

ANZ Australian Job Advertisement Series Media Release

3 June 2019



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objectives or circumstances.
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Important Notice.

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Next release:
June data

Expected release date:
Monday 8 July 2019

Down but not out

ANZ Australian Job Ads plummeted in May, but recovered strongly in the last week of the month. We think this indicates much of the decline for the month as a whole was due to the April 'holiday year effect' and the timing of the election.

In seasonally adjusted terms, job ads fell 8.4% m/m and 14.9% y/y. This is the weakest monthly result since Jan-2010 and the steepest annual fall since 2013.

In trend terms, job ads fell 1.8% m/m and 10.1% y/y.

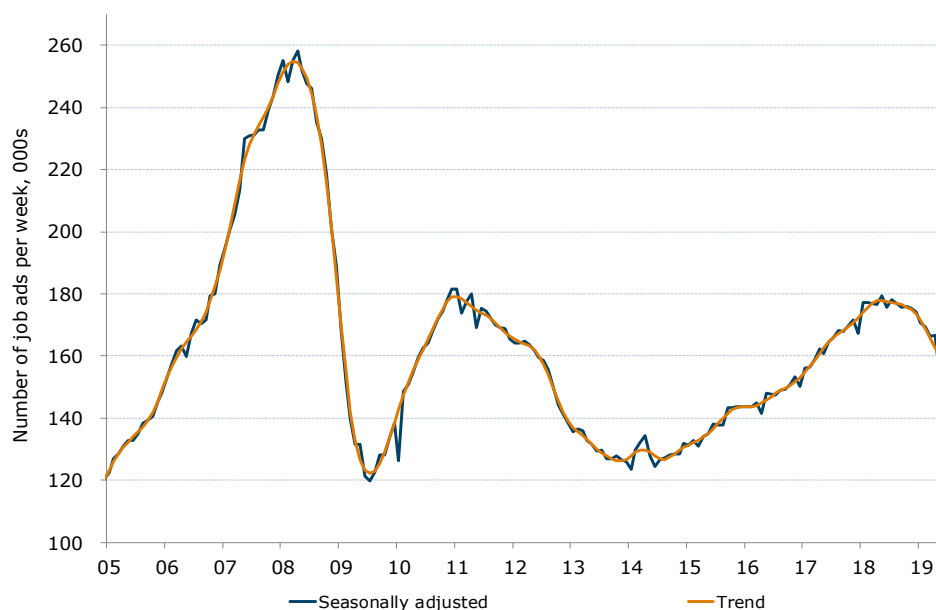
| | Seasonally adjusted | | | Trend | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Number | % m/m | % y/y | % m/m | % y/y |
| Total job ads | 152,689 | -8.4 | -14.9 | -1.8 | -10.1 |

See page 4 for [technical details](#)

ANZ's Head of Australian Economics, David Plank, commented:

"Job ads were down sharply in May, which at face value points to a sharp slowing in employment growth. But we think there is a good reason why this decline is not representative of reality. Job ads plunged in the last week of April, which we think was due to the 'holiday year' effect that happens when ANZAC Day and Easter are close together. We think the run up to the federal election contributed further to delaying job postings. Consistent with this explanation, postings in the last week of May (ie after the election) were considerably higher than in the previous four weeks. If the last week of May is indicative, then job ads will rebound strongly in June."

ANZ Job Advertisements down 8.4%



Source: ABS, SEEK, Dept. of Jobs and Small Business, ANZ Research



Average total number of job ads per month – Australia

| | Original | | Seasonally adjusted (a) | | Trend estimate (b) | | |
|-----------------|----------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------|-------|
| | Number | Number | Per cent change | | Number | Per cent change | |
| | | | Month | Year (c) | | Month | Year |
| 2009-10 | 139,554 | 139,528 | | -22.6 | 140,823 | | -21.9 |
| 2010-11 | 174,478 | 174,623 | | 25.2 | 174,772 | | 24.1 |
| 2011-12 | 166,698 | 166,503 | | -4.6 | 166,504 | | -4.7 |
| 2012-13 | 141,107 | 140,811 | | -15.4 | 140,751 | | -15.5 |
| 2013-14 | 128,162 | 128,013 | | -9.1 | 128,055 | | -9.0 |
| 2014-15 | 131,138 | 131,151 | | 2.5 | 131,020 | | 2.3 |
| 2015-16 | 143,244 | 143,232 | | 9.2 | 143,246 | | 9.3 |
| 2016-17 | 154,844 | 154,883 | | 8.1 | 154,986 | | 8.2 |
| 2017-18 | 172,763 | 172,819 | | 11.6 | 172,834 | | 11.5 |
| Feb 2016 | 149,464 | 143,577 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 143,773 | 0.0 | 8.8 |
| Mar 2016 | 151,091 | 144,891 | 0.9 | 10.5 | 144,155 | 0.3 | 8.4 |
| Apr 2016 | 141,627 | 141,627 | -2.3 | 5.6 | 144,907 | 0.5 | 8.2 |
| May 2016 | 150,191 | 148,102 | 4.6 | 9.7 | 145,813 | 0.6 | 7.9 |
| Jun 2016 | 149,554 | 147,623 | -0.3 | 6.8 | 146,874 | 0.7 | 7.5 |
| Jul 2016 | 148,377 | 147,307 | -0.2 | 7.0 | 147,909 | 0.7 | 6.9 |
| Aug 2016 | 156,126 | 148,955 | 1.1 | 8.1 | 148,844 | 0.6 | 6.3 |
| Sep 2016 | 159,981 | 149,139 | 0.1 | 3.9 | 149,702 | 0.6 | 5.8 |
| Oct 2016 | 157,715 | 150,908 | 1.2 | 5.3 | 150,568 | 0.6 | 5.5 |
| Nov 2016 | 157,420 | 153,379 | 1.6 | 6.8 | 151,683 | 0.7 | 5.8 |
| Dec 2016 | 131,609 | 150,102 | -2.1 | 4.6 | 153,164 | 1.0 | 6.6 |
| Jan 2017 | 127,149 | 156,023 | 3.9 | 8.7 | 154,853 | 1.1 | 7.7 |
| Feb 2017 | 162,453 | 156,336 | 0.2 | 8.9 | 156,703 | 1.2 | 9.0 |
| Mar 2017 | 166,671 | 158,760 | 1.6 | 9.6 | 158,690 | 1.3 | 10.1 |
| Apr 2017 | 161,217 | 162,394 | 2.3 | 14.7 | 160,699 | 1.3 | 10.9 |
| May 2017 | 163,031 | 160,837 | -1.0 | 8.6 | 162,603 | 1.2 | 11.5 |
| Jun 2017 | 166,379 | 164,451 | 2.2 | 11.4 | 164,408 | 1.1 | 11.9 |
| Jul 2017 | 167,146 | 166,096 | 1.0 | 12.8 | 165,914 | 0.9 | 12.2 |
| Aug 2017 | 176,692 | 168,362 | 1.4 | 13.0 | 167,167 | 0.8 | 12.3 |
| Sep 2017 | 179,686 | 167,784 | -0.3 | 12.5 | 168,250 | 0.6 | 12.4 |
| Oct 2017 | 177,326 | 169,676 | 1.1 | 12.4 | 169,434 | 0.7 | 12.5 |
| Nov 2017 | 176,668 | 171,537 | 1.1 | 11.8 | 170,787 | 0.8 | 12.6 |
| Dec 2017 | 149,674 | 167,262 | -2.5 | 11.4 | 172,390 | 0.9 | 12.6 |
| Jan 2018 | 141,728 | 177,271 | 6.0 | 13.6 | 174,155 | 1.0 | 12.5 |
| Feb 2018 | 183,912 | 177,145 | -0.1 | 13.3 | 175,777 | 0.9 | 12.2 |
| Mar 2018 | 186,728 | 177,010 | -0.1 | 11.5 | 177,014 | 0.7 | 11.5 |
| Apr 2018 | 174,149 | 176,472 | -0.3 | 8.7 | 177,690 | 0.4 | 10.6 |
| May 2018 | 181,765 | 179,474 | 1.7 | 11.6 | 177,833 | 0.1 | 9.4 |
| Jun 2018 | 177,685 | 175,735 | -2.1 | 6.9 | 177,593 | -0.1 | 8.0 |
| Jul 2018 | 179,349 | 178,220 | 1.4 | 7.3 | 177,267 | -0.2 | 6.8 |
| Aug 2018 | 185,833 | 176,949 | -0.7 | 5.1 | 177,001 | -0.1 | 5.9 |
| Sep 2018 | 187,857 | 175,636 | -0.7 | 4.7 | 176,558 | -0.3 | 4.9 |
| Oct 2018 | 184,003 | 175,997 | 0.2 | 3.7 | 175,807 | -0.4 | 3.8 |
| Nov 2018 | 180,956 | 175,381 | -0.4 | 2.2 | 174,906 | -0.5 | 2.4 |
| Dec 2018 | 154,372 | 174,246 | -0.6 | 4.2 | 173,530 | -0.8 | 0.7 |
| Jan 2019 | 137,831 | 170,556 | -2.1 | -3.8 | 171,474 | -1.2 | -1.5 |
| Feb 2019 | 175,789 | 169,455 | -0.6 | -4.3 | 168,836 | -1.5 | -3.9 |
| Mar 2019 | 174,371 | 166,221 | -1.9 | -6.1 | 165,821 | -1.79 | -6.3 |
| Apr 2019 | 165,436 | 166,608 | 0.2 | -5.6 | 162,711 | -1.9 | -8.4 |
| May 2019 | 154,523 | 152,689 | -8.4 | -14.9 | 159,790 | -1.8 | -10.1 |

The internet series counts the average number of job ads carried by each of the sites contributing to the series on the same day of each week in the month indicated. The day (which is not necessarily the same for each site) is selected by the site operator as broadly representative of its activity levels.

The data are based on information provided by the operators of the following sites: Seek.com.au, and the Department of Employment's Australian JobSearch site (Jobsearch.gov.au).

(a) Concurrent seasonal adjustment method (see [Technical Appendix](#) for further details).

(b) The trend estimates came from applying a 13-term Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. This smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, but it also results in revisions to the most recent six months as additional observations become available.

(c) Annual changes are on a year-average basis.

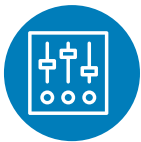
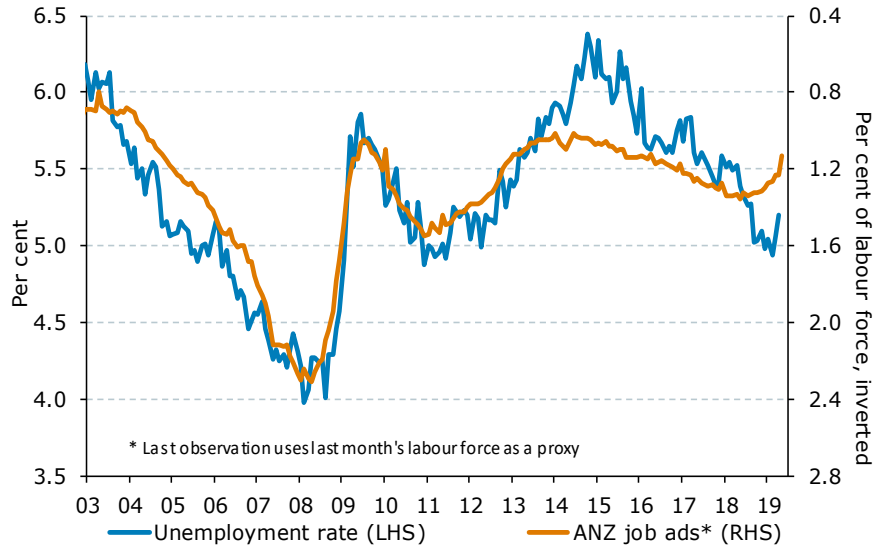
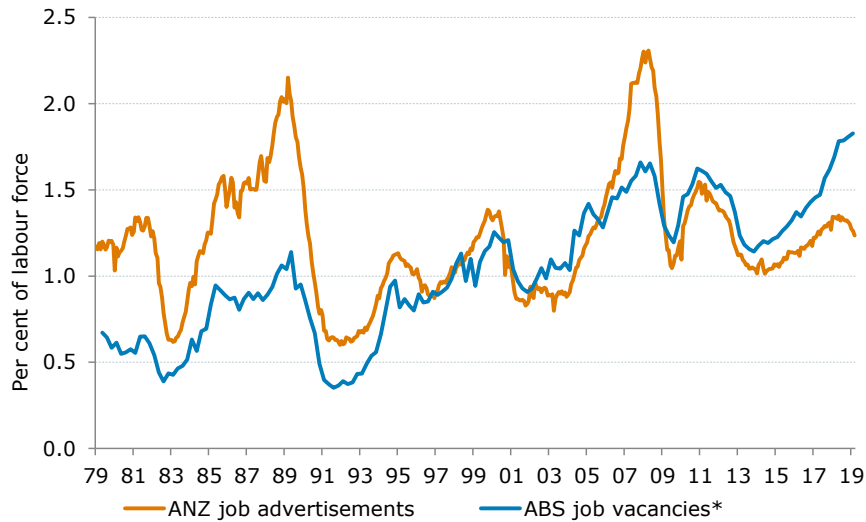


Figure 1. Unemployment rate and ANZ Job Ads since 2003



Source: ABS, SEEK, Dept of Jobs and Small Business, ANZ Research

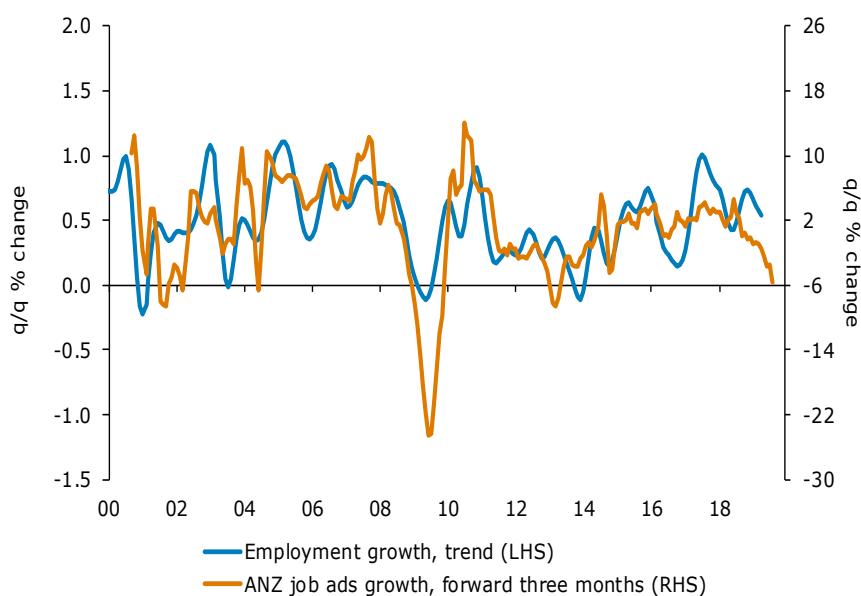
Figure 2. ANZ Job Ads and ABS Job Vacancies



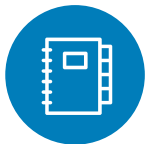
* ABS Job Vacancies: latest data are for Feb 2019.

Source: ABS, SEEK, Dept of Jobs and Small Business, ANZ Research

Figure 3. ANZ Job Ads vs employment growth



Source: ABS, SEEK, Dept of Jobs and Small Business, ANZ Research



The ANZ Job Advertisements series uses a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology to derive the seasonal adjustment factors. This means that data from the current month are used in estimating seasonal factors for the current and previous months. Concurrent seasonal adjustment replaced the forward factor methodology from the June 2010 reference month.

The concurrent adjustment methodology uses the most recent data every month, whereas the forward factor approach used it only once a year. Under concurrent adjustment, the seasonal factors will also be more responsive to underlying dynamic changes than forward factors.

Concurrent adjustment can result in revisions to the seasonal factors each month to estimates for earlier periods. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the seasonal adjustment factors for the current month, the previous month and the same month a year ago.

The concurrent seasonal adjustment brings the ANZ Job Advertisements series in line with the methodology used by the ABS for its monthly employment data.

State and territory charts have been discontinued.

Note for editors

For some of the newspapers surveyed, the ANZ Job Advertisements series counts the number of advertisement 'bookings'. Each booking may contain multiple advertisements. In addition, the series counts classified advertisements only, and does not include display advertisements. For these reasons, it would be incorrect to draw any inference or correlation from the ANZ Job Advertisements series regarding advertising volumes or revenues from employment advertising in the newspapers surveyed. The series is not intended as and should not be used as a tool to assess the financial performance of any of the newspapers it draws information from.



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[4 April 2019]

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