Figures that just don’t add up

Our economists must go for the facts instead of relying on theory, writes Martin Fell.

Why did the Productivity Commission issue its report on 'The Cost of Industry Assistance' at all? The commission published in 2006-07 an annual report in which it was stated that 9.6% of all the labour force was either unemployed or looking for more work. Those who had given up on finding a job were counted as part of the workforce. For the past four weeks, the unemployment rate has fallen to 5.5%.

The recent commission report was an analysis of the expenditure of the labour market. Contrary to the usual view of the report, the commission found that 9.6% of the labour force was either unemployed or looking for more work. Those who had given up on finding a job were counted as part of the workforce. In the past four weeks, the unemployment rate has fallen to 5.5%.

The commission's report was an analysis of the expenditure of the labour market. Contrary to the usual view of the report, the commission found that 9.6% of the labour force was either unemployed or looking for more work. Those who had given up on finding a job were counted as part of the workforce. In the past four weeks, the unemployment rate has fallen to 5.5%.

Our economists must go for the facts instead of relying on theory, writes Martin Fell.

Why did the Productivity Commission issue its report on 'The Cost of Industry Assistance' at all? The commission published in 2006-07 an annual report in which it was stated that 9.6% of all the labour force was either unemployed or looking for more work. Those who had given up on finding a job were counted as part of the workforce. For the past four weeks, the unemployment rate has fallen to 5.5%.

The recent commission report was an analysis of the expenditure of the labour market. Contrary to the usual view of the report, the commission found that 9.6% of the labour force was either unemployed or looking for more work. Those who had given up on finding a job were counted as part of the workforce. In the past four weeks, the unemployment rate has fallen to 5.5%.