

ANZ-ROY MORGAN AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER CONFIDENCE MEDIA RELEASE

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CONSUMER CONFIDENCE: BACK TO AVERAGE

- Consumer confidence edged down 0.7% in the week ending 12 March, after falling a sharp 4.4% the previous week, and is now back just above its long run average. The 4-week moving average now sits at its lowest level since May 2016.
- The details were mixed. Households' views towards their current finances improved 3.1%, while views towards future finances dropped 3.4%. The future finances sub index is now at its lowest level since October 2016 although both sub-indices remain above their long term averages.
- Similarly, while views on the 12-month economic outlook fell a sharp 5.2% last week, consumers were slightly more optimistic about the 5-year outlook, which posted a 0.8% rise.
- The 'good time to buy a household item' sub-index rose 1.3% last week after a sharp 6.5% fall in the previous week.
- The series on inflation expectations ticked up last week, bringing the four week average up to 4.6%. Inflation expectations have convincingly turned around and are now well above the sub-4% readings through most of 2016.

ANZ'S SENIOR ECONOMIST FELICITY EMMETT COMMENTED:

"Confidence was relatively stable last week after a period of high volatility. Overall, though, the index has been trending down since February and is now back close to its long term trend.

Ongoing elevated unemployment, as well as persistent weakness in wage growth, is likely to have weighed on confidence over the past few weeks. The recent announcement by the Fair Work Commission that penalty rates in retail and hospitality industries will be cut is also likely to have been a factor. Moreover, the Western Australian election result and poor polling for the Turnbull government suggest some disenchantment with the Liberal-National Coalition.

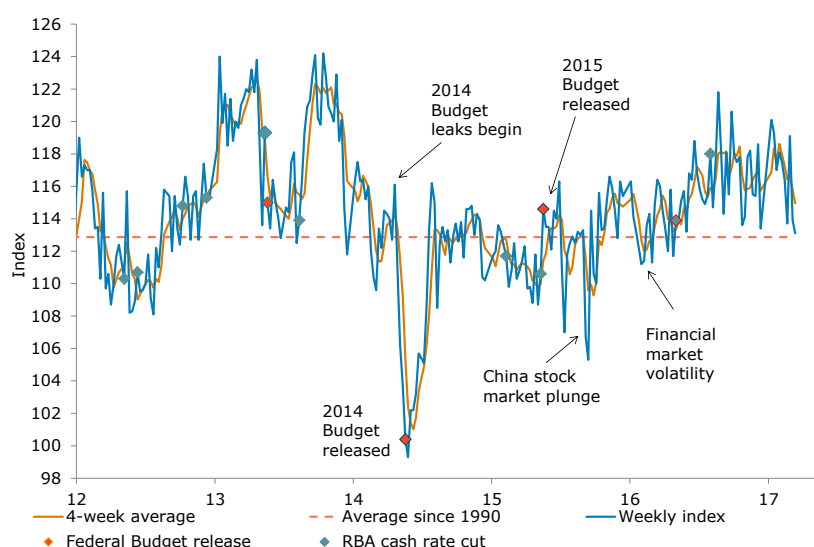
We expect the February jobs report, out later this week, to show a solid rise in employment, but over the longer term a sharper downtrend in the unemployment rate is likely necessary for a sustained boost to households' perceptions of their finances."

FIGURE 1. WEEKLY ANZ-ROY MORGAN CONSUMER CONFIDENCE AND INFLATION EXPECTATIONS

Last week (11-12 March)	Weekly change, %	4-week average	Monthly average since 1990	Inflation expectations (4 week ma)
113.1	-0.7%	115.0	112.9	4.6

Data collected last weekend (Saturday and Sunday), based on around 1,000 face-to-face interviews. Not seasonally adjusted. Further data history on page 5.

FIGURE 2. CONFIDENCE STABILISED LAST WEEK CLOSE TO ITS LONG RUN AVERAGE



Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

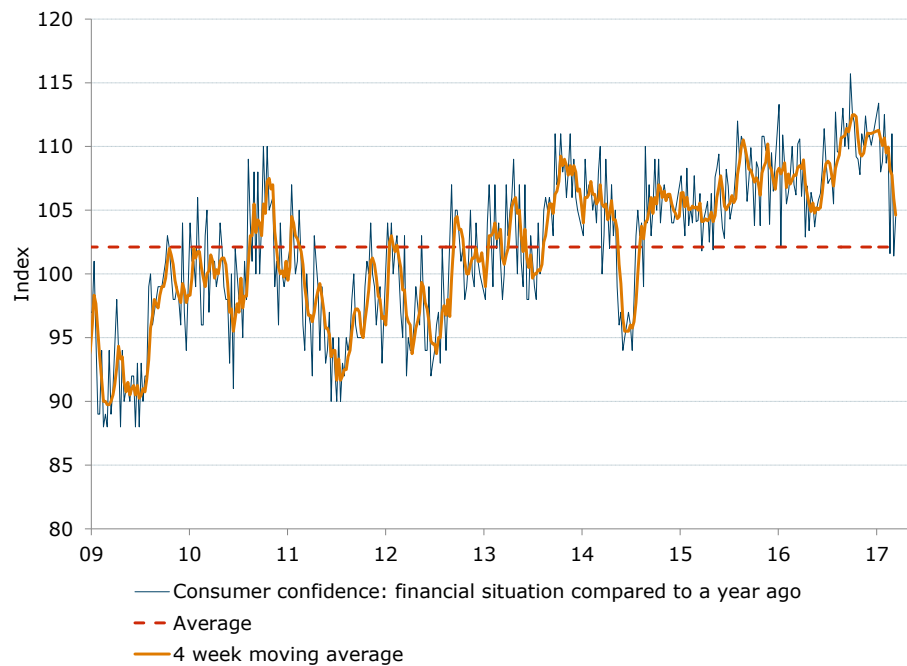
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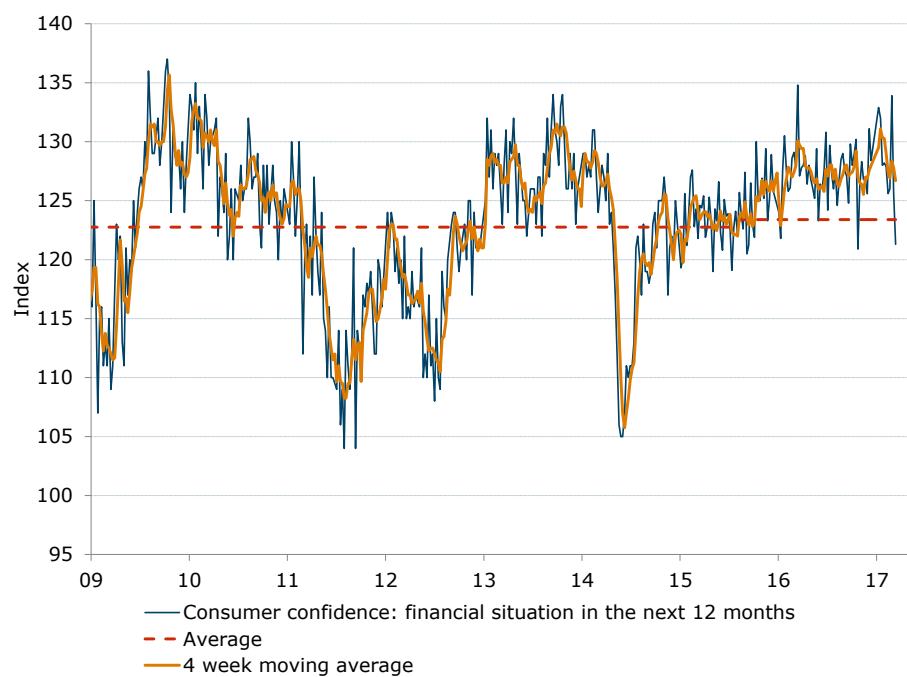
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FIGURE 3. CONFIDENCE IN CURRENT FINANCIAL CONDITIONS HAS BEEN TRENDING LOWER BUT ROSE SOLIDLY LAST WEEK



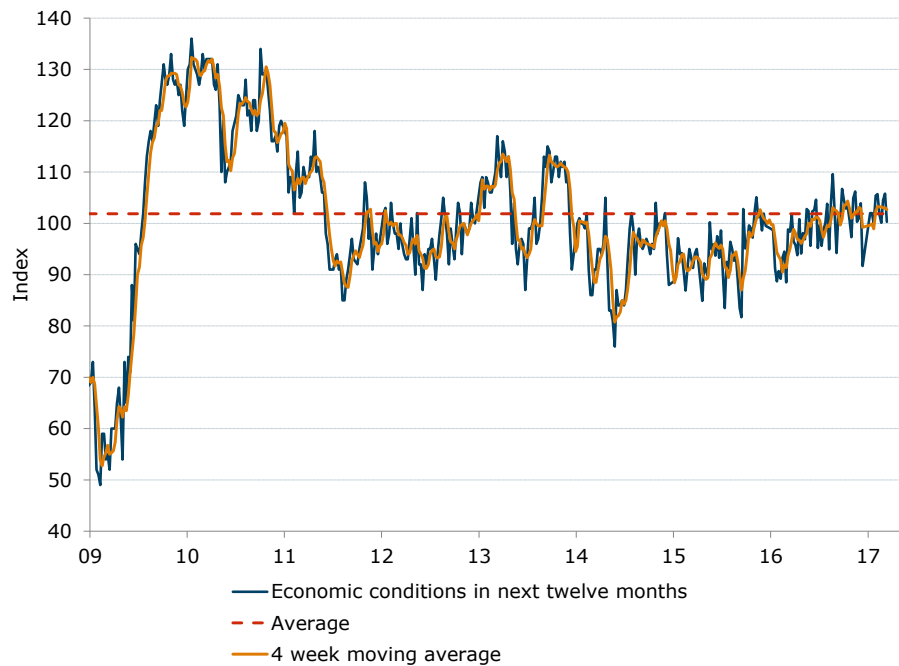
Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

FIGURE 4. CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE FINANCIAL CONDITIONS FELL SHARPLY



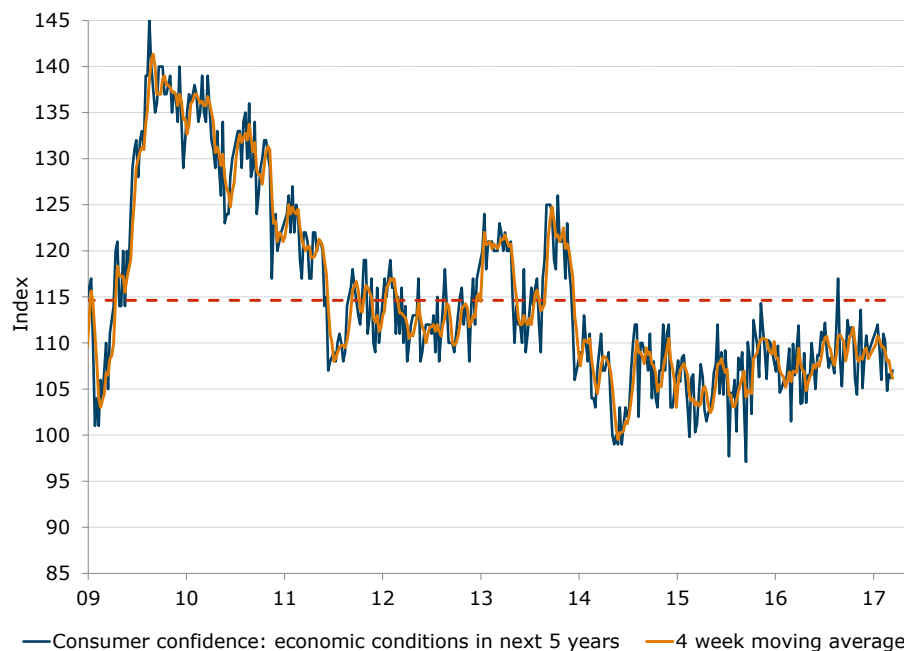
Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

FIGURE 5. CONFIDENCE IN THE NEAR TERM ECONOMIC OUTLOOK REMAINS CLOSE TO ITS LONG RUN AVERAGE....

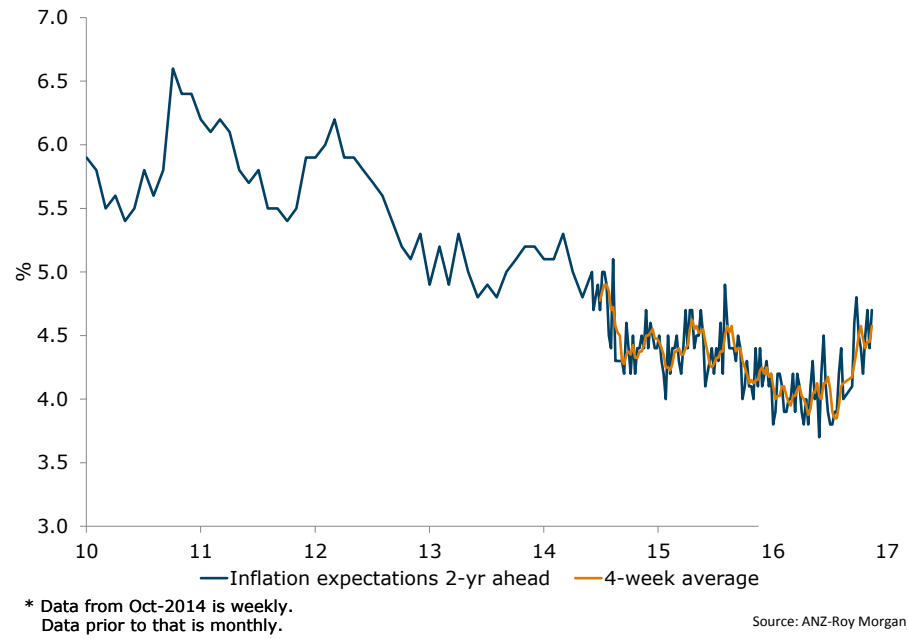


Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

FIGURE 6. ...WHILE CONFIDENCE IN THE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC OUTLOOK REMAINS SUB TREND



Source: ABS, ANZ-Roy Morgan

FIGURE 7. INFLATION EXPECTATIONS HAVE TURNED AROUND CONVINCINGLY

Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

TABLE 1. CONSUMER CONFIDENCE

	Headline index		Subindices				Inflation Expectations	
	Last week	4-week moving average	1. Financial situation compared to a year ago	2. Financial situation next year	3. Economic conditions next year	4. Economic conditions next 5 years	5. Time to buy a major household item	6. Inflation expectations 2-year ahead (%)
Avg since 2001	116	-	102	124	106	114	135	-
2010 avg	124	-	101	127	124	130	139	5.7
2011 avg	114	-	97	117	101	116	140	6.0
2012 avg	113	-	99	118	97	113	138	5.8
2013 avg	119	-	104	128	106	118	139	5.0
2014 avg	111	-	104	121	94	106	132	4.9
2015 avg	112	-	107	124	94	106	131	4.4
13-Sep-15	105.3	109.6	107.4	121.2	81.7	97.1	119.4	4.7
20-Sep-15	114.5	110.0	109.9	126.5	102.8	110.1	123.1	4.5
27-Sep-15	110.6	109.3	107.7	123.0	95.1	108.4	118.7	4.1
4-Oct-15	110.0	110.1	103.8	121.9	95.7	102.3	126.4	4.2
11-Oct-15	115.6	112.7	108.8	130.0	99.6	112.5	127.2	4.3
18-Oct-15	113.3	112.4	108.3	125.0	99.1	111.1	123.2	4.4
25-Oct-15	113.4	113.1	103.8	125.0	97.2	109.9	131.4	4.2
1-Nov-15	115.2	114.4	110.8	126.9	102.2	106.3	129.6	4.4
8-Nov-15	116.6	114.6	110.8	125.2	105.1	114.3	127.7	4.3
15-Nov-15	115.9	115.3	109.7	129.4	101.2	111.6	127.7	4.6
22-Nov-15	114.5	115.6	109.5	123.3	102.1	109.4	128.2	4.2
29-Nov-15	112.8	115.0	103.9	125.2	98.6	106.1	130.2	4.9
6-Dec-15	116.3	114.9	109.5	128.9	101.9	110.3	130.9	4.6
13-Dec-15	115.4	114.8	106.5	125.8	99.5	110.0	135.3	4.4
3-Jan-16	116.3	115.2	113.3	124.0	98.9	106.9	138.7	4.3
10-Jan-16	114.1	115.5	102.1	121.8	98.6	109.7	138.3	4.5
17-Jan-16	113.2	114.8	110.9	127.6	91.2	104.6	131.9	4.4
24-Jan-16	112.2	114.0	108.6	130.5	88.7	105.1	127.9	4.0
31-Jan-16	111.2	112.7	105.5	127.5	90.7	105.8	126.8	4.1
7-Feb-16	111.4	112.0	106.4	125.8	89.2	105.3	130.3	4.3
14-Feb-16	113.6	112.1	107.7	126.1	93.3	107.0	134.1	4.1
21-Feb-16	114.3	112.6	110.0	128.6	94.5	109.4	128.8	4.1
28-Feb-16	111.3	112.7	107.0	129.1	88.5	101.5	130.4	4.0
6-Mar-16	114.8	113.5	106.2	127.9	98.8	109.9	131.7	4.4
13-Mar-16	116.4	114.2	110.2	134.8	98.4	106.5	132.4	4.1
20-Mar-16	116.0	114.6	110.6	127.1	101.6	109.4	131.2	4.4
27-Mar-16	114.5	115.4	106.1	127.8	96.5	111.9	130.1	4.1
3-Apr-16	113.4	115.1	108.9	128.0	95.7	103.4	130.8	4.2
10-Apr-16	112.0	114.0	102.9	128.8	93.8	103.5	131.0	4.3
17-Apr-16	115.8	113.9	106.9	126.4	100.8	108.9	135.9	4.1
24-Apr-16	111.7	113.2	103.4	128.0	94.1	103.5	129.7	4.2
1-May-16	113.9	113.4	106.4	126.8	98.1	106.5	131.7	3.8
8-May-16	113.9	113.8	105.6	126.0	96.9	106.5	134.6	3.9
15-May-16	115.1	113.7	103.7	125.2	102.8	110.0	133.7	4.2
22-May-16	115.7	114.7	105.1	129.4	102.4	107.6	134.0	4.2
29-May-16	113.2	114.5	105.8	123.3	95.6	105.0	136.5	4.1
5-Jun-16	116.8	115.2	106.3	126.4	102.3	108.7	140.2	3.9
12-Jun-16	116.4	115.5	108.1	126.0	102.6	108.6	137.0	3.9
19-Jun-16	118.8	116.3	111.4	127.4	104.6	111.2	139.2	4.0
26-Jun-16	116.8	117.2	108.8	130.8	95.2	110.3	139.0	4.0
3-Jul-16	115.8	117.0	107.1	124.2	99.7	112.2	135.6	4.2
10-Jul-16	115.2	116.7	107.4	129.7	95.6	109.2	133.9	3.9
17-Jul-16	114.9	115.7	107.6	127.4	98.6	107.3	133.4	4.2
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7-Aug-16	114.7	115.8	109.6	124.6	94.9	106.7	137.6	3.8
14-Aug-16	117.6	116.5	109.5	126.7	104.0	111.6	136.1	4.0
21-Aug-16	121.8	118.0	110.9	128.5	109.6	117.0	143.0	3.8
28-Aug-16	118.4	118.1	113.0	129.0	101.9	108.2	140.1	4.1
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9-Oct-16	117.5	117.9	111.9	128.9	102.9	111.7	132.2	4.5
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15-Jan-17	119.3	117.9	108.0	132.0	102.0	112.0	142.5	4.6
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19-Feb-17	113.7	116.4	101.6	126.0	100.1	104.8	136.3	4.5
26-Feb-17	119.1	116.7	111.0	133.9	104.5	106.6	139.7	4.7
5-Mar-17	113.9	115.8	101.4	125.6	105.8	106.2	130.6	4.4
12-Mar-17	113.1	115.0	104.5	121.3	100.3	107.0	132.3	4.7

Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

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