



ABS Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia

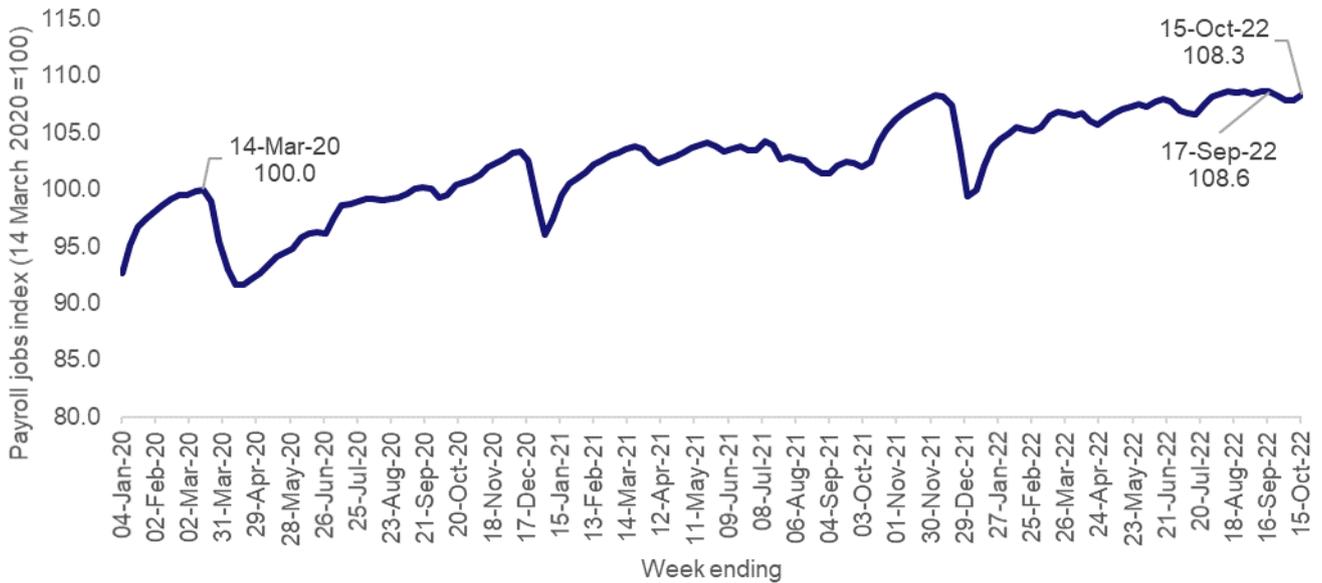
Week ending 15 October 2022

Payroll Jobs

Payroll jobs fell by 0.3% over the *month* to 15 October 2022 but remain 8.3% above the level recorded in the week ending 14 March 2020 (when Australia recorded its 100th case of COVID-19) – see Chart 1, below.

- Over the *month* to 15 October 2022, male payroll jobs decreased by 0.6%, while female payroll jobs fell by 0.4%.¹ Male payroll jobs remain 3.0% above the level recorded in the week ending 14 March 2020, while female payroll jobs have increased by 5.8% over the period.

Chart 1: Payroll jobs index, 4 January 2020 to 15 October 2022 (14 March 2020 = 100)



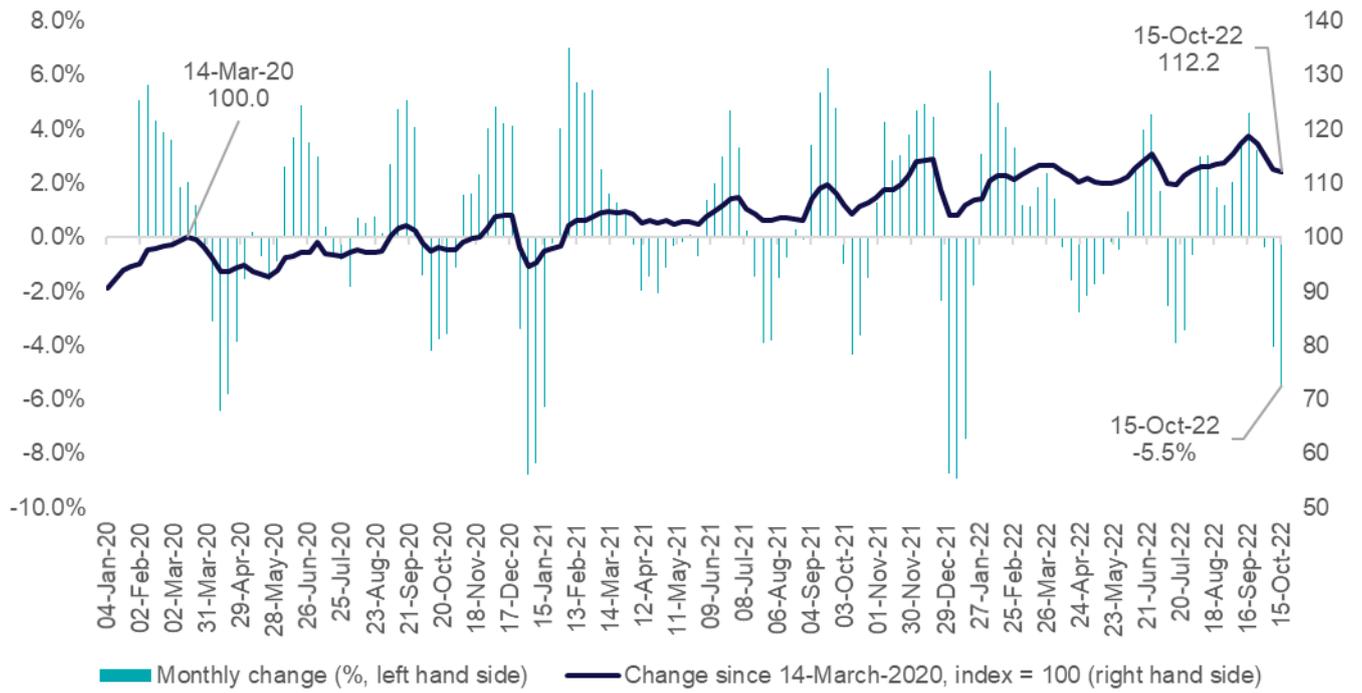
Payroll Wages

Payroll wages decreased by 5.5% over the *month* to 15 October 2022, following a seasonal increase in the previous month, reflecting the payment of periodic bonuses in multiple industries around September each year. Total wages remain 12.2% above the level recorded in the week ending 14 March 2020 – see Chart 2, overleaf.

- Over the *month* to 15 October 2022, male wages decreased by 6.4%, while female wages decreased by 4.8%. Male wages are 7.5% above the level recorded in the week ending 14 March 2020, while female wages have risen by 14.9% over the period.

¹ Due to the way in which certain characteristics in the *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* dataset are derived, changes in component (e.g. males and females) indexes can move independently from their totals.

Chart 2: Payroll wages index, 4 January 2020 to 15 October 2022 (14 March 2020 = 100)



Background

The *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* release is compiled from Australian Taxation Office (ATO) data for businesses using the Single Touch Payroll (STP) system. The data are only available in *original* terms (i.e. have not been adjusted to take account of seasonal factors) and are therefore subject to considerable statistical variability.

In addition, due to different business payment cycles, the most recently reported jobs and wages estimates contain a significant amount of imputed data that is subsequently revised in future releases. Accordingly, and in view of the above, the most recently reported information should be interpreted with significant caution.

It is also worth bearing in mind that not all jobs in the Australian labour market are captured with these estimates and the data will differ from job and wages figures published in other ABS releases. Indeed, the monthly ABS *Labour Force Survey* release continues to be the most reliable and authoritative source of information on developments in the Australian labour market.

Similarly, the ABS Wage Price Index (WPI) is a key economic indicator that is used by a wide range of organisations and individuals in workplace relations forums, developing wages policy, and economic analysis. WPI is the major measure of inflationary pressure on wages and salaries and is one of the preferred information sources when assessing monetary policy.

Further information regarding the *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* methodology is available on the [ABS website](#).