

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**19 October 2017**

## **Growth continues this Spring, Job ads on SEEK up 12.1 per cent y/y**

The latest SEEK data has revealed there were 12.1 per cent more new job ads on SEEK this September than 12 months ago.

Kendra Banks, Chief Commercial Officer for SEEK Australia and New Zealand, said the Australian labour market remained strong this September, signalling favourable conditions for jobseekers.

"This growth in September was off a high base after advertising on SEEK this August returned to the highest levels seen since 2010," said Banks.

"Nationally, the industries that offered the most job opportunities on SEEK this September were Trades & Services, Information & Communication Technology [ICT] and Healthcare & Medical," Banks continued.

While off a low base, the Mining, Resources & Energy industry has, for the ninth consecutive month, taken top spot for annual growth in job ads on SEEK, up 60 per cent y/y this September.

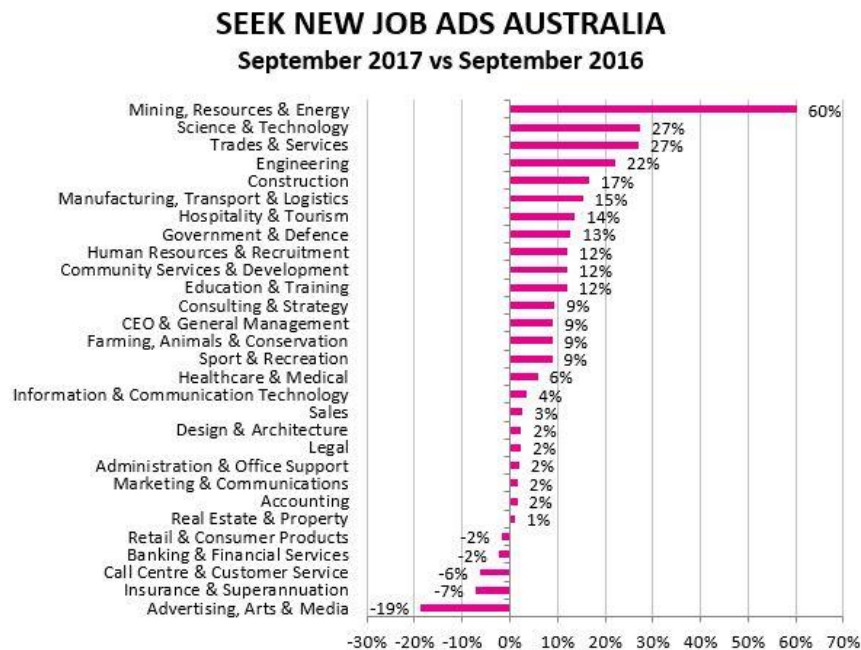
The fields across the Mining, Resources & Energy industry that had the most demand for workers on SEEK this September were:

- Mining Engineering & Maintenance
- Mining Operations
- Health, Safety & Environment

"Our latest [SEEK Laws of Attraction](#) research has uncovered that candidates in the Mining, Resources & Energy industry are placing an even greater emphasis on job security than they were five years ago, even though the industry is starting to recover after the mining boom collapse. However, salary and compensation remains the number one driver of attraction to work in this industry, followed by job security then work-life balance," said Banks.

"Growth in advertising on SEEK was also enjoyed this September by Trades & Services [up 27 per cent y/y]; Engineering [up 22 per cent y/y]; and Construction industries [up 17 per cent y/y]. This reflects strong building construction and infrastructure spending across the country, including rail and road investments," Banks revealed.

**Graph 1. Job Ad Growth across Australian industries on SEEK, August 2017 v August 2016**



## STATES & TERRITORIES

Job ads on SEEK rose year on year across every state and territory this September.

“South Australia and Western Australia, notched up the strongest growth in job ads on SEEK this September, up 22.6 per cent y/y and 17.8 per cent y/y respectively. In these smaller labour markets, Trades & Services was the top advertising industry,” said Banks.

Solid advertising growth was also enjoyed in the Northern Territory [up 16.4 per cent y/y] and Queensland [up 15.7 per cent y/y].

“Job ads continued rise across the country’s largest labour markets of New South Wales [up 7.1 per cent y/y] and Victoria [15 per cent y/y]. The ICT industry continues to offer the most job opportunities across both states,” said Banks.

In other states and territories, job ads on SEEK were:

- up 10.8 per cent y/y in Tasmania
- up 8.8 per cent y/y in the Australian Capital Territory

## INDUSTRY FOCUS – RETAIL & CONSUMER PRODUCTS

New job ads on SEEK for the Retail & Consumer Products industry remained flat from July to September 2017, when compared to the same period last year.

“2017 is the first year since 2014 that we’ve seen flat annual growth on SEEK for the July to September period for the Retail & Consumer Products industry,” revealed Banks.

**Graph 1. Annual Job Ad Growth across Australian Retail & Consumer Products Industry on SEEK for July to September period**

LOCATION	INDUSTRY	% Y/Y GROWTH JULY TO SEPT	YEAR
Australia	Retail & Consumer Products		2013
Australia	Retail & Consumer Products	9%	2014
Australia	Retail & Consumer Products	7%	2015
Australia	Retail & Consumer Products	1%	2016
Australia	Retail & Consumer Products	0%	2017

“Traditionally, the July to September period is a busy hiring time for the Retail & Consumer Products industry because hirers aim to have their seasonal teams in-place by late September and early October, ahead of the busy festive and Summer season,” said Banks.

“The Retail & Consumer Products industry has faced a number of headwinds in Australia, from globalisation increasing competition for domestic retailers, subdued growth in wages and household incomes, and more recently, higher gas and electricity prices adding to cost of living pressures. A concern for a number of retailers is of course the arrival of Amazon, which is expected to tighten margins for retailers further, due to their competitive prices,” concluded Banks.

Over the past three months [July to September 2017], the most advertised roles on SEEK for the Retail & Consumer Products industry were:

- Retail Assistants
- Store Managers
- Assistant Store Managers

The states and territories that offered the most job opportunities across the Retail & Consumer Products industry from July to September this year were the highly populated eastern seaboard states of NSW, Victoria and Queensland, as well as Western Australia.

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**Media note:** When reporting SEEK data, you must attribute SEEK as the source.

**To start exploring the *Laws of Attraction* portal, visit:**

[insightsresources.seek.com.au/laws-of-attraction](https://insightsresources.seek.com.au/laws-of-attraction)

**Data source:**

Independent research commissioned by SEEK (Nov-16 – Feb 17). n=5775 Australians in the labour force aged 18+ who are looking to change jobs in the next 2 years and are actively seeking or

**About SEEK**

SEEK is a diverse group of companies, comprised of a strong portfolio of online employment, educational, commercial and volunteer businesses. SEEK operates across 18 countries with exposure to over 4 billion people and 28 per cent of GDP. SEEK makes a positive contribution to people’s lives on a global scale. SEEK is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange, where it is a top 50 company with a market capitalisation close to A\$6billion and has been listed in the Top 20 Most Innovative Companies Globally by Forbes, and Number One in Australia.

**About the SEEK Employment Report**

The SEEK Employment Report provides a comprehensive overview of the Australian Employment Marketplace. The report includes the SEEK Employment Index (SEI), which is the first Australia aggregate indicator to measure the interaction between labour market supply and labour market demand.

It also includes the SEEK New Job Ad Index which measures only new job ads posted within the reported month to provide a clean measure of demand for labour across all classifications.



SEEK's total job ad volume (not disclosed in this report) includes duplicated job advertisements and refreshed job ads. As a result, the SEEK New Job Ad Index does not always match the movement in SEEK's total job ad volume.

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