



AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, STATES AND AUSTRALIA, MAY 1987

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MAIN FEATURES

Estimates of average weekly earnings for May 1987 and the respective changes are shown below:

Average full-time adult weekly ordinary time earnings			
		Change (%)	
	(\$)	Feb 1987 to May 1987	May 1986 to May 1987
Males	461.70	+1.5	+6.7
Females	383.00	+2.0	+7.5
Persons	436.50	+1.5	+6.7
Average full-time adult weekly total earnings			
		Change (%)	
	(\$)	Feb 1987 to May 1987	May 1986 to May 1987
Males	498.20	+2.0	+6.9
Females	393.20	+2.3	+7.7
Persons	464.50	+1.9	+6.8
Average all employees weekly total earnings			
		Change (%)	
	(\$)	Feb 1987 to May 1987	May 1986 to May 1987
Males	451.70	+1.4	+6.2
Females	299.00	+2.7	+7.5
Persons	387.80	+1.6	+5.8

Notes on the estimates

The movements in all categories of earnings for Australia between February 1987 and May 1987 are statistically significant.

The quarterly percentage changes between February and May 1987 vary markedly between employee categories and between States and Territories. The \$10 per week first tier payment awarded in the March 1987 National Wage Case was a flat increase. Consequently the increase for higher paid employees was proportionately less than that for lower paid employees.

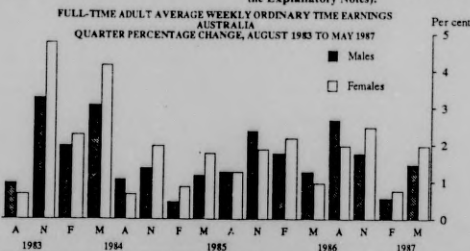
Average earnings in the majority of categories increased substantially more between February 1987 and May 1987 than in the previous period (ie, from November 1986 to February 1987) due to the following factors:

- the \$10 per week first tier National Wage Case payment had been received by approximately half of full-time adult employees by the May 1987 reference date. Payment to employees who had not received the increase by the May 1987 reference date should be reflected in the August 1987 estimates. Approximately two thirds of full-time adult private sector employees and one quarter of full-time adult public sector employees had received the payment by the May 1987 reference date. The proportion of full-time adult employees who had received the National Wage Case increase by the May 1987 reference date ranges from approximately one fifth of full-time adult employees in the Australian Capital Territory to approximately two thirds of full-time adult employees in South Australia;
- the movements between November 1986 and February 1987 were relatively low. There was no general wage increase awarded which affected that period (the effects of the July 1986 National Wage Case increase of 2.3% had been reflected by the November 1986 estimates);
- penalty payments paid to some employees who worked on Anzac Day or during Easter were included in the May 1987 reference period. In addition, penalty payments paid to some employees who worked on the Labour Day public holiday in Queensland or the May Day public holiday in the Northern Territory were included in the May 1987 reference period; and
- increases received by nurses in South Australia and Western Australia, particularly affecting female earnings.

Female earnings in all categories for Australia have increased more than male earnings for the latest quarter and the year to May 1987.

Estimated earnings for male and female employees in the Northern Territory have been revised to February 1987 to incorporate updated information. Revised estimates not shown in this publication are available on request.

Average weekly earnings may be affected significantly in some periods by changes in the composition of the labour force (see paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes).



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains estimates of average weekly earnings for May 1987 based on information obtained from a sample survey of employers.

2. Background information about the average weekly earnings series is provided in *Information Paper: New Statistical Series: Employment, Average Weekly Earnings, Job Vacancies and Overtime* (6256.0) published on 21 June 1984, copies of which are available on request.

3. Preliminary estimates of average weekly earnings, Australia for May 1987 were published on 13 August 1987 in *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, May 1987* (6301.0).

Scope of the survey

4. All wage and salary earners who received pay for the reference period are represented in the survey, except:

- (a) members of the Australian permanent defence forces;
- (b) employees of enterprises primarily engaged in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting;
- (c) employees in private households employing staff;
- (d) employees of overseas embassies, consulates, etc.;
- (e) employees based outside Australia;
- (f) employees on workers' compensation who are not paid through the payroll;
- (g) directors who are not paid a salary;
- (h) proprietors/partners of unincorporated businesses; and
- (i) self-employed persons such as subcontractors, owner/drivers, consultants and persons paid solely by commission without a retainer.

Survey design

5. A sample of approximately 4,000 employers is selected from the ABS register of businesses to ensure adequate State and industry representation. The sample is updated each quarter to take account of new businesses, those which have ceased operation and structural changes such as takeovers and mergers. The statistical unit for the survey comprises all activities of an enterprise in a particular State or Territory. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the enterprise in the State or Territory. In a small number of cases where an enterprise has significant employment in more than one industry, a separate statistical unit is created for each industry. The statistical units are stratified by State, public/private, industry and size of employment and a simple random sample is selected from each stratum.

Definitions

6. *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. The reference date for the current survey is 15 May 1987.

7. *Employees* refers to all wage and salary earners (as defined in paragraph 4) who received pay for any part of the reference period.

8. *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.

9. *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.

10. *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 payments, overaward 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; payments for leave taken during the reference period; all workers' compensation payments made through the payroll; and salary payments made to directors. Excluded are overtime payments, retrospective pay, pay in advance, leave loadings, severance, termination and redundancy payments and other payments not related to the reference period.

11. *Weekly total earnings* of employees is equal to weekly ordinary time earnings plus weekly overtime earnings.

12. *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 employment. 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 labour force. There are several aspects which can contribute to compositional changes such as variations in the proportions of part-time, casual and junior employees, variations in the occupational distribution within and across industries and variations in the distribution of employment between industries.

13. *Sector*. Public sector includes local government authorities and all government departments, agencies and authorities created by, or reporting to the Commonwealth and State Parliaments. All remaining employees are classified as private sector.

Comparability of results

14. When comparisons are made between period-to-period movements in average weekly ordinary time earnings (AWOTE) for full-time adults and movements in the Award Rates of Pay Indexes (ARPI) it is important to recognise the different coverage, scope, definitions and methodology used in the construction of each series. In particular, the AWOTE series includes a number of payments additional to award rates of pay used in compiling ARPI. Allowances covered under awards which are not industry or occupation-wide in their application such as site, travelling, height and dirt allowances are excluded from ARPI but included in AWOTE. The AWOTE series also includes other payments, such as shift penalty payments and overaward pay. A significant number of employees are not covered by awards but are included in AWOTE. The AWOTE series is affected by compositional change in the labour force. However ARPI is not, because it is a fixed-weight index constructed from a representative 'basket' of occupations selected from the May 1976 Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours and subject to reselection and re-basing at infrequent intervals. Other factors affecting comparisons of the two series include seasonal influences on earnings and differences between the two series in the treatment of retrospective pay increases. A detailed description of the methodology, scope and definitions used in ARPI is published in *Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia* (6312.0).

15. It is also important to recognise that whilst average employee earnings can be derived from the Survey of Employment and Earnings (SEE) published in *Employed Wage and Salary Earners, Australia* (6248.0), these average earnings will not be comparable with those produced from the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE). In the AWE survey, information is obtained relating to a specified pay period, the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the calendar quarter. The SEE collects the sum of employee earnings paid in *all* pay periods ending in a calendar quarter including payments to employees which are excluded from the scope of the AWE survey such as retrospective pay, pay in advance, leave loadings and severance, termination and redundancy payments. Whilst the quarterly earnings produced by SEE are affected by the varying number of pay periods from quarter to quarter the AWE results are unaffected because of the selection of a specified pay period in the middle of a quarter. The SEE earnings data are also more subject to seasonal variations, particularly in the December and March quarters, due to the incidence of holidays taken in January being paid in advance and the earnings being reported in December quarter figures.

Historical series

16. The series was introduced in August 1981 when it replaced the average weekly earnings series 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* (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).

Reliability of estimates

17. As the estimates in this publication are based on information relating to a sample of employers rather than a full enumeration, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the figures 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 sample. Efforts have been made to reduce non-sampling error by careful design of questionnaires, detailed checking of returns and quality control of processing.

18. 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 that would have been obtained from a full enumeration (the 'true' figure). 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.

19. An example of the use of a standard error is as follows. If the estimated average earnings was \$380.00 with a standard error of \$2.00, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given an estimate in the range \$378.00 to \$382.00 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range \$376.00 to \$384.00.

20. An example of the use of a standard error for a quarterly change estimate is as follows. If the estimated standard error for a quarterly change estimate of average weekly earnings was \$1.00 and the quarterly change estimate between two quarters was \$1.50, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given a quarterly change estimate in the range +\$0.50 to +\$2.50 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range -\$0.50 to +\$3.50.

Related publications

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

Information Paper: New Statistical Series: Employment, Average Weekly Earnings, Job Vacancies and Overtime (6256.0)

Average Earnings and Hours of Employees, Australia (6304.0)—issued annually

Distribution and Composition of Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia (6306.0)—issued annually

Job Vacancies, Australia (6231.0)—issued quarterly

Overtime, Australia (6330.0)—issued quarterly

Employed Wage and Salary Earners, Australia (6248.0)—issued quarterly

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia (6312.0)—issued monthly

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly

Occasional Paper No. 1986/1: Statistics on Wages, Earnings, Income and Labour Costs — A Guide to Their Concepts, Measurement and Usage.

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

Unpublished statistics

23. In some cases, the ABS can also make available information which is not published. This information may be made available in one or more of the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, data tape, computer printout, clerically-extracted tabulation. Generally, a charge is made for providing unpublished information.

Inquiries should be made to the officer whose name appears in the *Phone Inquiries* section of the Inquiries box at the front of this publication, or to Information Services in the nearest ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

r revised

24. The estimates of average weekly earnings are rounded to the nearest 10 cents.

Electronic services

25. VIATEL Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

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TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements.

Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

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TABLE 1. AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES, AUSTRALIA

Reference period— pay period ending on or before	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adults		All males	Full-time adults		All females	Full-time adults		All employees
	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings
TOTAL EMPLOYEES									
dollars									
1985—									
15 February	399.60	429.00	392.70	328.40	335.90	260.10	377.50	400.10	340.10
17 May	404.50	435.50	397.20	334.40	343.10	263.40	382.80	406.90	344.10
16 August	409.80	441.60	403.10	338.70	346.80	265.00	387.90	412.50	347.80
15 November	419.60	453.60	413.90	345.30	353.70	268.40	396.90	423.10	355.60
1986—									
21 February	427.20	460.10	422.70	352.80	360.60	276.40	404.20	429.50	364.10
16 May	432.60	465.90	425.50	356.40	364.90	278.20	409.20	434.90	366.50
15 August	444.00	476.20	437.20	363.60	371.90	282.90	418.90	443.70	373.70
21 November	452.10	488.60	446.30	372.70	382.00	287.60	427.20	455.20	380.60
1987—									
20 February	454.80	488.60	445.30	375.70	384.20	291.10	429.90	455.70	381.80
15 May	461.70	498.20	451.70	383.00	393.20	299.00	436.50	464.50	387.80
Change—									
—per cent—									
Quarterly									
1985—									
February	+0.5	+0.4	+0.8	+0.9	+0.7	+2.0	+0.6	+0.5	+1.4
May	+1.2	+1.5	+1.1	+1.8	+2.1	+1.3	+1.4	+1.7	+1.2
August	+1.3	+1.4	+1.5	+1.3	+1.1	+0.6	+1.3	+1.4	+1.1
November	+2.4	+2.7	+2.7	+1.9	+2.0	+1.3	+2.3	+2.6	+2.2
1986—									
February	+1.8	+1.4	+2.1	+2.2	+1.9	+3.0	+1.8	+1.5	+2.4
May	+1.3	+1.2	+0.7	+1.0	+1.2	+0.7	+1.2	+1.3	+0.7
August	+2.7	+2.2	+2.7	+2.0	+1.9	+1.7	+2.4	+2.0	+2.0
November	+1.8	+2.6	+2.1	+2.5	+2.7	+1.7	+2.0	+2.6	+1.8
1987—									
February	+0.6	0.0	-0.2	+0.8	+0.6	+1.2	+0.6	+0.1	+0.3
May	+1.5	+2.0	+1.4	+2.0	+2.3	+2.7	+1.5	+1.9	+1.6
Annual									
1985—									
February	+6.2	+7.1	+6.0	+8.0	+8.0	+5.5	+6.9	+7.6	+5.9
May	+4.3	+4.8	+3.5	+5.5	+5.8	+2.5	+4.8	+5.3	+3.2
August	+4.4	+5.4	+4.4	+6.2	+6.1	+3.4	+5.1	+5.8	+4.0
November	+5.5	+6.2	+6.3	+6.1	+6.1	+5.2	+5.8	+6.3	+6.0
1986—									
February	+6.9	+7.3	+7.7	+7.4	+7.3	+6.2	+7.1	+7.4	+7.1
May	+6.9	+7.0	+7.1	+6.6	+6.3	+5.6	+6.9	+6.9	+6.5
August	+8.4	+7.8	+8.5	+7.3	+7.3	+6.7	+8.0	+7.6	+7.4
November	+7.7	+7.7	+7.8	+7.9	+8.0	+7.1	+7.6	+7.6	+7.0
1987—									
February	+6.5	+6.2	+5.3	+6.5	+6.5	+5.3	+6.3	+6.1	+4.8
May	+6.7	+6.9	+6.2	+7.5	+7.7	+7.5	+6.7	+6.8	+5.8
Standard errors(a)—									
1987—May									
Level	1.90	2.30	2.70	1.90	2.00	2.10	1.60	1.90	2.20
Change (quarterly)	1.50	1.60	1.90	1.30	1.40	1.60	1.20	1.30	1.50

(a) See paragraphs 17-20 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES, SECTOR, AUSTRALIA

Reference period— pay period ending on or before	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adults		All males	Full-time adults		All females	Full-time adults		All employees
	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings
PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEES									
1986—	—dollars—								
21 February	408.40	446.50	400.70	321.30	330.30	242.70	382.80	412.30	336.80
16 May	414.90	453.10	403.90	326.30	336.00	245.80	389.30	419.30	340.30
15 August	429.10	466.60	419.60	335.60	345.40	252.10	401.60	430.80	350.50
21 November	438.20	481.80	430.60	345.70	356.80	257.40	410.60	444.50	358.50
1987—									
20 February	440.50	480.90	426.70	348.60	358.40	259.50	412.90	444.10	357.10
15 May	447.40	491.30	434.70	356.80	369.00	269.70	419.60	453.70	365.20
Change—	—per cent—								
Quarterly									
1986—									
February	+1.3	+0.8	+1.5	+1.6	+1.3	+2.1	+1.3	+0.8	+1.6
May	+1.6	+1.5	+0.8	+1.5	+1.7	+1.3	+1.7	+1.7	+1.0
August	+3.4	+3.0	+3.9	+2.9	+2.8	+2.5	+3.1	+2.7	+3.0
November	+2.1	+3.3	+2.6	+3.0	+3.3	+2.1	+2.2	+3.2	+2.3
1987—									
February	+0.5	-0.2	-0.9	+0.8	+0.4	+0.8	+0.6	-0.1	-0.4
May	+1.6	+2.2	+1.9	+2.4	+2.9	+3.9	+1.6	+2.2	+2.3
Annual									
1987—May	+7.8	+8.4	+7.6	+9.3	+9.8	+9.7	+7.8	+8.2	+7.3
Standard errors(a)—	—dollars—								
1987—May									
Level	2.90	3.40	3.90	3.10	3.20	3.00	2.50	2.90	3.20
Change (quarterly)	2.30	2.40	2.70	2.00	2.10	2.00	1.80	1.90	2.00
PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES									
1986—	—dollars—								
21 February	460.60	484.40	466.60	399.90	406.00	347.30	440.50	458.40	419.80
16 May	463.50	488.20	468.10	398.60	405.40	343.20	441.70	460.40	418.50
15 August	470.20	493.10	470.90	403.20	409.60	342.90	447.40	464.70	418.50
21 November	476.80	500.60	477.20	412.30	418.80	348.50	454.90	472.90	424.40
1987—									
20 February	480.50	502.50	483.30	416.40	422.80	359.50	458.80	475.40	433.50
15 May	487.60	510.90	486.20	423.20	430.20	360.60	465.40	483.10	434.30
Change—	—per cent—								
Quarterly									
1986—									
February	+2.7	+2.6	+3.4	+3.1	+2.9	+4.7	+2.8	+2.7	+3.9
May	+0.6	+0.8	+0.3	-0.3	-0.1	-1.2	+0.3	+0.4	-0.3
August	+1.4	+1.0	+0.6	+1.1	+1.0	-0.1	+1.3	+0.9	0.0
November	+1.4	+1.5	+1.3	+2.3	+2.2	+1.6	+1.7	+1.7	+1.4
1987—									
February	+0.8	+0.4	+1.3	+1.0	+0.9	+3.1	+0.8	+0.5	+2.1
May	+1.5	+1.7	+0.6	+1.6	+1.7	+0.3	+1.5	+1.6	+0.2
Annual									
1987—May	+5.2	+4.6	+3.9	+6.2	+6.1	+5.1	+5.4	+4.9	+3.8
Standard errors(a)—	—dollars—								
1987—May									
Level	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.10	1.10	1.50	1.10	1.20	1.30
Change (quarterly)	0.90	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.30	1.00	1.00	1.20

(a) See paragraphs 17-20 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 3. AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES, STATES AND TERRITORIES

Reference period— pay period ending on or before	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adults		All males	Full-time adults		All females	Full-time adults		All employees
	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings
NEW SOUTH WALES									
1986—				—dollars—					
21 February	437.20	473.50	434.10	349.80	358.40	283.80	409.00	436.30	373.70
16 May	438.90	478.00	437.30	354.50	364.70	285.30	412.60	442.60	377.50
15 August	454.10	492.70	452.60	361.40	373.20	289.00	424.80	454.10	385.40
21 November	458.50	499.00	454.10	373.80	384.20	294.10	430.40	461.00	386.50
1987—									
20 February	459.30	495.50	447.60	377.00	386.50	296.80	432.10	459.50	385.00
15 May	461.50	500.90	455.60	384.80	396.80	307.40	436.30	466.80	393.50
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly									
Annual	+0.5	+1.1	+1.8	+2.1	+2.7	+3.6	+1.0	+1.6	+2.2
Standard errors(a)—	+5.1	+4.8	+4.2	+8.5	+8.8	+7.7	+5.7	+5.5	+4.2
Level				—dollars—					
Change (quarterly)	3.20	3.60	4.40	3.10	3.00	3.20	2.50	2.80	3.30
	3.40	3.50	4.10	2.20	2.30	2.50	2.50	2.70	2.70
VICTORIA									
1986—									
21 February	421.50	454.50	423.50	358.40	367.00	290.50	401.20	426.40	370.10
16 May	429.70	460.90	425.70	359.80	368.40	297.10	407.20	431.20	374.80
15 August	437.50	467.90	429.50	368.30	377.90	294.50	415.60	439.50	374.80
21 November	450.30	488.30	446.70	378.30	388.60	301.00	427.70	457.10	388.50
1987—									
20 February	454.60	490.20	447.80	384.10	393.70	307.90	432.50	459.90	391.70
15 May	463.60	501.20	451.10	390.50	401.70	311.90	440.00	469.10	394.20
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly									
Annual	+2.0	+2.2	+0.7	+1.7	+2.0	+1.3	+1.7	+2.0	+0.6
Standard errors(a)—	+7.9	+8.7	+6.0	+8.5	+9.0	+5.0	+8.1	+8.8	+5.2
Level				—dollars—					
Change (quarterly)	4.20	4.40	5.70	4.50	4.70	4.60	3.60	3.80	4.60
	2.50	2.50	3.20	3.20	3.40	3.80	2.20	2.20	3.00
QUEENSLAND									
1986—									
21 February	405.90	433.30	391.40	341.00	346.70	250.50	387.60	408.90	335.80
16 May	414.30	442.40	396.00	347.20	353.40	252.80	395.00	416.80	338.70
15 August	428.80	454.50	413.50	350.20	355.00	259.90	405.50	425.10	350.70
21 November	436.90	465.40	421.50	354.40	361.80	263.90	412.60	434.90	357.00
1987—									
20 February	440.50	464.00	425.30	353.30	358.70	269.80	413.30	431.10	360.50
15 May	450.10	475.90	433.50	365.90	372.70	278.70	424.30	444.30	369.70
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly									
Annual	+2.2	+2.6	+1.9	+3.6	+3.9	+3.3	+2.7	+3.1	+2.6
Standard errors(a)—	+8.6	+7.6	+9.5	+5.4	+5.5	+10.2	+7.4	+6.6	+9.2
Level				—dollars—					
Change (quarterly)	4.70	4.80	5.30	3.80	3.90	3.50	4.10	4.30	4.50
	2.80	2.90	3.00	2.70	2.70	2.50	2.40	2.50	2.60
SOUTH AUSTRALIA									
1986—									
21 February	410.60	435.70	393.90	344.50	350.30	256.00	392.20	411.90	338.90
16 May	417.50	441.20	396.80	350.20	356.40	256.90	398.50	417.20	338.70
15 August	429.20	450.50	411.70	360.20	365.60	269.10	409.30	426.00	352.20
21 November	429.90	456.40	415.50	360.50	367.80	266.60	409.70	430.60	352.70
1987—									
20 February	430.00	453.20	408.00	361.30	368.00	265.80	410.80	429.50	350.30
15 May	438.20	463.50	411.80	372.90	379.40	274.20	418.80	438.60	353.60
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly									
Annual	+1.9	+2.3	+0.9	+3.2	+3.1	+3.1	+2.0	+2.1	+0.9
Standard errors(a)—	+5.0	+5.1	+3.8	+6.5	+6.5	+6.7	+5.1	+5.1	+4.4
Level				—dollars—					
Change (quarterly)	6.20	6.30	8.70	3.60	3.80	10.00	4.80	5.10	9.40
	3.10	3.40	4.10	2.30	2.60	3.90	2.40	2.90	3.70

(a) See paragraphs 17-20 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 3. AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES, STATES AND TERRITORIES—continued

Reference period— pay period ending on or before	MALES			FEMALES			PERSONS		
	Full-time adults		All males	Full-time adults		All females	Full-time adults		All employees
	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly ordinary time earnings	Average weekly total earnings	Average weekly total earnings
WESTERN AUSTRALIA									
1986—				—dollars—					
21 February	432.70	472.30	440.00	355.60	361.90	253.20	412.30	443.10	365.00
16 May	439.60	476.60	439.50	355.40	361.60	247.00	416.80	445.40	359.30
15 August	446.40	482.70	449.10	357.90	364.70	262.70	420.70	448.50	370.70
21 November	458.00	499.40	468.30	373.90	381.20	270.30	434.00	465.60	385.20
1987—									
20 February	463.90	510.50	476.50	375.00	383.00	266.00	438.70	474.40	387.10
15 May	477.20	529.60	488.30	375.40	384.20	278.30	444.70	483.10	395.40
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly	+2.9	+3.7	+2.5	+0.1	+0.3	+4.6	+1.4	+1.8	+2.1
Annual	+8.6	+11.1	+11.1	+5.6	+6.3	+12.7	+6.7	+8.5	+10.0
Standard errors(a)—				—dollars—					
Level	6.10	11.30	11.40	5.80	6.20	7.20	5.60	9.50	9.50
Change (quarterly)	4.30	5.90	6.50	3.00	3.20	5.50	3.50	4.60	6.20
TASMANIA									
1986—									
21 February	422.70	449.50	414.90	346.30	353.20	259.80	401.50	422.80	353.20
16 May	424.00	450.70	417.10	352.80	360.10	261.20	404.00	425.30	353.60
15 August	431.60	455.60	424.80	351.10	356.60	254.90	409.50	428.40	355.10
21 November	441.10	472.00	435.00	362.00	369.10	263.90	419.20	443.50	363.90
1987—									
20 February	439.00	473.50	440.10	370.60	376.90	269.70	420.10	446.80	370.90
15 May	444.20	476.30	438.20	370.50	377.60	266.40	423.70	448.90	366.20
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly	+1.2	+0.6	-0.4	0.0	+0.2	-1.2	+0.9	+0.5	-1.3
Annual	+4.8	+5.7	+5.1	+5.0	+4.9	+2.0	+4.9	+5.5	+3.6
Standard errors(a)—				—dollars—					
Level	5.90	5.90	5.80	6.70	6.50	4.10	5.00	5.20	4.50
Change (quarterly)	3.80	3.80	3.80	4.60	4.50	3.90	3.10	3.10	3.30
NORTHERN TERRITORY									
1986—									
21 February	464.70	512.60	477.40	388.70	398.00	333.80	438.40	472.80	420.80
16 May	465.80	522.30	477.80	399.80	408.60	341.80	442.80	482.70	424.50
15 August	472.50	526.60	489.00	409.40	420.10	353.20	450.90	490.20	435.40
21 November	489.70	540.80	499.60	417.40	426.50	351.30	464.70	501.40	440.00
1987—									
20 February	498.60	540.40	495.90	423.40	432.50	345.20	471.90	502.00	432.70
15 May	501.10	550.00	505.60	418.80	427.50	344.50	471.70	506.30	437.10
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly	+0.4	+1.9	+2.0	-0.9	-1.4	-0.2	0.0	+0.9	+1.0
Annual	+7.5	+5.4	+5.8	+5.0	+4.4	+0.8	+6.5	+4.9	+3.0
Standard errors(a)—				—dollars—					
Level	5.60	6.20	8.20	4.00	4.10	6.80	4.10	4.90	6.80
Change (quarterly)	5.10	5.90	8.10	3.40	3.50	5.10	3.90	4.60	6.70
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY									
1986—									
21 February	513.30	533.80	484.70	395.70	402.60	335.70	470.30	485.90	422.40
16 May	519.10	541.90	490.00	391.40	401.60	332.40	470.60	488.60	420.50
15 August	522.90	542.90	492.10	399.00	407.30	338.70	475.40	490.90	424.60
21 November	536.00	559.50	507.60	408.40	415.10	337.80	487.70	504.80	431.90
1987—									
20 February	539.70	561.80	513.20	411.20	417.60	343.50	490.50	506.60	438.30
15 May	546.80	569.90	518.90	416.00	424.10	340.40	495.70	512.90	436.30
Change—				—per cent—					
Quarterly	+1.3	+1.4	+1.1	+1.2	+1.5	-0.9	+1.1	+1.2	-0.5
Annual	+5.3	+5.2	+5.9	+6.3	+5.6	+2.4	+5.3	+5.0	+3.8
Standard errors(a)—				—dollars—					
Level	5.80	6.10	9.40	4.20	4.20	6.20	4.60	4.70	7.40
Change (quarterly)	4.50	5.20	6.30	2.10	2.10	4.50	2.90	3.20	1.30

(a) See paragraphs 17-20 of the Explanatory Notes.