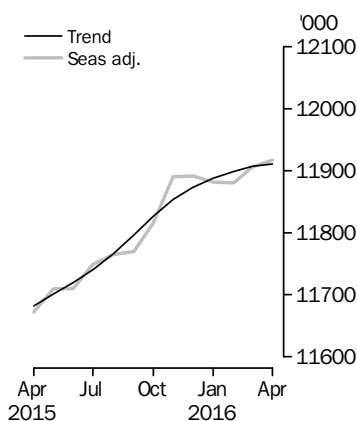


LABOUR FORCE

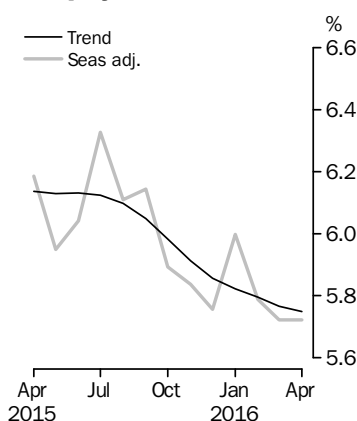
AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 19 MAY 2016

Employed Persons



Unemployment Rate



KEY FIGURES

	Mar 2016	Apr 2016	Mar 16 to Apr 16	Apr 15 to Apr 16
Trend				
Employed persons ('000)	11 906.7	11 910.8	4.1	2.0 %
Unemployed persons ('000)	728.5	726.6	-1.9	-4.9 %
Unemployment rate (%)	5.8	5.7	0.0 pts	-0.4 pts
Participation rate (%)	64.9	64.9	-0.1 pts	0.1 pts
Seasonally Adjusted				
Employed persons ('000)	11 906.4	11 917.2	10.8	2.1 %
Unemployed persons ('000)	722.9	723.3	0.4	-6.0 %
Unemployment rate (%)	5.7	5.7	0.0 pts	-0.5 pts
Participation rate (%)	64.9	64.8	0.0 pts	0.1 pts

KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES (MONTHLY CHANGE)

- Employment increased 4,100 to 11,910,800.
- Unemployment decreased 1,900 to 726,600.
- Unemployment rate decreased by less than 0.1 pts to 5.7%.
- Participation rate decreased by 0.1 pts to 64.9%.
- Monthly hours worked in all jobs decreased 5.6 million hours to 1,628.9 million hours.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES (MONTHLY CHANGE)

- Employment increased 10,800 to 11,917,200. Full-time employment decreased 9,300 to 8,165,600 and part-time employment increased 20,200 to 3,751,600.
- Unemployment increased 400 to 723,300. The number of unemployed persons looking for full-time work remained steady at 515,000 and the number of unemployed persons only looking for part-time work increased 400 to 208,200.
- Unemployment rate remained steady at 5.7%.
- Participation rate decreased by less than 0.1 pts to 64.8%.
- Monthly hours worked in all jobs decreased 17.9 million hours to 1,613.8 million hours.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, email client.services@abs.gov.au > or contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
May 2016	16 June 2016
June 2016	14 July 2016
July 2016	18 August 2016
August 2016	15 September 2016
September 2016	20 October 2016
October 2016	17 November 2016

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WHAT'S NEW IN THE LABOUR FORCE

From the August 2015 issue the ABS commenced quarterly updating (rebenchmarking) Labour Force population benchmarks with the latest available Estimated Resident Population series. To enable users to assess the impact of the rebenchmarking, the ABS publishes rebenchmarked Labour Force estimates one week prior to each quarterly release of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), within Labour Force, Australia - Rebenchmarked Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0.55.003). This additional quarterly release includes all spreadsheets and one data cube that are released as part of Labour Force, Australia. The May 2016 issue of the rebenchmarked estimates will be released on 9 June 2016.

ROUNDING

Estimates of changes shown on the front cover and used in the commentary have been calculated using unrounded estimates, and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movement obtained from the rounded estimates. The graphs on the front cover also depict unrounded estimates.

SAMPLING ERROR

The estimates in this publication are based on a sample survey. Published estimates and movements are subject to sampling variability. Standard errors give a measure of sampling variability. The interval bounded by two standard errors is the 95% confidence interval, which provides a way of looking at the variability inherent in estimates. There is a 95% chance that the true value of the estimate lies within that interval.

MOVEMENTS IN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES BETWEEN MARCH 2016 AND APRIL 2016

.....

	<i>Monthly change</i>	<i>95% Confidence interval</i>
Total Employment	10 800	-47 600 to 69 200
Total Unemployment	400	-38 000 to 38 800
Unemployment rate	0.0 pts	-0.4 pts to 0.4 pts
Participation rate	0.0 pts	-0.4 pts to 0.4 pts

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David W. Kalisch
Australian Statistician

LABOUR FORCE COMMENTARY APRIL 2016

NATIONAL ESTIMATES

TREND ESTIMATES

Australia's trend estimate of employment increased by 4,100 persons in April 2016, with:

- the number of unemployed persons decreased by 1,900;
- the unemployment rate decreased by less than 0.1 percentage points to 5.7 per cent;
- the participation rate decreased 0.1 percentage points to 64.9 per cent; and
- the employment to population ratio decreased by less than 0.1 percentage points to 61.1 per cent.

The trend unemployment rate remained at 6.1 per cent from April 2015 to August 2015, before declining over subsequent months to its current level at 5.7 per cent. Over this same period, the trend employment to population ratio, which is a measure of how employed the population is, increased from 60.8 to 61.1 per cent and has remained relatively steady.

Over the past 12 months, trend employment increased by 228,900 (or 2.0%), which was above the average year-on-year growth over the last 20 years of 1.8%. Unemployment decreased by 37,200 (or 4.9%) from April 2015, with the trend unemployment rate decreasing from 6.1 per cent to 5.7 per cent over the same period. The participation rate and employment to population ratio both increased over this period (up 0.1 and 0.3 percentage points respectively).

The trend employment increase of 4,100 persons between March and April 2016 represents a monthly growth rate of 0.03%, which is below the monthly average over the past 20 years of 0.15%. While trend employment growth was above the 20 year average from December 2014 to December 2015, the rate of growth in employment for the past four months has been below this average.

The sustained trend in part-time employment growth continued from March into April, with the 10,500 increase being the eleventh consecutive month increase of more than 10,000 persons. In contrast, trend full-time employment decreased by 6,400 persons, its third consecutive monthly decrease.

Trend monthly hours worked in all jobs decreased 5.6 million hours (0.3%) in April 2016 to 1,628.9 million hours. This was the fourth consecutive decrease in monthly hours worked in all jobs, which reflects a cumulative decrease of 16.2 million hours (1.0%) from the series peak at December 2015.

The trend series smooths the more volatile seasonally adjusted estimates and provide the best measure of the underlying behaviour of the labour market.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for April 2016 was unchanged at 5.7 per cent and the labour force participation rate decreased by less than 0.1 percentage points to 64.8 per cent.

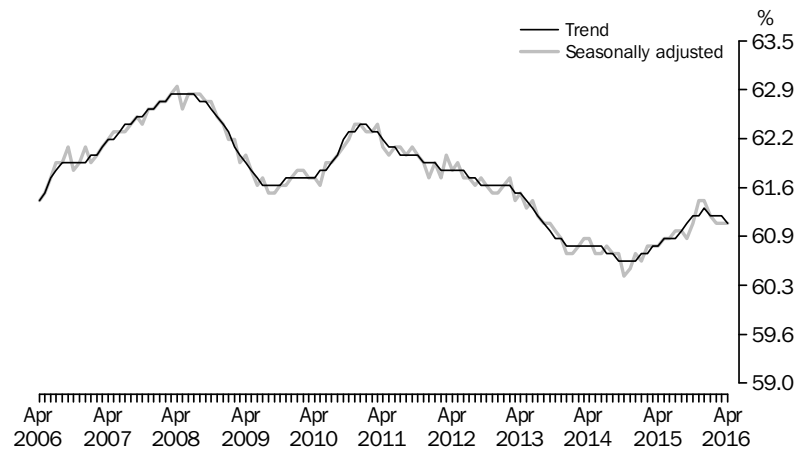
Seasonally adjusted employment increased by 10,800 persons, with a full-time employment decrease of 9,300 persons offset by an increase in part-time employment of 20,200.

Seasonally adjusted monthly hours worked in all jobs decreased 17.9 million hours (1.1%) in April 2016 to 1,613.8 million hours.

The seasonally adjusted employment to population ratio remained steady at 61.1% in April 2016.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
ESTIMATES *continued*

EMPLOYMENT TO POPULATION RATIO, PERSONS, April 2006 to April 2016



STATE ESTIMATES

Trend employment growth in April 2016 was strongest in Victoria (up 5,200 persons) and South Australia (up 1,100 persons).

In seasonally adjusted terms, the largest absolute increases in employment in April 2016 were in New South Wales (up 8,400 persons), South Australia (up 5,400 persons) and Western Australia (up 700 persons). The only State with a total decrease in seasonally adjusted employment was Queensland (down 5,600 persons).

The increases in trend unemployment rates were in Queensland (up 0.1 percentage point) and Northern Territory (up 0.1 percentage point). The decreases were in Australian Capital Territory (down 0.2 percentage points) and Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania (all down 0.1 percentage point) and were relatively unchanged in New South Wales and South Australia.

The largest decreases in the seasonally adjusted unemployment rates were in Tasmania (down 0.5 percentage points) and South Australia (down 0.4 percentage points). The largest increase was in Queensland (up 0.3 percentage points) and relatively unchanged in New South Wales and Victoria.

The trend participation rate decreased in Australian Capital Territory (down 0.2 percentage points), and New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania (all down 0.1 percentage points) and was relatively unchanged in Victoria, South Australia and Northern Territory.

The largest decreases in the seasonally adjusted participation rates were in Tasmania (down 0.3 percentage points) and Victoria (down 0.1 percentage points). The largest increases in the seasonally adjusted participation rates were in New South Wales and South Australia (both up 0.1 percentage points).

Seasonally adjusted estimates are not published for the territories and the ABS recommends using trend estimates to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series.

LABOUR FORCE COMMENTARY APRIL 2016 *continued*

STATE ESTIMATES *continued*

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, STATES AND TERRITORIES

	TREND		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	
	
	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>
	%	%	%	%
New South Wales	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Victoria	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.6
Queensland	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.5
South Australia	7.0	7.0	7.1	6.8
Western Australia	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.6
Tasmania	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.3
Northern Territory	4.4	4.5	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	4.2	4.1	np	np
Australia	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

INSIGHTS FROM THE ORIGINAL DATA

SAMPLE COMPOSITION

The Labour Force Survey sample can be thought of as comprising eight sub-samples (or rotation groups), with each sub-sample remaining in the survey for eight months, and one rotation group "rotating out" each month and being replaced by a new group "rotating in". This sample rotation is important in ensuring that seven-eighths of the sample are common from one month to the next, to ensure that changes in the estimates reflect real changes in the labour market, rather than the sample. In addition, the replacement sample is generally selected from the same geographic areas as the outgoing one, as part of a representative sampling approach.

When considering movements in the original estimates, it is possible to decompose the sample into three components:

- the matched common sample (survey respondents who responded in both March and April);
- the unmatched common sample (respondents in April but who did not respond in March, or vice versa); and
- the incoming rotation group (who replaced respondents who rotated out in March).

The detailed decomposition of each of these movements is included in the data cube 'Insights From the Original Data'.

In considering the three components of the sample, it is important to remember that the matched common sample describes the change observed for the same respondents between March and April, while the other two components reflect differences between the aggregate labour force status of different groups of people.

While the rotation groups are designed to be representative of the population, the outgoing and incoming rotation groups will almost always have somewhat different characteristics, as a result of the groups representing a sample of different households and people. The design of the survey, including the weighting and estimation processes, ensures that these differences are generally relatively minor and seeks to ensure that differences in characteristics of rotation groups do not affect the representativeness of the survey and its estimates. Monthly estimates are always designed to be representative of their respective months, regardless of the relative contribution of the three components of the sample.

INCOMING ROTATION GROUP

In original terms, the incoming rotation group in April 2016 had a lower proportion of people employed full-time when compared to the rest of the sample (all other rotation groups except the incoming rotation group). 66.5% of employed people were employed full-time in the incoming rotation group, compared with 68.6% of employed people being employed full-time for the rest of the sample.

OUTGOING ROTATION GROUP

The outgoing rotation group in April 2016, which will be replaced by a new incoming rotation group in May 2016, had a similar employment to population ratio (60.8% in April 2016) compared to the sample as a whole (61.2% in April 2016). The proportion of people employed people who were employed full-time was 68.2% in the outgoing rotation group and 68.1% for the sample as a whole.

OUTGOING ROTATION
GROUP *continued*

The unemployment rate and a participation rate of the outgoing rotation group in April 2016 were similar to the sample as a whole. The unemployment rate for the outgoing rotation group in April 2016 was 5.9%, which was slightly higher than the 5.7% for the whole sample. The participation rate for the outgoing rotation group in April 2016 was 64.6%, slightly lower than the 64.9% for the whole sample.

THE IMPORTANCE OF
TREND DATA

As the gross flows and rotation group data are presented in original terms they are not directly comparable to the seasonally adjusted and trend data discussed elsewhere in the commentary, and are included to provide additional information for the original data. Since the original data are unadjusted, they have a considerable level of inherent sampling variability, which is specifically adjusted for in the trend series. The trend data provide the best measure of the underlying behaviour of the labour market and are the focus of the commentary in this publication.

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED		LABOUR FORCE	
	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Employment to population ratio</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Unemployment rate</i>	<i>Labour force</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
	'000	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%

TREND

New South Wales	2 628.4	3 787.4	60.6	212.0	5.3	3 999.3	63.9
Victoria	2 017.4	3 002.4	61.0	183.6	5.8	3 186.0	64.7
Queensland	1 647.0	2 364.7	61.3	156.6	6.2	2 521.3	65.3
South Australia	528.7	814.0	57.9	61.3	7.0	875.3	62.2
Western Australia	923.5	1 354.2	64.1	79.5	5.5	1 433.7	67.9
Tasmania	155.8	237.3	55.9	16.8	6.6	254.1	59.9
Northern Territory	107.1	130.9	70.5	6.2	4.5	137.0	73.8
Australian Capital Territory	156.0	211.3	66.9	8.9	4.1	220.3	69.7
Australia	8 174.4	11 910.8	61.1	726.6	5.7	12 637.4	64.9

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

New South Wales	2 638.1	3 791.7	60.6	212.4	5.3	4 004.1	64.0
Victoria	2 010.6	3 006.3	61.0	178.6	5.6	3 184.9	64.6
Queensland	1 634.5	2 354.9	61.0	162.7	6.5	2 517.6	65.2
South Australia	526.5	817.5	58.1	59.4	6.8	876.9	62.4
Western Australia	922.7	1 358.1	64.3	80.2	5.6	1 438.3	68.1
Tasmania	156.9	237.9	56.0	16.0	6.3	253.9	59.8
Australia	8 165.6	11 917.2	61.1	723.3	5.7	12 640.4	64.8

ORIGINAL

New South Wales	2 638.7	3 815.5	61.0	206.6	5.1	4 022.1	64.3
Victoria	2 008.9	3 007.4	61.0	180.6	5.7	3 188.0	64.7
Queensland	1 620.3	2 354.9	61.0	161.5	6.4	2 516.4	65.1
South Australia	527.2	823.8	58.6	57.3	6.5	881.1	62.7
Western Australia	915.8	1 353.7	64.1	82.5	5.7	1 436.2	68.0
Tasmania	156.7	239.4	56.4	15.7	6.2	255.1	60.1
Northern Territory	107.8	131.7	70.8	5.7	4.2	137.5	73.9
Australian Capital Territory	156.2	213.6	67.6	8.6	3.9	222.2	70.3
Australia	8 131.6	11 940.0	61.2	718.6	5.7	12 658.6	64.9

	EMPLOYED FULL-TIME	EMPLOYED TOTAL	UNEMPLOYED TOTAL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	PARTICIPATION RATE	CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER
	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Original</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
PERSONS						
April 2013	101.4	126.5	7.1	5.3	73.6	181.5
April 2014	111.0	133.6	5.4	3.9	75.4	184.3
2015						
April	108.7	134.5	6.1	4.3	75.9	185.1
May	109.0	134.8	6.1	4.4	76.0	185.4
June	109.2	134.8	6.3	4.4	76.0	185.7
July	109.1	134.4	6.3	4.5	75.8	185.7
August	108.8	134.0	6.3	4.5	75.6	185.7
September	108.3	133.5	6.2	4.5	75.3	185.7
October	107.7	132.9	6.1	4.4	74.9	185.6
November	107.1	132.4	6.0	4.3	74.6	185.5
December	106.7	131.9	5.9	4.3	74.3	185.4
2016						
January	106.6	131.5	5.9	4.3	74.1	185.5
February	106.7	131.2	6.0	4.3	73.9	185.5
March	106.8	131.0	6.0	4.4	73.8	185.6
April	107.1	130.9	6.2	4.5	73.8	186.0
MALES						
April 2013	60.8	69.8	3.9	5.3	77.9	94.6
April 2014	67.3	74.3	3.1	4.1	80.1	96.6
2015						
April	64.9	73.3	3.6	4.7	79.3	97.0
May	65.1	73.7	3.6	4.7	79.5	97.2
June	65.3	73.9	3.6	4.7	79.6	97.5
July	65.4	73.9	3.6	4.6	79.5	97.4
August	65.2	73.8	3.4	4.4	79.3	97.3
September	64.9	73.6	3.3	4.3	79.0	97.3
October	64.4	73.1	3.2	4.1	78.5	97.2
November	63.7	72.5	3.1	4.1	77.8	97.2
December	63.2	71.8	3.2	4.2	77.2	97.1
2016						
January	62.8	71.2	3.2	4.4	76.6	97.1
February	62.5	70.7	3.4	4.6	76.2	97.1
March	62.4	70.2	3.5	4.7	75.8	97.1
April	62.5	70.0	3.6	4.9	75.7	97.4
FEMALES						
April 2013	40.6	56.7	3.2	5.3	68.9	86.9
April 2014	43.7	59.3	2.2	3.6	70.1	87.7
2015						
April	43.8	61.1	2.5	3.9	72.2	88.1
May	43.8	61.1	2.5	4.0	72.2	88.1
June	43.8	60.9	2.6	4.1	72.0	88.2
July	43.7	60.6	2.8	4.4	71.7	88.3
August	43.6	60.2	2.9	4.6	71.4	88.4
September	43.4	59.9	2.9	4.7	71.1	88.5
October	43.3	59.8	2.9	4.7	71.0	88.4
November	43.4	59.9	2.8	4.5	71.0	88.4
December	43.5	60.0	2.7	4.4	71.0	88.3
2016						
January	43.8	60.3	2.6	4.2	71.2	88.4
February	44.1	60.5	2.6	4.1	71.4	88.4
March	44.4	60.7	2.5	4.0	71.5	88.5
April	44.6	60.9	2.5	4.0	71.7	88.6

	EMPLOYED FULL-TIME	EMPLOYED TOTAL	UNEMPLOYED TOTAL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	PARTICIPATION RATE	CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER
	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Original</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
PERSONS						
April 2013	155.1	210.8	9.4	4.3	72.4	304.5
April 2014	155.6	210.7	8.2	3.7	71.0	308.4
2015						
April	154.0	209.4	9.5	4.3	70.2	311.7
May	154.3	209.7	9.6	4.4	70.3	311.9
June	154.3	209.7	9.9	4.5	70.3	312.1
July	153.9	209.5	10.2	4.7	70.3	312.5
August	153.5	209.4	10.7	4.8	70.3	312.9
September	153.3	209.6	11.0	5.0	70.4	313.3
October	153.5	210.0	11.2	5.1	70.6	313.5
November	154.0	210.5	11.1	5.0	70.6	313.7
December	154.6	210.9	10.7	4.8	70.6	313.9
2016						
January	155.0	211.2	10.3	4.7	70.4	314.6
February	155.4	211.3	9.8	4.4	70.2	315.2
March	155.7	211.3	9.4	4.2	69.9	315.8
April	156.0	211.3	8.9	4.1	69.7	316.0
MALES						
April 2013	89.4	108.2	5.0	4.4	76.2	148.5
April 2014	90.2	110.6	3.6	3.1	75.8	150.5
2015						
April	89.2	108.0	4.7	4.1	74.1	152.0
May	89.2	107.9	4.8	4.3	74.1	152.1
June	88.9	107.6	5.0	4.5	74.0	152.2
July	88.3	107.1	5.3	4.7	73.7	152.5
August	87.7	106.5	5.6	5.0	73.5	152.7
September	87.1	106.1	6.0	5.4	73.4	152.9
October	86.9	106.0	6.3	5.6	73.4	153.0
November	87.1	106.0	6.4	5.7	73.4	153.1
December	87.5	106.1	6.3	5.6	73.3	153.2
2016						
January	87.8	106.2	6.0	5.4	73.1	153.5
February	88.2	106.3	5.6	5.0	72.8	153.8
March	88.5	106.4	5.2	4.7	72.5	154.1
April	88.7	106.5	4.8	4.3	72.2	154.2
FEMALES						
April 2013	65.8	102.7	4.4	4.1	68.7	156.0
April 2014	65.4	100.1	4.6	4.4	66.4	157.9
2015						
April	64.7	101.4	4.8	4.6	66.5	159.7
May	65.1	101.8	4.8	4.5	66.7	159.8
June	65.4	102.1	4.8	4.5	66.9	159.9
July	65.6	102.5	4.9	4.6	67.1	160.0
August	65.8	102.9	5.0	4.6	67.4	160.2
September	66.1	103.4	5.0	4.6	67.6	160.4
October	66.6	104.0	4.9	4.5	67.8	160.5
November	66.9	104.5	4.7	4.3	67.9	160.6
December	67.1	104.8	4.5	4.1	67.9	160.8
2016						
January	67.1	105.0	4.3	3.9	67.9	161.1
February	67.2	105.0	4.2	3.9	67.7	161.4
March	67.2	104.9	4.2	3.8	67.5	161.7
April	67.3	104.8	4.1	3.8	67.3	161.8

	EMPLOYED				UNEMPLOYED				LABOUR FORCE
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Employment to	Looked for full-time work	Looked for part-time work only	Total	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
				population ratio					
	'000	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
PERSONS									
April 2013	905.9	919.0	1 823.8	59.0	150.8	95.0	245.8	11.9	67.0
April 2014	872.8	926.1	1 798.4	57.8	160.4	107.8	268.4	13.0	66.4
2015									
April	870.9	946.7	1 816.3	58.1	163.2	123.1	285.8	13.6	67.3
May	872.1	950.4	1 822.0	58.3	161.8	122.7	284.9	13.5	67.4
June	871.6	955.4	1 827.2	58.5	160.7	121.3	283.1	13.4	67.5
July	871.1	960.5	1 832.2	58.6	159.3	119.1	279.9	13.3	67.5
August	870.9	965.1	1 837.0	58.7	158.1	116.4	276.0	13.1	67.5
September	871.8	968.6	1 841.2	58.8	156.5	113.7	271.3	12.9	67.5
October	873.4	970.8	1 843.8	58.9	154.4	111.5	266.5	12.6	67.4
November	874.3	972.1	1 844.6	58.9	152.3	110.0	262.4	12.4	67.4
December	874.2	973.2	1 844.3	58.9	151.1	109.3	259.7	12.3	67.3
2016									
January	872.8	974.6	1 843.6	58.8	150.6	109.0	258.4	12.3	67.2
February	870.2	976.4	1 843.3	58.8	150.5	108.6	257.4	12.2	67.1
March	867.6	978.2	1 843.7	58.7	150.3	108.2	256.5	12.2	67.0
April	864.8	979.7	1 844.1	58.7	150.6	107.7	256.0	12.2	66.9
MALES									
April 2013	553.2	381.2	934.4	59.2	90.9	47.6	138.5	12.9	67.9
April 2014	529.2	387.3	916.5	57.5	95.2	49.8	145.0	13.7	66.6
2015									
April	522.3	406.8	929.1	58.1	98.6	62.7	161.2	14.8	68.1
May	522.0	408.1	930.1	58.1	97.6	62.2	159.8	14.7	68.1
June	522.5	409.3	931.7	58.2	96.8	60.9	157.7	14.5	68.1
July	523.5	410.0	933.5	58.3	96.0	59.3	155.4	14.3	68.0
August	524.3	410.8	935.0	58.4	95.7	57.9	153.7	14.1	68.0
September	524.5	411.6	936.1	58.5	95.6	57.0	152.6	14.0	68.0
October	523.6	412.7	936.3	58.5	95.3	56.8	152.1	14.0	67.9
November	521.0	414.9	935.9	58.4	94.7	57.0	151.8	14.0	67.9
December	517.1	418.3	935.5	58.4	94.1	57.2	151.3	13.9	67.8
2016									
January	512.8	422.6	935.4	58.3	93.6	57.0	150.6	13.9	67.7
February	508.5	427.2	935.7	58.3	93.1	56.5	149.6	13.8	67.6
March	504.7	431.6	936.2	58.3	92.4	55.9	148.3	13.7	67.5
April	501.4	435.3	936.7	58.3	92.0	55.1	147.1	13.6	67.4
FEMALES									
April 2013	352.7	537.8	890.5	59.0	59.9	47.4	107.3	10.7	66.1
April 2014	343.6	538.8	882.5	58.1	65.2	58.0	123.2	12.3	66.2
2015									
April	348.6	539.9	888.5	58.3	64.6	60.4	125.1	12.3	66.5
May	350.1	542.3	892.4	58.5	64.2	60.5	124.7	12.3	66.7
June	349.2	546.1	895.3	58.7	63.9	60.4	124.3	12.2	66.8
July	347.6	550.5	898.1	58.8	63.3	59.8	123.1	12.0	66.9
August	346.6	554.3	900.9	59.0	62.3	58.5	120.9	11.8	66.9
September	347.3	557.1	904.4	59.2	60.8	56.8	117.6	11.5	66.9
October	349.8	558.1	907.9	59.4	59.1	54.7	113.8	11.1	66.9
November	353.4	557.2	910.6	59.6	57.6	53.0	110.6	10.8	66.8
December	357.1	554.9	912.0	59.6	56.9	52.1	109.0	10.7	66.8
2016									
January	360.0	552.0	912.0	59.6	57.0	52.0	109.0	10.7	66.7
February	361.7	549.2	910.9	59.5	57.4	52.1	109.5	10.7	66.6
March	362.9	546.6	909.5	59.3	57.9	52.3	110.2	10.8	66.5
April	363.4	544.4	907.8	59.1	58.7	52.6	111.2	10.9	66.4

	EMPLOYED				UNEMPLOYED				LABOUR FORCE
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Employment to	Looked for full-time work	Looked for part-time work only	Total	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
				population ratio					
	'000	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
PERSONS									
April 2013	902.5	923.4	1 829.7	59.2	152.0	95.2	244.1	11.8	67.1
April 2014	863.2	927.9	1 795.6	57.7	161.6	110.1	268.6	13.0	66.2
2015									
April	874.1	939.2	1 818.1	58.2	160.4	126.7	283.6	13.5	67.2
May	866.4	956.5	1 822.0	58.3	155.2	119.5	280.3	13.4	67.2
June	877.2	950.6	1 828.2	58.5	157.8	121.9	278.6	13.2	67.5
July	875.9	961.5	1 832.1	58.6	167.3	124.2	293.5	13.8	68.1
August	868.9	965.0	1 835.1	58.6	159.3	115.3	275.7	13.1	67.4
September	861.1	970.1	1 835.0	58.6	159.0	109.9	269.7	12.8	67.0
October	868.7	976.1	1 848.0	59.0	147.1	112.7	260.9	12.4	67.2
November	879.6	971.5	1 854.3	59.3	152.4	109.1	262.9	12.4	67.5
December	900.1	964.7	1 850.6	59.2	151.4	108.1	257.2	12.1	67.9
2016									
January	849.3	980.6	1 825.4	58.3	154.0	111.1	263.9	12.6	66.9
February	874.2	971.0	1 843.4	58.7	148.9	109.0	256.0	12.2	67.0
March	865.3	984.4	1 846.7	58.7	147.6	106.4	252.9	12.0	66.9
April	865.1	979.1	1 849.7	58.9	152.6	108.4	258.4	12.3	67.0
MALES									
April 2013	551.8	380.9	932.7	59.0	94.7	44.3	139.0	13.0	67.8
April 2014	534.5	384.9	919.4	57.7	94.6	51.6	146.2	13.7	66.9
2015									
April	522.8	401.7	924.5	57.8	96.8	68.8	165.6	15.2	68.1
May	520.2	412.4	932.6	58.3	95.8	61.3	157.1	14.4	68.2
June	521.4	407.1	928.5	58.1	91.9	61.9	153.9	14.2	67.7
July	522.3	412.3	934.7	58.4	100.6	57.0	157.5	14.4	68.3
August	524.0	411.4	935.3	58.4	96.8	57.5	154.3	14.2	68.0
September	526.3	409.2	935.5	58.4	96.7	56.7	153.5	14.1	67.9
October	526.3	414.5	940.7	58.7	92.8	57.6	150.4	13.8	68.1
November	519.4	413.3	932.7	58.2	93.3	56.5	149.8	13.8	67.6
December	523.0	415.6	938.6	58.6	94.5	55.4	149.9	13.8	68.0
2016									
January	503.0	427.1	930.1	58.0	97.1	59.9	157.0	14.4	67.8
February	513.4	420.5	933.9	58.2	92.8	56.7	149.6	13.8	67.5
March	505.7	436.1	941.8	58.5	89.2	56.4	145.6	13.4	67.6
April	497.7	438.5	936.2	58.2	92.6	52.5	145.1	13.4	67.2
FEMALES									
April 2013	350.7	542.5	893.1	59.1	57.3	50.9	108.2	10.8	66.3
April 2014	328.7	543.0	871.7	57.3	67.0	58.6	125.5	12.6	65.6
2015									
April	351.3	537.5	888.8	58.3	63.6	57.9	121.5	12.0	66.2
May	346.1	544.2	890.3	58.4	59.4	58.3	117.6	11.7	66.1
June	355.8	543.5	899.4	59.0	65.9	60.0	125.9	12.3	67.3
July	353.6	549.1	902.7	59.2	66.7	67.2	133.9	12.9	67.9
August	344.9	553.6	898.5	58.8	62.5	57.8	120.4	11.8	66.7
September	334.7	560.9	895.6	58.6	62.3	53.2	115.4	11.4	66.1
October	342.4	561.6	904.0	59.1	54.3	55.1	109.4	10.8	66.3
November	360.2	558.2	918.4	60.1	59.1	52.6	111.7	10.8	67.4
December	377.1	549.1	926.2	60.6	56.8	52.7	109.6	10.6	67.8
2016									
January	346.3	553.5	899.9	58.8	56.9	51.1	108.0	10.7	65.9
February	360.8	550.5	911.3	59.5	56.1	52.2	108.3	10.6	66.5
March	359.6	548.2	907.9	59.1	58.4	50.0	108.4	10.7	66.2
April	367.4	540.5	908.0	59.2	60.1	55.9	115.9	11.3	66.7

	EMPLOYED				UNEMPLOYED				LABOUR FORCE		Not in the labour force (NILF)	Civ. pop. aged 15-24
	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Emp. to pop. ratio	Looked for full- time	Looked for part- time only	Total	Unemp. rate	Total	Part. rate		
	'000	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	'000	%	'000	%		
ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
New South Wales	21.2	210.0	231.2	43.3	*6.6	23.8	30.5	11.6	261.6	49.0	272.3	533.9
Victoria	12.1	179.2	191.3	42.5	6.2	30.3	36.5	16.0	227.8	50.6	222.6	450.4
Queensland	10.1	127.6	137.7	42.6	7.3	21.3	28.6	17.2	166.2	51.5	156.6	322.8
South Australia	*1.8	42.7	44.4	37.0	4.5	7.1	11.6	20.7	56.0	46.6	64.1	120.1
Western Australia	*2.8	73.5	76.3	45.8	*2.1	10.1	12.2	13.8	88.5	53.1	78.0	166.5
Tasmania	1.6	12.6	14.2	40.6	*0.9	2.6	3.4	19.5	17.7	50.5	17.3	35.0
Northern Territory	0.4	3.8	4.2	38.3	*0.1	*0.2	0.3	6.8	4.5	41.1	6.5	11.0
Australian Capital Territory	1.8	12.8	14.6	45.7	*0.1	1.9	2.0	11.9	16.6	51.9	15.4	32.0
Australia	51.7	662.2	713.9	42.7	27.7	97.3	125.0	14.9	838.9	50.2	832.8	1 671.8
NOT ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
New South Wales	257.8	100.5	358.3	77.5	40.5	*1.6	42.1	10.5	400.5	86.6	61.8	462.3
Victoria	191.9	79.3	271.2	79.1	21.4	*3.1	24.4	8.3	295.7	86.3	47.0	342.7
Queensland	168.1	74.1	242.2	74.9	34.1	*4.1	38.2	13.6	280.4	86.7	42.9	323.3
South Australia	49.0	26.7	75.7	77.5	7.8	*0.8	8.6	10.2	84.3	86.3	13.4	97.7
Western Australia	99.6	38.4	138.0	79.9	9.9	*3.0	12.9	8.5	150.9	87.3	21.9	172.8
Tasmania	15.0	6.9	21.9	72.1	3.0	*0.1	3.1	12.4	24.9	82.3	5.4	30.3
Northern Territory	13.6	2.6	16.2	74.4	1.2	—	1.2	7.0	17.4	80.0	4.4	21.8
Australian Capital Territory	12.3	4.9	17.2	84.7	*0.9	*0.2	*1.1	*5.9	18.2	90.0	2.0	20.3
Australia	807.3	333.4	1 140.7	77.5	118.7	12.9	131.6	10.3	1 272.3	86.5	198.8	1 471.2
TOTAL												
New South Wales	279.0	310.5	589.5	59.2	47.1	25.5	72.6	11.0	662.1	66.5	334.1	996.2
Victoria	204.0	258.5	462.5	58.3	27.6	33.3	60.9	11.6	523.4	66.0	269.6	793.1
Queensland	178.1	201.7	379.9	58.8	41.4	25.4	66.8	15.0	446.7	69.1	199.5	646.1
South Australia	50.8	69.4	120.1	55.1	12.2	7.9	20.2	14.4	140.3	64.4	77.6	217.9
Western Australia	102.4	111.9	214.3	63.2	12.0	13.1	25.1	10.5	239.4	70.6	99.9	339.3
Tasmania	16.6	19.5	36.1	55.2	3.8	2.7	6.5	15.3	42.6	65.2	22.7	65.3
Northern Territory	14.0	6.4	20.4	62.3	1.3	*0.2	1.5	7.0	21.9	67.0	10.8	32.8
Australian Capital Territory	14.1	17.7	31.8	60.8	*1.0	2.1	3.1	8.8	34.9	66.6	17.5	52.3
Australia	859.0	995.6	1 854.6	59.0	146.4	110.2	256.7	12.2	2 111.3	67.2	1 031.7	3 143.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

LABOUR FORCE STATUS IN APRIL 2016

	<i>Employed full-time</i>	<i>Employed part-time</i>	<i>Employed total</i>	<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>Labour force</i>	<i>Not in the labour force (NILF)</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Labour force status in March 2016</i>	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
PERSONS							
Matched sample							
Employed full-time	6 148.4	321.4	6 469.8	31.9	6 501.6	105.0	6 606.6
Employed part-time	329.4	2 538.6	2 868.1	47.3	2 915.4	166.1	3 081.5
Employed total	6 477.8	2 860.0	9 337.8	79.1	9 417.0	271.2	9 688.1
Unemployed	46.2	81.0	127.2	335.7	463.0	151.1	614.0
Labour force	6 524.0	2 941.0	9 465.0	414.9	9 879.9	422.2	10 302.1
Not in the labour force (NILF)	76.8	137.4	214.2	139.2	353.4	4 853.8	5 207.3
Total	6 600.8	3 078.4	9 679.2	554.1	10 233.3	5 276.0	15 509.4
Unmatched sample							
Unmatched in common sample	537.6	228.8	766.4	61.6	828.0	750.1	1 578.1
Incoming rotation group	993.2	501.2	1 494.4	102.9	1 597.3	809.3	2 406.6
Total	1 530.8	729.9	2 260.8	164.5	2 425.3	1 559.4	3 984.7
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	8 131.6	3 808.3	11 940.0	718.6	12 658.6	6 835.5	19 494.1
MALES							
Matched sample							
Employed full-time	4 000.5	141.2	4 141.8	22.8	4 164.5	62.1	4 226.6
Employed part-time	132.2	743.7	876.0	27.6	903.6	61.1	964.7
Employed total	4 132.8	885.0	5 017.7	50.4	5 068.1	123.2	5 191.3
Unemployed	31.7	40.3	72.0	177.7	249.6	75.7	325.4
Labour force	4 164.5	925.2	5 089.7	228.1	5 317.8	198.9	5 516.7
Not in the labour force (NILF)	47.3	52.6	99.9	63.4	163.3	1 959.8	2 123.1
Total	4 211.7	977.9	5 189.6	291.5	5 481.1	2 158.8	7 639.8
Unmatched sample							
Unmatched in common sample	335.1	92.9	428.0	33.4	461.5	324.2	785.7
Incoming rotation group	631.7	158.4	790.1	48.3	838.4	339.0	1 177.4
Total	966.9	251.3	1 218.1	81.7	1 299.9	663.2	1 963.1
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	5 178.6	1 229.1	6 407.7	373.2	6 780.9	2 822.0	9 602.9
FEMALES							
Matched sample							
Employed full-time	2 147.8	180.2	2 328.0	9.1	2 337.1	42.9	2 380.0
Employed part-time	197.2	1 794.9	1 992.1	19.6	2 011.7	105.1	2 116.8
Employed total	2 345.0	1 975.1	4 320.1	28.7	4 348.8	148.0	4 496.8
Unemployed	14.5	40.7	55.2	158.1	213.3	75.3	288.6
Labour force	2 359.5	2 015.8	4 375.3	186.8	4 562.1	223.3	4 785.4
Not in the labour force (NILF)	29.6	84.8	114.3	75.8	190.1	2 894.0	3 084.1
Total	2 389.1	2 100.5	4 489.7	262.6	4 752.3	3 117.3	7 869.6
Unmatched sample							
Unmatched in common sample	202.5	135.9	338.4	28.2	366.5	425.9	792.5
Incoming rotation group	361.5	342.8	704.3	54.6	758.9	470.3	1 229.1
Total	563.9	478.7	1 042.6	82.8	1 125.4	896.2	2 021.6
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	2 953.1	2 579.2	5 532.3	345.4	5 877.7	4 013.5	9 891.2

	EMPLOYED TOTAL		EMPLOYED FULL-TIME		EMPLOYED PART-TIME	
	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>
	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions
PERSONS						
April 2013	1 583.1	1 587.7	1 341.5	1 346.7	241.6	241.0
April 2014	1 599.8	1 598.3	1 350.3	1 348.8	249.4	249.4
2015						
April	1 622.7	1 622.4	1 363.4	1 364.6	259.3	257.8
May	1 624.7	1 624.3	1 364.7	1 363.7	260.0	260.5
June	1 626.2	1 629.9	1 365.4	1 369.2	260.9	260.7
July	1 628.2	1 625.6	1 366.4	1 362.4	261.9	263.2
August	1 631.3	1 624.6	1 368.4	1 363.0	262.9	261.6
September	1 635.3	1 636.4	1 371.4	1 372.2	264.0	264.2
October	1 640.1	1 645.1	1 375.2	1 380.6	264.9	264.5
November	1 643.9	1 642.1	1 378.0	1 374.7	265.9	267.4
December	1 645.2	1 641.5	1 378.3	1 376.4	266.9	265.1
2016						
January	1 643.4	1 650.9	1 375.6	1 381.8	267.8	269.1
February	1 639.6	1 649.1	1 370.9	1 380.1	268.7	269.0
March	1 634.5	1 631.6	1 365.0	1 363.9	269.5	267.7
April	1 628.9	1 613.8	1 358.7	1 341.7	270.3	272.1
MALES						
April 2013	968.2	970.0	896.8	899.3	71.4	70.6
April 2014	977.1	976.6	901.6	901.1	75.6	75.5
2015						
April	985.7	985.1	908.3	908.5	77.4	76.6
May	986.3	984.9	908.5	906.8	77.8	78.1
June	986.6	990.1	908.4	911.4	78.2	78.7
July	987.1	984.6	908.6	905.6	78.6	79.0
August	988.0	983.8	909.0	905.6	79.0	78.2
September	989.1	991.2	909.7	911.4	79.4	79.8
October	990.5	994.7	910.6	915.5	79.9	79.1
November	991.3	987.9	910.8	906.4	80.5	81.5
December	991.0	990.5	909.7	910.0	81.3	80.5
2016						
January	989.6	990.2	907.3	906.9	82.3	83.3
February	987.3	994.5	903.9	912.1	83.4	82.3
March	984.6	982.4	900.2	899.1	84.5	83.3
April	981.9	975.2	896.4	887.1	85.5	88.1
FEMALES						
April 2013	614.9	617.7	444.7	447.3	170.2	170.4
April 2014	622.6	621.7	448.8	447.7	173.8	174.0
2015						
April	637.0	637.3	455.0	456.1	181.9	181.2
May	638.4	639.4	456.2	456.9	182.2	182.4
June	639.6	639.8	456.9	457.7	182.7	182.1
July	641.1	640.9	457.8	456.8	183.3	184.2
August	643.4	640.8	459.4	457.4	183.9	183.4
September	646.2	645.2	461.7	460.8	184.5	184.4
October	649.7	650.4	464.6	465.0	185.1	185.4
November	652.6	654.3	467.2	468.3	185.4	185.9
December	654.1	651.0	468.6	466.4	185.5	184.7
2016						
January	653.9	660.7	468.4	474.9	185.5	185.8
February	652.3	654.6	466.9	468.0	185.3	186.7
March	649.9	649.2	464.8	464.8	185.1	184.4
April	647.0	638.6	462.3	454.6	184.7	184.0

MONTHLY HOURS WORKED IN ALL JOBS

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions	millions
TREND									
April 2013	499.7	385.4	323.4	109.0	188.3	30.3	18.8	28.3	1 583.1
April 2014	499.7	390.7	330.8	109.4	189.6	30.8	20.2	28.4	1 599.8
2015									
April	507.2	401.7	332.7	108.4	192.5	31.4	20.4	28.3	1 622.7
May	510.9	401.8	331.9	107.8	192.3	31.4	20.4	28.3	1 624.7
June	514.3	401.5	331.2	107.2	192.0	31.5	20.4	28.2	1 626.2
July	517.3	401.2	331.4	106.8	191.5	31.5	20.3	28.2	1 628.2
August	519.9	401.2	332.4	106.8	191.0	31.6	20.2	28.2	1 631.3
September	522.1	402.0	333.5	107.1	190.4	31.7	20.2	28.3	1 635.3
October	524.3	403.4	334.8	107.5	189.9	31.7	20.1	28.4	1 640.1
November	526.1	404.8	335.7	107.6	189.4	31.7	20.1	28.6	1 643.9
December	527.4	405.5	335.6	107.7	188.7	31.6	20.0	28.7	1 645.2
2016									
January	528.0	405.2	334.4	107.7	187.9	31.5	20.0	28.7	1 643.4
February	527.8	404.1	332.9	107.8	186.9	31.4	19.9	28.8	1 639.6
March	527.0	402.4	331.3	107.8	186.0	31.2	19.9	28.9	1 634.5
April	526.0	400.4	329.8	107.9	185.1	31.1	19.9	28.9	1 628.9

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

April 2013	501.1	385.8	325.2	108.0	189.6	30.9	np	np	1 587.7
April 2014	499.5	389.7	331.3	109.0	189.3	30.9	np	np	1 598.3
2015									
April	507.0	402.8	330.6	108.4	193.5	31.5	np	np	1 622.4
May	509.1	398.8	335.9	107.6	193.3	30.8	np	np	1 624.3
June	515.7	402.0	334.5	105.2	192.5	31.4	np	np	1 629.9
July	521.0	401.8	323.7	107.5	191.2	31.7	np	np	1 625.6
August	518.7	399.9	331.1	106.5	189.1	31.5	np	np	1 624.6
September	521.8	401.6	335.0	107.6	189.5	32.3	np	np	1 636.4
October	521.3	403.8	338.2	107.4	194.1	31.7	np	np	1 645.1
November	525.6	404.8	335.9	108.3	187.8	31.1	np	np	1 642.1
December	529.7	401.7	335.0	107.1	187.7	31.4	np	np	1 641.5
2016									
January	530.0	411.0	333.7	107.7	187.7	32.1	np	np	1 650.9
February	530.3	408.3	334.9	108.3	187.4	31.3	np	np	1 649.1
March	524.6	399.8	332.4	107.2	188.0	31.2	np	np	1 631.6
April	522.2	394.5	326.0	108.2	182.7	30.8	np	np	1 613.8

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

	UNDEREMPLOYED TOTAL			UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE			UNDERUTILISATION RATE		
	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Original</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%
PERSONS									
February 2012	874.7	876.5	897.5	7.3	7.4	7.5	12.6	12.7	13.4
February 2013	881.1	868.4	885.2	7.3	7.2	7.3	12.8	12.6	13.4
February 2014	946.3	950.1	927.7	7.8	7.8	7.5	13.7	13.7	14.3
2014									
August	1 008.2	1 011.0	1 041.4	8.2	8.2	8.5	14.4	14.3	14.4
November	1 042.1	1 051.2	1 077.6	8.4	8.5	8.8	14.7	14.9	14.6
2015									
February	1 059.8	1 061.9	1 042.7	8.5	8.6	8.3	14.7	14.8	15.0
May	1 063.3	1 054.5	1 031.7	8.5	8.5	8.3	14.6	14.4	14.1
August	1 063.8	1 067.4	1 020.7	8.5	8.5	8.2	14.4	14.4	14.3
November	1 064.4	1 067.3	1 093.6	8.4	8.5	8.7	14.3	14.3	14.1
2016									
February	1 063.8	1 058.9	1 039.7	8.4	8.4	8.2	14.2	14.2	14.3
MALES									
February 2012	358.9	371.8	377.8	5.6	5.8	5.8	10.7	10.9	11.4
February 2013	361.8	356.3	362.0	5.5	5.4	5.5	11.0	10.9	11.5
February 2014	389.8	394.6	382.6	5.9	6.0	5.8	11.8	11.8	12.2
2014									
August	423.3	426.2	440.3	6.4	6.4	6.6	12.5	12.5	12.6
November	438.0	444.5	449.1	6.6	6.7	6.7	12.8	13.0	12.7
2015									
February	443.2	443.5	438.2	6.6	6.6	6.5	12.8	12.8	13.0
May	442.5	435.3	425.4	6.6	6.5	6.3	12.6	12.5	12.1
August	444.4	448.0	416.3	6.6	6.6	6.2	12.4	12.5	12.4
November	448.0	448.7	453.4	6.6	6.6	6.7	12.4	12.4	12.2
2016									
February	450.7	449.1	444.4	6.7	6.6	6.5	12.3	12.3	12.5
FEMALES									
February 2012	515.8	504.7	519.8	9.5	9.3	9.5	14.9	14.7	15.7
February 2013	519.3	512.1	523.2	9.4	9.2	9.4	14.8	14.7	15.6
February 2014	556.5	555.5	545.0	9.9	9.9	9.7	15.9	15.9	16.9
2014									
August	585.0	584.8	601.1	10.4	10.4	10.6	16.6	16.6	16.5
November	604.1	606.7	628.5	10.7	10.8	11.2	17.0	17.1	16.9
2015									
February	616.6	618.5	604.4	10.8	10.8	10.5	17.0	17.1	17.3
May	620.8	619.2	606.3	10.8	10.8	10.5	16.9	16.8	16.4
August	619.4	619.4	604.4	10.7	10.7	10.5	16.7	16.7	16.5
November	616.4	618.6	640.1	10.6	10.5	10.9	16.6	16.6	16.4
2016									
February	613.1	609.8	595.3	10.4	10.4	10.1	16.4	16.4	16.5

	UNDEREMPLOYED TOTAL			UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE			UNDERUTILISATION RATE		
	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Original</i>	<i>Trend</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Original</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	%	%	%
PERSONS									
New South Wales	302.6	308.3	301.4	7.5	7.7	7.5	12.7	12.9	13.1
Victoria	291.9	283.4	279.2	9.2	8.9	8.7	15.3	15.1	14.8
Queensland	203.9	203.6	209.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	13.7	13.7	14.4
South Australia	89.6	85.6	83.5	10.2	9.8	9.5	17.7	17.5	17.4
Western Australia	130.0	130.1	127.7	9.1	9.1	8.8	15.0	14.7	15.5
Tasmania	24.4	23.2	19.6	9.5	9.1	7.6	16.5	16.2	14.8
Northern Territory	6.6	np	7.3	4.8	np	5.4	9.1	np	10.4
Australian Capital Territory	12.5	np	11.8	5.6	np	5.3	10.6	np	10.7
Australia	1 063.8	1 058.9	1 039.7	8.4	8.4	8.2	14.2	14.2	14.3
MALES									
New South Wales	127.1	127.7	125.6	5.9	6.0	5.9	10.9	11.0	11.1
Victoria	124.8	126.2	121.8	7.3	7.3	7.0	13.4	13.4	12.9
Queensland	86.8	85.4	93.7	6.5	6.4	6.9	11.8	11.6	12.7
South Australia	40.6	38.6	34.1	8.8	8.4	7.3	16.4	16.0	15.2
Western Australia	52.3	51.2	53.0	6.6	6.5	6.6	12.2	12.2	13.4
Tasmania	10.6	9.7	8.0	7.7	7.1	5.8	15.0	14.6	13.3
Northern Territory	3.2	np	3.2	4.4	np	4.5	8.8	np	8.9
Australian Capital Territory	5.5	np	5.1	4.9	np	4.6	10.8	np	10.6
<i>Australia</i>	<i>450.7</i>	<i>449.1</i>	<i>444.4</i>	<i>6.7</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>12.5</i>
FEMALES									
New South Wales	175.5	180.6	175.8	9.4	9.7	9.3	14.9	15.2	15.4
Victoria	167.2	157.2	157.4	11.4	10.8	10.7	17.7	17.1	17.1
Queensland	117.1	118.2	115.6	9.9	10.0	9.7	15.9	16.0	16.4
South Australia	49.0	47.0	49.4	11.9	11.3	11.9	19.2	19.0	19.8
Western Australia	77.7	78.8	74.8	12.1	12.3	11.7	18.3	17.8	18.1
Tasmania	13.8	13.5	11.6	11.6	11.3	9.7	18.2	18.1	16.7
Northern Territory	3.4	np	4.1	5.3	np	6.4	9.4	np	12.2
Australian Capital Territory	6.9	np	6.7	6.3	np	6.1	10.4	np	10.8
<i>Australia</i>	<i>613.1</i>	<i>609.8</i>	<i>595.3</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>10.1</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>16.5</i>

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

WHAT IF...? REVISIONS TO TREND ESTIMATES

EFFECT OF NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES ON TREND ESTIMATES

TREND REVISIONS

Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates are revised. This revision is a combined result of the concurrent seasonal adjustment process and the application of surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series (see paragraphs 28 to 37 of the Explanatory Notes).

The examples in the tables below show two illustrative scenarios and the consequent revisions to previous trend estimates of employment and the unemployment rate. The revisions in the scenarios are due to the use of surrogates of the Henderson average, as the impact of revision of seasonally adjusted estimates can not be estimated in advance.

(1) The May seasonally adjusted estimate is *higher* than the April estimate by:

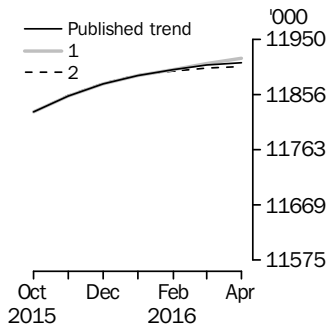
- 0.22% for employment
- 2.26% for the unemployment rate

(2) The May seasonally adjusted estimate is *lower* than the April estimate by:

- 0.22% for employment
- 2.26% for the unemployment rate

The percentage changes of 0.22% and 2.26% represent the average absolute monthly percentage changes in employment and the unemployment rate respectively. Estimates in the graphs have been calculated using unrounded estimates, and may be different from, but more accurate than, rounded estimates depicted in the corresponding table.

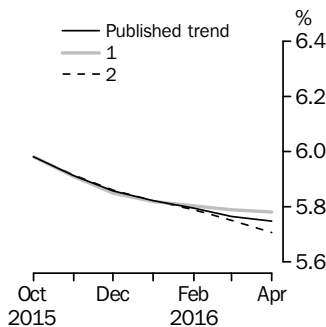
EMPLOYMENT



WHAT IF NEXT MONTH'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE IS:

	<i>Trend as published</i>	(1) 11 935.8 i.e. <i>rises by 0.22%</i>	(2) 11 883.4 i.e. <i>falls by 0.22%</i>
2016			
January	11 888	11 888	11 889
February	11 898	11 899	11 896
March	11 907	11 908	11 901
April	11 911	11 918	11 903

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



WHAT IF NEXT MONTH'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE IS:

	<i>Trend as published</i>	(1) 5.9 i.e. <i>rises by 2.26%</i>	(2) 5.7 i.e. <i>falls by 2.26%</i>
2016			
January	5.8	5.8	5.8
February	5.8	5.8	5.8
March	5.8	5.8	5.8
April	5.7	5.8	5.7

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the Labour Force Survey component of the Monthly Population Survey. The full time series for estimates from this publication are also available electronically. More detailed estimates are released one week after this publication in various electronic formats – see *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

2 The conceptual framework used in Australia's Labour Force Survey aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of International Conferences of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling the estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

3 The Labour Force Survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (currently approximately 26,000 houses, flats, etc.) and a list sample of non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers approximately 0.32% of the civilian population of Australia aged 15 years and over.

4 Information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by specially trained interviewers using computer-assisted interviewing, or self-completion online.

5 Households selected for the Labour Force Survey are interviewed each month for eight months, with one-eighth of the sample being replaced each month. The first interview is generally conducted face-to-face. Subsequent interviews are conducted by telephone (if acceptable to the respondent).

6 From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online electronic data collection. Respondents in one rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their labour force survey questionnaire online instead of via a face-to-face or telephone interview. From May 2013, the ABS expanded the offer of online electronic collection to 50% of each new incoming rotation group. For more information see the article in the April 2013 issue of this publication. From September 2013, online electronic collection has been offered to 100% of private dwellings in each incoming rotation group. From April 2014, 100% of private dwellings are being offered online electronic collection.

7 The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Sunday between the 5th and 11th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week). Each year, to deal with operational difficulties involved with collecting and processing the Labour Force Survey around the Christmas and New Year holiday period, interviews for December start four weeks after November interviews start (i.e. between the 3rd and 9th December), and January interviews start five weeks after December interviews start. As a result, January interviewing may commence as early as the 7th or as late as the 13th, depending on the year. Occasionally, circumstances that present significant operational difficulties for survey collection can result in a change to the normal pattern for the start of interviewing.

8 Estimates from the Labour Force Survey are usually published first in this publication 39 days after the commencement of interviews for that month, with the exception of estimates for each December which are usually published 46 days after the commencement of interviews.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SCOPE OF SURVEY

9 The Labour Force Survey includes all persons aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

COVERAGE

10 In the Labour Force Survey, 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. The coverage rules are necessarily a balance between theoretical and operational considerations. Nevertheless, the chance of a person being enumerated at two separate dwellings in the survey is considered to be negligible.

POPULATION BENCHMARKS

11 The Labour Force Survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to add to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on the most recently released estimates of Final, Revised and Preliminary quarterly Estimated Resident Population (ERP). For information on the methodology used to produce the ERP see *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0). Since the most recently released ERP estimates lag the current time period for Labour Force estimates by nine months, the Labour Force population benchmarks are created by projecting forward three quarters past the most recently released quarterly ERP estimates. The projection is based on the historical pattern of each population component – births, deaths, interstate migration and net overseas migration (NOM). Projected estimates of NOM are supplemented with other data sources to better forecast population changes in the short-term. The main data source is the forecasts published by the Department of Immigration & Border Protection in the publication *The Outlook for Net Overseas Migration*.

12 Commencing in March 2010, the ERP series has been revised twice-yearly, in the March and September quarter issues of *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0). This biannual revision cycle incorporates more up to date information available for NOM. This updated information is included in the population benchmarks used in creating the Labour Force estimates when they are rebenchmarked.

13 Every five years, the ERP series are revised to incorporate additional information available from the latest Census of Population and Housing (Census). Labour Force Survey population benchmarks, and the estimates, are revised following this five-yearly revision in the ERP. The process of incorporating the revised population benchmarks is referred to as 'rebasings'. From the January 2014 issue of this publication, labour force estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the results of the 2011 Census. Revisions were made to historical Labour Force estimates from June 2006 to December 2013. In addition, estimates from July 1991 to May 2006 were revised to reflect population benchmarks based on ERP revised following the 2011 Census. The next rebasing based on the Census will be following the release of the 2016 Census-based ERP estimates, which will incorporate revisions back five years. For more information on revised ERP estimates, refer to the June 2012 issue of *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0) released in December 2012.

14 In between Censuses, the ABS revises the Labour Force population benchmarks using the latest ERP according to the paragraphs above. These were introduced in the July 2010, November 2012 and April 2013 issues. The revisions planned for the October 2013, April 2014 and November 2014 issues were not implemented (see *What's New in the Labour Force* in the September 2013 issue and *Changes in this Issue* in the October 2014 issue of this publication). From the February 2015 issue, rebenchmarking will be undertaken quarterly in the February, May, August and November issues, apart from May 2015. For more information, refer to the article *Rebenchmarking of Labour Force Series* in the February 2015 issue of this publication.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ESTIMATION METHOD

15 The estimation method used in the Labour Force Survey is Composite Estimation, which was introduced in May 2007. In January 2014 composite estimation was applied to all estimates from July 1991 as part of the 2011 Census rebenchmarking. Composite Estimation combines data collected in the previous six months with current month's data to produce the current month's estimates, thereby exploiting the high correlation between overlapping samples across months in the Labour Force Survey. The Composite Estimator combines the previous and current months' data by applying different factors according to length of time in the survey. After these factors are applied, the seven months of data are weighted to align with current month population benchmarks. For details see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 6292.0).

COMPARABILITY OF SERIES

16 From April 1986, the definition of employed persons was changed to include persons who worked without pay between 1 and 14 hours per week in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers). For further information, see paragraphs 22 and 23 of the Explanatory Notes in the February 2003 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

17 The ABS introduced telephone interviewing into the Labour Force Survey in August 1996. Implementation was phased in for each new sample group from August 1996 to February 1997. During the period of implementation, the new method produced different estimates than would have been obtained under the old methodology. The effect dissipated over the final months of implementation and was no longer discernible from February 1997. The estimates for February 1997 and onwards are directly comparable to estimates for periods prior to August 1996. For further details, see the feature article in the June 1997 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

18 From April 2001 the Labour Force Survey was conducted using a redesigned questionnaire containing additional data items and some minor definitional changes. The definition of unemployed persons was changed to include all persons who were waiting to start work and were available to start in the reference week. This change was introduced in February 2004, when historical unit record data were revised from April 2001 to January 2004. This revision created a small trend break at April 2001 in unemployed persons and unemployment rate series. For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2003* (cat. no. 6292.0), released in December 2003. From July 2014 the Labour Force Survey questionnaire was further redesigned and definitional changes made to active job search steps and duration of job search. For further details, see the Glossary and *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, June 2014* (cat. no. 6292.0), released in October 2014.

19 Core labour force series were revised in April 2001 for the period April 1986 to March 2001 for the remaining definitional changes introduced with the redesigned questionnaire, to reduce the impact of the changes on labour force series. For further details, see *Information Paper: Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire* (cat. no. 6295.0) and the 2004 issue of *Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey* (cat. no. 6232.0).

20 In May 2007, an improved method of estimation, known as composite estimation, was introduced into the Labour Force Survey. In introducing this change, the ABS revised unit record data from April 2001 to April 2007 based on the new estimation method. No change was identified in the trend breaks in the unemployed persons and unemployment rate series which arose with the introduction of a redesigned survey form in April 2001 (as noted above in paragraph 18). In January 2014 composite estimation was applied to all estimates from July 1991 as part of the 2011 Census rebenchmarking.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF SERIES *continued*

For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 6292.0).

21 As one of a range of ABS savings initiatives for the 2008–09 financial year, there was a 24% reduction in the LFS sample size for the period July 2008 to August 2009, relative to the June 2008 sample size. The sample reduction was reversed from September 2009 to December 2009, with December 2009 estimates being the first produced under the fully reinstated sample.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY SAMPLE

22 The current Labour Force Survey sample has been selected using information collected in the 2011 Census of Population and Housing.

23 The sample was introduced over four months – May 2013 to August 2013. Two rotation groups (i.e. one-quarter of the survey sample) were introduced each month. During the sample phase-in, the increased sample rotation had an impact on the quality of estimates. Movement standard errors increased by approximately 10%, representing, for example, an increase on the standard error on the Australian monthly change in employment for May 2013 from 27,000 to approximately 29,700.

24 Due to the use of composite estimation, there was a marginal impact on the quality of level estimates. Gross Flows analysis were impacted by the sample phase-in with between 60% to 70% of the sample available for matching between the current and previous months instead of the usual 80%. After full transition to the new sample, the quality of level and movement estimates is at the level designed for under the 2011 sample design and are of similar quality as the 2006 sample design. For further details, see *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design* (cat. no. 6269.0) released on 30 May 2013.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

25 Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error.

26 Sampling error occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Standard errors of key estimates for the latest month and of movements since the previous month of these estimates are shown in the standard errors section of this publication. Standard errors for other estimates and other movements may be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in *Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube* (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001) which is available free of charge on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

27 Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. Every effort is made to minimise reporting error by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures. Non-sampling error also arises because information cannot be obtained from all persons selected in the survey. The Labour Force Survey receives a high level of co-operation from individuals in selected dwellings, with the average response rate over the last year being 93%. See Glossary for definition of response rate.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION

28 Any original time series can be thought of as a combination of three broad and distinctly different types of behaviour, each representing the impact of certain types of real world events on the information being collected: systematic calendar related events, short-term irregular fluctuations and long-term cyclical behaviour. A multiplicative decomposition model is applied in the seasonal adjustment of Labour Force Time Series, where the original time series (O) is considered as the product of the underlying trend

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION *continued*

(T), a systematic calendar related or seasonal component (S) and an irregular component (I). This can be expressed as $O = T*S*I$. The contributions of each of these behaviours varies from series to series, as well as throughout time for a given series, depending on the nature of the interactions of real world events and the data of interest.

29 Seasonal adjustment is a statistical technique that attempts to measure and remove the effects of systematic calendar related patterns including seasonal variation to reveal how a series changes from period to period. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

30 The Labour Force Survey uses the concurrent seasonal adjustment method to derive seasonal factors. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses data up to the current month to estimate seasonal factors for the current and all previous months. This process can result in revisions each month to estimates for earlier periods. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the seasonally adjusted estimates for the previous month and one year prior to the current month. From the March 2015 issue of this publication, the effects of supplementary surveys are removed prior to the estimation of seasonal factors for key Labour Force series from February 1978 onwards. While this methodology has addressed short term volatility in the seasonally adjusted series arising from changes to the timing and content of the supplementary survey program, in general prior corrections and resulting changed seasonal patterns can be identified and measured to a more reliable degree of certainty after three successive observations (in this case after three years). For further details refer to the October and December 2014 issues of this publication.

31 The revision properties of the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates can be improved by the use of Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) modelling. ARIMA modelling relies on the characteristics of the series being analysed to project future period data. The projected values are temporary, intermediate values, that are only used internally to improve the estimation of the seasonal factors. The projected data do not affect the original estimates and are discarded at the end of the seasonal adjustment process. The Labour Force Survey uses an ARIMA model for the majority of the individual time series. The ARIMA model is assessed as part of the annual reanalysis. For further details, see the feature article in the October 2004 issue of *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0).

32 Seasonal adjustment is able to remove the effect of events which occur at the same time in the survey every year. However, there are some events, like holidays, which are not always at the same time in the survey cycle or which are not at the same time across Australia. The effects of these types of events on Labour Force Survey estimates cannot in all cases be removed, because the pattern of their effects cannot be determined. However, two events for which adjustment is made in the seasonally adjusted series are the January interview start date and the timing of Easter. For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics* (cat. no. 6292.0) released in December 2003.

33 While seasonal factors for the complete time series are estimated each month, they will continue to be reviewed annually at a more detailed level to take into account each additional year's original data. This annual review will not normally result in significant changes to published estimates. The review is usually conducted early each year with the results released in this publication shortly thereafter.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION *continued*

34 The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to produce 'trend' series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months except the last six. The last six monthly trend estimates are obtained by applying surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series. Trend estimates are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of a series over time.

35 While this smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions in addition to those caused by the revision of seasonally adjusted estimates. Generally, revisions due to the use of surrogates of the Henderson average become smaller, and after three months have a negligible impact on the series.

36 Trend estimates are published for the Northern Territory in table 10 and for the Australian Capital Territory in table 11. Unadjusted series for the two Territories have shown, historically, a high degree of variability, which can lead to considerable revisions to the seasonally adjusted estimates each month when seasonal factors are estimated. For this reason, seasonally adjusted estimates are not currently published for the two Territories. In addition, caution should be exercised in the interpretation of trend estimates for the two Territories, particularly for the three most recent months, where revisions may be relatively large.

37 For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends* (cat. no. 1349.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (02) 6252 6345 or email time.series.analysis@abs.gov.au.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

38 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide* (cat.no. 6103.0). This publication is a reference guide for users of Labour Force Survey data standard products.
- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0). This publication presents key indicators of the labour market, articles on a range of labour market issues, and information about the latest developments in the labour statistics program. For further information about this publication, please contact Labour Market Statistics on (02) 6252 7206.

39 ABS information about the labour market can be found on the Topics @ a Glance page on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

40 Information about current publications and other products released by the ABS is available from the statistics page on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily release advice on the website, Upcoming Product Releases, which details products to be released in the week ahead.

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

41 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available. Inquiries should be made to the Labour Force contact officer on (02) 6252 6525, email labourforce@abs.gov.au or to any ABS office.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

42 Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Estimates of movement shown in this publication are obtained by taking the difference of unrounded estimates. The movement estimate is then rounded. Where a discrepancy occurs between the reported movement and the difference of the rounded estimates, the reported movement will be more accurate.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

43 SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Definition</i>
'000	thousands
%	percentage
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CAI	computer assisted interviewing
cat. no.	catalogue number
Civ. pop.	civilian population
ERP	estimated resident population
Emp. to pop. ratio	employment to population ratio
f/t	full time
LFS	Labour Force Survey
NILF	not in the Labour Force
Part. rate	participation rate
p/t	part time
pts	percentage points
Seas adj.	seasonally adjusted
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
Unemp. rate	unemployment rate

STANDARD ERRORS

STANDARD ERRORS

The estimates in this publication are based on information gained from the occupants of a sample survey of dwellings. Because the entire population is not surveyed, the published original, seasonally adjusted and trend estimates are subject to sampling error. The most common way of quantifying such sampling error is to calculate the standard error for the published estimate or statistic. For more information, see paragraphs 25 to 27 of the Explanatory Notes.

LEVEL ESTIMATES

To illustrate, let us say the published level estimate for employed persons aged 15–19 years is 700,000 and the associated standard error is 9,000. The standard error is then used to interpret the level estimate of 700,000. For instance, the standard error of 9,000 indicates that:

- There are approximately two chances in three that the real value falls within the range 691,000 to 709,000 (700,000 + or – 9,000)
- There are approximately nineteen chances in twenty that the real value falls within the range 682,000 to 718,000 (700,000 + or – 18,000).

The real value in this case is the result we would obtain if we could enumerate the total population.

The following table shows the standard errors for this month's level estimates.

											AUSTRALIA										
											Males	Females	Persons								
											NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT			
Aged 15 years and over																					
Employed																					
Full time	'000	25.7	18.4	17.2	7.4	11.2	2.9	2.4	2.8	31.7	23.3	38.6									
Part time	'000	18.8	12.4	11.9	5.7	8.5	2.2	0.7	2.0	14.3	21.6	27.0									
Total	'000	28.3	22.8	19.9	8.7	12.4	3.4	2.8	3.0	34.9	32.7	44.0									
Unemployed																					
Looking for f/t work	'000	9.0	7.5	8.3	3.3	4.7	1.1	0.8	0.9	11.8	9.9	15.6									
Looking for p/t work	'000	5.4	5.6	5.2	1.9	3.0	0.8	0.3	0.7	5.9	7.9	9.9									
Total	'000	10.6	9.4	9.4	3.7	5.6	1.4	0.8	1.2	13.3	12.8	18.7									
Labour force																					
Not in labour force	'000	28.6	23.5	20.3	8.9	12.6	3.5	2.9	3.0	35.8	33.6	44.8									
Unemployment rate		24.3	21.3	22.6	8.2	12.0	3.6	3.2	3.1	31.2	35.8	42.3									
Looking for f/t work	pts	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.2									
Looking for p/t work	pts	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.2									
Total	pts	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1									
Participation rate	pts	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.5	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.2									
Aged 15–19 years																					
Employed																					
Full time	'000	3.9	2.1	2.7	1.0	1.8	0.5	0.2	0.4	4.8	4.0	5.7									
Part time	'000	5.8	3.6	4.0	1.7	2.6	0.7	0.2	0.7	6.3	7.1	9.1									
Total	'000	6.7	4.1	4.8	1.9	3.1	0.8	0.3	0.8	7.4	7.7	10.4									
Unemployed																					
Looking for f/t work	'000	2.9	1.9	3.0	1.1	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	3.8	3.2	5.0									
Looking for p/t work	'000	3.1	3.3	3.1	1.1	1.9	0.5	0.1	0.5	4.1	4.5	6.1									
Total	'000	4.4	3.9	4.5	1.6	2.4	0.7	0.2	0.6	5.6	5.6	8.0									
Labour force																					
Not in labour force	'000	7.4	4.5	5.3	2.1	3.4	0.9	0.3	0.9	8.1	8.4	11.5									
Unemployment rate		9.4	5.7	7.9	3.0	4.1	1.1	0.7	1.3	10.7	9.7	14.8									
Looking for f/t work	pts	3.9	4.5	5.0	7.3	4.9	7.4	4.2	11.4	2.7	3.6	2.2									
Looking for p/t work	pts	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.8	2.6	5.0	1.6	1.3	1.0									
Total	pts	1.8	2.0	2.5	3.0	2.4	3.5	2.7	4.7	1.4	1.3	1.0									
Participation rate	pts	1.6	1.2	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.7	2.0	3.7	1.1	1.2	0.8									
Unemployment to population ratio – looking for f/t work	pts	0.6	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.3	1.2	1.4	0.5	0.4	0.3									

STANDARD ERRORS *continued*

MOVEMENT ESTIMATES

The following example illustrates how to use the standard error to interpret a movement estimate. Let us say that one month the published level estimate for females employed part-time in Australia is 1,890,000; the next month the published level estimate is 1,900,000 and the associated standard error for the movement estimate is 11,900. The standard error is then used to interpret the published movement estimate of 10,000. For instance, the standard error of 11,900 indicates that:

- There are approximately two chances in three that the real movement between the two months falls within the range – 1,900 to 21,900 (10,000 + or – 11,900)
- There are approximately nineteen chances in twenty that the real movement falls within the range – 13,800 to 33,800 (10,000 + or – 23,800).

The following table shows the standard errors for this month's movement estimates.

		AUSTRALIA										
		NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Males	Females	Persons
Aged 15 years and over												
Employed												
Full time	'000	15.0	12.2	9.2	3.9	6.5	1.8	1.8	1.8	18.5	13.7	23.5
Part time	'000	10.0	8.5	6.0	2.9	4.4	1.3	0.9	1.1	9.0	12.8	15.6
Total	'000	18.3	15.0	12.7	5.6	8.6	2.2	2.0	2.1	20.6	19.0	29.2
Unemployed												
Looking for f/t work	'000	9.2	7.8	8.0	3.4	4.9	1.1	0.8	1.1	11.9	10.1	15.8
Looking for p/t work	'000	6.2	5.5	4.7	2.2	3.3	0.8	0.4	0.8	6.6	8.0	10.4
Total	'000	11.2	9.6	9.4	4.1	5.9	1.4	0.9	1.3	13.7	13.0	19.2
Labour force	'000	18.8	15.5	13.6	6.0	9.1	2.3	2.0	2.2	21.3	19.7	30.2
Not in labour force	'000	18.0	15.3	13.7	5.8	8.9	2.2	2.1	2.3	18.1	21.9	29.5
Unemployment rate												
Looking for f/t work	pts	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.2
Looking for p/t work	pts	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.3
Total	pts	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2
Participation rate	pts	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.1	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2
Aged 15–19 years												
Employed												
Full time	'000	2.6	1.9	1.8	0.7	1.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	3.3	2.8	3.9
Part time	'000	4.0	3.3	2.6	1.2	1.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	4.4	4.9	6.1
Total	'000	4.5	3.6	2.9	1.3	2.1	0.6	0.5	0.5	5.0	5.2	6.8
Unemployed												
Looking for f/t work	'000	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.2	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	4.1	3.3	5.1
Looking for p/t work	'000	3.3	3.5	2.8	1.2	2.1	0.6	0.2	0.6	4.4	4.5	6.2
Total	'000	4.5	4.0	4.2	1.7	2.6	0.8	0.3	0.7	6.0	5.6	8.1
Labour force	'000	4.8	4.0	3.2	1.5	2.3	0.7	0.5	0.6	5.5	5.6	7.4
Not in labour force	'000	5.9	4.7	3.8	1.8	2.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	6.9	6.5	9.0
Unemployment rate												
Looking for f/t work	pts	4.3	4.8	5.8	8.1	5.8	8.3	4.8	11.5	3.0	4.1	2.4
Looking for p/t work	pts	1.8	2.3	2.6	3.1	2.9	4.3	3.9	5.4	1.7	1.4	1.1
Total	pts	1.8	2.1	2.7	3.2	2.6	3.9	3.3	4.9	1.5	1.4	1.0
Participation rate	pts	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.4	2.0	3.3	2.6	0.7	0.8	0.5
Unemployment to population ratio – looking for f/t work	pts	0.6	0.5	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.5	0.5	0.5	0.3

GLOSSARY

Actively looked for work	<p>Actively looked for work includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ written, telephoned or applied to an employer for work;■ had an interview with an employer for work;■ answered an advertisement for a job;■ checked or registered with an employment agency;■ taken steps to purchase or start your own business;■ advertised or tendered for work; and■ contacted friends or relatives in order to obtain work.
Actual hours of work	<p>Actual hours of work refers to a specified reference period (e.g. a week) and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ hours actually worked during normal periods of work;■ time spent in addition to hours worked during normal periods of work (including overtime);■ time spent at the place of work on activities such as the preparation of the workplace, repairs and maintenance, preparation and cleaning of tools, and the preparation of receipts, time sheets and reports;■ time spent at the place of work waiting or standing by due to machinery or process breakdown, accident, lack of supplies, power or internet access, etc;■ time corresponding to short rest periods (resting time) including tea and coffee breaks or prayer breaks;■ travel time connected to work (excluding commuting time); and■ training and skills enhancement related to the job or employer. <p>Excluded are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ hours paid for but not worked, such as paid annual leave, public holidays or paid sick leave;■ meal breaks (e.g. lunch breaks);■ paid and unpaid time 'on call';■ time spent on travel to and from work when no productive activity for the job is performed (e.g. commuting time); and■ time off during working hours to attend outside educational activities, even if it is authorised, e.g. those not connected to the job or employer. <p>For multiple job holders the LFS collects a separate measure of actual hours worked in main job and in all jobs.</p>
Attending full time education	<p>Persons aged 15-24 years enrolled at secondary or high school or enrolled as a full time student at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week.</p>
Attending school	<p>Persons aged 15-19 years enrolled at secondary or high school in the reference week.</p>
Attending tertiary educational institution full time	<p>Persons aged 15-24 years enrolled full time at a TAFE college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week, except those persons aged 15-19 years who were still attending school.</p>
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	<p>All usual residents of Australia aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.</p>
Composite Estimation	<p>The estimation methodology used in the Labour Force Survey. Composite Estimation uses sample responses from nearby months as well as from the reference month to derive estimates for the reference month. This approach achieves gains in efficiency by exploiting the high similarity between the responses provided by the same respondent in previous months. For details see <i>Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics</i>, 2007 (cat. no. 6292.0).</p>
Employed	<p>All persons aged 15 years and over who met one of the following criteria during the</p>

GLOSSARY *continued*

Employed <i>continued</i>	<p>reference week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (employees and owner managers of incorporated or unincorporated enterprises).■ Worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (contributing family workers).■ Were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or■ 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; or■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or■ on strike or locked out; or■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job.■ Were owner managers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Employed full-time	Includes employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.
Employed part-time	Includes employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.
Employment to population ratio	For any group, the number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.
Estimated resident population (ERP)	Estimated resident population (ERP), is Australia's official measure of the population of Australia and is based on the concept of usual residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality, citizenship or legal status, who usually live in Australia, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for fewer than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for fewer than 12 months. Refer to Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).
Flow estimates	Flow estimates are a measure of activity over a given period. For example, monthly hours worked in all jobs is a measure of the total number of hours worked in a calendar month.
Gross flows	<p>The matching of respondents who report in consecutive months enables analysis of the transition of individuals between the different labour force status classifications, referred to as the matched sample. The transition counts between the different labour force status classifications from one point in time to the next are commonly referred to as gross flows.</p> <p>The figures presented in gross flows are presented in original terms only and do not align with published labour force estimates. The gross flows figures are derived from the matched sample between consecutive months, which after taking account of the sample rotation and varying non-response in each month is approximately 80 percent of the sample.</p> <p>Caution should be exercised when analysing these gross flows data due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ the figures presented sum to approximately 80 percent of the population values as the gross flows data are based on the matched sample only;■ there is no adjustment applied to account for changes due to seasonal patterns (referred to commonly as seasonal adjustment); and■ the estimates of relative sizes of each transition class are subject to bias due to the matched sample being a non-representative sample.
Labour force	For any group, persons who were employed or unemployed, as defined.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Labour force status	A classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.
Long-term unemployed	The number of persons unemployed for 52 weeks or over.
Long-term unemployment ratio	The number of long-term unemployed persons, expressed as a percentage of the total unemployed population.
Market sector	The market sector is an industry grouping comprising the following industries: Agriculture, forestry and fishing; Mining; Manufacturing; Electricity, gas, water and waste services; Construction; Wholesale trade; Retail trade; Accommodation and food services; Transport, postal and warehousing; Information media and telecommunications; Finance and insurance services; Rental, hiring and real estate services; Professional, scientific and technical services; Administrative and support services; Arts and recreation services; and Other services. Refer to Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 5216.0).
Non-market Sector	The non-market sector is an industry grouping comprising the following industries: Education and training; Public administration & safety; and Health care and social assistance. Refer to Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 5216.0).
Monthly hours worked in all jobs	<p>Monthly hours worked in all jobs measures the total number of actual hours worked by employed persons in a calendar month. It differs from the actual hours worked estimates (and the usual hours worked estimates) since these refer only to the hours worked in the reference week.</p> <p>The methodology used to produce monthly hours worked in all jobs means that these are synthetic estimates. Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates of monthly hours worked in all jobs are available for the period July 1978 onwards.</p> <p>Further information on the methodology used to produce the monthly hours worked in all jobs estimates is available on the ABS website in <i>Information Paper: Expansion of Hours Worked Estimates from the Labour Force Survey</i> (cat. no. 6290.0.55.001).</p> <p>Actual and usual hours worked cannot be aggregated across time to produce either quarterly or annual estimates as they relate to only a single week in the month. In contrast, monthly hours worked in all jobs estimates are a true monthly measure, and may be aggregated across time to produce both quarterly and annual estimates.</p>
Not in labour force	Persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed, as defined. They include people who undertook unpaid household duties or other voluntary work only, were retired, voluntarily inactive and those permanently unable to work.
Participation rate	For any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.
Response rate	The number of fully responding dwellings expressed as a percentage of the total number of dwellings excluding sample loss. Examples of sample loss include: dwellings where all persons are out of scope and/or coverage; vacant dwellings; dwellings under construction; dwellings converted to non-dwellings; derelict dwellings; and demolished dwellings.
Seasonally adjusted series	A time series of estimates with the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation removed. See Explanatory Notes for more detail.
Stock estimates	Stock estimates are a measure of certain attributes at a point in time and can be thought of as stocktakes. For example, the total number of employed persons is an account of the number of people who were considered employed in the Labour Force Survey reference week.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Trend series	A smoothed seasonally adjusted series of estimates. See Explanatory Notes for more detail.
Underemployment rate (proportion of labour force)	The number of underemployed workers expressed as a percentage of the labour force.
Underemployment ratio (proportion of employed)	The number of underemployed workers expressed as a percentage of total employed persons.
Underemployed workers	Employed persons aged 15 years and over who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ persons employed part time who want to work more hours and are available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey; or■ persons employed full time who worked part time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.
Underutilisation rate	The sum of the number of persons unemployed and the number of persons in underemployment, expressed as a proportion of the labour force.
Unemployed	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 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 and were available for work in the reference week; or■ 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.
Unemployed looked for full time work	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ actively looked for full time work; or■ were waiting to start a new full time job.
Unemployed looked for only part time work	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ actively looked for part time work only; or■ were waiting to start a new part time job.
Unemployment rate	For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.
Usual hours of work	Usual hours of work refers to a typical period rather than the hours worked in a specified reference period. The concept of usual hours applies both to persons at work and to persons temporarily absent from work, and is defined as the hours worked during a typical week or day. Actual hours worked (for a specific reference period) may differ from usual hours worked due to illness, vacation, strike, overtime work, a change of job, or similar reasons.

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INTERNET **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

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