

ANZ Australian Job Advertisement Series Media Release

2 September 2019



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It does not consider your
objectives or circumstances.
Please refer to the
Important Notice.

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Next release:
September data

Expected release date:
Tuesday 8 October 2019

Job ads take a u-turn

After rising for two consecutive months, ANZ Job Ads fell 2.8% in August. This pushed the annual decline down to -11.4%.

In trend terms, job ads fell -0.5% m/m and -11.2% y/y.

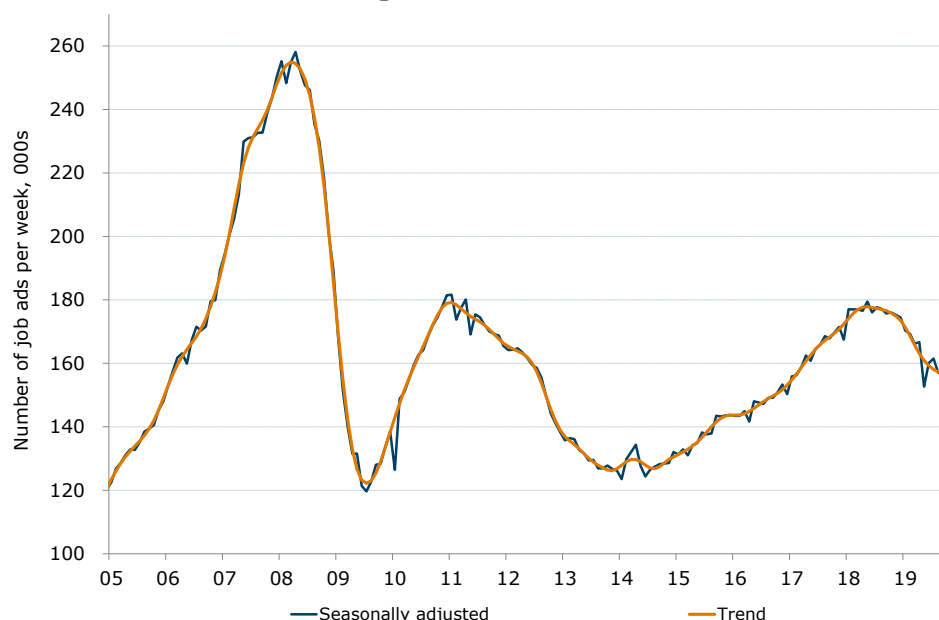
	Seasonally adjusted			Trend	
	Number	% m/m	% y/y	% m/m	% y/y
Total job ads	156,978	-2.8	-11.4	-0.5	-11.2

See page 4 for [technical details](#)

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

We had postulated that the gain in job ads in June and July was a consequence of the holiday and election-related weakness in May, rather than a sign of genuine recovery. The drop in job ads in August gives credence to that view. It is also consistent with other data, suggesting that the outlook for the labour market is softening. In particular, the NAB survey points to slowing employment growth. The sharp downturn in building activity isn't likely to be helping either. The drop in ANZ Job Ads will, we think, add to "the accumulation of additional evidence" that the RBA will need to cut the cash rate again in October.

ANZ Job Ads fell 2.8% in August



Source: ABS, SEEK, Dept of Employment, Skills, Small and Family 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	174,622		25.2	174,771		24.1
2011-12	166,698	166,502		-4.6	166,504		-4.7
2012-13	141,107	140,810		-15.4	140,751		-15.5
2013-14	128,162	128,012		-9.1	128,054		-9.0
2014-15	131,138	131,149		2.5	131,019		2.3
2015-16	143,244	143,234		9.2	143,244		9.3
2016-17	154,844	154,891		8.1	154,986		8.2
2017-18	172,763	172,832		11.6	172,833		11.5
2018-19	170,147	170,141		-1.6	170,351		-1.4
Jan 2017	127,149	155,882	3.7	8.7	154,821	1.1	7.7
Feb 2017	162,453	156,221	0.2	8.9	156,664	1.2	9.0
Mar 2017	166,671	158,734	1.6	9.6	158,656	1.3	10.1
Apr 2017	161,217	162,438	2.3	14.7	160,674	1.3	10.9
May 2017	163,031	160,801	-1.0	8.6	162,595	1.2	11.5
Jun 2017	166,379	164,607	2.4	11.5	164,418	1.1	11.9
Jul 2017	167,146	165,819	0.7	12.7	165,938	0.9	12.2
Aug 2017	176,692	168,580	1.7	13.0	167,204	0.8	12.3
Sep 2017	179,686	167,837	-0.4	12.5	168,294	0.7	12.4
Oct 2017	177,326	169,705	1.1	12.4	169,469	0.7	12.5
Nov 2017	176,668	171,474	1.0	11.8	170,798	0.8	12.6
Dec 2017	149,674	167,465	-2.3	11.4	172,365	0.9	12.5
Jan 2018	141,728	177,068	5.7	13.6	174,112	1.0	12.5
Feb 2018	183,912	176,994	0.0	13.3	175,733	0.9	12.2
Mar 2018	186,728	176,990	0.0	11.5	176,984	0.7	11.6
Apr 2018	174,149	176,538	-0.3	8.7	177,673	0.4	10.6
May 2018	181,765	179,469	1.7	11.6	177,831	0.1	9.4
Jun 2018	177,685	176,048	-1.9	7.0	177,598	-0.1	8.0
Jul 2018	179,349	177,671	0.9	7.1	177,277	-0.2	6.8
Aug 2018	185,833	177,189	-0.3	5.1	177,018	-0.1	5.9
Sep 2018	187,857	175,714	-0.8	4.7	176,587	-0.2	4.9
Oct 2018	184,003	176,041	0.2	3.7	175,838	-0.4	3.8
Nov 2018	180,956	175,311	-0.4	2.2	174,921	-0.5	2.4
Dec 2018	154,372	174,485	-0.5	4.2	173,538	-0.8	0.7
Jan 2019	137,831	170,328	-2.4	-3.8	171,376	-1.2	-1.6
Feb 2019	175,789	169,280	-0.6	-4.4	168,657	-1.6	-4.0
Mar 2019	174,371	166,199	-1.8	-6.1	165,736	-1.73	-6.4
Apr 2019	165,436	166,659	0.3	-5.6	163,071	-1.6	-8.2
May 2019	154,535	152,688	-8.4	-14.9	160,921	-1.3	-9.5
Jun 2019	161,428	160,130	4.9	-9.0	159,276	-1.0	-10.3
Jul 2019	163,167	161,488	0.8	-9.1	158,093	-0.7	-10.8
Aug 2019	164,753	156,978	-2.8	-11.4	157,275	-0.5	-11.2

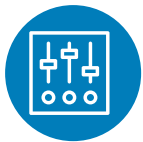
The internet series counts the average number of job ads carried by each of the sites contributing to the series on the same day of each week in the month indicated. The day (which is not necessarily the same for each site) is selected by the site operator as broadly representative of its activity levels.

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).

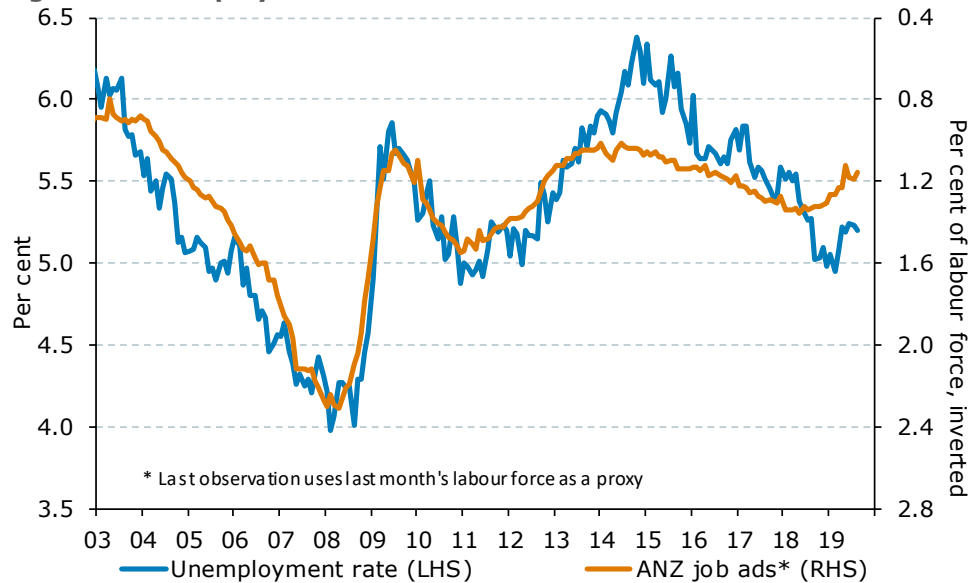
(b) The trend estimates came from applying a 13-term Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. This smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, but it also results in revisions to the most recent six months as additional observations become available.

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



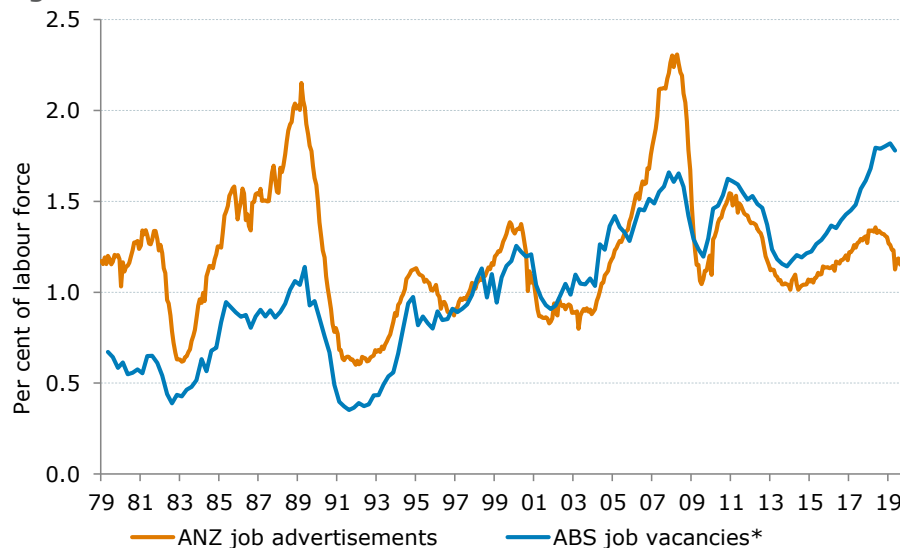
ANZ Job Ads in relation to other indicators

Figure 1. Unemployment rate and ANZ Job Ads since 2003



Source: ABS, SEEK, ANZ Research & Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business

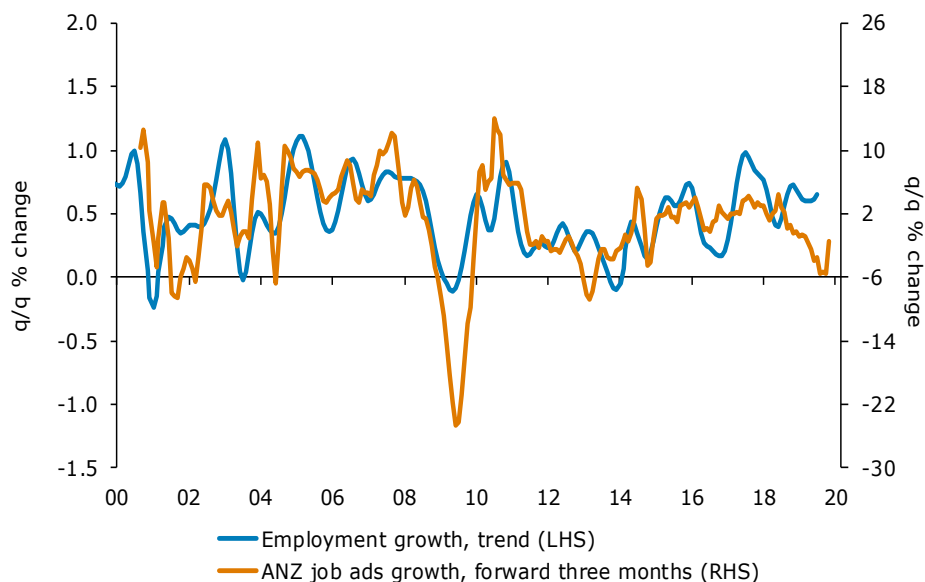
Figure 2. ANZ Job Ads and ABS Job Vacancies



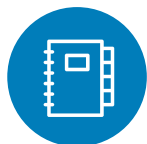
* ABS Job Vacancies: latest data are for May 2019.

Source: ABS, SEEK, Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, ANZ Research

Figure 3. ANZ Job Ads vs employment growth



Source: ANZ Research & Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business



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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