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## Media Release

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# Melbourne Institute Wages Report Growth in total pay rebounds

Total pay growth over the 12 months to November 2011 rebounded to 3.7 per cent from a modest 2.9 per cent rise in the 12 months to August. Expectations also rose and are now just above the RBA's inflation target band.

According to Dr. Edda Claus, a Research Fellow at the Melbourne Institute, "The rebound in pay and wages was below growth rates earlier in the year. This suggests that labour market conditions remain weaker than earlier in the year."

Dr. Claus added: "Workers on safety net/award reported an unusually large pay rise, 7.3 per cent for those reporting a change which translates into 4.7 per cent for the entire group. This suggests that part of the rebound in November was driven by factors not directly linked to labour market developments and supports the view that labour market conditions are softer than earlier in the year."

The Melbourne Institute Wages Report reports pay changes over the preceding 12-month period and pay expectations for the next 12 months. The report provides information on the dispersion of pay changes across different groups.

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Information about the Melbourne Institute Wages Report can be found at  
[www.melbourneinstitute.com/miaesr/publications/indicators/wages.html](http://www.melbourneinstitute.com/miaesr/publications/indicators/wages.html)