



Australian Government



National  
Skills  
Commission

# Data sources used in the labour market dashboard

For further information on interpreting and analysing labour market data, please refer to the [Labour market data: quick reference guide](#).

## Labour Force, Australia and Detailed, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

- Data from *the Labour Force, Australia and Detailed* releases are used in the Labour Market dashboards, labour market summary table and employed persons chart.
- Both data sets are released monthly, the detailed being released a week after the Australia data
- Data from the *Labour Force, Australia and Detailed* release, are available at [abs.gov.au](http://abs.gov.au).
- Data for all Employment Regions are a *6 month average of original* estimates, except for youth unemployment rates which are a *12-month average of original* estimates.
- Data for States and Territories are *seasonally adjusted* estimates, except for the youth unemployment rates which are a *12-month average of original* estimates.
- National level data uses *seasonally adjusted* estimates.
- Employment Region data are based on SA4 estimates using a best-fit or proxy approach.

## Labour Force, Detailed Quarterly Industry data (ABS)

- The Labour Force, Detailed, quarterly Industry release available at [abs.gov.au](http://abs.gov.au), is used for the employment by industry chart.
- The share of employment is calculated as a proportion of total employment in the Employment Region.
- Data are four quarter averages of *original* estimates produced by the ABS.
- Estimates are based on SA4 data

## Department of Social Services job seeker income support payments data

With the cessation of jobactive and the transition to Workforce Australia, caseload data is temporarily unavailable. Department of Social Services (DSS) job seeker income support payments have been included in the Labour Market Dashboards instead. The main job seeker income support payments are the JobSeeker payment, and the Youth Allowance (other) payment. The data are compiled by DSS using Services Australia administrative data.

This substitution will take effect from this release (September 2022) onwards. Three new indicators derived from the job seeker income support data are included:

- Total number of persons on job seeker income support payments time series since March 2020
- Change in the total job seeker income support payments since March 2020 (by Employment Region, state/territory, and national)
- Total number of persons on job seeker income support and the proportion of the working age population (15-64 year olds) on job seeker income support.

For more information about the DSS data included in the dashboards refer to the [Labour Market Dashboard – sources and quality document](#) on [labourmarketinsights.gov.au](http://labourmarketinsights.gov.au).

## Small Area Labour Markets (National Skills Commission)

- The Small Area Labour Markets publication is used to highlight Local Government Areas with high rates of unemployment. Further data are available at [labourmarketinsights.gov.au](http://labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Unemployment rate estimates are *smoothed data*.
- Highly disaggregated estimates at the LGA level can be highly variable and should be viewed with caution. For Local Government Areas with a labour force with fewer than 1,000 persons, extra caution should be exercised when interpreting results due to the small sample and significant variability in the estimates. These are marked with an asterisk in the dashboard.

## Internet Vacancy Index (National Skills Commission)

- The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) measures the number of newly lodged online job advertisements on SEEK, CareerOne and Australian JobSearch. More insights are available at [labourmarketinsights.gov.au](http://labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Data used in the online job advertisements charts are *seasonally adjusted* for Australia, states and territories and all IVI Regions.
- Online job advertisements by occupation are based on seasonally adjusted for Australia, states and territories and three month averaged for IVI Regions.
- Online job advertisements by skill level are based on seasonally adjusted data.
- The best available proxy is used to select the best fit IVI Region for the Employment Region. *Seasonally adjusted* data for IVI Regions are not currently published.