

Source Papers in Economic History

AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL STATISTICS: LABOUR STATISTICS

GLENN WITHERS, TONY ENDRES
AND LEN PERRY

Source Paper No. 7

December 1985



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
GPO Box 4, Canberra 2601, Australia

Australian National University
Source Papers in Economic History
No.7

AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL STATISTICS: LABOUR STATISTICS*

GLENN WITHERS

Senior Research Fellow in Economic History
Australian National University

TONY ENDRES

Senior Lecturer in Economics
University of Auckland

LEN PERRY

Senior Lecturer in Economics
New South Wales Institute of Technology

Acknowledgements: The authors would like to record their appreciation for the considerable efforts of Doug Whaite in processing much of the data in this chapter.

* A much condensed version of this paper will appear as the Labour Statistics chapter in the Australian Historical Statistics volume of the Australian Bicentennial publication project.

ISSN: 0813-5398
ISBN: 0 86784 691 7

December 1985

CONTENTSNOTES FOR TABLES

	PAGE
<u>A. ENUMERATION OF THE WORK-FORCE</u>	7
1. WORKFORCE	7
(A) COLONIAL CENSUS WORKFORCE, 1828 TO 1901	8
(B) CENSUS WORKFORCE, 1891 TO 1981	14
(C) POPULATION SURVEY WORKFORCE, 1964 TO 1984	16
(D) ANU ESTIMATES OF WORKFORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT, 1901 TO 1974	19
(E) M. W. BUTLIN'S WORKFORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES, 1901 TO 1974	22
(F) EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 1891 TO 1981	23
(G) OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN WORKFORCE, 1911 TO 1981	26
(H) PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT, 1901 TO 1974	28
2. WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES	30
(A) COLONIAL CENSUS WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES, 1828 TO 1901	30
(B) COMMONWEALTH CENSUS WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES, 1911 TO 1981	30
3. UNEMPLOYMENT	32
(A) COLONIAL/Commonwealth CENSUS EMPLOYMENT, 1891 TO 1981	33
(B) TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 1912 TO 1953	38
(C) REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED AND BENEFIT LEVELS AND RECIPIENTS, 1904 TO 1981	39
(D) POPULATION SURVEY UNEMPLOYMENT, 1964 TO 1984	42
(E) ASE UNEMPLOYMENT INDEXES, 1853 TO 1943	43
(F) M. KEATING'S UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 1911 TO 1961	46
<u>B. REMUNERATION OF THE WORKFORCE</u>	49
1. MINIMUM WAGES AND STANDARD HOURS	49
(A) COMMONWEALTH BASIC AND MINIMUM WAGE, 1907 TO 1981	50

(B) MINIMUM WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND STANDARD HOURS, 1891 to 1984	52
(C) ANU INDEXES OF WEEKLY WAGES, 1861 TO 1914	55
2. EARNINGS : UNIT WAGES	57
(A) AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING, 1907 TO 1982	58
(B) AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING, 1861 TO 1900	60
(C) AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED UNIT, 1946 TO 1982	61
(D) PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEE ANNUAL AVERAGE EARNINGS, 1901 TO 1981	63
3. WAGES AND SALARIES SHARE IN VALUE ADDED, 1907 TO 1982	65
4. OTHER	69
<u>C. ORGANISATION OF LABOUR: TRADE UNIONS AND INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES</u>	71
1. UNION NUMBERS AND MEMBERSHIP, 1891 TO 1984	73
2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, 1913 TO 1984	75
<u>D. NEW COMPOSITE ESTIMATES OF SELECTED LONG-RUN LABOUR SERIES, 1860 TO 1984</u>	81
1. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, 1860 TO 1984	81
2. MONEY WAGE, 1860 TO 1984	82
3. TOTAL EMPLOYMENT, 1860 TO 1984	83
4. NET MIGRATION, 1860 TO 1984	83
5. LABOUR FORCE, 1860 TO 1984	84
6. POPULATION, 1860 TO 1984	84

TABLESA. ENUMERATION OF THE WORK-FORCE

1. WORKFORCE

(A) COLONIAL CENSUS WORKFORCE, 1828 TO 1901

Colonial Census Workforce, Persons by Colony/State, Census Years, 1828 to 1901	86
Colonial Census Workforce, Males by Colony/State, Census Years, 1828 to 1901	87
Colonial Census Workforce, Females by Colony/State, Census Years, 1828 to 1901	88
Colonial Census Workforce, Persons by Colony/State, Selected Years, 1841 to 1901	89
Colonial Census Workforce, Males by Colony/State, Selected Years, 1841 to 1901	90
Colonial Census Workforce, Females by Colony/State, Selected Years, 1841 to 1901	91

(B) CENSUS WORKFORCE, 1891 TO 1981

Census Workforce, Persons by State, Census Years 1891 to 1981	92
Census Workforce, Males by State, Census Years 1911 to 1981	93
Census Workforce, Females by State, Census Years 1911 to 1981	94

(C) POPULATION SURVEY WORKFORCE, 1964 TO 1984

Population Survey Workforce, Persons, Full Time and Part Time, 1964 to 1984	95
---	----

(D) ANU ESTIMATES OF WORKFORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT, 1901 TO 1974

ANU Estimates of Workforce and Unemployment, Persons, Australia, 1901 to 1974	96
---	----

(E) M. W. BUTLIN'S WORKFORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES, 1901 TO 1974

M.W. Butlin's Workforce and Unemployment Estimates, Persons, Australia, 1901 to 1974	98
--	----

(F) EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 1891 TO 1981

Employment by Industry, Australia, 1891 to 1981	100
---	-----

(G) OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN WORKFORCE, 1911 TO 1981

Occupational Distribution of the Australian Workforce, 1911 to 1981	101
---	-----

(H) PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT, 1901 TO 1974

Private and Public Sector Employment, Persons, Australia, 1901 to 1974	101
State Government Employment, Persons, by State, 1901 to 1974	101
Public Business Authority Employment, by Industry, Australia, 1901 to 1974	101

2. WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES.

(A) COLONIAL CENSUS WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES, 1828 TO 1901.

Colonial Census Workforce Participation Rates, Males by Colony/State, 1828 to 1901	101
Colonial Census Workforce Participation Rates, Females by Colony/State, 1828 to 1901	101

Colonial Census Workforce Participation Rates, Persons by Colony/State, 1828 to 1901	111
Colonial Census Workforce Participation Rates, Males by Colony/State, Selected Years, 1841 to 1901	112
Colonial Census Workforce Participation Rates, Females by Colony/State, Selected Years, 1841 to 1901	113
Colonial Census Workforce Participation Rates, Persons by Colony/State, Selected Years, 1841 to 1901	114
(B) COMMONWEALTH CENSUS WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES, 1911 TO 1981.	
Commonwealth Census Workforce Participation Rates, Persons by State/Territory, Census Years, 1811 to 1981.	115
Labour Force Participation Rates, Males by Age Group, Census Years, 1911 to 1981.	116
Labour Force Participation Rates, Females by Age Group, Census Years, 1911 to 1981.	117
3. UNEMPLOYMENT	
(A) COLONIAL/Commonwealth CENSUS UNEMPLOYMENT, 1891 TO 1981	
Colonial/Commonwealth Census Unemployment, by Colony/State, Persons, Census Years, 1891 to 1981	118
Commonwealth Census Unemployment, by State/Territory, Males, 1911 to 1981	119
Commonwealth Census Unemployment, by State/Territory, Females, 1911 to 1981	120
Colonial/Commonwealth Census Unemployment Rates, by Colony/State, Persons, Census Years, 1891 to 1981	121
Commonwealth Census Unemployment Rate, by State/Territory, Males, 1911 to 1981	122
Commonwealth Census Unemployment Rate, by State/Territory, Females, 1911 to 1981	123
(B) TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 1912 TO 1953	
Trade Union Unemployment, Persons, Australia, 1891 to 1953	124
Trade Union Unemployment Rates, Persons, Australia, 1891 to 1953	126
(C) REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED AND BENEFIT LEVELS AND RECIPIENTS, 1904 TO 1981	
Registered Unemployed, Persons, Victoria State Labour Exchange, 1904 to 1940	128
Registered Unemployed, Benefit Levels, and Recipients, Commonwealth Employment Service, Persons, 1946 to 1981	130
(D) POPULATION SURVEY UNEMPLOYMENT, 1964 TO 1984	
Population Survey Unemployment, Persons, 1964 to 1984	132
(E) ASE UNEMPLOYMENT INDEXES, 1853 TO 1943	
ASE Unemployment Indexes, Persons, Australia, 1853 to 1943	133
(F) M. KEATING'S UNADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, 1911 TO 1961	
M. Keating's Unadjusted Unemployment Rates, Persons, Australia, 1911 to 1961	136
<u>B. REMUNERATION OF THE WORKFORCE</u>	
1. MINIMUM WAGES AND STANDARD HOURS	
(A) COMMONWEALTH BASIC AND MINIMUM WAGE, 1907 TO 1981	
Commonwealth Basic and Minimum Wage, Adult Male, Six Capital City Averages, 1907 to 1981	138

(B) MINIMUM WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND STANDARD HOURS, 1891 to 1984	
Minimum Weekly Wage Rates, Adult Males, by State, 1891 to 1984	140
Minimum Weekly Wage Rates, Adult Males, by Industry, 1891 to 1981	142
Minimum Weekly Wage Rates, Adult Females, by Industry, 1814 to 1981	146
Standard Weekly Hours of Work, Adult Males, by Industry, 1914 to 1980	148
Standard Weekly Hours of Work, Adult Females, by Industry, 1914 to 1980	152
(C) ANU INDEXES OF WEEKLY WAGES, 1861 TO 1914	
ANU Indexes of Weekly Wages, 1861 to 1914	154
2. EARNINGS : UNIT WAGES	
(A) AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING, 1907 TO 1982	
Average Annual Earnings, Manufacturing, Persons, by State, 1907 to 1982	156
Average Annual Earnings, Manufacturing, Males , by State, 1907 to 1982	158
Average Annual Earnings, Manufacturing, Females, by State, 1907 to 1982	160
(B) AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING, 1861 TO 1900	
Average Annual Earnings in Manufacturing by Colony, 1861 to 1900	162
(C) AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT AND IMPLIED FEMALE EARNINGS, 1946 TO 1982	
Average Weekly Earnings per Employed Male Unit, by State, and Implied Female Earnings, Australia, 1946 to 1981.	164
(D) PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEE ANNUAL AVERAGE EARNINGS, 1901 TO 1981	
Public and Private Sector Annual Average Earnings, Persons, 1901 to 1981	166
3. WAGES AND SALARIES SHARE IN VALUE ADDED, 1907 TO 1982	
Wages and Salaries Share in Manufacturing Value Added, 1907 to 1982 and Wages and Salaries Share in Non-Farm GDP, 1949 to 1981.	168
<u>C. ORGANISATION OF LABOUR: TRADE UNIONS AND INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES</u>	
1. UNION NUMBERS AND MEMBERSHIP, 1891 TO 1984	
Number of Unions, by Colony/State, Selected Years to 1906, and Annual Thereafter, 1891 to 1984	170
Number of Union Members, Persons, by Colony/State, Selected Years to 1906, and Annual Thereafter, 1891 to 1984	172
2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, 1913 TO 1984	
Industrial Disputes, Australia, 1913 to 1984.	174
Industrial Disputes, by State, 1913 to 1984.	176
Workers Involved in Industrial Disputes, by State and Territory, 1913 to 1984	178
Working Days Lost in Industrial Disputes, by State and Territory, 1913 to 1984	180
Number of Industrial Disputes by Cause, Australia, 1913 to 1984	182

Workers Involved in Industrial Disputes by Cause, Australia 1913 to 1984	184
Working Days Lost in Industrial Disputes, by Cause, Australia, 1913 to 1984	186
Number of Industrial Disputes by pre ASIC Industrial Classification, Australia, 1913 to 1984	188
Workers Involved in Industrial Disputes by pre ASIC Industrial Classification, Australia, 1913 to 1984	190
Working Days Lost in Industrial Disputes by pre ASIC Industrial Classification, Australia, Annual, 1913 to 1984	192
Number of Industrial Disputes by pre ASIC Industrial Classification, Australia, Annual, 1968 to 1984	194
Workers Involved in Industrial Disputes by ASIC Industrial Classification, Australia, Annual, 1968 to 1984	195
Working Days Lost in Industrial Disputes by ASIC Industrial Classification, Annual, 1968 to 1984	196
Number of Industrial Disputes by Method of Settlement, Australia, Annual, 1913 to 1984	197
Workers Involved in Industrial Disputes by Method of Settlement, Australia, Annual, 1913 to 1984	199
Working Days Lost in Industrial Disputes by Method of Settlement, Australia, Annual, 1913 to 1984	201

D. NEW COMPOSITE ESTIMATES OF SELECTED LONG-RUN LABOUR SERIES, 1860 TO 1984

New Composite Estimates of Selected Long-Run Labour Series, 1860 to 1984	203
--	-----