

ANZ AUSTRALIAN JOB ADVERTISEMENTS MEDIA RELEASE

5 MARCH 2018

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Next release: March 2018

Expected release date:
Tuesday 3 April 2018

ANZ JOB ADS CATCH THEIR BREATH

	Seasonally adjusted			Trend	
	Number	% m/m	% y/y	% m/m	% y/y
Total Job Ads	177,284	-0.3	13.3	0.9	12.1

KEY POINTS

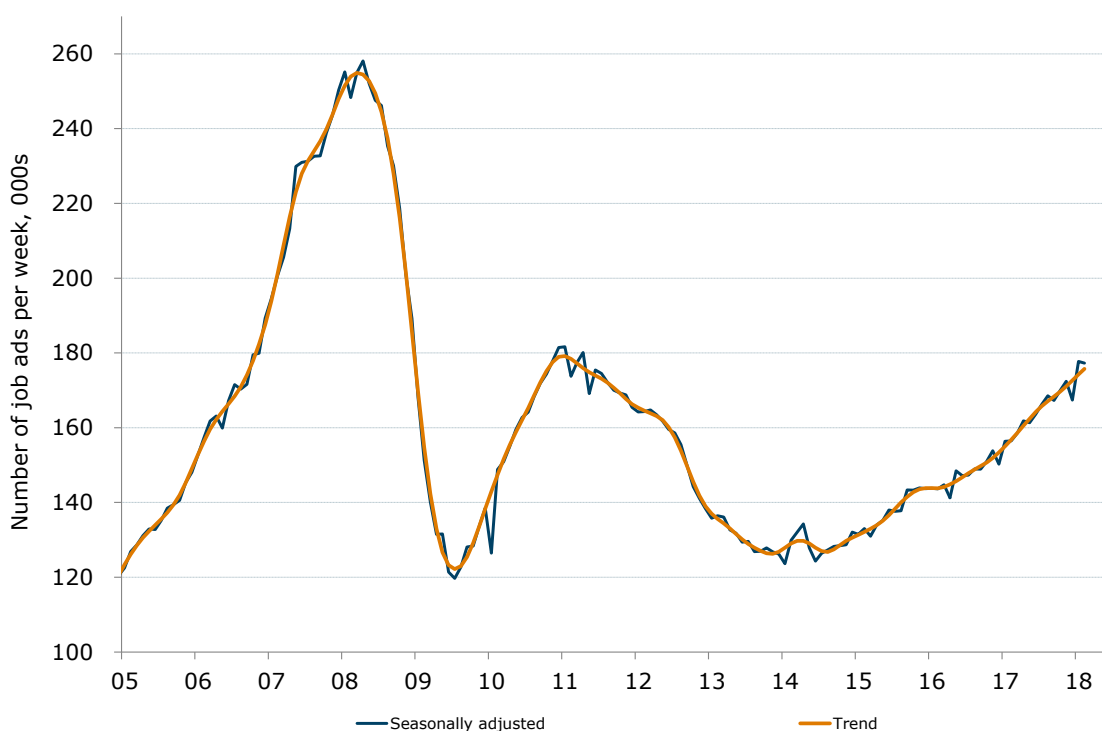
- ANZ Australian Job Advertisements fell 0.3% m/m in February, on the back of a sharp 6.2% rise in the previous month. The number of job ads currently sits 13.3% higher than a year ago.
- In trend terms, job ads were up 0.9% m/m in February, following a similar increase in the previous two months. The annual trend rate slowed from 12.4% in January to 12.1%, last month.

ANZ'S HEAD OF AUSTRALIAN ECONOMICS, DAVID PLANK, COMMENTED:

"Encouragingly, ANZ Job Ads have held on to their gain in January and, as such, a slight fall in February is not cause for concern. Business conditions remain elevated, job security continues to improve and capacity utilisation now sits at the highest rate since 2008. This suggests further gains in employment and ongoing inroads into the unemployment rate, at least through the first half of the year.

Even as the labour market continues to punch above its weight, wage growth remains tepid. The recent Q4 WPI print provided some encouragement, with a positive surprise on the headline and the detail showing acceleration in wages across 60% of industries. To be fair, the uptick in wages was largely driven by the public sector, but on balance we continue to believe that a steady reduction in spare capacity in the labour market will gradually feed into wage growth. Another solid outcome in Q1 will support our view that wage growth is heading in the right direction, albeit with a gradual rate of improvement."

Figure 1. ANZ Australian Job Advertisements slipped 0.3% in February



Source: ANZ Research

Table 1. 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	174,622		25.2	174,772		24.1
2011-12	166,698	166,503		-4.6	166,505		-4.7
2012-13	141,107	140,812		-15.4	140,752		-15.5
2013-14	128,162	128,015		-9.1	128,054		-9.0
2014-15	131,138	131,147		2.4	131,019		2.3
2015-16	143,244	143,228		9.2	143,246		9.3
2016-17	154,844	154,865		8.1	154,982		8.2
Feb 2016	149,464	143,655	-0.1	8.0	143,814	0.0	8.8
Mar 2016	151,091	144,722	0.7	10.5	144,127	0.2	8.4
Apr 2016	141,627	141,265	-2.4	5.5	144,819	0.5	8.1
May 2016	150,191	148,455	5.1	9.8	145,687	0.6	7.8
Jun 2016	149,554	147,191	-0.9	6.7	146,742	0.7	7.4
Jul 2016	148,377	147,300	0.1	7.0	147,802	0.7	6.9
Aug 2016	156,126	148,968	1.1	8.1	148,795	0.7	6.3
Sep 2016	159,981	148,904	0.0	3.9	149,737	0.6	5.8
Oct 2016	157,715	151,037	1.4	5.4	150,706	0.6	5.6
Nov 2016	157,420	153,823	1.8	6.9	151,887	0.8	5.8
Dec 2016	131,609	150,269	-2.3	4.6	153,387	1.0	6.7
Jan 2017	127,149	156,351	4.0	8.7	155,015	1.1	7.8
Feb 2017	162,453	156,454	0.1	8.9	156,751	1.1	9.0
Mar 2017	166,671	158,529	1.3	9.5	158,616	1.2	10.1
Apr 2017	161,217	161,815	2.1	14.5	160,529	1.2	10.8
May 2017	163,031	161,304	-0.3	8.7	162,376	1.2	11.5
Jun 2017	166,379	163,624	1.4	11.2	164,184	1.1	11.9
Jul 2017	167,146	166,190	1.6	12.8	165,747	1.0	12.1
Aug 2017	176,692	168,532	1.4	13.1	167,112	0.8	12.3
Sep 2017	179,686	167,291	-0.7	12.3	168,330	0.7	12.4
Oct 2017	177,326	169,921	1.6	12.5	169,617	0.8	12.5
Nov 2017	176,668	172,388	1.5	12.1	171,041	0.8	12.6
Dec 2017	149,674	167,407	-2.9	11.4	172,631	0.9	12.5
Jan 2018	141,728	177,731	6.2	13.7	174,258	0.9	12.4
Feb 2018	183,887	177,284	-0.3	13.3	175,742	0.9	12.1

Notes: 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 above 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.

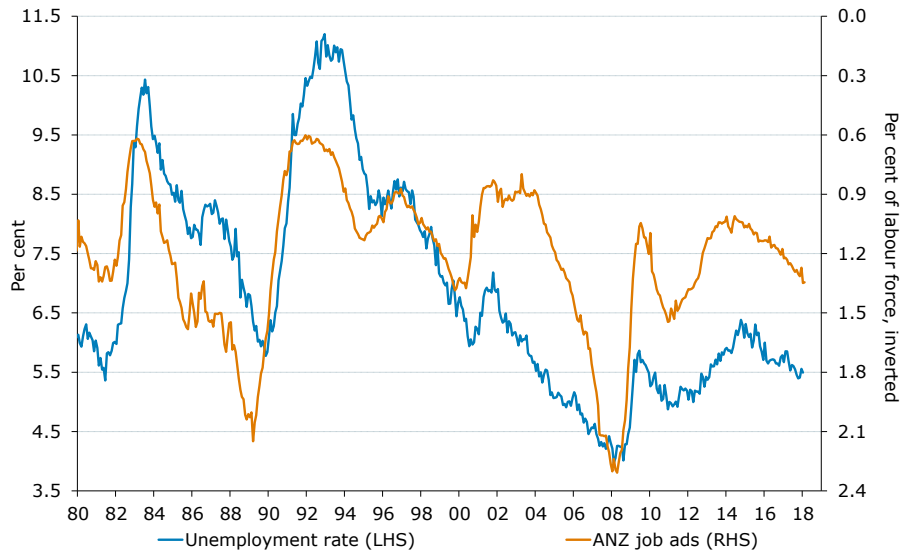
(a) Concurrent seasonal adjustment method (see Technical Appendix for further details).

(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.

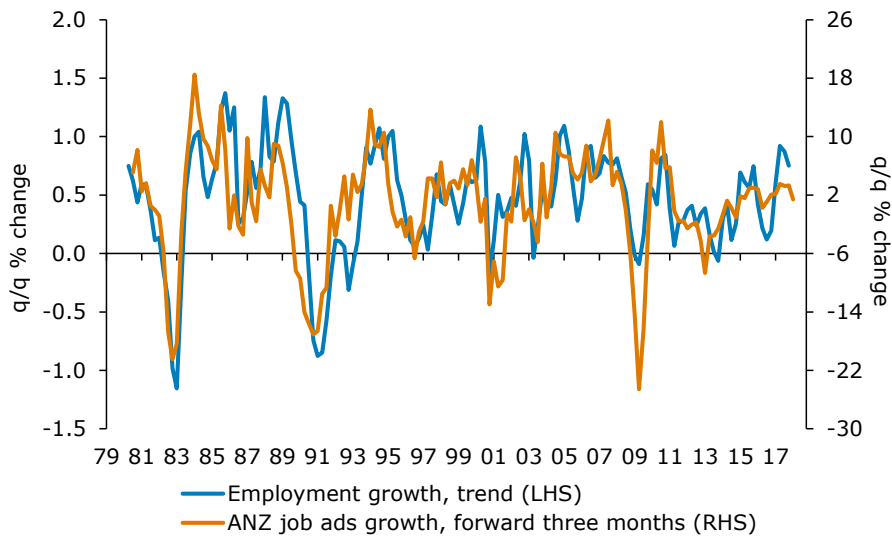
ANZ AUSTRALIAN JOB ADVERTISEMENTS SERIES

Figure 2. Unemployment rate and ANZ Job Ads



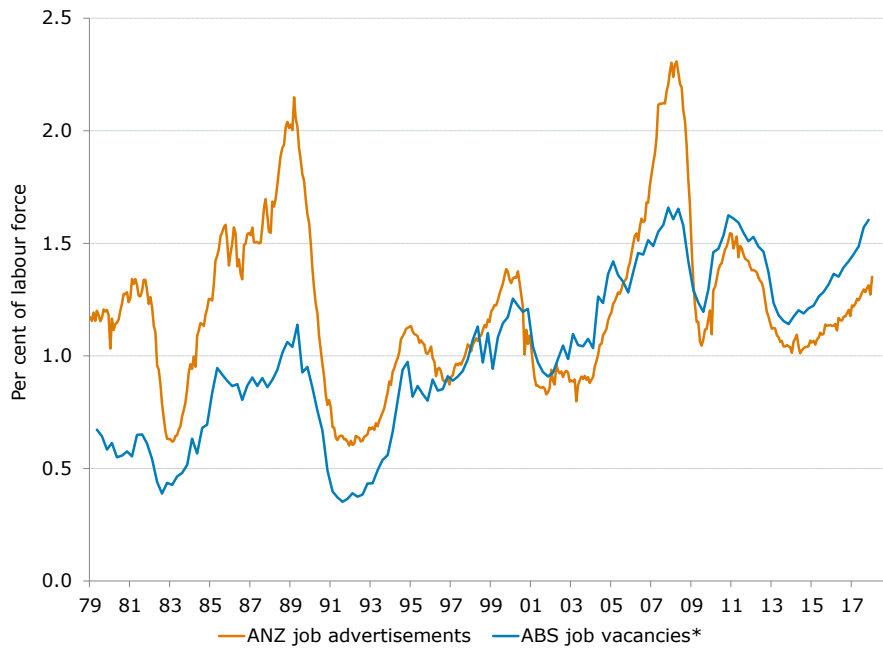
Source: ABS, ANZ Research

Figure 3. Growth in employment and ANZ Job Ads



Source: ABS, ANZ Research

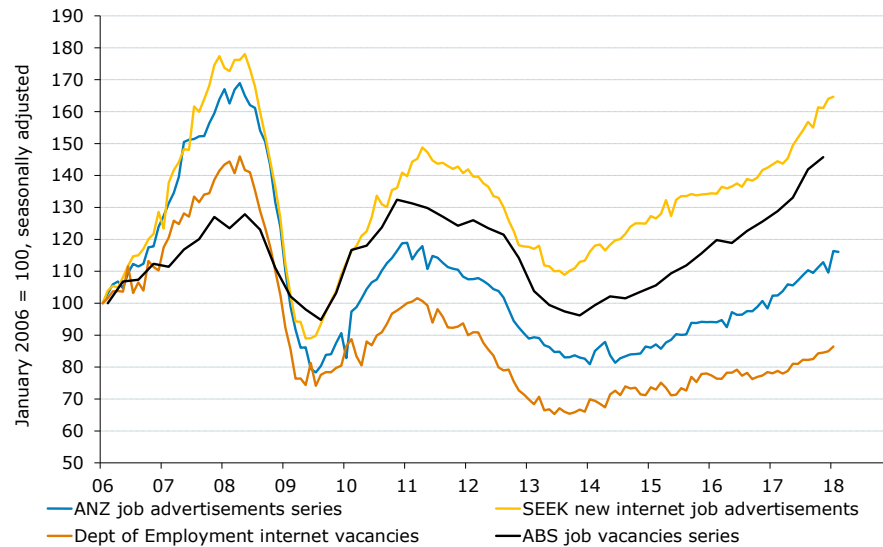
Figure 4. ANZ Job Ads and ABS Job Vacancies



* ABS Job Vacancies: latest data are for November 2017.

Source: ABS, ANZ Research

Figure 5. Australian job vacancy indicators



* Latest data for SEEK and Department of Employment ads are for January 2018.

Source: Department of Employment, SEEK, ABS, ANZ Research

NOTE: 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 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.

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.

[v.28.09.2017]

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