

AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIC UPDATE

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

August 2019

DATA INTO ACTION

AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

The following table provides details of key economic indicators for Australia as at 12 August 2019. The table includes an indicator of recent trends in the data as well as current position relative to history.

INDICATOR	FREQUENCY	RELEASE MONTH	CURRENT	LONG TERM AV.	RECENT TREND	RELATIVE TO AV.	COMMENT
Economy							
GDP, annual ave. YoY	Quarterly	Mar 2019	2.5%	3.5%	●	●	Quarterly growth improved to +0.4% but YoY falls to 1.8%.
CPI, YoY ¹	Quarterly	Jun 2019	1.6%	2.4%	●	◆	CPI rises a little but remains below target range of 2-3%.
Building Approvals, trend YoY	Monthly	Jun 2019	-20.9%	2.3%	◆	●●	The rate of decline is slowing, but trend remains down.
Gross Operating Profits (Corporations) YoY	Quarterly	Mar 2019	7.8%	7.4%	●	■	Profit growth slowing.
Business Confidence, net balance index	Monthly	Jun 2019	2	5.8	●	●	Confidence declines, Conditions rise from 1 to 3.
Labour market							
Unemployment Rate, %	Monthly	Jun 2019	5.2%	6.8%	●	■	Trending around 5%.
Employment, YoY	Monthly	Jun 2019	2.4%	1.9%	●	◆	Growth slowed a touch but continues to be above average.
Wage Price Index, YoY	Quarterly	Mar 2019	2.3%	3.2%	■	●●	Wages growth remains sluggish.
Population, YoY	Quarterly	Dec 2018	1.6%	1.4%	■	◆	Growth steady at a little over the average pace.
Markets							
Cash Rate, %	Monthly	Aug 2019	1.00%	4.9%	◆	◆◆	Another rate cut in July, market pricing in 2 more.
10 Year Govt Bond, % ¹	Monthly	Jul 2019	1.3%	5.5%	◆	◆◆	Yields slide to fresh lows.
All Ordinaries, YoY	Monthly	Jul 2019	9.0%	7.7%	◆	■	Strong growth, but markets have since dipped.
A-REIT S&P/ASX 200, YoY	Monthly	Jul 2019	15.2%	4.0%	◆	◆◆	A-REITs higher, supported by lower bond yields.
House Prices, YoY	Monthly	Jul 2019	-7.3%	5.7%	◆	●●	1 st monthly gain for the Combined Capitals since 09/17
Consumer							
Consumer Sentiment Index	Monthly	Jul 2019	96.5	101.4	●	■	Sentiment slips to 2 year low despite June and July rate cuts.
Retail Trade, MAT YoY ²	Monthly	Jun 2019	3.0%	5.0%	■	●	MAT sales growth remained around 3%, MoM growth +0.4%.
NAB Online Sales, YoY	Monthly	Jun 2019	0.5%	15.4%	◆	●●	Online sales dipped 1.6% MoM, YoY softened to 0.5%.
Household Saving Ratio	Quarterly	Mar 2019	2.8	9.5	●	◆◆	The savings ratio increased from 2.6 to 2.8 in Q1 2019.
Petrol average ULP terminal gate price, \$	Monthly	Jul 2019	\$1.29	\$1.22	●	■	Slight increase with global oil prices over July.

1 Average from December 1991. 2 25 year average

Recent trend key: ◆ improving; ■ stable; ● worsening.

Relative to average key: Compared to long run average: ◆◆ much better ◆ better ■ neutral ● worse ●● much worse.

Source: Westpac Melb Inst, NAB, ABS, ASX, RBA, AIP, Corelogic and Cushman & Wakefield