

WAGE RATES INDEXES
(PRELIMINARY)
Catalogue No. 6311.0

JANUARY 1980

WAGE RATES INDEXES, JANUARY 1980 (PRELIMINARY)

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra (062) 526576 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra (062) 526627 or State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

In January 1980 the weighted average minimum weekly wage rate for Australia for adult males increased by \$7.37 to \$175.32. The rate for adult females increased by \$6.81 to \$160.89.

Indexation decisions affecting Federal and State awards accounted for almost all of these increases.

In the year ended January 1980 the adult male wage rate index rose by 8.9 per cent, approximately 86 per cent of the rise being attributable to indexation increases. For adult females the corresponding figures were 8.0 per cent and 96 per cent.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

More information on these statistics of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females will appear later in the monthly publication *Wage Rates* (6312.0) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. The indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of wages as distinct from salaries; those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are therefore

excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, all figures shown in this publication are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this publication.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

4. For adult males the weekly wage rates exclude rural industry; in addition the hourly rates exclude shipping and stevedoring, for which data to compute hourly wages are not available. The weekly and hourly wage rates for adult females exclude rural industry, mining and quarrying, and building and construction.

5. The annual changes shown in Tables 1, 2 and 4 measure the percentage change from the same month for the previous year. The percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes.

Related publications

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

Symbols and other usages

n.e.i. not elsewhere included

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES (a): ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males					Adult females				
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Annual change %	Index nos. (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index nos. (b)	Wage rates \$	Annual change %	Index nos. (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index nos. (b)
1978 -										
December	160.96	8.0	569.9	402.20	568.5	148.90	7.2	747.9	375.34	748.1
1979 -										
January	161.03	8.0	570.2	402.39	568.7	148.94	7.2	748.1	375.44	748.3
February	161.07	6.4	570.3	402.49	568.9	148.97	5.6	748.3	375.55	748.5
March	161.16	6.5	570.6	402.71	569.2	148.98	5.6	748.3	375.55	748.5
April	161.32	6.5	571.2	403.15	569.8	148.99	5.6	748.4	375.58	748.6
May	161.42	6.6	571.6	403.40	570.2	148.99	5.6	748.4	375.58	748.6
June	166.41	8.4	589.2	415.85	587.8	153.71	7.5	772.1	387.47	772.3
July	166.66	8.6	590.1	416.48	588.7	153.73	7.5	772.2	387.51	772.4
August	166.75	8.6	590.4	416.72	589.0	153.73	7.5	772.2	387.52	772.4
September	166.85	8.0	590.8	416.97	589.4	153.73	7.3	772.2	387.52	772.4
October	166.86	8.0	590.8	417.00	589.4	153.75	7.3	772.3	387.56	772.5
November	167.85	8.6	594.3	419.56	593.0	154.08	7.5	773.9	388.39	774.2
December	167.91	4.3	594.5	419.70	593.2	154.08	3.5	773.9	388.39	774.2
1980 -										
January	175.32	8.9	620.8	438.22	619.4	160.89	8.0	808.2	405.55	808.4

(a) Includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1. (b) Base: Weighted average minimum wage rate, Australia, year 1934 = 100.

TABLE 2. WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 JANUARY 1980

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change %	Index nos. (a)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
Mining and quarrying (b)(c)	240.41	168.94	208.72	164.10	170.70	181.07	214.76	13.0	760.4
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (c)	166.24	172.39	174.56	170.23	166.54	168.89	169.28	10.2	599.4
Textiles, clothing and footwear	157.67	159.42	162.13	156.89	163.02	153.10	158.79	7.8	562.3
Food, drink and tobacco (c)	169.95	172.85	171.81	164.31	173.44	167.71	170.89	8.7	605.1
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	166.07	157.28	170.47	156.94	155.72	156.03	162.67	7.5	576.0
Paper, printing, etc. (c)	168.66	178.46	188.09	174.04	174.25	167.49	174.23	8.1	616.9
Other manufacturing (c)	169.53	168.79	168.07	166.68	162.80	160.10	168.32	8.8	596.0
All manufacturing groups (c)	166.91	169.64	172.66	167.88	165.02	164.54	168.32	9.2	596.0
Building and construction (c)	194.53	191.21	178.67	186.95	177.08	175.06	187.81	7.8	665.0
Railway services (c)	155.85	150.31	175.44	163.19	149.77	165.02	159.94	7.4	566.3
Road and air transport (c)	179.23	168.79	165.21	168.92	180.02	171.68	173.45	8.6	614.1
Shipping and stevedoring (c)(d)	211.17	210.22	202.71	200.21	210.22	204.96	207.77	7.9	735.7
Communication	207.99	209.07	207.44	205.30	208.73	201.85	207.83	11.2	735.9
Wholesale and retail trade (c)	173.64	176.48	173.64	171.62	169.47	176.42	173.95	8.2	615.9
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	176.92	174.58	179.87	164.06	170.76	187.54	175.43	7.9	621.2
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	163.58	159.34	160.81	154.22	148.86	154.18	159.85	7.8	566.0
All industry groups (c)	177.09	174.15	177.58	172.72	170.02	172.92	175.32	8.9	620.8

(a) Base: Weighted average minimum weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (b) For mining, wage rates are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (c) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1. (d) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, engineers and other officers.

TABLE 3. HOURLY WAGE RATES: ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 JANUARY 1980

Weighted average minimum hourly rates payable and index numbers of hourly rates.

Industry group	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
WAGE RATES (cents)							
Mining and quarrying (a)(b)	672.51	422.36	550.99	410.26	447.29	462.89	579.51
Manufacturing —							
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (b)	415.74	431.30	436.66	425.57	416.71	422.23	423.40
Textiles, clothing and footwear	394.17	398.54	405.31	392.23	407.55	382.76	396.98
Food, drink and tobacco (b)	425.47	432.14	429.51	410.78	433.61	419.28	427.41
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	415.18	393.21	426.17	392.35	389.30	390.06	406.69
Paper, printing, etc. (b)	421.66	446.80	470.24	435.10	444.42	418.71	436.13
Other manufacturing (b)	423.83	422.37	420.16	417.69	406.06	400.58	420.97
All manufacturing groups (b)	417.41	424.34	431.76	419.88	412.87	411.40	420.99
Building and construction (b)	486.33	478.02	446.68	467.38	442.70	437.64	469.52
Railway services (b)	389.63	376.16	438.61	407.97	374.42	412.56	399.93
Road and air transport (b)	448.08	421.98	413.03	422.30	450.04	429.20	433.61
Communication	544.87	546.25	542.00	543.62	545.38	528.78	544.23
Wholesale and retail trade (b)	434.11	441.19	434.11	429.06	423.69	441.04	434.86
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	451.00	448.42	455.09	418.20	431.44	476.14	446.94
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	408.96	398.36	402.02	385.55	372.15	385.44	399.63
All industry groups (b)	443.88	434.55	443.83	430.34	424.46	428.86	438.22
INDEX NUMBERS (c)							
Mining and quarrying (a)(b)	950.5	597.0	778.8	579.9	632.2	654.3	819.1
Manufacturing —							
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (b)	587.6	609.6	617.2	601.5	589.0	596.8	598.4
Textiles, clothing and footwear	557.1	563.3	572.9	554.4	576.0	541.0	561.1
Food, drink and tobacco (b)	601.4	610.8	607.1	580.6	612.9	592.6	604.1
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	586.8	555.8	602.4	554.6	550.2	551.3	574.8
Paper, printing, etc. (b)	596.0	631.5	654.6	615.0	628.2	591.8	616.4
Other manufacturing (b)	599.0	597.0	593.9	590.4	573.9	566.2	595.0
All manufacturing groups (b)	590.0	599.8	610.3	593.5	583.6	581.5	595.0
Building and construction (b)	687.4	675.7	631.4	660.6	625.7	618.6	663.6
Railway services (b)	550.7	531.7	619.9	576.6	529.2	583.1	565.3
Road and air transport (b)	633.3	596.4	583.8	596.9	636.1	606.6	612.9
Communication	770.1	772.1	766.1	768.4	770.9	747.4	769.2
Wholesale and retail trade (b)	613.6	623.6	613.6	606.4	598.8	623.4	614.7
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	637.5	633.8	643.2	591.1	609.8	673.0	631.7
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	578.0	563.0	568.2	544.9	526.0	544.8	564.8
All industry groups (b)	627.4	614.2	627.3	608.3	599.9	606.2	619.4

(a) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (b) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1. (c) Base: Weighted average minimum hourly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 4. WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 JANUARY 1980

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)						Annual change %	Index nos. (a)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.		
Manufacturing -								
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (b)	160.61	166.98	161.27	161.40	159.78	160.32	162.79	817.7
Textiles, clothing and footwear	151.68	150.54	151.12	154.06	152.82	147.63	151.15	759.3
Food, drink and tobacco	162.21	160.76	161.35	158.14	146.65	154.89	160.23	804.8
Other manufacturing (b)	156.62	160.35	160.57	155.88	155.20	150.58	158.01	793.7
All manufacturing groups (b)	155.96	155.91	156.49	157.56	152.75	151.71	155.91	783.2
Transport and communication	159.86	161.84	166.68	166.03	163.09	166.71	162.34	815.5
Wholesale and retail trade	169.24	173.66	170.36	168.54	166.00	160.65	170.01	7.7
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	168.01	170.16	165.58	162.44	161.93	165.74	167.49	841.3
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	157.25	153.71	151.89	149.83	141.61	149.07	153.77	772.4
All industry groups (b)	160.87	161.07	162.45	161.37	158.15	156.13	160.89	808.2

(a) Base: Weighted average minimum weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (b) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1.

TABLE 5. WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ALL GROUPS (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of –	(\$)						Australia		
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Federal	State	All
							awards, etc.	awards, etc.	awards, etc.
ADULT MALES									
1978 –									
December	161.99	159.68	164.05	158.53	158.19	159.23	162.09	159.59	160.96
1979 –									
January	162.07	159.69	164.07	158.55	158.58	159.37	162.13	159.70	161.03
February	162.15	159.69	164.07	158.57	158.67	159.37	162.13	159.78	161.07
March	162.33	159.72	164.07	158.64	158.70	159.37	162.15	159.95	161.16
April	162.52	159.84	164.19	158.71	159.16	159.53	162.35	160.08	161.32
May	162.62	160.05	164.19	158.71	159.17	159.53	162.43	160.21	161.42
June	167.59	165.13	169.29	163.66	163.53	164.98	167.34	165.29	166.41
July	167.93	165.38	169.40	163.76	163.71	165.10	167.66	165.44	166.66
August	168.08	165.47	169.40	163.78	163.79	165.10	167.66	165.64	166.75
September	168.21	165.55	169.47	163.89	163.79	165.18	167.77	165.74	166.85
October	168.17	165.58	169.50	164.02	163.89	165.18	167.77	165.76	166.86
November	169.29	166.91	169.80	165.27	164.06	165.65	169.56	165.79	167.85
December	169.36	166.95	169.80	165.47	164.06	165.65	169.56	165.91	167.91
1980 –									
January	177.09	174.15	177.58	172.72	170.02	172.92	177.25	172.98	175.32
ADULT FEMALES									
1978 –									
December	148.85	149.00	150.57	149.15	146.76	144.66	141.57	155.27	148.90
1979 –									
January	148.87	149.05	150.57	149.15	146.97	144.67	141.57	155.34	148.94
February	148.95	149.05	150.57	149.15	146.98	144.67	141.57	155.41	148.97
March	148.95	149.06	150.57	149.15	147.04	144.67	141.57	155.42	148.98
April	148.95	149.06	150.57	149.15	147.30	144.67	141.57	155.44	148.99
May	148.95	149.06	150.57	149.15	147.30	144.67	141.57	155.44	148.99
June	153.64	153.86	155.39	153.89	151.48	149.32	146.10	160.32	153.71
July	153.64	153.86	155.39	153.89	151.79	149.32	146.10	160.35	153.73
August	153.64	153.86	155.39	153.94	151.79	149.32	146.10	160.36	153.73
September	153.64	153.86	155.39	153.94	151.79	149.32	146.10	160.36	153.73
October	153.64	153.86	155.39	153.96	152.10	149.32	146.10	160.39	153.75
November	154.04	154.19	155.47	154.47	152.18	149.42	146.79	160.40	154.08
December	154.04	154.19	155.47	154.47	152.18	149.42	146.79	160.40	154.08
1980 –									
January	160.87	161.07	162.45	161.37	158.15	156.13	153.37	167.43	160.89

(a) For States other than Western Australia, includes supplementary payments in the Metal Industry Award, Part 1.

TABLE 6. DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY WAGE RATES : WAGE RATES INDEXES, JANUARY 1980 (a)

Weekly wage rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime) as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
ADULT MALES							
Weekly wage rates (\$) -	Proportion of index weights in each weekly wage rates group (per cent)						
Under 135.00	0.1	0.2	1.9	1.0	9.1	0.3	1.4
135.00 to 139.99	2.0	1.6	0.3	2.6	1.8	1.6	1.7
140.00 to 144.99	5.1	4.3	0.3	3.6	8.2	4.2	4.3
145.00 to 149.99	6.5	7.7	6.9	5.5	5.7	9.2	6.8
150.00 to 154.99	8.0	9.9	5.7	9.2	3.5	11.8	8.2
155.00 to 159.99	9.4	5.6	4.9	7.5	6.6	7.7	7.3
160.00 to 164.99	5.3	8.5	20.6	9.0	4.3	8.4	8.6
165.00 to 169.99	6.7	13.4	4.9	19.3	17.0	7.6	10.2
170.00 to 174.99	13.3	5.0	7.0	6.5	6.4	12.9	9.0
175.00 to 179.99	5.8	9.4	8.5	5.7	7.0	5.0	7.2
180.00 to 184.99	2.6	6.1	9.5	7.0	1.5	4.0	4.9
185.00 to 189.99	9.1	9.9	4.6	1.5	9.5	8.0	8.0
190.00 to 194.99	2.5	2.2	3.6	3.6	1.4	1.3	2.6
195.00 to 199.99	5.8	2.4	2.5	5.0	9.4	0.7	4.4
200.00 to 204.99	3.3	3.3	3.3	1.6	1.0	2.5	2.9
205.00 to 209.99	1.6	1.3	2.0	1.6	0.8	1.4	1.5
210.00 to 214.99	2.2	1.9	4.9	4.4	2.5	6.1	2.8
215.00 to 219.99	1.4	1.3	1.5	4.2	0.8	5.5	1.7
220.00 to 229.99	5.2	3.4	5.5	0.3	0.5	0.8	3.8
230.00 to 239.99	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.3	1.3	0.4	1.0
240.00 and over	2.1	2.0	0.9	0.7	1.6	0.7	1.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted average (mean) (\$)	177.09	174.15	177.58	172.72	170.02	172.92	175.32
Median (\$ (b))	171.10	169.90	173.42	168.29	167.80	169.80	170.30
	Proportion of weekly rates equal to the minimum wage (per cent)						
Federal awards, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State awards, etc.	0.8	-	2.3	2.4	1.5	-	1.2
All awards, etc.	0.4	-	1.7	0.7	1.3	-	0.5
ADULT FEMALES							
Weekly wage rates (\$) -	Proportion of index weights in each weekly wage rates group (per cent)						
Under 135.00	0.7	1.1	1.0	2.2	1.2	0.4	1.0
135.00 to 139.99	1.5	1.8	2.3	3.5	11.2	7.8	2.5
140.00 to 144.99	4.3	1.8	1.7	1.0	8.3	0.4	3.1
145.00 to 149.99	22.4	28.9	16.2	14.9	9.3	30.3	22.8
150.00 to 154.99	13.8	17.2	13.2	16.3	7.7	24.8	15.0
155.00 to 159.99	6.0	3.8	4.5	2.5	2.3	1.0	4.6
160.00 to 164.99	10.0	9.7	23.7	9.4	30.5	7.2	12.3
165.00 to 169.99	2.1	9.6	6.5	31.3	25.4	2.9	8.4
170.00 to 174.99	24.4	0.6	1.1	2.0	2.3	22.6	11.3
175.00 to 179.99	8.5	10.4	26.4	14.2	0.6	-	10.8
180.00 to 184.99	5.4	2.6	1.7	0.5	0.2	0.4	3.3
185.00 to 189.99	0.5	10.9	0.7	1.0	0.2	0.7	4.0
190.00 to 194.99	0.1	1.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.5
195.00 to 199.99	0.1	0.2	0.9	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2
200.00 and over	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted average (mean) (\$)	160.87	161.07	162.45	161.37	158.15	156.13	160.89
Median (\$ (b))	162.20	154.70	163.71	165.00	163.80	151.70	160.90
	Proportion of weekly rates equal to the minimum wage (per cent)						
Federal awards, etc.	0.5	1.8	-	1.0	-	-	1.0
State awards, etc.	0.4	-	1.5	1.2	-	-	0.5
All awards, etc.	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.1	-	-	0.7

(a) This table shows the distribution of weekly wage rates included in the wage rates indexes, the weighted averages and medians of the indexes, and the percentage of index weights for wage rates equal to the various minimum wages. Comparable figures for June 1979 may be found in the June 1979 issue of this statement. (b) The median divides a distribution into two equal groups, one group having rates above the median and the other having rates below it, each group having 50 per cent of the relevant weights.