

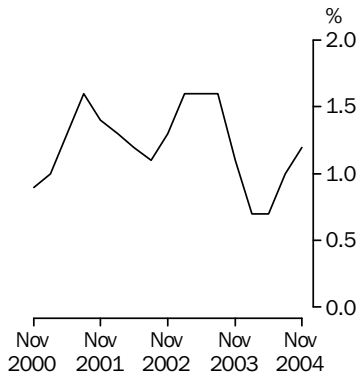
**AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 24 FEB 2005

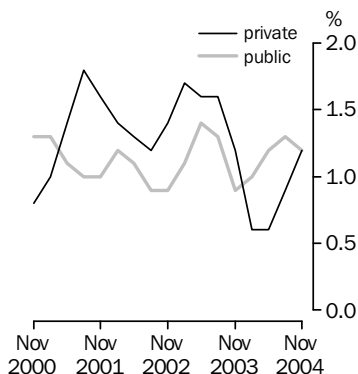
**Full-time adult total earnings**

Quarterly % change in trend estimates  
All Sectors



**Full-time adult total earnings**

Quarterly % change in trend estimates  
Private and Public



**KEY FIGURES**

	Nov 2004 \$	Aug 2004 to Nov 2004 % change	Nov 2003 to Nov 2004 % change
<b>TREND ESTIMATES</b>			
<b>Private &amp; public sectors</b>			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	973.20	1.1	3.6
Full-time adult total earnings	1 021.90	1.2	3.7
All employees total earnings	766.10	1.0	3.0
<b>Private sector</b>			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	941.30	1.0	3.1
Full-time adult total earnings	994.60	1.2	3.3
<b>Public sector</b>			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 078.50	1.3	4.8
Full-time adult total earnings	1 111.60	1.2	4.8

**SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES**

<b>Private &amp; public sectors</b>			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	976.20	1.5	4.1
Full-time adult total earnings	1 025.60	1.6	4.1
All employees total earnings	768.30	1.2	3.0
<b>Private sector</b>			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	945.90	1.7	3.7
Full-time adult total earnings	1 000.30	1.9	3.8
<b>Public sector</b>			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 076.10	0.6	4.6
Full-time adult total earnings	1 108.60	0.5	4.4

**KEY POINTS**

**TREND ESTIMATES**

- Full-time adult ordinary time earnings rose by 3.6% for males and 3.9% for females in the twelve months to November 2004.
- In the twelve months to November 2004, full-time adult total earnings rose by 3.7% for males and 3.9% for females.
- Full-time adult ordinary time earnings for the private and public sectors rose by 3.1% and 4.8% respectively in the twelve months to November 2004.

**INQUIRIES**

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Manpreet Singh on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE (Quarter)</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
February 2005	19 May 2005
May 2005	18 August 2005



## NOTES ON ESTIMATES

### COMPOSITIONAL EFFECTS

Movements in average weekly earnings can be affected by both changes in the level of earnings per employee and changes in the composition of the labour force. For example, changes in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees and variations in the distribution of occupations can affect movements in earnings series. Refer to paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Explanatory Notes.

## SAMPLING ERROR

For information on sampling error see the Technical Note at the end of this publication. Standard errors for the original estimates contained in this publication are in tables 18 to 20.



## ABBREVIATIONS

ABN	Australian Business Number
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWE	average weekly earnings
GE	group employer
PAYGW	pay-as-you-go withholding
TAU	type of activity unit

Peter Harper  
Acting Australian Statistician

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**AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings

**DOLLARS**

<b>2003</b>									
August	984.20	1 045.50	884.00	832.20	845.40	574.50	929.90	974.10	735.50
November	993.10	1 056.90	891.60	840.80	854.90	581.00	939.00	985.10	743.60
<b>2004</b>									
February	999.60	1 063.30	895.60	847.60	862.80	586.40	945.60	991.90	748.50
May	1 007.50	1 070.70	898.90	855.60	870.80	591.90	953.30	999.30	752.80
August	1 017.30	1 081.90	904.10	864.50	879.20	598.40	962.60	1 009.50	758.60
November	1 028.80	1 096.20	910.90	873.80	887.90	606.00	973.20	1 021.90	766.10

**CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)**

<b>2003</b>									
August	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.5
November	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1
<b>2004</b>									
February	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7
May	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6
August	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8
November	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.0

**CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)**

<b>2002</b>									
November	4.8	5.2	4.4	4.7	4.7	3.4	4.8	5.0	3.9
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.4	6.0	5.2	5.6	5.6	4.9	5.5	6.0	5.5
<b>2004</b>									
November	3.6	3.7	2.2	3.9	3.9	4.3	3.6	3.7	3.0

**AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	981.50	1 042.60	881.60	833.20	846.00	572.30	928.50	972.80	732.50
November	993.40	1 059.50	894.50	838.40	852.30	582.50	938.10	985.70	745.90
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 002.40	1 067.10	898.20	850.00	866.60	587.30	949.00	996.20	751.30
May	1 003.90	1 063.50	892.00	853.70	868.10	590.40	949.70	993.10	747.70
August	1 016.30	1 081.70	907.50	864.00	878.80	597.40	961.80	1 009.60	759.40
November	1 032.00	1 100.80	911.50	875.50	889.90	608.00	976.20	1 025.60	768.30
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.6	0.8	1.2	0.9
November	1.2	1.6	1.5	0.6	0.7	1.8	1.0	1.3	1.8
<b>2004</b>									
February	0.9	0.7	0.4	1.4	1.7	0.8	1.2	1.1	0.7
May	0.1	-0.3	-0.7	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	-0.3	-0.5
August	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.6
November	1.5	1.8	0.4	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.2
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	4.9	5.5	4.4	4.8	4.8	3.5	4.8	5.2	3.8
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.4	6.1	5.6	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.5	6.0	5.9
<b>2004</b>									
November	3.9	3.9	1.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.1	3.0

**AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Original**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	982.10	1 042.10	880.50	835.00	848.20	573.50	929.60	972.80	732.80
November	993.60	1 061.30	894.60	837.90	852.70	578.70	938.40	987.30	744.20
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 000.70	1 064.00	900.10	851.00	865.60	591.70	947.80	993.90	754.30
May	1 004.80	1 065.30	891.20	851.20	866.30	588.50	949.50	993.60	746.30
August	1 016.90	1 081.20	906.30	865.90	881.10	598.70	962.90	1 009.70	759.70
November	1 032.20	1 102.70	911.60	875.00	890.40	604.00	976.40	1 027.30	766.40
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.7	1.7	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1
November	1.2	1.8	1.6	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.5	1.5
<b>2004</b>									
February	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.6	1.5	2.3	1.0	0.7	1.4
May	0.4	0.1	-1.0	0.0	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.0	-1.1
August	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.8
November	1.5	2.0	0.6	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.7	0.9
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	4.9	5.5	4.4	4.8	4.8	3.5	4.8	5.2	3.9
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.4	6.1	5.6	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.5	6.0	5.9
<b>2004</b>									
November	3.9	3.9	1.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.1	3.0

**AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	961.40	1 025.70	853.80	783.50	796.60	516.00	903.70	951.40	698.80
November	970.30	1 037.40	861.70	791.90	806.10	522.20	912.90	963.10	707.60
<b>2004</b>									
February	975.90	1 042.70	864.50	797.70	813.10	526.80	918.80	969.00	711.80
May	982.00	1 048.30	865.40	804.10	819.70	531.20	924.70	974.60	714.00
August	990.00	1 058.00	868.30	811.40	826.50	536.80	932.10	983.10	718.20
November	1 000.20	1 071.70	873.40	819.20	833.70	544.20	941.30	994.60	724.80
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.6
November	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.3
<b>2004</b>									
February	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.6
May	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.3
August	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.6
November	1.0	1.3	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.0	1.2	0.9
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	5.2	5.5	4.8	4.9	4.9	3.8	5.1	5.4	4.3
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.5	6.3	5.4	5.6	5.7	4.2	5.7	6.3	5.7
<b>2004</b>									
November	3.1	3.3	1.4	3.5	3.4	4.2	3.1	3.3	2.4

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	957.70	1 021.90	850.80	784.30	797.00	512.90	901.40	949.10	694.70
November	970.80	1 040.10	864.80	788.80	802.70	524.40	911.90	963.50	710.50
<b>2004</b>									
February	980.00	1 048.30	869.00	801.30	818.00	528.30	923.70	975.40	716.20
May	977.90	1 040.00	857.00	802.40	817.50	529.60	920.60	967.40	707.90
August	987.60	1 056.50	871.20	809.20	824.20	534.40	929.90	981.50	717.70
November	1 005.00	1 078.10	875.20	822.40	837.10	547.70	945.90	1 000.30	728.70
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	0.4	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.8
November	1.4	1.8	1.6	0.6	0.7	2.2	1.2	1.5	2.3
<b>2004</b>									
February	1.0	0.8	0.5	1.6	1.9	0.8	1.3	1.2	0.8
May	-0.2	-0.8	-1.4	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.3	-0.8	-1.2
August	1.0	1.6	1.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.5	1.4
November	1.8	2.0	0.5	1.6	1.6	2.5	1.7	1.9	1.5
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	5.5	6.1	4.9	5.1	5.1	3.8	5.3	5.7	4.3
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.5	6.3	5.7	5.1	5.2	4.6	5.5	6.2	6.1
<b>2004</b>									
November	3.5	3.7	1.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	3.7	3.8	2.6



AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Original**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	959.10	1 022.30	850.40	786.70	799.80	514.70	903.30	950.30	696.10
November	971.20	1 042.70	866.10	789.10	804.10	521.30	912.80	966.20	709.80
<b>2004</b>									
February	976.90	1 043.30	868.20	801.90	816.80	531.70	921.10	971.10	716.70
May	979.30	1 042.10	857.00	799.20	814.40	527.40	920.40	967.60	706.60
August	988.90	1 056.90	870.80	811.80	827.20	536.30	931.80	982.80	719.20
November	1 005.60	1 080.90	876.60	822.60	838.50	544.50	946.90	1 003.10	727.90
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.8	1.9	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.2
November	1.3	2.0	1.8	0.3	0.5	1.3	1.1	1.7	2.0
<b>2004</b>									
February	0.6	0.1	0.2	1.6	1.6	2.0	0.9	0.5	1.0
May	0.2	-0.1	-1.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.8	-0.1	-0.4	-1.4
August	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.2	1.6	1.8
November	1.7	2.3	0.7	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	2.1	1.2
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	5.5	6.2	4.9	5.1	5.1	3.8	5.3	5.7	4.3
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.5	6.3	5.7	5.1	5.1	4.6	5.6	6.2	6.1
<b>2004</b>									
November	3.5	3.7	1.2	4.3	4.3	4.5	3.7	3.8	2.6

## AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: Trend

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 083.70	1 131.60	1 034.20	947.20	961.00	765.50	1 019.60	1 051.40	882.70
November	1 094.40	1 142.90	1 044.50	955.90	969.80	771.40	1 028.80	1 061.00	889.50
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 105.40	1 155.20	1 055.70	964.00	978.20	777.60	1 038.30	1 071.20	897.30
May	1 119.50	1 169.50	1 069.90	974.80	989.10	786.30	1 051.00	1 084.10	908.50
August	1 134.70	1 184.50	1 085.60	987.10	1 001.50	795.40	1 065.00	1 098.10	920.80
November	1 149.40	1 198.80	1 101.70	999.30	1 013.90	803.90	1 078.50	1 111.60	932.80
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.2
November	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8
<b>2004</b>									
February	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.9
May	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
August	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4
November	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.3
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	3.8	4.1	3.8	4.5	4.6	3.3	4.0	4.2	3.3
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.0	4.8	4.6	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.8	4.7
<b>2004</b>									
November	5.0	4.9	5.5	4.5	4.5	4.2	4.8	4.8	4.9

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 085.10	1 132.60	1 033.30	949.30	962.70	767.60	1 021.80	1 053.30	884.00
November	1 094.30	1 144.20	1 048.50	956.30	970.80	772.50	1 028.30	1 061.40	891.60
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 104.30	1 153.10	1 050.20	961.80	975.90	773.10	1 037.00	1 069.40	892.10
May	1 116.80	1 167.00	1 070.90	973.40	987.60	787.30	1 048.70	1 081.60	909.20
August	1 139.30	1 189.80	1 087.50	990.00	1 004.60	798.50	1 069.30	1 103.00	924.20
November	1 146.80	1 195.30	1 099.90	997.70	1 012.20	800.60	1 076.10	1 108.60	929.70
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.2
November	0.8	1.0	1.5	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.9
<b>2004</b>									
February	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.1
May	1.1	1.2	2.0	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.1	1.1	1.9
August	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.0	2.0	1.7
November	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.6
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	3.0	3.4	3.1	4.4	4.4	3.2	3.5	3.7	2.9
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.3
<b>2004</b>									
November	4.8	4.5	4.9	4.3	4.3	3.6	4.6	4.4	4.3

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: **Original**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 082.50	1 128.10	1 029.90	948.20	961.50	763.60	1 019.20	1 049.60	879.10
November	1 094.70	1 145.70	1 042.50	953.80	968.00	765.00	1 027.90	1 061.50	884.30
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 107.20	1 156.60	1 065.70	965.00	978.80	786.70	1 039.90	1 072.40	907.60
May	1 116.30	1 166.70	1 064.70	973.90	988.60	785.30	1 048.80	1 082.40	905.70
August	1 136.50	1 185.10	1 084.10	988.80	1 003.40	794.50	1 066.60	1 099.10	919.20
November	1 147.40	1 196.90	1 093.60	995.00	1 009.30	792.70	1 075.70	1 108.60	922.00
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1
November	1.1	1.6	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.8	1.1	0.6
<b>2004</b>									
February	1.1	1.0	2.2	1.2	1.1	2.8	1.2	1.0	2.6
May	0.8	0.9	-0.1	0.9	1.0	-0.2	0.9	0.9	-0.2
August	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.5
November	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.6	-0.2	0.8	0.9	0.3
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
<b>2002</b>									
November	3.0	3.4	3.1	4.4	4.4	3.2	3.5	3.7	2.9
<b>2003</b>									
November	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3
<b>2004</b>									
November	4.8	4.5	4.9	4.3	4.3	3.6	4.7	4.4	4.3

Industry	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	DOLLARS								
Mining	1 542.40	1 703.20	1 686.60	1 141.40	1 196.00	1 111.90	1 500.10	1 649.80	1 619.10
Manufacturing	947.60	1 056.60	1 000.10	796.70	841.70	698.80	917.40	1 013.60	925.20
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 269.90	1 396.70	1 369.30	1 027.70	1 045.60	941.80	1 223.80	1 329.90	1 271.90
Construction	951.00	1 072.40	961.00	821.30	833.90	498.70	938.20	1 048.90	877.10
Wholesale trade	965.10	1 010.80	938.30	812.50	822.70	693.40	928.80	966.00	870.00
Retail trade	757.70	798.80	549.70	669.50	679.10	380.00	724.90	754.40	461.60
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	720.00	753.10	444.90	676.50	709.20	369.40	702.00	735.00	403.00
Transport and storage	1 080.80	1 193.20	1 089.70	848.60	879.10	689.60	1 028.90	1 123.00	979.70
Communication services	1 097.10	1 163.10	1 091.90	948.60	966.40	785.80	1 053.50	1 105.40	980.10
Finance and insurance	1 485.70	1 493.50	1 410.50	939.70	948.80	778.20	1 214.30	1 222.80	1 043.00
Property and business services	1 087.40	1 140.40	913.30	866.30	872.70	614.30	1 008.50	1 044.90	788.60
Government administration and defence	1 112.20	1 139.70	1 067.00	984.00	993.20	811.30	1 057.80	1 077.50	939.40
Education	1 186.50	1 193.30	921.70	1 040.80	1 043.10	740.70	1 095.60	1 099.70	798.10
Health and community services	1 196.90	1 262.00	1 006.10	875.00	898.20	635.10	973.70	1 009.70	710.80
Cultural and recreational services	1 101.50	1 123.50	762.70	930.30	941.10	513.30	1 034.20	1 051.80	637.70
Personal and other services	1 007.30	1 054.90	771.70	821.40	834.10	523.40	935.30	969.40	648.70
<b>All industries</b>	<b>1 032.20</b>	<b>1 102.70</b>	<b>911.60</b>	<b>875.00</b>	<b>890.40</b>	<b>604.00</b>	<b>976.40</b>	<b>1 027.30</b>	<b>766.40</b>

## CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)

Mining	0.1	3.2	4.4	3.6	5.9	3.9	0.2	3.3	4.0
Manufacturing	1.9	1.8	1.7	5.6	5.7	8.3	2.7	2.6	3.1
Electricity, gas and water supply	5.4	5.2	5.3	2.6	2.5	2.5	4.7	4.5	4.4
Construction	5.0	3.9	1.7	9.7	10.0	-8.5	5.7	4.8	-0.1
Wholesale trade	3.4	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.1	7.1	3.4	3.9	4.5
Retail trade	3.6	3.3	2.0	3.4	2.7	8.8	3.2	2.7	5.5
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	4.4	6.8	-1.9	3.5	6.6	8.6	4.0	6.7	3.5
Transport and storage	12.6	10.8	9.8	7.8	8.3	2.0	11.7	10.4	7.8
Communication services	2.5	2.8	4.7	4.5	4.2	8.1	3.0	3.1	5.8
Finance and insurance	2.5	2.6	3.2	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.4
Property and business services	0.4	0.5	-0.3	4.4	4.3	3.2	2.4	2.5	1.9
Government administration and defence	6.7	6.3	7.2	4.6	4.4	4.0	5.9	5.6	5.8
Education	7.5	7.5	3.0	6.9	6.9	6.7	7.1	7.1	5.4
Health and community services	2.9	3.5	2.8	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.8
Cultural and recreational services	8.8	8.4	1.5	7.0	6.8	4.5	7.7	7.4	2.7
Personal and other services	6.1	6.5	-1.9	5.8	5.3	5.7	5.5	5.5	1.2
<b>All industries</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 031.20	1 097.30	930.00	871.20	884.40	621.30	972.00	1 018.60	783.40
November	1 037.10	1 105.60	936.00	882.70	896.90	632.10	980.40	1 029.00	793.70
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 043.70	1 111.70	938.40	891.70	907.30	638.60	988.00	1 036.70	798.70
May	1 047.80	1 114.20	934.90	900.80	916.90	644.40	993.60	1 041.50	799.70
August	1 049.90	1 116.80	928.80	910.50	926.50	650.90	998.20	1 046.30	799.90
November	1 051.90	1 120.60	921.90	919.70	935.20	658.30	1 002.50	1 051.80	800.40
VICTORIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	987.40	1 049.70	909.00	835.20	850.40	584.40	935.00	981.10	755.30
November	1 000.80	1 067.00	917.60	838.20	854.10	587.70	945.10	994.30	762.50
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 007.30	1 073.10	917.80	839.60	857.10	589.00	949.60	998.90	763.10
May	1 015.50	1 081.40	922.00	847.30	865.30	589.80	958.00	1 007.30	765.10
August	1 029.40	1 098.90	935.30	859.80	877.40	591.20	972.50	1 024.40	772.10
November	1 048.80	1 124.10	954.90	875.80	892.30	594.00	992.10	1 048.60	782.70
QUEENSLAND									
<b>2003</b>									
August	908.10	972.80	807.30	779.10	792.00	526.40	861.70	907.90	670.30
November	920.10	987.90	822.90	792.50	806.10	536.30	875.00	923.10	682.90
<b>2004</b>									
February	929.80	1 000.50	834.60	803.80	817.70	542.70	884.70	934.80	691.20
May	942.80	1 012.80	843.10	810.40	824.00	550.10	894.00	943.60	698.80
August	955.80	1 023.00	850.80	813.60	826.80	563.10	902.80	950.20	709.70
November	966.50	1 030.80	858.30	814.30	827.10	581.10	910.00	954.90	724.00
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	899.00	950.50	788.60	802.50	817.10	504.40	866.10	904.90	649.50
November	896.80	945.80	774.60	806.60	821.40	505.90	866.00	903.40	643.30
<b>2004</b>									
February	896.00	940.50	769.50	815.70	829.20	518.60	869.00	903.30	648.70
May	904.20	947.60	772.70	828.70	841.00	524.60	879.20	912.30	654.30
August	918.80	964.80	778.00	840.10	852.80	524.10	893.00	927.80	657.60
November	935.60	985.90	783.30	848.70	863.50	520.80	907.60	945.70	659.20
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 007.80	1 062.40	892.30	774.40	785.10	526.70	928.20	968.00	718.80
November	1 019.30	1 075.70	908.70	785.50	796.70	530.00	939.40	980.70	728.90
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 025.60	1 084.20	918.00	793.20	805.00	533.10	946.50	988.90	734.80
May	1 036.40	1 097.30	929.30	798.30	810.80	537.90	955.90	1 000.00	742.70
August	1 052.60	1 115.60	945.10	802.50	815.60	542.50	968.30	1 014.60	753.50
November	1 071.80	1 137.10	962.70	805.90	819.40	545.80	982.50	1 031.30	764.60

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	866.30	907.40	758.30	761.20	771.40	496.20	832.60	863.70	629.10
November	865.90	908.70	754.10	760.70	769.90	506.00	833.00	864.80	635.00
<b>2004</b>									
February	874.20	918.20	765.20	764.30	774.60	520.40	839.30	872.60	649.20
May	892.60	938.60	787.90	775.20	786.20	538.90	853.50	888.40	669.10
August	912.80	962.50	811.70	787.30	797.80	554.90	869.90	906.20	688.10
November	931.40	986.10	831.20	798.30	807.60	566.40	885.70	923.70	703.40
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
<b>2003</b>									
August	964.70	1 025.50	831.30	838.40	854.80	618.00	911.10	952.90	724.10
November	975.80	1 033.50	825.20	852.60	869.40	614.50	923.60	964.50	718.70
<b>2004</b>									
February	991.00	1 047.60	823.20	863.70	880.50	615.40	936.90	976.70	717.00
May	1 010.40	1 068.30	834.00	874.90	891.30	622.60	952.10	991.70	725.10
August	1 030.30	1 089.50	850.70	888.50	904.70	633.10	968.20	1 008.20	738.30
November	1 050.00	1 109.90	867.60	902.70	919.30	644.30	983.70	1 024.70	751.80
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 144.20	1 160.70	990.00	956.90	963.70	696.30	1 062.30	1 074.20	834.30
November	1 142.40	1 160.60	992.50	966.00	973.50	713.10	1 066.00	1 079.50	846.70
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 142.60	1 163.40	996.70	965.20	973.30	729.10	1 065.00	1 080.70	858.20
May	1 154.00	1 176.00	1 009.40	969.80	977.70	745.40	1 071.60	1 087.60	870.90
August	1 171.70	1 193.70	1 028.40	985.30	992.50	760.00	1 087.00	1 102.00	884.70
November	1 193.70	1 215.70	1 054.60	1 008.30	1 014.70	775.80	1 109.00	1 122.90	903.20

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 027.10	1 093.80	927.60	875.30	888.40	622.50	971.10	1 017.80	782.70
November	1 033.80	1 103.90	933.30	877.90	891.00	631.00	976.00	1 025.60	791.40
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 050.20	1 119.70	946.50	895.20	912.00	639.40	994.10	1 044.20	804.70
May	1 046.90	1 109.70	930.00	899.50	916.00	645.80	992.20	1 037.80	796.90
August	1 046.30	1 113.80	930.00	909.00	924.40	646.40	995.40	1 043.40	797.50
November	1 055.50	1 125.80	922.60	921.90	937.70	661.90	1 005.80	1 056.50	803.80
VICTORIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	982.10	1 045.10	908.30	832.70	847.10	579.10	930.30	976.30	751.50
November	1 005.70	1 073.20	927.80	835.00	851.40	591.20	948.30	999.40	771.00
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 011.20	1 080.40	914.90	847.60	864.60	591.00	954.00	1 005.70	762.40
May	1 008.70	1 067.60	912.30	838.00	856.60	584.70	950.10	993.80	755.40
August	1 024.60	1 095.80	937.90	858.90	877.20	593.70	969.30	1 022.80	777.60
November	1 057.90	1 135.80	959.00	882.60	897.90	594.50	1 000.50	1 058.80	783.80
QUEENSLAND									
<b>2003</b>									
August	911.70	973.20	803.90	780.00	793.50	521.20	864.40	908.80	665.40
November	920.80	990.70	825.20	790.80	804.00	541.30	875.30	924.30	686.90
<b>2004</b>									
February	926.60	997.10	839.80	806.20	820.90	548.90	884.80	934.70	697.20
May	937.20	1 009.10	834.30	809.70	822.40	539.80	888.50	940.00	689.30
August	968.80	1 034.40	857.40	816.30	830.10	562.00	911.60	958.00	710.60
November	957.10	1 021.70	856.70	811.50	824.10	588.60	904.30	948.90	728.80
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	897.70	950.20	780.90	805.00	817.50	498.40	865.70	905.60	643.30
November	901.10	956.10	781.00	804.40	822.60	501.30	868.60	910.20	644.20
<b>2004</b>									
February	892.20	931.20	766.00	809.20	821.50	526.60	863.40	895.10	650.50
May	898.00	938.30	763.50	834.60	846.40	527.30	878.10	907.20	652.20
August	923.90	974.70	792.60	842.70	854.00	520.30	897.00	935.90	662.40
November	936.10	984.30	775.10	843.30	859.90	521.90	905.40	942.00	655.70
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 012.10	1 066.10	896.30	777.40	788.70	528.80	930.70	971.00	721.70
November	1 016.00	1 071.00	910.20	783.50	794.20	529.70	936.00	976.40	727.80
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 026.70	1 088.20	916.20	794.90	807.20	530.30	948.70	993.60	737.10
May	1 037.40	1 095.50	928.20	798.10	810.30	539.00	956.50	997.40	738.40
August	1 043.80	1 108.00	941.80	802.40	815.30	544.60	961.80	1 009.70	753.60
November	1 080.70	1 146.40	968.00	805.90	819.80	543.80	989.10	1 038.20	768.50



Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	868.00	909.50	764.10	761.60	770.60	497.70	833.90	863.90	633.60
November	866.90	909.80	750.10	761.90	768.50	512.20	833.80	864.20	636.40
<b>2004</b>									
February	867.50	912.50	759.00	759.70	772.60	502.40	835.40	870.80	637.60
May	890.50	935.00	789.30	773.50	784.60	553.60	850.00	885.10	677.40
August	923.40	972.00	820.10	794.30	803.90	554.90	878.50	912.50	691.70
November	923.40	980.30	824.50	793.70	803.60	560.60	880.30	920.30	696.90
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
<b>2003</b>									
August	957.80	1 019.80	833.00	840.00	855.80	615.10	909.70	951.70	724.00
November	983.80	1 039.40	817.40	854.60	872.20	621.10	927.30	968.00	718.90
<b>2004</b>									
February	983.60	1 038.30	831.30	862.40	879.70	606.10	932.80	972.30	715.60
May	1 011.10	1 072.70	822.70	874.30	889.70	625.90	952.00	992.50	720.30
August	1 034.30	1 091.00	854.70	887.00	903.30	632.90	970.80	1 008.90	741.80
November	1 047.40	1 107.80	872.80	905.60	922.70	645.00	982.50	1 025.00	753.70
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 136.10	1 152.30	975.30	957.80	963.70	686.40	1 058.80	1 068.50	821.30
November	1 139.40	1 157.20	996.70	972.20	980.40	709.60	1 067.60	1 081.60	845.60
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 151.00	1 171.60	999.60	964.20	972.70	738.30	1 069.70	1 085.50	867.50
May	1 145.10	1 169.20	1 007.80	964.10	971.30	746.20	1 063.40	1 081.80	870.70
August	1 167.60	1 188.40	1 016.10	978.40	986.40	749.00	1 081.30	1 093.70	870.20
November	1 204.60	1 225.70	1 068.80	1 019.80	1 025.60	786.50	1 120.50	1 135.30	917.70

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 027.10	1 092.60	927.30	875.00	889.30	622.00	971.00	1 017.60	782.00
November	1 037.40	1 109.00	938.70	878.10	892.10	627.90	978.90	1 029.40	792.50
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 044.60	1 113.70	946.40	897.20	912.80	645.10	991.40	1 041.10	807.70
May	1 048.80	1 111.70	924.90	897.50	913.00	643.80	992.00	1 037.10	793.60
August	1 046.20	1 112.50	929.80	908.80	925.40	645.90	995.30	1 043.20	796.70
November	1 059.20	1 131.00	928.10	922.20	938.90	658.90	1 008.90	1 060.40	805.10
VICTORIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	983.00	1 044.10	906.90	834.80	848.80	583.20	931.90	976.70	752.50
November	1 000.70	1 073.00	923.90	834.60	852.40	587.20	944.30	998.00	767.10
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 014.60	1 080.30	919.40	844.30	860.90	590.60	956.10	1 004.90	765.10
May	1 009.40	1 069.00	912.80	839.50	857.40	584.70	950.50	995.60	755.30
August	1 025.80	1 095.00	936.70	861.20	879.10	598.10	971.00	1 023.20	778.90
November	1 052.60	1 135.50	954.60	882.00	898.80	590.40	996.20	1 057.20	779.70
QUEENSLAND									
<b>2003</b>									
August	907.20	971.50	802.70	785.30	797.50	521.70	863.30	908.90	664.60
November	922.60	995.40	821.80	789.50	803.90	533.50	875.00	926.90	681.60
<b>2004</b>									
February	927.30	993.50	842.10	807.50	820.60	552.70	884.60	931.90	700.40
May	939.00	1 009.40	836.70	804.20	818.40	543.70	890.10	940.00	692.50
August	964.10	1 032.80	856.10	821.90	834.60	562.30	910.60	958.20	709.60
November	959.10	1 026.70	853.50	810.30	823.80	580.30	904.10	951.70	723.40
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	895.00	942.60	773.80	803.70	817.80	504.50	863.90	900.10	643.20
November	899.80	955.30	781.20	806.10	822.50	505.60	867.80	909.90	646.60
<b>2004</b>									
February	897.00	937.50	771.00	812.60	824.80	526.60	868.10	899.00	652.70
May	897.40	940.40	765.20	830.70	842.90	516.40	876.00	909.20	647.50
August	921.00	966.70	785.50	841.30	854.30	526.70	895.00	930.10	662.50
November	934.80	983.40	775.10	845.10	859.70	526.50	904.50	941.60	658.10
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 015.00	1 067.30	892.60	777.70	788.30	529.00	933.80	971.80	720.90
November	1 015.60	1 071.70	911.20	783.90	795.40	525.30	936.70	977.70	724.80
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 022.40	1 083.30	917.00	797.60	809.70	539.30	946.30	990.70	739.10
May	1 039.30	1 098.50	930.40	794.40	806.80	534.20	955.00	998.10	740.20
August	1 046.80	1 109.20	937.60	802.90	815.20	544.80	964.90	1 010.50	752.80
November	1 080.20	1 147.20	969.20	806.40	821.10	539.20	990.00	1 039.70	765.30

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
<b>2003</b>									
August	864.80	903.30	757.80	758.10	766.20	496.30	831.40	860.40	631.50
November	867.60	910.80	755.00	768.70	777.80	512.50	835.80	868.00	638.30
<b>2004</b>									
February	871.60	917.30	762.50	757.20	769.50	509.50	835.70	871.00	642.20
May	888.90	935.20	786.40	772.60	782.50	547.00	850.10	884.20	672.50
August	919.90	965.60	813.80	790.70	799.40	553.50	875.90	909.00	689.70
November	924.10	981.20	829.80	800.70	813.20	561.00	882.20	924.10	699.10
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
<b>2003</b>									
August	953.00	1 015.30	835.00	840.80	856.50	617.80	905.80	948.50	724.60
November	986.10	1 044.30	820.20	853.20	870.70	619.40	929.30	970.10	720.10
<b>2004</b>									
February	981.40	1 028.80	825.50	865.00	881.60	609.60	932.60	967.20	716.00
May	1 016.00	1 082.60	823.30	872.30	888.50	621.30	954.20	999.10	718.00
August	1 028.90	1 085.80	857.00	887.80	903.90	635.60	966.40	1 005.20	742.40
November	1 049.90	1 113.20	875.70	904.00	921.10	643.40	984.70	1 027.40	755.00
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
<b>2003</b>									
August	1 137.50	1 153.50	983.80	961.40	967.40	690.30	1 061.30	1 073.10	828.30
November	1 141.00	1 159.90	983.00	978.70	987.50	708.60	1 070.70	1 085.30	838.70
<b>2004</b>									
February	1 151.90	1 171.30	1 008.00	960.70	967.70	742.60	1 067.80	1 081.80	872.70
May	1 141.40	1 165.60	1 004.00	957.00	964.90	738.30	1 059.60	1 076.60	864.80
August	1 168.80	1 189.60	1 025.50	982.60	990.80	753.60	1 083.90	1 098.90	878.20
November	1 206.60	1 228.60	1 053.40	1 026.20	1 032.70	785.10	1 123.90	1 138.80	909.60

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Quarterly percentage change: **Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
<b>2004</b>									
May	0.4	0.2	-0.4	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.1
August	0.2	0.2	-0.7	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.0
November	0.2	0.3	-0.7	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.4	0.5	0.1
VICTORIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.9	1.0	0.1	0.9	0.8	0.3
August	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.4	0.2	1.5	1.7	0.9
November	1.9	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.7	0.5	2.0	2.4	1.4
QUEENSLAND									
<b>2004</b>									
May	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.4	1.1	0.9	1.1
August	1.4	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.3	2.4	1.0	0.7	1.6
November	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	3.2	0.8	0.5	2.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	0.9	0.8	0.4	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.9
August	1.6	1.8	0.7	1.4	1.4	-0.1	1.6	1.7	0.5
November	1.8	2.2	0.7	1.0	1.2	-0.6	1.6	1.9	0.2
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1
August	1.6	1.7	1.7	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.5
November	1.8	1.9	1.9	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.5	1.6	1.5
TASMANIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	2.1	2.2	3.0	1.4	1.5	3.6	1.7	1.8	3.1
August	2.3	2.6	3.0	1.6	1.5	3.0	1.9	2.0	2.8
November	2.0	2.4	2.4	1.4	1.2	2.1	1.8	1.9	2.2
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
<b>2004</b>									
May	2.0	2.0	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.1
August	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8
November	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.8
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
<b>2004</b>									
May	1.0	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.5	2.2	0.6	0.6	1.5
August	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.6
November	1.9	1.8	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.1

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
<b>2004</b>									
May	-0.3	-0.9	-1.7	0.5	0.4	1.0	-0.2	-0.6	-1.0
August	-0.1	0.4	0.0	1.1	0.9	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.1
November	0.9	1.1	-0.8	1.4	1.4	2.4	1.0	1.3	0.8
VICTORIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	-0.2	-1.2	-0.3	-1.1	-0.9	-1.1	-0.4	-1.2	-0.9
August	1.6	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.4	1.5	2.0	2.9	2.9
November	3.2	3.7	2.3	2.8	2.4	0.1	3.2	3.5	0.8
QUEENSLAND									
<b>2004</b>									
May	1.1	1.2	-0.6	0.4	0.2	-1.7	0.4	0.6	-1.1
August	3.4	2.5	2.8	0.8	0.9	4.1	2.6	1.9	3.1
November	-1.2	-1.2	-0.1	-0.6	-0.7	4.7	-0.8	-0.9	2.6
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	0.6	0.8	-0.3	3.1	3.0	0.1	1.7	1.4	0.3
August	2.9	3.9	3.8	1.0	0.9	-1.3	2.2	3.2	1.6
November	1.3	1.0	-2.2	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.9	0.7	-1.0
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	1.0	0.7	1.3	0.4	0.4	1.6	0.8	0.4	0.2
August	0.6	1.1	1.5	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.6	1.2	2.1
November	3.5	3.5	2.8	0.4	0.5	-0.2	2.8	2.8	2.0
TASMANIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	2.6	2.5	4.0	1.8	1.5	10.2	1.8	1.6	6.2
August	3.7	4.0	3.9	2.7	2.5	0.2	3.3	3.1	2.1
November	0.0	0.9	0.5	-0.1	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.9	0.7
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
<b>2004</b>									
May	2.8	3.3	-1.0	1.4	1.1	3.3	2.1	2.1	0.7
August	2.3	1.7	3.9	1.4	1.5	1.1	2.0	1.7	3.0
November	1.3	1.5	2.1	2.1	2.2	1.9	1.2	1.6	1.6
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
<b>2004</b>									
May	-0.5	-0.2	0.8	0.0	-0.1	1.1	-0.6	-0.3	0.4
August	2.0	1.6	0.8	1.5	1.6	0.4	1.7	1.1	-0.1
November	3.2	3.1	5.2	4.2	4.0	5.0	3.6	3.8	5.5

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
<b>2004</b>									
May	0.4	-0.2	-2.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.1	-0.4	-1.7
August	-0.3	0.1	0.5	1.3	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.4
November	1.2	1.7	-0.2	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.4	1.7	1.1
VICTORIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	-0.5	-1.0	-0.7	-0.6	-0.4	-1.0	-0.6	-0.9	-1.3
August	1.6	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.8	3.1
November	2.6	3.7	1.9	2.4	2.2	-1.3	2.6	3.3	0.1
QUEENSLAND									
<b>2004</b>									
May	1.3	1.6	-0.6	-0.4	-0.3	-1.6	0.6	0.9	-1.1
August	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.0	3.4	2.3	1.9	2.5
November	-0.5	-0.6	-0.3	-1.4	-1.3	3.2	-0.7	-0.7	1.9
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	0.0	0.3	-0.8	2.2	2.2	-1.9	0.9	1.1	-0.8
August	2.6	2.8	2.6	1.3	1.4	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.3
November	1.5	1.7	-1.3	0.4	0.6	0.0	1.1	1.2	-0.7
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	1.7	1.4	1.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.9	0.9	0.7	0.1
August	0.7	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.2	1.7
November	3.2	3.4	3.4	0.4	0.7	-1.0	2.6	2.9	1.7
TASMANIA									
<b>2004</b>									
May	2.0	2.0	3.1	2.0	1.7	7.4	1.7	1.5	4.7
August	3.5	3.3	3.5	2.3	2.2	1.2	3.0	2.8	2.6
November	0.5	1.6	2.0	1.3	1.7	1.4	0.7	1.7	1.4
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
<b>2004</b>									
May	3.5	5.2	-0.3	0.9	0.8	1.9	2.3	3.3	0.3
August	1.3	0.3	4.1	1.8	1.7	2.3	1.3	0.6	3.4
November	2.0	2.5	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.2	1.9	2.2	1.7
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
<b>2004</b>									
May	-0.9	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8	-0.5	-0.9
August	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.1	2.3	2.1	1.6
November	3.2	3.3	2.7	4.4	4.2	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.6

## AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Annual percentage change: Trend

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
<b>November</b>									
2002	3.9	4.8	4.0	4.5	4.6	2.2	4.0	4.6	2.7
2003	3.7	4.3	4.2	6.6	6.6	8.6	4.8	5.2	6.9
2004	1.4	1.4	-1.5	4.2	4.3	4.1	2.3	2.2	0.9
VICTORIA									
<b>November</b>									
2002	8.4	8.1	8.8	5.1	5.0	6.7	7.2	7.0	7.7
2003	5.8	7.0	6.4	4.6	4.8	4.5	5.6	6.6	6.4
2004	4.8	5.4	4.1	4.5	4.5	1.1	5.0	5.5	2.7
QUEENSLAND									
<b>November</b>									
2002	2.6	4.0	1.0	4.7	4.6	-1.1	3.4	4.4	-0.1
2003	7.7	7.7	6.8	5.8	6.1	4.3	7.1	7.2	5.9
2004	5.0	4.3	4.3	2.8	2.6	8.4	4.0	3.4	6.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
<b>November</b>									
2002	2.9	1.8	1.8	4.6	4.7	7.1	3.4	2.7	4.9
2003	4.9	4.6	-1.6	5.9	5.9	-5.8	5.1	4.9	-4.2
2004	4.3	4.2	1.1	5.2	5.1	2.9	4.8	4.7	2.5
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
<b>November</b>									
2002	3.6	3.7	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.3
2003	6.9	7.0	8.8	5.1	4.7	4.6	6.1	6.1	6.5
2004	5.2	5.7	5.9	2.6	2.8	3.0	4.6	5.2	4.9
TASMANIA									
<b>November</b>									
2002	5.1	5.1	7.9	5.9	5.3	4.4	5.8	5.8	7.0
2003	1.8	2.2	-1.1	1.2	0.6	5.1	1.6	1.7	2.1
2004	7.6	8.5	10.2	4.9	4.9	11.9	6.3	6.8	10.8
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
<b>November</b>									
2002	3.5	5.3	4.3	6.6	6.9	2.8	4.6	5.7	3.1
2003	5.8	5.2	1.3	7.4	7.2	2.6	6.7	6.3	2.1
2004	7.6	7.4	5.1	5.9	5.7	4.9	6.5	6.2	4.6
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
<b>November</b>									
2002	8.4	8.0	10.1	6.0	5.9	7.5	7.4	7.2	8.9
2003	4.6	4.1	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.1	5.0	4.7	5.1
2004	4.5	4.8	6.3	4.4	4.2	8.8	4.0	4.0	6.7

States & territories	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LEVEL									
New South Wales	17.60	18.30	21.10	16.60	16.40	13.00	13.90	14.30	14.50
Victoria	17.80	25.90	26.90	12.50	13.20	12.80	14.40	20.10	18.90
Queensland	23.70	24.20	25.40	20.80	20.20	13.50	18.30	18.60	16.80
South Australia	18.80	20.10	50.00	10.40	10.30	46.80	13.10	13.70	39.10
Western Australia	22.60	23.30	25.10	15.90	15.80	16.30	17.40	18.10	18.70
Tasmania	20.30	25.90	36.60	20.90	20.50	16.60	19.10	23.00	24.30
Northern Territory	23.00	22.70	33.40	16.00	15.70	29.30	14.70	14.10	27.90
Australian Capital Territory	35.10	35.50	36.00	15.20	15.30	28.50	22.60	22.80	28.20
<b>Australia</b>	<b>9.10</b>	<b>10.60</b>	<b>12.10</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>8.40</b>
QUARTERLY MOVEMENT									
New South Wales	14.90	15.30	17.30	13.90	13.80	12.00	11.60	11.50	11.70
Victoria	14.00	18.60	17.10	8.50	9.00	10.40	10.00	13.00	11.40
Queensland	21.00	20.70	18.00	18.70	18.50	10.80	16.40	16.50	11.60
South Australia	13.10	13.30	23.60	7.80	7.80	16.30	9.30	9.30	16.60
Western Australia	17.00	16.70	19.50	11.20	11.60	11.30	12.80	12.80	13.80
Tasmania	11.30	11.80	24.00	9.00	9.40	11.00	8.90	9.40	13.30
Northern Territory	17.70	21.30	23.50	16.20	15.70	18.60	13.00	13.60	18.30
Australian Capital Territory	24.00	24.70	18.90	12.30	12.50	14.70	15.70	16.10	14.40
<b>Australia</b>	<b>7.60</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>8.50</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>5.50</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>6.20</b>	<b>5.60</b>



AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Standard errors—Sector

Sector	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LEVEL									
Private sector	11.00	12.90	14.00	11.00	11.00	8.70	9.20	10.50	10.10
Public sector	5.60	5.20	5.60	2.50	2.40	4.80	3.80	3.50	4.90
<b>All sectors</b>	<b>9.10</b>	<b>10.60</b>	<b>12.10</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>8.40</b>
QUARTERLY MOVEMENT									
Private sector	9.10	9.90	9.70	9.80	9.80	6.90	7.50	7.90	6.80
Public sector	4.70	4.90	4.90	2.10	2.10	4.70	3.00	3.00	4.40
<b>All sectors</b>	<b>7.60</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>8.50</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>5.50</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>6.20</b>	<b>5.60</b>

Industry	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

## LEVEL

Mining	35.60	31.20	31.10	37.80	33.60	33.60	35.00	30.50	30.70
Manufacturing	20.90	24.30	24.10	21.50	22.20	23.30	19.40	22.70	21.70
Electricity, gas and water supply	25.40	21.60	22.50	10.20	10.40	15.90	22.10	19.30	20.90
Construction	25.50	33.50	38.00	49.00	50.40	41.30	24.80	31.60	35.60
Wholesale trade	30.90	32.10	32.80	23.90	24.00	24.00	26.90	27.90	28.50
Retail trade	14.50	18.00	20.30	14.10	13.80	10.80	12.10	14.50	15.10
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	22.90	27.90	19.40	20.30	25.70	21.30	17.20	22.50	17.80
Transport and storage	28.10	30.20	31.10	22.60	23.20	32.60	23.70	25.80	29.20
Communication services	19.40	18.40	24.10	12.30	13.80	26.70	13.80	14.40	17.00
Finance and insurance	49.40	49.20	51.90	19.10	18.90	16.80	35.30	35.00	34.10
Property and business services	37.60	48.80	48.00	25.10	25.00	36.70	27.80	35.00	35.30
Government administration and defence	15.50	14.30	15.20	8.10	7.70	16.70	11.10	10.30	14.40
Education	19.60	19.40	42.20	15.70	15.70	13.80	13.90	13.80	19.50
Health and community services	42.70	43.50	40.30	35.90	36.10	12.30	33.00	33.70	15.30
Cultural and recreational services	40.30	38.90	59.90	36.90	37.60	43.20	27.60	27.90	48.00
Personal and other services	35.60	38.50	98.50	30.70	31.40	32.50	26.10	27.40	51.50
<b>All industries</b>	<b>9.10</b>	<b>10.60</b>	<b>12.10</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>8.40</b>

## QUARTERLY MOVEMENT

Mining	22.60	21.30	20.60	13.80	13.70	16.60	21.00	19.60	19.50
Manufacturing	16.70	18.80	17.30	14.10	16.20	12.90	15.30	17.30	14.30
Electricity, gas and water supply	19.70	32.50	31.80	5.30	5.20	18.00	16.10	26.40	25.50
Construction	20.80	21.00	24.30	30.40	31.90	28.80	20.10	20.80	23.60
Wholesale trade	23.80	26.60	25.00	21.20	21.50	25.20	19.30	20.70	20.50
Retail trade	9.20	9.60	11.50	13.60	13.60	8.50	9.00	9.10	9.10
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	16.40	18.80	15.70	10.10	13.00	17.20	12.60	15.10	14.00
Transport and storage	26.50	27.90	30.30	30.00	31.70	28.70	24.70	26.40	25.00
Communication services	9.60	12.30	11.40	8.90	6.50	30.30	4.00	5.70	12.70
Finance and insurance	37.70	37.50	40.20	12.10	11.70	17.80	25.20	25.00	28.00
Property and business services	28.20	33.70	32.00	20.40	20.30	18.10	19.10	22.20	17.70
Government administration and defence	12.80	12.30	13.20	6.90	6.90	15.50	9.10	8.80	13.00
Education	19.30	19.10	40.90	10.50	10.50	15.30	11.20	11.20	19.80
Health and community services	15.90	15.90	16.90	33.70	33.60	11.20	27.20	27.60	10.90
Cultural and recreational services	29.20	30.00	43.70	29.80	30.70	42.00	25.50	26.40	37.80
Personal and other services	25.80	27.80	43.70	25.10	24.80	23.80	20.10	20.50	27.40
<b>All industries</b>	<b>7.60</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>8.50</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>5.50</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>6.20</b>	<b>5.60</b>

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication contains estimates of average weekly earnings based on information obtained from a sample survey of employers.

### CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

**2** Descriptions of the underlying concepts of Australia's average weekly earnings statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

### SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**3** All wage and salary earners who received pay for the reference period are represented in the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE), except:

- members of the Australian permanent defence forces
- employees of enterprises primarily engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing
- employees in private households employing staff
- employees of overseas embassies, consulates, etc.
- employees based outside Australia
- employees on workers' compensation who are not paid through the payroll.

**4** Also excluded are the following persons who are not regarded as employees for the purposes of this survey:

- casual employees who did not receive pay during the reference period
- employees on leave without pay who did not receive pay during the reference period
- employees on strike, or stood down, who did not receive pay during the reference period
- directors who are not paid a salary
- proprietors/partners of unincorporated businesses
- self-employed persons such as subcontractors, owner/drivers, consultants
- persons paid solely by commission without a retainer.

**5** The sample for the AWE survey, like most Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) business surveys, is selected from the ABS Business Register which is primarily based on registrations to the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Pay As You Go Withholding (PAYGW) scheme (and prior to 1 June 2000 the Group Employer (GE) scheme). The population is updated quarterly to take account of:

- new businesses
- businesses which have ceased employing
- changes in employment levels
- changes in industry
- other general business changes.

**6** The estimates include an allowance for the time it takes newly registered businesses to be added to the survey population.

**7** Businesses which have ceased employing are identified when the ATO cancels their PAYGW registration. In addition businesses which do not remit under the PAYGW scheme for the previous five quarters are removed from the frame.

### SURVEY DESIGN

**8** A sample of approximately 5,500 employer units is selected from the ABS Business Register to ensure adequate state and industry representation. The sample is updated each quarter to reflect changes in the ABS Business Register. These changes arise from the emergence of new businesses, takeovers and mergers, changes to industry classification, changes in the number of employees, and businesses which have ceased operations. Such updating of the register can contribute to changes in the estimates of average weekly earnings.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SURVEY DESIGN *continued*

**9** The statistical unit for the survey comprises all the activities of an employer in a particular state or territory based on the Australian Business Number (ABN) unit or Type of Activity Unit (TAU) (see paragraphs 13 and 17). Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the business. The statistical units are stratified by state, sector, industry and employment size, and within each stratum, statistical units are selected with equal probability.

### CHANGES TO THE ABS BUSINESS REGISTER

**10** The introduction of The New Tax System in July 2000 had a number of significant implications for ABS business statistics, including changes to the populations for most business surveys. Refer to paragraphs 5 and 12. These implications are discussed in general terms in the information papers: *ABS Statistics and The New Tax System* (cat. no. 1358.0) and *Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0). In relation to the AWE survey, these changes caused a greater than normal rotation of businesses included in the sample for the May 2001 and August 2002 surveys.

### STATISTICAL UNITS DEFINED ON THE ABS BUSINESS REGISTER

**11** The ABS uses an economic statistics units model on the ABS Business Register to describe the characteristics of businesses, and the structural relationships between related businesses. The units model is also used to break groups of related businesses into relatively homogeneous components that can provide data to the ABS.

**12** In mid-2002, to better use the information available as a result of The New Tax System, the ABS changed its economic statistics units model. The new units model allocates businesses to one of two sub-populations. The vast majority of businesses are in what is called the ATO Maintained Population, while the remaining businesses are in the ABS Maintained Population. Together, these two sub-populations make up the ABS Business Register population.

#### *ATO Maintained Population*

**13** Most businesses and organisations in Australia need to obtain an Australian Business Number, and are then included on the ATO Australian Business Register. Most of these businesses have simple structures; therefore the unit registered for an ABN will satisfy ABS statistical requirements. For these businesses, the ABS has aligned its statistical units structure with the ABN unit. The businesses with simple structures constitute the ATO Maintained Population, and the ABN unit is used as the economic statistics unit for all economic collections.

#### *ABS Maintained Population*

**14** For the population of businesses where the ABN unit is not suitable for ABS statistical requirements, the ABS maintains its own units structure through direct contact with businesses. These businesses constitute the ABS Maintained Population. This population consists typically of large, complex and diverse businesses. The new statistical units model described below has been introduced to cover such businesses.

**15** Enterprise Group: This is a unit covering all the operations in Australia of one or more legal entities under common ownership and/or control. It covers all the operations in Australia of legal entities which are related in terms of the current Corporations Law (as amended by the *Corporations Legislation Amendment Act 1991*), including legal entities such as companies, trusts, and partnerships. Majority ownership is not required for control to be exercised.

**16** Enterprise: The enterprise is an institutional unit comprising (i) a single legal entity or business entity, or (ii) more than one legal entity or business entity within the same Enterprise Group and in the same institutional subsector (i.e. they are all classified to a single Standard Institutional Sector Classification of Australia subsector).

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ABS Maintained Population  
*continued*

**17** Type of Activity Unit (TAU): The TAU comprises one or more business entities, sub-entities or branches of a business entity within an Enterprise Group that can report production and employment data for similar economic activities. When a minimum set of data items is available, a TAU is created which covers all the operations within an industry subdivision (and the TAU is classified to the relevant subdivision of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification [ANZSIC]). Where a business cannot supply adequate data for each industry, a TAU is formed which contains activity in more than one industry subdivision.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

**18** Average weekly earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. Changes in the averages may be affected not only by changes in the level of earnings of employees but also by changes in the overall composition of the wage and salary earner segment of the labour force.

**19** There are several aspects which can contribute to compositional changes, including variations over time in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees; variations in the occupational distribution within and across industries; variations in the distribution of employment between industries; and variations in the proportion of male and female employees. Such effects may apply differently within different states and territories, and over time.

COMPARABILITY WITH WAGE  
PRICE INDEX

**20** Period-to-period movements for the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) series are not comparable with those for the Wage Price Index (WPI) (previously known as the Wage Cost Index). It is important to recognise that the two series have different purposes and concepts and use different sample selection and estimation methodologies.

**21** The AWE survey is designed to measure the level of average earnings in Australia at a point in time. It does this by collecting information from businesses on their number of employees and their total gross weekly earnings for a specific pay period each quarter. The WPI is a price index designed to measure the change over time in the price of labour. It does this by pricing specific jobs, in terms of wage and salary payments to employees occupying the jobs, and collecting information from businesses each quarter on price changes in those jobs. It is unaffected by changes in the quality and quantity of labour purchased by employers.

**22** In addition to changes in the price of labour, AWE estimates are affected by changes in hours worked and by compositional changes in the employee workforce (see paragraphs 18 and 19). The WPI prices a fixed quantum of labour services for each job, and hence changes to base earnings resulting from increases in hours worked or from changes in the composition of the employee workforce will not be reflected in the index.

**23** For further information on the WPI, please refer to the Explanatory Notes of *Labour Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6345.0) and the *Information Paper: Labour Price Index, Australia, 2004* (cat. no. 6363.0) which are available on the ABS web site.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

**24** Estimates of average weekly earnings are rounded to the nearest 10 cents.

**25** Percentage changes are calculated on the actual values and may differ from calculations based on rounded estimates.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### HISTORICAL SERIES

**26** The AWE series was introduced in August 1981 when it replaced the average weekly earnings series based principally on information from payroll tax returns. Revised estimates of average weekly earnings for the period August 1981 to November 1983 were included in *Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia, March Quarter 1984* (cat. no. 6302.0) published on 12 July 1984. Users who need a measure of the movement in earnings for a period which spans both the payroll tax based and employer survey series should refer to table 3 in that publication which presents both series linked to a common index base (August 1981 = 100.0).

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

**27** Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular series. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variation. This means that quarter-to-quarter movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

**28** The series have been seasonally adjusted from September 1983 and the historical series can be made available on request. The seasonal factors are reviewed annually to take account of each additional year's original data. The most recent review, using original estimates to November 2003, took place in time for inclusion in the February 2004 estimates.

**29** Details about the method of seasonal adjustment of these series are available on request.

### TREND ESTIMATES

**30** Seasonally adjusted estimates can be smoothed to reduce the impact of irregular or non-seasonal influences. Smoothed seasonally adjusted series are called trend estimates.

**31** The ABS considers that trend estimates provide a more reliable guide to the underlying direction of the original estimates and are more suitable than either the seasonally adjusted or original estimates for most business decisions and policy advice.

**32** The trend estimates in this publication, obtained by dampening out the irregular component from the seasonally adjusted series, are calculated using a centred 7-term Henderson moving average of the seasonally adjusted series. Estimates for the three most recent quarters cannot be calculated using this centred average method; instead an asymmetric average is used. This can lead to revisions in the trend estimates for the last three quarters when data become available for later quarters. Revisions of trend estimates will also occur with revisions to the original data and re-estimation of seasonal adjustment factors.

**33** If a series is highly volatile then the trend estimates will be subject to greater revision for the latest few quarters as new data become available. However, it is important to note that this does not make the trend series inferior to the seasonally adjusted or original series.

**34** For more information, refer to *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends* (cat. no. 1349.0) which is available on the ABS web site.

**35** Three feature articles which have appeared in the ABS monthly publication *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0) may also be of interest:

- Picking Turning Points in the Economy (April 1991)
- Smarter Data Use (March 1992)
- Direct Movement Estimator for the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (August 1998).

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**36** The following publications contain related information and are available from ABS Bookshops:

- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0)—issued quarterly
- *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia 1941–1990* (cat. no. 6350.0)
- *Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia* (cat. no. 6310.0)—issued annually
- *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia* (cat. no. 6306.0)—issued biennially
- *Information Paper: Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [Arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0)—issued 6 May 2002
- *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0)—issued monthly
- *Labour Force Projections, Australia 1999–2016* (cat. no. 6260.0)
- *Labour Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6345.0)—issued quarterly
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001)
- *Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia* (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001)—issued quarterly.

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

### ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**38** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Details of additional data available are shown in the Appendix on page 32 of this publication.

## APPENDIX ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

### INTRODUCTION

As well as the statistics included in this publication, other data are available from the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings on request. These data can be produced for clients as customised reports. The variables are listed below.

### HOW TO PLACE AN ORDER

Firstly, determine the variables (see following) that you require estimates for. A covering letter indicating these requirements and the intended uses of the data requested should be addressed to:

Labour Employer Surveys Section  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
GPO Box K881  
PERTH WA 6842

### CONTACT OFFICER

If you wish to discuss individual requests, especially in regard to reliability of estimates for particular cross-classifications and the charges involved, please telephone Manpreet Singh on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

### VARIABLES

The following variables are available from this survey.

Note: The more variables included in any one tabulation the more likely it is that confidentiality provisions associated with the data will be invoked and some data suppressed.

#### *Type of estimate*

Original  
Seasonally adjusted  
Trend

#### *Composition of earnings*

Full-time adult ordinary time earnings  
Full-time adult total earnings  
All employees total earnings

#### *States and territories*

New South Wales  
Victoria  
Queensland  
South Australia  
Western Australia  
Tasmania  
Northern Territory  
Australian Capital Territory

#### *Sector*

Private sector  
Public sector

#### *Sex*

Males  
Females  
Persons

#### *Industry (ANZSIC classification)*

ANZSIC Division (1-digit code)—as shown in table 10  
ANZSIC Subdivision (2-digit code)  
ANZSIC Group (3-digit code)  
ANZSIC Class (4-digit code)



## TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

### RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

**1** As the estimates in this publication are based on information relating to a sample of employers, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the estimates that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from all employers. This difference, called *sampling error*, should not be confused with inaccuracy that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents or in processing by the ABS. Such inaccuracy is referred to as *non-sampling error* and may occur in any enumeration whether it be a full count or a sample. Efforts have been made to reduce non-sampling error by careful design of questionnaires, detailed checking of returns and quality control of processing.

**2** The sampling error associated with any estimate can be estimated from the sample results. One measure of sampling error is given by the *standard error* which indicates the degree to which an estimate may vary from the value which would have been obtained from a full enumeration (the 'true value'). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate differs from the true value by less than one standard error, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

**3** An example of the use of a standard error is as follows. If the estimated average earnings was \$500.00 with a standard error of \$4.00, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given an estimate in the range \$496.00 to \$504.00 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range \$492.00 to \$508.00.

**4** An example of the use of a standard error for a quarterly change estimate is as follows. If the estimate of quarterly change between two quarters was \$1.50 and the standard error on this estimate was \$1.00, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given a quarterly change estimate in the range +\$0.50 to +\$2.50 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range -\$0.50 to +\$3.50.

**5** Quarterly movements in estimates of average weekly earnings are considered to be statistically significant where they exceed two standard errors.

**6** Another measure of the sampling error is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

## GLOSSARY

<b>Adult employees</b>	Adult employees are those employees 21 years of age or over and those employees who, although under 21 years of age, are paid at the full adult rate for their occupation.
<b>Average weekly earnings</b>	Average Weekly Earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees.
<b>Employees</b>	Employees refer to all wage and salary earners (as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Explanatory Notes) who received pay for any part of the reference period.
<b>Full-time employees</b>	Full-time employees are permanent, temporary and casual employees who normally work the agreed or award hours for a full-time employee in their occupation and received pay for any part of the reference period. If agreed or award hours do not apply, employees are regarded as full-time if they ordinarily work 35 hours or more per week.
<b>Reference period</b>	Reference period for the survey refers to the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. Where a pay period is fortnightly or monthly, etc., the employer is requested to report only one week's proportion. The reference period for the current survey is the week ending 19 November 2004.
<b>Sector</b>	Public sector includes all local government authorities and government departments, agencies and authorities created by, or reporting to the Commonwealth and state parliaments. All remaining employees are classified as private sector.
<b>Weekly ordinary time earnings</b>	Weekly ordinary time earnings refers to one week's earnings of employees for the reference period attributable to award, standard or agreed hours of work. It is calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation, board and lodging) have been made. Included in ordinary time earnings are award, workplace and enterprise bargaining payments, and other agreed base rates of pay, over-award and over-agreed payments, penalty payments, shift and other allowances; commissions and retainers; bonuses and similar payments related to the reference period; payments under incentive or piecework; payments under profit sharing schemes normally paid each pay period; payment for leave taken during the reference period; all workers' compensation payments made through the payroll; and salary payments made to directors. Excluded are overtime payments, retrospective pay, pay in advance, leave loadings, severance, termination and redundancy payments, and other payments not related to the reference period.
<b>Weekly total earnings</b>	Weekly total earnings of employees is equal to weekly ordinary time earnings plus weekly overtime earnings.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* This service now provides only current Consumer Price Index statistics call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

## INFORMATION SERVICE

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

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

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