



THE LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER 1983 (PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES)

PHONE INQUIRIES for more information about these statistics - contact Mr Alan Sharp on Canberra (062) 52 6525 or any of our State offices.

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MAIL INQUIRIES write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

In September 1983 there were an estimated 7,070,800 persons in the labour force, of whom 6,352,000 were employed and 718,700 were unemployed. There were an estimated 4,515,100 persons aged 15 and over who were not in the labour force. The unemployment rate was 10.2 per cent and the labour force participation rate was 61.0 per cent.

Between August and September, employment increased by 119,300, unemployment increased by 34,600, and persons not in the labour force decreased by 133,700. The unemployment rate increased from 9.9 to 10.2 per cent and the participation rate increased from 59.8 to 61.0 per cent.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the number of employed persons increased by 51,500 and the number of unemployed persons increased by 17,300. The unemployment rate increased from 10.2 to 10.4 per cent and the participation rate increased from 60.3 to 60.8 per cent.

Note. Statistics of government employees are included in this publication for the last time (Table 7). In future, the monthly statistics will be published in a new quarterly publication entitled "Employed Wage and Salary Earners, Preliminary" (6247.0) expected to be released in December 1983.

PART 1. LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

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. Estimates for the current month are preliminary and subject to revision. Revised figures for the current month 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 33,000 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.

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 a 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 are not published but are indicated with a '*' 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 410,900 unemployed males looking for full-time work in September 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 404,200 to 417,600 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the number will be within the range 397,500 to 424,300.

(b) The estimate of movement in the number of unemployed males looking for full-time work from August 1983 to September 1983 is an increase of 1,400. 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 -3,900 to +6,700 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would have been within the range -9,200 to +12,000.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

20. Seasonally adjusted series are published in Tables 2 and 5. The figures in these tables were revised in the February 1983 issue of this publication. As happens with all seasonally adjusted series, the seasonal factors are reviewed annually, the latest review being in February 1983 which revised the monthly series back to February 1978. Information about the method of adjustment and seasonally adjusted figures for all months since February 1978 is published in an appendix to "The Labour Force, Australia, February 1983" (6203.0)

21. The seasonal adjustment factors have been calculated on the basis of five 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 changing from year to year. This changing pattern is most marked in the unemployment figures where the large increases in recent months may be accompanied by changes in the seasonal patterns which will not become apparent until later years. As a result the current seasonal adjustment might prove to be inadequate or need to be substantially revised. Care should be exercised in interpreting current movements based on these seasonally adjusted estimates.

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, 1981
(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

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

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Australian Statistician

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	Total			Looking for full-time work			Looking for part-time work	
	Looking for first job	Total					Aged 15-19	Aged 20 and over	Total	Total	
			- '000 -				- per cent -				
MALES											
1982 -											
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	51.3	103.1	306.1	409.2	22.3	431.5	28.4	8.2	9.9	9.1	9.9
February	45.0	97.5	320.7	418.2	23.1	441.3	27.3	8.5	10.1	9.2	10.0
March	34.2	83.1	329.1	412.2	23.0	435.3	24.7	8.7	10.0	8.4	9.9
April	28.3	76.7	330.5	407.2	23.4	430.6	23.7	8.8	10.0	8.5	9.9
May	28.3	77.3	336.1	413.4	22.6	436.0	23.8	8.9	10.1	8.4	10.0
June	24.5	75.4	332.8	408.2	16.6	424.8	24.3	8.8	10.0	6.5	9.8
July	28.1	82.3	325.3	407.5	21.9	429.4	26.9	8.5	9.9	8.5	9.8
August	26.6	75.9	333.6	409.5	20.2	429.7	25.3	8.8	10.0	7.7	9.9
September	30.8	79.9	331.1	410.9	24.7	435.6	25.8	8.6	9.9	9.6	9.9
Standard error of - September 1983 estimates	2.4	3.6	6.2	6.7	2.2	6.8	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.2
Aug 83 to Sept 83 movements	2.3	3.2	5.0	5.3	2.1	5.4	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.1
FEMALES											
1982 -											
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	48.6	84.8	131.4	216.2	43.9	260.2	29.8	9.3	12.8	5.5	10.4
February	45.5	83.3	151.3	234.7	71.3	305.9	30.3	10.6	13.8	7.9	11.8
March	37.8	77.2	146.7	223.8	72.6	296.4	29.7	10.1	13.1	7.7	11.2
April	31.9	71.7	131.5	203.2	73.3	276.6	27.5	9.3	12.1	8.1	10.7
May	32.7	70.4	142.2	212.6	70.0	282.5	27.1	9.8	12.5	7.7	10.8
June	30.1	65.1	138.8	203.8	62.4	266.2	26.2	9.7	12.1	6.9	10.3
July	26.7	62.1	128.1	190.1	65.2	255.3	24.8	8.9	11.2	7.2	9.8
August	28.1	63.5	132.2	195.7	58.7	254.4	25.8	9.3	11.7	6.5	9.9
September	33.3	68.0	139.2	207.2	75.9	283.1	26.4	9.4	11.9	8.3	10.7
Standard error of - September 1983 estimates	2.5	3.3	4.5	5.2	3.5	5.8	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2
Aug 83 to Sept 83 movements	2.4	3.0	3.8	4.3	3.1	4.8	1.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
PERSONS											
1982 -											
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	99.9	187.9	437.6	625.5	66.2	691.7	29.0	8.5	10.8	6.3	10.1
February	90.4	180.8	472.0	652.9	94.4	747.3	28.6	9.0	11.2	8.2	10.7
March	72.0	160.2	475.8	636.0	95.6	731.6	26.9	9.1	10.9	7.9	10.4
April	60.2	148.4	462.0	610.4	96.7	707.2	25.4	8.9	10.6	8.2	10.2
May	61.0	147.7	478.3	626.0	92.6	718.6	25.3	9.2	10.8	7.9	10.3
June	54.6	140.5	471.5	612.0	79.0	691.1	25.1	9.0	10.6	6.8	9.9
July	54.7	144.3	453.4	597.7	87.1	684.8	25.9	8.6	10.3	7.5	9.8
August	54.8	139.4	465.8	605.2	78.9	684.1	25.5	8.9	10.5	6.8	9.9
September	64.1	147.9	470.3	618.2	100.6	718.7	26.1	8.8	10.5	8.6	10.2
Standard error of - September 1983 estimates	3.3	4.6	7.0	7.7	3.9	8.1	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Aug 83 to Sept 83 movements	3.0	3.9	5.6	6.0	3.5	6.3	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	Total	Unemployment rate				Total
	Aged 15-19		Aged 20 and over				Looking for full-time work		Looking for part-time work		
	Looking for first job	Total	Total	Total			Aged 15-19	Aged 20 and over	Total	Total	
	- '000 -						- per cent -				
MALES											
1982 -											
August	23.5	61.6	196.1	257.7	23.1	280.8	17.9	5.3	6.3	8.9	6.5
September	23.8	63.9	210.7	274.6	22.9	297.5	18.6	5.6	6.7	9.0	6.8
October	22.1	64.0	241.3	305.3	21.3	326.6	18.7	6.4	7.4	7.9	7.5
November	23.8	70.4	266.3	336.7	16.8	353.5	20.6	7.1	8.2	6.5	8.1
December	26.5	72.1	288.6	360.7	18.9	379.6	21.7	7.7	8.8	7.3	8.7
1983 -											
January	31.5	75.8	287.3	363.1	21.6	384.7	23.1	7.7	8.9	8.2	8.9
February	32.9	81.7	295.9	377.6	24.0	401.6	24.7	7.9	9.2	8.9	9.2
March	34.5	88.1	317.9	406.0	21.0	427.0	26.5	8.5	9.9	7.7	9.8
April	37.0	89.0	332.3	421.3	24.8	446.1	26.8	8.8	10.3	9.1	10.2
May	35.6	82.3	336.2	418.5	21.2	439.7	25.4	8.9	10.2	8.1	10.1
June	36.2	86.4	345.9	432.3	18.3	450.6	26.8	9.1	10.5	7.2	10.3
July	41.0	93.0	329.2	422.3	23.2	445.5	29.2	8.6	10.2	8.8	10.1
August	36.4	86.1	334.5	420.5	21.9	442.5	26.8	8.8	10.2	8.5	10.1
September	35.4	86.9	327.6	414.5	25.5	440.0	27.2	8.5	10.0	10.1	10.0
FEMALES											
1982 -											
August	22.4	53.1	88.6	141.7	58.8	200.5	20.4	6.3	8.6	6.6	7.9
September	20.4	55.8	99.6	155.4	61.9	217.3	21.6	7.1	9.4	7.0	8.5
October	24.4	62.3	116.4	178.7	64.8	243.5	23.5	8.3	10.7	7.1	9.4
November	28.5	69.0	118.6	187.6	59.8	247.4	25.8	8.4	11.1	6.8	9.6
December	32.8	65.8	128.4	194.2	63.8	258.0	25.1	9.2	11.7	6.9	10.0
1983 -											
January	31.3	66.0	132.6	198.6	56.2	254.8	25.7	9.4	11.9	6.2	9.9
February	35.4	71.8	134.2	206.0	61.9	267.9	27.8	9.5	12.3	6.7	10.4
March	35.7	76.0	136.3	212.3	62.5	274.8	29.8	9.5	12.5	6.9	10.6
April	33.0	72.5	126.4	199.0	69.8	268.8	28.0	8.9	11.9	7.8	10.4
May	35.1	72.2	140.5	212.7	68.4	281.2	27.6	9.7	12.5	7.6	10.8
June	35.3	69.3	140.7	210.0	61.5	271.4	27.5	9.8	12.4	6.8	10.4
July	33.6	69.5	133.0	202.5	70.7	273.2	26.8	9.1	11.8	7.9	10.5
August	35.5	68.4	135.6	204.1	66.6	270.6	26.5	9.4	12.0	7.4	10.4
September	41.5	75.7	140.4	216.0	74.4	290.4	27.9	9.5	12.4	8.3	11.0
PERSONS											
1982 -											
August	45.9	114.7	284.7	399.4	81.9	481.3	19.0	5.6	7.0	7.2	7.0
September	44.2	119.7	310.3	430.0	84.8	514.8	19.9	6.0	7.5	7.4	7.5
October	46.5	126.3	357.7	484.0	86.1	570.1	20.8	6.9	8.4	7.3	8.2
November	52.3	139.4	384.9	524.3	76.6	600.9	22.9	7.4	9.0	6.7	8.7
December	59.3	137.9	417.0	554.9	82.7	637.6	23.2	8.1	9.6	7.0	9.2
1983 -											
January	62.8	141.8	419.9	561.7	77.8	639.5	24.3	8.1	9.8	6.6	9.2
February	68.4	153.5	430.2	583.6	85.9	669.5	26.1	8.3	10.1	7.2	9.6
March	70.2	164.1	454.2	618.3	83.6	701.9	28.0	8.7	10.7	7.1	10.1
April	70.0	161.6	458.7	620.3	94.6	714.9	27.3	8.8	10.7	8.1	10.3
May	70.7	154.5	476.7	631.3	89.7	720.9	26.4	9.1	10.9	7.7	10.3
June	71.5	155.7	486.6	642.3	79.8	722.1	27.1	9.3	11.0	6.9	10.3
July	74.6	162.5	462.3	624.8	93.9	718.6	28.1	8.8	10.7	8.1	10.3
August	71.9	154.5	470.1	624.6	88.5	713.1	26.7	9.0	10.7	7.7	10.2
September	76.9	162.6	467.9	630.5	99.9	730.4	27.5	8.8	10.7	8.7	10.4

TABLE 6. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, STATES AND TERRITORIES

State or Territory	Number looking for full-time work				Number looking for part-time work	Total	Unemployment rate				
	Aged 15-19		Aged 20 and over	Total			Looking for full-time work			Looking for part-time work	Total
	Looking for first job	Total					Aged 15-19	Aged 20 and over	Total		
	- '000 -										
- per cent -											
NEW SOUTH WALES -											
1982 - September	10.2	36.2	112.9	149.1	27.2	176.3	18.4	6.2	7.3	7.2	7.3
1983 - August	20.3	50.9	179.9	230.8	25.2	256.0	28.5	9.8	11.5	6.5	10.7
September	23.1	53.0	185.2	238.2	30.9	269.1	28.4	9.8	11.5	8.1	11.0
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	2.2	3.0	4.9	5.3	2.4	5.6	1.6	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.2
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	1.9	2.6	3.8	4.1	2.1	4.2	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2
VICTORIA -											
1982 - September	10.2	24.1	80.4	104.5	22.9	127.4	17.1	5.7	6.8	7.5	6.9
1983 - August	14.7	35.2	104.2	139.5	23.6	163.1	25.4	7.5	9.1	7.6	8.8
September	18.3	35.6	113.1	148.7	32.0	180.7	25.1	7.9	9.5	10.3	9.6
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	1.8	2.4	3.6	4.0	2.3	4.2	1.7	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.2
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	1.7	2.1	2.9	3.1	2.0	3.3	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2
QUEENSLAND -											
1982 - September	*	14.1	43.9	58.0	16.0	74.1	14.5	5.6	6.6	8.6	6.9
1983 - August	6.4	19.8	77.3	97.1	11.9	109.0	20.0	9.6	10.8	6.8	10.1
September	6.2	19.7	70.1	89.7	16.8	106.6	20.0	8.5	9.7	9.2	9.7
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	0.9	1.5	2.5	2.7	1.4	2.9	1.5	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.3
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	0.9	1.3	1.9	2.1	1.2	2.1	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.2
SOUTH AUSTRALIA -											
1982 - September	7.5	16.4	29.5	45.9	5.8	51.7	29.0	6.7	9.2	5.4	8.5
1983 - August	6.3	13.4	44.2	57.6	6.5	64.1	27.8	9.9	11.7	5.9	10.6
September	7.6	14.8	42.3	57.1	8.2	65.3	28.8	9.5	11.5	7.1	10.7
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.7	0.8	1.8	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.3
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.3	0.7	1.3	1.7	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.2
WESTERN AUSTRALIA -											
1982 - September	3.6	11.0	27.9	38.9	7.3	46.3	18.9	6.3	7.7	6.0	7.4
1983 - August	3.8	12.3	40.8	53.1	6.9	60.1	23.2	8.9	10.4	5.8	9.5
September	4.2	14.9	40.7	55.7	8.8	64.5	26.7	8.7	10.6	7.4	10.0
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	0.7	1.1	1.6	1.8	0.9	1.9	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.3
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.3	0.8	1.4	1.7	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.2
TASMANIA -											
1982 - September	2.6	5.8	11.1	16.9	2.0	18.9	28.9	8.2	10.8	6.0	10.0
1983 - August	2.8	5.9	11.0	16.9	1.9	18.8	33.2	8.1	11.0	5.9	10.1
September	2.9	6.0	11.3	17.3	1.8	19.1	31.2	8.1	10.9	5.9	10.1
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.8	2.8	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.4
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	2.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.3
NORTHERN TERRITORY -											
1982 - September	*	*	2.3	2.6	1.8	4.4	*	4.6	4.8	15.3	6.6
1983 - August	*	*	4.4	5.2	*	5.9	*	8.3	9.1	*	9.0
September	*	2.1	3.7	5.8	*	6.0	33.8	7.0	9.7	*	9.0
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.7	7.6	1.1	1.2	2.2	1.1
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.6	6.3	1.0	1.0	3.2	0.9
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY -											
1982 - September	*	*	3.6	4.8	2.2	7.0	*	4.4	5.4	10.1	6.3
1983 - August	*	*	4.0	5.0	2.2	7.2	*	4.6	5.3	9.6	6.2
September	*	*	3.9	5.7	*	7.5	*	4.3	5.9	*	6.4
Standard error of -											
Sept 1983 estimates	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.7	6.5	0.6	0.7	2.0	0.6
Aug 1983 to Sept 1983 movements	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	5.5	0.5	0.5	1.6	0.5

PART 2. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This part contains details of the numbers of employees of government bodies. Future government employment figures will not be included in this publication but will be published quarterly in a new publication *Employed Wage and Salary Earners, (Preliminary)* (6247.0) expected to be released in December 1983.

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)
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Month	Civilian employees					Defence forces(b)	Total Government
	Commonwealth	State	Northern Territory	Local	Total		
MALES							
1982—		†			†		†
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	580.1	7.6	104.2	967.3	68.4	1,035.7
November	276.2	579.8	7.6	104.3	967.9	68.3	1,036.2
December	277.1	578.1	7.5	104.4	967.1	68.1	1,035.2
1983—							
January	276.4	579.2	7.6	104.7	968.0	68.5	1,036.5
February	276.7	582.2	7.6	105.7	972.2	68.7	1,040.9
March	276.1	585.2	7.7	105.8	974.8	68.7	1,043.5
April	276.9	585.5	7.7	107.3	977.4	68.5	1,045.9
May	276.7	586.0	7.8	108.0	978.5	68.5	1,047.0
June	276.7	586.6	7.7	107.1	978.1	68.3	1,046.4
FEMALES							
1982—		†			†		†
May	128.5	422.4	6.6	28.8	586.4	4.7	591.1
June	127.4	427.5	6.6	28.9	590.5	4.7	595.2
July	128.2	426.7	6.5	29.0	590.4	4.7	595.1
August	128.7	428.1	6.3	28.9	592.0	4.7	596.7
September	129.6	428.8	6.3	29.2	594.0	4.7	598.7
October	130.0	429.4	6.4	29.4	595.2	4.7	599.9
November	130.9	427.6	6.3	29.6	594.3	4.7	599.0
December	131.5	422.1	6.1	29.3	589.1	4.6	593.7
1983—							
January	130.8	410.1	6.3	29.2	576.4	4.6	581.0
February	131.2	423.9	6.4	30.0	591.5	4.6	596.1
March	131.4	429.0	6.3	30.3	597.1	4.5	601.6
April	132.5	431.5	6.5	30.5	601.1	4.5	605.6
May	133.0	428.7	6.6	30.8	599.1	4.5	603.6
June	132.5	434.0	6.5	31.1	604.1	4.5	608.6
PERSONS							
1982—		†			†		†
May	403.7	1,004.2	14.2	133.0	1,555.1	73.3	1,628.4
June	402.1	1,009.8	14.2	133.4	1,559.5	73.2	1,632.7
July	402.1	1,007.9	14.1	133.2	1,557.2	73.2	1,630.4
August	403.1	1,009.0	13.8	133.1	1,559.0	73.1	1,632.1
September	404.6	1,009.4	13.9	133.3	1,561.1	73.0	1,634.1
October	405.5	1,009.5	13.9	133.6	1,562.5	73.1	1,635.6
November	407.0	1,007.5	13.9	133.9	1,562.3	73.0	1,635.3
December	408.6	1,000.2	13.7	133.8	1,556.2	72.7	1,628.9
1983—							
January	407.2	989.3	13.8	134.0	1,544.4	73.1	1,617.5
February	408.0	1,006.1	14.0	135.7	1,563.7	73.2	1,636.9
March	407.5	1,014.2	14.0	136.1	1,571.8	73.2	1,645.0
April	409.4	1,017.0	14.2	137.9	1,578.4	73.1	1,651.5
May	410.0	1,014.7	14.4	138.8	1,577.5	72.9	1,650.4
June	409.2	1,020.6	14.3	138.2	1,582.2	72.8	1,655.0

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