



Australian Government



National Skills Commission

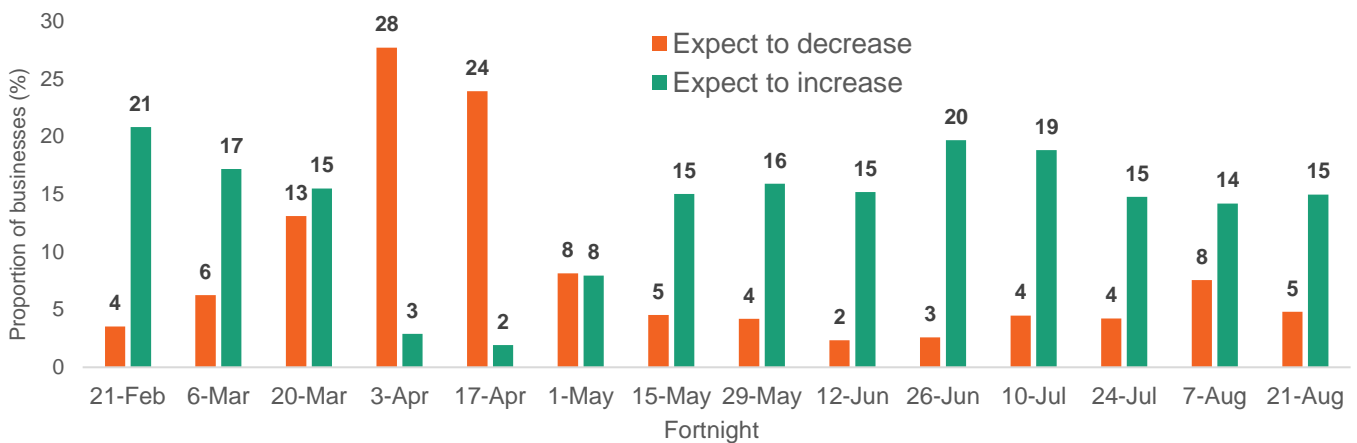
Future staffing expectations - update

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The National Skills Commission is currently conducting a survey of businesses across Australia to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This report provides an update on businesses' staffing expectations for the coming months, using data collected to 21 August 2020.

- The proportion of businesses expecting to increase staffing levels stood at 15 per cent in the fortnight ending 21 August, up slightly from the previous fortnight. Despite this increase, it remains below the recent peak of 20 per cent recorded in the fortnight ending 26 June.
- The proportion of businesses expecting to decrease staff numbers in the coming months stood at 5 per cent in the fortnight ending 21 August, down from 8 per cent recorded in the previous fortnight.

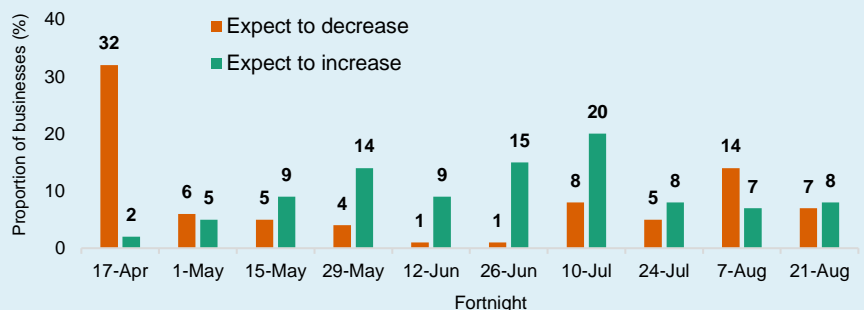
Staffing expectations for the coming months¹



Staffing expectations for the coming months in Victoria²

There was little change in the proportion of businesses expecting to increase staffing levels in the fortnight ending 21 August compared with the previous two fortnights.

Importantly, though, the proportion of businesses expecting to decrease staffing levels in the coming months was half that in the previous fortnight.



¹ Results for the fortnight ending 20 March and prior are drawn from the *Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences*, in which businesses were asked about staffing expectations in the next three months, instead of 'the coming months'. Results for 3 April are based on data from the week to 3 April, rather than fortnight.

² These data reflect staffing expectations prior to the 'roadmap to reopening' announcement on 6 September. The roadmap indicates that current business restrictions will remain in place in Melbourne until 28 September, at which time restrictions may ease slightly subject to public health advice and key health outcomes being met.