



NEWS RELEASE

Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Floppy disk "first" on labour force data

The Australian Bureau of Statistics released today for the first time preliminary labour force data on floppy disk.

The information will be issued monthly on 5 1/4" disks compatible with IBM PCs.

The data files, in delimited ASCII format, can easily be loaded into the most popular spreadsheet packages. This allows quick analysis of trends in labour force data by selectively looking at major labour force aggregates.

For example, a marketing consultant who wants to position a product can look at trend estimates of employment, which show strong growth for men and women aged 20 and over.

The disks cost \$50 each for most users, with a substantial discount on annual subscriptions. There is a separate scale of charges for data agencies who want the disks for manipulation and resale.

* For more information or to obtain an order form, phone ABS Labour Household Surveys Section on (062) 52 6683.

** Note to editors: if you would like a complimentary disk phone Don Clark, Labour Household Surveys, on (062) 52 6683.