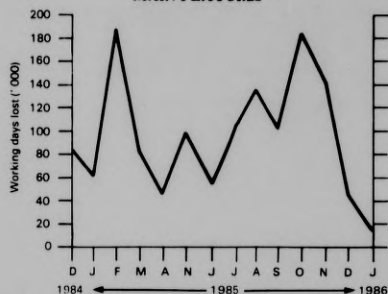




## INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, JANUARY 1986

- PHONE INQUIRIES** for more information about these statistics—contact Mr Michael Koukoulas on Canberra (062) 52 6561 or any of our State offices.  
other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.
- MAIL INQUIRIES** write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.
- ON VIATEL** selected statistics from this publication are available on VIATEL \*656#.

### MAIN FEATURES



In January 1986, 14,900 working days were lost by 8,200 workers in 82 disputes. This is the lowest number of working days lost in any month since December 1967 when 13,800 working days were lost. The 1,208,700 working days lost in the 12 months ended January 1986 was the lowest for a 12 month period since the 12 months ended April 1969 when 1,074,400 working days were lost.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Coverage

The statistics relate only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred.

2. The figures of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes (as defined in paragraph 4) and not to aggregate losses for the economy as a whole. Details shown in this publication refer to all disputes in progress during the reference period indicated.

3. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and government) and trade unions concerning individual disputes and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages (for example, those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes (as defined).

#### Definitions

4. For these statistics an industrial dispute is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

5. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute.

6. Differences between monthly and annual totals of workers involved can occur due to temporary cessations of stoppages that resume in subsequent months. Workers re-involved in this type of dispute are included in the monthly totals.

7. Working days lost refer to man-days lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of workers involved and the duration of the dispute.

8. Working days lost per 1,000 employees have been compiled from those lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more in the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Working days lost in agriculture, etc. and in private households employing staff have been excluded from Tables 4 and 5 but included in Tables 1 to 3.

9. The estimates of employees are obtained from the Labour Force survey.

#### Other ABS publications

10. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

*Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6322.0)—issued annually, contains more detailed information including statistics on the cause, method of settlement and duration of industrial disputes.

*Labour Statistics, Australia, 1984* (6101.0) (\$4.50, \$6.50 incl. postage)

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)—issued monthly (\$1.20, \$2.10 incl. postage)

11. 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.

#### Statistics on VIATEL

12. Selected economic, social and demographic statistics are available on VIATEL \*656#.

#### Symbols and other usages

r figure revised since last issue

13. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

| Period               | Number of disputes  |          | Workers involved ('000) |          | Working days lost ('000) |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
|                      | Commenced in period | Total(a) | Newly involved(b)       | Total(a) |                          |
| 1983                 | 1,779               | 1,787    | 453.0                   | 470.5    | 1,641.4                  |
| 1984                 | 1,958               | 1,965    | 553.1                   | 562.3    | 1,307.4                  |
| 1985                 | 1,826               | 1,841    | 549.0                   | 566.9    | 1,255.2                  |
| Twelve months ended— |                     |          |                         |          |                          |
| January 1984         | 1,761               | 1,788    | 442.8                   | 465.3    | 1,572.2                  |
| 1985                 | 1,987               | 1,998    | 564.5                   | 565.9    | 1,332.4                  |
| 1986                 | 1,790               | 1,818    | 529.4                   | 534.3    | 1,208.7                  |
| 1985—                |                     |          |                         |          |                          |
| February             | 161                 | 189      | 46.6                    | 51.5     | 187.3                    |
| March                | 148                 | 167      | 42.1                    | 48.7     | 84.5                     |
| April                | 105                 | 123      | 24.6                    | 29.3     | 46.4                     |
| May                  | 134                 | 153      | 44.8                    | 70.3     | 98.4                     |
| June                 | 134                 | 156      | 28.5                    | 34.7     | 57.3                     |
| July                 | 205                 | 229      | 54.2                    | 60.3     | 109.8                    |
| August               | 176                 | 210      | 72.2                    | 96.4     | 136.3                    |
| September            | 171                 | 192      | 38.3                    | 60.7     | 103.3                    |
| October              | 204                 | 224      | 74.3                    | 82.2     | 184.2                    |
| November             | 103                 | 198      | 48.8                    | 54.1     | 141.7                    |
| December             | 103                 | 117      | 29.0                    | 32.2     | 44.8                     |
| 1986—                |                     |          |                         |          |                          |
| January              | 75                  | 82       | 6.0                     | 8.2      | 14.9                     |

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

| Period               | Mining |       | Manufacturing                           |       | Construction | Transport and storage: Communication | Other industries (a) | All industries |
|----------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
|                      | Coal   | Other | Metal products, machinery and equipment | Other |              |                                      |                      |                |
| 1983                 | 122.8  | 194.7 | 157.6                                   | 120.7 | 337.2        | 213.6                                | 494.8                | 1,641.4        |
| 1984                 | 131.1  | 193.2 | 144.8                                   | 249.3 | 116.3        | 150.6                                | 322.1                | 1,307.4        |
| 1985                 | 233.6  | 106.3 | 107.3                                   | 189.4 | 175.3        | 179.7                                | 263.7                | 1,255.2        |
| Twelve months ended— |        |       |                                         |       |              |                                      |                      |                |
| January 1984         | 126.3  | 189.9 | 155.6                                   | 134.3 | 325.7        | 145.3                                | 494.4                | 1,572.2        |
| 1985                 | 128.7  | 190.9 | 144.5                                   | 239.6 | 123.6        | 173.6                                | 331.6                | 1,332.4        |
| 1986                 | 232.7  | 102.6 | 107.2                                   | 183.8 | 171.7        | 157.3                                | 253.3                | 1,208.7        |
| 1985—                |        |       |                                         |       |              |                                      |                      |                |
| February             | 102.8  | 13.1  | 18.2                                    | 14.9  | 6.0          | 8.0                                  | 34.1                 | 187.3          |
| March                | 28.5   | 4.2   | 12.7                                    | 5.9   | 8.9          | 8.6                                  | 17.7                 | 84.5           |
| April                | 1.0    | 2.5   | 3.5                                     | 13.1  | 7.8          | 5.5                                  | 13.2                 | 46.4           |
| May                  | 9.3    | 3.7   | 24.4                                    | 19.5  | 33.3         | 3.2                                  | 5.1                  | 98.4           |
| June                 | 11.5   | 2.2   | 3.3                                     | 6.9   | 14.1         | 1.2                                  | 17.8                 | 57.3           |
| July                 | 6.3    | 11.7  | 6.0                                     | 31.0  | 22.4         | 16.3                                 | 15.9                 | 109.8          |
| August               | 6.9    | 16.7  | 10.5                                    | 50.0  | 19.9         | 18.6                                 | 13.7                 | 136.3          |
| September            | 25.6   | 6.8   | 13.3                                    | 11.9  | 31.4         | 4.5                                  | 9.8                  | 103.3          |
| October              | 116.0  | 4.3   | 4.6                                     | 21.6  | 10.0         | 127.1                                | 100.5                | 184.2          |
| November             | 7.1    | 32.9  | 5.6                                     | 14.9  | 10.3         | 156.9                                | 14.1                 | 141.7          |
| December             | 18.4   | 3.1   | 3.5                                     | 3.0   | 3.3          | 4.9                                  | 8.7                  | 44.8           |
| 1986—                |        |       |                                         |       |              |                                      |                      |                |
| January              | 1.5    | 1.0   | 1.7                                     | 1.3   | 4.3          | 2.5                                  | 2.6                  | 14.9           |

(a) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

| Period               | N.S.W. | Vic.  | Qld   | S.A. | W.A.  | Tas. | Aust. (a) |
|----------------------|--------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-----------|
| 1983                 | 801.2  | 257.7 | 135.0 | 87.7 | 270.6 | 67.8 | 1,641.4   |
| 1984                 | 660.6  | 187.5 | 236.5 | 25.5 | 119.2 | 50.5 | 1,307.4   |
| 1985                 | 397.8  | 355.8 | 336.2 | 22.5 | 92.9  | 20.6 | 1,255.2   |
| Twelve months ended— |        |       |       |      |       |      |           |
| January 1984         | 742.1  | 255.9 | 128.8 | 88.9 | 265.5 | 68.3 | 1,572.2   |
| 1985                 | 676.9  | 194.9 | 237.5 | 25.1 | 121.6 | 49.9 | 1,332.4   |
| 1986                 | 364.8  | 348.1 | 333.7 | 22.2 | 89.8  | 21.4 | 1,208.7   |
| 1985—                |        |       |       |      |       |      |           |
| February             | 38.5   | 11.2  | 133.2 | 0.4  | 3.0   | 0.7  | 187.3     |
| March                | 38.6   | 14.4  | 20.9  | 3.1  | 6.7   | 0.6  | 84.5      |
| April                | 17.6   | 11.2  | 5.0   | 1.1  | 8.4   | 1.2  | 46.4      |
| May                  | 29.8   | 26.7  | 25.9  | 1.3  | 10.0  | 3.6  | 98.4      |
| June                 | 26.5   | 22.5  | 0.7   | 1.1  | 3.5   | 0.5  | 57.3      |
| July                 | 34.5   | 37.4  | 11.6  | 2.4  | 11.2  | 5.4  | 109.8     |
| August               | 41.9   | 21.4  | 46.6  | 4.2  | 13.3  | 4.6  | 136.3     |
| September            | 35.8   | 7.7   | 48.2  | 2.4  | 6.3   | 0.6  | 103.3     |
| October              | 143.5  | 119.8 | 77.7  | 13.0 | 7.7   | 1.3  | 184.2     |
| November             | 29.6   | 164.3 | 29.3  | 0.9  | 11.8  | 0.8  | 141.7     |
| December             | 22.7   | 6.9   | 3.7   | 1.7  | 3.2   | 1.4  | 44.8      |
| 1986—                |        |       |       |      |       |      |           |
| January              | 5.7    | 4.7   | 1.0   | 0.7  | 1.7   | 0.8  | 14.9      |

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

CHART 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES  
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 1985 AND 1986

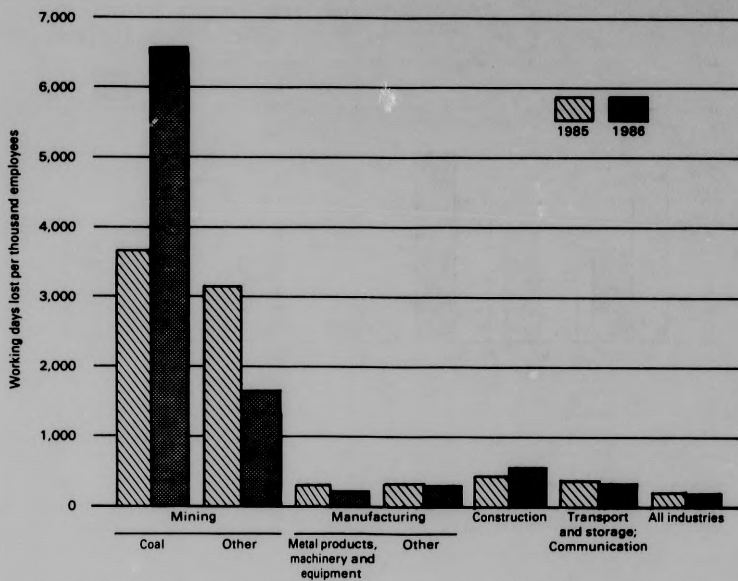
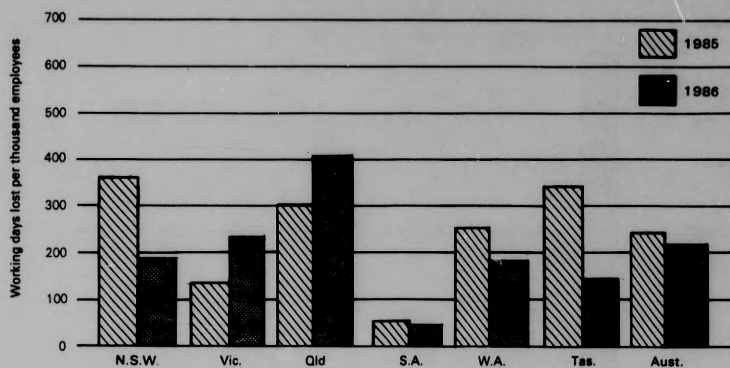


TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES (a)

| Period               | Manufacturing |       |                                         |       |              |                                      |                  |                |
|----------------------|---------------|-------|-----------------------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                      | Mining        |       | Metal products, machinery and equipment | Other | Construction | Transport and storage; Communication | Other industries | All industries |
|                      | Coal          | Other |                                         |       |              |                                      |                  |                |
| 1983                 | 3,223         | 3,375 | 353                                     | 186   | 1,269        | 485                                  | 42               | 249            |
| 1984                 | 3,543         | 3,286 | 327                                     | 387   | 427          | 346                                  | 94               | 246            |
| 1985                 | 6,732         | 1,723 | 242                                     | 296   | 580          | 402                                  | 75               | 230            |
| Twelve months ended— |               |       |                                         |       |              |                                      |                  |                |
| January 1985         | 3,668         | 3,182 | 325                                     | 372   | 440          | 397                                  | 96               | 249            |
| 1986                 | 6,575         | 1,610 | 242                                     | 288   | 563          | 350                                  | 71               | 220            |

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff.

**CHART 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED JANUARY 1985 AND 1986**



**TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)**

| Period                      | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | Aust.(b) |
|-----------------------------|--------|------|-----|------|------|------|----------|
| 1983                        | 287    | 163  | 176 | 115  | 577  | 478  | 249      |
| 1984                        | 355    | 131  | 301 | 56   | 251  | 352  | 246      |
| 1985                        | 208    | 239  | 417 | 48   | 190  | 144  | 230      |
| <i>Twelve months ended—</i> |        |      |     |      |      |      |          |
| January 1985                | 361    | 135  | 301 | 55   | 254  | 345  | 249      |
| January 1986                | 190    | 233  | 408 | 47   | 181  | 149  | 220      |

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.