



**Welcome to:  
How to understand & use  
ABS Employment Data**

 **The webinar will start shortly**

 **Say hi in the chat box & share  
where you are dialing in from**



# Today's Chat

Every month the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes Labour Force estimates from data collected in the Labour Force Survey.

- How data is collected and who participates
- What's happening with Employment
- Employed / Unemployed / Underemployed
- Hours Worked
  
- Understanding that data
- How TA can use the data
- Why TA should use the data

***Let's meet the panellists!***

# Types of Labour Stats

## Household Surveys

Labour Force Survey

Extra topics collected with the Labour Force Survey

(e.g. Characteristics of Employment, Participation Job Search and Mobility, Education and Work, etc)

Census and other surveys  
(e.g. Survey of Income and Housing)

## Employer Surveys

Job Vacancies

Average Weekly Earnings

Employee Earnings and Hours

Wage Price Index

Public Sector Employment and Earnings

Industrial Disputes

## Administrative data

Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia (STP data)

Jobs in Australia

Personal Income in Australia

## Compiled accounts

Labour Account

Other accounts  
(e.g. Tourism satellite account)

# Labour Force Survey Basics

- Survey started in 1960. Data published monthly since 1977
- Like voting, it is mandatory to participate if chosen
- 1 in 340 people in Australia are in the sample each month
- Participants are all over Australia (1 in 445 people in NSW, to 1 in 52 in the NT)
- Around 25,000 households provide information on 50,000 people each month
- People are surveyed monthly for an eight (8) month period. 80% of the people are the same one month to the next with 1/8 of the sample is replaced by new households each month
- Most respond online or over the phone. Small number of face-to-face interviews

# Current Stats

	May-2023	Jun-2023	Monthly change	Monthly change (%)	Yearly change	Yearly change (%)
Employed people	14,006,800	14,045,800	39,000	0.3%	422,300	3.1%
Unemployed people	507,000	505,500	-1,600	-0.3%	-9,100	-1.8%
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.5%	0.0 pts	na	-0.2 pts	na
Underemployment rate	6.3%	6.4%	0.0 pts	na	0.3 pts	na
Participation rate	66.8%	66.8%	0.0 pts	na	0.1 pts	na

- The 507, 000 unemployed people include the whole population 15 years and over but are actively available and looking for work.
- There are more people not working, but they are not available/looking for work.
- Non-participation are unemployed & looking, retired, taking time out for Parental Leave etc.
- 1 hour or more is considered “employed”.

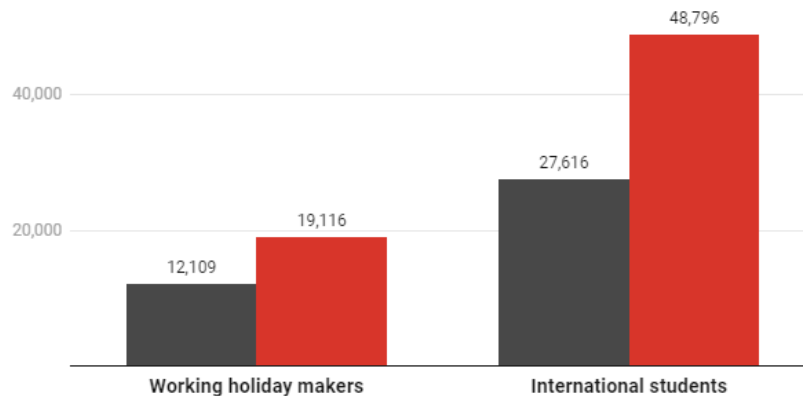
# Current Stats

In June 2023:

- employment increased by 39,000 people
- unemployed people decreased by 1,600

## Average visas granted per month

■ November 2021 to August 2022 ■ August 2022 to December 2022



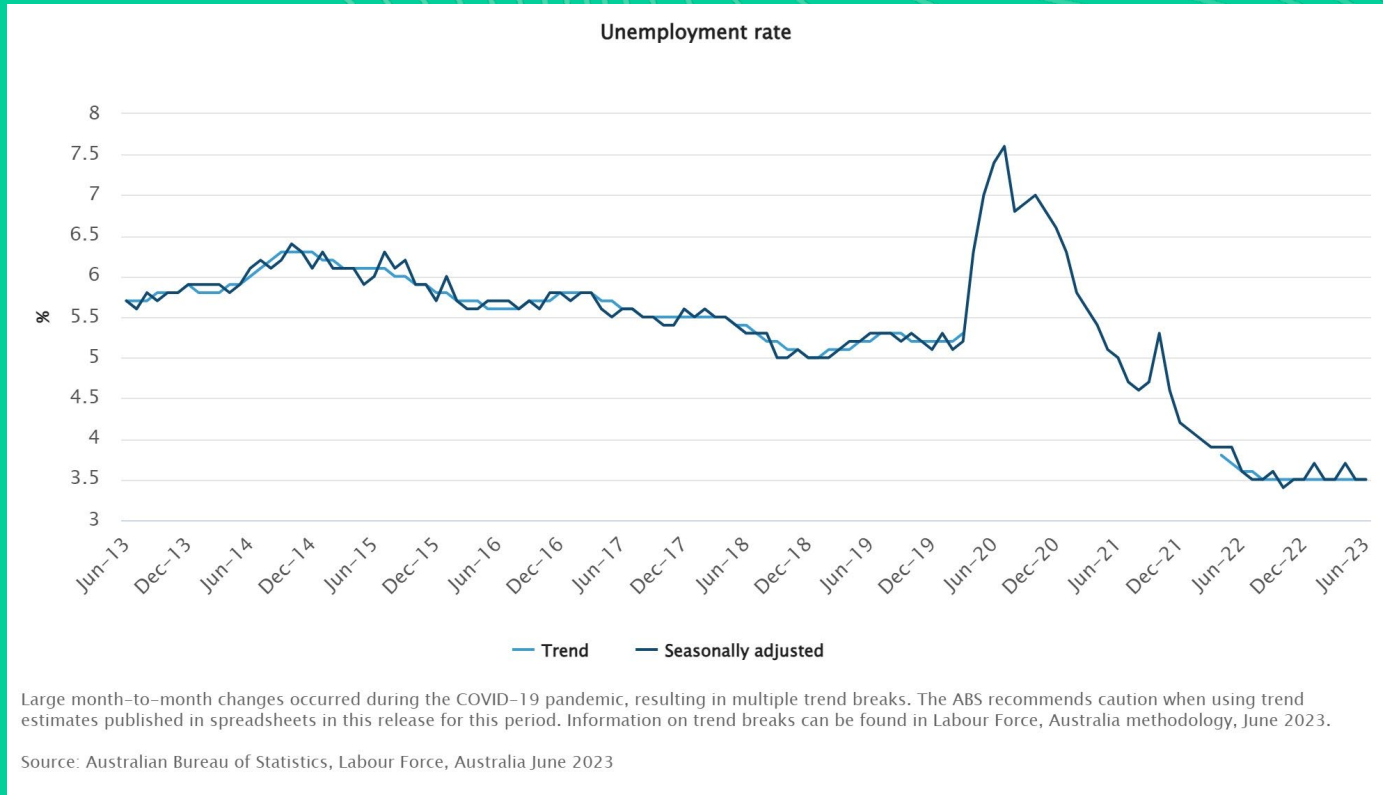
Source: Department of Immigration, Jeff Borland • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)



# What's happening with Employment



# What's happening with Unemployment

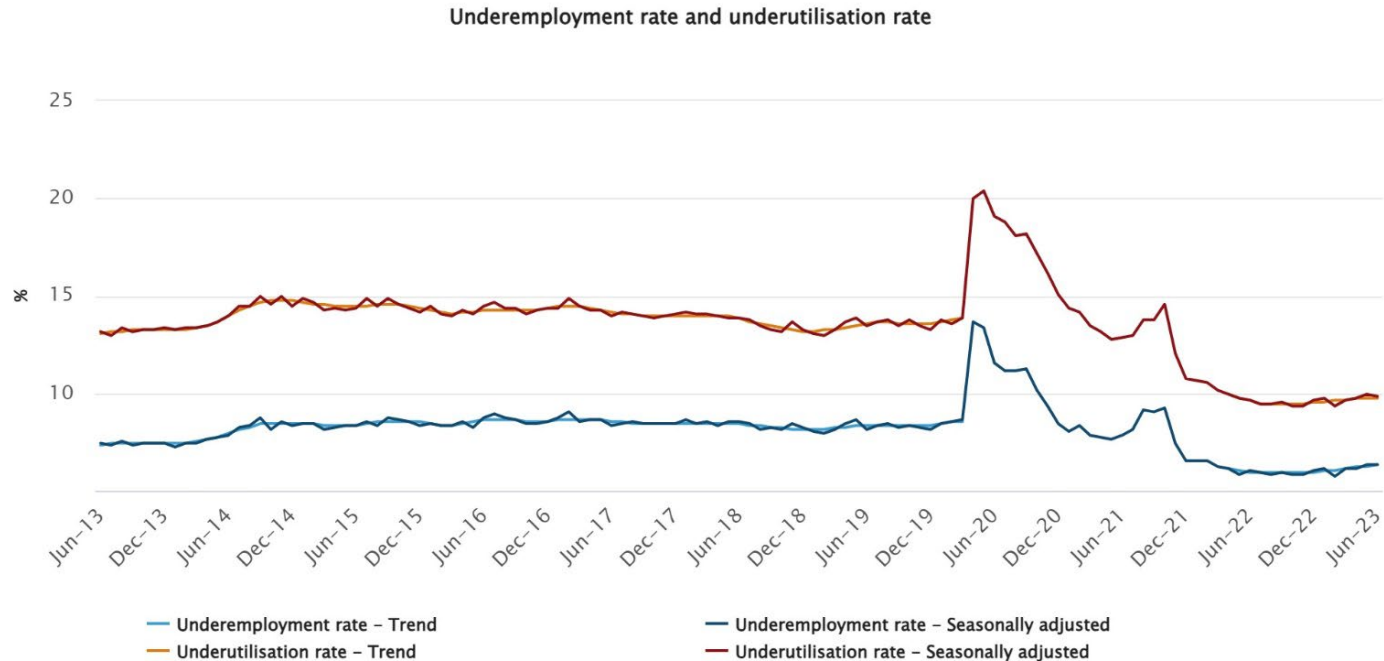




# What's happening with Unemployment



# What's happening with Underemployment



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in Labour Force, Australia methodology, June 2023.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia June 2023

# What's happening with Underemployment

Of the 14.1 million employed people in May 2023, 1,594,400 were underemployed.

Of these:

- 1,424,800 people preferred more hours

*585,200 were employed full-time*

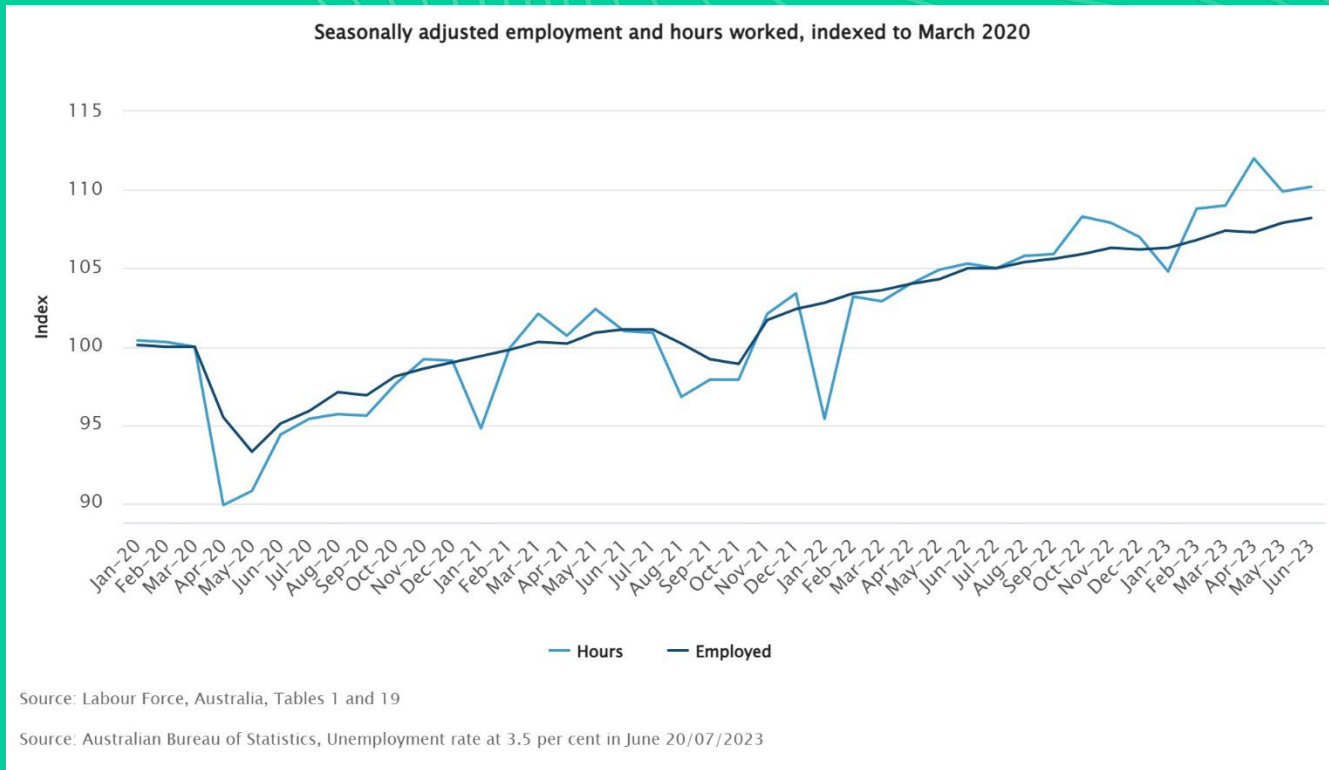
*839,600 employed part-time.*

There were 127,400 people who were in both categories - they had their hours reduced to less than usual and also preferred to work more than usual hours.

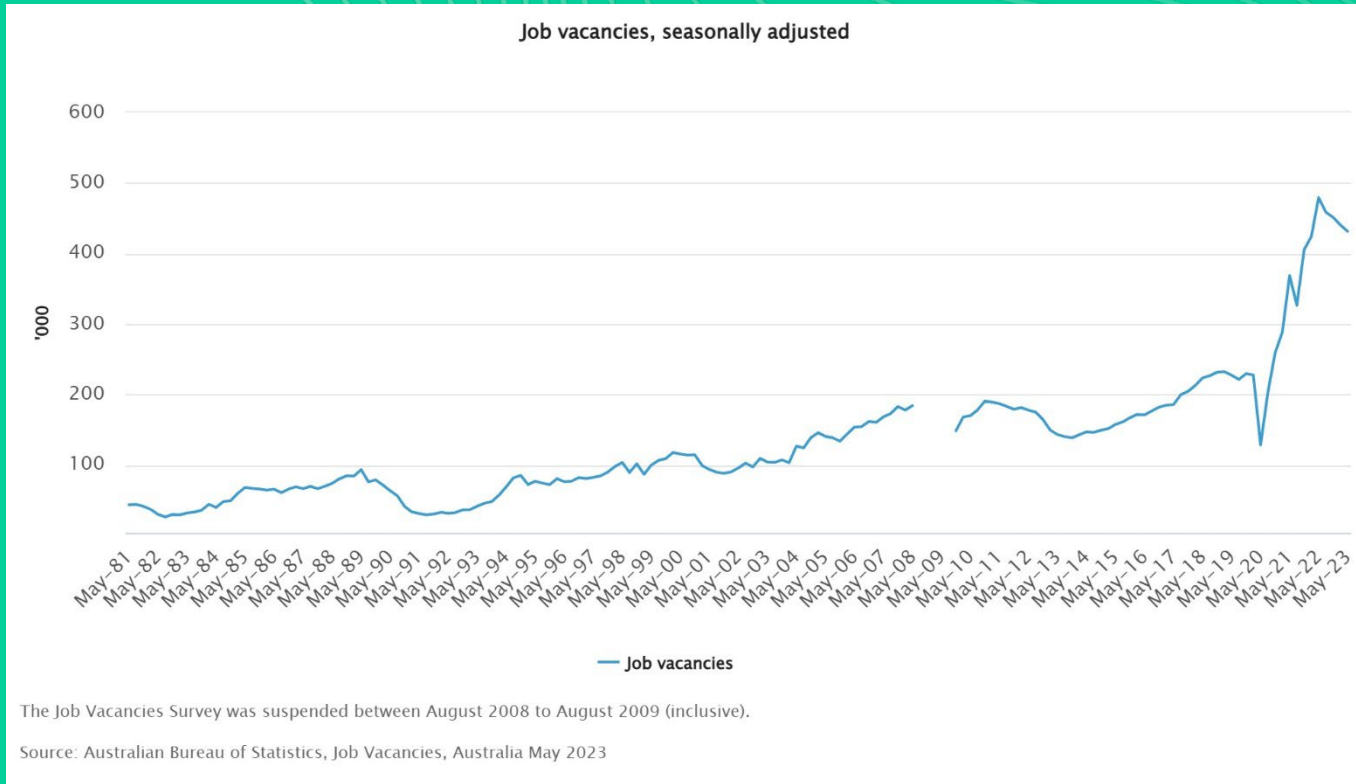
# What's happening with Hours Worked



# What's happening with Hours Worked

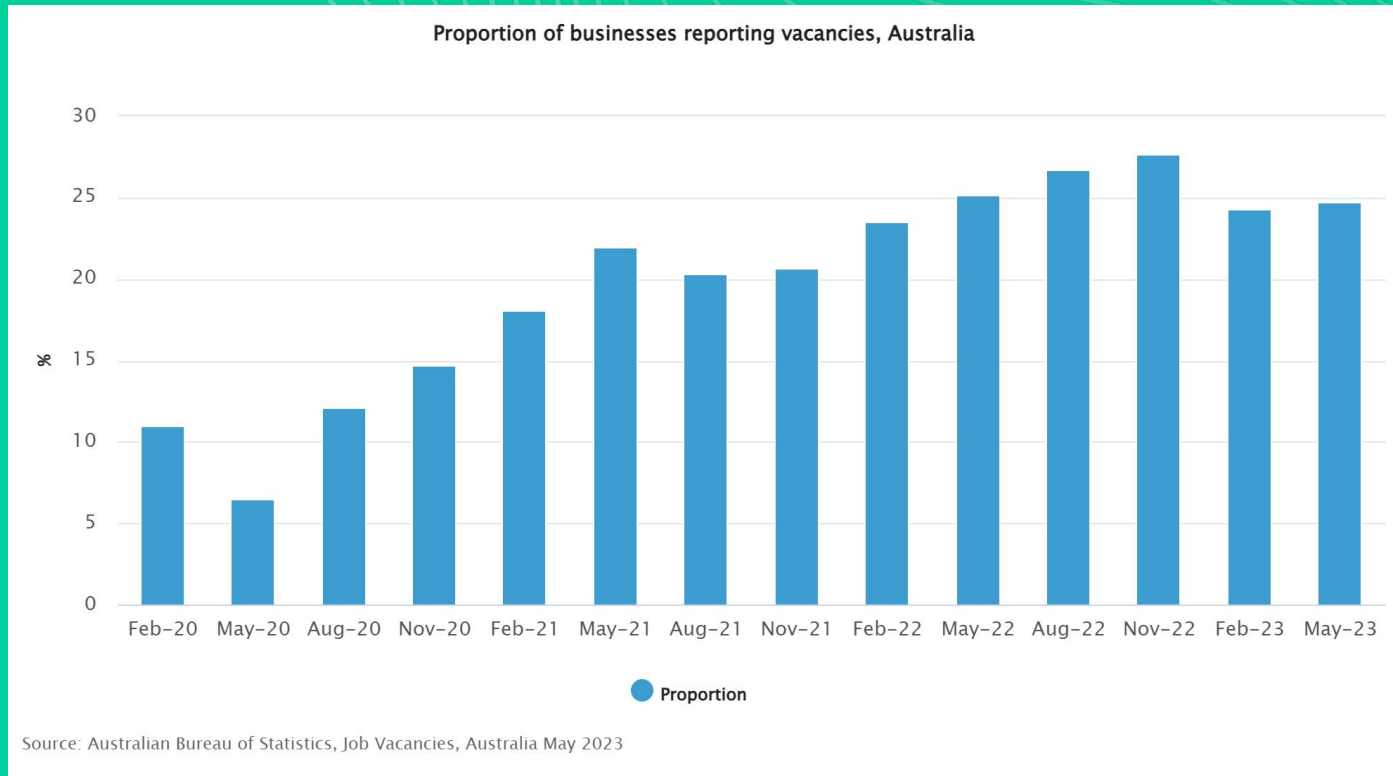


# Job Vacancies

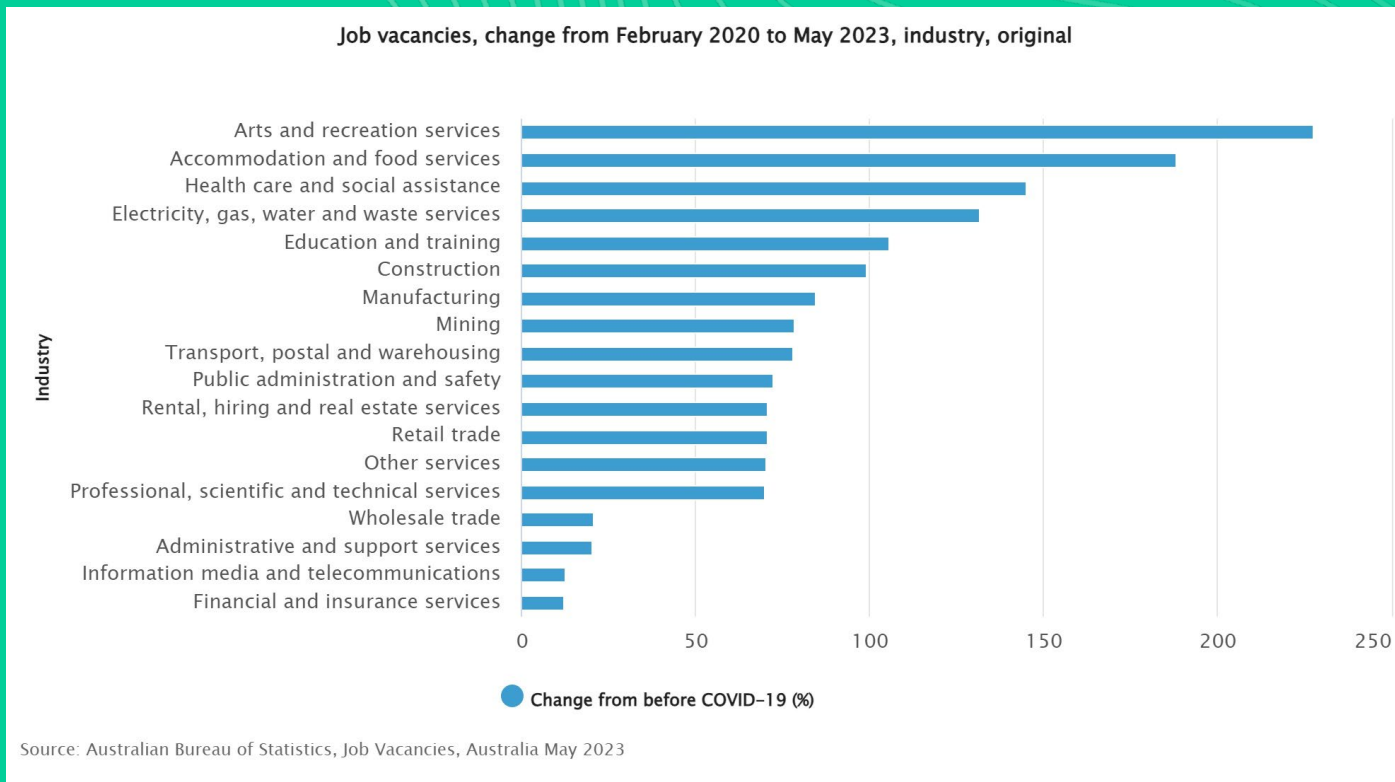




# Businesses reporting Job Vacancies

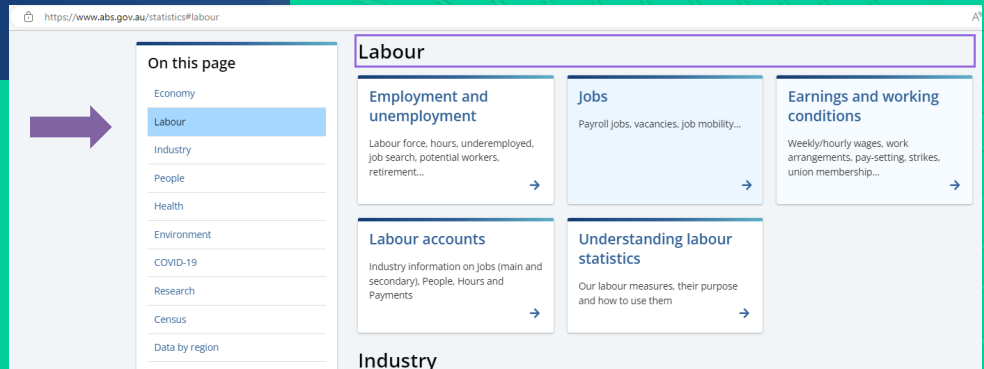
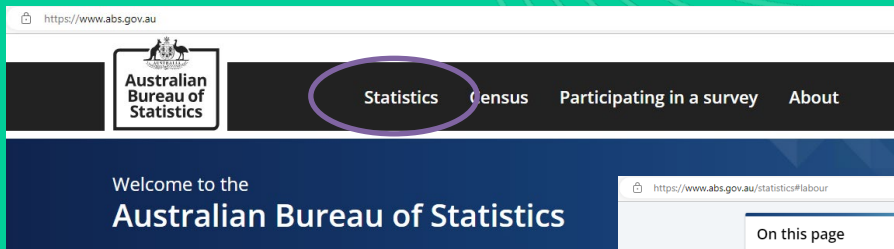


# Elevated Job Vacancies



# Where to find ABS data

- Employment/Unemployment Stats released monthly
- Published on ABS website, Social Media, News Media



**ATC  
20  
23**

**Aligned Strategies.  
Empowered People.  
Impactful Outcomes.**

**#ATC2023**

22 & 23 November | Luna Park, Sydney