

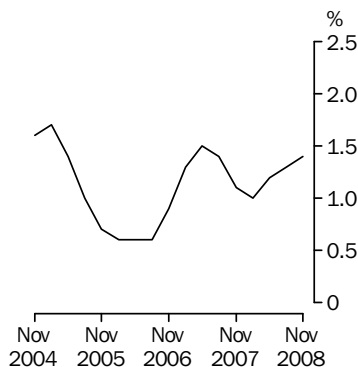
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 26 FEB 2009

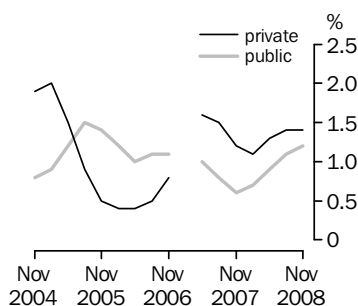
Full-time adult total earnings

Quarterly % change in trend estimates
All Sectors



Full-time adult total earnings

Quarterly % change in trend estimates
Private and Public (a)



(a) Break in series. See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory Notes.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Joanne Penaranda on Perth (08) 9360 5304.

KEY FIGURES

	Nov 2008 \$	Aug 2008 to Nov 2008 % change	Nov 2007 to Nov 2008 % change
TREND ESTIMATES			
Private & public sectors			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 164.90	1.5	5.2
Full-time adult total earnings	1 214.50	1.4	5.0
All employees total earnings	911.30	1.2	4.1
Private sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 147.00	1.6	5.6
Full-time adult total earnings	1 198.00	1.4	5.3
Public sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 229.40	1.1	3.8
Full-time adult total earnings	1 273.30	1.2	3.9

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

Private & public sectors			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 166.50	1.6	5.5
Full-time adult total earnings	1 215.70	1.4	5.3
All employees total earnings	912.40	1.4	4.2
Private sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 148.30	1.6	5.9
Full-time adult total earnings	1 198.80	1.3	5.7
Public sector			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	1 231.80	1.4	4.0
Full-time adult total earnings	1 275.10	1.4	4.0

KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES

- Full-time adult ordinary time earnings rose by 5.7% for males and 4.7% for females in the twelve months to November 2008.
- In the twelve months to November 2008, full-time adult total earnings rose by 5.7% for males and 4.6% for females.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)

RELEASE DATE

February 2009

21 May 2009

May 2009

13 August 2009

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NOTES ON ESTIMATES

COMPOSITIONAL EFFECTS

Movements in average weekly earnings can be affected by both changes in the level of earnings per employee and changes in the composition of the labour force. For example, changes in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees and variations in the distribution of occupations can affect movements in earnings series. Refer to paragraphs 19 and 20 of the Explanatory Notes.

SAMPLING ERROR

For information on sampling error see the Technical Note at the end of this publication. Standard errors for the original estimates contained in this publication are in tables 18 to 20.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ABN	Australian Business Number
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWE	average weekly earnings
PAYGW	pay-as-you-go withholding
TAU	type of activity unit
WPI	wage price index

Ian Ewing

Acting Australian Statistician

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AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Trend

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 163.90	1 230.10	1 046.10	974.70	991.30	681.10	1 096.20	1 144.40	869.30
November	1 175.60	1 243.30	1 055.20	985.70	1 002.70	686.10	1 107.30	1 156.80	875.50
2008									
February	1 187.70	1 256.80	1 063.40	995.60	1 012.50	692.30	1 117.80	1 168.30	881.70
May	1 204.50	1 274.90	1 074.80	1 006.70	1 023.50	700.70	1 131.70	1 182.40	890.10
August	1 223.50	1 294.40	1 088.00	1 019.10	1 036.10	710.20	1 147.80	1 198.30	900.30
November	1 243.00	1 313.60	1 101.70	1 032.20	1 049.30	720.10	1 164.90	1 214.50	911.30
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.5	0.8	1.3	1.4	0.9
November	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.1	0.7
2008									
February	1.0	1.1	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.7
May	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0
August	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.1
November	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.2
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	3.5	3.0	4.7	2.5	2.5	4.8	3.1	2.7	4.6
2007									
November	5.2	5.3	4.8	5.6	5.8	4.0	5.3	5.4	4.1
2008									
November	5.7	5.7	4.4	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.2	5.0	4.1

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Seasonally adjusted

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 164.80	1 232.30	1 047.60	975.00	992.10	680.50	1 096.80	1 145.70	869.30
November	1 173.00	1 240.50	1 053.60	985.50	1 002.40	687.40	1 106.00	1 154.80	875.80
2008									
February	1 189.80	1 257.30	1 063.90	996.80	1 013.60	691.00	1 119.50	1 170.40	881.40
May	1 201.10	1 273.10	1 073.20	1 003.90	1 021.10	699.70	1 128.30	1 179.20	888.90
August	1 224.70	1 296.10	1 088.10	1 020.10	1 036.50	711.40	1 148.60	1 199.30	900.20
November	1 244.40	1 313.60	1 103.00	1 033.10	1 050.60	719.80	1 166.50	1 215.70	912.40
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.5	0.8	1.1	1.3	0.9
November	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7
2008									
February	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.5	1.2	1.4	0.6
May	0.9	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.8
August	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.3
November	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.4
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	3.9	3.2	5.2	2.2	2.2	4.7	3.3	2.7	4.6
2007									
November	4.8	4.8	4.4	5.7	5.9	4.3	5.2	5.2	4.3
2008									
November	6.1	5.9	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.5	5.3	4.2

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: Original

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 168.20	1 232.70	1 050.50	976.10	993.20	680.20	1 099.50	1 147.00	870.90
November	1 172.40	1 242.40	1 051.20	984.30	1 001.70	685.30	1 104.70	1 155.80	872.90
2008									
February	1 188.80	1 258.50	1 067.80	999.10	1 015.60	697.10	1 119.90	1 170.30	886.70
May	1 199.30	1 269.50	1 069.00	1 001.80	1 018.50	696.00	1 126.40	1 176.90	885.00
August	1 228.00	1 296.70	1 090.80	1 021.20	1 037.60	711.00	1 151.40	1 200.80	901.70
November	1 244.10	1 315.50	1 100.60	1 032.00	1 050.10	717.80	1 165.30	1 216.80	909.50
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.5
November	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.2
2008									
February	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.6
May	0.9	0.9	0.1	0.3	0.3	-0.2	0.6	0.6	-0.2
August	2.4	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.9
November	1.3	1.4	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.3	0.9
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	3.9	3.2	5.2	2.3	2.2	4.8	3.3	2.7	4.6
2007									
November	4.9	4.8	4.4	5.8	5.9	4.4	5.2	5.2	4.3
2008									
November	6.1	5.9	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.5	5.3	4.2

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 145.00	1 211.30	1 016.40	923.60	939.60	618.30	1 073.90	1 123.90	833.60
November	1 157.60	1 226.30	1 026.60	935.60	952.20	623.30	1 085.90	1 137.60	840.30
2008									
February	1 170.70	1 241.50	1 035.20	946.80	963.40	630.50	1 097.10	1 150.30	846.60
May	1 188.60	1 260.40	1 046.60	958.90	975.30	639.80	1 112.00	1 165.40	855.10
August	1 208.70	1 279.90	1 059.90	972.10	988.30	650.10	1 129.20	1 181.80	865.70
November	1 229.00	1 298.60	1 073.70	985.10	1 001.30	660.40	1 147.00	1 198.00	877.10
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.7	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.0
November	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.3	0.8	1.1	1.2	0.8
2008									
February	1.1	1.2	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.8
May	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.0
August	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.2
November	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.3
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	3.3	2.5	4.5	1.8	1.8	5.0	2.8	2.2	4.5
2007									
November(a)	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
2008									
November	6.2	5.9	4.6	5.3	5.2	5.9	5.6	5.3	4.4

np not published due to break in series.

(a) Break in series between November 2006 and February 2007. See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory Notes.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 146.60	1 214.20	1 019.30	925.30	941.80	618.50	1 075.40	1 126.40	834.80
November	1 154.30	1 221.80	1 024.50	934.40	950.50	624.60	1 083.90	1 134.40	840.60
2008									
February	1 173.00	1 244.00	1 035.60	948.70	965.70	628.70	1 099.00	1 152.90	845.70
May	1 185.20	1 257.90	1 046.00	955.20	971.70	638.70	1 108.50	1 162.40	854.30
August	1 210.00	1 281.70	1 058.80	974.70	990.20	652.50	1 130.50	1 183.10	865.30
November	1 230.30	1 298.60	1 075.50	984.90	1 001.70	659.00	1 148.30	1 198.80	878.30
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.0	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.3
November	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7
2008									
February	1.6	1.8	1.1	1.5	1.6	0.7	1.4	1.6	0.6
May	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.6	0.9	0.8	1.0
August	2.1	1.9	1.2	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.3
November	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.3	1.5
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	3.9	2.8	5.1	1.5	1.3	4.8	3.0	2.2	4.5
2007									
November(a)	5.4	5.3	5.0	6.6	6.8	4.9	5.9	5.9	4.9
2008									
November	6.6	6.3	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.9	5.7	4.5

(a) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory Notes.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Private sector: **Original**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 151.00	1 216.10	1 023.50	925.70	942.30	617.80	1 078.60	1 128.20	837.00
November	1 153.30	1 224.10	1 022.00	931.90	949.00	623.40	1 081.70	1 135.10	837.80
2008									
February	1 171.30	1 242.60	1 037.20	952.60	969.00	634.00	1 099.70	1 153.10	849.40
May	1 183.50	1 254.90	1 042.60	953.20	969.20	635.20	1 106.40	1 159.40	851.30
August	1 214.60	1 283.90	1 063.20	975.20	990.80	651.90	1 134.10	1 185.30	867.50
November	1 229.50	1 301.10	1 073.10	982.50	1 000.40	657.90	1 146.10	1 199.60	875.30
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	1.7	1.8	2.2	2.1	2.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.9
November	0.2	0.7	-0.1	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.6	0.1
2008									
February	1.6	1.5	1.5	2.2	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4
May	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.2
August	2.6	2.3	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.5	2.2	1.9
November	1.2	1.3	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.2	0.9
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	3.9	2.8	5.1	1.5	1.3	4.8	3.0	2.1	4.4
2007									
November(a)	5.4	5.3	5.0	6.6	6.8	4.9	5.9	5.9	4.9
2008									
November	6.6	6.3	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.5	6.0	5.7	4.5

(a) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory Notes.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: Trend

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 253.20	1 317.30	1 203.40	1 094.70	1 112.70	881.20	1 175.80	1 217.40	1 014.90
November	1 260.90	1 324.30	1 208.40	1 104.10	1 122.40	888.80	1 183.90	1 225.10	1 020.60
2008									
February	1 269.30	1 332.60	1 216.10	1 113.20	1 131.10	896.10	1 192.40	1 233.30	1 027.50
May	1 280.50	1 345.10	1 227.60	1 123.80	1 141.60	904.40	1 203.20	1 244.80	1 036.70
August	1 293.90	1 360.30	1 240.70	1 135.70	1 154.00	913.60	1 215.80	1 258.40	1 047.20
November	1 308.80	1 377.00	1 254.60	1 148.50	1 167.50	923.20	1 229.40	1 273.30	1 058.20
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	0.7	0.7	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
November	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6
2008									
February	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
May	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
August	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0
November	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	4.3	4.7	4.9	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.5
2007									
November(a)	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np	np
2008									
November	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.7

np not published due to break in series.

(a) Break in series between November 2006 and February 2007. See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory Notes.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 251.50	1 315.70	1 198.80	1 094.30	1 112.10	881.50	1 174.40	1 216.10	1 012.90
November	1 261.00	1 324.90	1 209.80	1 104.30	1 123.30	888.30	1 184.10	1 225.80	1 021.00
2008									
February	1 270.60	1 332.80	1 218.10	1 113.00	1 130.60	897.20	1 193.10	1 233.40	1 028.90
May	1 278.60	1 342.50	1 221.80	1 123.90	1 141.60	903.00	1 202.00	1 243.00	1 033.00
August	1 292.40	1 360.50	1 245.00	1 134.00	1 151.90	913.50	1 214.50	1 258.10	1 049.40
November	1 311.90	1 379.10	1 254.10	1 150.50	1 170.10	924.40	1 231.80	1 275.10	1 058.40
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	0.4	0.4	-0.2	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.3
November	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
2008									
February	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.8
May	0.6	0.7	0.3	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.4
August	1.1	1.3	1.9	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.6
November	1.5	1.4	0.7	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.4	0.9
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	4.0	4.5	5.0	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.0	4.4	4.7
2007									
November(a)	3.0	3.0	2.4	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.2	3.2	2.6
2008									
November	4.0	4.1	3.7	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.7

(a) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory Notes.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Public sector: **Original**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
2007									
August	1 251.10	1 313.00	1 193.80	1 095.70	1 113.80	878.70	1 174.90	1 215.30	1 008.80
November	1 263.00	1 329.20	1 205.90	1 108.00	1 126.20	882.40	1 187.00	1 229.70	1 015.20
2008									
February	1 271.20	1 333.30	1 235.00	1 109.30	1 126.30	910.30	1 191.70	1 231.60	1 045.00
May	1 276.60	1 340.60	1 213.90	1 122.60	1 141.20	898.60	1 200.20	1 241.70	1 026.90
August	1 291.40	1 357.00	1 239.40	1 135.00	1 153.50	910.30	1 214.40	1 256.90	1 044.90
November	1 314.50	1 384.30	1 250.40	1 154.80	1 173.50	918.60	1 235.30	1 279.70	1 052.70
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER (%)									
2007									
August	0.6	0.4	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.4
November	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.4	1.0	1.2	0.6
2008									
February	0.6	0.3	2.4	0.1	0.0	3.2	0.4	0.2	2.9
May	0.4	0.6	-1.7	1.2	1.3	-1.3	0.7	0.8	-1.7
August	1.2	1.2	2.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.8
November	1.8	2.0	0.9	1.7	1.7	0.9	1.7	1.8	0.7
CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)									
2006									
November	4.0	4.6	5.0	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.1	4.5	4.8
2007									
November(a)	3.0	3.1	2.4	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.3	3.3	2.7
2008									
November	4.1	4.1	3.7	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.7

(a) See paragraph 42 of the Explanatory Notes.

Industry	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
DOLLARS									
Mining	2 030.30	2 114.80	2 084.60	1 547.90	1 559.60	1 400.10	1 965.20	2 039.90	1 978.00
Manufacturing	1 133.40	1 226.90	1 153.00	983.30	1 026.40	875.70	1 100.30	1 182.60	1 079.40
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 438.10	1 600.10	1 552.60	1 225.10	1 248.30	1 135.90	1 395.30	1 529.50	1 457.00
Construction	1 205.30	1 342.40	1 203.20	1 060.80	1 091.90	706.30	1 194.50	1 323.60	1 134.00
Wholesale trade	1 144.30	1 198.30	1 087.50	969.50	990.40	770.50	1 096.80	1 141.80	980.60
Retail trade	916.80	952.50	652.90	826.80	840.50	474.80	881.30	908.30	554.20
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	876.80	901.10	590.80	775.10	801.80	445.60	836.20	861.40	509.10
Transport and storage	1 176.20	1 348.90	1 208.70	942.30	990.80	818.90	1 120.70	1 263.90	1 101.80
Communication services	1 244.20	1 315.60	1 184.80	1 093.90	1 115.80	883.80	1 199.30	1 255.90	1 075.70
Finance and insurance	1 716.10	1 725.70	1 626.00	1 169.30	1 179.40	997.90	1 442.30	1 452.20	1 269.00
Property and business services	1 415.50	1 447.20	1 252.10	1 076.40	1 084.20	808.10	1 283.40	1 305.80	1 042.70
Government administration and defence	1 269.20	1 313.80	1 232.50	1 176.50	1 187.60	982.90	1 226.90	1 256.20	1 099.70
Education	1 304.30	1 313.70	1 031.30	1 163.30	1 165.70	805.00	1 216.20	1 221.20	872.00
Health and community services	1 377.40	1 468.30	1 135.20	973.90	1 004.10	707.80	1 091.90	1 139.80	788.30
Cultural and recreational services	1 236.10	1 256.00	787.90	1 027.30	1 035.30	514.30	1 146.20	1 161.00	630.90
Personal and other services	1 213.00	1 265.80	1 051.40	972.20	988.10	721.40	1 123.40	1 162.50	898.20
All industries	1 244.10	1 315.50	1 100.60	1 032.00	1 050.10	717.80	1 165.30	1 216.80	909.50

CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR (%)

Mining	7.3	7.2	6.9	4.6	4.7	4.5	6.8	6.7	6.3
Manufacturing	7.0	5.6	4.0	4.6	5.5	6.4	6.4	5.5	4.6
Electricity, gas and water supply	6.5	5.8	5.7	8.4	8.2	7.8	6.7	6.0	5.9
Construction	8.3	8.2	5.5	8.1	7.6	1.0	8.3	8.2	4.4
Wholesale trade	6.9	6.6	5.3	0.5	0.8	-1.6	5.2	5.1	3.1
Retail trade	0.8	0.5	0.9	5.5	5.3	6.2	1.9	1.6	2.4
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	2.4	2.7	0.3	-0.9	-0.3	4.4	1.1	1.5	3.2
Transport and storage	8.2	11.0	10.3	3.7	4.9	7.1	7.2	9.7	9.6
Communication services	1.1	0.3	-1.8	0.9	0.4	2.4	1.0	0.2	-0.4
Finance and insurance	3.2	3.2	3.4	6.2	6.1	8.0	4.3	4.2	5.5
Property and business services	5.2	4.4	6.9	9.1	8.8	8.5	6.1	5.4	6.7
Government administration and defence	4.4	4.8	4.2	5.5	5.4	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.5
Education	3.4	3.3	5.1	3.3	3.4	1.7	3.3	3.3	2.6
Health and community services	2.5	3.1	-0.8	5.5	5.3	4.7	3.9	3.9	2.7
Cultural and recreational services	5.3	5.3	-2.0	7.0	6.8	11.0	5.6	5.5	4.2
Personal and other services	8.5	7.8	7.8	4.3	4.2	11.8	6.8	6.3	10.0
All industries	6.1	5.9	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.5	5.3	4.2

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2007									
August	1 206.50	1 271.10	1 086.00	1 022.10	1 039.10	729.70	1 137.60	1 184.50	912.40
November	1 210.40	1 279.80	1 089.90	1 029.30	1 046.40	728.70	1 142.80	1 192.80	913.20
2008									
February	1 212.10	1 284.60	1 088.30	1 031.60	1 048.60	727.60	1 144.40	1 196.10	911.30
May	1 219.80	1 292.30	1 087.10	1 034.50	1 051.40	729.80	1 149.50	1 200.80	910.70
August	1 233.50	1 303.80	1 088.50	1 041.40	1 057.70	734.30	1 159.70	1 209.40	912.30
November	1 250.90	1 318.10	1 092.20	1 050.90	1 066.50	740.10	1 173.10	1 220.60	915.40
VICTORIA									
2007									
August	1 132.00	1 198.20	1 031.70	952.70	968.80	651.70	1 072.60	1 122.50	850.90
November	1 141.00	1 209.80	1 036.10	966.20	982.90	659.40	1 081.10	1 132.00	853.70
2008									
February	1 152.60	1 222.30	1 040.30	981.70	998.30	672.30	1 091.60	1 141.90	858.40
May	1 171.20	1 239.40	1 049.70	998.00	1 014.20	686.50	1 107.70	1 156.70	867.00
August	1 191.20	1 256.50	1 061.20	1 012.40	1 028.30	699.50	1 124.40	1 172.00	877.30
November	1 209.40	1 269.70	1 071.40	1 023.30	1 038.80	711.00	1 138.40	1 183.80	886.70
QUEENSLAND									
2007									
August	1 086.30	1 155.70	963.60	923.80	940.20	655.90	1 025.10	1 074.40	812.40
November	1 094.80	1 162.40	967.70	937.80	953.90	662.90	1 035.60	1 083.50	818.70
2008									
February	1 109.10	1 177.80	984.20	951.20	967.10	669.50	1 049.90	1 098.90	831.00
May	1 132.70	1 204.20	1 010.00	963.70	980.40	676.80	1 070.40	1 122.10	848.20
August	1 158.40	1 233.00	1 037.70	976.10	994.70	686.80	1 093.10	1 147.60	868.10
November	1 183.10	1 260.30	1 064.50	988.20	1 009.10	697.10	1 115.60	1 172.90	888.60
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2007									
August	1 073.60	1 126.10	942.10	927.90	944.90	624.40	1 024.10	1 064.80	787.30
November	1 087.80	1 137.40	954.30	930.00	947.00	631.30	1 033.10	1 071.50	793.60
2008									
February	1 098.30	1 148.70	960.80	933.50	950.30	641.40	1 040.50	1 078.80	800.90
May	1 114.30	1 165.50	972.40	945.70	961.60	655.40	1 054.90	1 093.50	814.00
August	1 136.30	1 187.80	990.40	964.70	979.50	670.10	1 075.90	1 114.80	830.90
November	1 160.70	1 212.10	1 009.50	986.90	1 000.50	683.60	1 100.40	1 139.80	848.60
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2007									
August	1 304.50	1 382.30	1 190.10	955.00	974.70	656.70	1 192.20	1 251.10	941.80
November	1 337.70	1 419.30	1 220.20	973.20	993.40	666.30	1 221.90	1 284.00	964.20
2008									
February	1 368.40	1 454.40	1 245.50	992.60	1 013.60	672.40	1 249.30	1 314.70	980.30
May	1 397.00	1 487.00	1 271.00	1 011.90	1 034.00	679.70	1 273.50	1 341.80	993.30
August	1 423.20	1 516.50	1 296.10	1 031.10	1 053.70	689.90	1 295.20	1 365.40	1 005.60
November	1 447.70	1 543.80	1 318.80	1 050.40	1 072.90	701.90	1 315.70	1 387.40	1 017.30

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
2007									
August	1 046.20	1 109.80	922.70	934.70	946.90	609.00	1 008.30	1 053.90	762.90
November	1 046.70	1 110.90	930.20	941.80	955.00	613.80	1 010.90	1 057.40	768.20
2008									
February	1 047.00	1 107.60	930.40	943.70	956.80	617.30	1 011.30	1 056.20	769.70
May	1 055.90	1 112.50	930.10	947.90	961.40	617.50	1 018.80	1 061.10	769.90
August	1 071.20	1 126.40	933.60	955.10	969.60	615.80	1 031.80	1 072.50	771.30
November	1 091.60	1 146.90	940.70	963.60	979.60	614.00	1 048.40	1 088.10	774.20
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2007									
August	1 118.70	1 186.70	997.90	965.30	989.20	751.80	1 050.60	1 098.80	872.20
November	1 134.90	1 202.50	1 026.60	973.60	997.70	763.50	1 065.20	1 113.70	893.00
2008									
February	1 158.00	1 224.30	1 055.00	978.90	1 002.50	775.10	1 081.00	1 129.20	913.70
May	1 180.90	1 244.70	1 073.50	987.10	1 010.10	783.90	1 095.90	1 142.00	925.70
August	1 201.80	1 262.50	1 085.40	1 000.20	1 021.50	791.00	1 110.80	1 153.50	931.40
November	1 221.10	1 277.80	1 094.70	1 013.10	1 031.60	794.10	1 124.60	1 162.70	932.60
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2007									
August	1 359.00	1 383.00	1 191.60	1 168.70	1 177.80	885.40	1 272.30	1 289.60	1 030.00
November	1 362.80	1 387.80	1 206.50	1 179.80	1 189.90	894.20	1 281.00	1 299.20	1 042.70
2008									
February	1 376.80	1 402.50	1 224.70	1 192.30	1 202.90	900.00	1 296.10	1 314.90	1 055.10
May	1 403.60	1 428.20	1 251.00	1 206.40	1 216.80	911.50	1 316.60	1 335.10	1 073.20
August	1 434.00	1 456.50	1 277.00	1 221.70	1 231.60	929.30	1 338.30	1 355.60	1 093.40
November	1 465.50	1 486.70	1 302.70	1 237.10	1 246.60	950.80	1 360.30	1 376.50	1 115.30

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, States & territories: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2007									
August	1 206.40	1 271.20	1 086.30	1 022.40	1 039.30	728.60	1 137.80	1 185.20	911.80
November	1 208.10	1 274.80	1 086.40	1 028.90	1 046.00	729.50	1 141.50	1 190.10	913.10
2008									
February	1 217.10	1 293.60	1 094.10	1 037.80	1 052.90	727.50	1 149.80	1 203.30	912.80
May	1 213.20	1 285.00	1 083.80	1 025.00	1 045.20	726.60	1 141.90	1 193.10	907.80
August	1 230.70	1 300.30	1 083.50	1 043.00	1 057.10	736.00	1 158.90	1 208.00	911.70
November	1 258.30	1 326.00	1 099.00	1 054.90	1 071.00	740.60	1 178.80	1 226.60	917.80
VICTORIA									
2007									
August	1 138.90	1 208.10	1 039.80	958.60	975.60	648.90	1 081.70	1 135.20	854.60
November	1 136.40	1 204.30	1 032.40	959.80	975.20	658.60	1 073.60	1 124.00	850.60
2008									
February	1 149.70	1 219.00	1 036.90	981.60	999.60	674.20	1 090.40	1 138.90	857.80
May	1 171.10	1 239.90	1 049.70	1 002.00	1 017.60	685.50	1 108.40	1 158.00	866.60
August	1 196.00	1 262.90	1 065.10	1 011.50	1 027.20	700.90	1 128.00	1 177.30	878.10
November	1 205.70	1 264.30	1 068.30	1 022.60	1 038.60	710.90	1 135.00	1 178.40	887.10
QUEENSLAND									
2007									
August	1 089.00	1 158.60	958.10	919.90	936.60	658.10	1 024.90	1 073.20	808.80
November	1 091.60	1 159.30	971.40	944.70	960.70	666.20	1 037.20	1 085.30	823.00
2008									
February	1 108.50	1 176.00	980.80	947.80	963.70	668.30	1 048.10	1 096.10	829.90
May	1 128.20	1 199.90	1 007.70	960.60	976.80	671.70	1 064.90	1 117.60	843.80
August	1 165.90	1 242.10	1 042.80	981.90	1 000.20	692.10	1 101.30	1 155.50	871.70
November	1 179.30	1 255.10	1 063.20	984.90	1 006.70	695.70	1 111.50	1 168.70	889.30
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2007									
August	1 074.10	1 126.70	948.30	927.10	944.30	624.90	1 023.90	1 064.20	790.00
November	1 094.00	1 144.50	956.00	934.20	951.20	636.40	1 038.00	1 077.90	796.50
2008									
February	1 093.20	1 141.10	958.50	932.60	949.50	632.40	1 038.00	1 073.40	795.10
May	1 111.60	1 166.30	969.10	936.20	952.20	658.60	1 048.90	1 090.60	814.90
August	1 136.50	1 186.50	989.00	971.20	986.00	673.80	1 078.30	1 115.70	831.00
November	1 164.30	1 215.40	1 015.80	987.30	1 000.80	679.60	1 102.70	1 142.10	849.80
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2007									
August	1 305.30	1 381.40	1 193.90	953.60	974.00	658.50	1 191.90	1 249.30	944.90
November	1 328.60	1 409.50	1 213.60	970.90	990.10	666.80	1 215.10	1 276.80	960.20
2008									
February	1 380.60	1 469.30	1 251.20	995.70	1 016.50	669.90	1 259.60	1 326.30	984.00
May	1 391.70	1 478.50	1 267.90	1 013.10	1 035.60	684.30	1 269.80	1 337.00	994.30
August	1 422.40	1 518.30	1 296.10	1 026.20	1 049.70	681.20	1 293.20	1 364.70	1 000.60
November	1 451.20	1 546.40	1 321.70	1 054.70	1 076.10	708.90	1 319.40	1 390.30	1 022.00

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
2007									
August	1 038.90	1 103.60	924.60	936.50	949.50	607.80	1 006.00	1 051.50	763.60
November	1 047.40	1 111.20	923.70	937.80	950.80	614.20	1 010.00	1 055.10	767.10
2008									
February	1 053.20	1 118.70	938.30	948.90	962.80	616.70	1 016.30	1 065.10	770.90
May	1 045.80	1 094.90	930.40	943.20	955.40	621.70	1 009.70	1 048.40	772.10
August	1 070.20	1 127.60	919.50	953.10	967.80	611.60	1 032.70	1 073.30	764.40
November	1 099.30	1 156.50	954.70	968.80	985.40	615.30	1 053.50	1 095.20	779.80
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2007									
August	1 110.40	1 182.10	990.20	978.70	1 005.60	761.60	1 051.90	1 102.90	875.80
November	1 138.80	1 204.20	1 020.30	967.00	988.00	750.00	1 064.60	1 110.50	879.60
2008									
February	1 159.80	1 226.80	1 073.30	981.50	1 004.70	787.90	1 082.50	1 131.10	930.30
May	1 176.50	1 240.10	1 065.70	983.10	1 008.90	776.00	1 094.30	1 142.40	920.70
August	1 207.20	1 269.40	1 083.40	1 000.50	1 020.50	795.40	1 111.80	1 153.70	931.20
November	1 219.20	1 274.20	1 100.40	1 016.30	1 034.30	793.90	1 125.30	1 162.60	934.30
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2007									
August	1 345.90	1 367.80	1 180.10	1 166.40	1 175.10	883.60	1 263.80	1 279.30	1 023.50
November	1 382.00	1 404.80	1 217.10	1 179.60	1 189.80	900.90	1 290.10	1 307.50	1 051.40
2008									
February	1 354.30	1 385.30	1 218.00	1 194.80	1 205.90	896.10	1 287.90	1 308.60	1 049.40
May	1 410.20	1 433.70	1 248.10	1 203.30	1 213.60	909.00	1 317.80	1 337.10	1 072.60
August	1 439.90	1 458.90	1 285.50	1 221.60	1 231.30	926.90	1 341.40	1 356.10	1 094.60
November	1 459.70	1 484.40	1 298.00	1 239.90	1 249.50	956.60	1 358.50	1 376.60	1 116.30

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, States & territories: Original

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2007									
August	1 207.70	1 272.10	1 089.60	1 024.30	1 042.30	729.60	1 139.40	1 186.50	913.50
November	1 208.40	1 279.40	1 085.50	1 026.80	1 045.50	727.90	1 141.20	1 192.80	911.60
2008									
February	1 218.50	1 292.80	1 100.10	1 039.10	1 054.90	731.70	1 150.60	1 202.80	918.00
May	1 210.10	1 280.30	1 075.40	1 024.00	1 040.70	723.00	1 139.60	1 189.50	902.50
August	1 231.80	1 300.90	1 086.60	1 044.50	1 060.10	737.30	1 160.40	1 209.10	913.30
November	1 259.20	1 331.30	1 098.40	1 052.90	1 070.40	738.80	1 178.90	1 229.70	916.40
VICTORIA									
2007									
August	1 143.40	1 207.40	1 044.10	957.80	974.40	649.50	1 083.00	1 131.50	858.50
November	1 132.90	1 206.20	1 027.10	959.10	975.90	654.80	1 072.30	1 125.80	844.10
2008									
February	1 150.20	1 220.70	1 043.30	983.30	1 000.60	680.20	1 091.40	1 143.10	864.80
May	1 169.50	1 236.60	1 044.10	1 002.10	1 017.20	683.10	1 107.70	1 155.60	862.50
August	1 201.60	1 263.40	1 069.80	1 010.40	1 025.60	700.70	1 129.50	1 173.80	881.80
November	1 201.30	1 265.60	1 062.40	1 022.10	1 039.70	707.50	1 133.30	1 179.80	880.30
QUEENSLAND									
2007									
August	1 092.20	1 163.60	961.20	925.00	941.10	654.00	1 027.10	1 076.90	808.50
November	1 089.10	1 157.70	965.40	942.10	958.30	666.70	1 034.40	1 083.50	820.70
2008									
February	1 104.80	1 167.20	977.20	947.00	963.00	673.00	1 046.60	1 091.90	831.30
May	1 130.90	1 205.30	1 014.60	958.80	975.50	670.10	1 066.90	1 119.90	844.70
August	1 169.50	1 247.30	1 045.30	986.60	1 004.50	688.40	1 103.40	1 159.60	871.50
November	1 177.10	1 253.90	1 057.60	983.30	1 004.70	696.10	1 109.30	1 166.70	887.20
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2007									
August	1 071.20	1 119.80	946.00	924.20	940.90	620.30	1 021.20	1 059.00	785.70
November	1 098.30	1 150.40	957.00	936.10	954.20	629.60	1 041.90	1 082.20	793.40
2008									
February	1 095.30	1 148.80	960.60	933.70	950.10	641.10	1 038.60	1 079.10	800.90
May	1 108.00	1 159.40	967.60	935.90	952.00	661.70	1 046.90	1 085.80	816.30
August	1 133.20	1 178.70	986.80	967.90	982.20	668.30	1 075.30	1 109.80	826.40
November	1 169.80	1 223.30	1 018.60	989.90	1 004.50	673.00	1 107.70	1 147.70	847.50
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2007									
August	1 303.80	1 376.50	1 191.90	952.80	972.60	663.50	1 190.70	1 246.40	946.70
November	1 330.20	1 412.80	1 220.10	972.30	991.90	666.10	1 216.60	1 279.30	963.20
2008									
February	1 379.50	1 465.60	1 254.00	997.10	1 017.70	671.70	1 259.10	1 324.50	986.20
May	1 392.60	1 483.90	1 259.90	1 011.50	1 034.30	677.80	1 270.10	1 339.40	986.80
August	1 421.00	1 513.10	1 294.30	1 024.20	1 047.40	686.50	1 291.50	1 361.10	1 002.30
November	1 452.80	1 549.90	1 329.00	1 057.10	1 078.40	708.60	1 321.40	1 393.30	1 025.90

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TASMANIA									
2007									
August	1 035.70	1 094.00	917.40	937.80	949.50	602.20	1 002.40	1 044.80	755.10
November	1 049.70	1 113.30	924.20	939.90	951.20	612.80	1 012.10	1 057.90	765.10
2008									
February	1 055.30	1 123.60	945.90	945.20	961.00	623.60	1 017.70	1 068.10	780.50
May	1 044.90	1 098.30	930.20	944.00	957.50	622.50	1 010.20	1 049.90	773.80
August	1 066.50	1 116.40	911.40	953.40	966.80	604.80	1 027.80	1 065.30	754.60
November	1 102.20	1 159.50	955.40	971.40	986.20	614.50	1 056.40	1 098.80	778.20
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2007									
August	1 112.10	1 185.30	1 002.30	975.00	1 002.70	767.60	1 051.50	1 104.50	884.20
November	1 139.70	1 206.00	1 021.80	967.90	988.70	745.80	1 065.00	1 111.50	878.60
2008									
February	1 154.50	1 212.70	1 058.20	985.30	1 007.20	794.60	1 082.30	1 125.10	927.50
May	1 178.70	1 248.40	1 066.00	982.20	1 008.80	767.50	1 094.20	1 145.40	915.40
August	1 209.90	1 274.10	1 097.00	996.20	1 017.00	802.20	1 111.80	1 156.10	940.70
November	1 219.90	1 275.40	1 101.80	1 017.70	1 035.40	788.90	1 125.50	1 163.30	932.70
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2007									
August	1 348.90	1 372.00	1 185.70	1 168.90	1 178.20	882.70	1 267.70	1 284.60	1 025.80
November	1 384.00	1 409.90	1 222.10	1 185.10	1 194.80	901.80	1 296.90	1 315.70	1 057.10
2008									
February	1 358.40	1 382.40	1 221.30	1 196.10	1 206.70	902.50	1 285.70	1 303.80	1 053.10
May	1 400.70	1 426.90	1 232.90	1 194.20	1 204.80	902.30	1 309.00	1 328.20	1 060.10
August	1 443.20	1 463.50	1 291.70	1 223.90	1 234.20	926.00	1 345.60	1 361.50	1 097.00
November	1 461.70	1 490.20	1 305.10	1 245.40	1 254.60	958.00	1 365.80	1 385.80	1 123.90

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Quarterly percentage change: **Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2008									
May	0.6	0.6	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	-0.1
August	1.1	0.9	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.2
November	1.4	1.1	0.3	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.3
VICTORIA									
2008									
May	1.6	1.4	0.9	1.7	1.6	2.1	1.5	1.3	1.0
August	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.2
November	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.1
QUEENSLAND									
2008									
May	2.1	2.2	2.6	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.9	2.1	2.1
August	2.3	2.4	2.7	1.3	1.5	1.5	2.1	2.3	2.4
November	2.1	2.2	2.6	1.2	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.2	2.4
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2008									
May	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.2	2.2	1.4	1.4	1.6
August	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.1
November	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.1
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2008									
May	2.1	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.1	1.9	2.1	1.3
August	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.2
November	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.2
TASMANIA									
2008									
May	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.0
August	1.5	1.2	0.4	0.8	0.9	-0.3	1.3	1.1	0.2
November	1.9	1.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	-0.3	1.6	1.5	0.4
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2008									
May	2.0	1.7	1.7	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.3
August	1.8	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.0	0.6
November	1.6	1.2	0.8	1.3	1.0	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.1
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2008									
May	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.7
August	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.3	1.2	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.9
November	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.3	1.2	2.3	1.6	1.5	2.0

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Quarterly percentage change: **Seasonally adjusted**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2008									
May	-0.3	-0.7	-0.9	-1.2	-0.7	-0.1	-0.7	-0.8	-0.6
August	1.4	1.2	0.0	1.8	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.3	0.4
November	2.2	2.0	1.4	1.1	1.3	0.6	1.7	1.5	0.7
VICTORIA									
2008									
May	1.9	1.7	1.2	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.0
August	2.1	1.9	1.5	0.9	0.9	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.3
November	0.8	0.1	0.3	1.1	1.1	1.4	0.6	0.1	1.0
QUEENSLAND									
2008									
May	1.8	2.0	2.8	1.3	1.4	0.5	1.6	2.0	1.7
August	3.3	3.5	3.5	2.2	2.4	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.3
November	1.2	1.0	2.0	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.9	1.1	2.0
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2008									
May	1.7	2.2	1.1	0.4	0.3	4.1	1.1	1.6	2.5
August	2.2	1.7	2.1	3.7	3.5	2.3	2.8	2.3	2.0
November	2.4	2.4	2.7	1.7	1.5	0.9	2.3	2.4	2.3
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2008									
May	0.8	0.6	1.3	1.8	1.9	2.2	0.8	0.8	1.0
August	2.2	2.7	2.2	1.3	1.4	-0.5	1.8	2.1	0.6
November	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.8	2.5	4.1	2.0	1.9	2.1
TASMANIA									
2008									
May	-0.7	-2.1	-0.8	-0.6	-0.8	0.8	-0.7	-1.6	0.2
August	2.3	3.0	-1.2	1.0	1.3	-1.6	2.3	2.4	-1.0
November	2.7	2.6	3.8	1.7	1.8	0.6	2.0	2.0	2.0
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2008									
May	1.4	1.1	-0.7	0.2	0.4	-1.5	1.1	1.0	-1.0
August	2.6	2.4	1.7	1.8	1.2	2.5	1.6	1.0	1.1
November	1.0	0.4	1.6	1.6	1.3	-0.2	1.2	0.8	0.3
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2008									
May	4.1	3.5	2.5	0.7	0.6	1.4	2.3	2.2	2.2
August	2.1	1.8	3.0	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.8	1.4	2.1
November	1.4	1.7	1.0	1.5	1.5	3.2	1.3	1.5	2.0

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
2008									
May	-0.7	-1.0	-2.2	-1.5	-1.3	-1.2	-1.0	-1.1	-1.7
August	1.8	1.6	1.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.2
November	2.2	2.3	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.2	1.6	1.7	0.3
VICTORIA									
2008									
May	1.7	1.3	0.1	1.9	1.7	0.4	1.5	1.1	-0.3
August	2.7	2.2	2.5	0.8	0.8	2.6	2.0	1.6	2.2
November	0.0	0.2	-0.7	1.2	1.4	1.0	0.3	0.5	-0.2
QUEENSLAND									
2008									
May	2.4	3.3	3.8	1.2	1.3	-0.4	1.9	2.6	1.6
August	3.4	3.5	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.7	3.4	3.5	3.2
November	0.6	0.5	1.2	-0.3	0.0	1.1	0.5	0.6	1.8
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
2008									
May	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.2	3.2	0.8	0.6	1.9
August	2.3	1.7	2.0	3.4	3.2	1.0	2.7	2.2	1.2
November	3.2	3.8	3.2	2.3	2.3	0.7	3.0	3.4	2.6
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
2008									
May	0.9	1.2	0.5	1.4	1.6	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.1
August	2.0	2.0	2.7	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.6	1.6
November	2.2	2.4	2.7	3.2	3.0	3.2	2.3	2.4	2.4
TASMANIA									
2008									
May	-1.0	-2.3	-1.7	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.7	-1.7	-0.9
August	2.1	1.6	-2.0	1.0	1.0	-2.8	1.7	1.5	-2.5
November	3.3	3.9	4.8	1.9	2.0	1.6	2.8	3.1	3.1
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
2008									
May	2.1	2.9	0.7	-0.3	0.2	-3.4	1.1	1.8	-1.3
August	2.6	2.1	2.9	1.4	0.8	4.5	1.6	0.9	2.8
November	0.8	0.1	0.4	2.2	1.8	-1.7	1.2	0.6	-0.9
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
2008									
May	3.1	3.2	1.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	1.8	1.9	0.7
August	3.0	2.6	4.8	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.5	3.5
November	1.3	1.8	1.0	1.8	1.7	3.5	1.5	1.8	2.5

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Annual percentage change: **Trend**

Reference period	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
November									
2006	1.9	1.1	3.5	1.4	1.4	1.7	2.1	1.2	2.4
2007	4.2	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.4	3.3	4.4	5.0	3.7
2008	3.3	3.0	0.2	2.1	1.9	1.6	2.6	2.3	0.2
VICTORIA									
November									
2006	3.1	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.4	3.9	2.2	0.8	1.8
2007	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.8	6.0	2.7	5.4	5.7	4.2
2008	6.0	5.0	3.4	5.9	5.7	7.8	5.3	4.6	3.9
QUEENSLAND									
November									
2006	3.9	4.9	9.3	3.3	3.5	7.5	3.7	4.4	8.6
2007	5.0	3.7	-0.6	6.8	6.8	5.2	5.5	4.5	1.6
2008	8.1	8.4	10.0	5.4	5.8	5.2	7.7	8.3	8.5
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
November									
2006	4.3	6.4	7.6	2.2	2.5	7.0	3.9	5.6	8.8
2007	5.9	3.5	5.5	2.5	2.4	4.6	4.5	2.7	3.5
2008	6.7	6.6	5.8	6.1	5.7	8.3	6.5	6.4	6.9
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
November									
2006	7.5	6.8	6.3	6.3	6.5	10.0	7.3	6.8	8.5
2007	9.1	9.6	12.1	6.7	7.1	7.9	8.7	9.2	10.7
2008	8.2	8.8	8.1	7.9	8.0	5.3	7.7	8.1	5.5
TASMANIA									
November									
2006	5.3	5.5	2.3	5.9	5.8	3.8	5.2	5.4	2.2
2007	4.2	5.3	8.5	7.7	7.6	2.9	5.5	6.3	5.5
2008	4.3	3.2	1.1	2.3	2.6	0.0	3.7	2.9	0.8
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
November									
2006	-1.6	-2.9	-1.5	6.4	6.3	10.1	1.0	0.0	2.9
2007	4.2	3.9	7.1	5.3	5.3	7.3	4.8	4.7	7.3
2008	7.6	6.3	6.6	4.1	3.4	4.0	5.6	4.4	4.4
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
November									
2006	6.1	6.2	8.6	5.3	5.3	2.8	6.1	6.2	6.4
2007	2.8	2.5	0.9	4.7	4.9	2.9	2.8	2.6	0.3
2008	7.5	7.1	8.0	4.9	4.8	6.3	6.2	6.0	7.0

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Standard errors—States & territories

States & territories	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	<i>Full-time adult ordinary time earnings</i>	<i>Full-time adult total earnings</i>	<i>All employees total earnings</i>	<i>Full-time adult ordinary time earnings</i>	<i>Full-time adult total earnings</i>	<i>All employees total earnings</i>	<i>Full-time adult ordinary time earnings</i>	<i>Full-time adult total earnings</i>	<i>All employees total earnings</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LEVEL									
New South Wales	22.60	23.30	22.10	10.60	10.80	13.60	15.20	15.60	16.00
Victoria	25.10	27.40	29.50	16.40	16.90	13.70	18.70	20.20	18.20
Queensland	20.80	22.80	25.80	15.10	14.30	15.60	16.30	17.20	20.40
South Australia	23.70	22.70	23.40	12.50	12.40	10.90	17.40	16.80	14.20
Western Australia	22.70	22.90	28.70	14.50	14.00	18.10	18.20	19.40	24.90
Tasmania	45.00	45.20	40.60	30.00	30.20	22.20	35.30	35.40	27.00
Northern Territory	30.50	36.20	22.90	18.40	19.70	24.50	20.40	23.50	24.50
Australian Capital Territory	42.30	45.30	50.30	15.30	15.30	29.60	26.20	27.90	34.00
Australia	11.60	12.10	12.80	6.80	6.80	7.10	8.60	8.80	8.90
QUARTERLY MOVEMENT									
New South Wales	10.10	10.40	14.00	5.40	5.40	10.90	6.90	7.20	12.50
Victoria	14.30	15.10	14.50	10.60	10.80	5.30	11.60	12.10	8.70
Queensland	7.40	12.40	11.40	8.90	8.50	13.20	6.40	9.00	11.70
South Australia	9.70	11.20	8.80	5.50	5.70	5.30	6.80	7.60	5.70
Western Australia	11.70	11.80	14.80	8.00	8.00	8.70	8.80	9.00	11.10
Tasmania	16.70	16.20	13.90	11.40	12.00	8.40	13.70	13.40	11.00
Northern Territory	12.00	11.40	12.00	7.70	7.00	12.80	9.10	8.70	10.50
Australian Capital Territory	13.20	16.60	14.40	8.60	8.70	9.30	6.70	8.40	8.40
Australia	4.70	5.00	6.40	4.10	4.10	4.50	3.90	4.20	5.40

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, Standard errors—Sector

Sector	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LEVEL									
Private sector	13.70	14.40	14.70	8.80	8.80	8.40	10.70	11.10	10.60
Public sector	3.80	3.50	4.50	1.50	1.50	2.80	2.30	2.20	3.20
All sectors	11.60	12.10	12.80	6.80	6.80	7.10	8.60	8.80	8.90
QUARTERLY MOVEMENT									
Private sector	5.70	6.10	7.50	5.30	5.40	5.30	5.00	5.30	6.50
Public sector	2.80	2.50	3.00	1.00	0.90	2.20	1.60	1.40	2.30
All sectors	4.70	5.00	6.40	4.10	4.10	4.50	3.90	4.20	5.40

	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full- time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full- time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full- time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
Industry	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LEVEL									
Mining	38.10	35.80	35.70	58.70	58.70	61.80	37.00	35.60	36.30
Manufacturing	18.70	19.60	20.80	21.90	25.40	23.40	17.10	17.50	18.60
Electricity, gas and water supply	20.80	21.30	24.30	14.70	15.10	18.70	19.10	19.80	22.40
Construction	42.60	45.20	47.80	39.90	40.00	42.90	39.70	42.00	45.00
Wholesale trade	29.70	29.30	28.60	29.40	29.30	30.90	26.50	26.10	26.60
Retail trade	20.60	19.80	23.70	20.40	23.00	16.00	15.90	15.90	18.60
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	22.70	23.80	20.50	20.10	21.00	22.60	15.60	16.10	19.20
Transport and storage	20.60	25.40	31.10	32.40	31.10	24.30	19.50	23.30	26.20
Communication services	19.30	21.60	33.80	17.30	17.90	25.00	17.00	18.60	25.90
Finance and insurance	40.20	39.60	43.50	15.90	16.10	14.60	26.60	26.30	26.40
Property and business services	46.10	46.50	44.30	21.40	21.40	27.70	32.00	32.50	31.40
Government administration and defence	7.90	6.70	8.70	3.60	3.50	9.50	5.10	4.40	8.40
Education	9.40	9.10	30.80	6.60	6.60	15.00	7.20	7.10	18.60
Health and community services	46.90	47.00	42.40	19.60	21.00	10.90	25.00	26.80	15.50
Cultural and recreational services	41.70	42.30	40.60	41.80	42.40	40.20	36.40	37.20	38.80
Personal and other services	30.70	31.80	35.90	32.80	33.60	21.60	28.60	29.50	27.10
All industries	11.60	12.10	12.80	6.80	6.80	7.10	8.60	8.80	8.90
QUARTERLY MOVEMENT									
Mining	16.50	16.50	18.10	9.10	9.20	7.60	14.60	14.60	14.90
Manufacturing	6.60	8.00	8.70	9.30	10.10	16.00	5.80	7.00	10.20
Electricity, gas and water supply	10.80	10.20	9.90	6.50	6.60	6.50	9.80	9.40	9.00
Construction	16.60	22.90	26.40	20.20	20.90	22.20	15.50	21.40	25.70
Wholesale trade	10.10	11.20	13.90	12.90	12.80	16.90	8.50	9.60	13.10
Retail trade	7.60	7.70	10.70	5.60	5.60	10.40	5.40	5.20	10.00
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	9.70	8.50	10.30	14.30	14.10	10.40	9.20	8.50	8.10
Transport and storage	13.50	14.30	30.70	21.80	14.10	18.70	14.10	11.50	23.90
Communication services	23.80	27.10	17.20	3.20	3.30	12.90	16.60	18.60	8.40
Finance and insurance	18.50	18.50	19.10	9.90	9.80	11.20	11.80	11.80	13.00
Property and business services	26.40	28.20	35.30	17.70	17.60	29.40	20.90	21.90	34.10
Government administration and defence	7.30	6.20	6.90	2.70	2.70	6.00	4.70	4.00	5.80
Education	5.60	5.40	15.90	4.90	4.90	8.60	4.50	4.50	10.00
Health and community services	16.20	16.80	17.90	9.90	10.20	6.00	9.20	9.70	7.20
Cultural and recreational services	18.70	18.70	19.00	9.40	9.00	14.40	11.80	12.00	13.20
Personal and other services	8.20	8.80	13.50	11.70	11.70	11.80	8.60	8.90	9.90
All industries	4.70	5.00	6.40	4.10	4.10	4.50	3.90	4.20	5.40

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains quarterly estimates of average weekly earnings based on information obtained from a sample survey of employers.

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

2 Descriptions of the underlying concepts of Australia's average weekly earnings statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

3 All wage and salary earners who received pay for the reference period are represented in the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE), except:

- members of the Australian permanent defence forces
- employees of enterprises primarily engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing
- employees of private households
- employees of overseas embassies, consulates, etc.
- employees based outside Australia
- 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:

- casual employees who did not receive pay during the reference period
- employees on leave without pay who did not receive pay during the reference period
- employees on strike, or stood down, who did not receive pay during the reference period
- directors who are not paid a salary
- proprietors/partners of unincorporated businesses
- self-employed persons such as subcontractors, owner/drivers, consultants
- persons paid solely by commission without a retainer.

5 The sample for AWE, like most Australian Bureau of Statistics (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 scheme). The population is updated quarterly to take account of:

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

6 The estimates include an allowance for the time it takes newly registered businesses to be added to the survey population.

7 Businesses which have ceased employing are identified when the ATO cancels their PAYGW registration. In addition businesses which do not remit under the PAYGW scheme for the previous five quarters are removed from the frame.

SURVEY DESIGN

8 A sample of approximately 5,500 employer units 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 Business Register. 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 average weekly earnings.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SURVEY DESIGN *continued*

9 The statistical unit for the survey comprises all the activities of an employer in a particular state or territory based on the Australian Business Number (ABN) unit or Type of Activity Unit (TAU) (see paragraphs 13 and 17). Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the business. The statistical units are stratified by state, sector, industry and employment size, and within each stratum, statistical units are selected with equal probability.

CHANGES TO THE ABS BUSINESS REGISTER

10 The introduction of The New Tax System in July 2000 had a number of significant implications for ABS business statistics, including changes to the populations for most business surveys. Refer to paragraphs 5 and 12. These implications are discussed in general terms in the information papers: *ABS Statistics and The New Tax System* (cat. no. 1358.0) and *Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [Arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0). In relation to the AWE survey, these changes caused a greater than normal rotation of businesses included in the sample for the May 2001 and August 2002 surveys.

STATISTICAL UNITS DEFINED ON THE ABS BUSINESS REGISTER

11 The ABS uses an economic statistics units model on the ABS Business Register to describe the characteristics of businesses, and the structural relationships between related businesses. The units model is also used to break groups of related businesses into relatively homogeneous components that can provide data to the ABS.

12 In mid-2002, to better use the information available as a result of The New Tax System, the ABS changed its economic statistics units model. The new units model allocates businesses to one of two sub-populations. The vast majority of businesses are in what is called the ATO Maintained Population, while the remaining businesses are in the ABS Maintained Population. Together, these two sub-populations make up the ABS Business Register population.

ATO Maintained Population

13 Most businesses and organisations in Australia need to obtain an Australian Business Number, and are then included on the ATO Australian Business Register. Most of these businesses have simple structures; therefore the unit registered for an ABN will satisfy ABS statistical requirements. For these businesses, the ABS has aligned its statistical units structure with the ABN unit. The businesses with simple structures constitute the ATO Maintained Population, and the ABN unit is used as the economic statistics unit for all economic collections.

ABS Maintained Population

14 For the population of businesses where the ABN unit is not suitable for ABS statistical requirements, the ABS maintains its own units structure through direct contact with businesses. These businesses constitute the ABS Maintained Population. This population consists typically of large, complex and diverse businesses. The new statistical units model described below has been introduced to cover such businesses.

15 Enterprise Group: This is a unit covering all the operations in Australia of one or more legal entities under common ownership and/or control. It covers all the operations in Australia of legal entities which are related in terms of the current Corporations Law (as amended by the *Corporations Legislation Amendment Act 1991*), including legal entities such as companies, trusts, and partnerships. Majority ownership is not required for control to be exercised.

16 Enterprise: The enterprise is an institutional unit comprising (i) a single legal entity or business entity, or (ii) more than one legal entity or business entity within the same Enterprise Group and in the same institutional subsector (i.e. they are all classified to a single Standard Institutional Sector Classification of Australia subsector).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ABS Maintained Population
continued

17 Type of Activity Unit (TAU): The TAU comprises one or more business entities, sub-entities or branches of a business entity within an Enterprise Group that can report production and employment data for similar economic activities. When a minimum set of data items is available, a TAU is created which covers all the operations within an industry subdivision (and the TAU is classified to the relevant subdivision of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification [ANZSIC]). Where a business cannot supply adequate data for each industry, a TAU is formed which contains activity in more than one industry subdivision.

18 For more information on the impacts of the introduction of the new economic statistics units model, refer to *Information Paper: Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [Arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0).

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

19 Average weekly earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. Changes in the averages may be affected not only by changes in the level of earnings of employees but also by changes in the overall composition of the wage and salary earner segment of the labour force.

20 There are several aspects which can contribute to compositional changes, including variations over time in the proportions of full-time, part-time, casual and junior employees; variations in the occupational distribution within and across industries; variations in the distribution of employment between industries; and variations in the proportion of male and female employees. Such effects may apply differently within different states and territories, and over time.

21 The definition of earnings currently used in the AWE survey is, broadly, current and regular payments in cash to employees for work done. Thus, earnings series from the AWE survey have historically excluded amounts salary sacrificed, as these have been considered conceptually as payments in kind. However, under the revised conceptual framework for measures of employee remuneration, as presented in *Information Paper: Changes to ABS Measures of Employee Remuneration* (cat. no. 6313.0), amounts salary sacrificed are now considered conceptually to be wages and salaries in cash. Accordingly, the AWE survey was redeveloped, and from August 2007, the collection of information on amounts salary sacrificed by employees commenced. However, the AWE series has continued to be published on the old conceptual basis (i.e. exclusive of amounts salary sacrificed) to maintain long term comparability of the time series.

22 Although the AWE survey has conceptually excluded amounts salary sacrificed, in practice, there was evidence that earnings series from the AWE survey had inadvertently included some amounts salary sacrificed. The ABS worked closely with data providers to identify any instances of mis-reporting, and to amend their reporting practices where necessary.

23 As a result of the separate collection of salary sacrificed amounts from August 2007, and other analyses, the ABS was able to quantify the extent of mis-reporting that had occurred, and to estimate the impact of this mis-reporting on the historical series. As a result, AWE data series for August 1996 through to May 2008 have been revised to exclude all amounts salary sacrificed. For further information see *Information Paper: Revisions to the Average Weekly Earnings Series* (cat. no. 6302.0.55.001) released 11 November 2008.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF SERIES

24 The current AWE series, based on information obtained from a sample survey of employers, was introduced in August 1981. Prior to August 1981 the AWE series was based principally on information from payroll tax returns. Revised estimates of average weekly earnings for the period August 1981 to November 1983 were included in *Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia, March Quarter 1984* (cat. no. 6302.0) published on 12 July 1984. Users who need a measure of the movement in earnings for a period which spans both the payroll tax based and employer survey series should refer to table 3 in that publication which presents both series linked to a common index base (August 1981 = 100.0).

COMPARABILITY WITH WAGE PRICE INDEX

25 Period-to-period movements for the Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) series are not comparable with those for the Wage Price Index (WPI) (previously known as the Wage Cost Index). It is important to recognise that the two series have different purposes and concepts and use different sample selection and estimation methodologies.

26 The AWE survey is designed to measure the level of average earnings in Australia at a point in time. It does this by collecting information from businesses on their number of employees and their total gross weekly earnings for a specific pay period each quarter. The WPI is a price index designed to measure the change over time in the price of labour. It does this by pricing specific jobs, in terms of wage and salary payments to employees occupying the jobs, and collecting information from businesses each quarter on price changes in those jobs. It is unaffected by changes in the quality and quantity of labour purchased by employers.

27 In addition to changes in the price of labour, AWE estimates are affected by changes in hours worked and by compositional changes in the employee workforce (see paragraphs 19 and 20). The WPI prices a fixed quantum of labour services for each job, and hence changes to base earnings resulting from increases in hours worked or from changes in the composition of the employee workforce will not be reflected in the index.

28 For further information on the WPI, please refer to the Explanatory Notes of *Labour Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6345.0) and *Labour Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6351.0.55.001) which are available on the ABS web site.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

29 Estimates of average weekly earnings are rounded to the nearest 10 cents.

30 Percentage changes are calculated on the actual values and may differ from calculations based on rounded estimates.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

31 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.

32 AWE uses the concurrent seasonal adjustment method to derive seasonal factors. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses data up to and including the current quarter to estimate seasonal factors for the current and all previous quarters. This process can result in revisions each quarter to estimates for earlier periods. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the seasonally adjusted estimates for the previous quarter and one year prior to the current quarter.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

continued

33 AWE also uses Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) modelling, which generally results in a reduction in revisions to seasonally adjusted and trend estimates when subsequent data become available. For more information on ARIMA modelling see *Feature article: Use of ARIMA modelling to reduce revisions* in the October 2004 issue of *Australian Economic Indicators* (cat. no. 1350.0).

34 While seasonal factors for the complete time series are estimated each quarter, they will continue to be reviewed annually at a more detailed level to take into account each additional year's original data. The annual review is conducted on data up to and including November each year, with the results reflected in estimates released in the February issue of this publication. This annual review will not normally result in significant changes to published estimates.

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

TREND ESTIMATES

36 Seasonally adjusted estimates can be smoothed to reduce the impact of irregular or non-seasonal influences. Smoothed seasonally adjusted series are called trend estimates.

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

38 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.

39 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.

40 For more information, refer to *Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends* (cat. no. 1349.0) which is available on the ABS web site.

41 Three 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)
- Direct Movement Estimator for the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (August 1998).

42 The privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 impacted on the private sector and public sector average weekly earnings series. For the purposes of ABS statistics this change from public sector to private sector was effective from March quarter 2007. The effect of this change was significant for both the private sector and public sector series. As a result, a trend break was applied to both series between November 2006 and February 2007. For more information please see *Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 8102.0), released 26 February 2007.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

43 The following publications contain related information:

- *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0)—issued quarterly
- *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia 1941–1990* (cat. no. 6350.0)
- *Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia* (cat. no. 6310.0)—issued annually
- *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia* (cat. no. 6306.0)—issued biennially
- *Information Paper: Changes to ABS Measures of Employee Remuneration* (cat. no. 6313.0)—issued 14 November 2006
- *Information Paper: Improvements in ABS Economic Statistics [Arising from The New Tax System]* (cat. no. 1372.0)—issued 6 May 2002
- *Information Paper: Revisions to Average Weekly Earnings Series* (cat. no. 6302.0.55.001)—issued 11 November 2008
- *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0)—issued monthly
- *Labour Force Projections, Australia 1999–2016* (cat. no. 6260.0)
- *Labour Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6345.0)—issued quarterly
- *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001)
- *Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia* (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002)—issued annually

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

44 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Details of additional data available are shown in the Appendix on page 33 of this publication.

APPENDIX ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

INTRODUCTION

As well as the statistics included in this publication, other data are available from the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings on request. These data can be produced for clients as customised reports.

VARIABLES

The following variables are available from this survey.

Note: The more variables included in any one tabulation the more likely it is that confidentiality provisions associated with the data will be invoked and some data suppressed.

Type of estimate

- Original
- Seasonally adjusted
- Trend

Composition of earnings

- Full-time adult ordinary time earnings
- Full-time adult total earnings
- All employees total earnings

States and territories

- New South Wales
- Victoria
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Western Australia
- Tasmania
- Northern Territory
- Australian Capital Territory

Sector

- Private sector
- Public sector

Sex

- Males
- Females
- Persons

Industry (ANZSIC classification)

- ANZSIC Division (1-digit code)—as shown in table 10

TECHNICAL NOTE SAMPLING ERROR

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

1 As the estimates in this publication are based on information relating to a sample of employers, 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 a 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 nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

3 An example of the use of a standard error is as follows. If the estimated average earnings was \$900.00 with a standard error of \$7.00, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given an estimate in the range \$893.00 to \$907.00 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range \$886.00 to \$914.00.

4 An example of the use of a standard error for a quarterly change estimate is as follows. If the estimate of quarterly change between two quarters was \$6.00 and the standard error on this estimate was \$5.00, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given a quarterly change estimate in the range +\$1.00 to +\$11.00 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range -\$4.00 to +\$16.00.

5 Quarterly movements in estimates of average weekly earnings 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.

GLOSSARY

Adult employees	Adult employees are those employees 21 years of age or over and those employees who, although under 21 years of age, are paid at the full adult rate for their occupation.
Average weekly earnings	Average Weekly Earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees.
Employees	Employees refer to all wage and salary earners (as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Explanatory Notes) who received pay for any part of the reference period.
Full-time employees	Full-time employees are permanent, temporary and casual employees who normally work the agreed or award hours for a full-time employee in their occupation and received pay for any part of the reference period. If agreed or award hours do not apply, employees are regarded as full-time if they ordinarily work 35 hours or more per week.
Reference period	Reference period for the survey refers to the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. Where a pay period is fortnightly or monthly, etc., the employer is requested to report only one week's proportion. The reference period for the current survey is the week ending 21 November 2008.
Sector	Public sector includes all local government authorities and government departments, agencies and authorities created by, or reporting to the Commonwealth and state parliaments. All remaining employees are classified as private sector.
Weekly ordinary time earnings	Weekly ordinary time earnings refers to one week's earnings of employees for the reference period attributable to award, standard or agreed hours of work. It is calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation, board and lodging) have been made. Included in ordinary time earnings are award, workplace and enterprise bargaining payments, and other agreed base rates of pay, over-award and over-agreed payments, penalty payments, shift and other allowances; commissions and retainers; bonuses and similar payments related to the reference period; payments under incentive or piecework; payments under profit sharing schemes normally paid each pay period; payment for leave taken during the reference period; all workers' compensation payments made through the payroll; and salary payments made to directors. Excluded are amounts salary sacrificed, non-cash components of salary packages, overtime payments, retrospective pay, pay in advance, leave loadings, severance, termination and redundancy payments, and other payments not related to the reference period.
Weekly total earnings	Weekly total earnings of employees is equal to weekly ordinary time earnings plus weekly overtime earnings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

INTERNET

www.abs.gov.au the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our website. Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE

1300 135 070

EMAIL

client.services@abs.gov.au

FAX

1300 135 211

POST

Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

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