

Reference No. 6.18

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, DECEMBER QUARTER 1972

The estimates of average weekly earnings shown below are derived from particulars of employment and wages and salaries recorded on payroll tax returns, from other direct collections and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. The figures relate to civilians only. In addition to salary and wage payments at award rates, the total earnings figures used in the calculation of average weekly earnings include the earnings of employees not covered by awards, overtime earnings, over-award and bonus payments, payments made in advance or retrospectively during the period, etc.

2. Particulars of wages and salaries paid are not available for males and females separately from the sources used for this series; average weekly earnings have therefore been calculated in terms of male units, i.e. total male employees plus a proportion of female employees, the proportion being derived from the estimated ratio of female to male average earnings. Different ratios, based on information from the annual surveys of weekly earnings and hours, from a sample survey carried out in November 1969 and from other sources, are used for individual States. In making the estimates for September quarter 1966 and subsequent periods which were shown in previous issues of this publication and in the *Wage Rates and Earnings* bulletin, the ratios used were as follows: New South Wales (including the Australian Capital Territory) 54 per cent, Victoria 53, Queensland 52, South Australia (including the Northern Territory) 50, Western Australia 49 and Tasmania 49. However, small differences in these ratios have very little effect on the earnings figures; a one per cent rise in the ratio reduces average weekly earnings of \$90 by about 30 cents.

3. Equal pay provisions in Commonwealth and State awards, etc. and the judgment in the National Wage Case in mid-1972, by which wage increases of equal amounts were granted to males and females, affected the ratios, and the need for some revision was indicated. Important information permitting such a revision has been provided by the October 1972 survey of weekly earnings and hours and the ratios for all States have now been revised for the period from March quarter 1971. In addition, new ratios have been adopted for Western Australia for the year 1968 (48 per cent) and for Tasmania for the year 1970 (50 per cent).

4. The new ratios for the years 1971 and 1972 are as follows:

Period	(Per cent)					
	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Qld	S.A. (b)	W.A.	Tas.
1971 - whole year	55	54	53	51	48	51
1972 - March and June qtrs	56	55	54	52	50	52
Sept. and Dec. qtrs	57	56	54	53	51	53

(a) Includes the Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes the Northern Territory.

5. The number of male units used in calculating average weekly earnings for Australia is the sum of the estimates for the States, and therefore a separate ratio of female to male average earnings for Australia as a whole is not used. The weighted averages of the State ratios are approximately as follows: September quarter 1966 to December quarter 1970, 52.5 per cent; year 1971, 53.5 per cent; March and June quarters 1972, 54.5 per cent; September and December quarters 1972, 55.5 per cent.

6. Estimates of average weekly earnings for each State and Australia for the period September quarter 1966 to December quarter 1972 are shown in the table on page 2.

7. Quarterly figures are affected by seasonal influences. For example, special payments, including prepayment for holiday periods, tend to raise the December quarter and to depress the March quarter averages. In addition, figures for all quarters are affected by the varying incidence of pay-days in successive quarters. Allowance for the varying incidence of pay-days and for seasonal factors has been made in calculating the seasonally adjusted estimates shown in the table.

NOTE. At the 1971 population census all trainee teachers were for the first time classified as not in the labour force. Previously those enrolled at government teachers colleges (and in some cases at other institutions also) had been included. Trainees affected by the reclassification are excluded, together with their allowances, from the calculation of average weekly earnings from September quarter 1971. The effect of their exclusion was to increase average earnings figures in all States by approximately 30 cents.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (a)
(**\$**)

Period	N.S.W. (b)	Vic.	Qld	S.A. (c)	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	
							Original	Seasonally adjusted
1966-67	63.50	63.90	57.10	57.60	59.20	58.40	61.70	..
1967-68	67.00	67.60	60.20	61.10	63.90	61.90	65.30	..
1968-69	72.70	72.10	64.30	65.20	r68.80	65.60	70.20	..
1969-70	78.80	78.10	69.20	70.90	75.50	r70.70	76.10	..
1970-71 r	87.70	86.10	77.70	78.20	84.80	78.40	84.50	..
1971-72 (d) r	96.50	93.60	86.90	86.70	93.60	86.90	93.00	..
1966 -								
Sept. qtr	62.40	63.20	56.30	57.30	59.10	56.60	60.90	60.70
Dec. qtr	64.60	65.50	59.00	58.40	60.40	60.30	63.10	61.20
1967 -								
Mar. qtr	61.30	60.70	54.50	56.00	57.50	56.70	59.30	62.00
June qtr	65.40	66.00	58.60	58.60	59.90	60.00	63.50	63.20
Sept. qtr	65.70	66.80	59.10	60.30	62.20	60.20	64.20	64.30
Dec. qtr	68.10	69.80	62.30	62.00	64.80	64.30	66.90	64.90
1968 -								
Mar. qtr	65.20	64.40	57.40	59.60	r62.40	60.10	r63.10	65.40
June qtr	69.00	69.30	61.80	62.20	r66.40	63.10	67.10	66.80
Sept. qtr	69.70	69.60	61.80	63.70	r66.90	62.80	67.60	67.70
Dec. qtr	75.30	74.00	66.10	66.60	r69.90	68.40	72.30	69.80
1969 -								
Mar. qtr	70.50	70.30	61.90	63.80	67.30	63.50	68.30	71.60
June qtr	75.20	74.60	67.30	66.60	71.20	67.50	72.60	72.20
Sept. qtr	76.20	76.00	67.60	69.30	73.30	68.80	73.90	73.60
Dec. qtr	81.60	80.80	71.50	72.90	78.00	73.90	78.70	75.10
1970 -								
Mar. qtr	74.90	74.30	65.90	68.10	72.70	r66.10	72.50	77.00
June qtr	82.30	81.10	71.90	73.50	78.00	r74.10	79.10	78.80
Sept. qtr	83.50	82.10	73.90	76.10	80.50	r74.20	80.70	80.00
Dec. qtr	89.70	87.50	79.10	78.70	85.70	r80.30	86.10	82.00
1971 -								
Mar. qtr r	84.70	83.40	75.70	76.20	82.70	74.40	81.80	87.00
June qtr r	92.90	91.20	82.40	82.00	89.80	84.50	89.50	88.30
Sept. qtr (d) r	92.70	91.30	83.10	85.00	92.90	82.10	90.00	90.00
Dec. qtr r	100.10	96.60	89.30	88.80	96.30	90.00	96.00	91.80
1972 -								
Mar. qtr r	92.70	88.90	84.00	83.40	91.00	83.70	89.20	93.40
June qtr r	100.60	97.40	91.40	89.70	94.40	91.30	96.70	95.20
Sept. qtr r	99.40	99.00	92.60	89.80	95.30	90.30	96.80	97.90
Dec. qtr	108.10	105.50	98.70	96.10	99.30	98.50	104.00	100.10

(a) See explanation in paragraph 2 on page 1. (b) Includes the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes the Northern Territory. (d) See NOTE on page 1. r - Revised. See paragraphs 2 to 5 on page 1. The revisions for the September quarter 1972 incorporate changes other than those resulting from changes in the male equivalent ratio.

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics
Canberra, A.C.T. 2600

J. P. O'NEILL
Commonwealth Statistician

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2347 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

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