Australia's job outlook strongest in more than seven years
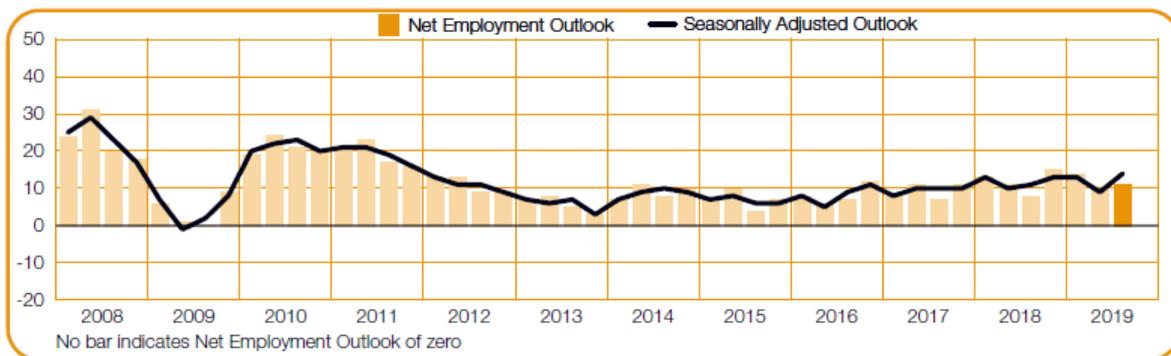
ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook SurveyQ3 2019

AUSTRALIA (11 June 2019)

Australian employers report positive hiring expectations for 3Q19. Strong demand for talent across payrolls in the Transportation, Utilities and Services sector offsets declines in the Australian Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sectors where employers report their weakest hiring expectations in a decade.

These are the results from the *ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey* for the third quarter of 2019, which records a national Net Employment Outlook (NEO)[1] of +14% for Australia, the strongest hiring prospects in more than seven years. The latest findings highlighting 15% of businesses expect their headcount to increase, and only 4% percent expecting a decrease. The survey collects data from over 59,000 employers in 44 countries, including over 1,500 in Australia.

Net Employment Outlook (Australia)
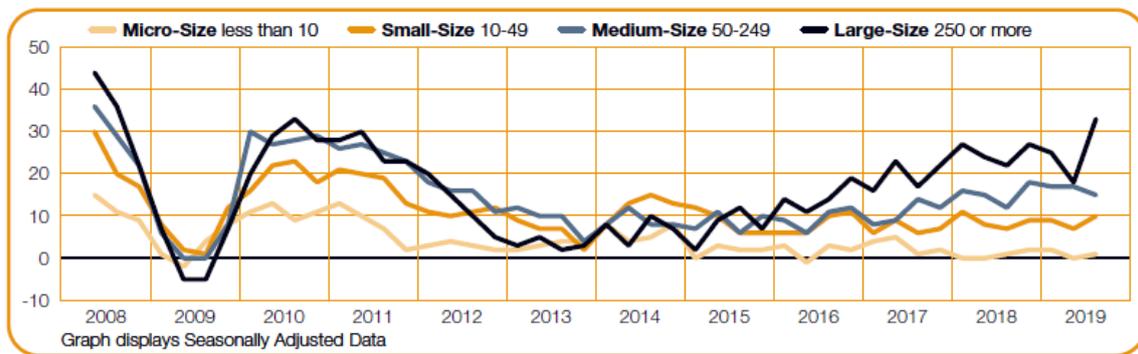

No bar indicates Net Employment Outlook of zero

A closer look at industries surveyed indicates job seekers can expect to find the strongest employment opportunities across the Transport & Utilities sector, reporting a Net Employment Outlook of +26%, and up 14 percentage points for 3Q19 compared to the same period last year. The Services sector, which includes Healthcare employers, reported an improvement of nine percentage points over the same period with a Net Employment Outlook of +21%. However, hiring intentions softened in three sectors with the most notable declines recorded in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate and Wholesale & Retail Trade sectors, declining by three percentage points compared to the previous quarter.

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[1] *The Net Employment Outlook is calculated by subtracting the percentage of employers anticipating a decrease in hiring activity from the percentage of employers anticipating an increase in employment. Seasonal adjustment is then applied to the data.*
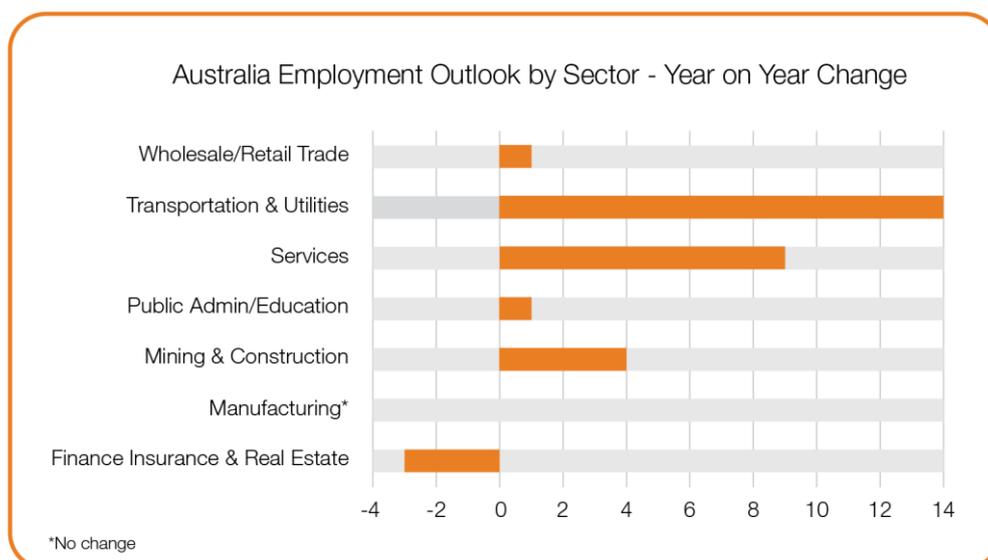
According to ManpowerGroup Australia & New Zealand Managing Director Richard Fischer, "This latest data confirms the strength of Australia's labour market and suggests large businesses are the driving force. The survey highlights employers in large businesses are expecting the strongest hiring environment with a Net Employment Outlook of +33% in 3Q2019, up 11 percentage points year-on-year and +15 points quarter on quarter.

Net Employment Outlook (Organisation size)

"The employment outlook in Australia is now the strongest reported in more than seven years, driven by growth in industry sectors with strong demand for talent," said Mr Fischer. "However, the employment outlook across the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector is easing as the sector begins to feel the impact of the Banking Royal Commission and slowing property market."
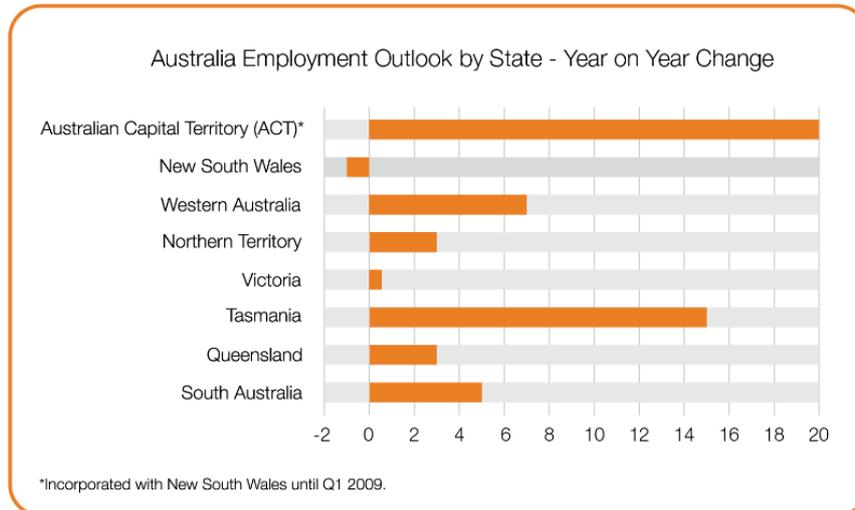
Net Employment Outlook - State comparison (YOY - Q318 to Q319)

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The latest data reveals varied results across States and Territories. Most notable is year on year growth in the Australian Capital Territory, up 20 percentage points. Tasmanian employers reported upbeat hiring prospects of +15 percentage points over the same period. NSW remained relatively unchanged over the same period.

Net Employment Outlook - State comparison (YOY - Q318 to Q319)

Australia Employment Outlook by State - Year on Year Change

*Incorporated with New South Wales until Q1 2009.

Across the Asia-Pacific region, the strongest Outlooks are reported in Japan (+25%), Taiwan (+22%), Hong Kong (+16%), and India (+13%).

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About ManpowerGroup

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