



7 October 2021

Stable but mixed

Job ads steady in September after August drop

Auckland falls further but elsewhere rebounds

Reflective of staggered exit from August's level 4 lockdown

Hospitality & Tourism explicable the biggest industry faller

OVERVIEW

SEEK NEW JOB ADS

	Sep-19	Sep-20	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21
m/m % change	-0.8	9.3	0.2	-12.2	0.3
m/m % change (trend)	-1.2	9.1	-1.2	-2.8	-3.2
3m/3m	-2.2	68.4	17.8	3.5	-6.0
Ann % change (m/m)	-0.9	-22.1	86.4	57.3	44.4
Ann % change (3m/3m)	0.2	-27.5	122.9	84.4	61.8
Ann % change (12m/12m)	4.1	-25.1	27.8	36.4	43.6

Seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated

The significance of September's job ads was not so much that they increased 0.3% but that, in doing so, they managed to stop falling. This was good to see, after August registered a drop of 12.2%. The other encouraging perspective is that job ads have, so far at least, remained comfortably above where they were at their pre-COVID peak, around mid-2019.

Regional aspects important

Nonetheless, the resilience in total NZ job ads harbours some diverging patterns under the surface. This was stark at a regional level. Auckland's job ads decreased a further 8.0% in September, after falling 12.5% in August – seasonally adjusted. Virtually every other region recorded a rebound in September, including the main centres of Canterbury up 9.5%, and Wellington 3.9% higher. The splits are consistent with the fact Auckland remained at COVID alert level 4 through to September 21, while the rest of the country had moved down to level 2 by September 7 (after all of NZ was in level 4 over the last two weeks of August).

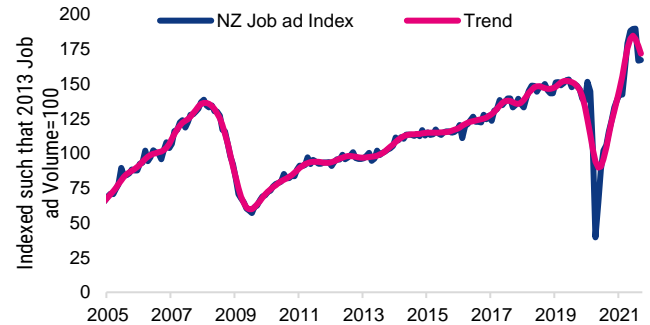
Hospitality & Tourism affected the most, again

By industry, Hospitality & Tourism logged the most obvious, and further, fall in September – largely repeating the pattern of the first lockdowns of March/April 2020. Most every other sector managed to skirt the severity of the last year's impact.

Full-time's relative resilience

The general resilience of jobs through the latest lockdowns has also been reflected in the fact that ads for full-time positions have held up relatively better than those for part-time, contract/temp, and casual/vacation – roughly in that order. Then again, all categories appear well poised for gains, if staffing intentions from recent business surveys are any guide.

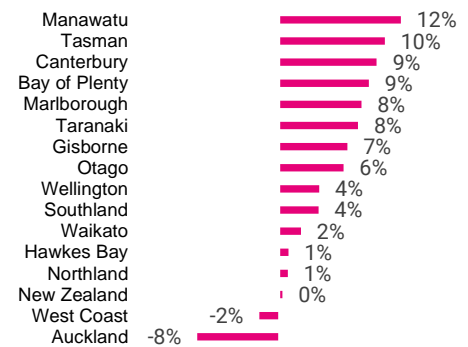
NZ JOB ADS



Source: SEEK, BNZ

REGIONAL TRENDS

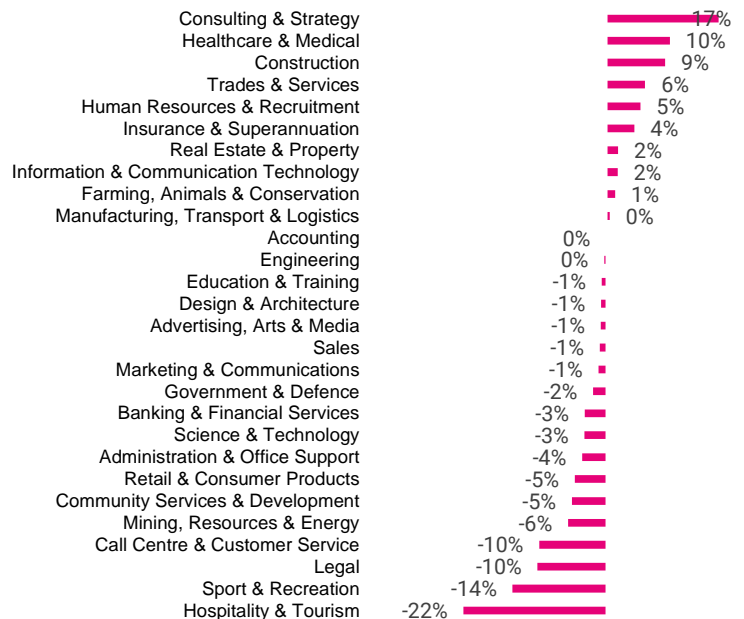
MoM Change



Source: SEEK, BNZ

INDUSTRY TRENDS

MoM Change



Source: SEEK, BNZ



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