

APPENDIX 1 CHANGES TO THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYEE EARNINGS BENEFITS AND TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP 2001 AND 2002

REVISION OF 2001 EARNINGS DATA

Estimates for the reference period August 2001 have been revised in this publication following an evaluation of procedures used for that survey. The evaluation found that inadequate editing procedures had been applied to a number of data records, necessitating changes being made to those records. As a result, revisions have been made to the estimates of gross weekly earnings in main job, gross weekly earnings in all jobs, hours paid for, frequency of pay in main job, and employees who worked as an employee in the reference week in their second job. The impact of this revision on key survey estimates is shown in the tables below. For further information about this revision, please contact Kate Nielsen on (02) 6252 5759, or by facsimile on (02) 6252 7784, or by email to <kate.nielsen@abs.gov.au>.

CHANGE IN METHOD USED TO DETERMINE FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS IN MAIN JOB

A change has been made in the method used to determine whether an employee works full-time or part-time in his/her main job. Prior to 2002, full-time or part-time status in main job was derived from a self-perception question in which all employees were asked 'Is your job full-time or part-time?'. Following the redesign in 2001 of the LFS questionnaire, actual hours worked in main job in the reference week is now collected. For further details, see *Information Paper: Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire* (cat. no. 6295.0) and *Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Survey* (cat. no. 6232.0). From August 2002, the Survey of Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership uses data on hours worked to derive full-time or part-time status of employees in main job. This approach is consistent with the method (based on hours worked) used in the LFS to derive full-time or part-time status in all jobs.

This change has resulted in a net increase of 59,744 persons classified as full-time in their main job in 2002, compared with the number that would have been obtained if the self-perception question had been used. In total, 451,985 persons changed full-time/part-time status in main job with the change to the hours worked method. Of these, 255,865 persons considered part-time under the self-perception basis were classed as full-time using the hours worked method, while 196,120 considered full-time using the self-perception question were classed as part-time using the hours worked method. The move to the hours worked method has resulted in a small decrease in mean weekly earnings for both full-time and part-time employees in main job (\$4 and \$6 respectively).

IMPACT OF CHANGES

Revision of the 2001 earnings estimates

The tables below show the impact of the changes on key survey estimates.

Column 2001(a) shows the key estimates as published prior to revision. Columns 2001(b) and 2001(c) show the revised estimates for the two methods used to determine full-time/part-time status in main job. Revised 2001 earnings data should be used in place of estimates published in the August 2001 issue of the publication. Any reference to 2001 earnings data in this publication is therefore based on the revised data. More detailed earnings data for 2001 can be provided on request.

Change in method used to determine full-time/part-time status in main job

Columns 2001(a), 2001(b) and 2002(d) are based on the self-perception method of determining full-time/part-time status in main job. Columns 2001(c) and 2002(e) are based on the hours worked method. The hours worked method has been used in the 2002 publication for 2001 and 2002 estimates, and will be used in future years.

APPENDIX 1 CHANGES TO THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYEE EARNINGS BENEFITS AND TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP 2001 AND 2002 *continued*

IMPACT OF CHANGES *continued*

EMPLOYEES, FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS IN MAIN JOB

	2000	2001(a)	2001(b)	2001(c)	2002(d)	2002(e)
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Males						
Full-time employees	3 539.0	3 515.0	3 515.0	3 557.6	3 579.7	3 609.8
Part-time employees	617.5	669.3	669.3	626.7	687.4	657.3
<i>Total</i>	4 156.5	4 184.3	4 184.3	4 184.3	4 267.1	4 267.1
Females						
Full-time employees	1 912.1	1 939.8	1 939.8	1 956.0	1 927.8	1 957.5
Part-time employees	1 627.0	1 648.0	1 648.0	1 631.8	1 732.0	1 702.4
<i>Total</i>	3 539.1	3 587.8	3 587.8	3 587.8	3 659.9	3 659.9
Persons						
Full-time employees	5 451.1	5 454.8	5 454.8	5 513.6	5 507.5	5 567.2
Part-time employees	2 244.5	2 317.3	2 317.3	2 258.6	2 419.5	2 359.8
<i>Total</i>	7 695.6	7 772.2	7 772.2	7 772.2	7 927.0	7 927.0

- (a) As originally published, using self-perception method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job.
- (b) Revised, using self-perception method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job. (Note: revision did not effect the estimated number of full-time or part-time employees in main job).
- (c) Revised, using hours worked method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job.
- (d) Using self-perception method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job. (Note: from 2002 this method has been replaced with the 'hours worked' method. Data are provided here for comparison purposes only).
- (e) Using hours worked method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job.

EMPLOYEES, FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS IN MAIN JOB, BY MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS

	2000	2001(a)	2001(b)	2001(c)	2002(d)	2002(e)
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Males						
Full-time employees	864	914	899	893	925	919
Part-time employees	303	338	329	323	327	325
<i>Total</i>	777	820	806	806	826	826
Females						
Full-time employees	688	730	722	723	760	759
Part-time employees	298	317	317	312	331	324
<i>Total</i>	508	540	536	536	556	556
Persons						
Full-time employees	801	848	835	832	866	862
Part-time employees	300	323	320	315	330	324
<i>Total</i>	651	690	680	680	699	699

- (a) As originally published, using self-perception method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job.
- (b) Revised, using self-perception method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job.
- (c) Revised, using hours worked method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job.
- (d) Using self-perception method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job. (Note: from 2002 this method has been replaced with the 'hours worked' method. Data are provided here for comparison purposes only).
- (e) Using hours worked method to determine full-time/part-time status in main job.