

# Package ‘readabs’

August 8, 2023

**Type** Package

**Title** Download and Tidy Time Series Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics

**Version** 0.4.14

**Maintainer** Matt Cowgill <mattcowgill@gmail.com>

**Description** Downloads, imports, and tidies time series data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics <<https://www.abs.gov.au/>>.

**Date** 2023-08-03

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Depends** R (>= 3.5)

**Imports** readxl (>= 1.2.0), dplyr (>= 0.8.0), hutils (>= 1.5.0), fst, purrr, tidyr (>= 1.0.0), stringi, tools, glue, httr, rvest, xml2, rlang, labelled

**URL** <https://github.com/mattcowgill/readabs>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/mattcowgill/readabs/issues>

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, markdown, testthat (>= 2.1.0), ggplot2

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Matt Cowgill [aut, cre] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0422-3300>>),  
Zoe Meers [aut],  
Jaron Lee [aut],  
David Diviny [aut],  
Hugh Parsonage [ctb],  
Kinto Behr [ctb]

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2023-08-08 07:50:02 UTC

## R topics documented:

abs_api	2
check_latest_date	4
download_abs_data_cube	6
extract_abs_sheets	7
read_abs	8
read_abs_data	10
read_abs_local	11
read_abs_metadata	12
read_abs_url	12
read_awe	13
read_cpi	15
read_job_mobility	16
read_lfs_grossflows	16
read_payrolls	17
scrape_abs_catalogues	19
search_catalogues	19
search_files	20
separate_series	20
show_available_catalogues	21
show_available_files	22
tidy_abs	23
tidy_abs_list	24
<b>Index</b>	<b>25</b>

---

abs\_api

*ABS.Stat API functions*

---

### Description

#### [Experimental]

These experimental functions provide a minimal interface to the ABS.Stat API.

More information on the ABS.Stat API can be found on the [ABS website](#)

Note that an ABS.Stat 'dataflow' is like a table. A 'datastructure' contains metadata that describes the variables in the dataflow. To load data from the ABS.Stat API, you need to either:

- Using `read_api_dataflows()` you can get information on the available dataflows
- Using `read_api_datastructure()` you can get metadata relating to a specific dataflow, including the variables available in each dataflow
- Using `read_api()` you can get the data belonging to a given dataflow.
- Using `read_api_url()` you can get the data for a given query url generated using the [online data viewer](#).

**Usage**

```

read_api_dataflows()

read_api(
  id,
  datakey = NULL,
  start_period = NULL,
  end_period = NULL,
  version = NULL
)

read_api_url(url)

read_api_datastructure(id)

```

**Arguments**

id	A dataflow id. Use <code>read_api_dataflows()</code> to obtain a dataframe listing available dataflows.
datakey	A named list matching filter variables to codes. All variables with a position in the datastructure are filterable. Use <code>read_api_datastructure()</code> to obtain information about the variables in a dataflow and the values of that variable.
start_period	The start period (used to filter by time). This is inclusive. The supported formats are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "YYYY" for annual data (e.g. 2019)</li> <li>• "YYYY-S[1-2]" for semi-annual data (e.g. 2019-S1)</li> <li>• "YYYY-Q[1-4]" for quarterly data (e.g. 2019-Q1)</li> <li>• "YYYY-MM[01-12]" for monthly data (e.g. 2019-01)</li> <li>• "YYYY-W[01-53]" for weekly data (e.g. 2019-W01)</li> <li>• "YYYY-MM-DD" for daily and business data (e.g. 2019-01-01)</li> </ul>
end_period	The end period (used to filter on time). This is inclusive. The supported formats are the same as for <code>start_period</code>
version	A version number, if unspecified the latest version of the dataset is used. Use <code>read_api_dataflows()</code> to see available dataflow versions.
url	A complete query url

**Details**

Note that the API enforces a reasonably strict gateway timeout policy. This means that, if you're trying to access a reasonably large dataset, you will need to filter it on the server side using the `datakey`. You might like to review the data manually via the [ABS website](#) to figure out what subset of the data you require.

Note, furthermore, that the datastructure contains a complete codebook for the variables appearing in the relevant dataflow. Since some variables are shared across multiple dataflows, this means that the datastructure corresponding to a particular `id` may contain values for a given variable which are not in the corresponding dataflow.

**Value**

A data.frame

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# List available dataflows
read_api_dataflows()

# Say we want the "Estimated resident population, Country of birth"
# data flow, with the id ERP_COB. We load the data like this:
# Get full data set for a given flow by providing id and start period:
read_api("ERP_COB", start_period = 2020)

# In some cases, loading a whole dataflow (as above) won't work.
# For eg., the `ABS_C16_T10_SA` dataflow is very large,
# so the gateway will timeout if we try to collect the full data set
try(read_api("ABS_C16_T10_SA"))

# We need to filter the dataflow before downloading it.
# To figure out how to filter it, we get metadata ('datastructure').
ds <- read_api_datastructure("ABS_C16_T10_SA")

# The `asgs_2016` code for 'Australia' is 0
ds[ds$var == "asgs_2016" & ds$label == "Australia", ]

# The `sex_abs` code for 'Persons' (i.e. all persons) is 3
ds[ds$var == "sex_abs" & ds$label == "Persons", ]

# So we have:
x <- read_api("ABS_C16_T10_SA", datakey = list(asgs_2016 = 0, sex_abs = 3))
unique(x["asgs_2016"]) # Confirming only 'Australia' level records came through
unique(x["sex_abs"]) # Confirming only 'Persons' level records came through

# Please note however that not all values in the datastructure necessarily
# appear in the data. You get 404s in this case
ds[ds$var == "regiontype" & ds$label == "Destination Zones", ]
try(read_api("ABS_C16_T10_SA", datakey = list(regiontype = "DZN"))))

# If you already have a query url, then use `read_api_url()`
wpi_url <- "https://api.data.abs.gov.au/data/ABS,WPI,1.0.0/"
read_api_url(wpi_url)

## End(Not run)
```

**Description**

This function returns the most recent observation date for a specified ABS time series catalogue number (as a whole), individual tables, or series IDs.

**Usage**

```
check_latest_date(cat_no = NULL, tables = "all", series_id = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

cat_no	ABS catalogue number, as a string, including the extension. For example, "6202.0".
tables	numeric. Time series tables in cat_no`` to download and extract. Default is "all", which will be used to download and import specific tables(s) - eg. tables = 1 or tables = c(1, 5)'.
series_id	(optional) character. Supply an ABS unique time series identifier (such as "A2325807L") to get only that series. This is an alternative to specifying cat_no.

**Details**

Where the individual time series in your request have multiple dates, only the most recent will be returned.

**Value**

Date vector of length one. Date corresponds to the most recent observation date for any of the time series in the table(s) requested. observation date for any of the time series in the table(s) requested.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

# Check a whole catalogue number; return the latest release date for any
# time series in the number

check_latest_date("6345.0")

# Return latest release date for a table within a catalogue number - note
# the function will return the release date
# of the most-recently-updated series within the tables
check_latest_date("6345.0", tables = 1)

# Or for multiple tables - note the function will return the release date
# of the most-recently-updated series within the tables
check_latest_date("6345.0", tables = c("1", "5a"))

# Or for an individual time series
check_latest_date(series_id = "A2713849C")

## End(Not run)
```

---

download\_abs\_data\_cube

*Experimental helper function to download ABS data cubes that are not compatible with read\_abs.*

---

## Description

**[Experimental]** download\_abs\_data\_cube() downloads the latest ABS data cubes based on the catalogue name (from the website url) and cube. The function downloads the file to disk.

Unlike read\_abs(), this function doesn't import or tidy the data. Convenience functions are provided to import and tidy key data cubes; see ?read\_payrolls() and ?read\_lfs\_grossflows().

## Usage

```
download_abs_data_cube(
  catalogue_string,
  cube,
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir())
)
```

## Arguments

catalogue_string	ABS catalogue name as a string from the ABS website. For example, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed is "labour-force-australia-detailed". The possible catalogues can be obtained using the helper function show_available_catalogues(); or search these catalogues using search_catalogues(),
cube	character. A character string that is either the complete filename or (uniquely) in the filename of the data cube you want to download, e.g. "EQ09". The available filenames can be obtained using the helper function get_available_filenames()
path	Local directory in which downloaded files should be stored. By default, path takes the value set in the environment variable "R_READABS_PATH". If this variable is not set, any files downloaded will be stored in a temporary directory (tempdir()). See Details below for more information.

## Details

download\_abs\_data\_cube() downloads an Excel spreadsheet from the ABS.

The file need to be saved somewhere on your disk. This local directory can be controlled using the path argument to read\_abs(). If the path argument is not set, read\_abs() will store the files in a directory set in the "R\_READABS\_PATH" environment variable. If this variable isn't set, files will be saved in a temporary directory.

To check the value of the "R\_READABS\_PATH" variable, run Sys.getenv("R\_READABS\_PATH"). You can set the value of this variable for a single session using Sys.setenv(R\_READABS\_PATH = <path>). If you would like to change this variable for all future R sessions, edit your .Renviro file and add R\_READABS\_PATH = <path> line. The easiest way to edit this file is using usethis::edit\_r\_enviro().

The filepath is returned invisibly which enables piping to unzip() or readxl::read\_excel.

**See Also**

Other data cube functions: [search\\_catalogues\(\)](#), [show\\_available\\_catalogues\(\)](#), [show\\_available\\_files\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
download_abs_data_cube(
  catalogue_string = "labour-force-australia-detailed",
  cube = "EQ09"
)

## End(Not run)
```

---

extract_abs_sheets	<i>Extract data sheets from an ABS timeseries workbook saved locally as an Excel file.</i>
--------------------	--

---

**Description**

Note that this function will not tidy the data for you. Use `read_abs_local()` to import and tidy data from local ABS time series spreadsheets or `read_abs()` to download, import and tidy ABS time series.

**Usage**

```
extract_abs_sheets(
  filename,
  table_title = NULL,
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir())
)
```

**Arguments**

filename	Filename for an ABS time series spreadsheet (as string)
table_title	String giving the full title of the ABS table, such as "Table 1. Employed persons, Australia"
path	Local directory in which an ABS time series is stored. Default is <code>Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir())</code> .

---

read_abs	<i>Download, extract, and tidy ABS time series spreadsheets</i>
----------	---

---

## Description

### [Stable]

read\_abs() downloads ABS time series spreadsheets, then extracts the data from those spreadsheets, then tidies the data. The result is a single data frame (tibble) containing tidied data.

## Usage

```
read_abs(
  cat_no = NULL,
  tables = "all",
  series_id = NULL,
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir()),
  metadata = TRUE,
  show_progressBars = TRUE,
  retain_files = TRUE,
  check_local = TRUE,
  release_date = "latest"
)

read_abs_series(series_id, ...)
```

## Arguments

cat_no	ABS catalogue number, as a string, including the extension. For example, "6202.0".
tables	numeric. Time series tables in cat_no to download and extract. Default is "all", which will be used to download and import specific tables(s) - eg. tables = c(1, 5).
series_id	(optional) character. Supply an ABS unique time series identifier (such as "A2325807L") to get only that series. This is an alternative to specifying cat_no.
path	Local directory in which downloaded ABS time series spreadsheets should be stored. By default, path takes the value set in the environment variable "R_READABS_PATH". If this variable is not set, any files downloaded by read_abs() will be stored in a temporary directory (tempdir()). See Details below for more information.
metadata	logical. If TRUE (the default), a tidy data frame including ABS metadata (series name, table name, etc.) is included in the output. If FALSE, metadata is dropped.
show_progressBars	TRUE by default. If set to FALSE, progress bars will not be shown when ABS spreadsheets are downloading.
retain_files	when TRUE (the default), the spreadsheets downloaded from the ABS website will be saved in the directory specified with path. If set to FALSE, the files will be stored in a temporary directory.



check_local	If TRUE, the default, local fst files are used, if present.
release_date	Either "latest" or a string coercible to a date, such as "2022-02-01". If "latest", the latest release of the requested data will be returned. If a date, (eg. "2022-02-01") read_abs() will attempt to download the data from that month's release. See Details.
...	Arguments to read_abs_series() are passed to read_abs().

## Details

read\_abs\_series() is a wrapper around read\_abs(), with series\_id as the first argument.

read\_abs() downloads spreadsheet(s) from the ABS containing time series data. These files need to be saved somewhere on your disk. This local directory can be controlled using the path argument to read\_abs(). If the path argument is not set, read\_abs() will store the files in a directory set in the "R\_READABS\_PATH" environment variable. If this variable isn't set, files will be saved in a temporary directory.

To check the value of the "R\_READABS\_PATH" variable, run Sys.getenv("R\_READABS\_PATH"). You can set the value of this variable for a single session using Sys.setenv(R\_READABS\_PATH = <path>). If you would like to change this variable for all future R sessions, edit your .Renvirom file and add R\_READABS\_PATH = <path> line. The easiest way to edit this file is using usethis::edit\_r\_envirom().

The release\_date argument allows you to download table(s) other than the latest release. This is useful for examining revisions to time series, or for obtaining the version of series that were available on a given date. Note that you cannot supply more than one date to release\_date. Note also that any dates prior to mid-2019 (the exact date varies by series) will fail.

## Value

A data frame (tibble) containing the tidied data from the ABS time series table(s).

## Examples

```
# Download and tidy all time series spreadsheets
# from the Wage Price Index (6345.0)
## Not run:
wpi <- read_abs("6345.0")

## End(Not run)

# Download table 1 from the Wage Price Index
## Not run:
wpi_t1 <- read_abs("6345.0", tables = "1")

## End(Not run)

# Or table 1 as in the Sep 2019 release of the WPI:
## Not run:
wpi_t1_sep2019 <- read_abs("6345.0", tables = "1", release_date = "2019-09-01")

## End(Not run)
```

```
# Or tables 1 and 2a from the WPI
## Not run:
wpi_t1_t2a <- read_abs("6345.0", tables = c("1", "2a"))

## End(Not run)

# Get two specific time series, based on their time series IDs
## Not run:
cpi <- read_abs(series_id = c("A2325806K", "A2325807L"))

## End(Not run)

# Get series IDs using the `read_abs_series()` wrapper function
## Not run:
cpi <- read_abs_series(c("A2325806K", "A2325807L"))

## End(Not run)
```

---

read_abs_data	<i>Extracts ABS time series data from local Excel spreadsheets and converts to long format.</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

`read_abs_data()` is soft deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Please use `read_abs_local()` to import and tidy locally-stored ABS time series spreadsheets, or `read_abs()` to download, import, and tidy time series spreadsheets from the ABS website.

### Usage

```
read_abs_data(path, sheet)
```

### Arguments

path	Filepath to Excel spreadsheet.
sheet	Sheet name or number.

### Value

Long-format dataframe

---

read_abs_local	<i>Read and tidy locally-saved ABS time series spreadsheet(s)</i>
----------------	---

---

## Description

If you need to download and tidy time series data from the ABS, use `read_abs()`. `read_abs_local()` imports and tidies data from ABS time series spreadsheets that are already saved to your local drive.

## Usage

```
read_abs_local(
  cat_no = NULL,
  filenames = NULL,
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir()),
  use_fst = TRUE,
  metadata = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

<code>cat_no</code>	character; a single catalogue number such as "6202.0". When <code>cat_no</code> is specified, all local files in <code>path</code> corresponding to the specified catalogue number will be imported. For example, if you run <code>read_abs_local("6202.0")</code> , it will look in the <code>6202.0</code> sub-folder of <code>path</code> and attempt to load any <code>.xls</code> and <code>.xlsx</code> files in that location. If <code>cat_no` is specified, <code>filenames` will be ignored.</code></code>
<code>filenames</code>	character vector of at least one filename of a locally-stored ABS time series spreadsheet. For example, "6202001.xls" or <code>c("6202001.xls", "6202005.xls")</code> . Ignored if a value is supplied to <code>cat_no</code> . If <code>filenames</code> is blank and <code>cat_no</code> is blank, <code>read_abs_local()</code> will attempt to read all <code>.xls</code> and <code>.xlsx</code> files in the directory specified with <code>path</code> .
<code>path</code>	path to local directory containing ABS time series file(s). Default is <code>Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir())</code> . If nothing is specified in <code>filenames</code> or <code>cat_no</code> , <code>read_abs_local()</code> will attempt to read all <code>.xls</code> and <code>.xlsx</code> files in the directory specified with <code>path</code> .
<code>use_fst</code>	logical. If TRUE (the default) then, if an <code>fst</code> file of the tidy data frame has already been saved in <code>path</code> , it is read immediately.
<code>metadata</code>	logical. If TRUE (the default), a tidy data frame including ABS metadata (series name, table name, etc.) is included in the output. If FALSE, metadata is dropped.

## Details

Unlike `read_abs()`, the `table_title` column in the data frame returned by `read_abs_local()` is blank. If you require `table_title`, please use `read_abs()` instead.

**Examples**

```
# Load and tidy two specified files from the "data/ABS" subdirectory
# of your working directory
## Not run:
lfs <- read_abs_local(c("6202001.xls", "6202005.xls"))

## End(Not run)
```

---

read_abs_metadata	<i>Extracts ABS series metadata directly from Excel spreadsheets and converts to long-form.</i>
-------------------	---

---

**Description**

Extracts ABS series metadata directly from Excel spreadsheets and converts to long-form.

**Usage**

```
read_abs_metadata(path, sheet)
```

**Arguments**

path	Filepath to Excel spreadsheet.
sheet	Sheet name or number.

**Value**

Long-form dataframe

---

read_abs_url	<i>Download and import an ABS time series spreadsheet from a given URL</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

Download and import an ABS time series spreadsheet from a given URL

**Usage**

```
read_abs_url(
  url,
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir()),
  show_progressBars = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

url	Character vector of url(s) to ABS time series spreadsheet(s).
path	Local directory in which downloaded ABS time series spreadsheets should be stored. By default, path takes the value set in the environment variable "R_READABS_PATH". If this variable is not set, any files downloaded by read_abs() will be stored in a temporary directory (tempdir()). See ?read_abs() for more.
show_progressBars	TRUE by default. If set to FALSE, progress bars will not be shown when ABS spreadsheets are downloading.
...	Additional arguments passed to read_abs_local().

**Details**

If you have a specific URL to the time series spreadsheet you wish to download, read\_abs\_url() will download, import and tidy it. This is useful for older vintages of data, or discontinued data.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
url <- paste0(
  "https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/",
  "employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/aug-2022/6202001.xlsx"
)
read_abs_url(url)

## End(Not run)
```

---

read_awe	<i>read_awe</i>
----------	-----------------

---

**Description**

Convenience function to obtain wage levels from ABS 6302.0, Average Weekly Earnings, Australia.

**Usage**

```
read_awe(
  wage_measure = c("awote", "ftawe", "awe"),
  sex = c("persons", "males", "females"),
  sector = c("total", "private", "public"),
  state = c("all", "nsw", "vic", "qld", "sa", "wa", "tas", "nt", "act"),
  na.rm = FALSE,
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir()),
  show_progressBars = FALSE,
  check_local = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

wage_measure	Character of length 1. Must be one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• awote Average weekly ordinary time earnings; also known as Full-time adult ordinary time earnings</li> <li>• ftawe Full-time adult total earnings</li> <li>• awe Average weekly total earnings of all employees</li> </ul>
sex	Character of length 1. Must be one of: persons, males, or females.
sector	Character of length 1. Must be one of: total, private, or public. Note that you cannot get sector-by-state data; if state is not all then sector must be total.
state	Character of length 1. Must be one of: all, nsw, vic, qld, sa, wa, nt, or act. Note that you cannot get sector-by-state data; if sector is not total then state must be all.
na.rm	Logical. FALSE by default. If FALSE, a consistent quarterly series is returned, with NA values for quarters in which there is no data. If TRUE, only dates with data are included in the returned data frame.
path	See ?read_abs
show_progressBars	See ?read_abs
check_local	See ?read_abs

**Details**

The latest AWE data is available using `read_abs(cat_no = "6302.0", tables = 2)`. However, this time series only goes back to 2012, when the ABS switched from quarterly to biannual collection and release of the AWE data. The `read_awe()` function assembles on time series back to November 1983 quarter; it is quarterly to 2012 and biannual from then. Note that the data returned with this function is consistently quarterly; any quarters for which there are no observations are recorded as NA unless `na.rm = TRUE`.

**Value**

A `tbl_df` with four columns: `date`, `sex`, `wage_measure` and `value`. The data is nominal and seasonally adjusted.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
read_awe("awote", "persons")

## End(Not run)
```

---

read_cpi	<i>Download a tidy tibble containing the Consumer Price Index from the ABS</i>
----------	--

---

### Description

`read_cpi()` uses the `read_abs()` function to download, import, and tidy the Consumer Price Index from the ABS. It returns a tibble containing two columns: the date and the CPI index value that corresponds to that date. This makes joining the CPI to another dataframe easy. `read_cpi()` returns the original (ie. not seasonally adjusted) all groups CPI for Australia. If you want the analytical series (eg. seasonally adjusted CPI, or trimmed mean CPI), you can use `read_abs()`.

### Usage

```
read_cpi(  
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir()),  
  show_progressBars = TRUE,  
  check_local = FALSE,  
  retain_files = FALSE  
)
```

### Arguments

<code>path</code>	character; default is "data/ABS". Only used if <code>retain_files</code> is set to TRUE. Local directory in which to save downloaded ABS time series spreadsheets.
<code>show_progressBars</code>	logical; TRUE by default. If set to FALSE, progress bars will not be shown when ABS spreadsheets are downloading.
<code>check_local</code>	logical; FALSE by default. See <code>?read_abs</code> .
<code>retain_files</code>	logical; FALSE by default. When TRUE, the spreadsheets downloaded from the ABS website will be saved in the directory specified with 'path'.

### Examples

```
# Create a tibble called 'cpi' that contains the CPI index  
# numbers for each quarter  
  
cpi <- read_cpi()  
  
# This tibble can now be joined to another to help streamline the process of  
# deflating nominal values.
```

---

read_job_mobility	<i>Download and tidy ABS Job Mobility tables</i>
-------------------	--

---

**Description**

Import a tidy tibble of ABS Job Mobility data

**Usage**

```
read_job_mobility(
  tables = "all",
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir())
)
```

**Arguments**

tables	Either "all" (the default) to import all tables, or a vector of table numbers, such as 1 or c(2, 4).
path	Local directory in which downloaded ABS time series spreadsheets should be stored. By default, 'path' takes the value set in the environment variable "R_READABS_PATH". If this variable is not set, any files downloaded by read_abs() will be stored in a temporary directory (tempdir()).

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Get all tables from the ABS Job Mobility series
read_job_mobility()

# Get tables 1 and 2
read_job_mobility(c(1, 2))

## End(Not run)
```

---

read_lfs_grossflows	<i>Download, import and tidy 'gross flows' data cube from the monthly ABS Labour Force survey.</i>
---------------------	--

---

**Description**

This convenience function downloads, imports and tidies the 'gross flows' data cube from the monthly ABS Labour Force survey. The gross flows data cube (GM1) shows estimates of the number of people who transitioned from one labour force status to another between two months.



**Usage**

```
read_lfs_grossflows(
  weights = c("current", "previous"),
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir())
)
```

**Arguments**

weights	either "current" or "previous". If "current", figures will use the current month's Labour Force survey weights; if "previous", the previous month's weights are used.
path	Local directory in which downloaded files should be stored. By default, 'path' takes the value set in the environment variable "R_READABS_PATH". If this variable is not set, any files downloaded will be stored in a temporary directory (tempdir()). See Details in ?read_abs for more information.

**Value**

A tibble containing data cube GM1 from the monthly Labour Force survey.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
read_lfs_grossflows()

## End(Not run)
```

---

read\_payrolls

*Download and tidy ABS payroll jobs and wages data*


---

**Description**

Import a tidy tibble of ABS Weekly Payrolls data.

**Usage**

```
read_payrolls(
  series = c("industry_jobs", "industry_wages", "sa4_jobs", "sa3_jobs",
    "subindustry_jobs", "empsize_jobs", "gccsa_jobs", "sex_age_jobs"),
  path = Sys.getenv("R_READABS_PATH", unset = tempdir())
)
```

**Arguments**

series	<p>Character. Must be one of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "industry_jobs" Payroll jobs by industry division, state, sex, and age group (Table 4)</li> <li>• "industry_wages" Total wages by industry division, state, sex, and age group (Table 4)</li> <li>• "sa4_jobs" Payroll jobs by statistical area 4 (SA4) and state (Table 5)</li> <li>• "sa3_jobs" Payroll jobs by statistical area 4 (SA4), statistical area 3 (SA3), and state (Table 5)</li> <li>• "subindustry_jobs" Payroll jobs by industry sub-division and industry division (Table 6)</li> <li>• "empsize_jobs" Payroll jobs by size of employer (number of employees) and state (Table 7)</li> <li>• "gccsa_jobs" Payroll jobs by Greater Capital City Statistical Area (Table 5)</li> <li>• "sex_age_jobs" Payroll jobs by sex and age (Table 8)</li> </ul> <p>The default is "industry_jobs".</p>
path	<p>Local directory in which downloaded ABS time series spreadsheets should be stored. By default, path takes the value set in the environment variable "R_READABS_PATH". If this variable is not set, any files downloaded by read_abs() will be stored in a temporary directory (tempdir()).</p>

**Details**

The ABS 'Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia' dataset is very useful to analysts of the Australian labour market. It draws upon data collected by the Australian Taxation Office as part of its Single-Touch Payroll initiative and supplements the monthly Labour Force Survey. Unfortunately, the data as published by the ABS (1) is not in a standard time series spreadsheet; and (2) is messy in various ways that make it hard to read in R. This convenience function uses `download_abs_data_cube()` to import the payrolls data, and then tidies it up.

**Value**

A tidy (long) `tbl_df`. The number of columns differs based on the series.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Fetch payroll jobs by industry and state (the default, "industry_jobs")
read_payrolls()

# Payroll jobs by employer size
read_payrolls("empsize_jobs")

## End(Not run)
```

---

scrape\_abs\_catalogues *Helper function for download\_abs\_data\_cube to scrape the available catalogues from the ABS website.*

---

### Description

This function downloads a new version of the lookup table used by show\_available\_catalogues.

### Usage

```
scrape_abs_catalogues()
```

### Value

A tibble containing the catalogues and how they are organised on the ABS website.

---

search\_catalogues *Search for ABS catalogues that match a string*

---

### Description

**[Experimental]** Helper function to use with download\_abs\_data\_cube().

download\_abs\_data\_cube() requires that you specify a catalogue. search\_catalogues() helps you find the catalogue you want, by searching for a given string in the catalogue names, product title, and broad topic.

### Usage

```
search_catalogues(string, refresh = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

string	Character. A word or phrase you want to search for, such as "labour" or "union". Not case sensitive.
refresh	Logical. FALSE by default. If TRUE, will re-scrape the ABS website to ensure that the list of catalogues is up-to-date.

### Value

A data frame (tibble) containing the topic (heading), product title (sub\_heading), catalogue (catalogue) and URL (URL) of any catalogues that match the provided string.

### See Also

Other data cube functions: [download\\_abs\\_data\\_cube\(\)](#), [show\\_available\\_catalogues\(\)](#), [show\\_available\\_files\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
search_catalogues("labour")
```

---

```
search_files          Search for a file within an ABS catalogue
```

---

**Description**

Search for a file within an ABS catalogue

**Usage**

```
search_files(string, catalogue, refresh = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

string	String to search for among filenames in a catalogue
catalogue	Name of catalogue
refresh	logical; FALSE by default. When TRUE, will re-scrape the list of files within the catalogue.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
search_files("GM1", "labour-force-australia")

## End(Not run)
```

---

```
separate_series      Separate the series column in a tidy ABS time series data frame
```

---

**Description**

Separate the 'series' column in a data frame (tibble) downloaded using `read_abs()` into multiple columns using the ";" separator.

**Usage**

```
separate_series(
  data,
  column_names = NULL,
  remove_totals = FALSE,
  remove_nas = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

data	A data frame (tibble) containing tidied data from the ABS time series table(s).
column_names	(optional) character vector. Supply a vector of column names, such as c("group_name", "variable", "gender"). If not supplied, columns will be named "series_1" etc.
remove_totals	logical. FALSE by default. If set to TRUE, any series rows that contain the word "total" will be removed.
remove_nas	logical. FALSE by default. If set to TRUE, any rows containing an NA in at least one of the separated series columns will be removed.

**Value**

A data frame (tibble) containing the tidied data from the ABS time series table(s).

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
wpi <- read_abs("6345.0", 1) %>%
  separate_series()

## End(Not run)
```

---

show\_available\_catalogues

*Helper function for download\_abs\_data\_cube to show the available catalogues.*

---

**Description****[Experimental]**

This function lists the possible catalogues that are available on the ABS website. These catalogues must be specified as a string as an argument to download\_abs\_data\_cube.

**Usage**

```
show_available_catalogues(selected_heading = NULL, refresh = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

selected_heading	optional character string specifying the heading on the <a href="#">ABS statistics webpage</a> . e.g. "Earnings and work hours"
refresh	logical; FALSE by default. If FALSE, an internal table of the available ABS catalogues is used. If TRUE, this table is refreshed from the ABS website.

**Value**

a character vector of catalogues.

**See Also**

Other data cube functions: [download\\_abs\\_data\\_cube\(\)](#), [search\\_catalogues\(\)](#), [show\\_available\\_files\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
show_available_catalogues("Earnings and work hours")
```

---

show\_available\_files    *Helper function to show the files available in a particular catalogue number.*

---

**Description**

**[Experimental]** To be used in conjunction with [download\\_abs\\_data\\_cube\(\)](#).

This function lists the possible files that are available in a catalogue. The filename (or an unambiguous part of the filename) must be specified as a string as an argument to [download\\_abs\\_data\\_cube](#).

**Usage**

```
show_available_files(catalogue_string, refresh = FALSE)
```

```
get_available_files(catalogue_string, refresh = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

catalogue_string	character string specifying the catalogue, e.g. "labour-force-australia-detailed". You can use <a href="#">show_available_catalogues()</a> see all the possible catalogues, or <a href="#">search_catalogues()</a> to find catalogues that contain a given string.
refresh	logical; FALSE by default. If FALSE, an internal table of the available ABS catalogues is used. If TRUE, this table is refreshed from the ABS website.

**Details**

[get\\_available\\_files\(\)](#) is an alias for [show\\_available\\_files\(\)](#).

**Value**

A tibble containing the title of the file, the filename and the complete url.

**See Also**

Other data cube functions: [download\\_abs\\_data\\_cube\(\)](#), [search\\_catalogues\(\)](#), [show\\_available\\_catalogues\(\)](#)

Other data cube functions: [download\\_abs\\_data\\_cube\(\)](#), [search\\_catalogues\(\)](#), [show\\_available\\_catalogues\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
show_available_files("labour-force-australia-detailed")

## End(Not run)
```

---

tidy_abs	<i>Tidy ABS time series data.</i>
----------	-----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Tidy ABS time series data.

**Usage**

```
tidy_abs(df, metadata = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

df	A data frame containing ABS time series data that has been extracted using <code>extract_abs_sheets</code> .
metadata	logical. If TRUE (the default), a tidy data frame including ABS metadata (series name, table name, etc.) is included in the output. If FALSE, metadata is dropped.

**Value**

data frame (tibble) in long format.

**Examples**

```
# First extract the data from the local spreadsheet
## Not run:
wpi <- extract_abs_sheets("634501.xls")

## End(Not run)

# Then tidy the data extracted from the spreadsheet. Note that
# \code{extract_abs_sheets()} returns a list of data frames, so we need to
# subset the list.
## Not run:
tidy_wpi <- tidy_abs(wpi[[1]])

## End(Not run)
```

---

tidy_abs_list	<i>Tidy multiple dataframes of ABS time series data contained in a list.</i>
---------------	--

---

**Description**

Tidy multiple dataframes of ABS time series data contained in a list.

**Usage**

```
tidy_abs_list(list_of_dfs, metadata = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

list_of_dfs	A list of dataframes containing extracted ABS time series data.
metadata	logical. If TRUE (the default), a tidy data frame including ABS metadata (series name, table name, etc.) is included in the output. If FALSE, metadata is dropped.



# Index

## \* data cube functions

- download\_abs\_data\_cube, 6
- search\_catalogues, 19
- show\_available\_catalogues, 21
- show\_available\_files, 22

abs\_api, 2

check\_latest\_date, 4

download\_abs\_data\_cube, 6, 19, 22

extract\_abs\_sheets, 7

get\_available\_files  
(show\_available\_files), 22

read\_abs, 8

read\_abs\_data, 10

read\_abs\_local, 11

read\_abs\_metadata, 12

read\_abs\_series (read\_abs), 8

read\_abs\_url, 12

read\_api (abs\_api), 2

read\_api\_dataflows (abs\_api), 2

read\_api\_datastructure (abs\_api), 2

read\_api\_url (abs\_api), 2

read\_awe, 13

read\_cpi, 15

read\_job\_mobility, 16

read\_lfs\_grossflows, 16

read\_payrolls, 17

scrape\_abs\_catalogues, 19

search\_catalogues, 7, 19, 22

search\_files, 20

separate\_series, 20

show\_available\_catalogues, 7, 19, 21, 22

show\_available\_files, 7, 19, 22, 22

tidy\_abs, 23

tidy\_abs\_list, 24