

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING – 2 and 3 JUNE 2003**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome:** 1 An effectively functioning labour market

**Output Group:** 1.1 Labour market policy and analysis

**Outputs:** 1.1.1 Policy advice

**Question Number:** W115-04

**Question:**

Senator Webber asked at *Hansard* page 157:

What proportion would be internal movement in the labour market rather than an unemployed person coming in, off the list?

**Answer:**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) provides information on movements in the labour market in the *Labour Mobility* publication (Cat. No. 6209.0), most recently released in October 2002. This publication is based on a survey of the employment changes of people aged 15-69 years who had held a job during the 12 months ending February 2002.

Of the 9,856,400 persons who had worked at some time during the year ending February 2002,

- 6,989,800 or 70.9 per cent had been in their current job for the whole year;
- 2,070,900 persons had worked for less than one year in their current job and were working at February 2002. Of these:
  - 60.4 per cent were working at the start of the year (internal labour market movement); and
  - 39.6 per cent were not working at the start of the year (previously looking for work or not in the labour force);
- The remaining 795,700 persons were not working at February 2002 (that is, they had been working at some time during the year but were not working at the end of the year).