



# Vacancy Report July 2022

Release date: 24 August 2022

Seasonally Adjusted 288.500

- Monthly change ↓3.8%
- •Annual change ↑24.5%
- Pre-COVID-19 comparison ↑71.4%

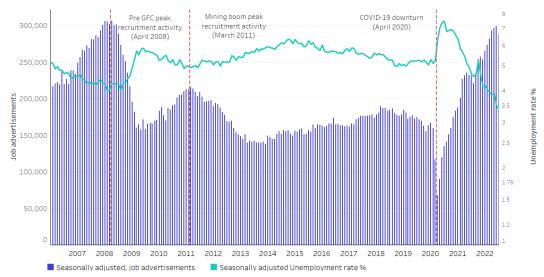
In seasonally adjusted terms, job advertisements decreased by 3.8% (or 11,200 job advertisements) in July 2022 to stand at 288,500.

The level of recruitment activity nationally remains significantly elevated compared to pre-COVID-19 levels, up by 71.4% (or 120,200 job advertisements).

#### Detailed Internet Vacancy Index key points – Seasonally Adjusted Series

- Job advertisements fell by 3.8% (or 11,200) in July 2022 to stand at 288,500. This follows six consecutive monthly increases from January 2022 to June 2022.
- Recruitment activity decreased across all states and territories in July 2022. The sharpest decline was recorded in the Northern Territory (down by 8.2% or 260 job advertisements), followed by Victoria (down by 7.8% or 6,200 job advertisements) and the Australian Capital Territory (down by 6.0% or 490 job advertisements).
- Recruitment activity fell across all Skill Level groups in July 2022, with the sharpest decline observed for Skill Level 5 occupations (commensurate with Certificate I or secondary education), down by 4.1% (or 1,700 job advertisements). This was followed by Skill Level 3 occupations (commensurate with Certificate IV or III), which fell by 4.0% (or 1,700 job advertisements) and Skill Level 1 occupations (commensurate with Bachelor Degree or higher), which also fell by 4.0% (or 4,200 job advertisements).
- Job advertisements declined in 41 of the 48 detailed occupational groups during July 2022. Hospitality Workers recorded the largest fall over the month (down by 3,400 job advertisements or 31.6%), followed by Food Trades Workers (down by 1,600 job advertisements or 18.4%) and Food Preparation Assistants (down by 1,100 job advertisements or 36.4%). Mobile Plant Operators recorded the largest increase in July 2022 (up by 180 job advertisements or 4.6%).
- In three month moving average terms, the majority of recruitment activity (74.4%) remains concentrated in capital cities, despite job advertisement growth in regional areas (of 104.5% compared to pre-COVID levels) outpacing capital cities (63.9% compared to pre-COVID levels).

Figure 1: Job Advertisements and Unemployment Rate – January 2006 to July 2022



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pre-COVID-19 job advertisement levels are defined as the 12-month average in the seasonally adjusted IVI series to February 2020.

#### Occupational Groups – seasonally adjusted series

Job advertisements decreased in 7 out of the 8 broad occupational groups during July 2022. The strongest decline over the month was observed for Community and Personal Services Workers (down by 9.5% or 3,100 job advertisements), followed by Technicians and Trades Workers (down by 5.7% or 2,300 job advertisements) and Labourers (down by 5.2% or 1,300 job advertisements). Job advertisements increased for Machinery Operators and Drivers (up by 1.2% or 200 job advertisements).

The level of recruitment activity nationally remains elevated as compared to pre-COVID-19 levels across all eight major occupational groups. The strongest gains have been recorded for Labourers (up by 134.7% or 13,100 job advertisements) and by Machinery Operators and Drivers (up by 109.3% or 8,500 job advertisements). Despite elevated levels of recruitment activity, employment for Labourers remains 9.6% below pre-pandemic levels, while employment for Machinery Operators and Drivers is only 2.7% above pre-pandemic levels. Recruitment activity for both occupational groups is therefore likely to be at least partially driven by recovery from declines in employment during the COVID-19 period.<sup>2</sup> (See Table 1)

**Table 1: Major Occupational group headline results** 

IVI by Occupation - July 2022	Monthly change (%)	Monthly change (no.)	Pre-COVID change (%)	Pre-COVID change (no.)	Number of job advertisements
Managers	-3.6%	-1,200	46.6%	9,900	31,200
Professionals	-3.9%	-3,200	54.1%	27,900	79,500
Technicians and Trades Workers	-5.7%	-2,300	69.6%	15,600	37,900
Community and Personal Service Workers	-9.5%	-3,100	103.5%	15,200	29,800
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-3.0%	-1,400	63.8%	18,000	46,200
Sales Workers	-3.5%	-890	90.9%	11,600	24,300
Machinery Operators and Drivers	1.2%	200	109.3%	8,500	16,200
Labourers	-5.2%	-1,300	134.7%	13,100	22,900
Australia	-3.8%	-11,200	71.4%	120,200	288,500

#### **Detailed Occupations – seasonally adjusted series**

Job advertisements fell across 41 of the 48 detailed occupational groups during July 2022.

Hospitality Workers recorded the largest decline over the month (down by 3,400 job advertisements or 31.6%), followed by Food Trades Workers (down by 1,600 job advertisements or 18.4%), and Food Preparation Assistants (down by 1,100 job advertisements or 36.4%). Mobile Plant Operators recorded the largest increase in July 2022 (up by 180 job advertisements or 4.6%). (See Table 2)

Table 2: Detailed Occupational groups – Largest declines, month to July 2022

Largest declining detailed occupations – July 2022	Monthly change (%)	Monthly change (no.)	Number of job advertisements
Hospitality Workers	-31.6%	-3,400	7,400
Food Trades Workers	-18.4%	-1,600	7,000
Food Preparation Assistants	-36.4%	-1,100	2,000
General-Inquiry Clerks, Call Centre Workers, and Receptionists	-3.7%	-870	22,600
ICT Professionals	-4.4%	-670	14,500

Despite the falls this month, recruitment activity exceeds pre-COVID-19 levels across all 48 detailed occupational groups. General-Inquiry Clerks, Call Centre Workers, and Receptionists recorded the largest increase (10,300 job advertisements or 82.9%), followed by Sales Assistants and Salespersons (9,400 job advertisements or 128.6%) and Carers and Aides (7,800 job advertisements or 117.4%). (See Table 3 overleaf)

 The strongest increases from pre-COVID-19 levels in percentage terms were recorded for Cleaners and Laundry Workers (up by 234.4%), Jewellers, Arts and Other Trades Workers (160.1%) and Drivers and Storepersons (146.5%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, May 2022, National Skills Commission seasonally adjusted data.

Table 3: Detailed Occupational groups – Largest growth, compared to pre-COVID-19 levels

Largest growing detailed occupations – pre-COVID levels	Pre-COVID change (%)	Pre-COVID change (no.)	Number of job advertisements
General-Inquiry Clerks, Call Centre Workers, and Receptionists	82.9%	10,300	22,600
Sales Assistants and Salespersons	128.6%	9,400	16,800
Carers and Aides	117.4%	7,800	14,400
Medical Practitioners and Nurses	96.6%	6,000	12,300
Drivers and Storepersons	146.5%	5,100	8,500

### Skill Level – seasonally adjusted series

Recruitment activity fell across all Skill Level groups in July 2022, with the strongest decline observed for Skill Level 5 occupations (commensurate with Certificate I or secondary education), down by 4.1% (or 1,700 job advertisements). This was followed by Skill Level 3 occupations (commensurate with Certificate IV or III), which decreased by 4.0% (or 1,700 job advertisements), and Skill Level 1 occupations (commensurate with Bachelor Degree or higher), which also fell by 4.0% (or 4,200 job advertisements). (See Table 4)

The level of recruitment activity remains elevated across all Skill Level groups compared with pre-COVID-19 job advertisement levels. The strongest increases have been for lower skilled occupations, with Skill Level 5 (commensurate with Certificate I or secondary education) occupations recording the strongest increase (up by 135.4% or 22,400 job advertisements), followed by Skill Level 4 occupations (commensurate with Certificate II or III) (up by 86.3% or 35,800 job advertisements).

**Table 4: Skill Level groups headline results** 

IVI by Skill Level - July 2022	Monthly change (%)	Monthly change (no.)	Pre-COVID change (%)	Pre-COVID change (no.)	Number of job advertisements
Skill Level 1 - Bachelor degree or higher	-4.0%	-4,200	49.7%	33,500	100,700
Skill Level 2 - Advanced Diploma or Diploma	-3.5%	-1,100	62.7%	12,000	31,100
Skill Level 3 - Certificate IV or III* (Skilled VET)	-4.0%	-1,700	72.8%	17,300	41,200
Skill Level 4 - Certificate II or III	-3.7%	-2,900	86.3%	35,800	77,400
Skill Level 5 - Certificate I or secondary education	-4.1%	-1,700	135.4%	22,400	39,000
Australia	-3.8%	-11,200	71.4%	120,200	288,500

The skill level of an occupation is based on the level of educational attainment/experience normally required to work in the occupation according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO). \*Includes at least two years of on-the-job training.

#### States and Territories – seasonally adjusted series

Recruitment decreased across all states and territories in July 2022. The sharpest decline was recorded in the Northern Territory, where recruitment activity fell by 8.2% (or 260 job advertisements), followed by Victoria (down by 7.8% or 6,200 job advertisements) and the Australian Capital Territory (down by 6.0% or 490 job advertisements). (See Table 5)

**Table 5: State/Territory headline results** 

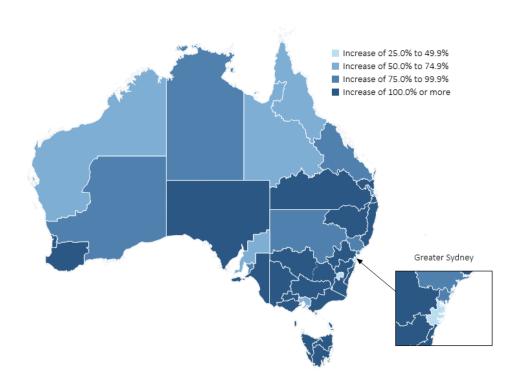
IVI by State/Territory – July 2022	Monthly change (%)	Monthly change (no.)	Pre-COVID change (%)	Pre-COVID change (no.)	Number of job advertisements
New South Wales	-2.6%	-2,400	58.4%	34,200	92,800
Victoria	-7.8%	-6,200	62.2%	28,400	74,100
Queensland	-4.0%	-2,400	88.9%	27,600	58,600
South Australia	-0.8%	-120	106.0%	8,100	15,700
Western Australia	-3.6%	-1,200	102.7%	16,600	32,800
Tasmania	-3.5%	-150	139.8%	2,500	4,200
Northern Territory	-8.2%	-260	72.3%	1,200	2,900
Australian Capital Territory	-6.0%	-490	31.2%	1,800	7,600
Australia	-3.8%	-11,200	71.4%	120,200	288,500

# Regional – three month moving average

In three month moving average terms, job advertisements continue to exceed pre-COVID-19 levels across all 37 IVI regions.<sup>3</sup> The strongest growth in recruitment activity, compared to pre-COVID-19 levels, remains in regional areas. However, the top five largest (change measured in level, rather than percentage terms) growing IVI regions continue to be led by capital cities: Melbourne (up by 23,300 job advertisements or 58.5%) recorded the largest increase, followed by Sydney (21,200 job advertisements or 45.3%), Brisbane (15,900 job advertisements or 87.8%), Perth (13,300 job advertisements or 105.0%) and Adelaide (6,500 job advertisements or 97.8%).

- Capital cities account for 68.9% of the total growth in job advertisements compared to pre-COVID-19 levels
- Job advertisements in capital cities recorded an increase of 63.9% compared to pre-COVID-19 levels. By contrast, job advertisements in regional areas increased by 104.5%.
- The majority of recruitment activity remains concentrated in capital cities, despite average job
  advertisement growth in regional areas outpacing capital cities. July 2022 IVI data shows 74.4% of all
  job advertisements were recorded in capital cities.

#### IVI comparison to pre-COVID-19 levels, by Region



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> At the regional level of detail, in lieu of seasonally adjusted data, the pre-COVID-19 job advertisement levels are defined as the 12-month average in the original IVI series to February 2020.

- For future Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) release dates, please visit the Labour Market Insights website at <a href="https://labourmarketinsights.gov.au/our-research/internet-vacancy-index/">https://labourmarketinsights.gov.au/our-research/internet-vacancy-index/</a>.
- For detailed methodology information regarding the IVI, please visit https://labourmarketinsights.gov.au/our-research/page/internet-vacancy-index-methodology/.

# Acknowledgements

The National Skills Commission thanks the following job boards for their contribution to the Vacancy Report:





