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ANNUAL AND LONG-SERVICE LEAVE, AUSTRALIA, MAY 1979 (PRELIMINARY)

NEW ISSUE

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra 526576 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616
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MAIN FEATURES

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

Of the estimated 5.1 million employed wage and salary earners in May 1979, 3.2 million (63 per cent) had taken three or more days of paid annual and/or long-service leave during the period May 1978 to April 1979.

110,000 employees took long-service leave during the period.

Of employees who took annual leave, 37 per cent took a total of 4 weeks during the reference year.

Almost 13 million weeks of annual and long-service leave were taken during the period May 1978 to April 1979.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In May 1979 a survey, based on the monthly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about the amount and timing of paid annual leave and long-service leave taken by employees during the period May 1978 to April 1979. Other types of leave, such as study or sabbatical leave, sick leave, maternity leave, etc., and unpaid leave, were not included in the survey. Surveys of annual leave, but not long-service leave, were previously conducted in August 1974 and February 1969. Results were published in *Annual Leave, August 1974* (6317.0) and *Labour Force Experience During 1968* (6206.0).

2. This publication contains only a summary of the more important results of the survey. More detailed estimates, which will be published as soon as possible, are available on request.

3. The survey was based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covered about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information was obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on 7 May 1979.

Scope

4. The survey included all employees aged fifteen years and over except :

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- (c) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia
- (e) patients in hospitals and sanatoria, or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., and
- (f) for long-service leave, employees under 25 years of age.

Definitions

5. *Annual leave* (also referred to as recreation leave, holiday leave, vacation leave) is a period (usually four weeks) of paid absence from work for leisure or recreational purposes to which an employee becomes entitled each year after a continuous period of service with one employer or in an industry, as specified in awards, etc.

6. *Long-service leave* (or furlough) is a period of paid absence from work to which an employee becomes entitled after a number of years of continuous service with one employer, or in an industry, the initial entitlement usually being three months after 10 or 15 years service, as specified in Federal or State legislation.

7. Payments in lieu of leave (e.g. to casual workers or on termination of employment) are not regarded as leave.

8. *Weeks taken.* In recording the amount of leave, separate periods of the same type of leave taken by individual respondents within each month were aggregated. (It should be noted that the category "less than one" includes persons who did not take leave because their period of service with an employer or in one industry was not long enough to qualify them for an entitlement.) The number of weeks in any month was calculated as follows :

[illegible]

TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES (a) : NUMBER OF WEEKS OF PAID ANNUAL LEAVE TAKEN, MAY 1978 TO APRIL 1979

<i>Number of weeks</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>N.T.</i>	<i>A.C.T.</i>	<i>Australia</i>
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ('000)									
Less than one	684.1	453.6	291.9	172.3	168.3	53.7	23.5	28.6	1,876.1
One or more	1,111.7	940.3	420.2	291.1	263.7	91.2	21.2	56.5	3,195.8
1	80.8	66.9	25.4	20.2	17.7	5.1	*	4.6	221.1
2	217.6	149.7	58.7	46.6	47.5	13.1	2.7	14.5	550.3
3	217.8	193.6	64.1	57.1	33.9	17.3	2.3	12.8	598.9
4	390.8	356.0	176.9	111.3	98.9	38.5	5.0	13.9	1,191.3
5	81.6	62.4	42.5	21.6	20.0	6.1	2.6	3.5	240.4
6	45.4	31.8	22.6	9.7	16.4	3.0	2.3	3.0	134.2
7	10.2	12.2	6.2	*	6.8	1.6	*	*	41.2
8 and over	67.6	67.8	23.8	22.3	22.5	6.4	4.9	3.0	218.3
Total	1,795.8	1,394.0	712.1	463.3	432.0	144.9	44.7	85.1	5,071.9
PER CENT OF TOTAL									
Less than one	38.0	32.5	41.0	37.2	39.0	37.1	52.6	33.6	37.0
One or more	61.9	67.5	59.0	62.8	61.0	62.9	47.4	66.4	63.0
1	4.5	4.8	3.6	4.4	4.1	3.5	*	5.4	4.4
2	12.1	10.7	8.2	10.1	11.0	9.0	6.0	17.0	10.8
3	12.1	13.9	9.0	12.3	7.8	11.9	5.1	15.0	11.8
4	21.8	25.5	24.8	24.0	22.9	26.6	11.2	16.3	23.5
5	4.5	4.5	6.0	4.7	4.6	4.2	5.8	4.1	4.7
6	2.5	2.3	3.2	2.1	3.8	2.1	5.1	3.5	2.6
7	0.6	0.9	0.9	*	1.6	1.1	*	*	0.8
8 and over	3.8	4.9	3.3	4.8	5.2	4.4	11.0	3.5	4.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) In May 1979.

TABLE 2. ALL EMPLOYEES (a) : NUMBER OF WEEKS OF PAID ANNUAL LEAVE TAKEN, BY INDUSTRY, MAY 1978 TO APRIL 1979 ('000)

<i>Industry (b)</i>	<i>Number of weeks</i>								
	<i>Less than one</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5-7</i>	<i>8 and over</i>	<i>One or more</i>	<i>Total</i>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	88.0	*	11.7	11.4	13.9	*	*	45.4	133.3
Mining	20.0	5.5	9.6	12.4	18.8	13.1	*	60.4	80.3
Manufacturing	348.4	49.4	121.3	195.4	364.4	83.2	7.5	821.2	1,169.5
Electricity, gas and water	26.4	6.5	18.1	18.1	37.2	9.0	*	90.3	116.7
Construction	132.1	12.4	35.8	33.7	88.6	21.6	*	195.9	328.0
Wholesale and retail trade	454.5	49.0	121.2	109.8	209.9	41.5	4.9	536.1	990.6
Transport and storage	95.6	11.1	28.5	26.8	68.5	43.0	6.6	184.5	280.1
Communication	33.6	*	15.1	7.9	43.8	19.9	3.3	94.1	127.6
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	141.0	23.0	54.8	52.4	99.0	29.7	6.4	265.2	406.3
Public administration and defence	75.5	17.1	42.0	42.5	69.1	22.9	4.5	198.1	273.6
Community services	269.5	27.9	68.0	68.8	139.6	118.3	176.0	598.6	868.1
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	191.6	10.7	24.2	19.9	38.6	10.1	2.7	106.2	297.8
Total	1,876.1	221.1	550.3	598.9	1,191.3	415.7	218.3	3,195.8	5,071.9

(a) In May 1979. (b) Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) 1969.

TABLE 3. NUMBER OF WEEKS OF LONG-SERVICE LEAVE TAKEN BY EMPLOYEES
AGED 25 YEARS AND OVER, MAY 1978 TO APRIL 1979
(^{'000})

	Number of weeks				Total
	1-2	3-4	5-8	9 and over	
New South Wales	7.8	10.3	5.4	4.8	28.3
Victoria	7.7	12.5	10.3	6.6	37.1
Queensland	*	4.7	*	*	11.1
South Australia	4.4	6.0	3.7	*	16.4
Western Australia	*	2.9	*	4.2	10.1
Tasmania	*	*	*	1.7	4.3
Australia (a) —					
Males	21.8	35.6	20.5	16.8	94.7
Females	*	*	*	4.8	15.2
Persons	25.2	39.0	24.2	21.6	110.0
Under 35 years	5.4	6.2	*	*	17.6
35-44 years	8.1	11.1	7.1	5.4	31.7
45-54 years	7.0	13.2	8.2	8.4	36.8
55 years and over	4.6	8.5	5.5	5.1	23.9

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 4. TOTAL WEEKS OF PAID ANNUAL AND LONG-SERVICE LEAVE TAKEN
BY EMPLOYEES IN EACH MONTH FROM MAY 1978 TO APRIL 1979

	1978								1979				Total
	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	
By males —													
Number (^{'000})	439.0	276.7	256.5	528.0	551.0	419.1	394.0	1,547.2	2,508.1	560.5	493.1	579.8	8,553.0
Per cent of total	5.1	3.2	3.0	6.2	6.4	4.9	4.6	18.1	29.3	6.6	5.8	6.8	100.0
By females —													
Number (^{'000})	301.3	128.6	130.8	299.2	301.4	200.2	181.6	758.1	1,380.9	283.0	233.2	239.7	4,438.0
Per cent of total	6.8	2.9	2.9	6.7	6.8	4.5	4.1	17.1	31.1	6.4	5.2	5.4	100.0
By persons —													
Number (^{'000})	740.3	405.3	387.3	827.2	852.4	619.2	575.6	2,305.3	3,889.1	843.5	726.3	819.5	12,991.0
Per cent of total	5.7	3.1	3.0	6.4	6.6	4.8	4.4	17.7	29.9	6.5	5.6	6.3	100.0