

ANZ Australian Job Advertisement Series Media Release

3 June 2019



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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.

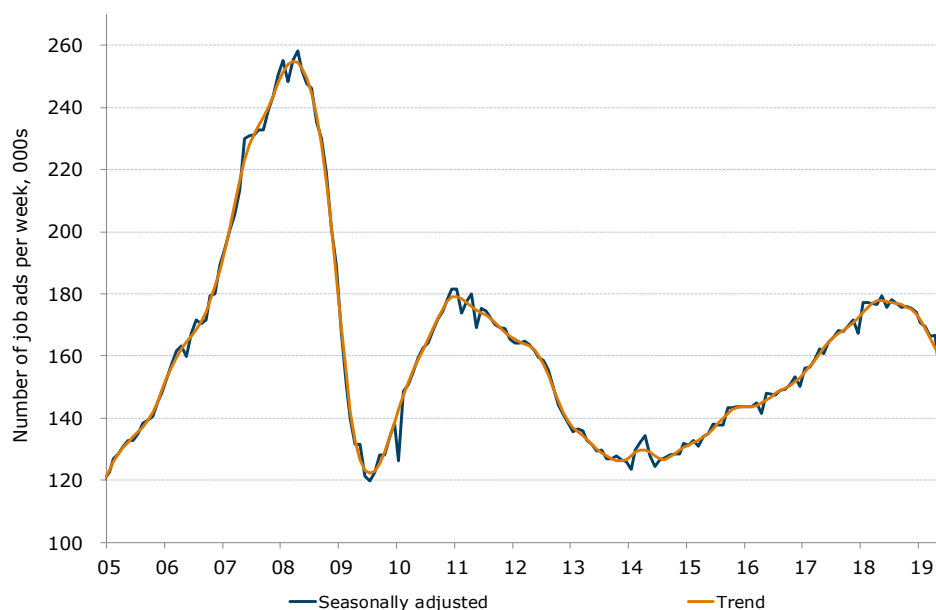
	Seasonally adjusted			Trend	
	Number	% m/m	% y/y	% m/m	% y/y
Total job ads	152,689	-8.4	-14.9	-1.8	-10.1

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.

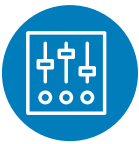
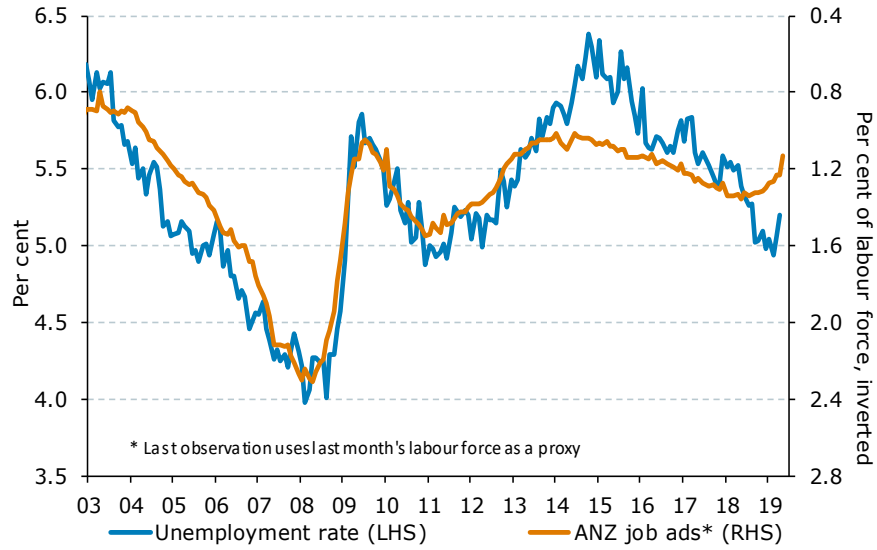
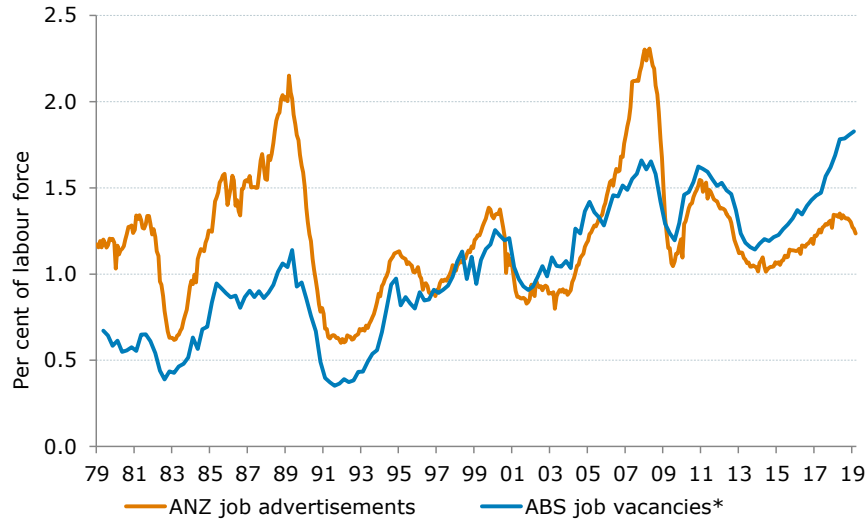


Figure 1. Unemployment rate and ANZ Job Ads since 2003



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

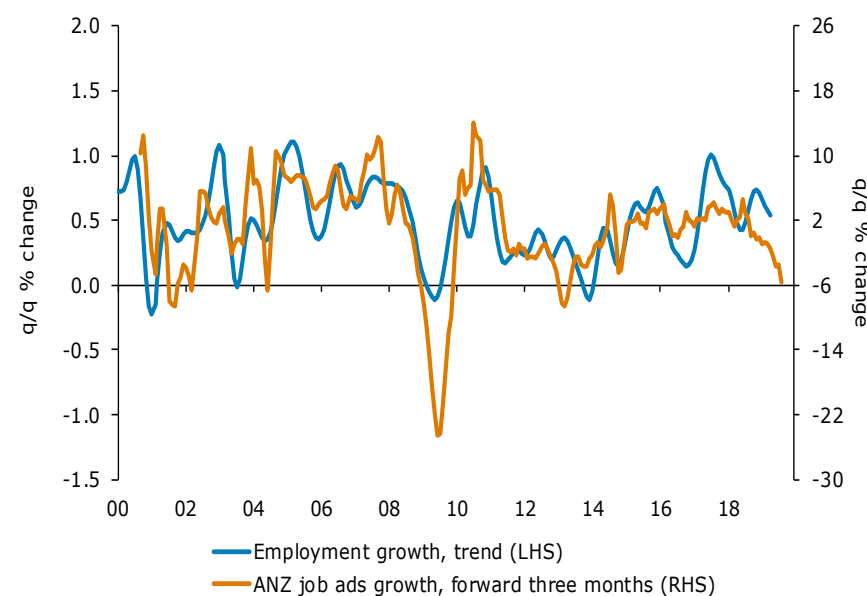
Figure 2. ANZ Job Ads and ABS Job Vacancies



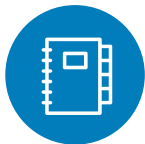
* ABS Job Vacancies: latest data are for Feb 2019.

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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