



Information Paper

Changes to Labour Force Survey Products

2002

Information Paper

**Changes to Labour Force
Survey Products**

2002

**Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician**

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 13 DEC 2002

ABS Catalogue No. 6297.0

ISBN 0 642 47858 9

© Commonwealth of Australia 2002

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission from the Commonwealth. Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and rights in this publication should be addressed to The Manager, Intermediary Management, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Locked Bag 10, Belconnen ACT 2616, by telephone (02) 6252 6998, fax (02) 6252 7102, or email <intermediary.management@abs.gov.au>.

In all cases the ABS must be acknowledged as the source when reproducing or quoting any part of an ABS publication or other product.

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Market Statistics on Canberra (02) 6252 7636.

CONTENTS

page

INTRODUCTION

The Labour Force Survey	vii
Changes to statistical products	vii
This information paper	vii

BACKGROUND

Why review Labour Force Survey products?	8
User consultation	8
Supplementary surveys	9

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY NEW PRODUCT SET

DISSEMINATION OF LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DATA

First release data	10
Detailed release data	10

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY PRODUCTS FROM MID-2003

First release products	11
Detailed release products	12
Quarterly compendium publication	13
Data available on request	14
Explanatory material	14

CHANGES TO THE PRODUCT SET

Reviewing LFS products	15
------------------------	----

CHANGES TO EXISTING PRODUCTS

First release products	15
Detailed release products	16
Summary information about changes	17

ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

Excel spreadsheets	19
SuperTABLE datacubes	19
Acrobat PDF files	19

TRANSITION INFORMATION

TRANSITION TO THE NEW PRODUCT SET

Timing of changes	20
How will I know what's happening when?	20
Labour Theme Page	21
Email notification	21
Subscriber information	21
Samples of new products	21

CONTENTS *continued*

page

OTHER INFORMATION

Purchasing ABS products	21
Pricing information	21
Other queries	22

TABLES

1 Overview of changes to the Labour Force Survey product set	23
2 List of 6202.0 and 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheets — new product set	24
3 List of 6291.0.55.001 datacubes — new product set	27
4 Links between current and new 6202.0 spreadsheets	35
5 Links between current 6291.0.40.001 spreadsheets and new 6291.0.55.001 electronic products	36
6 Links between current 6291.0.40.001 datacubes and new 6291.0.55.001 datacubes	40

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CSV	comma separated value
LFS	Labour Force Survey
PDF	portable document format

INTRODUCTION

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) collects a range of data on the labour market. These labour statistics are important economic and social indicators. They provide insight into the economy and the effects of labour market policy settings, and are also very much about people — their participation in the labour force, success in finding employment, earnings and other benefits, type of work and working hours.

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) is one of the most important ABS labour collections, providing timely information on labour market activity within Australia. The statistics of most interest each month are the estimates of the number of employed and unemployed, the unemployment rate, and the labour force participation rate.

CHANGES TO STATISTICAL PRODUCTS

The ABS has conducted the LFS in some form since November 1960 — at first quarterly and restricted to state capital cities, but nationally since February 1964 and on a monthly basis since February 1978. For most of this time, printed publications were the main vehicle used to disseminate results. Gradually, a range of electronic products have been introduced, and these have been increasing in popularity in recent years. While providing a wide range of data, this ad hoc approach resulted in a disparate range of products of varying usefulness.

In late 2000, the ABS commenced a review of the range of products released from the LFS, and the recommendations from this review will be implemented in the first half of 2003.

In addition to the changes to the LFS products, a new quarterly publication *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0) will be introduced. This publication will contain data from all ABS labour surveys, providing a comprehensive view of the labour market for a wide range of users. It will also contain articles providing information about the statistics, as well as analysis of issues of interest.

THIS INFORMATION PAPER

This paper sets out the new LFS product set that will apply from mid-2003. The paper also lists the products making up the current product set, together with the upcoming changes to those products and the timing of those changes.

The main sections of this paper are:

- The Labour Force Survey Product Set Section, which is a guide to the new product set that will apply once all the changes are implemented
- the Changes to the Product Set Section, which sets out the current products and the changes that apply to individual products
- the Transition Information Section, which gives details of the timing of changes and how to keep informed of changes during the transition to the new product set.

As a further reference tool, the tables at the rear of the paper list the new products in detail, and provide links from the current product set to the new product set.

BACKGROUND

WHY REVIEW LABOUR FORCE SURVEY PRODUCTS?

The review of LFS products was in response to both ABS and non-ABS concerns. Advances in technology and changes in user requirements have led to the development of new strategies for disseminating ABS statistics.

Paper publications were once the main vehicle for disseminating ABS statistics, and will still be important when releasing key statistics. However, electronic products have many advantages, allowing easy manipulation of the data, making them suitable for more detailed analysis. With the increasing use of the Internet, distribution is no longer restricted to ABS bookshops and consultants. Instead users can purchase products directly from the ABS web site. The new ABS dissemination strategy is directed towards maximising the benefits of these developments for both users and the ABS.

Spreadsheets containing key LFS series were introduced in 1991, in Lotus 1-2-3 WKS format. While these have been used extensively, they have also been criticised by users as they are not in the most commonly used format (Microsoft Excel). In addition, the layout imposes restrictions on the length of time series included (20 years for monthly data). Another disadvantage is the difficulty of locating a required spreadsheet — there are almost 700, and the ordering is not apparent.

In 2000, datacubes were introduced to replace the detailed LFS data released on microfiche. A datacube contains multiple dimensions of data, which can be grouped and arranged in tables according to users' requirements. ABS datacubes are provided in SuperTABLE format, allowing flexibility in creating tables that can be saved in a range of standard formats. The use of datacubes has been steadily increasing since their introduction.

Because the spreadsheets and datacubes were developed separately, they do not currently provide a coherent and comprehensive product set. The new range of electronic products will provide the data required by users in appropriate formats.

A further development will be the introduction of a quarterly publication *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0) covering all ABS labour surveys and selected non-ABS collections. While the separate publications will be retained for the initial release of results from each ABS labour survey, this new publication will bring together data and analysis to give an informative picture of the labour market as a whole.

USER CONSULTATION

The review of ABS labour force statistics dissemination commenced in December 2000. In November 2001, a range of users were approached for feedback on the broad dissemination strategy. The findings of this consultation process were generally supportive, with many respondents providing valuable feedback on the current products, and suggestions for the new strategy.

Following on from that review, a new set of products for disseminating data from the LFS was proposed. User feedback on detailed aspects of the new product set was sought in late 2002, resulting in some refinements to the proposed products. These refinements are reflected in the products presented in this publication.

BACKGROUND *continued*

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

In most months, additional questions are asked of respondents after the completion of the LFS questionnaire. These questions, known as *supplementary surveys*, address topics of interest, such as education, earnings, working arrangements, and job search experience. Data from these surveys are available in printed publications and through ABS consultancy services. Other than PDF versions of printed publications, no standard electronic products are produced.

After implementation of the new LFS product set outlined in this information paper, the ABS plans to review the dissemination strategy for supplementary surveys. This review is planned for 2003, with any changes to be implemented from 2004. Users will be consulted before details of the changes are finalised.

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY NEW PRODUCT SET

THIS SECTION

This section is a guide to the LFS product set that will exist once all the changes are implemented, in mid-2003. The first half of the section sets out the release strategy and timing of LFS data, including data items and their collection frequency. The rest of the section lists the products used to disseminate this data.

For information on how individual products are being changed or replaced, see the Changes to the Product Set Section.

DISSEMINATION OF LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DATA

Data from the monthly LFS are released in two stages. The initial release of data, which is generally 31 days after the collection of data commences, is known as the *first release*. A week after the first release a more detailed range of estimates is disseminated. This is known as the *detailed release*.

This two-stage release timing is unaffected by the changes to the product set, and all collected data will still be available with the same frequency and timeliness.

First release data

First release data includes only a limited range of estimates, including:

- number of employed persons, and whether working full time or part time
- number of unemployed persons, and whether looking for full-time or part-time work
- number of persons not in the labour force
- unemployment rate
- labour force participation rate
- educational attendance of 15–19 year olds.

These estimates are produced for Australia, individual states and territories, and for males and females.

Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates are also produced for a range of data items.

Detailed release data

The detailed release of LFS data includes additional data items which are not produced in time for the first release. In addition, every quarter (in February, May, August and November reference periods) some extra data items are collected and estimates published as part of the detailed release.

Data items available as part of the *monthly* detailed release include:

- for the civilian population
 - marital status and age
 - regions
 - educational attendance for 20–24 year olds
 - country of birth and year of arrival in Australia
 - relationship in household
 - gross flows (from previous to current month) between the categories of full-time employed, part-time employed, unemployed, and not in the labour force
- for employed persons
 - actual and usual hours worked in all jobs
 - actual hours worked in main job (for multiple jobholders)
 - status in employment (employee, employer, own account worker and contributing family worker)

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY NEW PRODUCT SET *continued*

Detailed release data continued

- full-time workers who worked less than 35 hours in the reference week, and their reasons for working less than 35 hours
- for unemployed persons
 - duration of unemployment (including information on long-term unemployment)
- for persons not in the labour force
 - whether looking for work
- for families
 - labour force status (employed, unemployed, not in the labour force)
 - family type, number of children and dependants present.

Data items available on a *quarterly* basis as part of the detailed release include:

- for employed persons
 - industry
 - occupation
 - duration of current job
 - part-time workers — whether they would prefer to work more hours
- for unemployed persons
 - industry of last job
 - occupation of last job
 - reason for ceasing last job.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY PRODUCTS FROM MID-2003 *First release products*

The products used to disseminate first release data every month will be:

- *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 — printed publication
- *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 — Microsoft Excel spreadsheets
- *Labour Force, Australia — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk* cat. no. 6271.0.

These products will be released together at 11.30am (Canberra time) on the scheduled release day.

Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

This will be the only monthly printed publication of LFS data. It will also be released electronically as a PDF file via the ABS web site. The publication will continue to be a Main Economic Indicator, and will contain all the first release data items (see the First release data Section earlier in this document, which lists these items). This publication will not contain detailed data, which will be included in the detailed release products.

Labour Force, Australia spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0)

The data in this set of 32 Microsoft Excel spreadsheets in time series format will reflect the table structure and content of the 6202.0 publication. The data items to be contained in each spreadsheet are listed in detail in table 2 in this information paper.

Labour Force, Australia — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk (cat. no. 6271.0)

The data on this disk will continue to reflect the table structure and content of the 6202.0 publication.

Detailed release products

The products used to disseminate detailed release data will be:

- *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 — Microsoft Excel spreadsheets
- *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 — SuperTABLE datacubes.

These products will be released together at 11.30am (Canberra time) on the scheduled release day, which is one week after the first release. A media release will announce the availability of this data, highlighting key findings.

Labour Force, Australia spreadsheets (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

These 16 Excel spreadsheets will contain broad level data in time series format, including some seasonally adjusted and trend series. All data items will be represented in the spreadsheet set. However, more detailed data can be found in the datacubes set.

Some spreadsheets will contain data items that are collected on a quarterly basis only, and therefore will be released once each quarter. The rest will be released monthly.

The data items contained in each spreadsheet are listed in detail in table 2 in this information paper.

Labour Force, Australia datacubes (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

A datacube contains multiple dimensions of data, which can be grouped and arranged in tables to highlight the aspects which are important to the user. The tables created can be output directly or saved to a variety of output formats for further manipulation, including Microsoft Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, CSV and HTML for web browsers.

The 47 LFS datacubes will include time series and will contain more detailed data than the spreadsheets, but will not contain any seasonally adjusted or trend series.

Datacubes will each include a default table — an automatically generated table, with the main totals and rates, that appears by default each time the datacube is opened. For further information see the Electronic Products section of this paper. Where appropriate, the default table for each datacube will be based on the equivalent table from *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0).

Many of the datacubes will be released every month, but some datacubes will contain data items that are collected on a quarterly basis only, and therefore will only be released once each quarter. Several of the datacubes relating to families will be released annually.

The datacubes will be grouped and labelled according to themes and the frequency of the datacube. The label for each datacube contains three characters. The initial letter of the label indicates the group:

- labour force status (L)
- families and relationships (F)
- regions (R)
- employed (E)
- unemployed (U)
- persons not in the labour force (N)
- gross flows (G).

Detailed release products continued

The second letter of the cube's label will generally indicate the frequency of the datacube, i.e. 'M' for datacubes released monthly, 'Q' for datacubes released quarterly, and 'A' for datacubes released annually.

The numbers are then allocated to datacubes to provide an easy reference.

For example, the eight monthly labour force status datacubes are labelled LM1, LM2, ... , LM8, and the three quarterly unemployed datacubes are labelled UQ1, UQ2 and UQ3.

As a result of the limitations of the three-character naming system, in the employed group of datacubes, where there will be more than ten released quarterly, the 'Q' has been dropped and the quarterly datacubes are numbered E01, E02, ... , E11.

The data items contained in each datacube are listed in table 3.

Quarterly compendium publication

The new quarterly printed publication *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0) will draw together labour statistics from a range of sources, including household and business surveys, to provide an overall picture of the labour market.

The new publication will be published around three weeks after the detailed release products for the mid month of each quarter (February, May, August and November), but prior to the release of the following month's *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0). It will also be released electronically as a PDF file on the ABS web site.

The publication will commence in 2003, with its first issue scheduled for release on 11 April 2003 containing February 2003 LFS data. As well as key data from the LFS already released in *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), *Australian Labour Market Statistics* will contain additional LFS data (available earlier electronically in spreadsheets and datacubes under catalogue number 6291.0.55.001) and a range of the latest available data from the following surveys:

- Survey of Average Weekly Earnings
- Wage Cost Index
- Job Vacancies Survey
- Industrial Disputes Collection
- Survey of Employment and Earnings.

Key labour statistics from other collections, including each Labour Force Supplementary Survey, will also be included in an issue of *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0) following the release of the individual collection publication.

The publication will contain tables of data as well as articles and commentary, covering a wide perspective of the labour market and drawing on a variety of data. The articles will include features, technical articles, recent releases and spotlights on labour market concepts or labour surveys.

The publication will have brief explanatory notes outlining each data source, and reference to the relevant survey releases and the manual *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0) for more detail.

Data available on request As well as the statistics included in publications and electronic products, the ABS will continue to make other LFS data available on request. Inquiries should be made to the Assistant Director, Labour Force Estimates, on Canberra 02 6252 6525 or to any ABS office.

Explanatory material There are several ABS publications that contain information on the concepts, definitions and methodology of the LFS. The products below are available free of charge from the ABS web site.

Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0)
This manual is available to view on the ABS web site. It provides detailed information on the concepts behind the labour statistics published by the ABS, and the methods used in each labour survey.

Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Standard Errors
(cat. no. 6298.0)

This new information paper will contain information about LFS standard errors, as well as tables enabling users to calculate standard errors for LFS estimates. The first edition will be released on 4 April 2003, and the paper will be re-issued each time new estimates of LFS standard errors are produced, following five-yearly sample redesigns.

Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design
(cat. no. 6269.0)

This paper provides information on changes to the sample used for the Labour Force Survey. The paper outlines the current sample design used in the survey and changes made to the design over the history of the survey.

Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey
(cat. no. 6232.0)

This paper provides details of the Labour Force Survey questionnaire. Definitions, guidelines for following the questionnaire, identification of labour force status from the questionnaire and a copy of the questionnaire are included in this paper. There is also another information paper that discusses in further detail the most recent version of the questionnaire, *Information Paper: Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire* (cat. no. 6295.0), released on 3 May 2001.

Directory of Statistical Sources

The Directory of Statistical Sources has been developed to provide a useful on-line tool for data users to identify and access reference information about ABS statistical collections. The Directory enables users to access data through links to current outputs from these collections. The Directory allows users access to collection information in three ways — by topic, by geographic level and by source organisation. It provides a list of collections relevant to areas of interest according to the access method used.

This resource can be found on the ABS web site <www.abs.gov.au> (About Statistics — Directory of Statistical Sources).

CHANGES TO THE PRODUCT SET

REVIEWING LFS PRODUCTS

This section sets out the product set applying as this paper is published, and identifies the changes that will occur to each product. For further information about the timing of changes, see the Transition Information Section, or table 1 at the back of this paper.

As stated earlier in this paper, a review of LFS dissemination commenced in December 2000. The changes following this review will affect all existing LFS products. Several products are to be discontinued, with all other products subject to change.

The broad strategy behind the changes is to modernise the product set to provide a wider perspective on the labour market and to take advantage of the possibilities offered by electronic dissemination and the Internet. More data will be available in electronic form, there will only be one monthly printed publication, and a new printed quarterly publication will be introduced.

The data items collected in the LFS will not be affected, and all data currently available will continue to be available in some form at the current frequency and timing.

The monthly printed publication will highlight the key first release data. The spreadsheets will include more detail and will cater for the basic analytical needs of users. For more detailed data, and for more experienced users, the datacubes will offer greater flexibility and a wide range of cross-classifications of the data.

The changes for detailed release products will be introduced in April 2003. The changes to first release products will be introduced in the middle of 2003. For more information on the transition process, see the Transition Information Section.

CHANGES TO EXISTING PRODUCTS

First release products

The existing products used to disseminate first release data every month are:

- *Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary* cat. no. 6202.0 — printed publication
- *Labour Force, Teenage Employment and Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary — Data Report* cat. no. 6202.0.40.001 — printed data report
- *Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary* cat. no. 6202.0 — WKS spreadsheets
- *Labour Force, Australia — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk* cat. no. 6271.0.

The move to the new product set has introduced changes to these products. Details are as follows:

Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (cat. no. 6202.0)

This publication will be the only monthly printed LFS publication. It will be renamed *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), as estimates are not subject to revision as the current name implies. The structure of the publication will be changed to give a stronger focus on trend data series, to improve the presentation of teenage and education data, and to incorporate the *Labour Force, Teenage Employment and Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 6202.0.40.001) data report (see below). Some tables in 6202.0 will be discontinued, with the data moved to other tables.

Labour Force, Teenage Employment and Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary — Data Report (cat. no. 6202.0.40.001)

This printed data report will be discontinued, with the data included in the 6202.0 publication. Data will also be available from the 6202.0 spreadsheet range.

CHANGES TO THE PRODUCT SET *continued*

First release products continued

Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0)
The 29 Lotus 1-2-3 WKS spreadsheets will be discontinued and replaced with Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. The content and layout of the tables contained within the spreadsheets will also change to reflect the changes in the *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) publication. Complete time series will be available, removing the current limitation of 20 years.

For further details about the Excel spreadsheets, see the Electronic Products Section.

Labour Force, Australia — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk
(cat. no. 6271.0)

The tables contained within this product will change to reflect the changes in the *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) publication.

Detailed release products

The existing products used to disseminate detailed release data are:

- *Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia — Data Report*
cat. no. 6291.0.40.001
- *Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia* cat. no. 6291.0.40.001 —
WKS spreadsheets
- *Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia* cat. no. 6291.0.40.001 —
SuperTABLE datacubes.

One or two weeks after the detailed release, some detailed release data is published in the printed publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

All of these products will be affected by the move to the new product set. Details are as follows:

Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia — Data Report
(cat. no. 6291.0.40.001)

This monthly printed report will be discontinued, and the data in table 1 replaced with a new spreadsheet containing regional data. Data from other tables will continue to be available in spreadsheets and/or datacubes under catalogue number 6291.0.55.001.

Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia spreadsheets
(cat. no. 6291.0.40.001)

The format of the 696 spreadsheets will change to Microsoft Excel from Lotus 1-2-3. The set of spreadsheets will be reorganised to remove repetition. The total number of spreadsheets will be reduced, as each spreadsheet in the new product set will generally contain more data than individual spreadsheets in the current product set. Complete time series will be available, removing the current limitation of 20 years. At the same time, the catalogue number will change to 6291.0.55.001.

For further details about the Excel spreadsheets, see the Electronic Products Section of this paper.

CHANGES TO THE PRODUCT SET *continued*

Detailed release products continued

Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia datacubes (cat. no. 6291.0.40.001)

The set of 40 datacubes will be extended, with the addition of several new datacubes.

The new datacubes will cover the following data items:

- more detailed country of birth
- more detailed hours worked
- families (these will be monthly datacubes — annual families data are already available under catalogue number 6291.0.40.001)
- persons not in the labour force
- gross flows (from previous to current month) of persons into and out of the categories: employed full-time, employed part-time, unemployed, and not in the labour force.

A new feature of the datacubes will be the *default table*. This will be an automatically generated table, with the main totals and rates, that appears by default each time the datacube is opened. Where appropriate, the default table for each cube will be based on the equivalent table from *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0).

The catalogue number will also change to 6291.0.55.001.

For further details about default tables or other features of the LFS SuperTABLE datacubes, see the Electronic Products Section of this paper.

Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6203.0)

This monthly printed publication will be discontinued. Data currently contained in this publication will be available from the spreadsheets and datacubes under catalogue number 6291.0.55.001.

The explanatory notes of 6203.0 contain information on LFS standard errors and tables to enable calculation of standard errors for all estimates. This information will be expanded and released in a separate information paper, *Labour Force Survey Standard Errors* (cat. no. 6298.0). This paper will be available in printed form and electronically as a PDF file.

Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families (cat. no. 6224.0)

This annual printed publication was discontinued after the 2000 release. Some families data items are collected in June of each year only, and are currently available in several annual families datacubes. In addition, several monthly relationship in household datacubes have been released. These datacubes are all listed under catalogue number 6291.0.40.001. When the new product set is implemented, these datacubes, and additional monthly families datacubes, will be released under catalogue number 6291.0.55.001.

Summary information about changes

Table 1 in this paper lists all the products and the changes being implemented, together with the timing of the changes.

Table 2 lists the complete set of LFS Excel spreadsheets as they will exist upon implementation of the new product set. It includes details of the data items and classifications available.

CHANGES TO THE PRODUCT SET *continued*

*Summary information
about changes continued*

Table 3 lists the complete set of LFS SuperTABLE datacubes as they will exist upon implementation of the new product set. It includes details of the data items and classifications available.

Table 4 provides links between the current 6202.0 WKS spreadsheets and the new 6202.0 Excel spreadsheets.

Table 5 provides links between the current 6291.0.40.001 WKS spreadsheets, and the new 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheets and datacubes.

Table 6 provides links between the current 6291.0.40.001 datacubes, and the new 6291.0.55.001 datacubes.

ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

EXCEL SPREADSHEETS

From early 2003, Labour Force Survey (LFS) time series spreadsheets will be released in Microsoft Excel format with file extension XLS. These spreadsheets are currently in the form of Lotus 1-2-3 spreadsheets with file extension WKS.

The change is being implemented as a convenience for users. Excel is the most widely used spreadsheet format, and the new format will also allow:

- workbooks containing more than one sheet
- more data in fewer spreadsheets
- named ranges
- Internet hotlinks.

In response to user feedback, the layout of the spreadsheets is also changing. The time series will be arranged vertically rather than horizontally as at present. This will allow the complete time series to be provided in each spreadsheet. At present, the time series is limited to 240 time points (20 years in the case of a monthly series).

All spreadsheets will change

The changed format means that all LFS spreadsheets will be changed. As a result, users may need to alter their systems to cope with the change where they have programs or automated processes that use the spreadsheets.

SUPERTABLE DATACUBES

A wide range of ABS labour force data is available in the form of SuperTABLE datacubes. The advantage of this format is that a single datacube contains multiple dimensions of data which can be manipulated to highlight the aspects that are important or relevant to the user. The tables created can be saved for re-use or to a variety of output formats for further manipulation or analysis. The formats available include Excel, 1-2-3, CSV and HTML.

As previously mentioned, a new feature introduced into all LFS datacubes as part of the new product set is the *default table*. A default table will be created for each of the new and existing datacubes. Currently, when a datacube is opened, a blank worksheet is displayed. The default table will open automatically when the datacube is opened, and will show the main totals and rates for the most current month (or quarter) as a starting point for users. Where appropriate, the tables will be based on the corresponding table in *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0).

The software for reading and manipulating the datacubes is available free of charge for downloading from the Internet. The SuperTABLE software is developed and supplied by Space-Time Research. For more information on SuperTABLE datacubes and software go to the ABS web site at <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (Data Cubes — Help). This webpage contains links to information on installing the SuperTABLE software, downloading the datacubes from the ABS web site and manipulating the data. It also provides a SuperTABLE technical help reference.

SuperTABLE requires Windows 95 or Windows NT 4.0 or later versions of these operating systems. It is not available for the Mac OS. However, SuperTABLE has been used successfully on Macs with a variety of PC emulation software.

ACROBAT PDF FILES

Printed publications released by the ABS since 1998 are available on the ABS web site in PDF format.

TRANSITION INFORMATION

TRANSITION TO THE NEW PRODUCT SET

This section gives details of the timing of changes and how to keep informed of changes during the transition to the new product set.

Timing of changes

FIRST RELEASE PRODUCTS

The revised and renamed publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) will be released in mid-2003. The dates for this release will be firmed up over the next few months and announced in a future issue of 6202.0.

The associated new 6202.0 spreadsheets will be implemented at the same time, as will the revised product *Labour Force, Australia — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk* (cat. no. 6271.0).

Information Paper: Changes to Labour Force Survey Products, Supplementary Information (cat. no. 6297.0)

There will be a further release under the catalogue number 6297.0 in June 2003. The second issue will supplement the information in this publication by providing details of the first release products, including the format for the tables in the publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

DETAILED RELEASE PRODUCTS

The introduction of the new detailed release products will be in April 2003.

The final issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0) will be released on 28 March 2003, containing February 2003 data from the LFS.

The final issue of electronic products under *Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables* (cat. no. 6291.0.40.001) will be on 20 March 2003, containing February 2003 data.

The first issue of the new electronic products under *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) will be on 17 April 2003, containing March 2003 data.

The first issue of the new quarterly publication *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0) will be released on 11 April 2003. It will contain February 2003 data from the LFS, and the most recent available data from the other regular ABS labour surveys.

For a summary of all these changes and the timing of the changes, see table 1.

How will I know what's happening when?

During the period of transition from the current product set to the new product set, information will be available for users via the following methods:

- updates will be published on the Labour Theme Page
- an email mailing list will be set up to notify users who wish to be informed of product changes
- subscribers will be contacted directly about changes to the products to which they subscribe
- samples of new electronic products as well as new publications will be made available from the ABS web site
- changes to 6202.0 will be announced in advance in that publication
- a further issue of this Information Paper (cat. no. 6297.0) will be released in June 2003 providing advance details of the new format of 6202.0 and other information about the first release products.

TRANSITION INFORMATION *continued*

Labour Theme Page

The Labour Theme Page on the ABS web site was established in 2002 as a reference point for ABS labour statistics. It enables easier access to statistical information, presenting information covering the breadth of labour statistics, rather than concentrating on statistical collections. It contains links to reference material, such as *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0); links to articles, information papers and detailed papers on statistical developments relating to labour statistics; and links to relevant web sites.

The Labour Theme Page will be updated at least monthly during the transition to the new LFS product set. It will contain information on important dates, and details about the new products. See <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (Themes — Labour).

Email notification

An email mailing list will be used to inform users when the Labour Theme Page is updated during the transition period. To be included on this mailing list, contact <lorraine.cornehls@abs.gov.au>.

Updates can also be sent by post, if required. To be included on this mailing list, contact Labour Market Statistics on Canberra 02 6252 7636.

Subscriber information

Current subscribers to LFS products will be receiving a letter (via post or email as appropriate) informing them of forthcoming changes to the products they use, and a list of alternative options for outstanding subscriptions.

Suscribers to *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0) will receive the first issue of *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0) free of charge.

AusStats users will be informed via the AusStats notice board and messages on the relevant download pages, e.g. publications, time series spreadsheets and datacubes.

Samples of new products

When the new spreadsheets and datacubes have been developed, but before the current products are discontinued, both the current products and the corresponding new products will be available for simultaneous download from the ABS web site.

Sample issues of the new publications will also be available through the Labour Theme Page or on request. In addition, a further issue of this Information Paper (cat. no. 6297.0) will be released in June 2003 providing advance details of the new format of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

OTHER INFORMATION

Purchasing ABS products

In addition to the subscription service, ABS electronic products (including PDF versions of printed publications) can now be purchased on a one-off basis, using credit card facilities, on-line at the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

Printed publications can be purchased from ABS bookshops, or viewed at many public libraries. For information, see the back page of this publication.

Pricing information

Information on the pricing of the new products will be available from the Labour theme page soon. The pricing of the products will be determined according to standard ABS charging policy.

TRANSITION INFORMATION *continued*

Other queries

If users have any queries regarding the new products, they are encouraged to call Labour Market Statistics on Canberra 02 6252 7636.

	<i>Product</i>	<i>Changes</i>	<i>Timing</i>
First release products	Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary (cat. no. 6202.0)	Changes to table ordering and structure. Additional data for teenagers. Title change to 'Labour Force, Australia' (cat. no. 6202.0).	Mid-2003
	6202.0 spreadsheets	Revised to reflect changes to Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) publication. Conversion from WKS format to Excel. Complete time series available.	Mid-2003
	Labour Force, Australia — Preliminary data on floppy disk (cat. no. 6271.0)	Revised to reflect changes to the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) publication.	Mid-2003
	Labour Force, Teenage Employment and Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary — Data Report (cat. no. 6202.0.40.001)	Discontinued and data included in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) publication (see above).	Mid-2003
Detailed release products	Labour Force, Selected Summary Tables, Australia — Data Report (cat. no. 6291.0.40.001)	Discontinued and data included in an Excel spreadsheet.	Apr 2003
	6291.0.40.001 spreadsheets	Current set of WKS spreadsheets replaced by a new set of Excel spreadsheets, containing the complete time series for a similar range of data items. Catalogue number changed to 6291.0.55.001.	Apr 2003
	6291.0.40.001 datacubes	Datacubes series extended. Catalogue number changed to 6291.0.55.001.	Apr 2003
Other products	Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6203.0)	Discontinued — data available in spreadsheets and datacubes under catalogue number 6291.0.55.001.	Last issue of 6203.0 to be the Feb 2003 issue, released in Mar 2003.
	Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families (cat. no. 6224.0)	Discontinued — data released in SuperTABLE datacubes under catalogue number 6291.0.40.001. Change catalogue number to 6291.0.55.001.	Sep/Oct 2002 for initial release of datacubes. Apr 2003 for catalogue number change.
	Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0)	New quarterly compendium publication	First issue in Apr 2003, with Feb 2003 Labour Force Survey data.
	Information Paper: Changes to Labour Force Survey Products (cat. no. 6297.0)	New product	First issue in Dec 2002 with broad information on changes to first release products and detailed information on changes to second release products. Second issue in Jun 2003 with detailed information on changes to first release products.
	Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Standard Errors (cat. no. 6298.0)	New product	Apr 2003
	Labour Theme Page on the ABS web site	New product	Released mid-2002

<i>Spreadsheet no.</i>	<i>Classifications/Series</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Cat. no. 6202.0			
1-2	Sex Trend (spreadsheet 1) Seasonally adjusted (spreadsheet 2)	Labour Force Status(a) (b)	Monthly From Feb 1978
3	Sex Original	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Feb 1978
4-11	Sex State (separate spreadsheets for each state) Trend/Seasonally adjusted (Trend only is available for NT and ACT)	Labour Force Status(a) (b)	Monthly From Feb 1978
12a-12i	Sex State (separate spreadsheets for each state) Original	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Feb 1978
13-14	Sex Age (15-19) (c) Trend (spreadsheet 13) Seasonally adjusted (spreadsheet 14)	Labour Force Status(a) (b)	Monthly From Feb 1978
15	Sex Age (15-19) (c) Full-time educational attendance Original	Labour Force Status(a) Unemployment to Population Ratio (looking for full-time work)	Monthly From Apr 1986
16a-16i	Sex Age (15-19) (c) Full-time educational attendance State (separate spreadsheets for each state) Original	Labour Force Status(a) Unemployment to Population Ratio (looking for full-time work)	Monthly From Apr 1986
Cat. no. 6291.0.55.001			
1	Sex Age (standard) (d) Marital status Original	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Feb 1978
2	Sex State Capital City/Balance of State Original	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Feb 1978

(a) Labour Force Status: Employed (full-time, part-time, total); Unemployed (looking for full-time work, looking for part-time work, total); Labour Force; Not in the Labour Force, Civilian Population; Unemployment Rate (looking for full-time work, total); Participation Rate.

(b) Reduced number of derived totals for seasonally adjusted and trend series. See ABS web site for details.
 (c) 15-19 Age Group only — not single years.
 (d) Standard Age Groups: 15-19, 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65+.

<i>Spreadsheet no.</i>	<i>Classifications/Series</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 cont.			
3	Sex Age (15–24 — single years) Attending full-time education/not attending full-time education Original	Labour Force Status(a) Unemployed (looking for first full-time job) Unemployment to Population Ratio (looking for full-time work)	Monthly From Apr 1986
4	Industry 1-digit Trend/Seasonally adjusted/Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly From Nov 1984
5	State Industry 1-digit Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly From Nov 1984
6	Sex Industry 2-digit Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly From Nov 1984
7	Sex Occupation 1-digit Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly From Aug 1986
8	Sex Status in employment categories(b) Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Monthly From Nov 1984
9	Sex Actual hours worked categories(c) Original	Employed Average & aggregate weekly actual hours worked	Monthly From Feb 1978
10	Sex Usual hours worked categories(c) Original	Employed Average & aggregate weekly usual hours worked	Monthly From Apr 2001
11	Sex Actual hours worked categories(c) Industry 1-digit Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total) Average & aggregate weekly actual hours worked Average actual hours worked by persons at work	Quarterly From Nov 1984
12	Sex Actual hours worked categories(c) Occupation 1-digit Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total) Average & aggregate weekly actual hours worked Average actual hours worked by persons at work	Quarterly From Aug 1986

(a) Labour Force Status: Employed (full-time, part-time, total); Unemployed (looking for full-time work, looking for part-time work, total); Labour Force; Not in the Labour Force, Civilian Population; Unemployment Rate (looking for full-time work, total); Participation Rate.

(b) Status in Employment Categories: Employee, Employer, Own account worker, Contributing family worker.

(c) Standard Hours Worked Categories: 0, 1–15, 16–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40, 41–44, 45–49, 50–59, 60+.

<i>Spreadsheet no.</i>	<i>Classifications/Series</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 cont.			
13	Sex Status in employment categories(a) Actual hours worked categories(b) Original	Employed (full-time, part-time, total) Average & aggregate weekly actual hours worked Average actual hours worked by persons at work	Quarterly From Nov 1984
14	Sex Duration of unemployment categories — long term unemployed(d) Trend/Seasonally adjusted/Original	Long-term unemployed (old definition)(c) Long-term unemployed as proportion of total unemployed Average duration of unemployment (old definition)(c)	Monthly From Feb 1978
15	Sex Duration of unemployment categories — long term unemployed(d) Trend/Seasonally adjusted/Original	Long-term unemployed (new definition)(e) Long-term unemployed as proportion of total unemployed Average duration of unemployment (new definition)(e)	Monthly From Apr 2001
16	Sex Regions Original	Employed Unemployed Unemployment rate Participation rate	Monthly Length of time series to be determined

- (a) Status in Employment Categories: Employee, Employer, Own account worker, Contributing family worker.
- (b) Standard Hours Worked Categories: 0, 1–15, 16–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40, 41–44, 45–49, 50–59, 60+.
- (c) Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

- (d) Duration of Unemployment Categories for Long Term Unemployed (weeks): 52+; 52–103; 104+.
- (e) Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Labour Force Status

<i>Datacube group/ datacube no.</i>	<i>Classifications</i>	<i>Data items</i>	<i>Notes</i>
LM1	Sex Age (standard)(b) Marital status Capital city/balance of state State	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly Includes separate datacubes for Australia totals and groups of States From Feb 1978
LM2	Sex Age (detailed)(c) Capital city/balance of state State	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly Includes separate datacubes for Australia totals and groups of States From Feb 1978
LM3	Sex Age (15–24, single years) Educational attendance Year left school(d) State	Labour Force Status(a) Unemployed (looking for first full-time job) Unemployment to Population Ratio (looking for full-time work)	Monthly From Apr 1986
LM4	Sex Country of birth (major country groups) Year of arrival State	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Apr 1991
LM5	Sex Age (standard)(b) Country of birth (major country groups) State	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Apr 1991
LM6	Sex Country of birth (detailed)(e) State	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Apr 1991
LM7	Sex Country of birth (MESC/non-MESC)(f) Year of arrival State	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Feb 1978
LM8	Sex Age (5 year age groups) Marital status State	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly From Feb 1978 Data revised Apr 1986 to Mar 2001

(a) Labour Force Status: Employed (full-time, part-time, total); Unemployed (looking for full-time work, looking for part-time work, total); Labour Force; Not in the Labour Force, Civilian Population; Unemployment Rate; Participation Rate.
(b) Standard Age Groups: 15–19, 20–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65+.

(c) Single years 15–24, then 5 year age groups.
(d) Only applicable 15–19 year olds.
(e) Selected countries.
(f) MESC = Main English Speaking Countries.
Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Families and Relationships

FM1	Sex	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly
	State		From Apr 2001
	Relationship in household		
FM2	Sex	Labour Force Status(a)	Monthly
	Age (standard)(b)		From Apr 2001
	Relationship in household		
FM3	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Monthly
	Relationship in household		Average & aggregate weekly actual hours worked
	Actual hours worked in main job categories (standard)(c)		From Apr 2001
FM4	Sex	Unemployed looking for full-time work	Monthly
	Relationship in household	Unemployed looking for part-time work	From Apr 2001
	Duration of unemployment (new definition) (detailed)(d)(e)	Unemployed total	
		Aggregate weeks unemployed	
		Average weeks unemployed	
FA1	Family type (detailed)(f)	Number of families	Annual
	Number employed (0, 1, 2+)	Number of children by age group (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 0-14)	From Jun 2001
	Number unemployed (0, 1, 2+)	Number of dependent students	
	Number not in the labour force (0, 1, 2+)	Number of dependants	
	Number of family members (2, 3, 4, 5, 6+)		
	Number of dependants (0, 1, 2, 3, 4+)		
FA2	State		
	Family type (detailed)(f)	As above	Annual
	Sex of lone parents and same sex couples		From Jun 2001
	Labour force status of parents (husband, wife, partner, head)		
	Number of dependants (0, 1, 2, 3, 4+)		
	Age of youngest child (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-24)		

(a) Labour Force Status: Employed (full-time, part-time, total); Unemployed (looking for full-time work, looking for part-time work, total); Labour Force; Not in the Labour Force, Civilian Population; Unemployment Rate; Participation Rate.

(b) Standard Age Groups: 15-19, 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65+.

(c) Standard Hours Worked Categories: 0, 1-15, 16-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40, 41-44, 45-49, 50-59, 60+.

(d) Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of

the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

(e) Detailed Duration of Unemployment (weeks): <4, 4-7, 8-12, 13-25, 26-51, 52-103, 104-155, 156-207, 208-259, 260+.

(f) Detailed Family Type: classification distinguishes between opposite and same sex couple families, one parent families and other families. For opposite and same sex couple families, and one parent families the presence of dependants, children under 15, dependent students and other children over 15 is also indicated.

Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Families and Relationships *cont.*

FA3	Family type (detailed)(a)	Number of families	Annual
	Sex of lone parents and same sex couples	Number of children by age group (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 0-14)	From Jun 2001
	Labour force status of parents (husband, wife, partner, head)	Number of dependent students	
	Number of dependants (0, 1, 2, 3, 4+)	Number of dependants	
	Age of youngest child (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-24)		
	State		
FA4	Family type (Couple and One Parent Family by Sex)	As above	Annual
	Labour force status of parents (husband, wife, partner, head)		From Jun 2001
	Age of parents (husband, wife, partner, head)		
	Age of youngest child (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-24)		
	Age of dependants (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-24)		
FA5	Family type (Couple and One Parent Family by Sex)	As above	Annual
	Labour force status of parents (husband, wife, partner, head)		From Jun 2001
	Duration of unemployment of parents (husband, wife, partner, head) (broad)(b)		
	Age of youngest child (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-24)		
	Age of dependants (0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-24)		

Regions

RM1	Sex	Labour Force Status(c)	Monthly
	Age (standard)(d)		From Sep 1992
	Dissemination region		Two datacubes with break Aug 1997/Sep 1997

- (a) Detailed Family Type: classification distinguishes between opposite and same sex couple families, one parent families and other families. For opposite and same sex couple families, and one parent families the presence of dependants, children under 15, dependent students and other children over 15 is also indicated.
- (b) Broad Duration of Unemployment (weeks): <4, 4-12, 13-25, 26-51, 52-103, 104+.

- (c) Labour Force Status: Employed (full-time, part-time, total); Unemployed (looking for full-time work, looking for part-time work, total); Labour Force; Not in the Labour Force, Civilian Population; Unemployment Rate; Participation Rate.
- (d) Standard Age Groups: 15-19, 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65+.
- Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Regions *cont.*

RM2	Sex	Unemployed looking for full-time work	Monthly
	Dissemination region	Unemployed looking for part-time work	From Sep 1992
	Duration of unemployment categories (old definition) (broad)(a)(b)	Unemployed total	Two datacubes with break Aug 1997/Sep 1997
		Aggregate weeks unemployed	
		Average duration unemployed (weeks)	
RM3	Sex	As above	Monthly
	Dissemination region		From Apr 2001
	Duration of unemployment categories (new definition) (broad)(c)(b)		
RQ1	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly
	Dissemination region		From Aug 1994
	Industry (1-digit)		Two datacubes with break Aug 1997/Nov 1997
RQ2	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	Dissemination region		From Aug 1996
	Occupation (1-digit)		Two datacubes with break Aug 1997/Nov 1997

Employed

EM1	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Monthly
	State	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed full-time)	From Feb 1978
	Age (standard)(d)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed part-time)	Includes separate datacubes for Australia totals and groups of States
	Actual hours worked categories (standard)(e)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed total)	
EM2	Sex	Employed full-time who worked <35 hours	Monthly
	State	(Aggregate) Actual hours worked (employed full-time who worked <35 hours)	From Feb 1978
	Age (standard)(d)		Includes separate datacubes for Australia totals and groups of States
	Main reason worked less than 35 hours		
	Actual hours worked categories (standard)(e)		

- (a) Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.
- (b) Broad Duration of Unemployment (weeks): <52, 52-103, 104+.
- (c) Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.
- (d) Standard Age Groups: 15-19, 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65+.
- (e) Standard Hours Worked Categories: 0, 1-15, 16-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40, 41-44, 45-49, 50-59, 60+.
- Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Employed *cont.*

EM3	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Monthly
	State	(Aggregate & average weekly) Usual hours worked (employed full-time)	From Apr 2001
	Age (standard) (a)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Usual hours worked (employed part-time)	
	Usual hours worked categories (standard) (b)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Usual hours worked (employed total)	
EM4	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Monthly
	State	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked in main job (employed full-time)	From Apr 2001
	Age (standard) (a)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked in main job (employed part-time)	
	Actual hours worked in main job categories (standard) (b)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked in main job (employed total)	
EO1	Sex	Employed part-time	Quarterly
	State	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed part-time)	From May 2001
	Age (standard) (a)		
	Actual hours worked categories (standard) (b)		
	Whether preferred to work more hours		
EO2	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly
	State	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed full-time)	From May 2001
	Age (standard) (a)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed part-time)	
	Duration of current job categories	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed total)	
EO3	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	Capital city/balance of state		From Nov 1984
	State		Two datacubes with break May 94/Aug 94
	Actual hours worked categories (b)		
	Industry (1-digit)		
EO4	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	State		From Nov 1984
	Actual hours worked categories (b)		Two datacubes with break May 94/Aug 94
	Status in employment categories (c)		

(a) Standard Age Groups: 15–19, 20–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65+.

(b) Standard Hours Worked Categories: 0, 1–15, 16–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40, 41–44, 45–49, 50–59, 60+.

(c) Status in Employment Categories: Employee, Employer, Own account worker, Contributing family worker.

Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Employed *cont.*

E05	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	Age (standard) (a)		From Nov 1984
	Status in employment categories(b)		Two datacubes with break May 94/Aug 94
	Industry (2-digit)		
E06	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	State		From Nov 1984
	Status in employment categories(b)		Two datacubes with break May 94/Aug 94
	Industry (3-digit)		
E07	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly
	Age (standard) (a)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed full-time)	From Aug 1986
	Status in employment categories(b)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed part-time)	Two datacubes with break May 96/Aug 96
	Occupation (2-digit)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked (employed total)	
E08	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	State		From Aug 1986
	Status in employment categories(b)		Two datacubes with break May 96/Aug 96
	Occupation (4-digit)		
E09	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	State		From Aug 1986
	Industry (1-digit)		Two datacubes with break May 96/Aug 96
	Occupation (1-digit)		
E10	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly
	Capital city/balance of state	(Aggregate & average weekly) Usual hours worked (employed full-time)	From May 2001
	State	(Aggregate & average weekly) Usual hours worked (employed part-time)	
	Usual hours worked categories(c)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Usual hours worked (employed total)	
	Industry (1-digit)		

(a) Standard Age Groups: 15-19, 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65+.

(b) Status in Employment Categories: Employee, Employer, Own account worker, Contributing family worker.

(c) Standard Hours Worked Categories: 0, 1-15, 16-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40, 41-44, 45-49, 50-59, 60+.

Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Employed *cont.*

E11	Sex	Employed (full-time, part-time, total)	Quarterly
	Capital city/balance of state	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked in main job (employed full-time)	From May 2001
	State	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked in main job (employed part-time)	
	Actual hours worked in main job categories(a)	(Aggregate & average weekly) Actual hours worked in main job (employed total)	
	Industry (1-digit)		
E12	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	Age (standard)(b)		From Nov 1984
	State		Two datacubes with break May 94/Aug 94
	Industry (1-digit)		
E13	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	Age (standard)(b)		From Aug 86
	State		Two datacubes with break May 96/Aug 96
	Occupation (1-digit)		

Unemployed

UM1	Sex	Unemployed looking for full-time work	Monthly
	State	Unemployed looking for part-time work	From Feb 1978
	Age (standard)(b)	Unemployed total	Includes separate datacubes for Australia totals and groups of States
	Duration of unemployment categories (old definition) (broad)(c)(d)	Aggregate weeks unemployed	
		Average duration unemployed (weeks)	
UM2	Sex	As above	Monthly
	State		From Apr 2001
	Duration of unemployment categories (new definition) (detailed)(e)(f)		
UM3	Sex	As above	Monthly
	State		From Apr 2001
	Age (standard)(b)		
	Duration of unemployment categories (new definition) (broad)(e)(d)		

- (a) Standard Hours Worked Categories: 0, 1-15, 16-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40, 41-44, 45-49, 50-59, 60+.
 - (b) Standard Age Groups: 15-19, 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65+.
 - (c) Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.
 - (d) Broad Duration of Unemployment (weeks): <4, 4-12, 13-25, 26-51, 52-103, 104+.
 - (e) Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.
 - (f) Detailed Duration of Unemployment (weeks): <4, 4-7, 8-12, 13-25, 26-51, 52-103, 104-155, 156-207, 208-259, 260+.
- Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

Datacube

group/

datacube no.

Classifications

Data items

Notes

Unemployed *cont.*

UQ1	Sex	Unemployed looking for full-time work	Quarterly
	State	Unemployed looking for part-time work	From May 2001
	Reason for unemployment (last job) categories	Unemployed total	
		Aggregate weeks unemployed (since last job)	
		Average duration unemployed (weeks) (since last job)	

UQ2	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	State		From May 2001
	Industry of last job (1-digit)		

UQ3	Sex	As above	Quarterly
	State		From May 2001
	Occupation of last job (1-digit)		

Not in the Labour Force

NM1	Sex	Persons not in the labour force	Monthly
	State		Length of time series yet to be determined
	Age (standard) (a)		
	Whether looking for & available to start work categories(b)		

Gross Flows

GM1	Sex	Labour Force Status current month	Monthly
	State	Labour Force Status previous month	Length of time series yet to be determined
	Age (standard) (a)		

- (a) Standard Age Groups: 15–19, 20–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65+. but available in next four weeks; took active steps, unavailable to start in next four weeks); Not Looking For Work; Permanently Unable to Work; Permanently Not Intending to Work; Persons in Institutions.
- (b) Whether Looking For and Available to Start Work: Looking For Work (took active steps to find work; took active steps, unavailable to start Note: All datacubes contain original estimates only.

4

LINKS BETWEEN CURRENT AND NEW 6202.0 SPREADSHEETS

*Current
spreadsheet
no.*

New spreadsheet no.

1	3
2	2
3	1
4	15: for data on persons age 15–19 (numbers and unemployment rates for persons aged 15–19 seeking full-time job not included) 16: for state splits for 15–19 3: for data on persons aged 15 and above
5	14: for data on persons age 15–19 (numbers and unemployment rates for persons aged 15–19 seeking full-time job not included) 2: for data on persons aged 15 and above
6	13: for data on persons age 15–19 (numbers and unemployment rates for persons aged 15–19 seeking full-time job not included) 1: for data on persons aged 15 and above
7	15 (split between school and tertiary education institution for persons aged 15–19 in full-time education not included) 16: for state splits
8a–8i	12a–12i
9–10	16a–16f: for data on persons age 15–19 (numbers and unemployment rates for persons aged 15–19 seeking full-time job not included) 12a–12f: for data on persons aged 15 and above
11	16g–16h: for data on persons age 15–19 (numbers and unemployment rates for persons aged 15–19 seeking full-time job not included) 12g–12h: for data on persons aged 15 and above
12–17	4–9 (seasonally adjusted & trend data swapped around)
18–19	10–11

5

LINKS BETWEEN CURRENT 6291.0.40.001 SPREADSHEETS AND NEW 6291.0.55.001 ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

<i>6291.0.40.001 spreadsheet no.</i>	<i>Table description/data series</i>	<i>6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet no.</i>	<i>6291.0.55.001 datacube no.</i>
CP — Civilian Population			
Tables 1a—9c (27 tables)	Sex, Age (standard + single years 15—24), Marital status(a)	1 (without State)	LM1, LM8
	Sex, Age (15—24), States, Educational attendance	3 (without State)	LM3 LM2(b)
Table 10	Sex, States, Capital City/Balance of State	2	LM1, LM2
EJ — Employed by Industry			
Tables 1a—9i (81 tables)	Sex, State, Employed (f/t, p/t, total), Industry 2-digit	6 (without State)	E06
Table 9j	Sex, Employed (f/t, p/t, total), Industry 2-digit — Trend & Seasonally adjusted	4 (with 1-digit Industry, without Sex)	Not available
EM — Employed			
Tables 1a—9i (81 tables)	Sex, Marital status, State	1 (without State)	LM1, LM8
	Sex, Age (standard + single years 15–24), State(a)	2 (without Age)	LM1, LM2, LM5, LM8
	Sex, Age (15–24), State, Educational attendance	3 (without State)	LM3 LM2(b)
Tables 10a—16 (19 tables)	Sex, Age (15–24, 25–99), State, Region	16 (without Age)(c)	RM1
EP — Employers			
Tables 1a—9c (27 tables)	Sex, State, Industry 1-digit	5 (without Sex)	E06
Tables 10a—10c (3 tables)	Sex, Actual hours worked categories (detailed)(d)	13(e)	E04(e)
FH — Contributing Family Workers			
Tables 1a—9c (27 tables)	Sex, State, Industry 1-digit	5 (without Sex)	E06
Tables 10a—10c (3 tables)	Sex, Actual hours worked categories (detailed)(d)	13(e)	E04(e)
HQ — Hours Worked by Industry			
Tables 10—18 (9 tables)	Sex, State, Aggregate actual hours worked, Industry 1-digit	11 (without State)	E03 E02 (without Industry)

(a) Standard Age Groups: 15–19, 20–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65+.
 (b) Single year age for 15–24 then 5 year age groups, but educational attendance not available.

(c) Possible inclusion in regional spreadsheet.
 (d) Detailed hours worked categories: 1–5, 6–10, 11–15, 16–20, 21–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40, 41–44, 45+.
 (e) Hours worked categories not as detailed.

6291.0.40.001 spreadsheet no. Table description/data series 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet no. 6291.0.55.001 datacube no.

HR — Hours Worked

Tables 1a—9d (36 tables)	Sex, Marital status, State, Actual hours worked categories (detailed), Aggregate & average hours worked(a)	9, 11, 12, 13 (without Marital status or State)(b)	E01 (without Marital status)(b) E03 (without Marital status)(b) EM4 (Main job only, without Marital status)(b) E11 (Main job only, without Marital status)(b)
-----------------------------	--	--	--

IL — Labour Force

Tables 1a—9d (28 tables)	Sex, State, Labour Force Summary (main totals & rates) — Original, Seasonally adjusted and Trend	6202.0 spreadsheets 4–12i	LM1, LM2, LM4, LM5, LM6, LM7, LM8(c)
	Sex, Age (standard + single years 15–24), Marital status, State(d)	1 (without State)	LM1, LM8
	Sex, Age (15–24), State, Educational attendance	3 (without State)	LM3 LM2(e)
Tables 10a—16 (14 tables)	Sex, Age (15–24, 25+, total), State, Region	16 (without Age)(f)	RM1

NL — Not In The Labour Force

Tables 1a—9c (27 tables)	Sex, Age (standard + single years 15–24), Marital status, State(d)	1 (without State)	LM1, LM8 NM1 (without Educational attendance)
	Sex, Age (15–24), State, Educational attendance	3 (without State)	LM3 LM2(e) NM1 (without Educational attendance)

- (a) Detailed hours worked categories: 1–5, 6–10, 11–15, 16–20, 21–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40, 41–44, 45+.
- (b) Hours worked categories not as detailed.
- (c) Original estimates only.
- (d) Standard Age Groups: 15–19, 20–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65+.
- (e) Single year age for 15–24 then 5 year age groups, but educational attendance not available.
- (f) Possible inclusion in regional spreadsheet.

6291.0.40.001 spreadsheet no.	Table description/data series	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet no.	6291.0.55.001 datacube no.
PR — Participation Rate			
Tables 1a—9c (27 tables)	Sex, State, Labour Force Summary (main totals & rates) — Original, Seasonally adjusted and Trend	6202.0 spreadsheets 4–12i	LM1, LM2, LM4, LM5, LM6, LM7, LM8(a)
	Sex, Age (standard + single years 15–24), Marital status, State(b)	1 (without State)	LM1, LM8
	Sex, Age (15–24), State, Educational attendance	3 (without State)	LM3 LM2(c)
Tables 10—16 (9 tables)	Sex, State, Region	16(d)	RM1
SE — Own Account Workers			
Tables 1a—9c (27 tables)	Sex, State, Industry 1-digit	5 (without Sex)	E06
Tables 10a—10c (3 tables)	Sex, Actual hours worked (detailed)(e)	13(f)	E04(f)
UN — Unemployed			
Tables 1a—9i (81 tables)	Sex, Age (standard + single years 15–24), Marital status, State(b)	1 (without State)	LM1, LM8
	Sex, Age (15–24), State, Educational attendance	3 (without State)	LM3 LM2(c)
Tables 10a—16 (18 tables)	Sex, Age (15–24, 25–99), State, Region	16 (without Age)(d)	RM1(b)
Tables 17a—17i (9 tables)	Sex, Age (15–19, 20–24, 25–34, total), Marital status, Duration of unemployment (since last f/t job), Average duration(g)	14 (without Age or Marital status)	UM1 (without Marital status)(b)
Tables 18a—18i (9 tables)	Sex, Age (15–19, 20–24, 25–34, total), Marital status, Duration of unemployment (since last job), Average duration(h)	15 (without Age or Marital status)	UM3 (without Marital status)(b)

- (a) Original estimates only.
- (b) Standard Age Groups: 15–19, 20–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65+.
- (c) Single year age for 15–24 then 5 year age groups, but educational attendance not available.
- (d) Possible inclusion in regional spreadsheet.
- (e) Detailed hours worked categories: 1–5, 6–10, 11–15, 16–20, 21–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40, 41–44, 45+.
- (f) Hours worked categories not as detailed.
- (g) Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.
- (h) Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

6291.0.40.001 spreadsheet no.	Table description/data series	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet no.	6291.0.55.001 datacube no.
----------------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------------

UN — Unemployed *cont.*

Table 19	Duration of unemployment (detailed) since last f/t job for those who have worked f/t for 2 weeks or more in last 2 years(a)	Not available	UM1(b)
Table 20	Duration of job search for those who had never worked f/t for 2 weeks or more	Not available	Not available
Table 21	Sex, Duration of unemployment (detailed) since last f/t job, Long-term unemployed as proportion of total employed — Original, Seasonally adjusted & Trend(a)	14	UM1(b)
Table 22	Sex, Duration of unemployment (detailed) totals, Long-term unemployed as proportion of total employed — Original, Seasonally adjusted & Trend(c)	15	UM2, UM3(b)

UR —**Unemployment rate**

Tables 1a—9i (81 tables)	Sex, Marital status, State	1 (without State)	LM1, LM8
	Sex, Age (15–24), State, Educational attendance	3 (without State)	LM3 LM2(d)
Tables 10a—16 (15 tables)	Sex, Age (standard + single years 15–24), State, Region(e)	16 (without Age)(f)	RM1

WS — Employees

Tables 1a—9c (27 tables)	Sex, State, Industry 1-digit	5 (without Sex)	E06
Tables 10—11 (2 tables)	Sex, Actual hours worked (detailed), Aggregate hours worked(g)	13(h)	E04(h)

- (a) Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.
- (b) Duration of unemployment categories not as detailed.
- (c) Under the redesigned LFS questionnaire, implemented in April 2001, the definition of duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.
- (d) Single year age for 15–24 then 5 year age groups, but educational attendance not available.
- (e) Standard Age Groups: 15–19, 20–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, 55–59, 60–64, 65+.
- (f) Possible inclusion in regional spreadsheet.
- (g) Detailed hours worked categories: 1–5, 6–10, 11–15, 16–20, 21–29, 30–34, 35–39, 40, 41–44, 45+.
- (h) Hours worked categories not as detailed.

6

LINKS BETWEEN CURRENT 6291.0.40.001 DATACUBES AND NEW 6291.0.55.001 DATACUBES

6291.0.40.001 datacube	6291.0.55.001 datacube	6291.0.40.001 datacube	6291.0.55.001 datacube	6291.0.40.001 datacube	6291.0.55.001 datacube
Monthly datacubes		Quarterly datacubes		Annual datacubes	
C1	LM1	Q1	E03	FA1	FA1
C2	LM2	n/a	E04	FA2	FA2
C3	LM3	Q2	E05	FA3	FA3
C4	LM4	Q3	E06	FA4	FA4
n/a	LM5	Q4	E07	FA5	FA5
n/a	LM6	Q5	E08		
C5	LM7	Q6	E09		
C6	LM8	Q7	E01		
E1	EM1	Q8	E02		
E3	EM2	Q9	E10		
E4	EM3	Q0	E11		
E5	EM4	n/a	E12		
U1	UM1	n/a	E13		
U5	UM2	R2	RQ1		
U6	UM3	R3	RQ2		
R1	RM1	U2	UQ1		
R4	RM2	U3	UQ2		
R5	RM3	U3	UQ3		
FM1	FM1				
FM2	FM2				
FM3	FM3				
FM4	FM4				
n/a	NM1				
n/a	GM1				

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* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

Data that is already published and can be provided within five minutes is 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
- FAX* 1300 135 211
- POST* Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 1041

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

ABS subscription services provide regular, convenient and prompt deliveries of ABS publications and products as they are released. Email delivery of monthly and quarterly publications is available.

- PHONE* 1300 366 323
- EMAIL* subscriptions@abs.gov.au
- FAX* 03 9615 7848
- POST* Subscription Services, ABS, GPO Box 2796Y, Melbourne Vic 3001



2629700001025

ISBN 0 642 47858 9

RRP \$10.00