

# Trends in Key Economic Parameters

**An Economic Context for Independent  
Schools in Australia**

**ISA Research Report  
March 2021 Edition**

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## Purpose

This report provides an easy reference to trends in key indicators and relevant school-based data to provide a picture of the economic environment in Australia. The information is provided to assist Independent schools and their Boards to consider the context and outlook for their school communities as part of their decision making and planning processes.

Indicators utilised in this Guide are:

### **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**

The Consumer Price Index is the most comprehensive measure of goods and services price inflation faced by all consumer households. Information provided on CPI includes a breakdown of the CPI Education index.

### **Wage Price Index (WPI)**

The Wage Price Index measures changes in the price of labour in the Australian labour market. Information provided includes a breakdown of the Education component of WPI.

### **Producer Price Index (PPI)**

The Producer Price Index measures inflation of products either as they leave the place of production or as they enter the production process. The PPI Non-Residential Building Construction (which measures changes in prices of selected materials used in construction and wage costs over a 12-month period) is the metric used by the Australian Government Department of Education to determine capital funding for non-government schools.

### **ACARA National Report on Schooling data portal**

The National Report on Schooling in Australia data portal, created by ACARA, provides public access to several national data sets for schooling relevant to the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Information provided includes teaching and non-teaching staff salaries, parent fees/charges and trends in per student debt levels. All information is displayed as either 'per staff' or 'per student'.

### **Enrolment Growth Trends in Independent Schools**

ABS *Schools Australia* data provides enrolment growth by state and territory including by primary and secondary and FTE staff growth.

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**Labour Force Survey: Unemployment rate, underemployment rate**

The Labour Force Survey is a monthly survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Estimates of employment, unemployment, unemployment rate and labour force participation rate are published monthly in ABS's Labour Force Australia publication.

**Consumer Confidence Index**

The Consumer Confidence Index from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) measures the change in the level of consumer confidence in economic activity, based upon survey answers regarding their expected financial situation, their sentiment about the general economic situation, unemployment, and capability of savings.

Further information on these indices is provided in the Appendix.

# Consumer Price Index

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES (CPI) PUBLISHED BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS (Change over previous 12 months)	Dec 2015	Dec 2016	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Average annual growth Dec 2015-2020
<b>CPI (All Groups) growth</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Sydney	2.0%	1.8%	2.2%	1.7%	1.6%	0.8%	1.6%
Melbourne	1.9%	1.5%	2.2%	2.0%	2.0%	1.3%	1.8%
Brisbane	1.7%	1.6%	1.9%	1.5%	2.0%	1.0%	1.6%
Adelaide	1.0%	1.3%	2.3%	1.6%	2.1%	1.0%	1.7%
Perth	1.5%	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	1.6%	-0.1%	0.8%
Hobart	1.8%	1.3%	2.1%	3.0%	2.7%	0.8%	2.0%
Darwin	0.5%	-0.4%	1.0%	1.2%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%
Canberra	0.7%	1.8%	2.2%	2.5%	1.7%	1.1%	1.9%
<b>CPI (Education) growth<sup>1</sup></b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
Sydney	9.0%	3.1%	2.9%	4.0%	3.7%	2.5%	3.2%
Melbourne	4.2%	4.0%	3.4%	2.0%	2.9%	1.9%	2.8%
Brisbane	3.4%	3.2%	3.7%	2.1%	2.2%	2.6%	2.8%
Adelaide	4.2%	2.8%	3.0%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	2.4%
Perth	4.5%	3.2%	2.6%	1.8%	2.1%	0.9%	2.1%
Hobart	2.7%	2.6%	3.2%	2.1%	2.2%	-5.1%	1.0%
Darwin	4.5%	3.4%	2.8%	4.5%	2.8%	2.7%	3.2%
Canberra	3.1%	3.5%	3.1%	3.2%	3.5%	3.3%	3.3%
<b>CPI (Preschool &amp; Primary Education only) growth<sup>1</sup></b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
Sydney	8.4%	5.2%	1.3%	2.8%	3.8%	1.6%	2.9%
Melbourne	6.5%	5.2%	3.6%	1.5%	3.2%	-2.7%	2.1%
Brisbane	5.4%	3.6%	2.5%	2.1%	1.2%	3.1%	2.5%
Adelaide	4.5%	3.5%	3.0%	2.4%	2.8%	1.7%	2.7%
Perth	4.5%	4.2%	3.6%	1.3%	1.8%	1.6%	2.5%
Hobart	3.2%	2.8%	2.9%	2.4%	2.6%	-9.1%	0.2%
Darwin	5.9%	2.1%	2.3%	2.9%	1.6%	1.4%	2.1%
Canberra	5.5%	5.3%	2.7%	1.6%	3.4%	4.5%	3.5%
<b>CPI (Secondary Education only) growth<sup>1</sup></b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
Sydney	4.7%	4.4%	4.5%	3.7%	5.6%	4.4%	4.5%
Melbourne	5.6%	5.5%	4.6%	3.4%	4.0%	3.7%	4.2%
Brisbane	3.7%	4.3%	4.0%	3.4%	3.9%	3.1%	3.7%
Adelaide	3.9%	4.3%	2.9%	3.3%	1.9%	2.7%	3.0%
Perth	5.3%	3.8%	3.0%	2.3%	2.6%	0.9%	2.5%
Hobart	2.9%	3.5%	3.7%	2.7%	2.0%	-8.7%	0.5%
Darwin	4.0%	3.8%	2.5%	6.9%	3.2%	3.2%	3.9%
Canberra	2.5%	4.2%	3.7%	4.6%	4.6%	4.1%	4.2%

<sup>1</sup> CPI figures for primary and secondary education are typically updated once per year in the March quarter

## Wage Price Index

WAGE PRICE INDEXES (WPI) PUBLISHED BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS <i>(Change over previous 12 months)</i>	Dec 2015	Dec 2016	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Average annual growth Dec 2015-2020
<b>WPI (All Groups, Private sector) growth</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
New South Wales	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	2.3%	2.1%	1.4%	2.0%
Victoria	2.3%	1.8%	2.2%	2.5%	2.4%	1.1%	2.0%
Queensland	1.8%	1.7%	1.9%	2.3%	2.0%	1.2%	1.8%
South Australia	2.1%	2.0%	2.1%	2.3%	2.4%	1.3%	2.0%
Western Australia	1.5%	1.2%	1.5%	1.7%	1.8%	1.6%	1.6%
Tasmania	2.4%	2.4%	2.2%	2.9%	2.7%	1.3%	2.3%
Northern Territory	1.8%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%	2.3%	1.4%	1.6%
Australian Capital Territory	2.0%	2.0%	1.9%	2.2%	2.7%	1.6%	2.1%
<b>WPI (Education, Private sector) growth</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
<b>WPI (Education, Public sector) growth</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>WPI (Education, Public and Private sector) growth</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

## Producer Price Index

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES (PPI) PUBLISHED BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS <i>(Change over previous 12 months)</i>	Dec 2015	Dec 2016	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	Dec 2020	Average annual growth Dec 2015-2020
<b>PPI (Non-residential building construction) growth</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
New South Wales	3.1%	3.9%	3.7%	3.5%	2.2%	-1.5%	2.3%
Victoria	0.2%	-1.3%	0.0%	3.9%	1.2%	1.6%	1.1%
Queensland	4.1%	5.5%	1.7%	0.2%	0.7%	0.5%	1.7%
South Australia	0.1%	1.6%	1.2%	2.4%	1.3%	-2.8%	0.7%
Western Australia	-0.2%	-0.5%	-0.6%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.5%	-0.2%
Tasmania	3.2%	2.7%	5.8%	2.6%	3.5%	1.3%	3.2%
Northern Territory	0.5%	-3.2%	1.7%	-0.7%	-0.4%	3.0%	0.1%
Australian Capital Territory	1.7%	2.3%	2.9%	2.8%	2.4%	0.8%	2.2%

# ACARA National Report on Schooling in Australia

ACARA NATIONAL REPORT ON SCHOOLING (Change over previous 12 months)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Average annual growth 2013-2018
<b>Teaching staff salaries per FTE teaching staff (Non-Government schools)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
New South Wales	2.9%	3.9%	1.7%	1.8%	2.1%	2.3%	2.4%
Victoria	4.1%	3.6%	4.5%	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%	3.2%
Queensland	1.7%	3.2%	1.4%	0.4%	5.3%	6.3%	3.3%
South Australia	3.7%	4.2%	2.8%	3.2%	2.2%	3.0%	3.1%
Western Australia	3.6%	4.6%	1.8%	2.2%	2.6%	1.4%	2.5%
Tasmania	3.0%	3.9%	3.3%	2.4%	-0.1%	4.9%	2.9%
Northern Territory	6.3%	-0.7%	10.0%	-1.1%	13.2%	4.5%	5.0%
Australian Capital Territory	2.6%	1.4%	2.4%	4.1%	3.5%	2.1%	2.7%
<b>Non-teaching staff salaries per FTE non-teaching staff (Non-Government schools)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>
New South Wales	2.6%	0.1%	4.7%	4.2%	5.2%	6.6%	4.1%
Victoria	4.3%	3.2%	3.7%	3.6%	3.8%	2.8%	3.4%
Queensland	-1.5%	1.9%	2.3%	7.4%	-1.5%	6.0%	3.2%
South Australia	4.9%	1.8%	1.6%	2.7%	3.4%	5.0%	2.9%
Western Australia	5.0%	1.2%	0.8%	4.4%	0.9%	3.2%	2.1%
Tasmania	8.9%	0.9%	3.0%	5.8%	6.1%	-2.7%	2.6%
Northern Territory	-4.2%	10.5%	-11.9%	7.6%	-10.0%	3.6%	-0.5%
Australian Capital Territory	-0.2%	2.3%	12.5%	-1.6%	-4.6%	5.0%	2.6%
<b>Fees and charges per student (Independent schools)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
New South Wales	3.5%	4.1%	4.1%	3.4%	3.7%	3.1%	3.7%
Victoria	2.7%	4.7%	4.2%	4.2%	2.3%	1.9%	3.4%
Queensland	4.2%	3.9%	3.2%	3.2%	2.4%	3.3%	3.2%
South Australia	3.7%	5.0%	4.9%	5.3%	4.1%	-1.6%	3.5%
Western Australia	6.6%	5.1%	5.4%	2.7%	1.4%	0.8%	3.1%
Tasmania	1.8%	4.8%	3.6%	3.3%	-8.5%	12.4%	2.9%
Northern Territory	8.8%	2.5%	7.5%	2.8%	2.6%	2.2%	3.5%
Australian Capital Territory	6.8%	5.2%	3.1%	4.8%	4.6%	5.8%	4.7%
<b>Loans at the end of the year per student (Independent schools)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
New South Wales	-5.9%	-6.4%	2.0%	-2.2%	-2.4%	3.1%	-1.2%
Victoria	-7.1%	-11.0%	12.5%	1.0%	9.3%	-3.5%	1.3%
Queensland	-3.2%	-1.3%	-2.5%	-0.5%	-0.4%	-2.5%	-1.5%
South Australia	-1.4%	-2.2%	-1.4%	-0.9%	14.3%	0.4%	1.9%
Western Australia	-3.0%	0.0%	11.3%	0.3%	4.2%	1.6%	3.4%
Tasmania	0.1%	-4.9%	4.7%	0.5%	26.1%	-9.7%	2.6%
Northern Territory	-10.0%	30.7%	-0.8%	4.8%	-15.3%	-16.5%	-0.8%
Australian Capital Territory	-2.1%	-11.0%	-10.7%	-3.9%	22.9%	7.9%	0.2%

# Independent Schools Enrolment Growth

SCHOOLS, AUSTRALIA - PUBLISHED BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS (Change over previous 12 months)							Average annual growth 2015-2020
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
<b>FTE Student growth (Independent sector)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
New South Wales	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%	2.6%	2.9%	2.1%	2.5%
Victoria	2.3%	2.1%	3.5%	2.9%	2.5%	2.7%	2.7%
Queensland	1.4%	0.7%	1.3%	1.5%	3.2%	4.5%	2.2%
South Australia	1.4%	0.5%	0.2%	3.2%	1.3%	1.5%	1.3%
Western Australia	2.4%	-0.8%	-0.3%	1.0%	1.4%	1.8%	0.6%
Tasmania	-0.3%	-0.3%	1.0%	1.2%	3.5%	2.7%	1.6%
Northern Territory	5.4%	-1.3%	-3.7%	-1.4%	-4.3%	-4.4%	-3.0%
Australian Capital Territory	0.3%	2.6%	2.2%	2.2%	4.2%	0.4%	2.3%
<b>FTE Student growth (Independent sector, Pre-Year 1 to Year 6)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
New South Wales	1.9%	2.1%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	1.2%	2.4%
Victoria	3.1%	2.7%	3.3%	3.5%	2.8%	1.8%	2.8%
Queensland	1.8%	0.6%	0.8%	1.9%	2.0%	2.6%	1.6%
South Australia	2.2%	0.5%	0.3%	3.8%	1.0%	1.1%	1.3%
Western Australia	0.1%	-1.1%	-1.0%	1.3%	0.4%	1.0%	0.1%
Tasmania	0.8%	-1.2%	2.6%	0.3%	3.9%	2.4%	1.6%
Northern Territory	7.1%	4.1%	-1.3%	1.2%	-2.8%	-5.4%	-0.9%
Australian Capital Territory	2.0%	3.3%	3.8%	2.8%	5.9%	-0.5%	3.0%
<b>FTE Student growth (Independent sector, Year 7 to Year 12)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
New South Wales	2.5%	2.5%	2.2%	2.3%	3.0%	2.9%	2.6%
Victoria	1.8%	1.7%	3.7%	2.4%	2.4%	3.3%	2.7%
Queensland	1.0%	0.8%	1.7%	1.2%	4.1%	6.1%	2.8%
South Australia	0.6%	0.5%	0.2%	2.6%	1.7%	1.8%	1.3%
Western Australia	4.2%	-0.5%	0.2%	0.9%	2.1%	2.3%	1.0%
Tasmania	-1.2%	0.5%	-0.5%	1.9%	3.2%	2.9%	1.6%
Northern Territory	4.1%	-5.5%	-5.7%	-3.7%	-5.7%	-3.5%	-4.8%
Australian Capital Territory	-1.3%	1.9%	0.7%	1.6%	2.6%	1.3%	1.6%
<b>FTE Staff growth (Independent sector)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>
New South Wales	3.6%	3.7%	3.1%	4.1%	4.0%	2.3%	3.4%
Victoria	3.2%	3.8%	2.7%	4.0%	4.2%	2.5%	3.4%
Queensland	4.5%	2.8%	2.2%	2.7%	4.2%	3.9%	3.2%
South Australia	2.7%	2.2%	2.0%	2.0%	4.0%	2.4%	2.5%
Western Australia	4.4%	0.8%	1.2%	2.5%	2.1%	1.3%	1.6%
Tasmania	1.7%	1.9%	2.9%	1.1%	4.8%	1.4%	2.4%
Northern Territory	7.1%	5.4%	-5.7%	-6.2%	0.1%	-2.4%	-1.9%
Australian Capital Territory	3.8%	4.4%	3.3%	1.6%	6.2%	-1.6%	2.8%

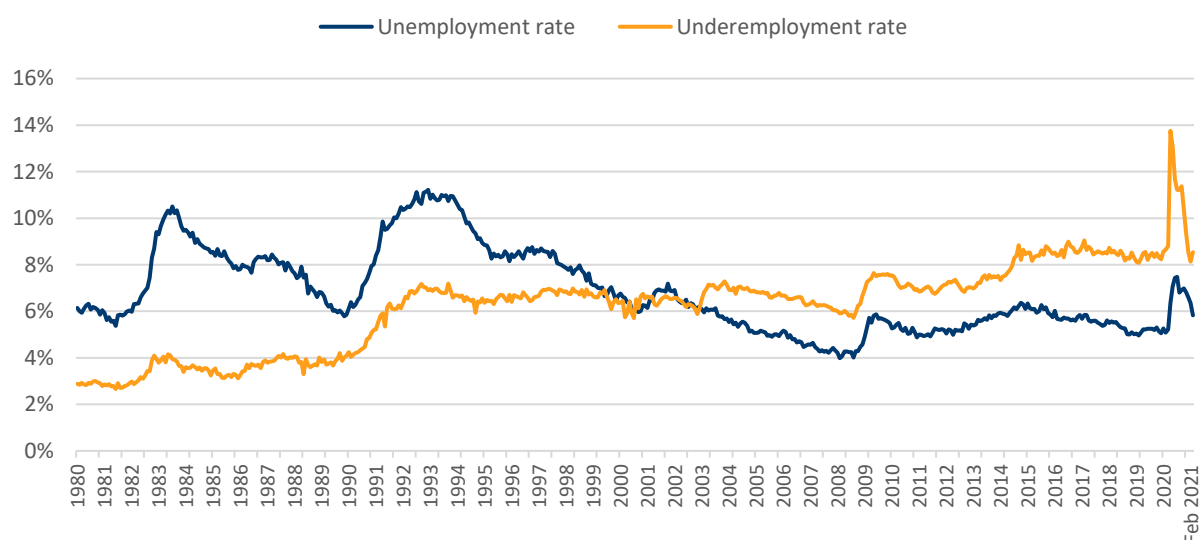


# Unemployment rate

## Unemployment and underemployment rates, Australia

Jan 1980 - Feb 2021

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Australian Bureau of Statistics



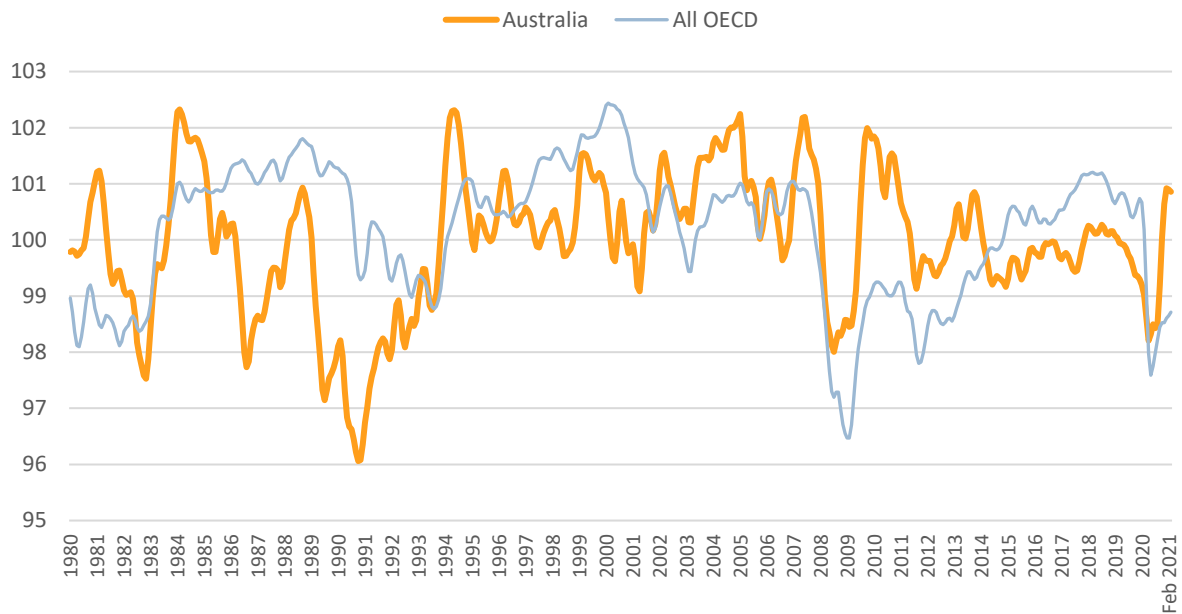
LABOUR FORCE, AUSTRALIA – PUBLISHED BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS (Point in time)	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Point change Dec 2019 to Feb 2021
<b>Unemployment rate</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>+0.8%</b>
New South Wales	4.4%	4.5%	6.5%	6.4%	6.0%	5.6%	+1.1%
Victoria	4.2%	4.9%	7.1%	6.5%	6.3%	5.6%	+0.7%
Queensland	6.1%	5.7%	7.7%	7.5%	7.0%	6.1%	+0.4%
South Australia	6.0%	6.3%	6.2%	6.4%	7.1%	6.8%	+0.6%
Western Australia	6.4%	5.4%	6.4%	6.2%	6.2%	6.0%	+0.6%
Tasmania	6.2%	5.5%	7.9%	7.0%	5.9%	5.7%	+0.1%
Northern Territory	5.0%	5.3%	5.9%	5.4%	5.6%	4.9%	-0.3%
Australian Capital Territory	3.9%	2.9%	4.0%	3.7%	4.4%	4.1%	+1.1%
<b>Underemployment rate</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>+0.3%</b>
New South Wales	7.7%	7.9%	8.8%	8.4%	8.0%	8.1%	+0.2%
Victoria	8.3%	8.0%	10.6%	9.0%	8.5%	9.1%	+1.0%
Queensland	9.0%	8.5%	9.4%	8.6%	8.6%	8.3%	-0.2%
South Australia	9.1%	9.5%	10.7%	10.3%	8.3%	8.6%	-0.9%
Western Australia	9.3%	9.0%	7.9%	7.7%	7.0%	8.7%	-0.3%
Tasmania	10.1%	11.2%	10.3%	9.8%	8.9%	9.0%	-2.2%
Northern Territory	4.5%	5.5%	6.0%	6.4%	6.9%	4.5%	-1.0%
Australian Capital Territory	6.1%	5.7%	5.7%	6.0%	5.7%	5.0%	-0.6%

# Consumer Confidence Index

## Consumer Confidence Index, Australia

Jan 1980 - Feb 2021

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)



OECD LEADING INDICATORS (Point in time)	Dec 2018	Dec 2019	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Point change Dec 2019 to Feb 2021
<b>Consumer Confidence Index (CCI)</b>							
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>99.3</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>+1.6</b>
<b>ALL OECD</b>	<b>100.7</b>	<b>100.7</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>-2.0</b>

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# Appendix

## Summary of metrics

### Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The Consumer Price Index is the most comprehensive measure of goods and services price inflation faced by all consumer households. The education (Preschool, Primary and Secondary) component of CPI is comprised of all expenditure on school services: school fees and other fees which are associated with attending the school such as book fees, payments from school excursions, fees for swimming lessons. More information on CPI and access to downloadable data is available at

<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6461.0>  
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/price-indexes-and-inflation/consumer-price-index-australia/latest-release>

The following CPI measures have been used:

- CPI (All Groups) by Australia, Major City
- CPI (Education) by Australia, Major City
- CPI (Preschool & Primary Education) by Australia, Major City
- CPI (Secondary Education) by Australia, Major City

Time periods used: Final published quarter of each year, vs same quarter prior year.

Note that CPI figures for primary and secondary education are typically updated once per year in the March quarter.

### Wage Price Index (WPI)

The Wage Price Index measures changes in the price of labour in the Australian labour market. More information on WPI and access to downloadable data is available at

<https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Wage+Price+Indexes+FAQs>  
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/price-indexes-and-inflation/wage-price-index-australia/latest-release>

The following WPI measures have been used:

- WPI (All Groups, Private sector) by Australia, State/Territory
- WPI (Education, Private sector) by Australia
- WPI (Education, Public sector) by Australia
- WPI (Education, Public and Private sector) by Australia

Time periods used: Final published quarter of each year, vs same quarter prior year.

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## Producer Price Index (PPI)

The Producer Price Index measures inflation of products either as they leave the place of production or as they enter the production process. More information on PPI and access to downloadable data is available at

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/price-indexes-and-inflation/producer-price-indexes-australia/latest-release>

The following PPI measures have been used:

- PPI (Non-residential building construction) by Australia, State

Time periods used: December quarter of each year, vs same quarter prior year.

The PPI (Non-residential building construction) is the metric used by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training, to determine Commonwealth capital funding for non-Government schools.

## ACARA National Report on Schooling data portal

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is the independent statutory authority responsible for the development of a national curriculum, a national assessment program, and national data collection and reporting program that supports learning for Australian students.

The National Report on Schooling in Australia data portal provides access to several national data sets for schooling relevant to the annual National Report on Schooling in Australia and is available at

<https://www.acara.edu.au/reporting/national-report-on-schooling-in-australia-data-portal>

The following measures have been used from the data portal:

- Teaching staff salaries (Non-Government sector)
- Non-teaching staff salaries (Non-Government sector)
- School parent fees and charges (Independent sector)
- Loans at the end of the year (Independent sector)

Data for these measures are publicly available at the following link

<https://www.acara.edu.au/reporting/national-report-on-schooling-in-australia-data-portal/school-funding/non-government-schools-income-and-expenditure>

Note that the Schools Australia dataset assigns independent Catholic schools to the Catholic sector.

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## Schools Australia – Australian Bureau of Statistics

The Schools, Australia dataset is an annual release containing statistics on students and schools, and the staff involved in the provision or administration of school education. It includes the government and non-government school populations for all Australian states and territories.

Data used in the compilation of these statistics are sourced from the National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC) (non-finance), which is a joint undertaking between state and territory government departments on education, the Australian Government Department of Education and Training, and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

An explanation of ABS Schools Australia and data is available publicly at <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/schools/latest-release>

The following information has been used from ABS Schools Australia:

- Full time equivalent Independent students by Total Students, Primary, Secondary (data table 43a)
- Full time equivalent Independent staff (data table 51a)

Note that the Schools Australia dataset assigns independent Catholic schools to the Catholic sector.

## Labour Force Australia – Australian Bureau of Statistics

The Labour Force Survey is a monthly survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Estimates of employment, unemployment, unemployment rate and labour force participation rate are published each month in ABS's Labour Force Australia publication.

The following information has been used from Labour Force Australia:

- Unemployment rate by Australia, State/Territory (data table 12 and 12a)
- Underemployment rate by Australia, State/Territory (data table 23 and 23a)

An explanation of Labour Force Australia and data is available publicly at <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release>

Detailed explanation of unemployment:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/6102.0.55.001~Feb%202018~Main%20Features~Unemployment~6>

Detailed explanation of underemployment:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/6102.0.55.001~Feb%202018~Main%20Features~Underutilised%20Labour~7>

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## Consumer Confidence Index - OECD

The Consumer Confidence Index measures the change in the level of consumer confidence in economic activity, based upon answers regarding their expected financial situation, their sentiment about the general economic situation, unemployment, and capability of savings.

A score above 100 indicates optimism outweighs pessimism, below 100 indicates pessimism outweighs optimism. The consumer confidence index is based on the premise that if consumers are optimistic, they will spend more and stimulate the economy but if they are pessimistic there may be a greater tendency to save more and consume less.

An explanation of the consumer confidence index and data is available publicly at <https://data.oecd.org/leadind/consumer-confidence-index-cci.htm>

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## Revisions from previous report

### March 2021

- ABS Schools Australia figures updated to 2020 (released by ABS on 19 February 2021)
- Consumer Price Index figures updated to December 2020 (released by ABS on 27 January 2021)
- Wage Price Index figures updated to December 2020 (released by ABS on 24 February 2021)
- Producer Price Index figures updated to December 2020 (released by ABS on 29 January 2021)
- Labour Force, Australia figures updated to February 2021 (released by ABS on 18 March 2021)
- Consumer confidence index figures updated to February 2021 (released by OECD in March 2021)