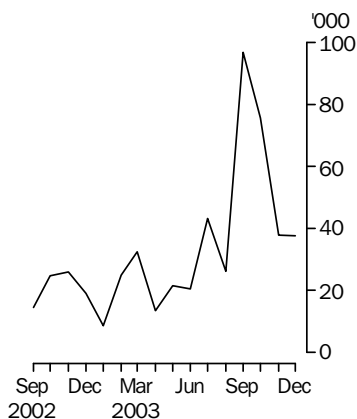


INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 18 MAR 2004

Working days lost



KEY FIGURES

	Nov 2003	Dec 2003	12 months ended Dec 2003
Number of disputes	r71	69	642
Number of employees involved ('000)	r32.9	61.9	275.6
Working days lost ('000)	r37.9	37.7	439.4
Working days lost per thousand employees	53

.. not applicable

r revised

KEY POINTS

MONTHLY ESTIMATES

- During December 2003, there were 69 disputes, 2 less than November 2003.
- The number of employees involved in industrial disputes increased from 32,900 in November 2003 to 61,900 in December 2003.
- There were 37,700 working days lost due to industrial disputation in December 2003, a decrease of 200 from November 2003.
- The Education and Health and community services industries accounted for 16,600 (44%) of the total number of working days lost in December 2003.
- In December 2003, New South Wales accounted for 28,600 (76%) of working days lost.

NOTE!
This publication is
being replaced.
See **Notes** on page 2.

ANNUAL ESTIMATES

- During the twelve months ended December 2003, there were 642 disputes, 124 less than in the twelve months ended December 2002.
- During the twelve months ended December 2003, there were 439,400 working days lost, 180,400 more than in the twelve months ended December 2002.
- The Coal mining industry had the highest number of working days lost per thousand employees (356) in the twelve months ended December 2003.
- Western Australia had the highest number of working days lost per thousand employees (97) in the twelve months ended December 2003.

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Peta Sheehan on Perth (08) 9360 5159.

NOTES

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE Revisions have been made to the monthly series as a result of disputes being identified after the release of the previous issue and as a result of correcting errors in previously reported data.

REPLACEMENT PUBLICATION This issue is the final release of monthly statistics of industrial disputes. Statistics contained in this publication will continue to be available, but for a quarterly reference period. The printed publication will be replaced with a quarterly electronic publication (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001) commencing with the March quarter 2004 reference period. The quarterly publication will contain a small number of summary tables and will be available free from the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. More detailed data will continue to be available as electronic spreadsheets, through the ABS web site, AusStats and ABS@, or on request.

The electronic publication for March quarter 2004 is due for release on 17 June 2004.
The June quarter 2004 issue is due for release on 16 September 2004.



ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

DISPUTES WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE PERIOD

Period	NUMBER OF DISPUTES		EMPLOYEES INVOLVED		Working days lost
	Commenced in period	Total	Newly involved	Total	
	no.	no.	'000	'000	
ANNUAL					
2001	665	675	223.9	225.7	393.1
2002	755	766	157.6	159.7	259.0
2003	633	642	274.6	275.6	439.4
MONTHLY					
2002					
October	73	87	10.2	13.6	24.6
November	63	85	12.1	13.9	25.9
December	45	53	15.4	17.9	19.1
2003					
January	32	40	3.8	4.7	8.7
February	67	78	11.3	15.8	25.0
March	54	73	14.1	18.2	32.5
April	36	49	6.4	10.0	13.5
May	47	60	8.7	10.1	21.5
June	46	57	11.0	12.6	20.5
July	52	64	47.8	51.3	43.2
August	62	74	12.7	14.3	26.1
September	66	81	43.9	83.8	96.9
October	62	76	70.8	72.2	75.8
November	59	r71	r30.5	r32.9	r37.9
December	50	69	13.6	61.9	37.7
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED					
2001					
December	665	675	223.9	225.7	393.1
2002					
December	755	766	157.6	159.7	259.0
2003					
December	633	642	274.6	275.6	439.4

r revised

WORKING DAYS LOST, Industry

Period	MINING		MANUFACTURING		Construction	Transport and storage; Communication services	Education; Health and community services	Other industries	All industries
	Coal	Other	Metal product; Machinery and equipment	Other					
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
ANNUAL									
2001	19.2	1.9	100.9	94.5	120.6	13.8	11.5	30.7	393.1
2002	6.9	1.2	34.9	52.9	101.7	18.3	4.9	38.3	259.0
2003	7.7	21.1	79.4	37.5	123.3	19.3	129.1	21.9	439.4
MONTHLY									
2002									
October	1.1	—	1.5	4.7	14.9	0.6	—	1.7	24.6
November	0.1	0.1	1.4	4.3	13.6	0.1	0.2	5.9	25.9
December	1.5	—	0.6	1.4	6.2	0.3	—	9.2	19.1
2003									
January	0.6	—	0.8	0.1	5.1	1.2	—	0.9	8.7
February	1.0	—	1.8	0.5	14.4	4.2	0.2	3.1	25.0
March	0.3	0.4	2.7	2.1	23.2	1.2	2.1	0.6	32.5
April	0.3	0.2	5.3	1.0	5.2	0.1	0.2	1.2	13.5
May	0.4	—	10.2	4.0	5.6	0.2	0.2	0.8	21.5
June	0.1	—	8.1	5.8	3.7	0.7	0.1	2.0	20.5
July	0.2	9.5	5.4	7.3	3.5	5.5	11.2	0.6	43.2
August	2.2	0.3	5.4	6.9	10.2	0.4	0.1	0.5	26.1
September	1.2	1.4	11.0	4.3	14.2	0.2	63.2	1.5	96.9
October	0.6	8.3	12.2	4.3	20.9	0.6	27.3	1.7	75.8
November	0.3	0.7	r8.7	0.8	12.2	1.3	8.0	5.9	r37.9
December	0.7	0.5	7.9	0.2	5.1	3.7	16.6	3.1	37.7
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED									
2001									
December	19.2	1.9	100.9	94.5	120.6	13.8	11.5	30.7	393.1
2002									
December	6.9	1.2	34.9	52.9	101.7	18.3	4.9	38.3	259.0
2003									
December	7.7	21.1	79.4	37.5	123.3	19.3	129.1	21.9	439.4

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

r revised

WORKING DAYS LOST, States & territories

<i>Period</i>	<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>Victoria</i>	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>South Australia</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	<i>Australia</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
ANNUAL									
2001	165.1	131.1	54.6	15.5	25.0	1.2	0.1	0.4	393.1
2002	73.4	94.6	43.1	10.5	32.2	3.5	0.8	1.0	259.0
2003	143.1	151.2	49.7	11.4	79.7	0.8	2.4	1.0	439.4
MONTHLY									
2002									
October	3.8	11.4	1.5	1.0	6.3	—	0.2	0.3	24.6
November	11.5	6.9	3.0	0.6	3.7	0.1	—	0.1	25.9
December	6.0	4.2	4.7	0.5	2.1	1.2	0.1	0.5	19.1
2003									
January	2.3	2.0	1.4	0.8	0.4	—	1.7	—	8.7
February	3.7	9.5	9.6	0.3	1.9	—	—	—	25.0
March	3.3	10.9	13.9	1.0	2.7	—	—	0.6	32.5
April	4.9	4.3	1.2	0.6	2.2	—	0.2	—	13.5
May	6.4	11.7	1.8	0.1	1.2	—	0.2	—	21.5
June	3.8	14.0	1.2	0.7	0.8	—	—	—	20.5
July	13.4	13.7	0.8	3.4	11.8	—	—	0.1	43.2
August	1.9	17.1	3.6	0.1	3.3	—	—	—	26.1
September	49.8	30.3	2.9	0.1	13.7	—	—	—	96.9
October	19.3	21.7	7.0	3.3	23.6	0.5	0.2	0.3	75.8
November	5.7	r12.3	3.0	0.8	16.2	0.1	—	—	r37.9
December	28.6	3.7	3.2	0.3	1.8	0.1	—	—	37.7
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED									
2001									
December	165.1	131.1	54.6	15.5	25.0	1.2	0.1	0.4	393.1
2002									
December	73.4	94.6	43.1	10.5	32.2	3.5	0.8	1.0	259.0
2003									
December	143.1	151.2	49.7	11.4	79.7	0.8	2.4	1.0	439.4

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

r revised

WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, Industry—12 months ended

Twelve months ended	MINING		MANUFACTURING		Construction	Transport and storage; Communication services	Education; Health and community services	Other industries	All industries
	Coal	Other	Metal product; Machinery and equipment	Other					
1999									
December	1 445	35	282	120	381	42	165	7	87
2000									
December	1 933	60	170	121	234	52	79	9	61
2001									
December	956	33	258	148	275	27	8	7	50
2002									
October	290	34	105	105	202	37	3	7	33
November	282	35	94	84	209	36	3	7	31
December	357	20	88	83	220	37	3	9	32
2003									
January	382	10	83	82	227	39	3	9	33
February	412	7	77	73	245	38	3	9	33
March	409	13	71	67	257	23	4	8	31
April	398	16	74	67	249	22	4	8	31
May	375	16	83	58	238	23	4	7	30
June	356	14	94	57	235	24	3	8	30
July	342	163	105	58	221	34	9	7	33
August	402	164	113	64	231	29	10	7	34
September	426	186	137	66	249	29	51	6	44
October	382	307	165	66	254	29	69	6	50
November	393	316	184	61	251	31	74	6	51
December	356	323	202	59	249	37	85	5	53

r revised

WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, States & territories—12 months ended

<i>Twelve months ended</i>	<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>Victoria</i>	<i>Queensland</i>	<i>South Australia</i>	<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>Tasmania</i>	<i>Northern Territory</i>	<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	<i>Australia</i>
1999									
December	126	116	38	27	57	2	3	30	87
2000									
December	64	71	64	28	68	7	9	9	61
2001									
December	62	65	38	27	32	7	2	3	50
2002									
October	26	50	28	18	41	18	8	3	33
November	26	46	27	17	39	19	8	4	31
December	27	46	30	18	40	20	8	7	32
2003									
January	27	46	30	18	39	20	27	7	33
February	26	47	33	17	40	20	25	7	33
March	20	44	40	18	39	10	25	9	31
April	20	42	40	16	41	10	28	9	31
May	20	41	39	14	39	10	29	9	30
June	21	45	34	14	37	9	29	9	30
July	24	48	30	17	49	9	29	10	33
August	23	53	30	15	51	8	29	10	34
September	40	65	31	15	61	8	29	10	44
October	46	69	34	19	82	10	28	10	50
November	44	r72	34	19	97	10	28	9	51
December	52	72	33	19	97	4	27	6	53

r revised

DISPUTES WHICH ENDED DURING THE 12 MONTHS TO DECEMBER 2003

	<i>Number of disputes</i>	<i>Employees involved</i>	<i>Working days lost</i>
	no.	'000	'000
.....			
CAUSE OF DISPUTE			
Wages	61	12.6	44.4
Leave, pensions, compensation	13	1.8	3.3
Managerial policy	285	140.0	267.4
Physical working conditions	187	31.1	42.9
Trade unionism	41	6.7	14.0
Hours of work	12	2.5	5.3
Other	33	96.4	92.1
Total	632	291.1	469.3

.....			
DURATION OF DISPUTE			
Up to and including 1 day	338	123.3	82.9
Over 1 and up to and including 2 days	154	131.6	177.2
Over 2 and less than 5 days	84	21.4	82.2
5 and less than 10 days	29	13.0	82.3
10 and less than 20 days	18	1.3	16.5
20 days and over	9	0.5	28.2
Total	632	291.1	469.3

.....			
METHOD OF SETTLEMENT			
Negotiation	101	18.5	74.9
State legislation	51	10.1	19.5
Federal and joint Federal-State legislation	71	23.3	41.3
Resumption without negotiation	365	232.1	296.6
Other methods	44	7.1	37.0
Total	632	291.1	469.3

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication relate to disputes which involved stoppages of work of ten working days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Ten working days is equivalent to the amount of ordinary time worked by ten people in one day. For example, 3,000 workers on strike for 2 hours would be counted as 750 working days lost (assuming they usually work an 8 hour day).

2 The statistics of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes only (see the definition of 'Disputes' in the Glossary). Effects of disputes on other establishments, such as stand-downs because of lack of materials, disruption of transport services and power cuts, are not included.

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

3 These statistics on industrial disputes are based on all disputes identified which occurred during the period. Disputes are identified through a range of sources, including newspaper and Internet reports, listings obtained from industrial relations commissions, contact with government, businesses, employer organisations and trade unions. Although every attempt is made to identify all disputes that occurred in a period, some small disputes may not have been identified through the sources available.

4 Once a dispute is identified, additional information is obtained, usually from employers, on the nature and extent of the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages, e.g. working days lost in a particular strike, may have been imputed. Due to the limitations of identifying disputes and imputation procedures, the statistics in this publication should not be regarded as an exact measure of the extent of industrial disputation.

5 Measures of industrial disputes are based on concepts and definitions outlined in international guidelines adopted by the 1993 International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts of Australia's industrial disputes 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).

TYPE OF DISPUTE

6 The following types of industrial disputes are included:

- unauthorised stopwork meetings
- unofficial strikes
- sympathetic strikes (e.g. strikes in support of a group of workers already on strike)
- political or protest strikes
- general strikes
- work stoppages initiated by employers (e.g. lockouts)
- rotating or revolving strikes (i.e. strikes which occur when workers at different locations take turns to stop work).

7 Excluded from these statistics are work-to-rules, go-slows, bans (e.g. overtime bans) and sit-ins. In addition, industrial disputes in which all employees resign are deemed to have been resolved. Statistics on those disputes will cease to be collected from the date of the employees' resignations.

CHANGES IN METHODOLOGY

8 The basis for the calculation of working days lost per thousand employees was changed in the January 1995 edition of this publication to use estimates of employees taken from the ABS Labour Force Survey only. Estimates have been recalculated on this basis for each 12 month period back to December 1990 and are available on request. For the January 1987 to December 1994 editions of this publication, estimates of employees were taken predominantly from the ABS Survey of Employment and Earnings.

9 The basis for the calculation of the number of disputes was changed in the November 1992 publication and the series revised back to September 1991. Before September 1991, disputes affecting more than one industry and/or State were counted as a separate dispute in each industry and State and in the Australian total. From

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

CHANGES IN METHODOLOGY *continued*

September 1991 onwards, a dispute affecting more than one industry and/or State is counted once in each industry and/or State, but only once at the broader industry and Australia level. The reason for the change was to align the method of counting the number of industrial disputes with the International Labour Organisation guidelines. This change does not affect the estimates of employees involved or working days lost.

INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION

10 Industry information on a monthly basis from January 1994 and on an annual basis from December 1994 is classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC)—for more details refer to *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 1993* (cat. no. 1292.0) available from the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

11 Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in information provided by respondents or in processing by the ABS. Although considerable care is taken in questionnaire design, in the instructions given to respondents, and in editing the returns, these inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, regardless of the collection method.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

12 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from ABS Bookshops:

- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0)—issued quarterly
- *Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia* (cat. no. 6310.0)—issued annually
- *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia* (cat. no. 6306.0)—issued biennially
- *Employment Arrangements and Superannuation, Australia* (cat. no. 6361.0)
- *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0)—issued monthly
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2001* (cat. no. 6102.0)—available from the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

13 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 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.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

14 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

ROUNDING

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

APPENDIX ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

INTRODUCTION

A range of other more detailed monthly and annual data from this collection can be provided on request and tailored to your individual requirements. The classifications, data items and ratios available are listed below.

A CUSTOMISED APPROACH

We can supply you with your requested information in a variety of formats to best suit your needs:

- printed tables
- spreadsheets in a range of formats compatible with your software package.

DATA AVAILABLE

The following variables are available from this collection (the more variables included in any one tabulation, the more likely it is that confidentiality provisions associated with the data will be invoked and some data suppressed).

- Classifications:
 - State and territory
 - Industry
 - Cause of dispute
 - Duration of dispute
 - Method of settlement
 - Distribution of employees involved
 - Distribution of working days lost
- Data items:
 - Number of disputes (commenced in the period, and total number of disputes)
 - Employees involved (newly involved and total number involved)
 - Working days lost
- Ratios:
 - Working days lost per thousand employees
 - Working days lost per dispute
 - Working days lost per employee involved
 - Employees per dispute

MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Peta Sheehan on Perth (08) 9360 5159 to enquire about the information from this collection or to order your special data requirements.

For information about the wider range of ABS data, see contact details on the back cover of this publication.

GLOSSARY

Cause of dispute The statistics for cause of industrial disputes relate to the reported main cause of stoppage of work and not necessarily all causes that may have been responsible for the stoppage of work. For these reasons, the statistics do not reflect the relative importance of all causes of disputes as perceived by both employers and employees. The causes are classified from information supplied by employers and according to standards determined by the International Labour Organisation. The classification of causes is as follows:

Wages: Claims involving general principles relating to wages e.g. increase (decrease) in wages; variation in method of payment, or combined claims relating to wages, hours or conditions of work in which the claim about wages is deemed to be the most important. Combined claims in which the other claims are deemed to be the most important are included under the relevant cause. Disputes over award restructuring are included under managerial policy.

Leave, Pensions, Compensation: Claims involving general principles relating to holidays and leave provisions; pension and retirement provisions; workers' compensation provisions; insertion of penal clause provisions in awards.

Managerial policy: Disputes concerning the exercise of managerial control by employers, e.g. terms and conditions of employment (other than disputes specifically about wages and hours); new awards and agreements; award restructuring; enterprise bargaining (including disputes over wages, leave, hours of work etc. where they are part of enterprise bargaining); work practices; principles of promotion or deployment of staff, including roster complaints and retrenchments; disciplinary matters including alleged victimisation of union officials; employment of particular persons; disagreement with managerial decisions.

Physical working conditions: Disputes concerning physical working conditions and safety issues, e.g. protective clothing and equipment; first aid services; uncomfortable working conditions; lack of, or the poor condition of, amenities; claims for assistance; shortage or poor distribution of equipment or material; condition of equipment; new production methods and equipment; arduous physical tasks.

Trade unionism: Disputes concerning employment of non-unionists, inter-union and intra-union disputes; sympathy stoppages in support of employees in another industry; recognition of union activities.

Hours of work: Claims involving general principles relating to hours of work, e.g. decrease (increase) in hours, distribution of hours.

Other: Disputes concerning protests directed against persons or situations other than those relating to the employer/employee relationship, e.g. political matters; fining and gaoling of persons; lack of work; lack of adequate transport; non-award public holidays; accidents and attendance at funerals. Stoppages for which no reason is given are also included in this category.

Disputes For these statistics, an industrial dispute is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees, or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

A dispute affecting several establishments is counted as a single dispute if it is organised or directed by one person or organisation; otherwise it is counted as a separate dispute at each establishment (in each state or territory) and in each industry in which it occurred.

A dispute affecting more than one industry and/or state is counted once in each industry and/or state but only once at the broader industry and Australia level. Before September 1991 disputes covering more than one industry and/or state were counted differently (refer to paragraph 9 of the Explanatory Notes for details).

GLOSSARY *continued*

Disputes <i>continued</i>	When there is a return to work between stoppages over the same issue, and the return to work is for less than two complete months, the stoppages are counted as a single dispute. When the return to work is for two or more months, the dispute is considered to have ended at the time of the return to work. Should a subsequent stoppage occur, it is counted as a new dispute.
Disputes which ended during the year	Disputes which ended during the year encompasses those disputes which: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ started in a previous year and ended in the reference year■ began and ended in the reference year.
Disputes which occurred during the period	Disputes which occurred during the period encompasses those disputes which: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ started in a previous month or year and ended in the reference period■ began and ended in the reference period■ began in the reference period and continued into the next period■ started prior to the reference month or year, continued through the reference period and into the next period.
Duration of dispute	The duration of a dispute is the average number of working days lost per employee involved in the dispute. The duration of the dispute is calculated by dividing the number of working days lost in the dispute by the number of employees involved (both directly and indirectly).
Employees	<p>Employees refers to wage and salary earners only. Excluded are persons who are self-employed (e.g. building sub-contractors, owner-drivers of trucks) and employers.</p> <p><i>Employees directly involved</i> are those who actually participated in the dispute in order to enforce or resist a demand or to express a grievance.</p> <p><i>Employees indirectly involved</i> are those who ceased work at the establishment where the stoppages occurred, but who were not themselves parties to the dispute. Employees who ceased work at establishments other than those where the stoppages occurred are excluded (see paragraph 2 of the Explanatory Notes).</p> <p><i>Employees newly involved</i> are those who are involved in the dispute for the first time during a dispute. Total employees comprises newly involved employees and employees involved for a second period in the same dispute.</p> <p><i>Total employees involved</i> for any period of time are obtained by adding together the number of employees involved in each dispute in the period. For any period of time the figures may include details of the same employees involved in more than one dispute. The longer the period of reference, the more chance there is of some double counting in the number of employees involved. Where there are varying numbers of employees involved during the progress of a dispute, the figures involved relate to the largest number of individual employees involved on any one day. Generally, the total number of employees involved for each year will equal the sum of the total number of employees involved in the first month of a year plus the number of employees newly involved in subsequent months. Differences between monthly and annual totals can occur due to the temporary cessation of stoppages which resume in subsequent months. Employees re-involved in this type of dispute are not classified as employees newly involved in stoppages in the second period in which the dispute occurs.</p>
Industry	<p>Industry is classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 1993 (see paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes).</p> <p><i>Other industries</i> comprises those industries not included in the specified industry groupings. Other industries comprises Agriculture, forestry and fishing; Electricity, gas and water supply; Wholesale trade; Retail trade; Accommodation, cafes and restaurants; Finance and insurance; Property and business services; Government administration and defence; Cultural and recreational services and Personal and other services.</p>

GLOSSARY *continued*

Method of settlement	<p>Statistics for the method of settlement of industrial disputes relate to the method directly responsible for ending the stoppage of work as reported and not necessarily to the method (or methods) responsible for settling all matters in dispute. For these reasons, they do not reflect the relative importance of the work of various industrial tribunals operating under state and federal legislation.</p> <p>The classification of method of settlement is as follows:</p> <p><i>Negotiation:</i> Private negotiation between the parties involved, or their representatives, without the intervention or assistance of authorities constituted under state or federal industrial legislation.</p> <p><i>State legislation:</i> Intervention or assistance of an industrial authority or authorities created by or constituted under state conciliation and arbitration or wages board legislation, or reference to such authorities or compulsory or voluntary conference. Intervention, assistance or advice of state government officials or inspectors.</p> <p><i>Federal and joint federal–state legislation:</i> Compulsory or voluntary conference or by intervention or assistance of, or reference to, the industrial relations commissions created by or constituted under the Industrial Relations Act, Coal Industry Acts, Stevedoring Industry Act; and other acts such as the Navigation Act and Public Service Arbitration Act. Intervention, assistance or advice of federal government officials or inspectors.</p> <p><i>Resumption without negotiation:</i> This category may include some disputes which are settled subject to subsequent negotiation of a formal nature, such as industrial court hearings. Stop-work meetings are included, and this category may also include disputes settled by ‘resumption’ as stated, but about which no further information is available.</p> <p><i>Other methods:</i> Mediation; filling places of employees on strike or locked out; closing establishments permanently; dismissal or resignation of employees.</p>
Working days lost	<p>Working days lost refers to working days lost by employees directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes, working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of employees involved and the duration of the dispute.</p>
Working days lost per thousand employees	<p>Working days lost per thousand employees are calculated for the twelve month period by dividing the total number of working days lost by the total number of employees and multiplying by 1,000. The number of employees is obtained from the ABS Labour Force Survey, and is averaged over the twelve month period. Refer to paragraph 8 of the Explanatory Notes for further information.</p>

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