

Average Weekly Earnings (ABS Cat No 6302.0)

Latest period: November 2017

Release date: 22 February 2018

Next release date: 16 August 2018

This is the twelfth biannual release of this series. Previously, average weekly earnings data were released on a quarterly basis. As the quarterly and biannual trend time series data are not comparable, this limits historical analysis using trend data. Given this, historical charts are presented in year-average original terms, whilst current point-to-point estimates are presented in trend terms.

Tasmanian earnings series are volatile, particularly when compared with wage growth rates, as measured by the Wage Price Index. This partly reflects the effect of Tasmania's smaller sample size.

Movements in average weekly earnings can be affected by changes in the level of earnings per employed person and changes in the composition of the labour force (particularly changes in the proportions of full-time and part-time employed persons). As full-time average weekly ordinary time earnings (AWOTE) is based only on full-time employees, it is not affected by changes in the share of part-time workers in the sample, but is susceptible to changes in the occupation and skill levels of the workforce. For this reason, the [Wage Price Index](#) is preferred in most cases as a superior measure of wage growth.

Recent performance

Tasmanian AWOTE were estimated to be \$1 355.60 per week in November 2017 in trend terms, an increase of 0.2 per cent compared with May 2017 and 0.8 per cent higher than November 2016. Nationally, AWOTE increased by 1.4 per cent compared with May 2017 and 2.3 per cent compared with November 2016.

The estimated level of the Tasmanian AWOTE in November 2017 remains the lowest of all jurisdictions and was 86.5 per cent of the national average level.

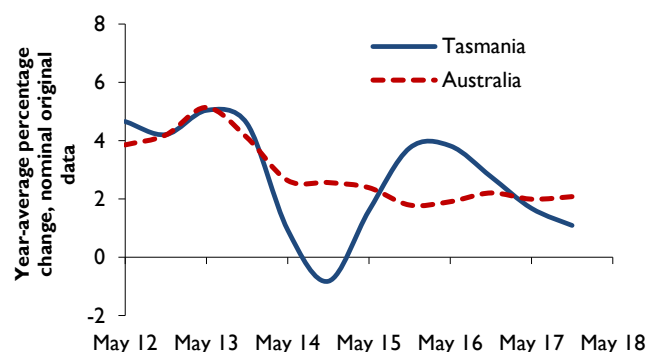
The estimated growth rate of Tasmanian earnings, measured through AWOTE and average weekly total earnings, have fluctuated since mid-2012 with AWOTE experiencing a recent decline in the growth rate but average weekly total earnings growth rate increasing over recent months (Charts 1 and 2).

Table 1: Full-time AWOTE by jurisdiction, November 2017, nominal trend data

Nominal trend	AWOTE (\$ per week)	Biannual % change	Annual % change
NSW	1 582.80	2.1	3.0
Vic	1 519.60	0.5	1.8
Qld	1 524.10	1.6	3.0
SA	1 441.20	-0.4	-0.1
WA	1 740.90	1.4	2.2
Tas	1 355.60	0.2	0.8
NT	1 642.70	1.0	1.1
ACT	1 801.30	1.5	3.1
Aus	1 567.90	1.4	2.3

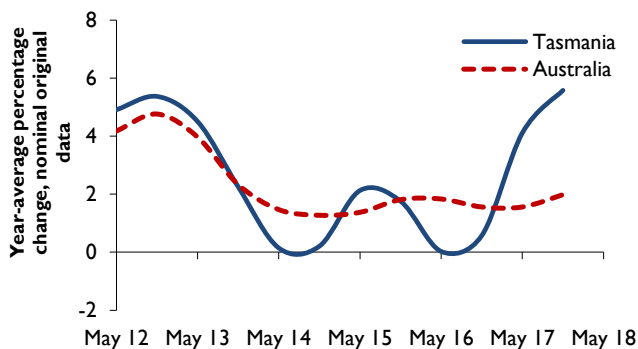
SOURCE: AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, ABS CAT NO 6302.0: TABLES I, IIA-H

Chart 1: Full-time AWOTE, Tasmania and Australia, year-average percentage change, nominal original data



SOURCE: AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, ABS CAT NO 6302.0: TABLES I, IIF

Chart 2: Average weekly total earnings, Tasmania and Australia, year-average percentage change, nominal original data



SOURCE: AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, ABS CAT NO 6302.0: TABLES I, IIF

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Table 2: Full-time AWOTE, Tasmania and Australia, nominal data

	Tasmania			Australia		
	Nov 16	May 17	Nov 17	Nov 16	May 17	Nov 17
<i>Nominal trend data</i>						
Average weekly ordinary time earnings						
Biannual level (\$ per week)	344.60	352.70	355.60	532.00	545.90	567.90
Biannual % change	0.7	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.9	1.4
Annual % change	2.1	1.3	0.8	2.1	1.9	2.3
Tas as % of Aus	87.8	87.5	86.5			
<i>Nominal seasonally adjusted data</i>						
Average weekly ordinary time earnings						
Biannual level (\$ per week)	343.50	354.10	354.60	533.40	543.20	569.60
Biannual % change	0.6	0.8	0.0	1.1	0.6	1.7
Annual % change	2.0	1.4	0.8	2.2	1.8	2.4
Tas as % of Aus	87.6	87.7	86.3			
<i>Nominal original data</i>						
Average weekly ordinary time earnings						
Year-average level (\$ per week)	339.90	348.95	354.50	524.70	538.30	556.40
Year-average % change	2.8	1.7	1.1	2.2	2.0	2.1
Tas as % of Aus	87.9	87.7	87.0			

SOURCE: AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, ABS CAT NO 6302.0: TABLES 1-3, 11F, 12F, 13F

Table 3: Average weekly total earnings, Tasmania and Australia, nominal data

	Tasmania			Australia		
	Nov 16	May 17	Nov 17	Nov 16	May 17	Nov 17
<i>Nominal trend data</i>						
Average weekly earnings						
Biannual level (\$ per week)	979.40	011.60	025.50	165.50	178.30	191.70
Biannual % change	2.3	3.3	1.4	0.6	1.1	1.1
Annual % change	2.1	5.6	4.7	1.6	1.7	2.2
Tas as % of Aus	84.0	85.9	86.1			
<i>Nominal seasonally adjusted data</i>						
Average weekly earnings						
Biannual level (\$ per week)	976.80	017.00	022.10	163.50	179.00	191.50
Biannual % change	2.3	4.1	0.5	0.2	1.3	1.1
Annual % change	1.7	6.6	4.6	1.6	1.6	2.4
Tas as % of Aus	84.0	86.3	85.8			
<i>Nominal original data</i>						
Average weekly earnings						
Year-average level (\$ per week)	966.00	997.20	019.90	162.20	171.25	185.25
Year-average % change	0.6	4.1	5.6	1.8	1.6	2.0
Tas as % of Aus	83.1	85.1	86.0			

SOURCE: AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, ABS CAT NO 6302.0: TABLES 1-3, 11F, 12F, 13F

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