



Australian Government

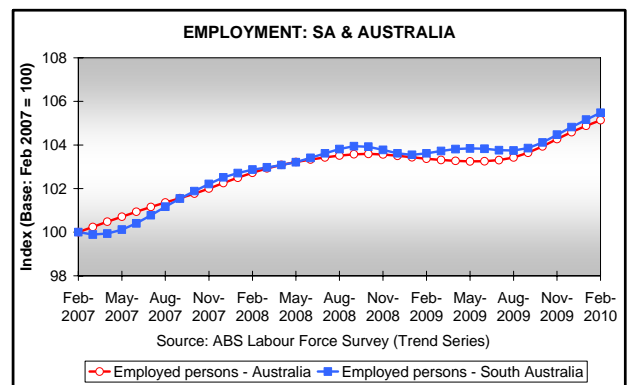
Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LABOUR MARKET REVIEW FEBRUARY 2010

ABS Labour Force Survey data (**trend**) show that South Australian employment increased 0.3 per cent (+2,400 persons) in February 2010, rising for the sixth consecutive month. Last month's rise in employment was entirely due to an increase in full-time employment, while the number of part-time jobs contracted marginally. However, full-time employment remained slightly below the level recorded twelve months earlier. South Australian employment currently stands at a record 805,100 persons, 1.8 per cent higher than a year ago. SA unemployment fell for the sixth consecutive month, to be at its lowest level since May 2008. SA recorded a February 2010 unemployment rate of 4.7 per cent, which was 0.2 percentage points lower than in January, and over half a percentage point lower than the national average. SA labour force participation remained steady at 63.2 per cent, slightly lower than a year ago (63.5 per cent). Nationally, employment continued to rise, while unemployment trended down. Australia's trend unemployment rate declined 0.1 percentage points, to 5.3 per cent.

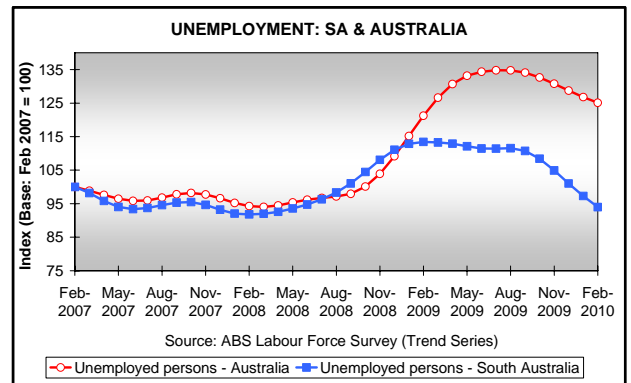
Employment Trends

- There were 805,100 persons employed in SA in February 2010, 2,400 more than in January.
- In year-on-year terms, SA employment increased 1.8 per cent (+14,200).
- Over the past twelve months, SA full-time employment contracted 0.4 per cent, while part-time employment rose 6.4 per cent.
- Nationally, employment increased by 26,800 persons in February.



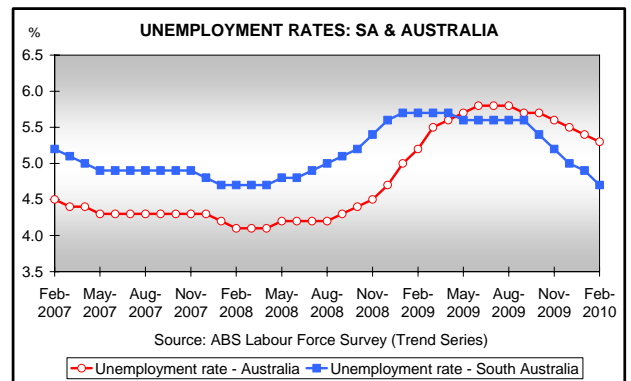
Unemployment Trends

- SA unemployment fell 3.2 per cent (-1,300 persons) in February, to 39,600 persons – the sixth consecutive monthly decline.
- Compared to a year ago, SA unemployment was 8,100 persons lower (-17 per cent).
- Nationally, unemployment decreased 1.3 per cent (-8,300 persons) in February, but was 3.2 per cent above the level of twelve months earlier.



Unemployment Rate Trends

- The SA unemployment rate was 4.7 per cent in February 2010, the equal lowest Trend unemployment rate in the current ABS series (which commenced in February 1978).
- SA recorded the third lowest unemployment rate of all Australian states and territories in February.
- The SA male unemployment rate was 4.4 per cent, while the female unemployment rate was 5.0 per cent.



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Note: These are trend data. The media tend to concentrate on the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS (ABS) LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (TREND SERIES) FOR FEBRUARY 2010

		February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Monthly change	Annual change
Employed persons ('000)	SA	790.9	802.7	805.1	0.3%	1.8%
	AUST	10,787.2	10,944.8	10,971.6	0.2%	1.7%
Unemployed persons ('000)	SA	47.7	40.9	39.6	-3.2%	-17.0%
	AUST	595.8	623.0	614.7	-1.3%	3.2%
Unemployment Rate (%)	SA	5.7	4.9	4.7	-0.2pp	-1.0pp
	AUST	5.2	5.4	5.3	-0.1pp	0.1pp
Participation Rate (%)	SA	63.5	63.2	63.2	0.0pp	-0.3pp
	AUST	65.4	65.2	65.2	0.0pp	-0.2pp
Unemployment Rate (%) x State	NSW	6.0	5.6	5.6	0.0pp	-0.4pp
	VIC	5.4	5.3	5.2	-0.1pp	-0.2pp
	QLD	4.6	5.8	5.7	-0.1pp	1.1pp
	SA	5.7	4.9	4.7	-0.2pp	-1.0pp
	WA	4.1	5.0	5.0	0.0pp	0.9pp
	TAS	4.9	5.7	5.8	0.1pp	0.9pp
	NT	4.0	3.3	3.2	-0.1pp	-0.8pp
	ACT	2.7	3.8	3.9	0.1pp	1.2pp

Note: Trend series are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series over time, however, revisions are made to the most recent months as additional observations become available.

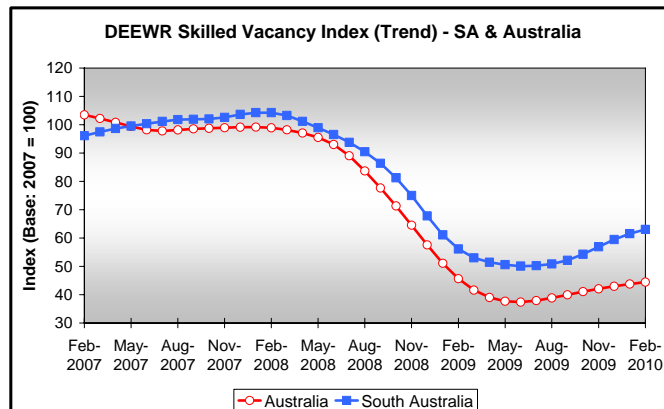
pp percentage point

DEEWR'S SKILLED VACANCY INDEX RESULTS – FEBRUARY 2010

This series is based on a count of selected skilled vacancies in the major metropolitan newspaper of each State and the Northern Territory, occurring (usually) on the first Saturday of each month.

The trend index for South Australia increased by 2.4 per cent in February 2010, representing the eighth consecutive monthly increase. In year-on-year terms, the SA index was 12.3 per cent higher.

The national index rose by 1.6 per cent in February, also the eighth consecutive monthly increase. Compared to a year ago, the Australian index has fallen by 2.6 per cent.

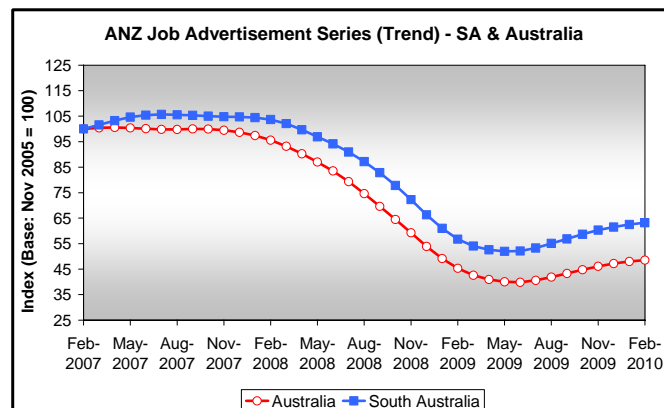


ANZ JOB ADVERTISEMENT SERIES RESULTS – FEBRUARY 2010

This series shows the average number of weekly advertisements based on a count of the number of job advertisements in the classified advertisement section of the major metropolitan daily newspaper in each State and the ACT.

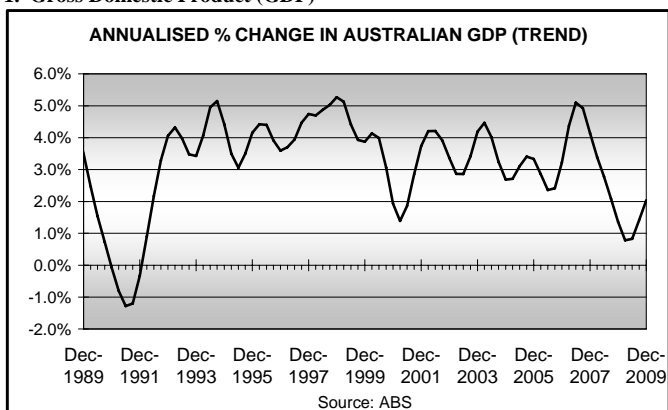
The ANZ Bank trend series index for South Australia recorded a 1.1 per cent rise in vacancy levels in February 2010, the ninth consecutive monthly increase. In year-on-year terms, the index was 11.3 per cent higher.

Nationally, the number of advertised job vacancies increased 1.1 per cent in February, to be seven per cent higher than the corresponding month a year earlier.

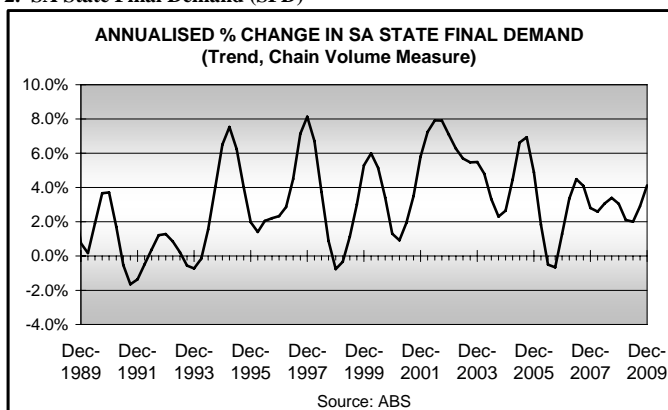


SELECTED KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

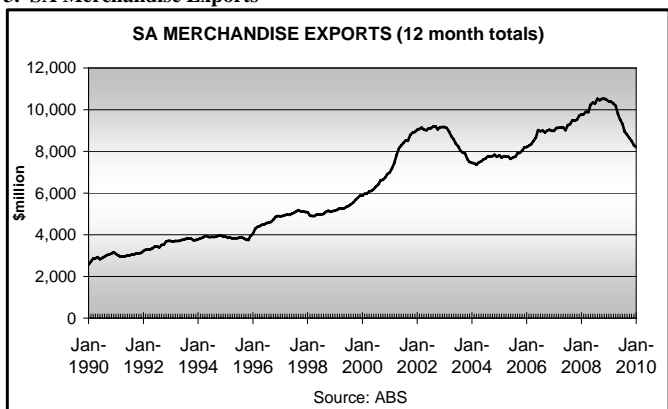
1. Gross Domestic Product (GDP)



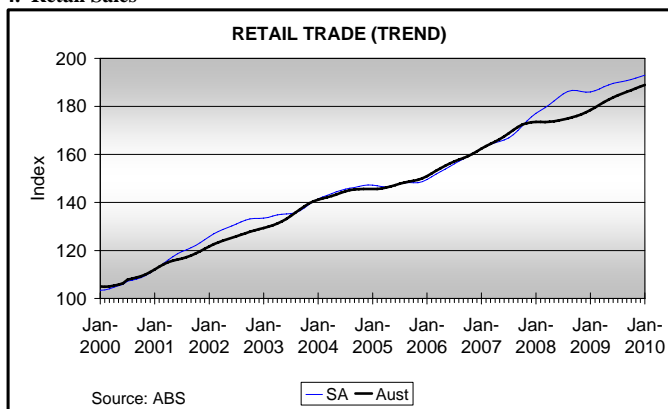
2. SA State Final Demand (SFD)



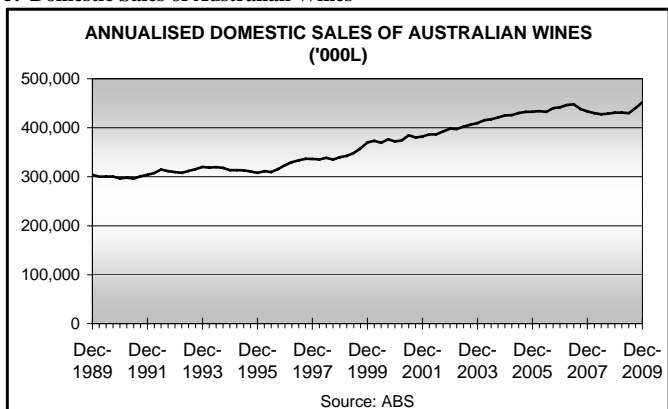
3. SA Merchandise Exports



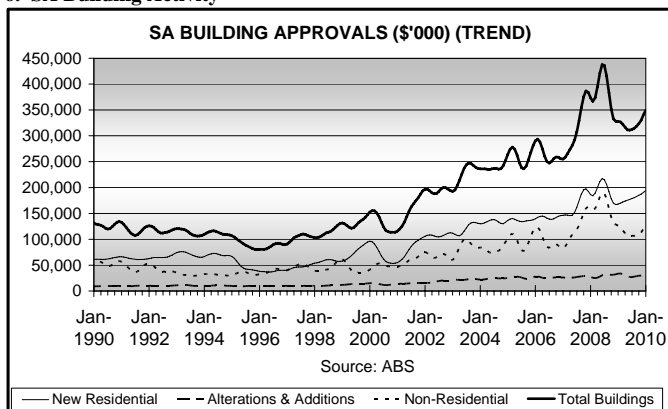
4. Retail Sales



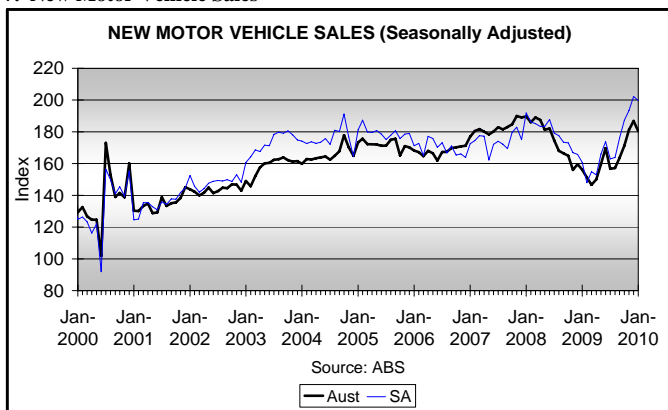
5. Domestic Sales of Australian Wines



6. SA Building Activity



7. New Motor Vehicle Sales



8. Private New Capital Expenditure

