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Job Advertisements fell in May

The total number of jobs advertised in major metropolitan newspapers and on the internet fell by 1.7% in May to a weekly average of 270,751 per week. This follows a 3.1% increase in April. The total number of advertisements in May was 9.5% higher than 12 months ago. In trend terms the total number of job advertisements was static.

Looking at the different channels for advertising jobs, the number of job advertisements in major metropolitan **newspapers** decreased by 13.5% in May to an average of 17,196 per week, the largest monthly decline in almost eight years. This followed a 16.1% increase in April. Newspaper advertisements are now 16.0% lower than in May 2007. In trend terms, the number of newspaper job advertisements fell by 1.9% to be 11.5% lower than a year ago.

The fall in newspaper job advertisements in May was driven by decreases in every state. New South Wales (-11.7%), Victoria (-9.7%), Queensland (-16.8%), South Australia (-8.6%), Western Australia (-10.6%), Tasmania (-1.3%), the ACT (-5.3%) and the Northern Territory (-7.1%) all fell.

In seasonally adjusted terms, newspaper job advertisements have been unusually volatile in the last few months. However, in trend terms we have seen modest declines in each of the last eight months.

The number of **internet** job advertisements fell by 0.7% in May to average 253,554 per week. In trend terms, the rate of growth in internet job advertisements continued to slow, growing a modest 0.2% in May and 16.1% over the past year.

ANZ Co-Head of Australian Economics Sally Auld, said: "Total job advertisements have fallen in May, although this followed a rise in April. This is consistent with our view that job advertisements have plateaued in the first half of this year. In trend terms we are seeing a loss of momentum in job advertisement growth. This indicates that we may see a modest slowdown in monthly employment growth in coming months."

"While the slowing in job advertisements growth is consistent with some of the weaker partial activity data we have seen across the economy in recent months, we think this reflects caution on the part of employers about hiring new staff. Tighter credit conditions and uncertainty about the global economic outlook may also be negatively impacting business hiring intentions."

(Note: 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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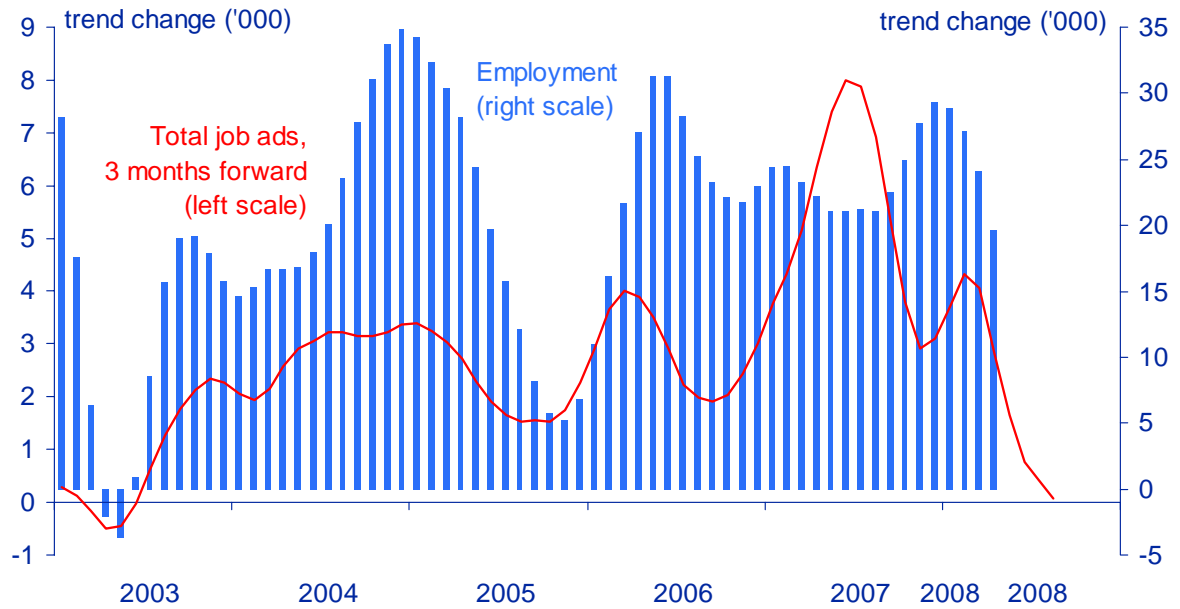
Next release: June 2008

Expected release date: Monday, 7 July 2008



Job Advertisements series

Monthly trend growth in total job advertisements and employment

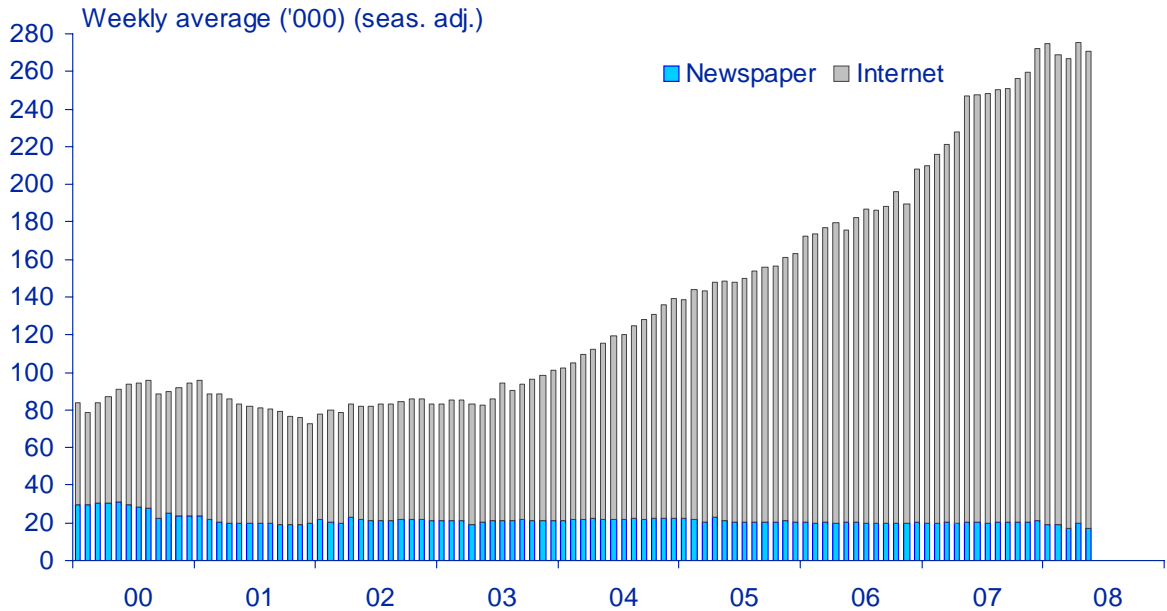


Sources: ABS, *The Labour Force* (6202.0); Economics@ANZ.



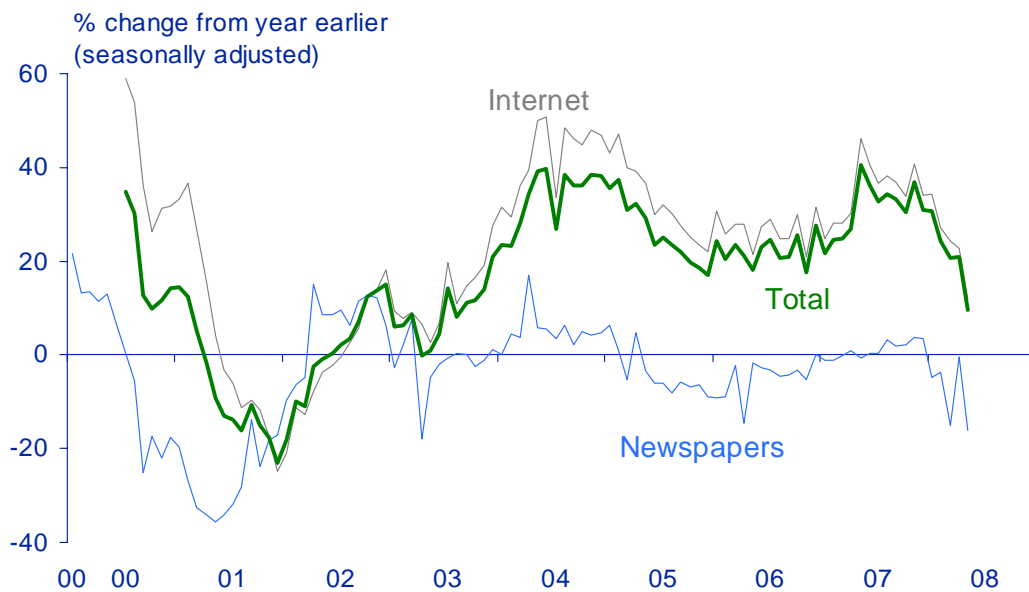
Job Advertisements series

Newspaper and internet job advertisements



Source: Economics@ANZ.

Annual changes in newspaper and internet job advertisements

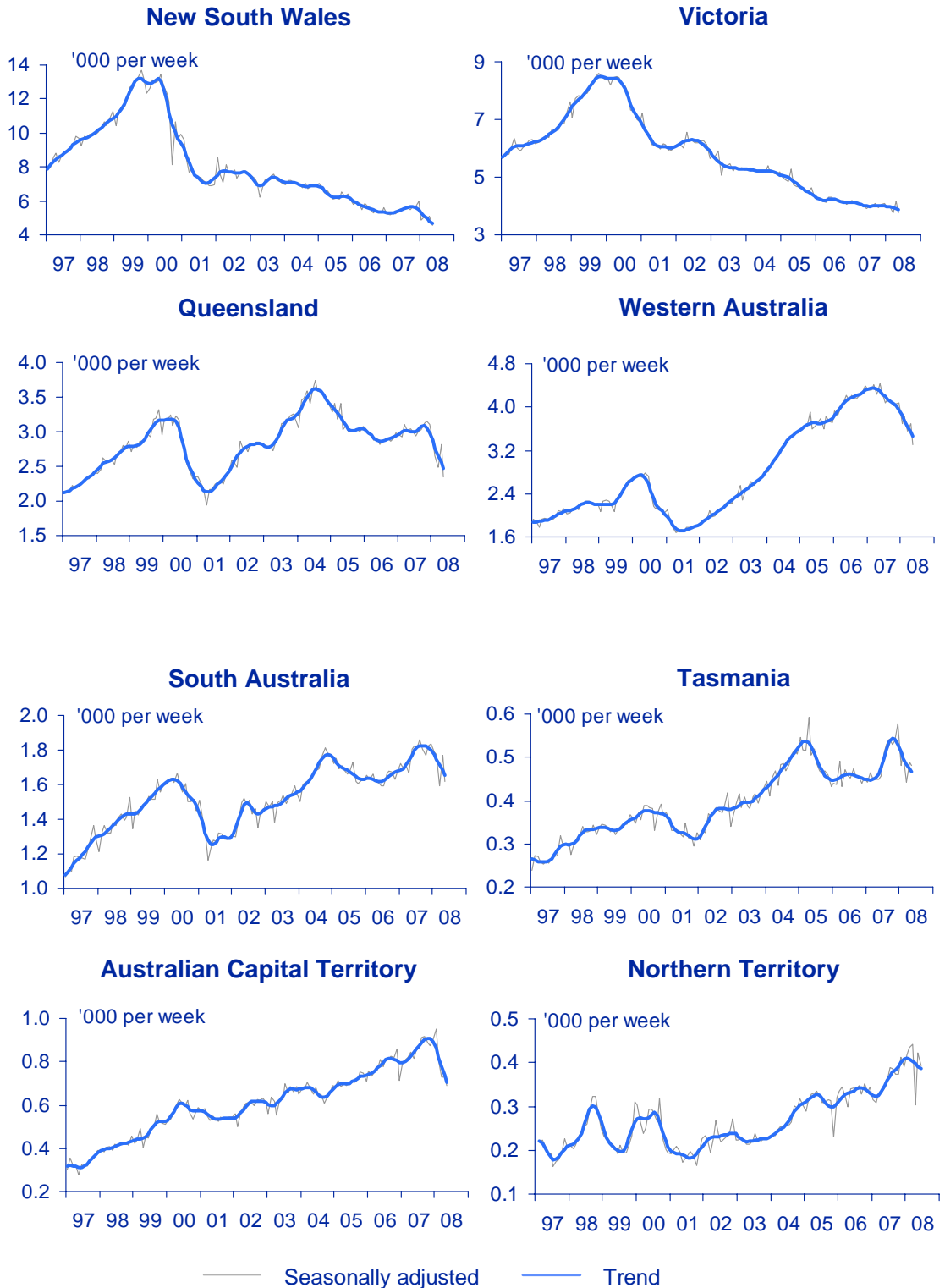


Note: Seasonal adjustment now done by ABS. Source: Economics@ANZ.



Job Advertisements series

State and Territory newspaper data



Source: Economics@ANZ.



Job Advertisements series

Average number of newspaper job advertisements per week – Australia

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>			<i>Trend estimate (a)</i>		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>		<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>	
			<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>		<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>
2003-04	21,540			2.5			
2004-05	21,866			1.5			
2005-06	20,450			-6.5			
2006-07	20,024			-2.1			
Apr 2006	17,405	19,793	-1.8	-14.6	20,139	-0.1	-6.6
May 2006	20,941	20,602	4.1	-1.6	20,126	-0.1	-5.5
Jun 2006	19,501	20,157	-2.2	-2.7	20,085	-0.2	-4.5
Jul 2006	20,232	20,021	-0.7	-3.2	20,013	-0.4	-4.0
Aug 2006	21,286	19,711	-1.5	-4.6	19,951	-0.3	-3.7
Sep 2006	22,291	19,860	0.8	-4.3	19,916	-0.2	-3.6
Oct 2006	22,839	20,018	0.8	-3.3	19,924	0.0	-3.5
Nov 2006	21,050	19,794	-1.1	-5.3	19,962	0.2	-3.1
Dec 2006	11,543	20,308	2.6	0.0	20,013	0.3	-2.2
Jan 2007	19,315	20,092	-1.1	-1.1	20,049	0.2	-1.3
Feb 2007	22,435	19,867	-1.1	-1.2	20,075	0.1	-0.7
Mar 2007	21,390	20,147	1.4	-0.1	20,101	0.1	-0.3
Apr 2007	17,538	19,957	-0.9	0.8	20,135	0.2	0.0
May 2007	20,838	20,467	2.6	-0.7	20,171	0.2	0.2
Jun 2007	19,531	20,205	-1.3	0.2	20,199	0.1	0.6
Jul 2007	20,282	20,104	-0.5	0.4	20,263	0.3	1.3
Aug 2007	21,960	20,350	1.2	3.2	20,357	0.5	2.0
Sep 2007	22,687	20,238	-0.6	1.9	20,479	0.6	2.8
Oct 2007	23,356	20,444	1.0	2.1	20,493	0.1	2.9
Nov 2007	21,835	20,524	0.4	3.7	20,356	-0.7	2.0
Dec 2007	11,986	21,026	2.4	3.5	20,042	-1.5	0.1
Jan 2008	18,412	19,139	-9.0	-4.7	19,582	-2.3	-2.3
Feb 2008	21,578	19,118	-0.1	-3.8	19,069	-2.6	-5.0
Mar 2008	17,526	17,115	-10.5	-15.0	18,600	-2.5	-7.5
Apr 2008	18,099	19,870	16.1	-0.4	18,188	-2.2	-9.7
May 2008	17,522	17,196	-13.5	-16.0	17,846	-1.9	-11.5

(a) The trend estimates have been derived by applying a 13-term Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted series. While this smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the most recent six months as additional observations become available.



Job Advertisements series

Average number of newspaper job advertisements per week - States and Territories

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>		<i>Trend estimate (a)</i>			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>		<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>	
			<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>		<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>
<i>New South Wales -</i>							
Dec 2007	3,289	5,988	5.2	6.3	5,473	-2.1	2.5
Jan 2008	4,421	4,855	-18.9	-7.5	5,309	-3.0	-0.1
Feb 2008	5,800	5,074	4.5	-1.8	5,126	-3.4	-3.2
Mar 2008	4,973	4,835	-4.7	-9.6	4,961	-3.2	-6.5
Apr 2008	4,780	5,136	6.2	-1.4	4,817	-2.9	-9.8
May 2008	4,678	4,537	-11.7	-17.1	4,699	-2.4	-12.9
<i>Victoria -</i>							
Dec 2007	2,392	4,107	1.4	-0.1	4,018	-0.4	-2.9
Jan 2008	3,661	3,959	-3.6	-5.7	3,994	-0.6	-3.5
Feb 2008	4,579	4,000	1.0	-3.1	3,967	-0.7	-3.8
Mar 2008	3,590	3,750	-6.2	-9.2	3,940	-0.7	-3.8
Apr 2008	3,849	4,160	10.9	2.4	3,913	-0.7	-3.6
May 2008	3,938	3,758	-9.7	-6.9	3,882	-0.8	-3.6
<i>Queensland -</i>							
Dec 2007	1,708	3,105	-1.3	3.9	2,990	-2.3	1.6
Jan 2008	2,817	2,858	-8.0	-3.2	2,881	-3.6	-3.0
Feb 2008	2,900	2,655	-7.1	-9.4	2,759	-4.2	-7.9
Mar 2008	2,422	2,487	-6.4	-19.8	2,649	-4.0	-12.1
Apr 2008	2,541	2,821	13.4	-6.2	2,554	-3.6	-15.3
May 2008	2,326	2,348	-16.8	-22.8	2,474	-3.1	-17.7
<i>South Australia -</i>							
Dec 2007	1,115	1,838	0.9	9.8	1,797	-0.8	7.2
Jan 2008	1,846	1,790	-2.6	4.1	1,774	-1.3	5.4
Feb 2008	1,995	1,773	-1.0	5.0	1,744	-1.7	3.0
Mar 2008	1,588	1,595	-10.0	-7.0	1,713	-1.8	0.0
Apr 2008	1,735	1,770	11.0	6.2	1,683	-1.7	-3.4
May 2008	1,601	1,618	-8.6	-10.6	1,655	-1.7	-6.6

The above data are based on information provided by the following newspapers: *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Daily Telegraph* (NSW); *The Age* and *The Herald-Sun* (Victoria); *The Courier-Mail* (Queensland); and *The Advertiser* (South Australia).



Job Advertisements series

Average number of newspaper job advertisements per week - States and Territories

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>		<i>Trend estimate (a)</i>			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>		<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>
<i>Western Australia -</i>							
Dec 2007	2,391	4,091	0.6	-6.8	3,950	-1.7	-8.5
Jan 2008	3,773	3,699	-9.6	-14.2	3,857	-2.4	-11.2
Feb 2008	4,286	3,825	3.4	-11.5	3,750	-2.8	-14.0
Mar 2008	3,524	3,550	-7.2	-19.6	3,646	-2.8	-16.3
Apr 2008	3,550	3,700	4.2	-12.7	3,547	-2.7	-18.2
May 2008	3,342	3,308	-10.6	-25.5	3,457	-2.5	-19.5
<i>Tasmania -</i>							
Dec 2007	392	579	7.4	27.8	529	-2.3	17.6
Jan 2008	543	481	-16.9	8.6	513	-3.1	14.2
Feb 2008	584	510	6.0	9.9	497	-3.1	11.0
Mar 2008	445	442	-13.3	-2.4	484	-2.6	7.9
Apr 2008	455	489	10.6	8.8	475	-2.0	4.8
May 2008	482	482	-1.3	7.2	467	-1.6	1.0
<i>ACT -</i>							
Dec 2007	471	904	3.6	26.6	893	-1.8	11.9
Jan 2008	954	952	5.3	19.5	862	-3.4	8.4
Feb 2008	987	811	-14.8	0.2	822	-4.7	2.7
Mar 2008	707	727	-10.4	-11.5	779	-5.2	-3.8
Apr 2008	739	730	0.4	-13.5	738	-5.3	-10.6
May 2008	725	691	-5.3	-15.4	702	-4.9	-16.8
<i>Northern Territory -</i>							
Dec 2007	228	418	6.7	32.5	411	0.8	26.4
Jan 2008	399	435	4.2	41.0	409	-0.4	26.8
Feb 2008	448	441	1.4	33.5	403	-1.4	23.8
Mar 2008	278	304	-31.1	-8.6	397	-1.7	18.5
Apr 2008	451	423	39.1	23.4	390	-1.5	12.5
May 2008	431	393	-7.1	10.6	387	-0.9	7.6

The above data are based on information provided by the following newspapers: *The West Australian* (Western Australia); *The Mercury*, *The Examiner* and *The Advocate* (Tasmania); *The Canberra Times* (Australian Capital Territory); and *The NT News* (Northern Territory).



Job Advertisements series

Average number of internet job advertisements per week – Australia

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>		<i>Trend estimate (a)</i>			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>		<i>P.c. change over -</i>		
			<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>	
2003-04	81,453			28.5			
2004-05	115,338			41.6			
2005-06	146,084			26.7			
2006-07	190,068			30.1			
Apr 2006	156,988	159,778	1.8	27.9	157,970	1.4	26.6
May 2006	156,643	155,278	-2.8	21.4	159,972	1.3	26.3
Jun 2006	164,374	161,803	4.2	27.3	161,922	1.2	26.1
Jul 2006	169,980	166,926	3.2	29.0	164,031	1.3	26.0
Aug 2006	175,367	166,320	-0.4	24.7	166,525	1.5	26.1
Sep 2006	181,244	168,580	1.4	24.9	169,574	1.8	26.2
Oct 2006	191,178	176,380	4.6	29.9	173,338	2.2	26.3
Nov 2006	177,454	169,759	-3.8	21.0	177,632	2.5	26.0
Dec 2006	170,431	187,495	10.4	31.6	182,727	2.9	25.9
Jan 2007	151,417	189,927	1.3	24.8	189,047	3.5	26.8
Feb 2007	195,251	196,295	3.4	28.0	196,429	3.9	28.6
Mar 2007	203,944	200,928	2.4	28.0	204,405	4.1	31.3
Apr 2007	204,545	207,971	3.5	30.2	212,239	3.8	34.4
May 2007	229,024	226,777	9.0	46.0	219,117	3.2	37.0
Jun 2007	230,984	227,239	0.2	40.4	224,364	2.4	38.6
Jul 2007	232,160	228,095	0.4	36.6	228,100	1.7	39.1
Aug 2007	242,027	229,621	0.7	38.1	230,911	1.2	38.7
Sep 2007	247,704	230,908	0.6	37.0	233,894	1.3	37.9
Oct 2007	255,555	235,901	2.2	33.7	237,595	1.6	37.1
Nov 2007	249,578	239,003	1.3	40.8	242,044	1.9	36.3
Dec 2007	228,630	251,111	5.1	33.9	246,420	1.8	34.9
Jan 2008	203,607	255,291	1.7	34.4	249,702	1.3	32.1
Feb 2008	248,532	249,677	-2.2	27.2	251,872	0.9	28.2
Mar 2008	253,737	249,926	0.1	24.4	253,106	0.5	23.8
Apr 2008	251,374	255,456	2.2	22.8	253,959	0.3	19.7
May 2008	256,208	253,554	-0.7	11.8	254,376	0.2	16.1

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; Hudson Global Resources; and the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) Australian Job Search site, jobsearch.gov.au.



Job Advertisements series

Average total number of newspaper and internet job advertisements per week – Australia

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>		<i>Trend estimate (a)</i>			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>P.c. change over -</i>		<i>P.c. change over -</i>		
			<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>	
2003-04	102,993			22.0			
2004-05	137,204			33.2			
2005-06	166,533			21.4			
2006-07	210,092			26.2			
Apr 2006	174,393	179,571	1.4	21.2	178,109	1.3	21.7
May 2006	177,584	175,881	-2.1	18.2	180,098	1.1	21.8
Jun 2006	183,875	181,960	3.5	23.1	182,007	1.1	21.8
Jul 2006	190,212	186,947	2.7	24.6	184,044	1.1	21.9
Aug 2006	196,653	186,031	-0.5	20.7	186,476	1.3	22.1
Sep 2006	203,535	188,440	1.3	21.0	189,489	1.6	22.2
Oct 2006	214,017	196,398	4.2	25.5	193,262	2.0	22.4
Nov 2006	198,504	189,553	-3.5	17.6	197,594	2.2	22.3
Dec 2006	181,974	207,804	9.6	27.6	202,740	2.6	22.5
Jan 2007	170,733	210,019	1.1	21.8	209,096	3.1	23.4
Feb 2007	217,686	216,162	2.9	24.6	216,504	3.5	25.2
Mar 2007	225,333	221,075	2.3	24.8	224,507	3.7	27.6
Apr 2007	222,082	227,928	3.1	26.9	232,374	3.5	30.5
May 2007	249,862	247,244	8.5	40.6	239,287	3.0	32.9
Jun 2007	250,515	247,445	0.1	36.0	244,563	2.2	34.4
Jul 2007	252,442	248,198	0.3	32.8	248,363	1.6	34.9
Aug 2007	263,987	249,971	0.7	34.4	251,268	1.2	34.7
Sep 2007	270,391	251,146	0.5	33.3	254,372	1.2	34.2
Oct 2007	278,910	256,345	2.1	30.5	258,088	1.5	33.5
Nov 2007	271,413	259,527	1.2	36.9	262,400	1.7	32.8
Dec 2007	240,616	272,137	4.9	31.0	266,462	1.5	31.4
Jan 2008	222,019	274,430	0.8	30.7	269,284	1.1	28.8
Feb 2008	270,110	268,795	-2.1	24.3	270,941	0.6	25.1
Mar 2008	271,263	267,041	-0.7	20.8	271,705	0.3	21.0
Apr 2008	269,473	275,326	3.1	20.8	272,147	0.2	17.1
May 2008	273,731	270,751	-1.7	9.5	272,222	0.0	13.8

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