



## NEWS RELEASE

Sharon Bird MP  
**Federal Member for Cunningham**

# WOLLONGONG UNEMPLOYMENT UP AGAIN

Wollongong's unemployment rate has shot up again to nearly 9% according to the regional labour force figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Federal Member for Cunningham, Sharon Bird, said this afternoon.

Overall Wollongong unemployment for October is 8.8% (from 8.2% in September).

The female unemployment rate has improved slightly to 9% (from 10% in September).

Male unemployment in Wollongong has jumped to 8.7% (from 6.2% in September).

“Does the Minister for WorkChoices, Joe Hockey, still wish to blame Wollongong's unemployed for being lazy?”, Ms Bird said.

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6291.0.55.001 Labour Force, Australia, Detailed -  
Electronic Delivery, Oct 2007  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6291.0.55.001?OpenDocument>