

ANZ AUSTRALIAN JOB ADS MEDIA RELEASE

3 JULY 2017

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ANZ JOB ADS: A STRONG GAIN

	Seasonally adjusted			Trend	
	Number	% m/m	% y/y	% m/m	% y/y
Total Job Ads	175,091	2.7	10.5	1.0	9.6

KEY POINTS

- ANZ Job Advertisements rose a solid 2.7% m/m in June in seasonally adjusted terms, following a modest 0.4% rise the previous month. Job ads have risen 4.9% since the start of 2017. Annual growth jumped from 7.4% last month to 10.5% in June.
- In trend terms Job Advertisements were up 1.0% m/m in June. The trend growth rate has averaged 0.9% m/m over the first six months of the year, compared to 0.3% m/m over the same period a year ago.

ANZ HEAD OF AUSTRALIAN ECONOMICS, DAVID PLANK, COMMENTED:

"Business conditions, profitability and capacity utilisation have been rising or sitting at elevated levels for the better part of a year. The strength of ANZ Job Ads over the first half of 2017 indicates this is translating into a positive outlook for the labour market.

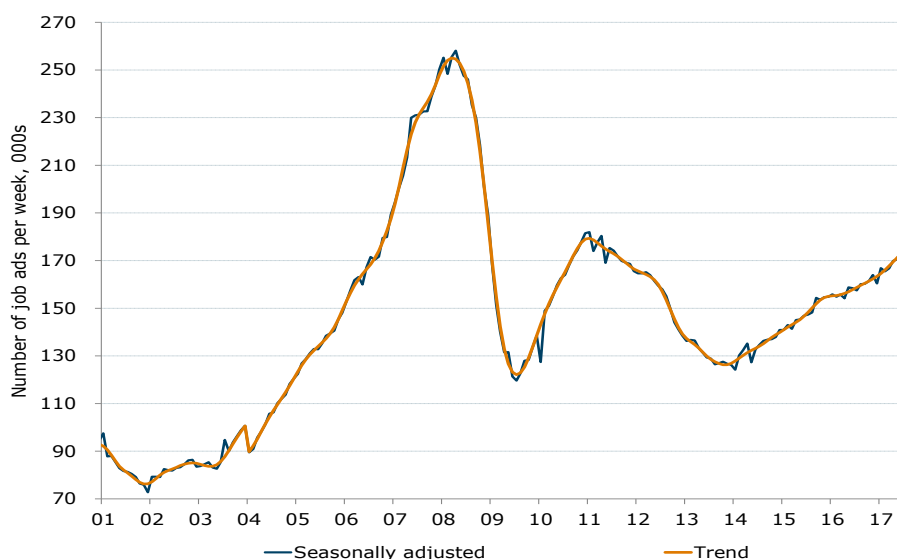
A feature of the recent data in Australia has been the strength of employment. According to the official labour force data, some 140,000 jobs have been created over the three months to May – with the unemployment rate dropping to 5.5%. We think there is a strong element of catch-up in these data, with employment outcomes prior to these three months looking far too weak given indicators such as the ANZ Job Ads survey.

The gap between the official data and ANZ Job Ads has now largely closed, which suggests that the pace of job gains over coming months should be closer to what we think is the true trend level of 15-20,000 jobs per month rather than the outsized gains seen recently. The continued gain in job ads points to this trend being maintained.

We think the strength of employment will be a key factor in stabilising, and possibly lifting, consumer sentiment. This will be important in ensuring the downside risks to the economy don't materialise.

The ongoing strength of the labour market allows the RBA to effectively disregard the weakness of GDP growth in the first half of this year when it reviews its forecasts for the August Statement of Monetary Policy."

FIGURE 1. JOB ADVERTISEMENTS UP 2.7% IN JUNE



Source: ANZ Research

Next release: July 2017

Expected release date:
Monday 7 August 2017

TABLE 1. AVERAGE TOTAL NUMBER OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS PER WEEK – AUSTRALIA

	Original		Seasonally adjusted (a)		Trend estimate (b)		
			Per cent change		Per cent change		
	Number	Number	Month	Year (c)	Number	Month	Year
2008-09	181,377	180,363		-26.5	180,226		-26.7
2009-10	139,554	139,627		-22.6	140,920		-21.8
2010-11	174,478	174,650		25.1	174,796		24.0
2011-12	166,698	166,530		-4.6	166,525		-4.7
2012-13	141,107	140,830		-15.4	140,766		-15.5
2013-14	128,888	128,753		-8.6	128,866		-8.5
2014-15	140,489	140,503		9.1	140,345		8.9
2015-16	154,145	154,231		9.8	154,210		9.9
Jun 2015	149,359	146,880	1.1	10.7	146,624	1.0	10.1
Jul 2015	150,006	147,353	0.3	9.5	148,311	1.2	10.6
Aug 2015	155,696	148,241	0.6	8.7	150,131	1.2	11.1
Sep 2015	166,068	154,397	4.2	12.8	151,897	1.2	11.3
Oct 2015	160,923	153,520	-0.6	12.1	153,426	1.0	11.4
Nov 2015	157,584	154,655	0.7	12.1	154,499	0.7	11.3
Dec 2015	136,596	154,781	0.1	9.9	155,022	0.3	10.9
Jan 2016	123,787	155,866	0.7	10.6	155,225	0.1	10.1
Feb 2016	160,869	154,815	-0.7	8.3	155,356	0.1	9.4
Mar 2016	162,118	155,743	0.6	10.2	155,671	0.2	8.8
Apr 2016	152,894	154,214	-1.0	6.3	156,241	0.4	8.4
May 2016	161,764	158,763	2.9	9.2	156,926	0.4	8.1
Jun 2016	161,433	158,427	-0.2	7.9	157,813	0.6	7.6
Jul 2016	160,149	157,450	-0.6	6.9	158,725	0.6	7.0
Aug 2016	168,059	160,145	1.7	8.0	159,609	0.6	6.3
Sep 2016	172,267	160,222	0.0	3.8	160,475	0.5	5.6
Oct 2016	169,058	161,384	0.7	5.1	161,363	0.6	5.2
Nov 2016	167,069	163,973	1.6	6.0	162,340	0.6	5.1
Dec 2016	140,981	160,413	-2.2	3.6	163,405	0.7	5.4
Jan 2017	134,077	166,856	4.0	7.1	164,597	0.7	6.0
Feb 2017	171,762	165,488	-0.8	6.9	166,046	0.9	6.9
Mar 2017	174,801	166,750	0.8	7.1	167,730	1.0	7.7
Apr 2017	167,264	169,877	1.9	10.2	169,515	1.1	8.5
May 2017	173,690	170,545	0.4	7.4	171,244	1.0	9.1
Jun 2017	178,548	175,091	2.7	10.5	172,926	1.0	9.6

Notes: The internet series counts the average number of advertisements 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 above data are based on information provided by the operators of the following sites: Seek.com.au; and the Department of Education's Australian JobSearch site: Jobsearch.gov.au.

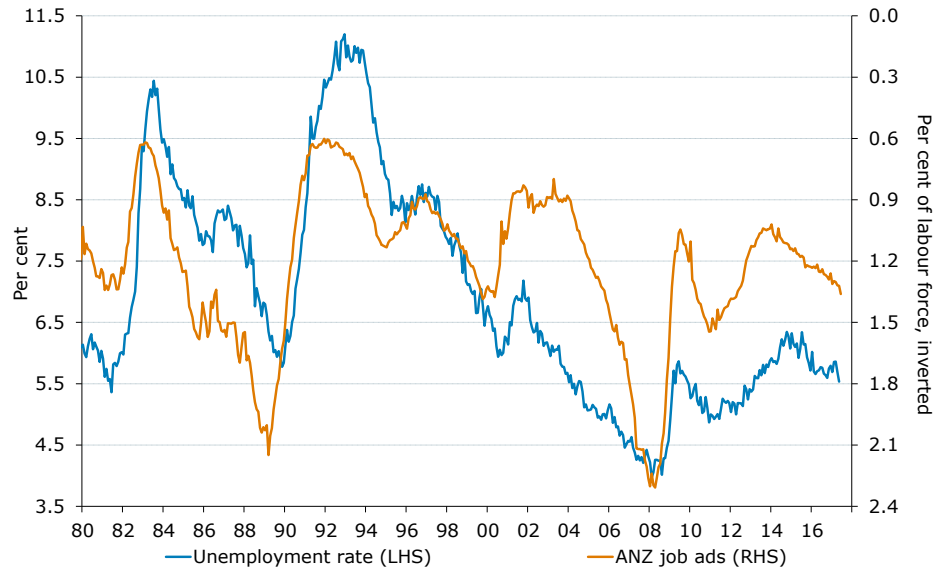
(a) Concurrent seasonal adjustment method (see Technical Appendix for further details).

(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.

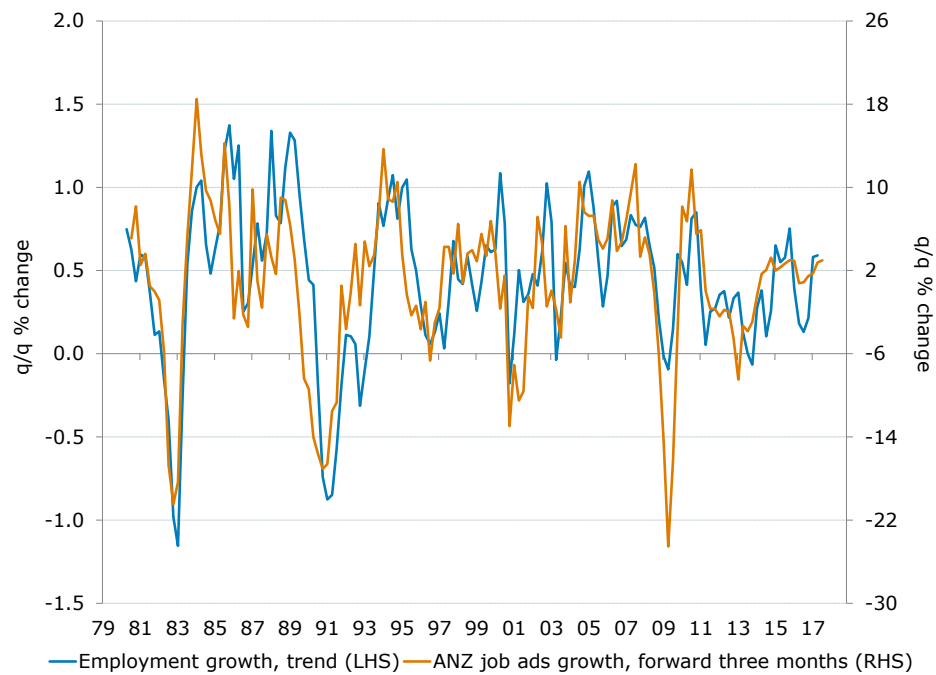
ANZ JOB ADVERTISEMENTS SERIES

FIGURE 2. THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND ANZ JOB ADS



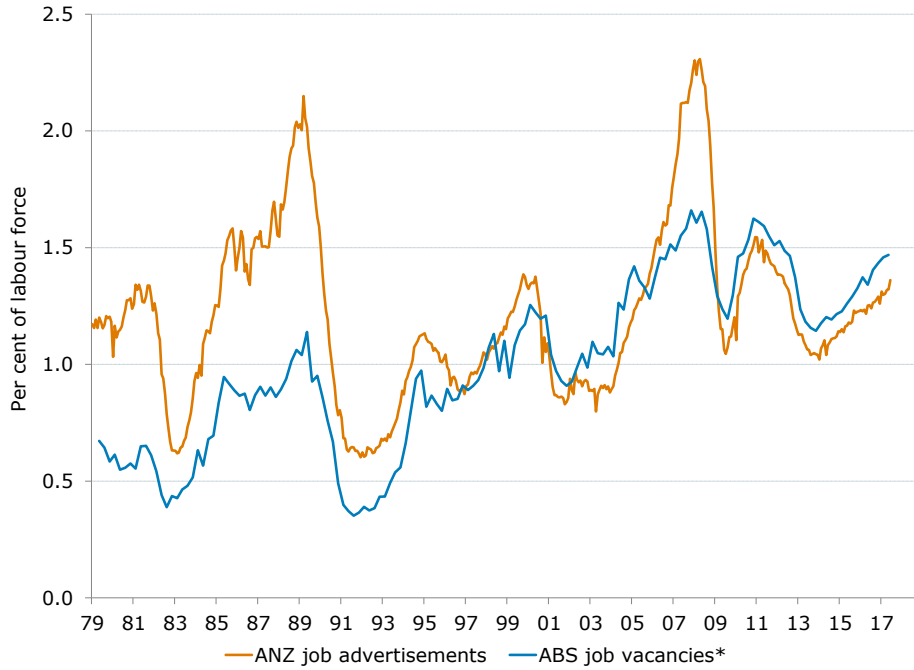
Source: ABS, ANZ Research

FIGURE 3. GROWTH IN JOB ADS AND EMPLOYMENT



Source: ABS, ANZ Research

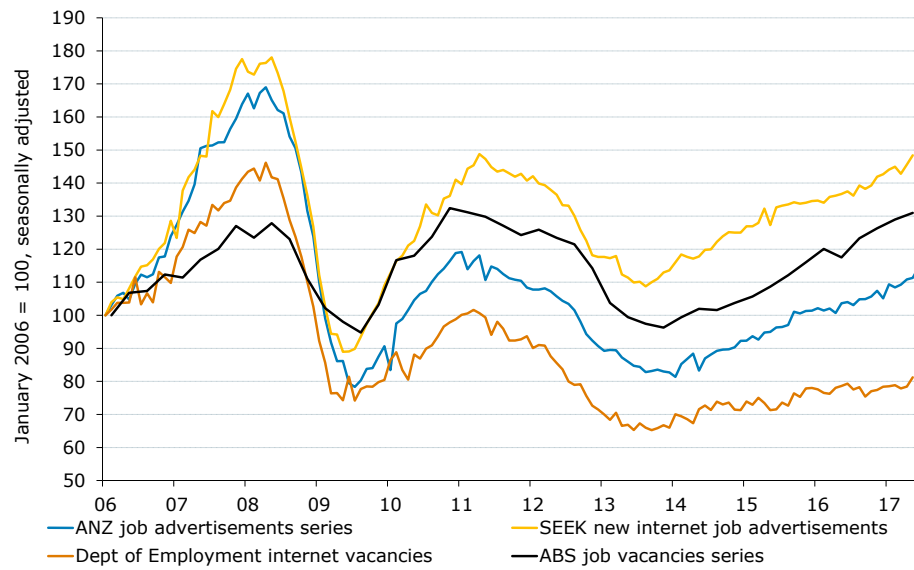
FIGURE 4. ANZ JOB ADS AND ABS JOB VACANCIES



* ABS job vacancies: latest data are for May 2017.

Source: ABS, ANZ Research

FIGURE 5. AUSTRALIAN JOB ADVERTISEMENTS



* Latest data for ABS job vacancies, SEEK and Department of Employment ads are for May 2017.

Source: Department of Employment, SEEK, ANZ Research

NB. State and territory charts have been discontinued.

TECHNICAL APPENDIX

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 only used it 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.

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 ANZ 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 series regarding advertising volumes or revenues from employment advertising in the newspapers surveyed. The ANZ series is not intended to, and should not, be used to assess the financial performance of any of the newspapers included in it.

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