AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6331.0

NOON 14 DECEMBER 1979

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 For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

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:

Consecutive working days absent in any month	Recorded as
0, 1 or 2	less than one
3-7	1
8-12	2
13-17	3-
18-22	4
23 and over	5

When leave continued from one month into the next, the period of leave taken in each of the months was counted separately. The total amount taken for the period May 1978 to April 1979 is the sum of the amounts taken in each month, as defined above.

9. Employees are persons who were employed wage and salary earners at the time of the survey, regardless of their labour force status during the reference period, May 1978 to April 1979. Persons who were wage and salary earners during the reference period but not at the time of the survey, and who took paid annual or long-service leave during the reference period are excluded.

Reliability of the estimates

- 10. Since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they 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. Standard errors of estimates for persons are shown in the table below.
- 11. The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates are subject

to such high relative standard errors as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. Estimates less than the levels shown in the table below and percentages based on such estimates have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases by derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

12. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors is as follows:

From the table it will be seen that the estimate of 218,300 who took eight or more weeks of annual leave has a standard error of about 5,100. Therefore there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will be within the range 213,200 to 223,400 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will be within the range 208,100 to 228,500.

Related publications

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

Annual Leave, August 1974 (6317.0)

Labour Force Experience During 1968 (6206.0)

The Labour Force (6203.0)

14. All current publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0), which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- * Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 11.
- 15. Figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF PERSONS

Na of astimata	AT C TU	T/2 a	014	C 4	Tel. 4	Tree	AT T	4 C T	Aus	tralia
Size of estimate	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A. W.A. Tas. N.T. A.C.T. — - number –			Per cent of estimate			
1,500						300				
2,000						340	470	440		
2,500				510	510	380	510	480		
3,000			-	550	560	410	550	510		
3,500			740	590	590	430	590	540		
4,000			780	620	630	460	620	560		
4,500	1,000	1,000	820	650	660	480	650	590	970	21.6
5,000	1,100	1,100	860	680	690	500	680	610	1,000	20.0
6,000	1,200	1,200	930	730	750	530	740	650	1,100	18.0
10,000	1,500	1,400	1,200	900	920	640	910	750	1,400	14.0
20,000	2,000	1,900	1,500	1,200	1,200	810	1,200	910	2,000	10.0
50,000	3,000	2,700	2,200	1,600	1,700	1,100	1,700	1,100	2,900	5.8
100,000	3,900	3,500	2,800	2,100	2,100	1,300		1,300	3,900	3.9
200,000	5,000	4,400	3,600	2,600	2,600	1,500			5,100	2.6
300,000	5,800	5,000	4,100	2,900	2,900				6,000	2.0
500,000	6,900	5,800	4,800	3,300	3,300				7,200	1.4
1,000,000	8,500	7,000	5,900						9,100	0.9
2,000,000	10,000	8,400							11,000	0.6
5,000,000	-								15,000	0.3

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

Number of weeks	N.S.W.	Vic.	Old	S.A.	TU A	Tee	Al on	4.0.5	4
Weeks	14.D.W.	VIC.	Qta	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
			NUM	IBER OF EMP	LOYEES ('00	0)		0.000	
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 3	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 O	F 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	*	aje	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)

	Number of weeks									
Industry (b)	Less than one	1	2	3	4	5-7	8 and over	One or more	Total	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing								Charles and the same of the sa		
and hunting	88.0	*	11.7	11.4	13.9	*	ajte	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	非	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								
	1-2	3-4	5-8	9 and over	Total					
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				
Мау	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Total	
									gargan teggyakan pengapah dah diturum			***************************************	
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	
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	
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	
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	
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	
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	
	439.0 5.1 301.3 6.8	439.0 276.7 5.1 3.2 301.3 128.6 6.8 2.9 740.3 405.3	439.0 276.7 256.5 5.1 3.2 3.0 301.3 128.6 130.8 6.8 2.9 2.9 740.3 405.3 387.3	May June July Aug. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2	May June July Aug. Sept. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 551.0 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4	May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 551.0 419.1 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 4.9 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 200.2 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 4.5 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4 619.2	May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 551.0 419.1 394.0 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 4.9 4.6 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 200.2 181.6 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 4.5 4.1 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4 619.2 575.6	May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 551.0 419.1 394.0 1,547.2 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 4.9 4.6 18.1 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 200.2 181.6 758.1 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 4.5 4.1 17.1 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4 619.2 575.6 2,305.3	May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 551.0 419.1 394.0 1,547.2 2,508.1 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 4.9 4.6 18.1 29.3 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 200.2 181.6 758.1 1,380.9 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 4.5 4.1 17.1 31.1 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4 619.2 575.6 2,305.3 3,889.1	May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 551.0 419.1 394.0 1,547.2 2,508.1 560.5 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 4.9 4.6 18.1 29.3 6.6 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 200.2 181.6 758.1 1,380.9 283.0 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 4.5 4.1 17.1 31.1 6.4 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4 619.2 575.6 2,305.3 3,889.1 843.5	May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. Mar. 439.0 276.7 256.5 528.0 551.0 419.1 394.0 1,547.2 2,508.1 560.5 493.1 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 4.9 4.6 18.1 29.3 6.6 5.8 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 200.2 181.6 758.1 1,380.9 283.0 233.2 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 4.5 4.1 17.1 31.1 6.4 5.2 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4 619.2 575.6 2,305.3 3,889.1 843.5 726.3	May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. 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 5.1 3.2 3.0 6.2 6.4 4.9 4.6 18.1 29.3 6.6 5.8 6.8 301.3 128.6 130.8 299.2 301.4 200.2 181.6 758.1 1,380.9 283.0 233.2 239.7 6.8 2.9 2.9 6.7 6.8 4.5 4.1 17.1 31.1 6.4 5.2 5.4 740.3 405.3 387.3 827.2 852.4 619.2 575.6 2,305.3 3,889.1 843.5 726.3 819.5	