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THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA, JANUARY 1983 (PRELIMINARY)

(includes unemployment statistics previously shown in *Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary Estimates*, Cat. No. 6201.0)

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PART 1. LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication is generally released in the third week following completion of interviews in the monthly population survey (see paragraph 2). Part 1 contains preliminary estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the labour force survey part of the monthly population survey. Revised and more detailed estimates will be published in "The Labour Force, Australia" (6203.0)

The population survey

2. The population survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the survey week).

Scope

3. The labour force survey includes all persons aged 15 and over except: members of the permanent defence forces; certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations; overseas residents in Australia; and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

MAIN FEATURES

Note: This publication includes preliminary estimates of unemployed persons as well as preliminary estimates of employed persons and persons not in the labour force. The publication "Unemployment, Australia, Preliminary Estimates" (6201.0) which in previous months contained the first release of unemployment estimates has been discontinued.

In January 1983 there were an estimated 6,855,900 persons in the labour force, of whom 6,164,400 were employed and 691,500 unemployed. There were an estimated 4,581,400 persons aged 15 and over who were not in the labour force. The unemployment rate was 10.1 per cent and the labour force participation rate was 59.9 per cent.

Between December and January, employment decreased 192,500, unemployment increased 17,500 and persons not in the labour force increased 197,400. The unemployment rate rose 0.5 percentage points and the participation rate fell 1.7 percentage points.

In seasonally adjusted terms, employed persons decreased 30,200 (males 18,200) between December 1982 and January 1983, while the number of unemployed persons showed little change. The participation rate fell 0.2 percentage points to 60.5 per cent.

Definitions

4. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his actual activity (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The following definitions, which conform closely to the international standard definitions specified by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), relate only to those persons within the scope of the survey.

5. Employed persons comprise all those aged 15 and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helpers); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

6. Unemployed persons are those aged 15 and over who were not employed during the survey week, and:

- (a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and:
 - (i) were available for work in the survey week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or
 - (ii) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the survey week and would have started in the survey week if the job had been available then;

or (b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week (including the whole of the survey week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

7. Unemployed persons looking for first job are those who had never worked full time for two weeks or more.

8. The unemployment rate for any group is the number unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

9. The labour force comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed, as defined above.

10. The labour force participation rate for any group is the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

11. Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 hours or more a week and others who, although usually part-time workers, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. Part-time workers are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.

12. Persons not in the labour force are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories "employed" or "unemployed".

Earlier estimates

13. Estimates back to August 1966 on a basis comparable with those in this publication are published in "The Labour Force, Australia" (6204.0) beginning with the 1978 issue.

Comparability of series

14. Labour force surveys for February 1978 and subsequent months have been conducted during a two-week period, whereas formerly the period was four weeks. The change of timing may affect the level of the figures for any month, but particularly for months during which the labour force status of the population may be changing rapidly.

Reliability of the estimates

15. Since the survey estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they, and the movements derived from them, are subject to sampling variability; that is,

they may differ by chance from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

16. Because of the introduction of the new sample of dwellings in October 1982, there was not the usually high proportion of dwellings common to each of two consecutive surveys and the standard errors of movements between September and October are therefore higher than normal. For details see the October 1982 issue of this publication.

17. Standard errors of estimates for the latest month and of estimates of movements since the previous month are shown in the tables. Standard errors of other estimates and other movements may be determined by using information in the Technical note in "The Labour Force, Australia" (6203.0).

18. Very small estimates have not been included because they are subject to high relative standard errors. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

19. Examples of the calculation and use of standard errors are given below:

(a) The estimate of 409,400 unemployed males looking for full-time work in January 1983 has a standard error of about 6,700. Therefore there are about two chances in three that the number that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will be within the range 402,700 to 416,100 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the number will be within the range 396,000 to 422,800.

(b) The estimate of movement in the number of unemployed males looking for full-time work from December 1982 to January 1983 is an increase of 31,000. The standard error of this monthly movement is about 5,300. Therefore there are about two chances in three that if all dwellings had been included in the surveys the movement would have been within the range 25,700 to 36,300 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would have been within the range 20,400 to 41,600.

Seasonal adjustment

20. Seasonally adjusted series are published in Tables 2 and 5. More information about the method of adjustment and seasonally adjusted figures for all months since February 1978 are contained in an appendix to "The Labour Force, Australia, February 1982" (6203.0).

21. The seasonal adjustment factors have been calculated on the basis of four years of monthly data. This is a relatively short series of data on which to base the calculation of seasonal factors, particularly when the pattern of movement is varying from year to year. This effect is particularly marked in the unemployment figures. As happens with all seasonally adjusted series, the seasonal factors will be reviewed annually. Each additional year's figures will cause the factors to be revised; it follows that the seasonally adjusted figures in this publication are certain to be revised. When interpreting trends based on seasonally adjusted series, it should always be borne in mind that seasonally adjusted figures by their nature will be revised when later information is used in calculating the seasonal factors.

Related publications

22. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)
 -issued monthly
 The Labour Force, Australia, 1980
 (6204.0)
 Job Vacancies, Australia (6231.0)
 -issued quarterly
 Overtime, Australia (6330.0) -issued
 quarterly

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

Symbols and other usages

* subject to sampling variability
 too high for most practical
 uses (see paragraph 18)
 n.a. not available
 .. not applicable
 r revised since previous issue

24. Figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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 Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER

| Month | Employed | | Unemployed | | Looking for part-time work | Labour force | Not in labour force | Civilian population aged 15 and over | Unemployment rate | Participation rate |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Full-time workers | Total | Aged 15-19 looking for first job | Total | | | | | | |
| - '000 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| - per cent - | | | | | | | | | | |
| MALES | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 3,896.6 | 4,101.7 | 36.6 | 206.1 | 26.5 | 232.6 | 4,334.4 | 1,181.9 | 5,516.3 | 5.4 78.6 |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 3,863.5 | 4,061.0 | 33.9 | 221.0 | 17.6 | 238.6 | 4,299.6 | 1,225.6 | 5,525.2 | 5.5 77.8 |
| February | 3,885.6 | 4,083.0 | 30.7 | 236.3 | 15.5 | 251.7 | 4,334.7 | 1,200.7 | 5,535.4 | 5.8 78.3 |
| March | 3,880.4 | 4,091.8 | 23.2 | 216.1 | 22.0 | 238.1 | 4,329.9 | 1,215.6 | 5,545.4 | 5.5 78.1 |
| April | 3,826.5 | 4,062.7 | 15.9 | 210.2 | 16.9 | 227.2 | 4,289.9 | 1,265.2 | 5,555.0 | 5.3 77.2 |
| May | 3,836.5 | 4,066.9 | 18.5 | 219.8 | 20.0 | 239.8 | 4,306.8 | 1,256.7 | 5,563.4 | 5.6 77.4 |
| June | 3,821.6 | 4,054.6 | 14.8 | 215.8 | 23.7 | 239.5 | 4,294.1 | 1,278.8 | 5,572.9 | 5.6 77.1 |
| July | 3,829.2 | 4,054.4 | 16.0 | 233.1 | 20.2 | 253.3 | 4,307.8 | 1,276.5 | 5,584.3 | 5.9 77.1 |
| August | 3,775.5 | 4,016.4 | 17.3 | 249.9 | 21.2 | 271.0 | 4,287.5 | 1,308.0 | 5,595.5 | 6.3 76.6 |
| September | 3,822.6 | 4,059.2 | 20.7 | 271.6 | 22.2 | 293.7 | 4,352.9 | 1,253.6 | 5,606.5 | 6.7 77.6 |
| October | 3,792.5 | 4,047.3 | 19.1 | 286.6 | 20.6 | 307.3 | 4,354.6 | 1,263.7 | 5,618.2 | 7.1 77.5 |
| November | 3,754.2 | 4,004.3 | 20.7 | 313.5 | 13.4 | 326.9 | 4,331.2 | 1,297.3 | 5,628.5 | 7.5 77.0 |
| December | 3,766.6 | 4,007.7 | 46.5 | 378.4 | 26.3 | 404.7 | 4,412.4 | 1,227.0 | 5,639.4 | 9.2 78.2 |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 3,706.1 | 3,929.6 | 51.4 | 409.4 | 22.3 | 431.8 | 4,361.3 | 1,290.0 | 5,651.3 | 9.9 77.2 |
| Standard error of - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 1983 | | | | | | | | | | |
| estimates | 13.6 | 13.8 | 3.0 | 6.7 | 2.1 | 6.8 | 14.3 | 9.8 | .. | 0.2 0.3 |
| Dec 82 to Jan 83 | | | | | | | | | | |
| movements | 9.6 | 9.7 | 2.8 | 5.3 | 2.2 | 5.4 | 10.0 | 7.3 | .. | 0.1 0.2 |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 1,562.9 | 2,370.9 | 38.1 | 152.6 | 48.1 | 200.7 | 2,571.6 | 3,080.9 | 5,652.5 | 7.8 45.5 |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1,535.9 | 2,260.3 | 39.0 | 156.0 | 45.1 | 201.0 | 2,461.4 | 3,200.5 | 5,661.9 | 8.2 43.5 |
| February | 1,524.5 | 2,314.5 | 35.2 | 170.3 | 62.4 | 232.7 | 2,547.2 | 3,123.5 | 5,670.7 | 9.1 44.9 |
| March | 1,524.2 | 2,369.3 | 28.8 | 158.2 | 63.4 | 221.6 | 2,590.9 | 3,089.4 | 5,680.3 | 8.6 45.6 |
| April | 1,519.0 | 2,333.5 | 25.6 | 153.1 | 55.9 | 209.0 | 2,542.5 | 3,148.2 | 5,690.8 | 8.2 44.7 |
| May | 1,520.3 | 2,337.9 | 23.4 | 152.8 | 57.2 | 210.0 | 2,547.9 | 3,152.0 | 5,699.9 | 8.2 44.7 |
| June | 1,509.4 | 2,324.1 | 22.1 | 150.8 | 57.5 | 208.3 | 2,532.4 | 3,177.1 | 5,709.5 | 8.2 44.4 |
| July | 1,507.3 | 2,337.5 | 19.0 | 142.9 | 54.0 | 196.9 | 2,534.4 | 3,186.4 | 5,720.8 | 7.8 44.3 |
| August | 1,487.8 | 2,331.1 | 17.7 | 135.6 | 51.9 | 187.5 | 2,518.6 | 3,213.3 | 5,731.9 | 7.4 43.9 |
| September | 1,514.3 | 2,355.0 | 16.4 | 149.1 | 63.1 | 212.1 | 2,567.1 | 3,175.7 | 5,742.9 | 8.3 44.7 |
| October | 1,490.5 | 2,352.8 | 18.7 | 158.4 | 71.2 | 229.6 | 2,582.4 | 3,171.8 | 5,754.2 | 8.9 44.9 |
| November | 1,491.4 | 2,346.3 | 21.4 | 170.4 | 54.7 | 225.1 | 2,571.4 | 3,193.4 | 5,764.8 | 8.8 44.6 |
| December | 1,492.0 | 2,349.1 | 47.6 | 206.8 | 62.4 | 269.2 | 2,618.4 | 3,157.0 | 5,775.4 | 10.3 45.3 |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1,475.8 | 2,234.8 | 48.4 | 216.0 | 43.7 | 259.8 | 2,494.6 | 3,291.4 | 5,786.0 | 10.4 43.1 |
| Standard error of - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 1983 | | | | | | | | | | |
| estimates | 10.3 | 11.7 | 2.9 | 5.3 | 2.8 | 5.7 | 12.1 | 13.1 | .. | 0.2 0.2 |
| Dec 82 to Jan 83 | | | | | | | | | | |
| movements | 7.6 | 8.6 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 2.9 | 4.7 | 8.8 | 9.3 | .. | 0.2 0.2 |
| PERSONS | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 5,459.5 | 6,472.6 | 74.8 | 358.7 | 74.6 | 433.3 | 6,905.9 | 4,262.8 | 11,168.7 | 6.3 61.8 |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 5,399.4 | 6,321.3 | 72.8 | 377.0 | 62.6 | 439.6 | 6,761.0 | 4,426.1 | 11,187.1 | 6.5 60.4 |
| February | 5,410.1 | 6,397.5 | 65.9 | 406.6 | 77.8 | 484.4 | 6,881.9 | 4,324.1 | 11,206.0 | 7.0 61.4 |
| March | 5,404.6 | 6,461.1 | 52.0 | 374.3 | 85.4 | 459.7 | 6,920.8 | 4,305.0 | 11,225.8 | 6.6 61.7 |
| April | 5,345.4 | 6,396.2 | 41.6 | 363.3 | 72.8 | 436.2 | 6,832.4 | 4,413.4 | 11,245.8 | 6.4 60.8 |
| May | 5,356.8 | 6,404.8 | 41.9 | 372.6 | 77.3 | 449.9 | 6,854.7 | 4,408.7 | 11,263.3 | 6.6 60.9 |
| June | 5,331.0 | 6,378.7 | 37.0 | 366.6 | 81.2 | 447.8 | 6,826.5 | 4,455.9 | 11,282.4 | 6.6 60.5 |
| July | 5,336.5 | 6,391.9 | 35.0 | 376.1 | 74.2 | 450.3 | 6,842.2 | 4,463.0 | 11,305.2 | 6.6 60.5 |
| August | 5,263.3 | 6,347.6 | 34.9 | 385.4 | 73.1 | 458.5 | 6,806.0 | 4,521.3 | 11,327.4 | 6.7 60.1 |
| September | 5,336.8 | 6,414.2 | 37.1 | 420.6 | 85.2 | 505.9 | 6,920.0 | 4,429.3 | 11,349.3 | 7.3 61.0 |
| October | 5,283.0 | 6,400.1 | 37.8 | 445.1 | 91.8 | 536.8 | 6,937.0 | 4,435.5 | 11,372.5 | 7.7 61.0 |
| November | 5,245.5 | 6,350.6 | 42.1 | 483.9 | 68.1 | 552.0 | 6,902.6 | 4,490.7 | 11,393.3 | 8.0 60.6 |
| December | 5,258.6 | 6,356.9 | 94.1 | 585.2 | 88.8 | 674.0 | 7,030.8 | 4,384.0 | 11,414.8 | 9.6 61.6 |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 5,181.9 | 6,164.4 | 99.8 | 625.5 | 66.1 | 691.5 | 6,855.9 | 4,581.4 | 11,437.3 | 10.1 59.9 |
| Standard error of - | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 1983 | | | | | | | | | | |
| estimates | 15.0 | 15.7 | 3.9 | 7.7 | 3.3 | 8.0 | 16.2 | 14.5 | .. | 0.1 0.1 |
| Dec 82 to Jan 83 | | | | | | | | | | |
| movements | 10.4 | 10.8 | 3.4 | 6.0 | 3.3 | 6.2 | 11.1 | 10.0 | .. | 0.1 0.1 |

TABLE 4. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, AUSTRALIA

| Month | Number looking for full-time work | | | | Number looking for part-time work | Total | Unemployment rate | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|
| | Aged 15-19 | | Aged 20 and over | | | | Looking for full-time work | | | Looking for part-time work | |
| | Looking for first job | Total | | Total | | | Aged 15-19 | Aged 20 and over | Total | | Total |
| | | | - '000 - | | | | - per cent - | | | | |
| MALES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 36.6 | 68.7 | 137.4 | 206.1 | 26.5 | 232.6 | 17.9 | 3.7 | 5.0 | 11.4 | 5.4 |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 33.9 | 71.5 | 149.6 | 221.0 | 17.6 | 238.6 | 18.5 | 4.0 | 5.4 | 8.2 | 5.5 |
| February | 30.7 | 67.2 | 169.0 | 236.3 | 15.5 | 251.7 | 17.4 | 4.5 | 5.7 | 7.3 | 5.8 |
| March | 23.2 | 52.7 | 163.4 | 216.1 | 22.0 | 238.1 | 14.6 | 4.4 | 5.3 | 9.4 | 5.5 |
| April | 15.9 | 49.2 | 161.0 | 210.2 | 16.9 | 227.2 | 14.2 | 4.4 | 5.2 | 6.7 | 5.3 |
| May | 18.5 | 54.0 | 165.8 | 219.8 | 20.0 | 239.8 | 15.6 | 4.5 | 5.4 | 8.0 | 5.6 |
| June | 14.8 | 51.4 | 164.5 | 215.8 | 23.7 | 239.5 | 15.5 | 4.4 | 5.3 | 9.2 | 5.6 |
| July | 16.0 | 52.5 | 180.6 | 233.1 | 20.2 | 253.3 | 15.6 | 4.8 | 5.7 | 8.2 | 5.9 |
| August | 17.3 | 54.4 | 195.4 | 249.9 | 21.2 | 271.0 | 16.8 | 5.3 | 6.2 | 8.1 | 6.3 |
| September | 20.7 | 58.8 | 212.8 | 271.6 | 22.2 | 293.7 | 17.6 | 5.7 | 6.6 | 8.6 | 6.7 |
| October | 19.1 | 58.1 | 228.5 | 286.6 | 20.6 | 307.3 | 18.1 | 6.1 | 7.0 | 7.5 | 7.1 |
| November | 20.7 | 63.9 | 249.6 | 313.5 | 13.4 | 326.9 | 20.2 | 6.7 | 7.7 | 5.1 | 7.5 |
| December | 46.5 | 95.7 | 282.7 | 378.4 | 26.3 | 404.7 | 26.1 | 7.5 | 9.1 | 9.8 | 9.2 |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 51.4 | 103.3 | 306.2 | 409.4 | 22.3 | 431.8 | 28.4 | 8.2 | 9.9 | 9.1 | 9.9 |
| Standard error of - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 1983 estimates | 3.0 | 4.0 | 6.0 | 6.7 | 2.1 | 6.8 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.2 |
| Dec 82 to Jan 83 movements | 2.8 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 5.3 | 2.2 | 5.4 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.1 |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 38.1 | 68.8 | 83.8 | 152.6 | 48.1 | 200.7 | 23.2 | 5.9 | 8.9 | 5.6 | 7.8 |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 39.0 | 74.3 | 81.7 | 156.0 | 45.1 | 201.0 | 24.9 | 5.9 | 9.2 | 5.9 | 8.2 |
| February | 35.2 | 68.8 | 101.5 | 170.3 | 62.4 | 232.7 | 24.0 | 7.2 | 10.0 | 7.3 | 9.1 |
| March | 28.8 | 58.8 | 99.4 | 158.2 | 63.4 | 221.6 | 21.3 | 7.1 | 9.4 | 7.0 | 8.6 |
| April | 25.6 | 57.7 | 95.4 | 153.1 | 55.9 | 209.0 | 21.6 | 6.8 | 9.2 | 6.4 | 8.2 |
| May | 23.4 | 58.2 | 94.6 | 152.8 | 57.2 | 210.0 | 21.5 | 6.7 | 9.1 | 6.5 | 8.2 |
| June | 22.1 | 55.4 | 95.3 | 150.8 | 57.5 | 208.3 | 21.2 | 6.8 | 9.0 | 6.6 | 8.2 |
| July | 19.0 | 53.6 | 89.4 | 142.9 | 54.0 | 196.9 | 20.8 | 6.4 | 8.7 | 6.1 | 7.8 |
| August | 17.7 | 49.2 | 86.4 | 135.6 | 51.9 | 187.5 | 19.8 | 6.3 | 8.4 | 5.8 | 7.4 |
| September | 16.4 | 50.2 | 98.8 | 149.1 | 63.1 | 212.1 | 20.4 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 7.0 | 8.3 |
| October | 18.7 | 52.9 | 105.6 | 158.4 | 71.2 | 229.6 | 21.4 | 7.5 | 9.6 | 7.6 | 8.9 |
| November | 21.4 | 57.8 | 112.6 | 170.4 | 54.7 | 225.1 | 23.0 | 8.0 | 10.3 | 6.0 | 8.8 |
| December | 47.6 | 80.9 | 125.9 | 206.8 | 62.4 | 269.2 | 28.5 | 8.9 | 12.2 | 6.8 | 10.3 |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 48.4 | 84.7 | 131.3 | 216.0 | 43.7 | 259.8 | 29.8 | 9.3 | 12.8 | 5.4 | 10.4 |
| Standard error of - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 1983 estimates | 2.9 | 3.7 | 4.4 | 5.3 | 2.8 | 5.7 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Dec 82 to Jan 83 movements | 2.7 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 4.4 | 2.9 | 4.7 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| PERSONS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 74.8 | 137.5 | 221.2 | 358.7 | 74.6 | 433.3 | 20.2 | 4.3 | 6.2 | 6.9 | 6.3 |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 72.8 | 145.8 | 231.2 | 377.0 | 62.6 | 439.6 | 21.2 | 4.5 | 6.5 | 6.4 | 6.5 |
| February | 65.9 | 136.0 | 270.6 | 406.6 | 77.8 | 484.4 | 20.2 | 5.3 | 7.0 | 7.3 | 7.0 |
| March | 52.0 | 111.5 | 262.8 | 374.3 | 85.4 | 459.7 | 17.5 | 5.1 | 6.5 | 7.5 | 6.6 |
| April | 41.6 | 106.9 | 256.4 | 363.3 | 72.8 | 436.2 | 17.4 | 5.0 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 6.4 |
| May | 41.9 | 112.1 | 260.5 | 372.6 | 77.3 | 449.9 | 18.2 | 5.1 | 6.5 | 6.9 | 6.6 |
| June | 37.0 | 106.8 | 259.8 | 366.6 | 81.2 | 447.8 | 18.0 | 5.1 | 6.4 | 7.2 | 6.6 |
| July | 35.0 | 106.1 | 270.0 | 376.1 | 74.2 | 450.3 | 17.8 | 5.3 | 6.6 | 6.6 | 6.6 |
| August | 34.9 | 103.6 | 281.8 | 385.4 | 73.1 | 458.5 | 18.1 | 5.6 | 6.8 | 6.3 | 6.7 |
| September | 37.1 | 109.0 | 311.6 | 420.6 | 85.2 | 505.9 | 18.8 | 6.0 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 7.3 |
| October | 37.8 | 111.0 | 334.0 | 445.1 | 91.8 | 536.8 | 19.5 | 6.5 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 7.7 |
| November | 42.1 | 121.7 | 362.2 | 483.9 | 68.1 | 552.0 | 21.4 | 7.0 | 8.4 | 5.8 | 8.0 |
| December | 94.1 | 176.7 | 408.5 | 585.2 | 88.8 | 674.0 | 27.1 | 7.9 | 10.0 | 7.5 | 9.6 |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 99.8 | 188.0 | 437.5 | 625.5 | 66.1 | 691.5 | 29.0 | 8.5 | 10.8 | 6.3 | 10.1 |
| Standard error of - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 1983 estimates | 3.9 | 5.0 | 6.8 | 7.7 | 3.3 | 8.0 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Dec 82 to Jan 83 movements | 3.4 | 4.2 | 5.4 | 6.0 | 3.3 | 6.2 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 |

TABLE 5. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

| Month | Number looking for full-time work | | | | Number looking for part-time work | Unemployment rate | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------|------|--|
| | Aged 15-19 | | Aged 20 and over | Total | | Looking for full-time work | | | Looking for part-time work | | | |
| | Looking for first job | Total | | | | Total | Aged 15-19 | Aged 20 and over | Total | Total | | |
| | - '000 - | | | | | - per cent - | | | | | | |
| MALES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 21.6 | 53.3 | 143.0 | 196.3 | 18.8 | 215.1 | 15.1 | 3.9 | 4.8 | 8.5 | 5.0 | |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 21.0 | 53.4 | 137.9 | 191.3 | 17.8 | 209.1 | 14.9 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 7.8 | 4.9 | |
| February | 23.2 | 58.0 | 156.5 | 214.5 | 14.9 | 229.4 | 16.0 | 4.2 | 5.3 | 6.6 | 5.3 | |
| March | 24.3 | 56.3 | 159.3 | 215.6 | 20.7 | 236.3 | 15.9 | 4.3 | 5.3 | 9.0 | 5.5 | |
| April | 19.0 | 52.8 | 161.9 | 214.7 | 17.3 | 232.0 | 15.2 | 4.4 | 5.3 | 6.9 | 5.4 | |
| May | 23.7 | 59.2 | 165.4 | 224.6 | 18.2 | 242.8 | 17.2 | 4.4 | 5.5 | 7.4 | 5.6 | |
| June | 20.5 | 57.7 | 164.1 | 221.8 | 27.0 | 248.8 | 17.1 | 4.4 | 5.5 | 10.5 | 5.8 | |
| July | 23.5 | 58.6 | 182.4 | 241.0 | 21.7 | 262.7 | 16.9 | 4.9 | 5.9 | 8.6 | 6.1 | |
| August | 22.9 | 59.8 | 196.4 | 256.2 | 23.8 | 280.0 | 17.6 | 5.3 | 6.3 | 9.2 | 6.5 | |
| September | 23.7 | 62.0 | 212.4 | 274.4 | 22.9 | 297.3 | 18.1 | 5.7 | 6.7 | 9.0 | 6.8 | |
| October | 21.3 | 63.0 | 244.1 | 307.1 | 21.8 | 328.9 | 18.4 | 6.5 | 7.5 | 8.1 | 7.5 | |
| November | 24.0 | 71.7 | 269.6 | 341.3 | 16.6 | 357.9 | 20.9 | 7.2 | 8.3 | 6.4 | 8.2 | |
| December | 27.4 | 76.0 | 294.2 | 370.2 | 18.7 | 388.9 | 22.5 | 7.8 | 9.0 | 7.3 | 9.0 | |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 31.9 | 76.6 | 282.1 | 358.7 | 22.5 | 381.2 | 22.8 | 7.5 | 8.8 | 8.7 | 8.8 | |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 26.2 | 55.6 | 85.9 | 141.5 | 50.2 | 191.7 | 20.3 | 6.1 | 8.4 | 5.9 | 7.5 | |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 25.1 | 59.9 | 81.5 | 141.4 | 55.4 | 196.8 | 22.1 | 5.8 | 8.4 | 6.3 | 7.7 | |
| February | 28.4 | 60.9 | 90.9 | 151.8 | 55.0 | 206.8 | 22.4 | 6.5 | 9.1 | 6.3 | 8.1 | |
| March | 27.7 | 57.0 | 93.1 | 150.1 | 55.6 | 205.7 | 21.1 | 6.7 | 9.0 | 6.3 | 8.1 | |
| April | 26.6 | 58.3 | 91.1 | 149.4 | 52.4 | 201.8 | 22.0 | 6.5 | 8.9 | 6.1 | 8.0 | |
| May | 24.8 | 60.6 | 92.5 | 153.1 | 56.8 | 209.9 | 22.2 | 6.6 | 9.1 | 6.5 | 8.2 | |
| June | 26.2 | 59.2 | 101.2 | 160.4 | 56.3 | 216.7 | 22.2 | 7.2 | 9.6 | 6.5 | 8.5 | |
| July | 24.0 | 57.8 | 91.6 | 149.4 | 58.1 | 207.5 | 21.7 | 6.6 | 9.0 | 6.7 | 8.2 | |
| August | 21.6 | 52.4 | 86.6 | 139.0 | 58.2 | 197.2 | 20.1 | 6.2 | 8.4 | 6.6 | 7.7 | |
| September | 19.9 | 54.0 | 98.2 | 152.2 | 61.8 | 214.0 | 21.1 | 7.0 | 9.2 | 7.0 | 8.4 | |
| October | 23.8 | 61.2 | 117.8 | 179.0 | 66.2 | 245.2 | 23.0 | 8.4 | 10.7 | 7.3 | 9.5 | |
| November | 28.9 | 67.5 | 118.6 | 186.1 | 58.1 | 244.2 | 25.4 | 8.4 | 11.0 | 6.6 | 9.5 | |
| December | 32.7 | 64.7 | 128.9 | 193.6 | 65.0 | 258.6 | 24.7 | 9.2 | 11.7 | 7.1 | 10.0 | |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 31.2 | 67.1 | 131.2 | 198.3 | 53.8 | 252.1 | 26.0 | 9.3 | 11.9 | 5.9 | 9.8 | |
| PERSONS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1981 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| December | 48.0 | 108.6 | 229.0 | 337.6 | 68.3 | 405.9 | 17.3 | 4.5 | 5.9 | 6.4 | 6.0 | |
| 1982 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 46.3 | 113.2 | 222.1 | 335.3 | 73.2 | 408.5 | 18.0 | 4.4 | 5.9 | 6.6 | 6.0 | |
| February | 51.2 | 118.3 | 247.3 | 365.6 | 73.0 | 438.6 | 18.7 | 4.8 | 6.4 | 6.6 | 6.4 | |
| March | 51.1 | 111.2 | 253.6 | 364.8 | 77.2 | 442.0 | 17.8 | 4.9 | 6.3 | 6.9 | 6.4 | |
| April | 45.3 | 112.7 | 252.8 | 365.5 | 70.1 | 435.6 | 18.5 | 5.0 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 6.4 | |
| May | 48.3 | 120.4 | 259.2 | 379.6 | 74.5 | 454.1 | 19.4 | 5.1 | 6.6 | 6.7 | 6.6 | |
| June | 47.0 | 118.4 | 259.6 | 378.0 | 82.5 | 460.5 | 19.6 | 5.1 | 6.6 | 7.4 | 6.7 | |
| July | 48.1 | 116.5 | 273.6 | 390.1 | 80.7 | 470.8 | 19.0 | 5.3 | 6.8 | 7.2 | 6.9 | |
| August | 44.1 | 110.5 | 281.7 | 392.2 | 82.2 | 474.4 | 18.3 | 5.5 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 6.9 | |
| September | 44.1 | 116.6 | 310.0 | 426.6 | 82.7 | 509.3 | 19.5 | 6.0 | 7.4 | 7.3 | 7.4 | |
| October | 45.4 | 124.4 | 362.2 | 486.6 | 87.4 | 574.0 | 20.5 | 7.0 | 8.4 | 7.4 | 8.2 | |
| November | 53.1 | 139.0 | 390.1 | 529.1 | 73.2 | 602.3 | 22.8 | 7.5 | 9.1 | 6.4 | 8.7 | |
| December | 60.4 | 140.2 | 422.9 | 563.1 | 81.2 | 644.3 | 23.4 | 8.2 | 9.8 | 6.9 | 9.3 | |
| 1983 - | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 63.6 | 144.5 | 420.1 | 564.6 | 77.3 | 641.8 | 24.4 | 8.1 | 9.8 | 6.6 | 9.3 | |

PART 2. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This part contains details of the numbers of employees of government bodies. More information will be published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). Figures for months prior to May 1980 were published in *Civilian Employees, Australia* (6213.0).

2. Government employees comprise not only administrative employees but also all other employees of government bodies (Commonwealth, State, local and semi-government) on services such as railways, road and air transport, banks, postal and telecommunications, etc. Generally, Commonwealth government employees are included in the figures if they are on the payroll on the last working day of the month, whereas for State and local government the reporting date is usually the last day of the last pay period ending in the month.

3. Data shown for defence forces include all permanent defence personnel in Australia and overseas. Other government employees based overseas are excluded, as are employees of foreign governments in Australia.

Comparability of labour force survey estimates and government employment figures

4. The government employment figures shown in Table 7 are not strictly comparable with the labour force survey estimates included in Part 1 of this publication and in other ABS publications. Persons in the survey are allocated to an appropriate labour force category according to their activity during the survey week. If they had more than one job in that week only the job in which they usually worked the greater number of hours is considered. The government employment figures are derived from payroll data, and although some returns are adjusted to exclude some part-time employees considered to have full-time jobs elsewhere, some persons will be included even though their government job is not their main one. Other reasons for difference are that the survey estimates are subject to sampling variability, and the reference periods of the two collections are different.

Inquiries

5. For information about these statistics contact Mr Terry Sharp on Canberra (062) 52 6655.

TABLE 7. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES-AUSTRALIA(a)
(Excluding Agriculture and services to agriculture)
(' 000)

| Month | Civilian employees | | | | | Defence forces(b) | Total Government |
|-----------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|-------|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| | Commonwealth | State | Northern Territory | Local | Total | | |
| MALES | | | | | | | |
| 1981— | | | | | | | |
| October | 276.2 | 578.2 | 7.8 | 102.8 | 965.0 | 68.1 | 1,033.1 |
| November | 276.3 | 579.3 | 7.7 | 102.7 | 965.9 | 68.0 | 1,033.9 |
| December | 276.9 | 578.8 | 7.7 | 103.1 | 966.5 | 67.8 | 1,034.3 |
| 1982— | | | | | | | |
| January | 276.6 | 576.6 | 7.7 | 103.4 | 964.3 | 68.3 | 1,032.6 |
| February | 276.2 | 579.3 | 7.7 | 103.8 | 966.9 | 68.8 | 1,035.7 |
| March | 276.1 | 581.0 | 7.7 | 104.2 | 968.9 | 68.8 | 1,037.7 |
| April | 275.6 | 579.9 | 7.7 | 104.1 | 967.3 | 68.7 | 1,036.0 |
| May | 275.1 | 581.8 | 7.7 | 104.1 | 968.7 | 68.6 | 1,037.3 |
| June | 274.7 | 582.3 | 7.6 | 104.5 | 969.0 | 68.5 | 1,037.5 |
| July | 273.9 | 581.2 | 7.5 | 104.2 | 966.8 | 68.5 | 1,035.3 |
| August | 274.4 | 580.9 | 7.5 | 104.2 | 967.0 | 68.4 | 1,035.4 |
| September | 275.0 | 580.5 | 7.5 | 104.1 | 967.2 | 68.3 | 1,035.5 |
| October | 275.5 | 580.0 | 7.6 | 104.2 | 967.2 | 68.4 | 1,035.6 |
| November | 276.2 | 579.6 | 7.6 | 104.3 | 967.7 | 68.3 | 1,036.0 |
| FEMALES | | | | | | | |
| 1981— | | | | | | | |
| October | 128.0 | 419.5 | 6.6 | 28.3 | 582.3 | 4.5 | 586.8 |
| November | 128.1 | 418.8 | 6.6 | 28.5 | 581.9 | 4.6 | 586.5 |
| December | 128.2 | 414.4 | 6.6 | 28.3 | 577.6 | 4.5 | 582.1 |
| 1982— | | | | | | | |
| January | 128.2 | 405.9 | 6.5 | 27.8 | 568.5 | 4.5 | 573.0 |
| February | 127.9 | 419.8 | 6.5 | 28.8 | 583.1 | 4.5 | 587.6 |
| March | 128.4 | 423.7 | 6.6 | 28.8 | 587.6 | 4.6 | 592.2 |
| April | 128.7 | 424.3 | 6.6 | 28.9 | 588.5 | 4.7 | 593.2 |
| May | 128.5 | 421.8 | 6.6 | 28.8 | 585.8 | 4.7 | 590.5 |
| June | 127.4 | 426.9 | 6.6 | 28.9 | 589.9 | 4.7 | 594.6 |
| July | 128.2 | 426.1 | 6.5 | 29.0 | 589.8 | 4.7 | 594.5 |
| August | 128.7 | 427.5 | 6.3 | 28.9 | 591.4 | 4.7 | 596.1 |
| September | 129.6 | 428.2 | 6.3 | 29.2 | 593.4 | 4.7 | 598.1 |
| October | 130.0 | 428.7 | 6.4 | 29.4 | 594.5 | 4.7 | 599.2 |
| November | 130.9 | 427.6 | 6.3 | 29.6 | 594.3 | 4.7 | 599.0 |
| PERSONS | | | | | | | |
| 1981— | | | | | | | |
| October | 404.1 | 997.7 | 14.4 | 131.2 | 1,547.4 | 72.6 | 1,620.0 |
| November | 404.4 | 998.0 | 14.4 | 131.1 | 1,547.9 | 72.6 | 1,620.5 |
| December | 405.1 | 993.2 | 14.3 | 131.4 | 1,544.1 | 72.3 | 1,616.4 |
| 1982— | | | | | | | |
| January | 404.8 | 982.5 | 14.2 | 131.2 | 1,532.8 | 72.7 | 1,605.5 |
| February | 404.1 | 999.1 | 14.2 | 132.6 | 1,550.0 | 73.3 | 1,623.3 |
| March | 404.5 | 1,004.7 | 14.2 | 133.0 | 1,556.5 | 73.4 | 1,629.9 |
| April | 404.3 | 1,004.3 | 14.2 | 133.0 | 1,555.8 | 73.4 | 1,629.2 |
| May | 403.7 | 1,003.6 | 14.2 | 133.0 | 1,554.5 | 73.3 | 1,627.8 |
| June | 402.1 | 1,009.3 | 14.2 | 133.4 | 1,558.9 | 73.2 | 1,632.1 |
| July | 402.1 | 1,007.2 | 14.1 | 133.2 | 1,556.6 | 73.2 | 1,629.8 |
| August | 403.1 | 1,008.4 | 13.8 | 133.1 | 1,558.4 | 73.1 | 1,631.5 |
| September | 404.6 | 1,008.8 | 13.9 | 133.3 | 1,560.5 | 73.0 | 1,633.5 |
| October | 405.5 | 1,008.8 | 13.9 | 133.6 | 1,561.7 | 73.1 | 1,634.8 |
| November | 407.0 | 1,007.3 | 13.9 | 133.9 | 1,562.1 | 73.0 | 1,635.1 |

(a) Figures for States and Territories will be published in *The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). (b) Permanent defence forces in Australia and overseas.