



JOB VACANCIES

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 28 JUNE 2001

MAY 2001 KEY FIGURES

TREND ESTIMATES

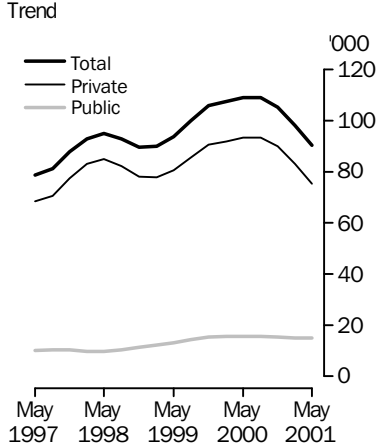
		<i>% change</i> Feb 2001	<i>% change</i> May 2000
	May 2001	to May 2001	to May 2001
Job vacancies—'000			
Private sector	75.3	-9.7	-19.5
Public sector	15.2	0.6	-3.1
Private and public sectors	90.5	-8.0	-17.1

MAY 2001 KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- Total job vacancies in May 2001 were 90,500, a decrease of 8.0% from February 2001, and the lowest level since February 1999.
- The number of private sector job vacancies decreased to 75,300 in May 2001, a drop of 9.7% from February 2001.
- The number of job vacancies in the public sector was 15,200 in May 2001, an increase of 0.6% from February 2001.

Job Vacancies



- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Glynis Orrell on Perth 08 9360 5304 or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>EXPECTED RELEASE DATE</i>
August 2001	27 September 2001
November 2001	10 January 2002

SAMPLING ERRORS

For information on sampling errors see the Technical Notes. Standard errors for the original estimates contained in this publication are in tables A and B of the Technical Notes.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
JVS Job Vacancies Survey
* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. See paragraph 6 of the Technical Notes

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

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JOB VACANCIES, States & Territories

Reference date	ORIGINAL.....									SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	TREND
	New South Wales	Victoria	Queens-land	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia	Australia	Australia
('000)											
2000											
February	46.4	27.0	14.7	5.6	* 11.6	* 1.7	1.8	3.9	112.7	112.9	107.7
May	41.8	26.2	* 15.7	5.0	7.9	1.3	1.2	3.0	102.1	109.2	109.2
August	43.9	38.8	12.2	5.3	10.6	* 2.5	1.9	3.0	118.2	109.3	109.2
November	40.4	35.2	12.3	5.4	8.6	1.9	1.3	3.5	108.6	110.0	105.3
2001											
February	32.0	29.5	11.2	6.3	9.8	2.1	1.6	3.1	95.5	95.9	98.4
May	28.4	23.8	13.9	5.5	6.4	1.4	1.5	2.5	83.4	89.0	90.5
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)											
2000											
February	25.7	-12.9	10.1	-10.6	38.4	-24.4	52.0	0.8	9.2	8.0	1.5
May	-9.8	-2.9	6.7	-11.9	-32.0	-23.9	-35.9	-22.4	-9.4	-3.3	1.4
August	5.0	48.3	-22.7	7.0	34.3	94.0	59.7	0.1	15.8	0.1	0.0
November	-7.9	-9.3	1.0	1.2	-18.7	-24.6	-31.9	15.5	-8.1	0.6	-3.6
2001											
February	-21.0	-16.4	-9.1	17.2	14.2	12.5	25.7	-10.6	-12.0	-12.8	-6.6
May	-11.0	-19.3	24.1	-13.4	-35.2	-31.7	-5.8	-18.4	-12.7	-7.2	-8.0
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)											
1999											
May	46.1	-14.4	-44.5	30.6	-40.0	199.9	-34.3	58.4	-3.9	-4.3	-1.3
2000											
May	11.7	18.2	44.6	14.3	-5.7	-36.5	-5.9	23.0	14.8	14.6	16.3
2001											
May	-32.0	-9.2	-11.9	9.9	-19.3	12.4	28.8	-15.7	-18.3	-18.5	-17.1

JOB VACANCIES, Private Sector—States & Territories

Reference date	ORIGINAL.....									SEASONALLY	TREND
	New South Wales	Victoria	Queens-land	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia	Australia	Australia
	('000)										
2000											
February	39.0	22.5	12.7	* 5.2	* 10.3	* 1.4	* 1.2	* 1.9	94.3	95.3	92.1
May	37.2	19.5	* 13.8	3.9	6.1	* 1.0	* 0.7	* 1.7	83.9	89.7	93.5
August	39.5	34.7	10.1	4.8	8.7	* 2.2	* 1.3	* 1.4	102.8	94.3	93.6
November	36.5	30.2	* 10.3	4.6	6.7	* 1.5	* 0.5	* 1.9	92.2	93.7	90.0
2001											
February	28.0	25.7	* 9.0	5.6	8.2	* 1.8	* 0.9	* 1.8	81.0	82.0	83.3
May	24.1	20.6	* 11.9	4.6	5.0	0.8	* 0.7	0.8	68.6	73.1	75.3
	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)										
2000											
February	19.9	-16.9	11.7	-9.2	50.6	-24.5	31.4	37.6	7.4	6.9	1.5
May	-4.7	-13.5	8.2	-24.3	-40.7	-31.7	-38.1	-12.5	-11.0	-5.9	1.5
August	6.2	78.1	-26.4	23.8	42.2	119.8	81.8	-16.6	22.5	5.2	0.2
November	-7.6	-13.0	1.9	-4.6	-23.7	-29.9	-60.7	36.1	-10.3	-0.6	-3.9
2001											
February	-23.2	-14.9	-13.0	22.2	23.8	18.6	61.9	-7.0	-12.1	-12.5	-7.4
May	-14.0	-19.9	32.5	-18.1	-39.3	-52.9	-13.9	-56.9	-15.4	-10.8	-9.7
	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)										
1999											
May	51.1	-19.3	-50.6	31.1	-45.8	284.4	-33.7	27.1	-7.7	-8.1	-5.3
2000											
May	10.3	-0.7	53.5	2.2	-11.6	-46.0	-26.2	85.5	9.2	8.8	15.8
2001											
May	-35.2	5.6	-13.6	18.2	-18.5	-13.9	-0.4	-54.5	-18.3	-18.5	-19.5

JOB VACANCIES, Public Sector—States & Territories

Reference date	ORIGINAL.....									SEASONALLY	TREND
	New South Wales	Victoria	Queens-land	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia	Australia	Australia
('000)											
2000											
February	* 7.4	4.4	2.0	0.5	1.2	0.2	0.7	1.9	18.4	17.6	15.6
May	4.7	6.7	2.0	* 1.1	1.7	0.3	0.4	1.3	18.2	19.5	15.7
August	4.5	4.1	2.0	0.5	1.8	0.3	0.5	1.6	15.4	15.0	15.6
November	4.0	5.0	2.0	0.8	1.9	0.3	0.8	1.6	16.3	16.3	15.3
2001											
February	3.9	3.7	2.2	0.7	1.6	0.3	0.8	1.3	14.5	13.9	15.1
May	4.3	3.2	2.0	0.8	1.3	* 0.6	0.8	1.8	14.8	15.9	15.2
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)											
2000											
February	69.2	15.7	0.6	-22.8	-17.9	-24.2	113.5	-20.2	19.6	14.9	2.0
May	-37.1	51.5	-2.8	116.8	42.2	24.2	-31.8	-32.2	-1.2	10.8	0.7
August	-4.3	-38.6	3.5	-54.3	6.3	6.3	22.8	21.3	-15.3	-22.9	-1.1
November	-10.7	22.2	-3.3	59.2	5.0	12.3	39.2	-2.5	6.2	8.4	-1.8
2001											
February	-1.0	-25.7	11.4	-12.7	-19.0	-14.0	0.4	-15.0	-11.3	-14.8	-0.9
May	10.2	-14.8	-10.2	25.0	-13.8	96.4	3.3	33.1	2.3	14.8	0.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)											
1999											
May	12.4	66.0	31.5	26.7	27.1	-5.8	-36.5	85.3	30.5	31.1	33.2
2000											
May	24.6	167.7	3.1	100.9	23.0	58.0	73.7	-13.8	50.7	50.9	18.7
2001											
May	-6.8	-52.5	0.1	-20.5	-22.2	101.6	77.4	33.7	-18.4	-18.3	-3.1

JOB VACANCIES, Industry—Australia: **Original**

Industry	2000.....				2001.....	
	February	May	August	November	February	May
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Mining	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.2
Manufacturing	* 16.4	* 12.2	13.1	9.3	8.8	* 8.4
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Construction	* 3.2	* 4.4	* 5.0	* 3.2	* 3.8	* 3.4
Wholesale trade	8.3	5.2	* 5.1	* 9.6	* 6.7	* 5.9
Retail trade	17.6	8.3	* 21.2	17.0	* 14.2	7.9
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	5.7	* 8.5	6.0	12.4	* 4.3	6.1
Transport and storage	2.2	2.9	* 3.7	* 1.9	* 3.0	1.5
Communication services	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.3	2.1	0.6
Finance and insurance	6.3	5.2	6.3	5.7	5.6	4.9
Property and business services	14.6	* 20.0	28.4	* 16.6	* 12.5	15.3
Government administration and defence	5.1	4.9	5.4	5.8	4.9	5.9
Education	5.6	6.7	4.7	4.3	4.3	3.6
Health and community services	14.0	9.7	10.6	12.6	13.7	11.0
Cultural and recreational services	* 5.7	2.9	3.1	2.9	3.3	2.9
Personal and other services	* 5.2	* 8.4	* 3.1	* 4.8	* 7.1	* 4.5
All industries	112.7	102.1	118.2	108.6	95.5	83.4

JOB VACANCY RATES, States & Territories: **Original**

Reference date	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
PER CENT									
2000									
February	1.82	1.33	1.15	1.12	* 1.66	* 1.04	2.46	2.69	1.51
May	1.67	1.28	* 1.22	0.95	1.08	0.77	1.51	2.02	1.36
August	1.84	1.86	0.93	1.01	1.47	* 1.49	2.21	1.95	1.59
November	1.68	1.69	0.95	1.00	1.19	1.10	1.60	2.24	1.46
2001									
February	1.36	1.41	0.84	1.22	1.43	1.23	2.11	2.06	1.30
May	1.16	1.11	1.03	0.99	0.89	0.89	1.79	1.64	1.10
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
2000									
February	28.7	-10.9	12.6	-9.7	37.3	-21.7	48.7	3.3	11.4
May	-8.0	-4.1	6.3	-15.4	-35.0	-25.6	-38.7	-24.9	-10.0
August	10.0	45.4	-24.1	6.8	36.2	93.4	46.1	-3.3	16.5
November	-8.4	-9.0	2.1	-1.4	-19.1	-26.1	-27.2	14.4	-8.2
2001									
February	-19.3	-16.6	-11.0	22.0	20.0	11.7	31.6	-8.0	-11.1
May	-14.3	-21.1	21.9	-18.6	-37.6	-27.6	-15.4	-20.3	-15.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
1999									
May	29.7	-12.3	-40.4	40.7	-39.3	202.2	-35.5	45.9	-5.4
2000									
May	21.4	21.2	40.9	15.3	-6.0	-43.7	-0.6	22.8	18.2
2001									
May	-30.3	-13.0	-15.9	4.6	-17.5	15.5	18.4	-18.9	-19.5

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains estimates of job vacancies for May 2001 based on information obtained from a sample survey of employers.

SCOPE & COVERAGE

2 All vacancies (as defined in the Glossary) for wage and salary earners are represented in the Job Vacancies Survey (JVS), except those:

- in the Australian permanent defence forces;
- in businesses primarily engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing;
- in private households employing staff;
- in overseas embassies, consulates, etc.; and
- located outside Australia.

3 All wage and salary earners who received pay for the reference period are represented in the JVS, except:

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

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

- directors who are not paid a salary;
- proprietors/partners of unincorporated businesses;
- self-employed persons such as subcontractors, owner-drivers, consultants; and
- persons paid solely by commission without a retainer.

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

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

The estimates include an allowance for the time it takes newly registered businesses to get on to the survey population.

6 Businesses which have ceased employing are identified when the ATO cancels their PAYGW registration (or previously their GE registration). In addition, from May 1999, businesses which did not remit under the GE scheme for the previous five quarters were removed from the frame. A similar process will be adopted to remove businesses which do not remit under the PAYGW scheme.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

CHANGES TO ABS BUSINESS REGISTER

7 The introduction of The New Tax System has a number of significant implications for ABS business statistics. These are discussed in the information paper *ABS Statistics And The New Tax System* (ABS Cat. No. 1358.0). The replacement of the GE registration process by PAYGW registration resulted in a number of changes to the populations for most business surveys. However, these changes did not affect estimates of level and movement in the Job Vacancies series.

SURVEY DESIGN

8 A sample of approximately 4,500 employers is selected from the ABS Business Register to ensure adequate State and industry representation. The sample is updated each quarter to reflect changes in the ABS register of businesses. These changes arise from the emergence of new businesses, takeovers and mergers, changes to industry classification, changes in the number of employees, and businesses which have ceased operations. Such updating of the register can contribute to changes in the estimates of job vacancies.

9 The statistical unit for the survey comprises all activities of an employer in a particular State or Territory. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the business in the State or Territory. The statistical units are stratified by State, industry and size of employment and an equal probability sample is selected from each stratum.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

10 Coincident with the dropping of the overtime component from the collection, a number of improvements to survey operations commenced during August 1999 and were completed in November 1999. These included:

- revised collection forms, with improved question design;
- improved collection procedures to ensure consistent and accurate reporting by businesses;
- review of business contacts to ensure that the most appropriate person reports job vacancies data; and
- intensive checking to ensure 'whole of business' vacancies are reported.

11 Analysis of subsequent reported data showed that these initiatives resulted in an increase in job vacancy estimates for the private sector. There was negligible impact on the public sector estimates from these initiatives.

12 As an aid to users, previously published estimates of the job vacancies series have been adjusted to provide a comparable and compatible time series. Based on an analysis of estimates from the August 1999 and November 1999 surveys, an adjustment factor of 1.3 was applied to the State and industry level estimates of the private sector component of the series up to August 1999. This method links historical estimates of job vacancies for periods before the introduction of the quality improvements by preserving the previously published quarterly percentage movement estimates at industry, State/Territory, and Australia level. Accordingly, only level estimates of job vacancies have changed.

13 This adjustment factor accounts for the impact of the quality initiatives and the change in estimation methodology outlined above. The original (reported) public sector component was then added to the adjusted private sector estimates to produce revised estimates of total vacancies at industry, State/Territory, and Australia levels.

HISTORICAL SERIES

14 Job vacancies series in this publication were introduced with the November 1983 issue of the Job Vacancies and Overtime survey publication. Estimates contained in this publication are not strictly comparable with those obtained prior to November 1983.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

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

16 The series have been seasonally adjusted from February 1984 and the historical series can be made available on request. The seasonal factors are reviewed annually to take account of each additional year's original data. The most recent review, using original estimates to August 2000, took place in time for inclusion in the November 2000 estimates.

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

TREND ESTIMATES

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

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

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

21 For more information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series—Monitoring 'Trends': an Overview* (Cat. no. 1348.0); or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on 02 6252 6345 or at timeseries@abs.gov.au.

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

- Picking Turning Points in the Economy (April 1991)
- Smarter Data Use (March 1992).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

23 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from ABS Bookshops:

- *Labour Force, Australia* (Cat. no. 6203.0)—issued monthly
- *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia* (Cat. no. 6302.0)—issued quarterly
- *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia 1941–1990* (Cat. no. 6350.0)—issued February 1992
- *Wage Cost Index, Australia* (Cat. no. 6345.0)—issued quarterly
- *Wage and Salary Earners, Australia* (Cat. no. 6248.0)—issued quarterly
- *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, Preliminary* (Cat. no. 6305.0)—issued biennially.
- *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia* (Cat. no. 6306.0)—issued biennially.

24 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office or from the ABS website www.abs.gov.au.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

25 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. For contact information, please refer to the Inquiries box on the front page of this publication.

ROUNDING

26 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals. Percentage changes in the Key Figures, Key Points and publication tables are based on unrounded numbers and consequently could differ from percentage changes that are calculated from the published rounded statistics.

TECHNICAL NOTES

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

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

2 The sampling error associated with any estimate can be estimated from the sample results. One measure of sampling error is given by the *standard error* which indicates the degree to which an estimate may vary from the value which would have been obtained from a full enumeration (the 'true value'). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate differs from the true value by less than one standard error, and about 19 chances in 20 that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

3 An example of the use of a standard error on levels is as follows. If the estimated number of job vacancies was 25,000 with a standard error of 2,500, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given an estimate in the range 22,500 to 27,500 and about 19 chances in 20 that it would be in the range 20,000 to 30,000.

4 An example of the use of a standard error for a quarterly change estimate is as follows. If the estimated standard error for a quarterly change estimate of job vacancies was 1,000 and the quarterly change estimate between two quarters was 4,500, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given a quarterly change estimate in the range +3,500 to +5,500 and about 19 chances in 20 that it would be in the range +2,500 to +6,500.

5 Quarterly movements in estimates of job vacancies are considered to be statistically significant where they exceed two standard errors.

6 Another measure of the sampling error is the relative standard error, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate. Level estimates with a relative standard error of 25% or more, denoted with an asterisk in this publication, are subject to sampling variability generally considered to be too high for most practical purposes.

A

STANDARD ERRORS, Job Vacancies—States & Territories

LEVEL.....	QUARTERLY MOVEMENT.....							
	JOB VACANCIES.....				JOB VACANCY RATES			
	Total	Private	Public	Total	Total	Private	Public	Total
States & Territories	'000	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	'000	%
New South Wales	3.3	3.3	0.4	0.13	4.6	4.6	0.3	0.19
Victoria	3.3	3.3	0.2	0.14	4.0	4.0	0.3	0.19
Queensland	3.0	3.0	0.2	0.22	3.2	3.2	0.2	0.23
South Australia	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.17	1.0	1.0	0.1	0.18
Western Australia	1.0	1.0	0.3	0.15	1.7	1.7	0.2	0.25
Tasmania	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.14	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.33
Northern Territory	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.42	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.33
Australian Capital Territory	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.11	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.30
Australia	5.7	5.7	0.6	0.07	7.2	7.2	0.5	0.10

B

STANDARD ERRORS, Job Vacancies—Industry

Industry	2000.....				2001.....	
	February	May	August	November	February	May
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2
Manufacturing	4.3	4.4	2.9	2.0	2.1	2.3
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	1.3	1.9	2.4	1.7	1.6	1.3
Wholesale trade	1.9	1.3	1.6	2.9	2.3	2.2
Retail trade	3.6	1.8	5.7	3.6	3.6	1.4
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	1.2	2.1	1.2	2.2	1.2	1.5
Transport and storage	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.3
Communication services	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0
Finance and insurance	1.5	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.8
Property and business services	2.5	5.4	6.4	4.3	3.3	3.4
Government administration and defence	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Education	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4
Health and community services	2.4	1.2	1.2	2.0	2.0	1.2
Cultural and recreational services	3.4	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5
Personal and other services	1.6	2.5	0.9	2.2	2.1	1.6
All industries	8.2	8.4	9.8	7.9	6.9	5.7

GLOSSARY

Industry	Industry is classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification. For more details refer to the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 1993 (ANZSIC)</i> (Cat. no. 1292.0).
Job vacancy	<p>A job vacancy is a job available for immediate filling on the survey reference date and for which recruitment action had been taken. Recruitment action includes efforts to fill vacancies by advertising, by factory notices, by notifying public or private employment agencies or trade unions and by contacting, interviewing or selecting applicants already registered with the enterprise or organisation. Excluded are vacancies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ for jobs which became vacant on the survey date and were filled that same day;▪ for jobs of less than one day's duration;▪ to be filled by persons already hired, or by promotion or transfer of existing employees;▪ to be filled by employees returning from paid or unpaid leave or after industrial dispute(s);▪ not available for immediate filling on the survey reference date;▪ not available within the particular State or Territory to which the return relates;▪ for work to be carried out by contractors;▪ for which no recruitment action has been taken;▪ where a person has been appointed but has not yet commenced duty;▪ to be filled by staff from contract labour agencies; and▪ for jobs available only to persons already employed by the enterprise or organisation.
Job vacancy rate	The job vacancy rate is calculated by expressing the number of job vacancies as a percentage of the number of employees plus vacancies.
Number of employees	All wage and salary earners who received pay for any part of the relevant pay period. The relevant pay period is the last pay period ending on or before the survey reference date. All permanent, temporary, casual, managerial and executive employees are included. Part-time and casual employees who may have received pay for only a few hours during the reference period are included. Employees on paid leave and those employees on workers' compensation who continue to be paid through the employer's payroll are also included. Casual employees who work on an irregular basis and who were not paid during the relevant pay period, employees on leave without pay, on strike or stood down without pay for the whole of the pay period are excluded.
Reference date	Reference date for the survey is the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. The reference date for the current survey is 18 May 2001.
Sector	Public sector includes all local government authorities and government departments, agencies and authorities created by, or reporting to the Commonwealth Parliament and State/Territory Parliaments. All remaining employees are classified as private sector.

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