



# **JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 15 APR 2003

## **C O N T E N T S**

	<i>page</i>
Notes . . . . .	2
Summary of findings . . . . .	3

## **T A B L E S**

List of tables . . . . .	6
Unemployed persons, and employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months . . . . .	7
Unemployed persons . . . . .	8
Employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months . . . . .	15
Populations . . . . .	19

## **A D D I T I O N A L I N F O R M A T I O N**

Explanatory notes . . . . .	20
Appendix 1: Populations and data items list . . . . .	24
Appendix 2: Supplementary surveys . . . . .	32
Technical note: Data quality . . . . .	33
Glossary . . . . .	37

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Jon Havelock on Canberra 02 6252 7747.

## NOTES

### ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about unemployed persons' experiences in seeking work, in terms of the steps they have taken to find work and the difficulties they have encountered in finding work. Also presented is information about employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months. For this group, data on the steps taken to attain work and their current job details are provided.

Demographic information is provided about both of these groups, along with information about their previous employment.

### JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY

The statistics in this publication are compiled from data collected in the Job Search Experience Survey that was conducted throughout Australia in July 2002 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

This survey combines the previously conducted annual Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons Survey and biennial Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience Survey.

Data from the survey relate to persons who were unemployed in July 2002, and persons employed in July 2002 who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

### ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

.....

### ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
CES	Commonwealth Employment Service
DSS	Department of Social Security
LFS	Labour Force Survey
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

Dennis Trewin  
Australian Statistician

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### OVERVIEW

In July 2002, there were 554,800 unemployed persons, a 9% decrease since July 2001. Three in four (76%) unemployed persons were looking for full-time work. This is the same proportion as recorded in July 2000 and July 2001. Most males (86%) were seeking full-time work, as were the majority of females (62%). In July 2002, almost three-quarters (71%) of unemployed persons reported their level of highest educational attainment as being Year 12 or below.

There were 1,638,700 employed persons who started their current job in the twelve months prior to July 2002. The majority (63%) of employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months are currently working full time. Of those employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months, 54% reported their level of highest educational attainment as being Year 12 or below.

### UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

#### *Job search experience*

The most common active step taken to find work by unemployed persons was 'contacted prospective employers' (85%). Other active steps were 'answered a newspaper advertisement for a job' (68%), 'registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker' (62%) and 'registered with a Job Network employment agency' (60%).

Unemployed persons looking for full-time work were more likely to be registered with a Job Network employment agency than those looking for part-time work (70% and 27% respectively). Some 53% of unemployed females were registered with a Job Network employment agency, compared with 65% of males.

The most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work for unemployed persons were:

- too many applicants for available jobs (15%)
- considered too young or too old by employers (13%)
- insufficient work experience (11%)
- lacked necessary skills or education (11%).

#### *Duration of unemployment*

On average, males had been unemployed longer than females (56 weeks compared with 45 weeks). The mean duration of unemployment increased slightly from 50 weeks in July 2001 to 51 weeks in July 2002.

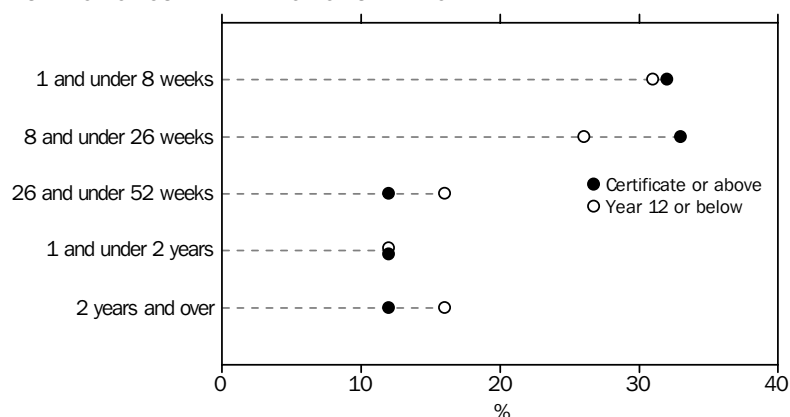
Some 145,800 persons were considered long-term unemployed in July 2002; that is, they had been unemployed for 12 months or longer. This represented 26% of all unemployed persons (an increase of 2 percentage points since July 2001). Of those long-term unemployed persons, the majority (84%) were seeking full-time work.

Being 'considered too young or too old by employers' was the main difficulty in finding work for one-fifth (20%) of long-term unemployed persons. Other commonly reported difficulties were 'lacked necessary skills or education' (16%), 'own ill health or disability' (12%), 'too many applicants for available jobs' (11%) and 'insufficient work experience' (11%).

Just under one-quarter (24%) of unemployed persons whose level of highest educational attainment was a Certificate or above were long-term unemployed, compared with 27% of persons whose level of highest educational attainment was Year 12 or below. Of unemployed persons whose level of highest educational attainment was Year 12 or below, 16% had been unemployed for two years or more.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT



### *Young unemployed*

Over one-third (37%) of unemployed persons were aged 15–24 years. Half (50%) of unemployed persons aged 15–19 years and 80% of those aged 20–24 years were seeking full-time work. Almost three-quarters (73%) of young males aged 15–24 years were looking for full-time work compared with 54% of young females.

The main difficulty in finding work reported by unemployed persons aged 15–19 years, was 'too many applicants for available jobs' (18%). Unemployed persons aged 20–24 found 'insufficient work experience' (18%) the main difficulty in finding work. Other difficulties experienced were 'lacked necessary skills or education' (11% of those aged 15–19 years and 12% of those aged 20–24 years); and 'too far to travel/transport problems' (11% and 10%).

### EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS

Of those employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months, over half (52%) were out of work prior to starting that job, and a further 40% changed employer to start that job. The remainder were employed in their own business.

### *Steps taken to attain a job*

Of those who were out of work prior to starting their current job, 58% 'wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work'. Half (50%) of employed persons who changed employer took this step to attain a job. The other most common steps taken to attain a job were 'looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper' (45% of people out of work prior to starting a job and 35% of people who changed employer to start a job), 'answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper' (35% and 28%) and 'contacted friends or relatives' (28% and 20%).

### *Duration of looking for work*

Some 56% of employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months looked for work for less than one year before being offered that job. A further 6% looked for one year or more, while 38% of people didn't look for work at all. More than one-third (38%) of all employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months were aged 15–24 years.

### *Characteristics of current job*

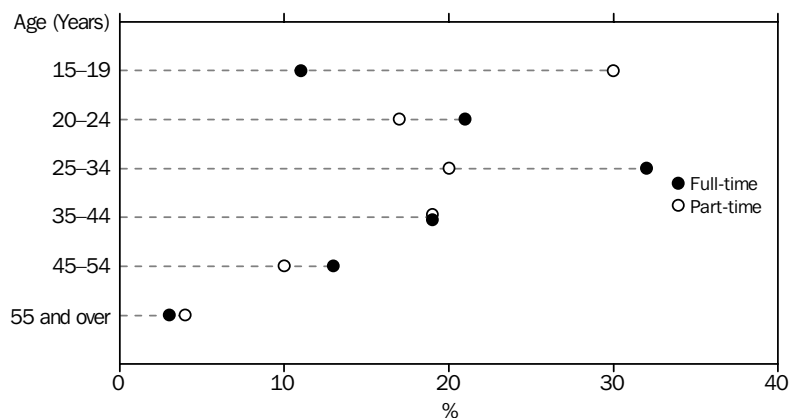
The majority (73%) of employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months started one job only, and most (90%) had worked before. Of those who usually work part-time hours, over one-third (39%) would prefer to work more hours. Persons aged 15–19 years made up the largest group (29%) who would prefer to work more hours.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### *Characteristics of current job continued*

Of those part-time employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months, almost one-third (30%) were aged 15–19 years.

FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS OF CURRENT JOB



The most common occupation groups of employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months were Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (21%) and Professionals (16%). Elementary clerical, sales and service workers was the most common occupation of employed persons aged 15–19 years who started their job in the previous twelve months (37%).

## LIST OF TABLES

page

### UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, AND EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS

- 1** Summary of characteristics ..... 7

### UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

- 2** Selected characteristics, July 1995 to July 2002 ..... 8
- 3** Whether looking for full-time or part-time work, by sex, by age group, relationship in household, country of birth, level of highest educational attainment and active steps taken to find work ..... 9
- 4** Recent labour market experience—Whether looking for full-time or part-time work, by sex, by number of offers of employment in the current period of unemployment, whether has ever worked, time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months and duration of current period of unemployment ..... 10

### JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 5** Active steps taken to find work, by age and sex ..... 11

### DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK

- 6** Main difficulty in finding work, by duration of current period of unemployment and sex ..... 12
- 7** Main difficulty in finding work, by age and sex ..... 13

### OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

- 8** Duration of current period of unemployment, by highest level of educational attainment and sex ..... 14

### EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS

- 9** Age group, by sex, level of highest educational attainment, whether had prior knowledge that job was available, whether out of work prior to starting job, whether first job ever held and duration of looking for work before being offered job ..... 15
- 10** Age group, by occupation of current job, full-time or part-time status of current job and whether prefers to work more hours than usually works ..... 16
- 11** All steps taken to attain job, by whether out of work prior to starting job and sex ..... 17
- 12** Duration of looking for work before being offered job, by highest level of educational attainment and sex ..... 18

### POPULATIONS

- 13** State or territory of usual residence, by sex ..... 19

# UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, AND EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR, Summary of characteristics

	UNEMPLOYED PERSONS			EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<b>Total</b>	<b>319.1</b>	<b>235.7</b>	<b>554.8</b>	<b>839.0</b>	<b>799.7</b>	<b>1 638.7</b>
Age group (years)						
15–19	56.8	50.0	106.7	157.1	143.4	300.5
20–24	60.9	38.5	99.3	153.7	163.0	316.7
25–34	78.1	55.4	133.5	234.7	220.6	455.2
35–44	46.5	49.7	96.2	155.9	154.6	310.5
45–54	45.6	34.3	79.9	102.1	97.1	199.2
55 and over	31.3	7.8	39.1	35.6	21.0	56.5
Relationship in household						
Family member	239.6	187.3	426.8	665.5	640.9	1 306.4
Husband, wife or partner	105.2	84.4	189.6	389.0	351.9	741.0
With dependants	57.7	49.1	106.8	223.1	182.9	406.0
Without dependants	47.5	35.3	82.8	165.9	169.1	335.0
Lone parent	5.3	42.4	47.6	9.4	64.6	74.0
Dependent student	28.2	26.7	54.9	74.7	85.7	160.5
Non-dependent child	89.3	29.7	119.0	173.1	119.8	292.9
Other family person	11.5	*4.1	15.6	19.3	18.8	38.1
Non-family member or person living alone	68.7	41.7	110.5	137.0	124.8	261.8
Relationship not determined	10.8	6.8	17.6	36.4	34.0	70.5
Country of birth						
Born in Australia	234.0	172.7	406.7	639.8	632.3	1 272.1
Born overseas	85.1	63.1	148.2	199.2	167.4	366.6
Born in main English-speaking countries	23.7	19.0	42.7	103.7	85.1	188.8
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	61.4	44.1	105.5	95.5	82.4	177.9
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)						
Bachelor degree or higher	27.3	20.5	47.7	146.4	175.7	322.1
Advanced diploma/Diploma	15.5	16.0	31.5	59.0	77.9	136.9
Certificate	50.8	26.8	77.6	189.4	85.5	274.9
Year 12(c)	67.4	55.6	123.0	183.1	206.2	389.3
Year 11(c)	32.3	25.3	57.6	65.5	68.4	133.8
Year 10 or below(c)	122.8	91.2	214.0	186.8	179.0	365.8
Number of jobs started in the previous 12 months						
None	225.8	181.7	407.5	. .	. .	. .
One	60.1	41.9	102.0	602.1	595.4	1 197.5
Two	16.7	5.5	22.2	157.6	141.0	298.6
Three or more	16.6	6.6	23.2	79.3	63.3	142.6

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

. . not applicable

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily listed in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 14 to 16 of the

Explanatory Notes for further details on how level of highest educational attainment is determined.

(b) Excludes 'no educational attainment' and 'level not determined'.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Selected characteristics

		July 1995	July 1996	July 1997	July 1998	July 1999	July 2000	July 2001	July 2002
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS									
Total	'000	683.9	701.7	717.5	696.4	591.0	544.3	613.0	554.8
SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS									
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Main difficulty in finding work									
Too many applicants for available jobs	%	11.6	13.0	14.5	13.7	12.1	13.1	11.5	14.7
Lacked necessary skills or education	%	11.0	11.1	12.1	11.5	11.2	11.8	10.4	10.6
Considered too young or too old by employers	%	15.4	13.5	14.5	16.0	15.4	13.4	11.7	13.4
Insufficient work experience	%	12.3	10.1	10.4	10.9	10.1	10.0	11.6	11.2
No vacancies at all	%	10.9	11.9	12.7	11.2	10.0	8.3	10.7	6.6
No vacancies in line of work	%	10.6	11.6	9.1	8.5	7.9	7.3	10.4	9.5
Too far to travel/transport problems	%	7.2	5.2	5.3	6.2	5.8	6.7	6.8	7.1
Own ill health or disability	%	5.0	5.5	6.0	5.9	6.9	6.4	5.7	6.6
Language difficulties	%	4.2	3.2	2.6	1.9	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5
Unsuitable hours	%	2.6	2.9	2.3	3.1	3.7	4.0	5.0	4.4
Difficulties with finding child care and other family responsibilities	%	1.0	1.6	2.4	1.7	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.5
Other difficulties(a)	%	2.4	3.9	3.0	2.9	3.7	4.4	3.4	3.2
No difficulties at all	%	5.9	6.5	5.3	6.4	8.4	9.8	8.6	6.8
No feedback from employers(b)	%	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	1.9
Whether looking for full-time or part-time work									
Looking for full-time work	%	83.3	81.3	83.4	81.9	76.6	76.3	76.3	75.7
Looking for part-time work	%	16.7	18.7	16.5	18.1	23.3	23.7	23.7	24.3
Duration of current period of unemployment									
Under 1 year	%	65.4	70.3	66.8	65.2	68.3	71.1	76.5	73.7
1 and under 4 weeks	%	11.9	14.9	12.0	13.2	18.2	19.2	19.1	20.4
4 and under 8 weeks	%	10.2	11.0	10.4	10.8	11.3	12.1	13.1	10.9
8 and under 13 weeks	%	8.7	9.7	7.9	8.6	10.0	9.4	8.8	10.4
13 and under 26 weeks	%	14.7	14.3	15.5	13.3	11.2	12.7	19.9	17.5
26 and under 52 weeks	%	19.8	20.4	20.9	19.3	17.6	17.6	15.6	14.6
1 year and over	%	34.6	29.7	33.2	34.8	31.7	28.9	23.5	26.3
1 and under 2 years	%	14.5	14.1	15.4	15.2	12.5	10.9	8.9	11.7
2 years and over	%	20.1	15.6	17.8	19.6	19.1	18.1	14.6	14.5
DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT									
Mean duration of unemployment	wks	60.0	52.9	56.0	59.9	55.5	52.9	49.8	51.3
Median duration of unemployment	wks	26	26	26	26	23	20	18	19
(b) Collected separately for the first time in July 2002.									
(a) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.									



# UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Whether looking for full-time or part-time work

	LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK			LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK			TOTAL		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<b>Total</b>	<b>273.1</b>	<b>147.1</b>	<b>420.1</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>134.7</b>	<b>319.1</b>	<b>235.7</b>	<b>554.8</b>
Age group (years)									
15–19	31.6	22.0	53.7	25.1	28.0	53.1	56.8	50.0	106.7
20–24	54.2	25.4	79.6	6.7	13.1	19.7	60.9	38.5	99.3
25–34	74.3	37.5	111.8	*3.8	18.0	21.7	78.1	55.4	133.5
35–44	43.9	31.3	75.2	*2.6	18.4	21.0	46.5	49.7	96.2
45–54	42.7	25.3	68.1	*2.8	9.0	11.8	45.6	34.3	79.9
55 and over	26.2	5.6	31.8	*5.0	*2.3	7.3	31.3	7.8	39.1
Relationship in household									
Family member	204.6	111.9	316.6	34.9	75.3	110.3	239.6	187.3	426.8
Husband, wife or partner	99.4	52.4	151.7	5.8	32.0	37.9	105.2	84.4	189.6
With dependants	55.4	24.6	80.0	*2.3	24.5	26.8	57.7	49.1	106.8
Without dependants	43.9	27.8	71.7	*3.6	7.6	11.1	47.5	35.3	82.8
Lone parent	*4.8	24.7	29.5	**0.5	17.7	18.2	5.3	42.4	47.6
Dependent student	5.6	*3.3	8.9	22.5	23.4	46.0	28.2	26.7	54.9
Non-dependent child	85.5	28.1	113.6	*3.8	*1.6	5.4	89.3	29.7	119.0
Other family person	9.3	*3.5	12.8	*2.3	**0.6	*2.8	11.5	*4.1	15.6
Non-family member or person living alone	60.5	31.1	91.6	8.2	10.6	18.8	68.7	41.7	110.5
Relationship not determined	7.9	*4.1	11.9	*2.9	*2.7	5.6	10.8	6.8	17.6
Country of birth									
Born in Australia	200.0	109.0	309.1	34.0	63.6	97.6	234.0	172.7	406.7
Born overseas	73.0	38.1	111.1	12.1	25.0	37.1	85.1	63.1	148.2
Born in main English-speaking countries	21.4	11.6	32.9	*2.3	7.4	9.7	23.7	19.0	42.7
Born in other than main English-speaking countries	51.6	26.5	78.1	9.8	17.6	27.4	61.4	44.1	105.5
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)									
Bachelor degree or higher	24.0	13.4	37.4	*3.2	7.1	10.3	27.3	20.5	47.7
Advanced diploma/Diploma	14.4	10.4	24.9	*1.1	5.6	6.6	15.5	16.0	31.5
Certificate	45.7	19.7	65.3	*5.1	7.1	12.2	50.8	26.8	77.6
Year 12(c)	54.5	35.1	89.6	12.9	20.5	33.4	67.4	55.6	123.0
Year 11(c)	25.9	15.3	41.2	6.5	10.0	16.4	32.3	25.3	57.6
Year 10 or below(c)	105.5	52.8	158.3	17.2	38.4	55.7	122.8	91.2	214.0
Active steps taken to find work(d)									
Contacted prospective employers	235.8	131.7	367.5	34.4	70.6	105.0	270.3	202.3	472.5
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	197.4	109.8	307.2	19.0	51.0	70.1	216.4	160.8	377.2
Answered a Centrelink touchscreen advertisement for a job	108.7	53.3	162.0	*4.4	7.2	11.6	113.2	60.5	173.6
Answered a workplace noticeboard advertisement for a job	34.7	21.5	56.2	*2.8	5.9	8.7	37.5	27.4	64.9
Registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker	212.1	98.4	310.5	12.1	19.3	31.5	224.2	117.7	341.9
Registered with a Job Network employment agency	195.2	99.2	294.5	11.0	25.4	36.4	206.3	124.6	330.9
Registered with other employment agency	117.5	55.2	172.7	8.2	17.2	25.4	125.8	72.4	198.2
Advertised or tendered for work	19.5	12.3	31.8	*2.8	*3.0	5.8	22.3	15.3	37.6
Contacted friends or relatives	128.1	53.4	181.5	17.5	30.5	48.0	145.6	83.9	229.6

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily listed in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 14 to 16 of the Explanatory Notes for further details on how level of highest educational attainment is determined.

(b) Excludes 'no educational attainment' and 'level not determined'.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

(d) Refers to all active steps taken to find work, therefore persons may appear in more than one category.

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Recent labour market experience

		LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK			LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK			TOTAL		
		Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS										
Total	'000	273.1	147.1	420.1	46.1	88.6	134.7	319.1	235.7	554.8
Number of offers of employment in the current period of unemployment										
None	'000	232.9	128.9	361.9	40.6	74.4	115.0	273.5	203.4	476.9
One	'000	26.0	9.8	35.8	*3.4	10.6	14.0	29.4	20.5	49.8
Two	'000	8.1	5.9	14.1	*1.3	*2.6	*3.9	9.4	8.6	18.0
Three or more	'000	6.1	*2.4	8.4	**0.8	*0.9	*1.7	6.9	*3.3	10.2
Whether has ever worked										
Has previously worked	'000	251.8	126.9	378.7	27.6	67.1	94.7	279.4	194.0	473.4
Last job less than 2 years ago	'000	185.0	85.4	270.4	20.0	42.0	62.0	205.0	127.3	332.3
Last job 2 years or more ago	'000	66.8	41.6	108.4	7.6	25.1	32.7	74.4	66.7	141.1
Has never worked	'000	21.3	20.2	41.4	18.4	21.6	40.0	39.7	41.7	81.4
Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months										
1 and under 4 weeks	'000	32.4	19.9	52.4	14.2	25.3	39.4	46.6	45.2	91.8
4 and under 8 weeks	'000	23.4	16.2	39.6	*3.1	11.1	14.3	26.6	27.3	53.9
8 and under 13 weeks	'000	30.5	13.7	44.2	*4.9	10.2	15.1	35.4	23.9	59.3
13 and under 26 weeks	'000	49.2	30.5	79.7	7.5	15.9	23.4	56.7	46.4	103.1
26 and under 39 weeks	'000	37.8	21.6	59.4	6.0	10.5	16.6	43.9	32.1	76.0
39 and under 52 weeks	'000	15.8	6.0	21.7	*2.1	*1.2	*3.4	17.9	7.2	25.1
52 weeks	'000	84.0	39.2	123.2	8.2	14.4	22.6	92.2	53.6	145.8
Duration of current period of unemployment										
Under 1 year	'000	189.1	107.9	297.0	37.9	74.3	112.1	227.0	182.1	409.1
1 and under 4 weeks	'000	43.4	26.1	69.5	16.5	26.9	43.5	59.9	53.1	113.0
4 and under 8 weeks	'000	27.3	17.2	44.5	*3.8	12.3	16.0	31.1	29.5	60.5
8 and under 13 weeks	'000	28.3	14.4	42.7	5.6	9.2	14.8	33.9	23.6	57.5
13 and under 26 weeks	'000	48.3	27.7	76.0	5.9	15.2	21.2	54.3	42.9	97.2
26 and under 39 weeks	'000	30.4	17.9	48.3	*4.7	10.1	14.8	35.2	28.0	63.1
39 and under 52 weeks	'000	11.4	*4.6	16.0	*1.3	**0.5	*1.8	12.7	*5.1	17.8
1 year and over	'000	84.0	39.2	123.2	8.2	14.4	22.6	92.2	53.6	145.8
1 and under 2 years	'000	32.6	19.0	51.6	*4.5	8.9	13.4	37.2	27.9	65.1
2 years and over	'000	51.3	20.2	71.5	*3.7	5.5	9.2	55.0	25.7	80.7
DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT										
Mean duration of unemployment	wks	57.2	55.6	56.7	48.3	27.2	34.4	55.9	44.9	51.3
Median duration of unemployment	wks	23	20	22	10	11	11	21	17	19

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Active steps taken to find work(a)

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						
						55 and over	
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54		Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES							
Contacted prospective employers	44.2	53.5	66.6	41.1	39.2	25.7	270.3
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	28.0	42.8	55.5	34.0	34.0	22.0	216.4
Answered a Centrelink touchscreen advertisement for a job	10.0	27.6	32.3	20.5	13.8	9.0	113.2
Answered a workplace noticeboard advertisement for a job	*4.1	6.4	12.6	6.8	*4.3	*3.2	37.5
Registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker	22.7	46.1	63.9	36.5	33.5	21.5	224.2
Registered with a Job Network employment agency	21.0	45.4	55.9	33.8	29.8	20.5	206.3
Registered with other employment agency	12.1	26.4	32.2	22.3	20.6	12.1	125.8
Advertised or tendered for work	*3.9	*2.6	*4.7	*4.3	*4.0	*2.7	22.3
Contacted friends or relatives	23.7	27.5	39.3	21.8	21.7	11.7	145.6
Total	56.8	60.9	78.1	46.5	45.6	31.3	319.1
FEMALES							
Contacted prospective employers	44.7	33.6	45.9	41.7	29.2	7.2	202.3
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	27.6	26.4	43.5	32.5	25.0	5.8	160.8
Answered a Centrelink touchscreen advertisement for a job	12.9	12.8	12.6	10.1	9.9	*2.1	60.5
Answered a workplace noticeboard advertisement for a job	6.7	6.4	*4.9	5.3	*3.2	*0.9	27.4
Registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker	18.0	24.1	26.5	21.7	21.5	5.9	117.7
Registered with a Job Network employment agency	20.5	24.7	29.3	24.7	20.8	*4.6	124.6
Registered with other employment agency	12.3	13.0	16.7	15.4	12.5	*2.6	72.4
Advertised or tendered for work	*2.0	*2.8	*2.4	*4.2	*2.8	*1.0	15.3
Contacted friends or relatives	15.1	13.9	18.8	19.4	14.1	*2.6	83.9
Total	50.0	38.5	55.4	49.7	34.3	7.8	235.7
PERSONS							
Contacted prospective employers	88.9	87.1	112.5	82.9	68.4	32.9	472.5
Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job	55.6	69.2	99.0	66.5	59.0	27.8	377.2
Answered a Centrelink touchscreen advertisement for a job	22.9	40.3	45.0	30.5	23.7	11.1	173.6
Answered a workplace noticeboard advertisement for a job	10.8	12.8	17.6	12.1	7.5	*4.1	64.9
Registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker	40.7	70.2	90.4	58.2	55.0	27.4	341.9
Registered with a Job Network employment agency	41.5	70.1	85.1	58.5	50.5	25.2	330.9
Registered with other employment agency	24.3	39.4	48.9	37.7	33.1	14.8	198.2
Advertised or tendered for work	6.0	5.4	7.1	8.6	6.7	*3.8	37.6
Contacted friends or relatives	38.7	41.4	58.1	41.2	35.8	14.3	229.6
Total	106.7	99.3	133.5	96.2	79.9	39.1	554.8

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

(a) Refers to all active steps taken to find work, therefore persons may appear in more than one category.

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Main difficulty in finding work by duration of unemployment

## DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT

	1 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	1 and under 2 years	2 years and over	Total	Mean duration	Median duration
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	wks	wks
MALES								
Too many applicants for available jobs	*12.8	14.8	8.2	*4.8	5.9	46.4	46.0	20
Lacked necessary skills or education	6.4	7.8	*4.9	5.4	9.3	33.8	69.3	33
Considered too young or too old by employers	7.5	10.2	6.4	6.3	11.3	41.7	80.4	30
Insufficient work experience	9.5	11.0	*4.3	*3.2	*3.9	32.0	40.5	17
No vacancies at all	6.3	8.2	*4.1	*2.8	*2.3	23.6	37.8	18
No vacancies in line of work	11.0	12.8	6.1	*3.3	*3.7	37.0	36.0	19
Too far to travel/transport problems	5.4	6.7	*4.4	*4.4	*4.0	24.8	52.0	28
Own ill health or disability	*4.5	6.4	*2.7	*4.3	8.8	26.8	117.8	51
Language difficulties	*2.9	*0.9	*0.9	**0.5	*2.4	7.5	*76.5	*26
Unsuitable hours	*1.0	*0.8	*2.9	*1.0	**0.1	5.8	*34.7	*28
Difficulties with finding child care and other family responsibilities	**0.7	**0.5	**0.6	—	*0.9	*2.7	*125.4	**27
Other difficulties(a)	*2.2	*4.1	*0.9	—	*2.0	9.2	*71.7	*13
No difficulties at all	17.4	*3.7	**0.4	*0.9	**0.3	22.8	9.2	3
No feedback from employers	*3.4	**0.3	*0.8	**0.4	—	*4.9	*12.7	*4
<b>Total</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>88.2</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>319.1</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>21</b>
FEMALES								
Too many applicants for available jobs	11.5	12.7	5.5	*4.4	*0.9	34.9	23.7	16
Lacked necessary skills or education	6.6	8.0	*2.1	*3.3	*4.8	24.7	67.5	20
Considered too young or too old by employers	*4.7	11.9	*4.3	5.2	6.4	32.4	86.3	26
Insufficient work experience	8.6	7.2	5.5	5.4	*3.4	30.2	47.1	21
No vacancies at all	*3.7	*3.7	*2.4	*2.2	*1.0	12.9	39.3	*24
No vacancies in line of work	7.8	*3.4	*2.5	**0.7	*1.2	15.7	25.8	*8
Too far to travel/transport problems	*4.7	*4.9	*1.6	*1.8	*1.9	14.9	45.4	*17
Own ill health or disability	*2.7	*2.2	*1.3	*1.8	*2.0	10.0	*64.7	*26
Language difficulties	*2.9	*1.4	**0.3	*1.4	**0.5	6.5	*38.1	*8
Unsuitable hours	7.7	*4.8	*4.5	**0.4	*1.5	18.8	28.7	11
Difficulties with finding child care and other family responsibilities	*2.6	*1.4	**0.3	**0.5	**0.6	5.5	*45.4	*9
Other difficulties(a)	*2.7	*2.5	*1.5	**0.6	*1.1	8.4	*40.8	*20
No difficulties at all	12.3	*0.8	*1.4	**0.1	**0.4	15.0	9.0	*2
No feedback from employers	*4.0	*1.5	—	—	**0.3	5.8	*22.1	*4
<b>Total</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>235.7</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>17</b>
PERSONS								
Too many applicants for available jobs	24.2	27.5	13.6	9.2	6.8	81.3	36.4	18
Lacked necessary skills or education	13.0	15.8	7.0	8.8	14.0	58.6	68.6	27
Considered too young or too old by employers	12.2	22.0	10.7	11.5	17.6	74.1	83.0	27
Insufficient work experience	18.1	18.2	9.9	8.6	7.4	62.2	43.7	20
No vacancies at all	10.0	11.9	6.4	*4.9	*3.2	36.5	38.3	18
No vacancies in line of work	18.9	16.2	8.6	*4.0	*4.9	52.7	33.0	14
Too far to travel/transport problems	10.1	11.6	5.9	6.2	5.9	39.7	49.5	24
Own ill health or disability	7.2	8.7	*4.0	6.1	10.8	36.8	103.4	38
Language difficulties	5.8	*2.3	*1.2	*1.9	*2.8	14.1	58.7	*17
Unsuitable hours	8.7	5.6	7.4	*1.4	*1.6	24.6	30.1	18
Difficulties with finding child care and other family responsibilities	*3.3	*1.9	*0.9	**0.5	*1.5	8.2	*72.0	*14
Other difficulties(a)	*4.9	6.6	*2.4	**0.6	*3.1	17.6	57.0	15
No difficulties at all	29.7	*4.6	*1.9	*1.0	**0.7	37.8	9.1	2
No feedback from employers	7.4	*1.8	*0.8	**0.4	**0.3	10.7	*17.8	*4
<b>Total</b>	<b>173.5</b>	<b>154.7</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>554.8</b>	<b>51.3</b>	<b>19</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Main difficulty in finding work by age

## AGE GROUP (YEARS)

15-19 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55 and over Total

## MALES

Too many applicants for available jobs	%	16.1	13.5	17.3	16.1	12.8	*7.1	14.6
Lacked necessary skills or education	%	13.3	11.4	13.8	11.8	*3.9	*4.0	10.6
Considered too young or too old by employers	%	*8.0	**0.5	*1.6	*7.3	28.7	61.1	13.1
Insufficient work experience	%	15.0	17.3	10.9	*7.8	*1.9	—	10.0
No vacancies at all	%	10.6	*7.3	8.8	*5.6	*7.2	**0.9	7.4
No vacancies in line of work	%	*3.1	11.1	12.7	17.7	15.1	*10.9	11.6
Too far to travel/transport problems	%	12.9	10.3	8.5	*5.1	*3.1	*2.6	7.8
Own ill health or disability	%	*4.1	10.0	9.0	12.2	*8.7	*5.7	8.4
Language difficulties	%	**0.7	**0.9	*3.2	*3.8	*4.2	**1.2	2.4
Unsuitable hours	%	*4.3	*2.6	*1.3	**1.7	—	—	1.8
Difficulties with finding child care and other family responsibilities	%	—	**0.2	*2.7	—	**1.0	—	*0.8
Other difficulties(a)	%	**1.3	*4.8	*1.9	*4.3	*4.1	**0.8	2.9
No difficulties at all	%	*7.1	8.5	7.7	*6.6	*7.0	*4.4	7.2
No feedback from employers	%	*3.6	*1.6	**0.6	—	*2.2	**1.3	*1.5
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total	'000	56.8	60.9	78.1	46.5	45.6	31.3	319.1

## FEMALES

Too many applicants for available jobs	%	20.4	*13.3	12.2	15.6	*12.8	**8.6	14.8
Lacked necessary skills or education	%	*8.2	*12.8	12.3	*8.9	*10.6	*11.7	10.5
Considered too young or too old by employers	%	*5.1	*10.2	*7.6	14.4	32.3	*44.3	13.7
Insufficient work experience	%	19.5	19.0	11.4	*7.2	*9.3	—	12.8
No vacancies at all	%	*7.8	*3.2	*2.8	*7.6	*5.5	**7.6	5.5
No vacancies in line of work	%	*5.1	*5.8	10.1	*5.9	*6.7	**1.4	6.7
Too far to travel/transport problems	%	*9.7	*8.6	*5.9	*4.2	*2.5	**6.3	6.3
Own ill health or disability	%	**1.1	*2.6	*6.8	*6.1	*3.5	**4.8	4.2
Language difficulties	%	—	**1.5	*4.0	*4.6	*4.4	—	2.8
Unsuitable hours	%	*8.4	*8.5	11.7	*8.1	**1.5	**4.4	8.0
Difficulties with finding child care and other family responsibilities	%	**0.9	**1.3	*6.1	*2.3	—	—	2.3
Other difficulties(a)	%	*3.1	*4.1	*3.5	*4.4	**2.0	**6.4	3.6
No difficulties at all	%	*5.8	*7.2	*3.3	*10.3	*5.9	**4.4	6.4
No feedback from employers	%	*5.0	**2.0	*2.2	**0.4	*3.3	—	2.5
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total	'000	50.0	38.5	55.4	49.7	34.3	7.8	235.7

## PERSONS

Too many applicants for available jobs	%	18.1	13.4	15.2	15.8	12.8	*7.4	14.7
Lacked necessary skills or education	%	10.9	11.9	13.2	10.3	6.8	*5.6	10.6
Considered too young or too old by employers	%	6.6	*4.3	4.1	11.0	30.2	57.8	13.4
Insufficient work experience	%	17.1	17.9	11.1	7.5	*5.1	—	11.2
No vacancies at all	%	9.3	5.7	6.3	6.6	6.5	*2.2	6.6
No vacancies in line of work	%	*4.0	9.0	11.6	11.6	11.5	*9.0	9.5
Too far to travel/transport problems	%	11.4	9.7	7.4	*4.7	*2.8	*3.3	7.1
Own ill health or disability	%	*2.7	7.1	8.1	9.1	6.5	*5.5	6.6
Language difficulties	%	**0.4	*1.1	*3.5	*4.2	*4.3	**0.9	2.5
Unsuitable hours	%	6.2	*4.9	5.6	*5.0	**0.6	**0.9	4.4
Difficulties with finding child care and other family responsibilities	%	**0.4	**0.6	4.1	*1.2	**0.6	—	1.5
Other difficulties(a)	%	*2.1	*4.5	*2.5	*4.3	*3.2	**2.0	3.2
No difficulties at all	%	6.5	8.0	5.9	8.5	6.5	*4.4	6.8
No feedback from employers	%	*4.3	*1.8	*1.3	**0.2	*2.7	**1.0	1.9
Total	%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total	'000	106.7	99.3	133.5	96.2	79.9	39.1	554.8

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Duration of current period of unemployment

## LEVEL OF HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT(a)

	<i>Bachelor degree or higher</i>	<i>Advanced diploma/Diploma</i>	<i>Certificate</i>	<i>Year 12(b)</i>	<i>Year 11(b)</i>	<i>Year 10 or below(b)</i>	<i>Total(c)</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<b>MALES</b>							
Less than 1 year	22.0	11.0	36.5	52.0	26.2	77.7	227.0
1 and under 8 weeks	8.6	6.1	13.6	25.0	10.2	26.8	91.0
8 and under 26 weeks	9.4	*3.3	16.7	18.4	9.6	30.3	88.2
26 and under 52 weeks	*4.0	*1.6	6.2	8.6	6.4	20.7	47.8
1 and under 2 years	*1.7	**0.6	8.3	6.5	*2.4	17.2	37.2
2 years and over	*3.6	*3.9	5.9	8.9	*3.8	27.9	55.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>67.4</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>122.8</b>	<b>319.1</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>							
Less than 1 year	18.2	12.2	19.8	44.5	18.7	68.4	182.1
1 and under 8 weeks	10.9	*5.1	6.1	21.1	8.3	30.7	82.5
8 and under 26 weeks	6.8	6.0	8.8	12.6	7.9	24.4	66.5
26 and under 52 weeks	**0.5	*1.1	*4.9	10.9	*2.5	13.3	33.1
1 and under 2 years	**0.8	*3.8	*3.7	5.6	*3.5	10.5	27.9
2 years and over	*1.4	—	*3.3	5.5	*3.1	12.3	25.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>235.7</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>							
Less than 1 year	40.3	23.2	56.3	96.5	44.9	146.1	409.1
1 and under 8 weeks	19.6	11.2	19.8	46.1	18.4	57.5	173.5
8 and under 26 weeks	16.2	9.3	25.5	31.0	17.6	54.7	154.7
26 and under 52 weeks	*4.5	*2.7	11.0	19.5	8.9	33.9	80.9
1 and under 2 years	*2.5	*4.4	12.0	12.1	5.9	27.7	65.1
2 years and over	*5.0	*3.9	9.2	14.4	6.8	40.2	80.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>123.0</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>214.0</b>	<b>554.8</b>

- \* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution
- \*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use
- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

- (a) The levels of education are not necessarily listed in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 14 to 16 of the Explanatory Notes for further details on how level of highest educational attainment is determined.
- (b) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.
- (c) Includes 'no educational attainment' and 'level not determined'.

# EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS, Summary of characteristics

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>300.5</b>	<b>316.7</b>	<b>455.2</b>	<b>310.5</b>	<b>199.2</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>1 638.7</b>
Sex							
Males	157.1	153.7	234.7	155.9	102.1	35.6	839.0
Females	143.4	163.0	220.6	154.6	97.1	21.0	799.7
Level of highest educational attainment(a)(b)							
Bachelor degree or higher	—	67.5	135.8	66.0	43.6	9.1	322.1
Advanced diploma/Diploma	5.8	23.9	49.6	33.0	16.9	7.7	136.9
Certificate	15.7	54.0	85.1	61.5	44.4	14.1	274.9
Year 12(c)	107.7	124.3	90.9	37.1	24.5	*4.8	389.3
Year 11(c)	46.8	14.3	26.2	28.8	14.5	*3.3	133.8
Year 10 or below(c)	124.6	31.2	61.2	78.9	54.4	15.6	365.8
Whether had prior knowledge that job was available							
Employed persons not in own business	296.7	300.7	397.7	250.9	159.5	40.8	1 446.3
Had prior knowledge that job or work was available	185.8	208.1	267.4	163.2	100.2	25.3	950.0
Did not have prior knowledge that job was available	110.9	92.6	130.3	87.7	59.3	15.5	496.4
Employed persons in own business	*3.8	16.0	57.5	59.7	39.7	15.7	192.4
Whether out of work prior to starting job(d)							
Out of work prior to starting job	216.3	161.8	213.1	147.3	90.0	29.2	857.7
Changed employer to start job	81.8	144.5	201.3	124.9	85.8	19.8	658.0
Whether first job ever held							
First job ever held	120.9	25.4	16.8	*3.5	*3.2	**0.5	170.3
Had worked before	179.6	291.3	438.4	307.0	196.0	56.1	1 468.4
Duration of looking for work before being offered job							
Less than 1 year	198.1	196.3	265.7	154.1	89.1	20.1	923.2
1 and under 4 weeks	56.3	62.5	100.7	46.1	24.6	5.3	295.6
4 and under 8 weeks	45.7	38.7	56.5	33.2	17.3	*3.4	194.7
8 and under 13 weeks	41.9	47.6	50.9	25.5	15.6	*4.2	185.7
13 and under 26 weeks	33.6	29.8	33.5	28.2	13.8	*2.8	141.6
26 and under 52 weeks	20.6	17.7	24.0	21.1	17.9	*4.3	105.6
1 and under 2 years	8.2	13.3	15.3	11.0	9.0	*3.8	60.6
2 and under 5 years	*3.1	*4.6	5.5	6.2	*4.0	*1.1	24.6
5 years and over	—	—	*3.3	*3.2	*3.0	**0.3	9.8
Didn't look for work	91.1	102.6	165.5	136.1	94.0	31.2	620.4

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily listed in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 14 to 16 of the

Explanatory Notes for further details on how level of highest educational attainment is determined.

(b) Excludes 'no educational attainment' and 'level not determined'.

(c) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

(d) Excludes persons employed in their own business.

# EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS, Characteristics of current job

	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<b>Total</b>	<b>300.5</b>	<b>316.7</b>	<b>455.2</b>	<b>310.5</b>	<b>199.2</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>1 638.7</b>
Occupation of current job							
Managers and administrators	*0.5	5.2	15.6	19.0	13.7	*4.8	58.8
Professionals	6.3	50.0	99.2	55.0	37.1	9.3	256.9
Associate professionals	6.4	30.2	60.0	38.2	30.4	6.6	171.9
Tradespersons and related workers	40.8	34.8	50.1	30.5	17.9	5.9	180.1
Advanced clerical and service workers	*4.8	9.6	17.8	10.6	8.3	*1.9	53.2
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	54.3	86.3	87.8	64.1	34.2	10.2	336.9
Intermediate production and transport workers	23.1	20.9	34.6	26.5	22.3	6.3	133.6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	110.2	46.1	41.6	29.8	17.3	*5.1	250.0
Labourers and related workers	54.1	33.6	48.5	36.8	18.0	6.3	197.3
Full-time or part-time status of current job							
Full-time worker	115.8	214.9	333.8	196.1	138.3	32.2	1 031.1
Part-time worker	184.7	101.8	121.5	114.4	60.9	24.3	607.7
Whether prefers to work more hours than usually works							
Usually works part-time hours	193.8	113.9	130.1	120.9	66.3	26.4	651.5
Would prefer to work more hours	73.9	52.3	48.7	47.3	27.1	6.4	255.5
Would not prefer to work more hours	115.8	57.6	76.7	69.2	34.5	18.7	372.5
Does not know	*4.2	*4.0	*4.7	*4.4	*4.8	*1.3	23.4
Usually works full-time hours	106.7	202.8	325.1	189.6	132.9	30.1	987.2

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution



# EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS, All steps taken to attain job(a)

	OUT OF WORK PRIOR TO STARTING JOB			CHANGED EMPLOYER TO START JOB			TOTAL(b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Employed persons not in own business									
Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	244.4	249.6	494.0	156.4	172.0	328.3	400.8	421.6	822.3
Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	149.7	151.7	301.4	78.2	103.1	181.2	227.8	254.8	482.6
Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	66.8	58.6	125.4	33.7	33.9	67.6	100.5	92.5	193.1
Answered an advertisement for a job on Centrelink touchscreens	44.7	41.1	85.8	11.2	9.2	20.3	55.9	50.2	106.1
Answered an advertisement for a job on workplace noticeboards	15.4	15.7	31.1	5.2	7.1	12.3	20.6	22.8	43.3
Checked or registered with a Job Network employment agency	114.9	98.1	213.0	37.6	34.0	71.6	152.5	132.1	284.6
Checked or registered with other employment agency	81.3	81.5	162.9	38.3	36.1	74.4	119.6	117.6	237.2
Contacted friends or relatives	130.9	105.9	236.8	69.2	60.3	129.5	200.1	166.2	366.3
Advertised or tendered for work	15.1	12.9	28.1	2.4	5.6	8.0	17.5	18.6	36.1
Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper	192.4	189.6	382.0	103.1	129.8	233.0	295.5	319.4	614.9
Looked at advertisements for jobs on Centrelink touchscreens	85.4	70.9	156.4	24.8	18.5	43.3	110.3	89.4	199.7
Looked at advertisements for jobs on workplace noticeboards	33.3	32.5	65.8	10.9	13.0	23.9	44.2	45.5	89.7
Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet	106.6	100.6	207.1	57.5	56.8	114.3	164.0	157.4	321.4
Other	37.9	33.5	71.5	18.3	21.5	39.8	56.2	55.0	111.2
Employed persons in own business	42.1	27.3	69.4	. .	. .	. .	126.3	66.0	192.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>432.2</b>	<b>425.5</b>	<b>857.7</b>	<b>322.5</b>	<b>335.5</b>	<b>658.0</b>	<b>839.0</b>	<b>799.7</b>	<b>1 638.7</b>

. . not applicable

(b) Includes persons employed in their own business.

(a) Refers to all steps taken to attain job, therefore persons may appear in more than one category.

# EMPLOYED PERSONS WHO STARTED THEIR CURRENT JOB IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS, Duration of looking for work before being offered job

## LEVEL OF HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (a)

	<i>Bachelor degree or higher</i>	<i>Advanced diploma/Diploma</i>	<i>Certificate</i>	<i>Year 12 (b)</i>	<i>Year 11 (b)</i>	<i>Year 10 or below (b)</i>	<i>Total (c)</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
<b>MALES</b>							
Less than 1 year	87.6	32.9	97.2	107.1	35.3	112.5	476.7
1 and under 4 weeks	24.0	11.1	37.5	31.6	11.6	36.4	153.6
4 and under 8 weeks	15.9	6.2	19.0	23.1	6.2	21.9	93.6
8 and under 13 weeks	22.0	6.0	17.7	22.0	7.0	21.1	96.1
13 and under 26 weeks	13.8	6.6	12.4	18.5	6.3	16.7	74.7
26 and under 52 weeks	11.9	*3.0	10.6	11.9	*4.2	16.4	58.7
1 and under 2 years	*3.7	*1.9	7.6	7.4	5.4	8.2	35.1
2 and under 5 years	*1.8	*1.0	*4.6	*3.0	*0.9	*4.3	15.6
5 years and over	*0.9	**0.5	*1.2	*0.9	**0.1	*1.1	*4.7
Didn't look for work	52.4	22.7	78.8	64.7	23.7	60.7	306.9
<b>Total(c)</b>	<b>146.4</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>189.4</b>	<b>183.1</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>186.8</b>	<b>839.0</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>							
Less than 1 year	98.4	40.7	44.9	125.8	33.1	99.0	446.6
1 and under 4 weeks	33.8	12.5	14.9	40.6	9.5	29.1	141.9
4 and under 8 weeks	22.3	12.1	10.5	27.3	*5.1	23.0	101.1
8 and under 13 weeks	19.5	5.9	8.6	27.2	6.8	21.1	89.7
13 and under 26 weeks	16.2	6.3	*5.0	17.8	5.6	14.9	66.9
26 and under 52 weeks	6.7	*3.9	6.0	12.9	6.1	11.0	46.9
1 and under 2 years	*3.8	*1.7	*4.6	7.9	*1.6	5.4	25.5
2 and under 5 years	*1.1	*0.9	*1.4	*1.8	*1.0	*2.6	9.0
5 years and over	*0.9	**0.5	**0.2	**0.6	*1.0	*2.0	*5.1
Didn't look for work	71.5	34.0	34.4	70.1	31.8	70.0	313.6
<b>Total(c)</b>	<b>175.7</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>85.5</b>	<b>206.2</b>	<b>68.4</b>	<b>179.0</b>	<b>799.7</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>							
Less than 1 year	186.0	73.7	142.1	232.9	68.3	211.5	923.2
1 and under 4 weeks	57.7	23.6	52.3	72.3	21.0	65.5	295.6
4 and under 8 weeks	38.2	18.3	29.6	50.4	11.3	44.9	194.7
8 and under 13 weeks	41.5	12.0	26.2	49.2	13.8	42.2	185.7
13 and under 26 weeks	30.0	12.9	17.4	36.2	11.9	31.5	141.6
26 and under 52 weeks	18.6	7.0	16.6	24.8	10.2	27.4	105.6
1 and under 2 years	7.5	*3.6	12.3	15.3	7.0	13.6	60.6
2 and under 5 years	*2.9	*1.9	6.0	*4.8	*1.9	6.9	24.6
5 years and over	*1.8	*1.0	*1.3	*1.5	*1.1	*3.1	9.8
Didn't look for work	124.0	56.7	113.2	134.8	55.4	130.8	620.4
<b>Total(c)</b>	<b>322.1</b>	<b>136.9</b>	<b>274.9</b>	<b>389.3</b>	<b>133.8</b>	<b>365.8</b>	<b>1 638.7</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) The levels of education are not necessarily listed in order from highest to lowest. See paragraphs 14 to 16 of the Explanatory Notes for further details on how level of highest educational attainment is determined.

(b) Includes persons who are currently undertaking school study.

(c) Includes 'no educational attainment' and 'level not determined'.

## STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, Populations

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT(a)</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES									
<b>Population 1:</b>									
Unemployed persons	105.5	71.9	63.5	25.8	36.2	11.3	*1.6	*3.3	319.1
<b>Population 2:</b>									
Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months	260.7	210.4	182.7	59.0	84.4	14.1	7.5	20.1	839.0
FEMALES									
<b>Population 1:</b>									
Unemployed persons	75.8	52.2	60.2	18.5	17.9	7.5	*1.1	*2.4	235.7
<b>Population 2:</b>									
Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months	237.0	198.5	175.7	59.5	87.8	14.3	8.1	18.8	799.7
PERSONS									
<b>Population 1:</b>									
Unemployed persons	181.3	124.1	123.7	44.3	54.2	18.7	*2.8	5.7	554.8
<b>Population 2:</b>									
Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months	497.7	408.9	358.4	118.5	172.2	28.4	15.7	38.8	1 638.7
* estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution           (a) Refers to mainly urban areas only. For more information see paragraph 6 of the Explanatory Notes.									

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

**1** The statistics in this publication are compiled from data collected in the Job Search Experience Survey that was conducted throughout Australia in July 2002 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

**2** The publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. It also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing relevant to both the LFS and supplementary surveys.

### CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

**3** The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0) which is also available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (About Statistics—Concepts and Classifications).

### SCOPE

**4** The scope of the LFS was restricted to persons aged 15 years and over and excluded the following persons:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

**5** Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with disabilities), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

**6** The survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded approximately 80,000 persons living in remote and sparsely settled parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these persons will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates produced for individual states and territories, except the Northern Territory where such persons account for over 20% of the population.

### COVERAGE

**7** The estimates in this publication relate to persons covered by the survey in July 2002. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0) for more details.

### RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

**8** Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For further information on sampling error, see the Technical Note.
- Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient processing procedures.

### SEASONAL FACTORS

**9** The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### CLASSIFICATIONS USED

**10** Occupation data are classified according to the ASCO—*Australian Standard of Classification of Occupations, Second Edition, 1997* (cat. no. 1220.0).

**11** Industry data are classified according to the ANZSIC—*Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 1993* (cat. no. 1292.0).

**12** Country of birth data are classified according to the SACC—*Standard Australian Classification of Countries, 1998* (cat. no. 1269.0).

**13** Educational attainment data are classified according to the ASCED—*Australian Standard Classification of Education* (cat. no. 1272.0).

### LEVEL OF HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

**14** Level of Highest Educational Attainment can be derived from information on Highest Year of School Completed and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification. The derivation process determines which of the 'non-school' or 'school' attainments will be regarded as the highest. Usually the higher ranking attainment will be self-evident, but in some cases some Secondary Education is regarded, for the purposes of obtaining a single measure, as higher than some Certificate level attainments.

**15** The following decision table is used to determine which of the responses to questions on Highest Year of School Completed (coded to ASCED Broad Level 6) and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification (coded to ASCED Broad Level 5) will be regarded as the highest. It is emphasised that this table was designed for the purpose of obtaining a single value for the output variable Level of Highest Educational Attainment and is not intended to convey any other ordinality.

**16** The decision table is also used to rank the information provided in a survey about the qualifications and attainments of a single individual. It does not represent any basis for comparison between differing qualifications. For example, a person whose Highest Year of School Completed was Year 12, and whose Level of Highest Non-school Qualification was a Certificate III, would have those responses crosschecked on the decision table and would as a result have their Level of Highest Educational Attainment output as Certificate III. However, if the same person answered 'Certificate' to the highest non-school qualification question, without offering any further detail, it would be crosschecked against Year 12 on the decision table as 'Certificate not further defined'. The output would then be 'Year 12'. The decision table, therefore, does not necessarily imply that one qualification is 'higher' than the other.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD LEVEL OF EDUCATION (ASCED) CODES							
	Certificate not further defined (500)	Certificate III or IV not further defined (510)	Certificate IV (511)	Certificate III (514)	Certificate I or II not further defined (520)	Certificate II (521)	Certificate I (524)
<b>Secondary Education not further defined (600)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Senior Secondary Education not further defined (610)</b>	Senior Secondary not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Senior Secondary not further defined	Senior Secondary not further defined	Senior Secondary not further defined
<b>Year 12 (611)</b>	Year 12	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12
<b>Year 11 (613)</b>	Year 11	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 11	Year 11	Year 11
<b>Junior Secondary Education not further defined (620)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Year 10 (621)</b>	Year 10	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 10	Certificate II	Year 10
<b>Year 9 (622)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Year 8 (623)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I
<b>Year 7 (624)</b>	Certificate not further defined	Certificate III or IV not further defined	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II not further defined	Certificate II	Certificate I

### COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

**17** Revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last such revision was made in February 1999 to take account of the results of the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Estimates from supplementary surveys conducted from and including February 1999 are therefore based on revised population benchmarks.

**18** Supplementary surveys are not always conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994 the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample. Since it was introduced, this survey has been conducted on various proportional samples and therefore the sampling errors associated with previous supplementary surveys may vary from the sampling errors for this survey.

### COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

**19** Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

### NOTES ON ESTIMATES

**20** The Government made significant changes to the manner in which it provided employment services to the community between September 1997 and May 1998. As a result, the nature of job search activity undertaken by jobseekers changed.

**21** Prior to the change in employment service arrangements, the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) provided jobseekers with access to labour market assistance, and offices of the then Department of Social Security (DSS) provided jobseekers with access to income support.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### NOTES ON ESTIMATES

*continued*

**22** Centrelink progressively replaced the CES and DSS shopfronts from September 1997. A competitive employment services market, the Job Network, was launched on 1 May 1998. The Job Network consists of private, community and government organisations on contract to the government to provide employment services to the community. As from that date, jobseekers register with Centrelink for job search assistance and can choose to go to any of the Job Network employment agencies. The agency then attempts to match jobseekers with jobs that are registered with them by employers.

**23** During the transition to the new employment services market, Centrelink performed a similar role to the CES. Jobseekers registered at either a CES or Centrelink office, depending on which was operating in their area, for income support and/or job search assistance.

**24** Due to the changes in the nature of employment services, caution should be used in comparing results for periods prior to the introduction of the changes with results from surveys conducted after the changes occurred.

### CHANGES SINCE LAST SURVEY

**25** This annual Job Search Experience Survey was developed by combining the annual Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons Survey and the biennial Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience. This new survey collects information on the job search experiences of unemployed persons, in terms of the steps taken to find work and the difficulties encountered in finding work. Also collected is information about employed persons who started their current job in the previous twelve months. For this group, the focus is on the steps taken to attain work and on their current job.

### PREVIOUS SURVEYS

**26** Results of similar surveys on the job search experience of unemployed persons conducted in July 1984, July 1985, June 1986, July 1988, July 1990, June 1991, and annually from July 1992 to July 2001 were published in previous issues of *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (cat. no. 6222.0). Information on persons who had started work for an employer for wages or salary during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week was collected in June 1986, and two-yearly from July 1990 to July 2000 and were published in *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (cat. no. 6245.0).

### NEXT SURVEY

**27** The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in July 2003.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**28** ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**29** Other publications which may be of interest include:

- *Labour Force, Australia*, cat. no. 6203.0
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia*, cat. no. 6245.0
- *Labour Mobility, Australia*, cat. no. 6209.0
- *Labour Force Experience, Australia*, cat. no. 6206.0
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia*, cat. no. 6220.0
- *Retrenchment and Redundancy, Australia*, cat. no. 6266.0
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia*, cat. no. 6265.0

**30** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or from the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

### DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Job Search Experience Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are also available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. Country of birth(2)).

To obtain unpublished data or for more information about the customised data service contact Jon Havelock on Canberra 02 6252 7747, or by facsimile on 02 6252 5172 or by email to <jj.havelock@abs.gov.au>.

#### *Population 1*

Unemployed persons.

#### *Population 2*

Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months.



## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>
<b>1 State or territory of usual residence</b>	All	<b>6 Relationship in household</b> <i>cont.</i>	
New South Wales		Non-family member	
Victoria		Lone person	
Queensland		Not living alone	
South Australia		Relationship not determined	
Western Australia			
Tasmania		<b>7A Country of birth and period of arrival</b>	All
Northern Territory		Born in Australia	
Australian Capital Territory		Born overseas	
		Arrived before 1971	
<b>2 Area of usual residence</b>	All	Arrived 1971–1980	
Capital city		Arrived 1981–1990	
Balance of state/territory		Arrived 1991 to survey date	
<b>3 Region of usual residence</b>	All	<b>7B Country of birth (1)</b>	All
Standard labour force dissemination regions		Born in Australia	
<b>4 Sex</b>	All	Born overseas	
Males		Born in main English-speaking countries	
Females		Born in other than main English-speaking countries	
<b>5 Marital status</b>	All	<b>7C Country of birth (2)</b>	All
Married		Born in Australia	
Not married		Born overseas	
<b>6 Relationship in household</b>	All	Oceania and Antarctica	
Family member		North-West Europe	
Husband, wife or partner		Southern and Eastern Europe	
With dependants		North Africa and the Middle East	
Without dependants		South-East Asia	
Lone parent		North-East Asia	
With dependants		Southern and Central Asia	
Without dependants		Americas	
Dependent student		Sub-Saharan Africa	
Non-dependent child			
Other family person		<b>8 Age group (years)</b>	All
		15–19	
		20–24	
		25–34	
		35–44	
		45–54	
		55 and over	
		Note: Age collected in single years.	

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>
<b>9</b>	<b>Level of highest educational attainment</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Number of hours of work sought</b>
	Postgraduate degree		1 to 15 hours
	Graduate diploma/Graduate certificate		16 to 29 hours
	Bachelor degree		30 to 34 hours
	Advanced diploma/Diploma		35 to 39 hours
	Certificate III/IV		40 hours
	Certificate I/II		41 to 44 hours
	Certificate not further defined		45 to 48 hours
	Year 12		49 hours or more
	Year 11		Did not know
	Year 10 or below		Note: collected in single hours
	Other education	<b>14</b>	<b>Duration of current period of unemployment</b>
	Level not determined		Under 1 year
	No educational attainment/attendance		1 and under 4 weeks
<b>10</b>	<b>Highest non-school educational attainment and whether qualification obtained overseas or within Australia</b>		4 and under 8 weeks
	Born in Australia		8 and under 13 weeks
	Born overseas		13 and under 26 weeks
	With non-school qualifications		26 and under 39 weeks
	Qualification obtained overseas		39 and under 52 weeks
	Qualification obtained in Australia		1 year and over
	Without non-school qualifications		1 and under 2 years
			2 years and over
<b>11A</b>	<b>Number of jobs started in the previous 12 months</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Whether registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker</b>
	None		Registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker
	One		Not registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker
	Two	<b>16A</b>	<b>All steps taken to find work</b>
	Three or more		Registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker
<b>11B</b>	<b>Number of jobs started in the previous 12 months</b>		Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work
	One		Answered an advertisement in a newspaper
	Two		Answered an advertisement on the internet
	Three or more		Answered an advertisement on Centrelink touchscreens
<b>12</b>	<b>Whether looking for full-time or part-time work</b>		Answered an advertisement on workplace noticeboards
	Looking for full-time work		Checked or registered with a Job Network agency
	Looking for part-time work		Checked or registered with other employment agency
			Contacted friends or relatives
			Advertised or tendered for work
			Looked at advertisements in a newspaper

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>
<b>16A</b>	<b>All steps taken to find work</b> <i>cont.</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>Number of offers of employment in the current period of unemployment</b>
	Looked at advertisements on the internet (including Centrelink touchscreens)		None
	Looked at advertisements on workplace noticeboards		One
	Other		Two
			Three or more
<b>16B</b>	<b>Active steps taken to find work</b>	<b>18A</b>	<b>All difficulties in finding work</b>
	Contacted prospective employers		Too many applicants for available jobs
	Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job		Lacked necessary skills or education
	Answered a Centrelink touchscreen advertisement for a job		Considered too young or too old by employers
	Answered a workplace noticeboard advertisement for a job		Insufficient work experience
	Registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker		No vacancies at all
	Registered with a Job Network agency		No vacancies in line of work
	Registered with other employment agency		Too far to travel/transport problems
	Contacted friends or relatives		Own ill health or disability
	Advertised or tendered for work		Language difficulties
			Unsuitable hours
<b>16C</b>	<b>Active steps taken to find work</b>		Difficulties with finding child care
	Registered with a Job Network employment agency and		Other family responsibilities
	Took no other active steps		Difficulties because of ethnic background
	Contacted prospective employers		Other difficulties
	Answered a newspaper advertisement for a job		No difficulties at all
	Answered a Centrelink touchscreen advertisement for a job		No feedback from employers
	Answered a workplace noticeboard advertisement for a job	<b>18B</b>	<b>Main difficulty in finding work</b>
	Contacted friends or relatives		Too many applicants for available jobs
	Advertised or tendered for work		Lacked necessary skills or education
			Considered too young or too old by employers
	Not registered with a Job Network employment agency		Insufficient work experience
<b>16D</b>	<b>Whether registered with a Job Network employment agency</b>		
	Registered with a Job Network employment agency		
	Not registered with a Job Network employment agency		

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>
<b>18B</b>	<b>Main difficulty in finding work</b> <i>cont.</i>	<b>23</b>	<b>Occupation of last job</b>
	No vacancies at all		1
	No vacancies in line of work		Last job less than 2 years ago
	Too far to travel/transport problems		Managers and administrators
	Own ill health or disability		Professionals
	Language difficulties		Associate professionals
	Unsuitable hours		Tradespersons and related workers
	Difficulties with finding child care		Advanced clerical and service workers
	Other family responsibilities		Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers
	Difficulties because of ethnic background		Intermediate production and transport workers
	Other difficulties		Elementary clerical, sales and service workers
	No difficulties at all		Labourers and related workers
	No feedback from employers		Unpaid voluntary worker
<b>19</b>	<b>Number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months</b>		
	One		Last job 2 or more years ago
	Two		Has never worked
	Three or more		
<b>20</b>	<b>Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Industry of last job</b>
	1 and under 2 weeks		1
	2 and under 4 weeks		Last job less than 2 years ago
	4 and under 8 weeks		Agriculture, forestry and fishing
	8 and under 13 weeks		Mining
	13 and under 26 weeks		Manufacturing
	26 and under 39 weeks		Electricity, gas and water supply
	39 and under 52 weeks		Construction
	52 weeks		Wholesale trade
<b>21</b>	<b>Whether has ever worked</b>		Retail trade
	Has previously worked		Accommodation, cafes and restaurants
	Last job less than 2 years ago		Transport and storage
	Last job 2 years or more ago		Communication services
	Has never worked		Finance and insurance
<b>22</b>	<b>Status in employment of last job</b>		Property and business services
	Last job less than 2 years ago		Government administration and defence
	Employee		Education
	Employer		Health and community services
	Own account worker		Cultural and recreational services
	Contributing family worker		Personal and other services
	Unpaid voluntary worker		Unpaid voluntary worker
	Last job 2 or more years ago		Last job 2 or more years ago
	Has never worked		Has never worked

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>
<b>25 Whether worked full-time or part-time in last job</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30 All steps taken to attain job</b>	<b>2</b>
Worked full-time		Employed persons not in own business	
Worked part-time		Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
Has never worked		Answered an advertisement in a newspaper	
<b>26 Duration of last job</b>	<b>1</b>	Answered an advertisement on the Internet (including Centrelink touchscreens)	
Last job less than 2 years ago		Answered an advertisement on workplace noticeboards	
Less than 1 year		Checked or registered with a Job Network employment agency	
2 and under 4 weeks		Checked or registered with other employment agency	
4 and under 8 weeks		Contacted friends or relatives	
8 and under 26 weeks		Advertised or tendered for work	
26 and under 52 weeks		Looked at advertisements in a newspaper	
1 and under 2 years		Looked at advertisements on the Internet (including Centrelink touchscreens)	
2 and under 5 years		Looked at advertisements on workplace noticeboards	
5 years and over		Other	
Unpaid voluntary worker		Employed persons in own business	
Last job 2 or more years ago		<b>31 Whether jobseeker approached employer</b>	<b>2</b>
Has never worked		Employed persons not in own business	
<b>27 Reason for ceasing last job</b>	<b>1</b>	Jobseeker approached employer	
Last job less than 2 years ago		Employer approached jobseeker	
Job loser		Employed persons in own business	
Laid off or retrenched			
Job was temporary or seasonal			
Own ill health or disability			
Own business closed down for economic reasons			
Job leaver			
Unsatisfactory work arrangements			
Holiday job/returned to studies			
Other			
Unpaid voluntary worker			
Last job 2 or more years ago			
Has never worked			
<b>28 Whether out of work prior to starting job</b>	<b>2</b>		
Out of work prior to starting job			
Changed employer to start job			
In own business			
<b>29 Whether first job ever held</b>	<b>2</b>		
First job ever held			
Had worked before			

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>
<b>32 Whether had prior knowledge that job was available</b>	2	<b>34 Month started job</b>	2
Employed persons not in own business		July 2001	
Had prior knowledge that job or work was available		August 2001	
Knowledge obtained through—		September 2001	
Job Network		October 2001	
employment agency		November 2001	
Other employment agency		December 2001	
School programs		January 2002	
Careers service at educational institution		February 2002	
Advertisements in a newspaper		March 2002	
Advertisements on the Internet		April 2002	
Advertisements on Centrelink touchscreens		May 2002	
Advertisements on workplace noticeboards		June 2002	
Friends, relatives or company contacts		July 2002	
Other sources		Had a job to go to	
Did not have prior knowledge that job was available		<b>35 Duration of looking for work before being offered job</b>	2
Employed persons in own business		Less than 1 year	
<b>33 Role of Job Network in job attainment</b>	2	1 and under 4 weeks	
Employed persons not in own business		4 and under 8 weeks	
Job Network helped jobseeker to obtain job in some way		8 and under 13 weeks	
Job Network did not help jobseeker to obtain job in any way		13 and under 26 weeks	
Did not know		26 and under 52 weeks	
Did not use Job Network in job attainment		1 and under 2 years	
Employed persons in own business		2 and under 5 years	
		5 years and over	
		Did not look for work	
		<b>36 Occupation of current job</b>	2
		Managers and administrators	
		Professionals	

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST *continued*

*continued*

<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Population</i>
<b>36</b>	<b>Occupation of current job <i>cont.</i></b>	<b>38</b>	<b>Whether prefers to work more hours than usually works</b>
	Associate professionals		Usually works part-time hours
	Tradespersons and related workers		Would prefer to work more hours
	Advanced clerical and service workers		Would not prefer to work more hours
	Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers		Does not know
	Intermediate production and transport workers		Usually works full-time hours
	Elementary clerical, sales and service workers		
	Labourers and related workers		
<b>37</b>	<b>Full-time or part-time status of current job</b>		
	Full-time worker		
	Part-time worker		

## APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

### SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program collects data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary surveys to the monthly labour force surveys. Data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. Additional data from these surveys is also available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	<i>Cat. no.</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Latest issue</i>
Career Experience, Australia	6254.0	Irregular	November 1998
Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications, Australia	6243.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1993
Child Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 1999
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2002
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2002
Employment Benefits, Australia	6334.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Irregular	November 2001
Job Search Experience, Australia(a)	6222.0	Annual	July 2002
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2001
Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Australia	6235.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia(b)	6224.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia	6250.0	Irregular	November 1999
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2002
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	June 2000
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(c)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Participation in Education, Australia	6272.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1999
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2002
Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force, Australia	6264.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force, Australia	6267.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Irregular	November 1997
Retrenchment and Redundancy, Australia	6266.0	Irregular	July 2001
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia	6245.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Superannuation, Australia	6319.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Trade Union Members, Australia	6325.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1996
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2001
Working Arrangements, Australia	6342.0	Irregular	November 2000
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	September 2000

(a) This product replaces the publications *Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia* (cat. no. 6222.0) and *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (cat. no. 6245.0).

(b) Latest data available on request June 2002.  
(c) Latest data available on request July 2001.



## INTRODUCTION

**1** Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

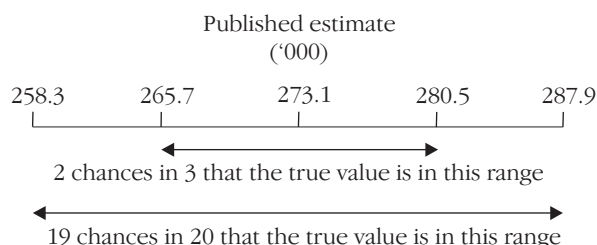
**2** Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

## CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

**3** An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 4 shows the estimated number of unemployed males in Australia who were looking for full-time work was 273,100. Since this estimate is between 200,000 and 300,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 6,550 and 7,650 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &SE \text{ of estimate} \\
 &= \text{lower SE} + \left( \left( \frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\
 &= 6,550 + \left( \left( \frac{273,100 - 200,000}{300,000 - 200,000} \right) \times (7,650 - 6,550) \right) \\
 &= 7,400 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}
 \end{aligned}$$

**4** Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 265,700 to 280,500 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 258,300 to 287,900. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



## CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR *continued*

**5** In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. \*\*0.3), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%.

## MEANS AND MEDIAN

**6** The RSEs of estimates of mean duration of unemployment and median duration of unemployment are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the mean or median (see table T1) and then multiplying the resulting number by the following factors:

- mean duration of unemployment: 1.5
- median duration of unemployment: 1.7

**7** The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 4 shows that the estimated median duration of unemployment for unemployed males in Australia was 21 weeks and shows that the number of males was estimated as 319,100. The SE of 319,100 can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 7,800. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate or  $7,800/319,100 = 2.4\%$ .

**8** The RSE of the estimate of median duration of unemployment is calculated by multiplying this number (2.4%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 1.7):  $2.4 \times 1.7 = 4.1\%$ . The SE of this estimate of median duration of unemployment is therefore 4.1% of 21, i.e. about 1 week. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the median duration of unemployment for males that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 20–22 weeks, and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 19–23 weeks.

## PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

**9** Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

**10** Considering the example from the previous page, of the 273,100 unemployed males who were looking for full-time work, 84,000 or 30.8% had been unemployed for 1 year or more. The SE of 84,000 may be calculated by interpolation as 4,700. To convert this to a RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or  $4,700/84,000 = 5.6\%$ . The SE for 273,100 was calculated previously as 7,400, which converted to a RSE is  $7,400/273,100 = 2.7\%$ . Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is

$$RSE = \sqrt{(5.6)^2 - (2.7)^2} = 4.9\%$$

**11** Therefore, the SE for the proportion of unemployed males looking for full-time work who had been unemployed for one year or more is 1.5 percentage points ( $= (30.8/100) \times 4.9$ ). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of unemployed persons looking for full-time work who have been unemployed for one year or more is between 29.3% and 32.3% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 27.8% to 33.8%.

# DIFFERENCES

**12** Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

**13** While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

## T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

	AUST. .....								
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	SE RSE
Size of estimate (persons)	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	. .	110	190	170	160	110	120	140	80 80.0
200	170	180	270	220	230	150	160	170	140 70.0
300	230	240	330	270	280	180	190	190	200 66.7
500	340	340	420	330	350	220	230	230	290 58.0
700	430	420	490	380	410	250	260	250	370 52.9
1,000	550	530	580	440	480	290	300	280	470 47.0
1,500	720	670	690	520	570	340	360	330	610 40.7
2,000	860	790	790	590	650	380	400	360	730 36.5
2,500	1 000	900	850	650	700	400	450	400	850 34.0
3,000	1 100	1 000	950	700	750	450	450	400	950 31.7
3,500	1 200	1 050	1 000	750	800	500	500	450	1 050 30.0
4,000	1 300	1 150	1 100	800	850	500	500	450	1 100 27.5
5,000	1 450	1 250	1 200	850	950	550	550	500	1 250 25.0
7,000	1 700	1 500	1 400	1 000	1 100	650	650	600	1 550 22.1
10,000	2 050	1 750	1 600	1 150	1 250	700	750	650	1 850 18.5
15,000	2 450	2 100	1 900	1 350	1 500	850	850	800	2 250 15.0
20,000	2 800	2 350	2 200	1 500	1 650	950	950	900	2 600 13.0
30,000	3 300	2 750	2 600	1 800	1 950	1 100	1 100	1 050	3 150 10.5
40,000	3 650	3 100	2 900	2 000	2 200	1 250	1 250	1 150	3 550 8.9
50,000	3 950	3 300	3 200	2 200	2 350	1 350	1 350	1 300	3 900 7.8
100,000	4 950	4 200	4 250	2 900	3 050	1 750	1 700	1 750	5 100 5.1
150,000	5 600	4 850	5 050	3 400	3 500	2 000	1 950	2 100	5 900 3.9
200,000	6 150	5 450	5 650	3 800	3 900	2 250	. .	2 400	6 550 3.3
300,000	7 200	6 450	6 650	4 450	4 450	2 600	. .	2 850	7 650 2.6
500,000	8 900	8 100	8 150	5 450	5 300	3 100	. .	. .	9 300 1.9
1,000,000	12 450	11 350	10 700	7 150	6 600	. .	. .	. .	12 150 1.2
2,000,000	18 300	16 450	13 950	9 350	8 150	. .	. .	. .	16 050 0.8
5,000,000	32 850	28 350	19 650	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	24 600 0.5
10,000,000	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	43 150 0.4

. . not applicable

## TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY *continued*

### T2 LEVELS AT WHICH ESTIMATES HAVE RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS OF 25% AND 50%(a)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
25% RSE									
Mean duration of unemployment	11 800	10 800	8 300	4 600	5 600	2 000	1 600	2 100	12 000
Median duration of unemployment	18 900	14 300	12 200	6 700	8 000	3 200	3 400	2 900	16 300
All other estimates	6 800	5 200	4 600	2 600	3 200	1 300	1 400	1 200	5 100
50% RSE									
Mean duration of unemployment	2 800	2 800	2 400	1 400	1 700	600	500	700	2 500
Median duration of unemployment	5 000	3 900	3 500	2 100	2 400	1 000	1 100	1 000	3 700
All other estimates	1 300	1 100	1 300	800	900	400	400	400	800

(a) Refers to the number of persons contributing to the estimate.

## GLOSSARY

<b>Active steps taken to find work</b>	<p>Steps taken by unemployed persons in their search for work during the current period of unemployment include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work</li> <li>■ answering a newspaper advertisement for a job</li> <li>■ checking Centrelink touchscreens</li> <li>■ checking workplace noticeboards</li> <li>■ registering with Centrelink for job search assistance</li> <li>■ registering with a Job Network employment agency</li> <li>■ contacting other employment agency</li> <li>■ advertising or tendering for work</li> <li>■ contacting friends or relatives.</li> </ul>
<b>All difficulties in finding work</b>	All difficulties in finding work experienced by unemployed persons during the current period of unemployment.
<b>Bachelor degree or above</b>	Bachelor degree or above includes qualifications at the Post graduate degree level, Graduate diploma and graduate certificate level and Bachelor degree level.
<b>Centrelink</b>	Centrelink is a statutory authority responsible for delivering a range of Commonwealth Government services, including the registration of persons for job search assistance and income support.
<b>Duration of current period of unemployment</b>	The elapsed period to the end of the reference week since a person began looking for work, or since a person last worked for two weeks or more, whichever is the shorter. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.
<b>Employed</b>	<p>Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers)</li> <li>■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers)</li> <li>■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week</li> <li>■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week</li> <li>■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement</li> <li>■ on strike or locked out</li> <li>■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.</li> </ul>
<b>Industry</b>	All occurrences of industry in this publication refer to Division, as classified by the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993</i> (cat. no. 1292.0).
<b>Job leavers</b>	Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and left that job voluntarily, for example, because of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours; the job was a holiday job or they left the job to return to studies; or their last job was running their own business and they closed down or sold that business for reasons other than financial difficulties.
<b>Job losers</b>	Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and left that job involuntarily, that is, were laid off or retrenched from that job; left that job because of their own ill-health or injury; the job was seasonal or temporary; or their last job was running their own business and the business closed down because of financial difficulties.

## GLOSSARY *continued*

<b>Job Network employment agency</b>	The Job Network is a national network of private, community and government organisations on contract to the government to provide employment placement services to the community. Jobseekers who are registered with Centrelink for job search assistance are able to contact any Job Network provider in their area to receive this service.
<b>Level of highest educational attainment</b>	Highest educational attainment identifies the highest achievement a person has attained in any area of study. It is defined as the highest educational attainment a person has achieved, and is not a measurement of relative importance of different fields of study. Higher levels of education are typically characterised by the greater significance of theoretical learning and greater complexity of factual and practical learning. It is derived from a person's highest year of school completed and level of highest non-school educational qualification. The highest qualification completed by the respondent is classified according to the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED)</i> (cat. no. 1272.0). See paragraphs 14 to 16 of the Explanatory Notes for further details on how highest educational attainment is determined.
<b>Looking for full-time work</b>	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ actively looked for full-time work and were available for work in the reference week</li> <li>■ actively looked for work and were not available for work in the reference week because they were waiting to start a new full-time job.</li> </ul>
<b>Looking for part-time work</b>	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ actively looked for part-time work only and were available for work in the reference week</li> <li>■ actively looked for work and were not available for work in the reference week because they were waiting to start a new part-time job.</li> </ul>
<b>Main difficulty in finding work</b>	The main difficulty experienced during the current period of unemployment.
<b>Main English-speaking countries</b>	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
<b>Mean duration of current period of unemployment</b>	The duration obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been unemployed by the number of persons in that group.
<b>Median duration of current period of unemployment</b>	The duration which divides unemployed persons into two equal size groups, one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the median, and the other, persons whose duration is below it.
<b>Number of offers of employment</b>	The number of separate offers of employment received during the current period of unemployment.
<b>Occupation</b>	All occurrences of occupation in this publication relate to Major Group as defined by the <i>Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition (ASCO)</i> (cat. no. 1220.0).
<b>Number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months</b>	The number of times the person reported being out of work and looking for a job during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week.
<b>Prefers to work more hours</b>	Whether an employed person who usually works part-time hours would prefer to work more hours.
<b>Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months</b>	The total number of weeks a person has been both out of work and looking for work at the same time during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week. Excludes the time a person spent looking for work while on holiday from a job and any week in which the person did any work at all.
<b>Unemployed</b>	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week</li> <li>■ were available for work in the reference week</li> </ul>

## GLOSSARY *continued*

### Unemployed *continued*

- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

**Whether had prior knowledge that job was available** Whether an employed person knew that a job was available with their current employer before making an approach to the employer for a job.

**Whether first job ever held** Whether the job currently held by an employed person is the first job they have ever held.

**Whether has ever worked** Whether an unemployed person has previously held a job.

**Whether out of work prior to starting job** Whether an employed person was unemployed prior to starting the job they currently held.

**Year 12 or below** Year 12 or below is participation in pre-primary, primary or secondary level education, regardless of the institution or location where the study is or was undertaken. It therefore includes such study undertaken in a TAFE or other institution.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

- INTERNET** [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au) the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY** A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE** For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC** For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

## INFORMATION SERVICE

Data that is already published and can be provided within five minutes is free of charge. Our information consultants can also help you to access the full range of ABS information—ABS user-pays services can be tailored to your needs, time frame and budget. Publications may be purchased. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

- PHONE** 1300 135 070
- EMAIL** [client.services@abs.gov.au](mailto:client.services@abs.gov.au)
- FAX** 1300 135 211
- POST** Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

## WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

ABS subscription services provide regular, convenient and prompt deliveries of ABS publications and products as they are released. Email delivery of monthly and quarterly publications is available.

- PHONE** 1300 366 323
- EMAIL** [subscriptions@abs.gov.au](mailto:subscriptions@abs.gov.au)
- FAX** 03 9615 7848
- POST** Subscription Services, ABS, GPO Box 2796Y, Melbourne Vic 3001



2622200007023

ISSN 0815 9971

RRP \$22.00