

Monday 29 July 2019

## Growth in contract and temporary job opportunities surpass permanent vacancies

### Key points

- The Sunsuper Australian Job Index rose by 1.9% in the June quarter and rose 1.9% on an annual basis.
- In the last quarter, there has been a shift from permanent (increased 0.2%) to contingent job vacancies (increased 4.9%).
- Demand for professionals continues to expand, rising by 4.6% in June with the annual rate of growth a bullish 13.1%.
- Managerial (executive) job openings rose 3.1% in the June quarter following a 3.5% rise in the March quarter
- The overall decline in the retail and wholesale sector continues with permanent roles declining 16.9% in the last quarter
- Victoria recorded the largest growth of 11.2% in contingent job vacancies and a slight increase of 1.6% in permanent job vacancies

The latest Sunsuper *Australian Job Index* has today revealed a shift from permanent job vacancies to contingent (contract and temporary) job opportunities with an increase of 4.9% over the last quarter. The demand for contingent jobs has grown across all occupational groups, which demonstrates how broad the trend towards contingent workforce solutions has been.

The Q2 2019 Sunsuper *Australian Job Index* report also found that demand for professionals continues to increase with the June quarter showing a strong gain of 4.6%, bringing the annual rate of growth to 13.1%.

The Sunsuper Australian Job Index is the first and only Australian jobs report to split data between permanent and contingent (i.e. temporary, fixed-term contract and casual) job vacancies.

Sunsuper's Chief Economist Brian Parker said that historically, this remains a strong employment market so job seekers should be encouraged.

"Imminent tax refunds and the Reserve Bank of Australia's consecutive cuts in official interest rates should, over time, lead to further job creation and upward pressure on wages," said Mr Parker.

"Contingent vacancies for managerial roles, not normally associated with temporary and contract work, are up 8.8%, a substantial increase in the June quarter.

"The education and training sector growth is being driven by growth in permanent positions while in healthcare, manufacturing, and mining, construction and utilities, the growth in demand is for flexible staffing arrangements.

“The overall decline in the retail and wholesale sector continues with permanent roles declining 16.9% in the last quarter, offset by a 4.2% rise in contract, temporary and casual work.

“Victoria recorded the largest growth of 11.2% in contingent job vacancies and a slight increase of 1.6% in permanent job vacancies. It also has the highest job index which infers that its market has grown the fastest since the base period of July 2015,” said Mr Parker.

For a full copy of the report, visit [Sunsuper’s Australian Job Index](#)

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About the Sunsuper Australian Job Index

The Sunsuper Australian Job Index measures and tracks digital job advertisements across more than 4,000 sources including job boards, employer career portals and recruitment company web sites.

Following on from the Fund’s merger with Kinetic Super in May 2018, Sunsuper took over the Kinetic Job Index Report. The Kinetic report previously only used contingent job data, whereas as the Sunsuper Australian Job Index now reports both permanent and contingent trends.