330	100	170
1990	217	50	(l)	10	340	80	..	40	450	190	280
1991	265	40	(l)	10	200	30	..	40	230	10	90
1992	158	40	n.a.	60	n.a.	20	n.a.	30	200	10	110

(a) Excludes disputes in which time lost is less than 10 staff days. (b) Excludes disputes lasting less than a full day or shift, and disputes involving less than 1,000 workers. (c) Excludes disputes lasting less than half a day. (d) Includes disputes lasting less than one day only if more than 100 working days lost. (e) The series include the former Democratic Republic of Germany from 3 October 1990 except for workings days lost per thousand employees. (f) Excludes Agriculture and Public administration. (g) Localised strikes. (h) Comprises localised and generalised strikes. (i) Excludes public sector conflicts. (j) Monthly average converted to an annual average. (k) Working hours lost converted to working days lost. (l) Nil or fewer than 5 days lost per thousand employees.

Source: ILO Year Book of Labour Statistics, 1992 and 1993; Industrial Disputes, Australia, February 1994 (6321.0); UK Department of Employment Gazette, Great Britain, December 1993.