



ABS Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia

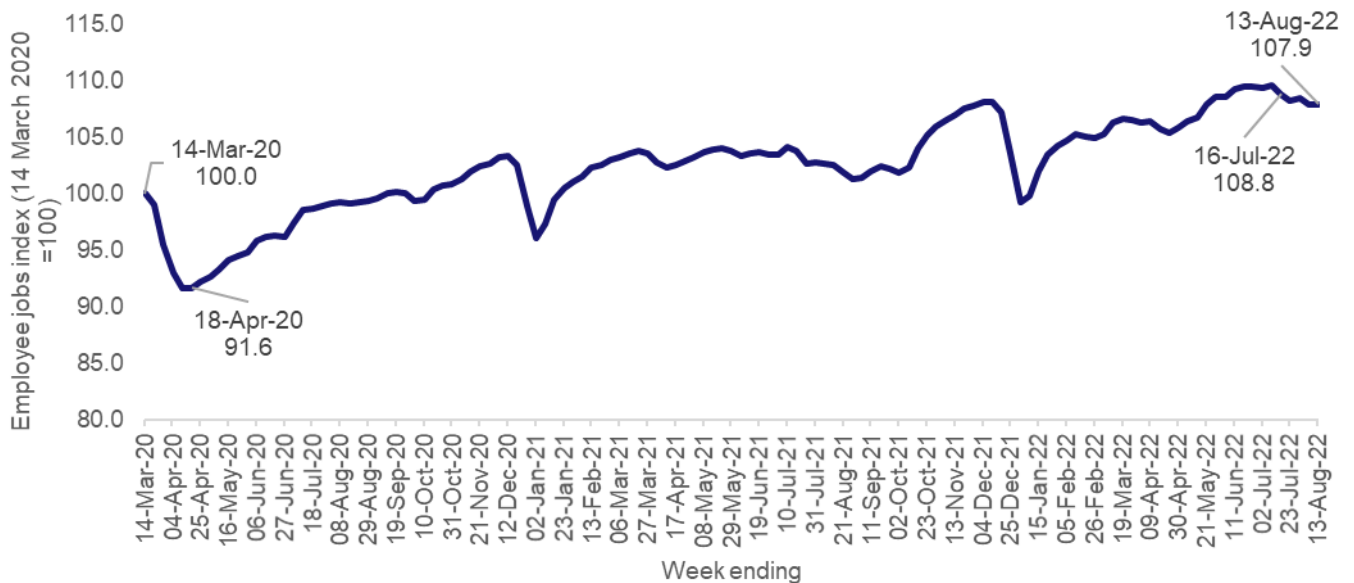
Week ending 13 August 2022

Payroll Jobs

Employee jobs fell by 0.8% over the *month* to 13 August 2022 but remain 7.9% 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 13 August 2022, male employee jobs decreased by 1.6%, while female employee jobs fell by 0.6%. Male employee jobs are now 3.3% above the level recorded in the week ending 14 March 2020, while female employee jobs have increased by 6.3% over the period¹.
- The ABS advises that the ongoing impacts of short-term employee absences from COVID-19 and other illnesses during winter, were some of the underlying factors influencing the change in payroll jobs over the month.

Chart 1: Employee jobs index, 14 March 2020 to 13 August 2022 (14 March 2020 = 100)



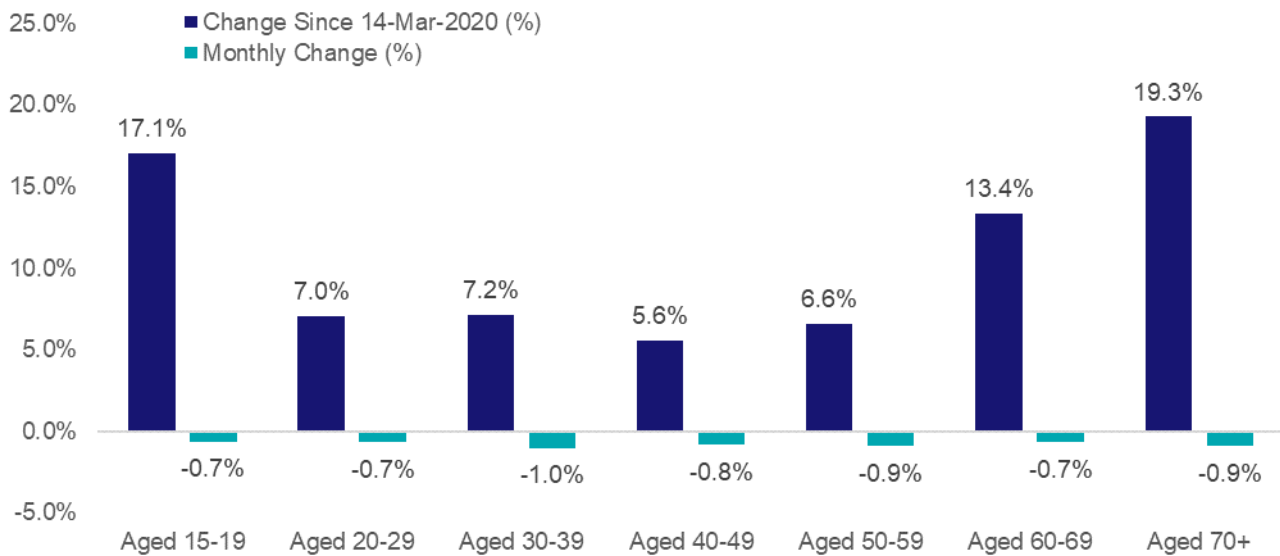
Age

Over the *month* to 13 August 2022, all age cohorts recorded a decrease in employee jobs, with persons aged 30-39 recording the largest fall (of 1.0%), followed by persons aged 70 and over and those aged 50-59 (both down by 0.9%) – see Chart 2, overleaf.

- Since 14 March 2020, however, all age cohorts have recorded an *increase* in employee jobs, with persons aged 70 and over recording the largest rise (of 19.3%), while persons aged 40-49 recorded the smallest increase (of 5.6%).

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. For more information, see paragraph 2 in 'Additional background information' on page 10.

Chart 2: Percentage change in employee jobs by age, to 13 August 2022

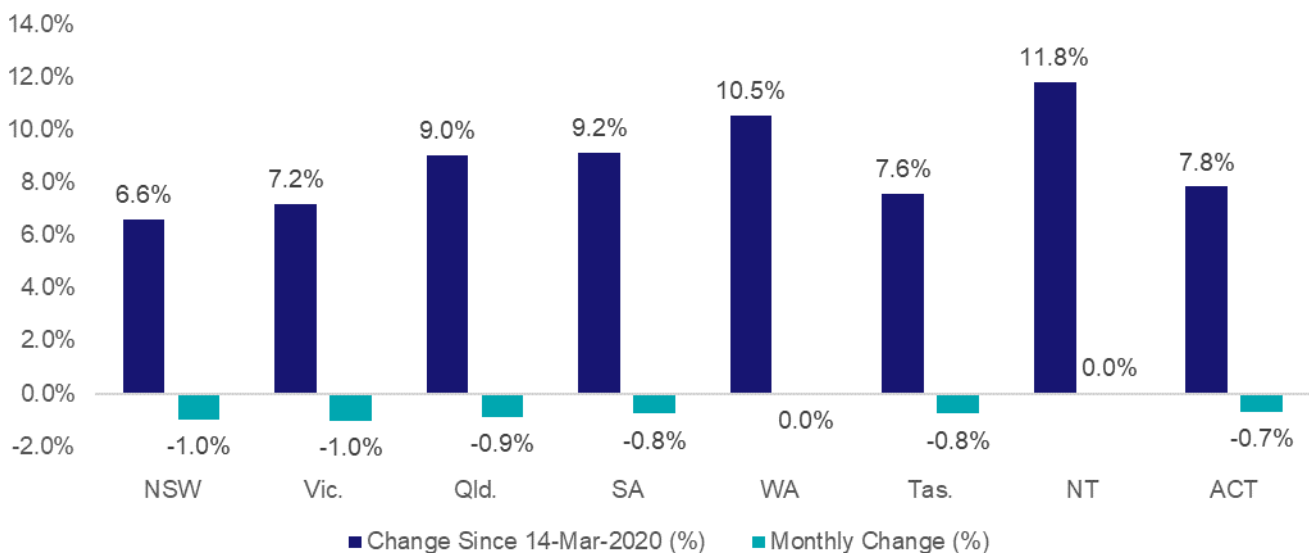


State/territory

Over the month to 13 August 2022, all states and territories recorded a decrease in employee jobs, with the exception of Western Australia and the Northern Territory, which were steady. New South Wales and Victoria recorded the largest fall (of 1.0%), followed by Queensland (down by 0.9%) – see Chart 3, below.

- All states and territories recorded a *rise* in employee jobs between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022, with the Northern Territory recording the strongest increase (of 11.8%). New South Wales recorded the smallest increase in employee jobs over the period (of 6.6%).

Chart 3: Percentage change in employee jobs by state/territory, to 13 August 2022

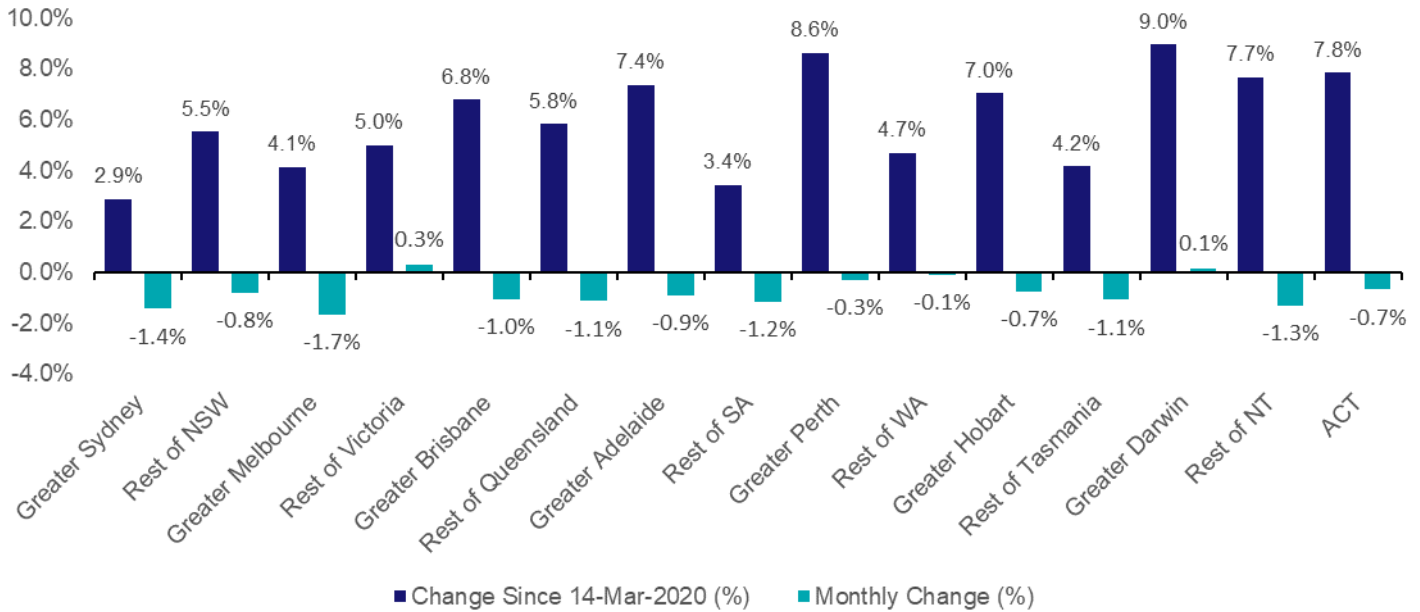


Capital city/rest of state

Over the *month* to 13 August 2022, all capital city/rest of state areas recorded a decrease in employee jobs, with the exception of Rest of Victoria (up by 0.3%) and Greater Darwin (up by 0.1%). Greater Melbourne recorded the largest fall (of 1.7%), followed by Greater Sydney (down by 1.4%) and Rest of NT (down by 1.3%) – see Chart 4, overleaf.

- All capital city/rest of state areas recorded a *rise* in employee jobs between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022, with Greater Darwin recording the largest increase (of 9.0%). Greater Sydney recorded the smallest increase in employee jobs over the period (of 2.9%).

Chart 4: Percentage change in employee jobs by capital city/rest of state areas, to 13 August 2022



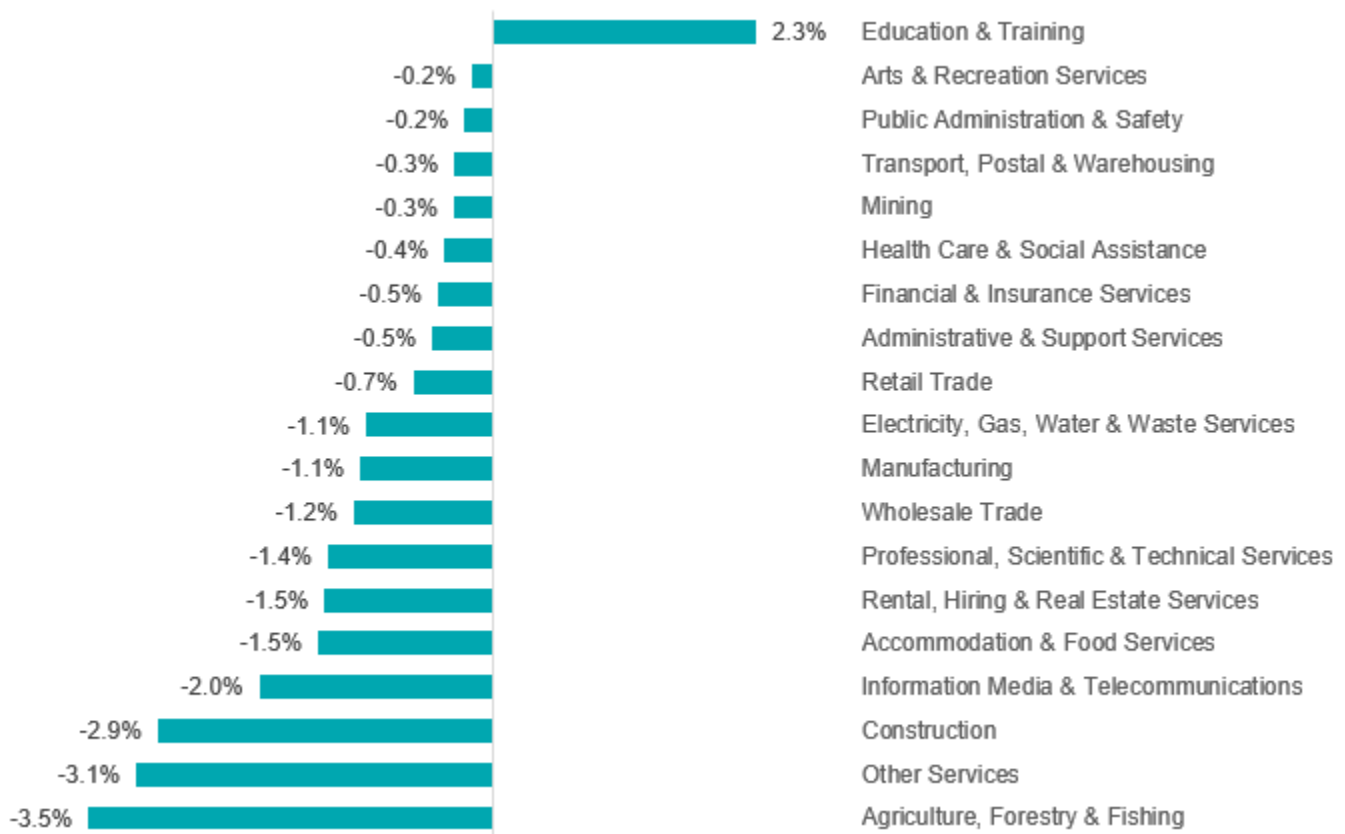
A table highlighting the change in employee jobs by SA4 over the period between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022, as well as over the last *month* (16 July 2022 to 13 August 2022), is provided in Appendix A.

Industry

Over the *month* to 13 August 2022, 18 of the 19 industries recorded a decrease in employee jobs – see Chart 5, overleaf.

- The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry recorded the largest decrease in employee jobs over the month (of 3.5%), followed by Other Services (down by 3.1%) and Construction (down by 2.9%).
- Education and Training was the only industry to record an increase in employee jobs over the month (of 2.3%).

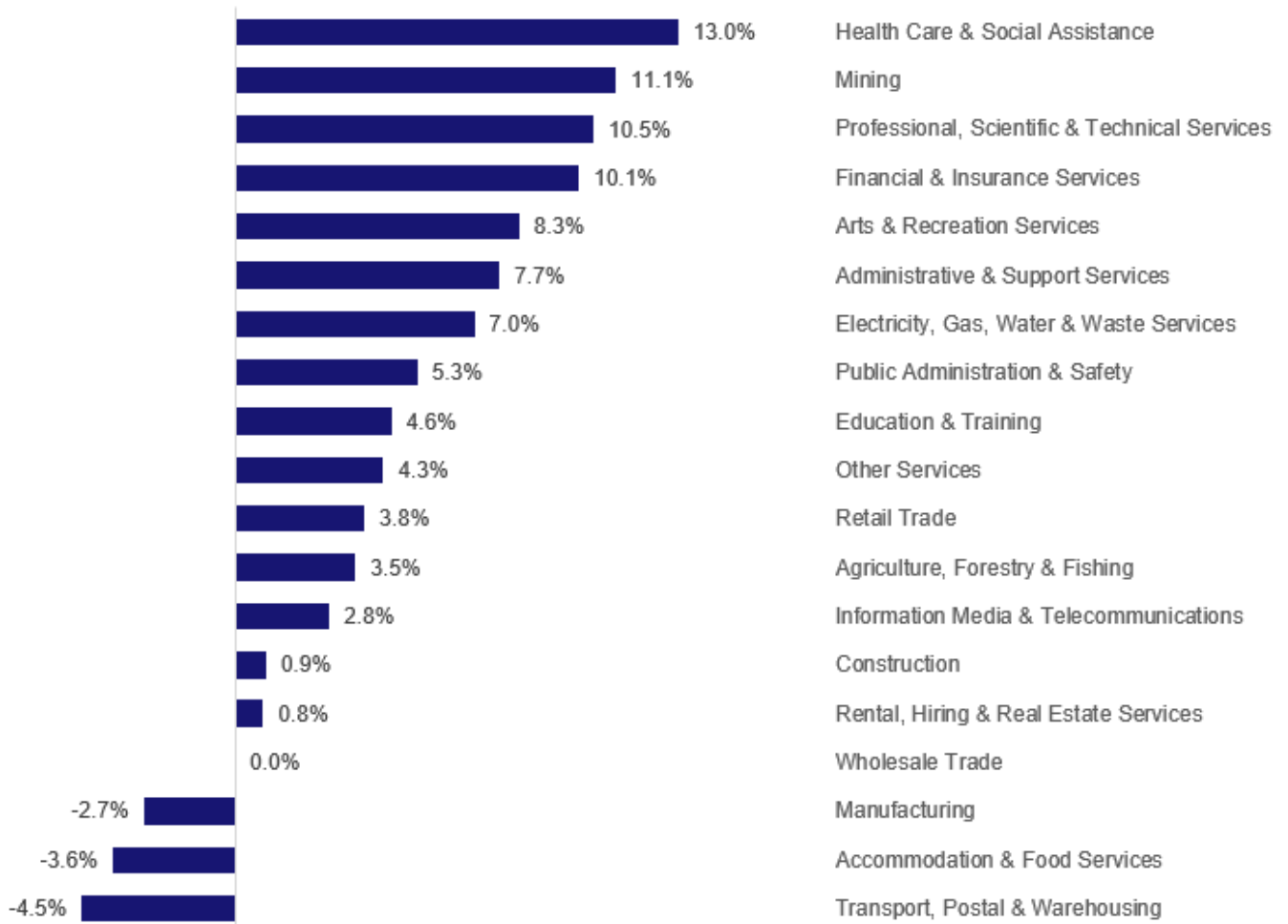
Chart 5: Percentage change in employee jobs between 16 July 2022 and 13 August 2022



Between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022, 15 of the 19 industries recorded an increase in employee jobs – see Chart 6, overleaf.

- The Health Care and Social Assistance industry recorded the largest increase in employee jobs over the period (of 13.0%), followed by Mining (up by 11.1%) and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (up by 10.5%).
- The Transport, Postal and Warehousing industry recorded the largest fall in employee jobs over the period (of 4.5%), followed by Accommodation and Food Services (down by 3.6%) and Manufacturing (down by 2.7%).

Chart 6: Percentage change in employee jobs between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022



Payroll Wages

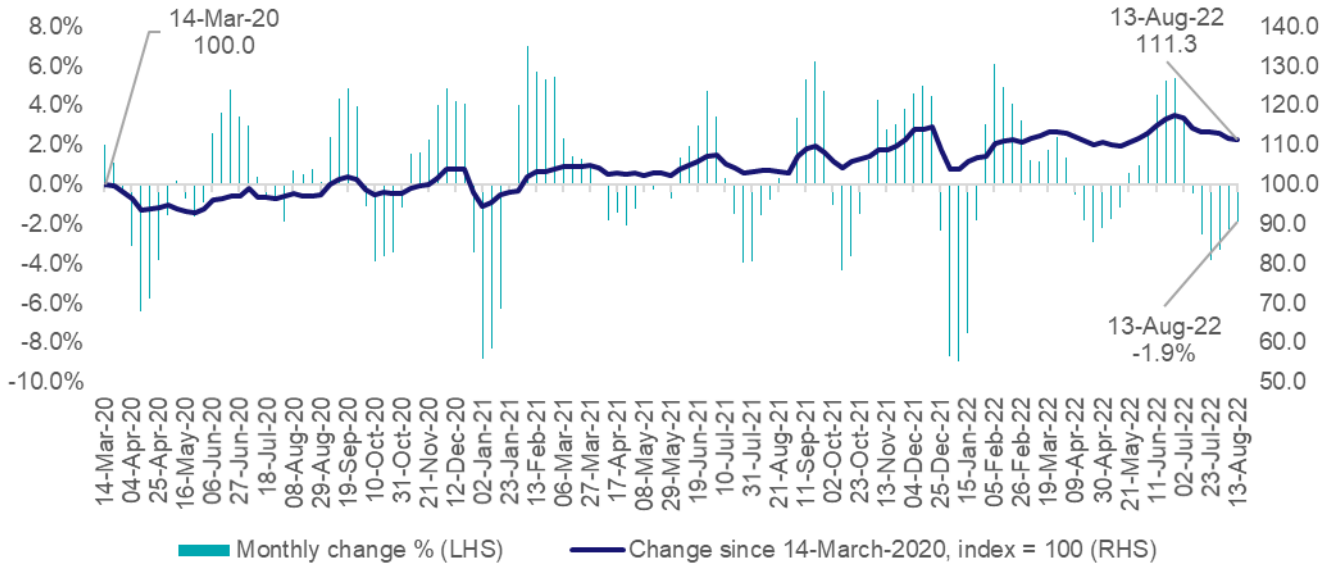
Weekly payroll data are sourced from the Australian Tax Office Single Touch Payroll (STP). They are not survey data and are not directly comparable with ABS data on wages, such as the Wage Price Index or Average Weekly Earnings. Estimates currently presented in the *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* release are an ‘original’ data series and are not yet able to be produced with seasonal impacts removed (i.e. seasonally adjusted).² Accordingly, wages data from the *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* publication should be viewed with caution.

Employee wages fell by 1.9% over the *month* to 13 August 2022 but remain 11.3% above the level recorded in the week ending 14 March 2020 – see Chart 7, overleaf.

- Over the *month* to 13 August 2022, male wages decreased by 2.5%, while female wages fell by 1.3%. Male wages remain 7.0% above the level recorded in the week ending 14 March 2020, while female wages have risen by 14.7% over the period.

² The data are usually published monthly. However, due to the high volatility of the wages data around the end of the financial year, the ABS temporarily suspended the publication of wages estimates in July.

Chart 7: Employee wages index, to 13 August 2022 (14 March 2020 = 100)

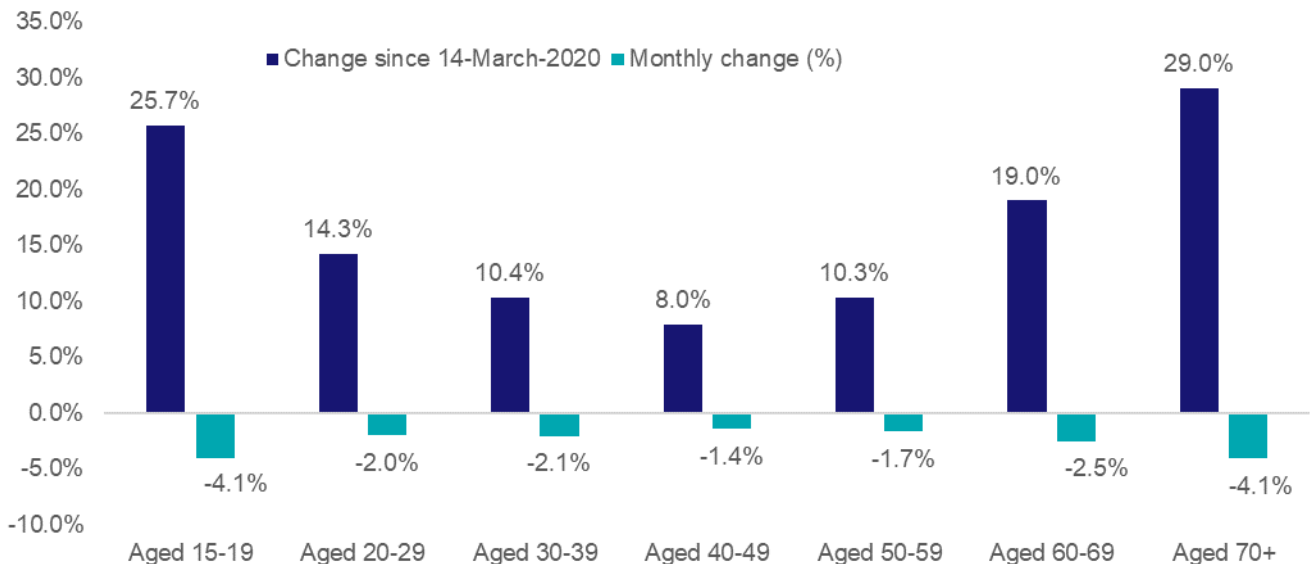


Age

Over the *month* to 13 August 2022, all age cohorts recorded a decrease in employee wages, with persons aged 15-19 years and 70 years and over recording the largest fall (of 4.1%), followed by those aged 60-69 years (down by 2.5%) and those aged 30-39 years (down by 2.1%). Persons aged 40-49 years recorded the smallest decrease in employee wages over the period (of 1.4%) – see Chart 8, below.

- Since 14 March 2020, however, all age cohorts have recorded an *increase* in employee wages, with persons aged 70 years and over recording the largest rise (of 29.0%), while persons aged 40-49 years recorded the smallest increase (of 8.0%).

Chart 8: Percentage change in employee wages by age, to 13 August 2022

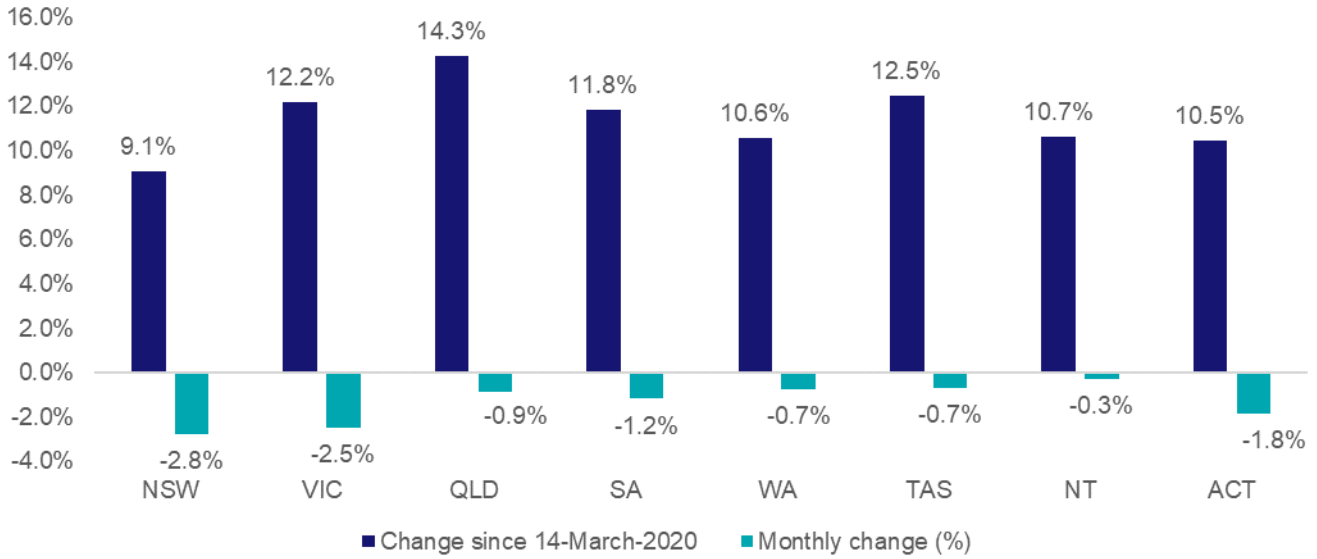


State/territory

Over the *month* to 13 August 2022, all states and territories recorded a decrease in employee wages, with the largest fall recorded in New South Wales (of 2.8%), followed by Victoria (down by 2.5%). The Northern Territory recorded the smallest decrease in employee wages over the period (of 0.3%) – see Chart 9, below.

- All states and territories recorded a *rise* in employee wages between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022, with Queensland recording the strongest increase (of 14.3%). New South Wales recorded the smallest increase in employee wages over the period (of 9.1%).

Chart 9: Percentage change in employee wages by state/territory, to 13 August 2022



Industry

Over the *month* to 13 August 2022, one of the 19 industries recorded an increase in employee wages – see Chart 10, overleaf.

- Education and Training recorded the only increase in employee wages (of 4.3%).
- The Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services industry recorded the largest decrease in employee wages over the month (of 5.9%), followed by Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (down by 3.6%) and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, and Health Care and Social Assistance (both down by 3.4%).

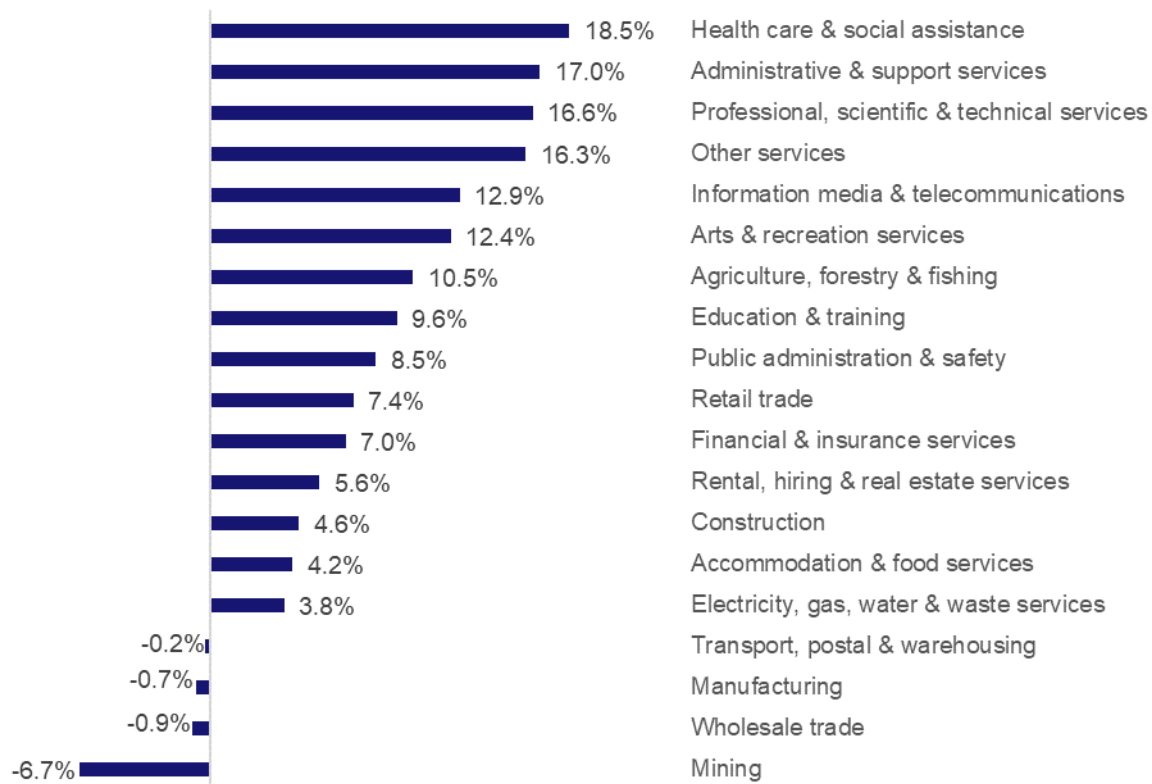
Chart 10: Percentage change in employee wages between 16 July 2022 and 13 August 2022



Between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022, 15 of the 19 industries recorded an *increase* in employee wages – see Chart 11, overleaf.

- The Health Care and Social Assistance industry recorded the largest increase in employee wages over the period (up by 18.5%), followed by Administrative and Support Services (up by 17.0%) and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (up by 16.6%).
- The Mining industry recorded the largest fall in employee wages over the period (down by 6.7%), followed by Wholesale Trade (down by 0.9%) and Manufacturing (down by 0.7%).

Chart 11: Percentage change in employee wages between 14 March 2020 and 13 August 2022



Additional background information

It should be noted that the *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* 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.

Due to the way in which certain characteristics (e.g. gender/geographic location) in the *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* dataset are derived, changes in component (e.g. males and females/GCCSA/SA4) indexes can move independently from their totals (e.g. persons/states and territories). In addition, as the data from which the jobholder characteristics are sourced are at a point in time and are updated infrequently, they become progressively outdated, which is likely to lead to greater divergence in the component and total indexes, over time. For instance, this month the ABS has advised that the proportion of jobs where sex is unknown is 3.1% of all jobs.

Explanatory notes

The employee jobs and wages figures are compiled from Australian Taxation Office (ATO) data for businesses using the Single Touch Payroll (STP) system.

- Almost all eligible employers are currently reporting through STP. Prior to 1 July 2021, reporting concessions were available to 'small employers' (those with 19 or fewer employees).
- 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.
- Further, the data underlying the estimates in this brief are revised for each monthly release. There is considerable volatility in the weekly figures, as the ABS incorporates newly available business reported data, and replaces previously imputed data with actual data. Accordingly, the most recently reported information should be interpreted with significant caution.
- The ABS has advised that data for the most recent reference week at the time of initial publication is approximately 90% completed, resulting in an imputation rate of around 10% in the most recent week's data. That said, there is considerable variation in imputation rates across industries. In addition, data can take several months to be fully completed at a specific reference date because of infrequent and quarterly STP reporters.
- In addition, the *Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia* publication presents percentage changes in the number of 'employee jobs', not the total number of employed persons. A key difference between 'job' and employment estimates is that a person can hold more than one job at a time, with the Labour Account showing that in the March quarter 2022, there were around 952,000 secondary jobs held by 858,000 persons in Australia, accounting for 6.5% of total jobs.
- Bearing the above in mind, the results from this publication are not directly comparable with Australia's official employment and unemployment estimates from the ABS' *Labour Force Survey* (LFS). The monthly ABS LFS release continues to be the most reliable and authoritative source of information on developments in the Australian labour market.
- In addition, the results from this publication are not directly comparable with other ABS data on wages such as the *Wage Price Index* or *Average Weekly Earnings*.

Appendix A

Table 1: Change in employee jobs (%) by Statistical Area Level 4

	14 March 2020 to 13 August 2022	16 July 2022 to 13 August 2022
New South Wales	6.6	-1.0
<i>Greater Sydney</i>	2.9	-1.4
Central Coast	5.3	-0.3
Sydney - Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury	7.7	-1.3
Sydney - Blacktown	8.3	-1.0
Sydney - City and Inner South	-1.4	-1.7
Sydney - Eastern Suburbs	-1.5	-1.3
Sydney - Inner South West	-0.6	-2.1
Sydney - Inner West	1.6	-1.8
Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby	2.7	-1.1
Sydney - Northern Beaches	1.7	-1.1
Sydney - Outer South West	5.4	-0.7
Sydney - Outer West and Blue Mountains	4.8	-0.4
Sydney - Parramatta	1.6	-2.1
Sydney - Ryde	6.2	-1.8
Sydney - South West	6.2	-1.7
Sydney - Sutherland	2.8	-1.0
<i>Rest of NSW</i>	5.5	-0.8
Capital Region	6.9	-1.4
New South Wales - Central West	5.8	-0.7
Coffs Harbour - Grafton	4.4	-1.6
Far West and Orana	3.9	0.1
Hunter Valley exc Newcastle	7.2	-1.2
Illawarra	6.2	-0.7
Mid North Coast	6.5	0.1
Murray	5.9	-1.0
New England and North West	3.3	-0.7
Newcastle and Lake Macquarie	6.6	-0.7
Richmond - Tweed	3.1	-1.4
Riverina	3.3	-1.0
Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven	5.7	-1.2
Victoria	7.2	-1.0
<i>Greater Melbourne</i>	4.1	-1.7
Melbourne - Inner	0.7	-1.3
Melbourne - Inner East	2.4	-2.1
Melbourne - Inner South	2.1	-2.4
Melbourne - North East	5.0	-0.6
Melbourne - North West	7.8	-0.7
Melbourne - Outer East	2.4	-1.4
Melbourne - South East	5.0	-3.6
Melbourne - West	8.0	-0.7
Mornington Peninsula	1.7	-1.6
<i>Rest of Vic.</i>	5.0	0.3
Ballarat	5.3	4.5
Bendigo	5.0	0.8
Geelong	8.6	0.7
Hume	3.5	-1.0
Latrobe - Gippsland	7.5	-0.9
Victoria - North West	1.4	1.0
Shepparton	3.2	-0.8
Warrnambool and South West	-1.3	-2.5

Table 1 (cont.): Change in employee jobs (%) by Statistical Area Level 4

	14 March 2020 to 13 August 2022	16 July 2022 to 13 August 2022
Queensland	9.0	-0.9
<i>Greater Brisbane</i>	6.8	-1.0
Brisbane - East	4.7	-1.3
Brisbane - North	4.8	-1.1
Brisbane - South	6.3	-1.4
Brisbane - West	6.0	-0.9
Brisbane Inner City	6.4	-1.6
Ipswich	9.0	-0.5
Logan - Beaudesert	7.5	-1.1
Moreton Bay - North	8.7	-0.3
Moreton Bay - South	7.1	-0.8
<i>Rest of Qld</i>	5.8	-1.1
Cairns	5.9	-0.7
Darling Downs - Maranoa	2.4	-1.3
Central Queensland	4.1	-1.1
Gold Coast	6.8	-1.5
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	4.3	-1.4
Queensland - Outback	0.5	-2.7
Sunshine Coast	9.3	-1.1
Toowoomba	5.5	-0.4
Townsville	4.1	-0.8
Wide Bay	6.3	-0.6
South Australia	9.2	-0.8
<i>Greater Adelaide</i>	7.4	-0.9
Adelaide - Central and Hills	8.1	-1.1
Adelaide - North	7.8	-0.8
Adelaide - South	5.8	-0.8
Adelaide - West	8.1	-0.9
<i>Rest of SA</i>	3.4	-1.2
Barossa - Yorke - Mid North	4.5	-1.1
South Australia - Outback	2.3	-1.3
South Australia - South East	3.4	-1.1
Western Australia	10.5	0.0
<i>Greater Perth</i>	8.6	-0.3
Mandurah	7.6	0.1
Perth - Inner	7.6	-0.7
Perth - North East	9.9	-0.1
Perth - North West	7.4	-0.3
Perth - South East	9.1	-0.3
Perth - South West	9.3	-0.1
<i>Rest of WA</i>	4.7	-0.1
Bunbury	5.3	0.5
Western Australia - Wheat Belt	3.1	-0.1
Western Australia - Outback (North)	5.7	-0.5
Western Australia - Outback (South)	2.5	-0.9
Tasmania	7.6	-0.8
<i>Hobart</i>	7.0	-0.7
<i>Rest of Tas.</i>	4.2	-1.1
Launceston and North East	3.7	-0.9
Tasmania - South East	3.4	-0.9
Tasmania - West and North West	5.1	-1.3
Northern Territory	11.8	0.0
<i>Darwin</i>	9.0	0.1
<i>Northern Territory - Outback</i>	7.7	-1.3
Australian Capital Territory	7.8	-0.7
Australia	7.9	-0.8