



METHODS OF OBTAINING JOBS, AUSTRALIA, JULY 1982 (PRELIMINARY)

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MAIN FEATURES

Note: Survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, as explained in paragraph 10 below.

During the six months to July 1982, 974,200 persons started a wage or salary job.

32.3 per cent of jobs resulted from a general approach by the jobseeker to an employer without knowledge of a vacancy for the particular job.

In 48.4 per cent of cases, the jobseeker had approached the employer to obtain the specific job in question. These include:

7.9 per cent who had found out about the job through the CES

18.0 per cent who had applied for the job in response to newspaper advertisements

17.1 per cent who had learnt of the job through friends and relatives

5.4 per cent who had found out about the job through other sources

19.3 per cent of jobs had been obtained as a result of the employer approaching the jobseeker.

Of the 974,200 job starters in the period, 704,900 had been out of work prior to getting the job and 269,300 had changed employer. 335,600 (34.4 per cent of all job starters) had been registered with the CES.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In association with the July 1982 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia, persons who had recently obtained a job were asked about steps taken to look for the job, the step which resulted in obtaining the job and type of job obtained.

2. During the two weeks beginning Monday 12 July 1982 specially trained interviewers asked the questions of those of the 69,000 respondents in the July labour force survey who fell within the scope of this survey.

3. This publication contains only a summary of the results of the survey. Estimates shown are preliminary and may be revised. Further information which will be published as soon as possible in *Methods of Obtaining Jobs, Australia, July 1982* (6245.0), is available on request. A form for ordering this publication is attached.

Scope

4. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over who started a wage or salary job during the six months to July 1982 except:

- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
- overseas visitors holidaying in Australia;
- dependants of non-Australian defence forces personnel stationed in Australia;
- students boarding at school, persons permanently unable to work, some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and inmates of reformatories, jails, etc., and
- persons aged 15 to 20 years still at school.

Definitions

5. *Persons who started a job during the six months to July 1982* are those who had started a wage or salary job lasting two weeks or more in the period from 1 January 1982 up to the time of the survey. As the survey was conducted during the two weeks following 12 July 1982, the reference period may be up to three weeks greater than six months. If more than one job was started during the period details were obtained about the most recent job started.

6. *Method of job attainment* is described according to whether an employer approached the jobseeker or a jobseeker approached the employer. In the latter case, the job is described according to whether or not the jobseeker knew that the particular job was available before approaching the employer.

7. Persons starting a job are also described according to whether they were out of work prior to starting the job or whether they changed employers. Those persons who changed employers but who had a period in which they were out of work between their two employers are considered to have been out of work prior to starting their job.

8. *Persons with a post-school qualification* are those who have left school and answer 'Yes' to the question: 'Since leaving school have you obtained a certificate, diploma, degree or any other qualification?'

9. *Classification of post-school qualifications.* Respondents indicate which one of the following groups best describes their highest qualification:

- (a) *Degree or equivalent:* a bachelor degree (including honours), a graduate or post-graduate diploma, a masters degree or a doctorate.
- (b) *Trade, technical:* completion of an approved trade/technician apprenticeship or training course, other certificate or diploma in secretarial or business studies, administration, teaching, nursing, etc.
- (c) *Other:* completion of other post-secondary education e.g. adult education, preparatory/bridging course or hobby course.

Reliability of the estimates

10. Estimates in this publication are subject to two sources of error:

- (a) *sampling error:* since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*. More information about this topic will be found in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). A table of estimated standard errors for this survey follows these notes. Estimates with a standard error or more than about 27 per cent have not been shown in this publication, as the degree of sampling variability would seriously detract from their value for most reasonable uses. Although figures for these small components can, in some cases, be derived by subtraction they should not be regarded as reliable.
- (b) *non-sampling error:* inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in the coding and processing of data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

Related publications

11. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly

Labour Force Experience During the Period February 1980 to February 1981, Australia (6206.0)

Persons Not in the Labour Force, September 1982 (6220.0)

Characteristics of Persons Looking for Work, Australia, July 1982 (6222.0)

Labour Mobility During the Period February 1981 to February 1982, Australia (6209.0).

12. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 10 above.

.. not applicable

CES Commonwealth Employment Service

13. Because figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (Persons)	Approximate standard error of estimate		Size of estimate (Persons)	Approximate standard error of estimate	
	Persons	Per cent of estimate		Persons	Per cent of estimate
3,000	800	26.7	50,000	2,900	5.8
4,000	900	22.5	100,000	3,900	3.9
5,000	1,000	20.0	200,000	5,100	2.6
10,000	1,400	14.0	300,000	6,000	2.0
20,000	2,000	10.0	500,000	7,200	1.4

TABLE 1. PERSONS WHO STARTED A JOB DURING THE SIX MONTHS TO JULY 1982: METHOD OF JOB ATTAINMENT AND WHETHER OUT OF WORK PRIOR TO STARTING JOB
(* 000)

Method of job attainment	Whether out of work prior to starting job								
	Out of work prior to starting job			Changed employer to start job			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
<i>Jobseeker approached employer</i>	304.5	290.8	595.3	111.9	79.2	191.1	416.4	370.0	786.4
Had no prior knowledge that job available, first step taken	124.6	114.6	239.3	46.0	29.7	75.7	170.7	144.3	315.0
Tendered/advertised for work	4.8	5.4	10.2	*	*	3.2	6.8	6.6	13.3
Contacted likely employers	92.5	82.0	174.5	33.5	21.4	54.9	126.1	103.4	229.5
Other	27.3	27.2	54.6	10.5	7.1	17.6	37.8	34.3	72.1
Had prior knowledge that job available through	179.9	176.2	356.1	65.9	49.5	115.3	245.8	225.7	471.4
CES	39.3	31.5	70.8	3.1	3.2	6.3	42.4	34.7	77.1
Private employment agency	3.3	7.2	10.5	*	*	4.7	5.3	9.9	15.2
School programs	4.3	*	6.0	*	*	*	4.8	*	7.1
Newspaper advertisements	57.3	63.3	120.6	29.7	24.9	54.5	87.0	88.1	175.1
Friends, relatives, etc.	65.8	61.0	126.7	24.8	15.0	39.8	90.6	75.9	166.5
Other	9.9	11.6	21.4	5.8	3.1	8.9	15.7	14.7	30.4
<i>Employer approached jobseeker</i>	45.3	64.2	109.5	52.1	26.1	78.2	97.5	90.3	187.8
Total	349.9	355.0	704.9	164.0	105.3	269.3	513.9	460.3	974.2

TABLE 2. PERSONS WHO STARTED A JOB DURING THE SIX MONTHS TO JULY 1982: METHOD OF JOB ATTAINMENT AND WHETHER TOOK OTHER STEPS TO FIND A JOB
(* 000)

Method of job attainment	Took other steps						
	Registered with CES		Not registered with CES		Total	Took no other steps	Total(c)
	Took no other active steps	Total(a)	Contacted other prospective employers	Total(b)			
<i>Jobseeker approached employer</i>	283.3	305.7	75.9	107.2	412.8	352.4	786.4
Had no prior knowledge that job available, first step taken	107.7	117.7	31.8	42.3	160.0	148.7	315.0
Tendered/advertised for work	5.4	5.6	*	*	8.5	4.7	13.3
Contacted likely employers	72.4	79.5	26.2	31.5	110.9	114.2	229.5
Other	29.9	32.6	4.1	8.0	40.6	29.9	72.1
Had prior knowledge that job available through	175.6	187.9	44.0	64.9	252.8	203.7	471.4
CES	57.0	60.4	*	*	62.8	12.6	77.1
Private employment agency	3.4	3.6	*	*	6.5	8.5	15.2
School programs	*	*	*	*	*	*	7.1
Newspaper advertisements	55.2	59.9	24.5	36.5	96.4	76.3	175.1
Friends, relatives, etc.	54.4	57.7	12.4	18.2	75.9	87.2	166.5
Other	5.5	6.3	3.6	4.7	11.0	19.1	30.4
<i>Employer approached jobseeker</i>	26.9	30.0	8.1	13.6	43.6	143.0	187.8
Total	310.2	335.6	83.9	120.8	456.4	495.4	974.2

(a) Includes those who took other steps in addition to registering with the CES. (b) Includes those who took steps other than registering with the CES and contacting other prospective employers. (c) Includes a small number of persons who were not asked whether they took other steps to find a job.

TABLE 3. PERSONS WHO STARTED A JOB DURING THE SIX MONTHS TO JULY 1982: METHOD OF JOB ATTAINMENT AND FULL TIME PART TIME STATUS ('000)

Method of job attainment	Full time			Part time			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Jobseeker approached employer	372.3	227.4	599.7	44.1	142.6	186.7	416.4	370.0	786.4
Had no prior knowledge that job available, first step taken	151.8	82.9	234.7	18.8	61.5	80.3	170.7	144.3	315.0
Tendered/advertised for work	6.2	3.7	9.9	*	*	3.5	6.8	6.6	13.3
Contacted likely employers	111.4	57.6	169.0	14.7	45.8	60.5	126.1	103.4	229.5
Other	34.2	21.6	55.8	3.6	12.7	16.3	37.8	34.3	72.1
Had prior knowledge that job available through	220.5	144.6	365.0	25.3	81.1	106.4	245.8	225.7	471.4
CES	39.8	28.1	67.9	*	6.6	9.2	42.4	34.7	77.1
Private employment agency	4.0	8.9	12.9	*	*	*	5.3	9.9	15.2
School programs	3.8	*	5.9	*	*	*	4.8	*	7.1
Newspaper advertisements	81.1	57.4	138.5	5.9	30.7	36.6	87.0	88.1	175.1
Friends, relatives, etc.	79.4	40.7	120.1	11.2	35.2	46.4	90.6	75.9	166.5
Other	12.3	7.3	19.7	3.3	7.3	10.7	15.7	14.7	30.4
Employer approached jobseeker	85.2	34.3	119.4	12.3	56.0	68.3	97.5	90.3	187.8
Total	457.5	261.7	719.1	56.4	198.6	255.0	513.9	460.3	974.2

TABLE 4. PERSONS WHO STARTED A JOB DURING THE SIX MONTHS TO JULY 1982: WHETHER OUT OF WORK PRIOR TO STARTING JOB AND AGE ('000)

Age group (years)	Whether out of work prior to starting job								
	Out of work prior to starting job			Changed employer to start job			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
15-19	99.9	90.4	190.3	19.5	20.7	40.2	119.5	111.1	230.6
20-24	95.9	83.0	178.9	35.7	28.0	63.7	131.5	111.0	242.5
25-29	52.4	50.1	102.5	33.0	18.8	51.7	85.3	68.9	154.2
30-39	53.3	85.3	138.6	49.3	21.3	70.7	102.6	106.6	209.2
40-49	27.0	32.8	59.8	18.3	11.9	30.2	45.2	44.7	89.9
50-59	16.8	11.8	28.6	7.5	4.4	11.9	24.3	16.2	40.5
60-64	3.8	*	4.9	*	*	*	4.3	*	5.6
65 and over	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	349.9	355.0	704.9	164.0	105.3	269.3	513.9	460.3	974.2

TABLE 5. PERSONS WHO STARTED A JOB DURING THE SIX MONTHS TO JULY 1982: WHETHER OUT OF WORK PRIOR TO STARTING JOB AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT ('000)

Educational attainment	Whether out of work prior to starting job								
	Out of work prior to starting job			Changed employer to start job			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
With post-school qualifications	117.5	132.7	250.2	80.4	44.6	125.0	197.9	177.4	375.2
Degree or equivalent	24.7	23.6	48.3	16.4	10.4	26.8	41.1	34.0	75.1
Trade, technical level	90.4	104.8	195.2	63.0	32.5	95.5	153.4	137.3	290.7
Other	*	4.3	6.8	*	*	*	3.4	6.0	9.4
Without post-school qualifications(a)	232.3	222.3	454.6	83.7	60.6	144.3	316.0	282.9	598.9
Attended highest level of secondary school available	59.3	52.3	111.6	22.0	19.0	41.0	81.3	71.4	152.7
Did not attend highest level of secondary school and left at age—									
18 years or over	3.0	*	5.2	*	*	*	4.6	*	7.4
16 or 17 years	72.3	68.1	140.3	23.7	17.4	41.1	96.0	85.5	181.5
14 or 15 years	87.8	92.2	179.9	33.3	21.5	54.8	121.2	113.6	234.7
13 years or under	9.4	7.3	16.7	*	*	4.6	12.0	9.2	21.3
Total	172.4	169.7	342.1	61.3	41.4	102.7	233.8	211.1	444.9
Total(b)	349.9	355.0	704.9	164.0	105.3	269.3	513.9	460.3	974.2

(a) Includes persons who never attended school. (b) Includes persons aged 15 to 20 years still at school.

More detailed information on this subject will be published by the ABS later this year.

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