



Australian Government

Department of Jobs and Small Business

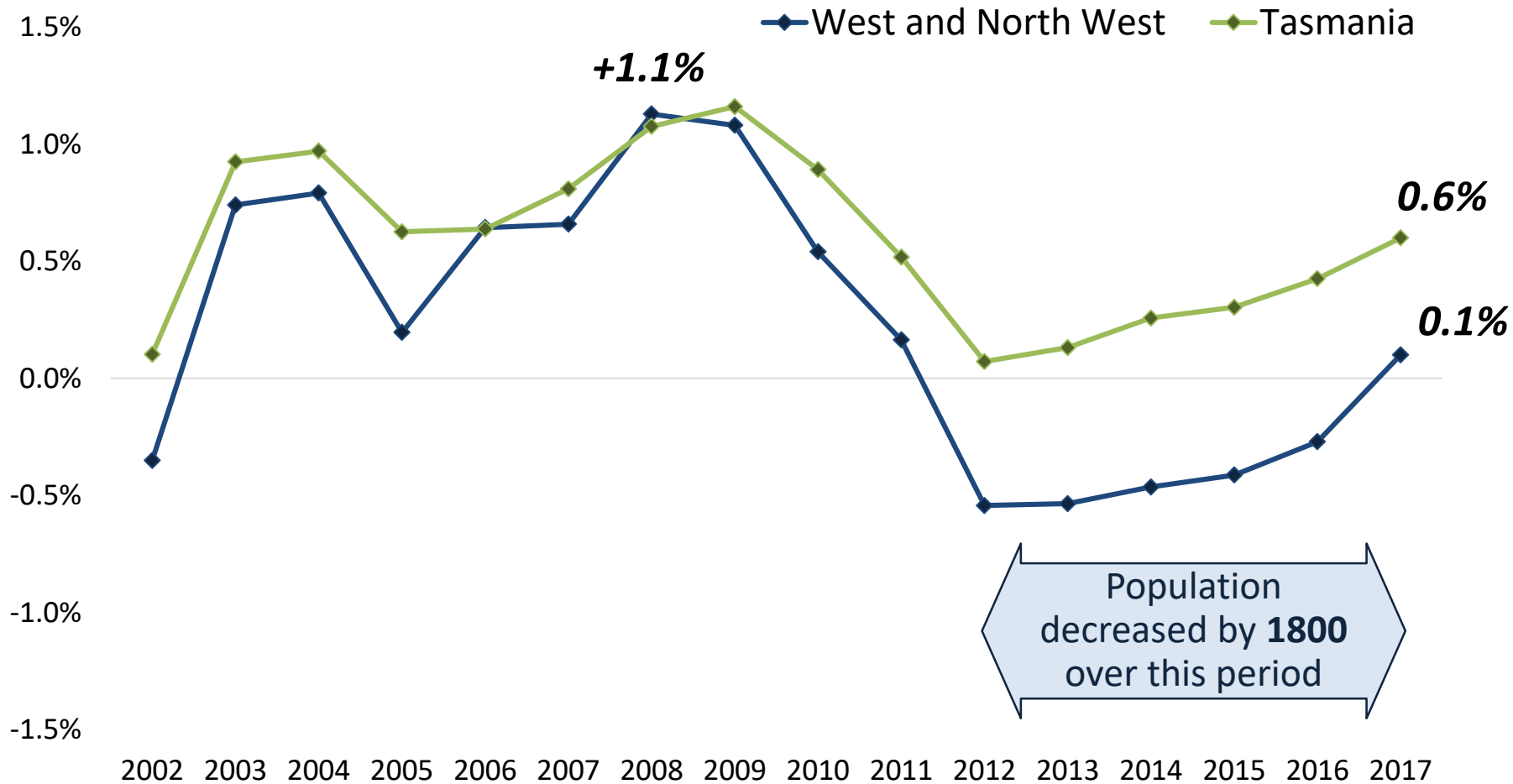
Labour market conditions in the West and North West

Ivan Neville

Branch Manager, Labour Market Research and Analysis
Department of Jobs and Small Business

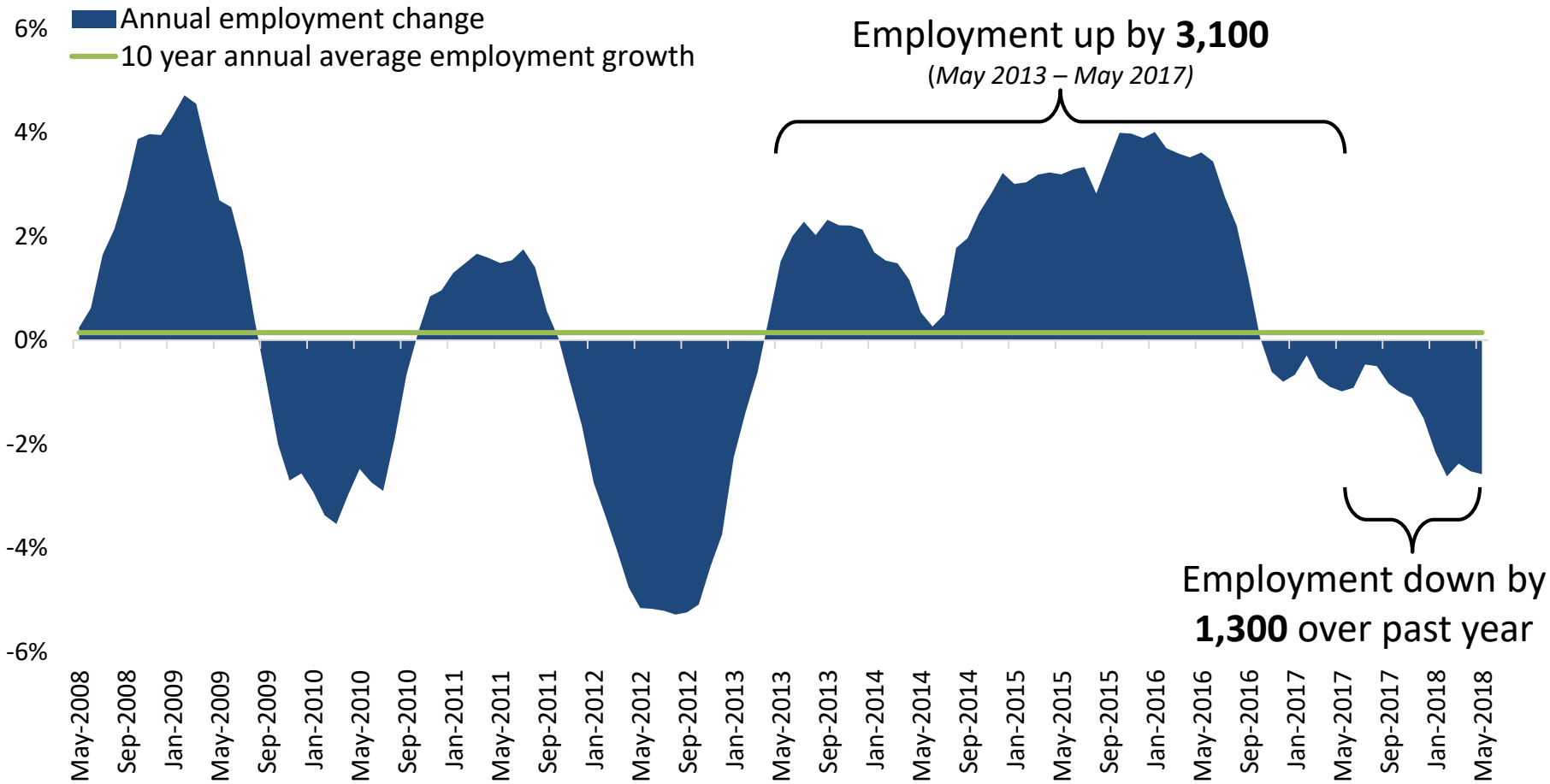
Population has declined in recent years...

Annual population growth, 2002-2017



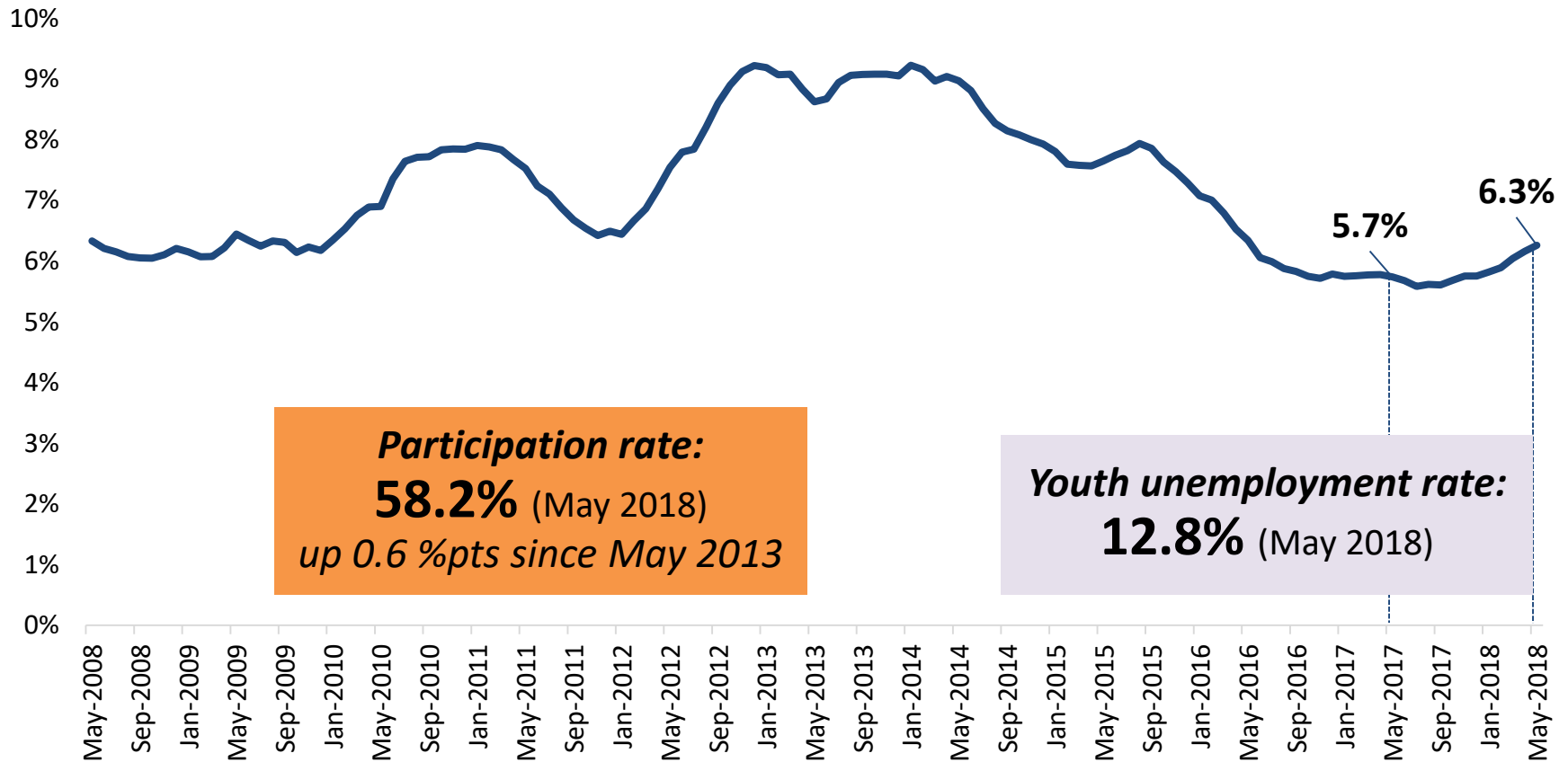
... as has employment

Annual employment change, West and North West SA4



The unemployment rate has crept up over the past year...

Unemployment rate, May 2008 – May 2018, West and North West SA4



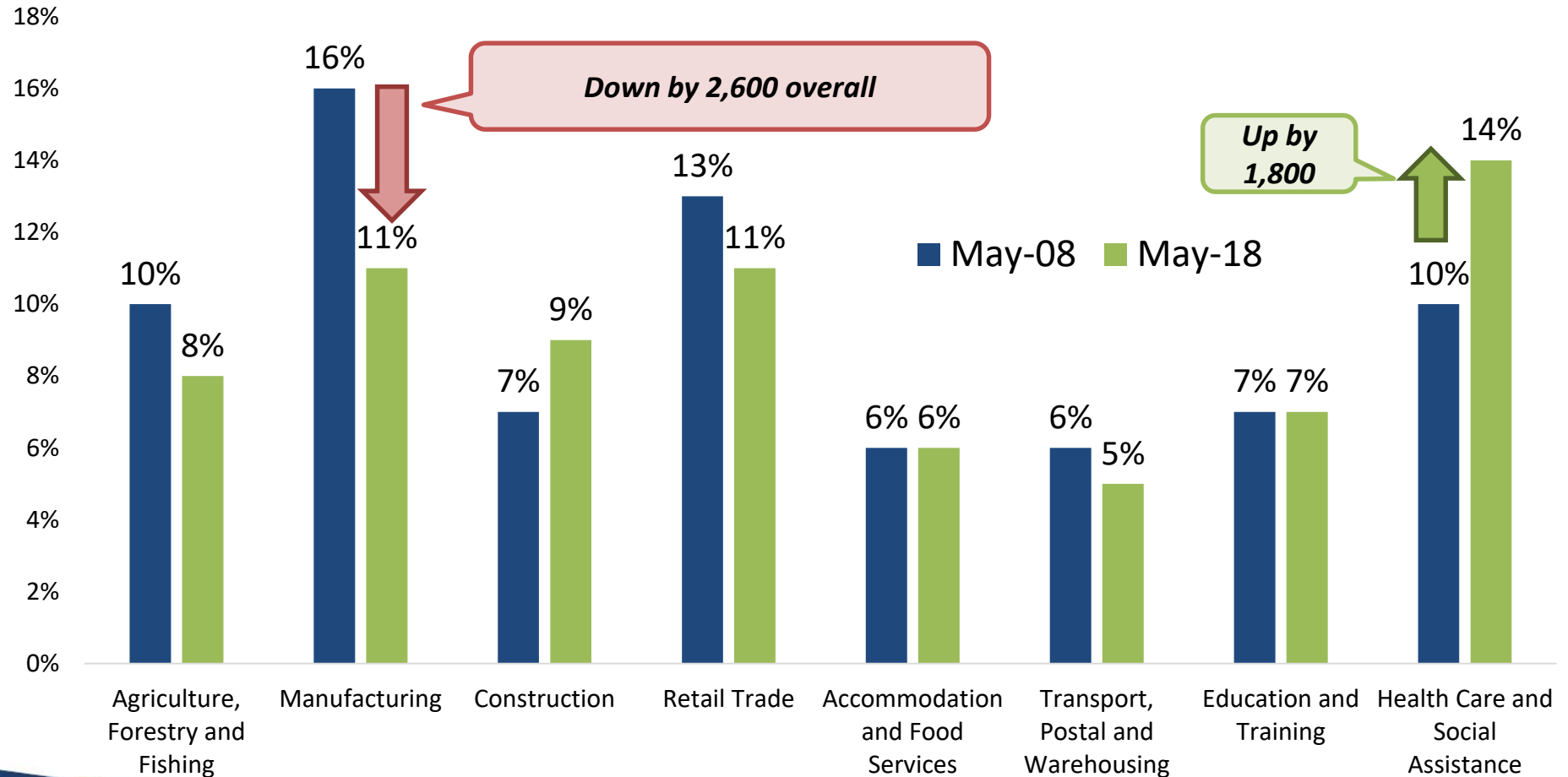
...with some regional variability

Unemployment rates by LGA

	March 2017 (%)	March 2018 (%)	Change (% pts)
<i>West Coast</i>	7.8	8.0	+0.2
<i>Burnie</i>	7.3	7.9	+0.6
<i>Devonport</i>	7.3	7.8	+0.5
<i>Kentish</i>	5.4	5.1	-0.3
<i>Waratah/Wynyard</i>	5.1	5.3	+0.2
<i>Central Coast</i>	4.9	5.0	+0.1
<i>Latrobe</i>	4.0	4.0	+0.0
<i>Circular Head</i>	4.0	4.0	+0.0

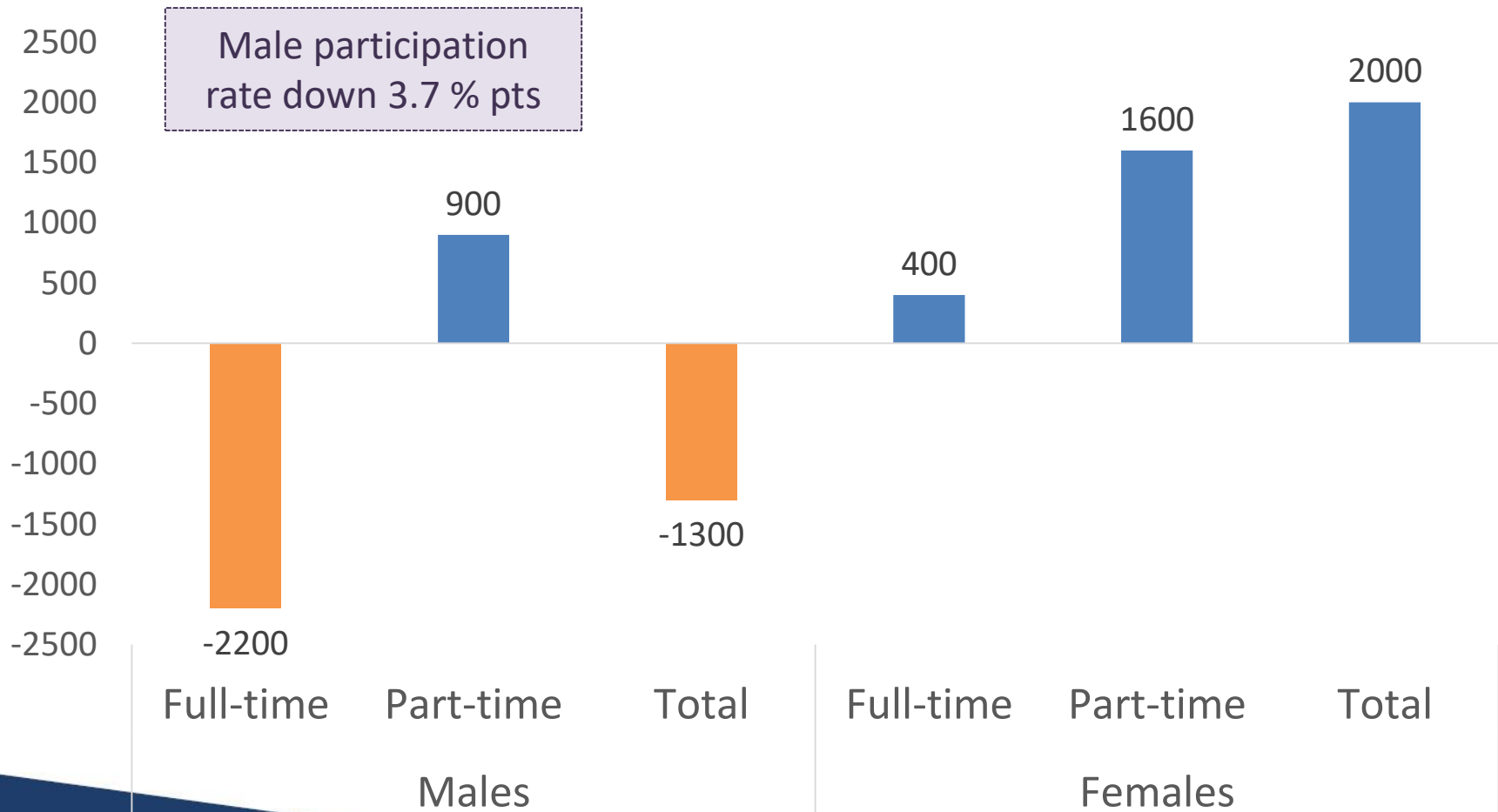
The structure of the workforce has changed...

Share of total employment, main employing industries, West and North West SA4



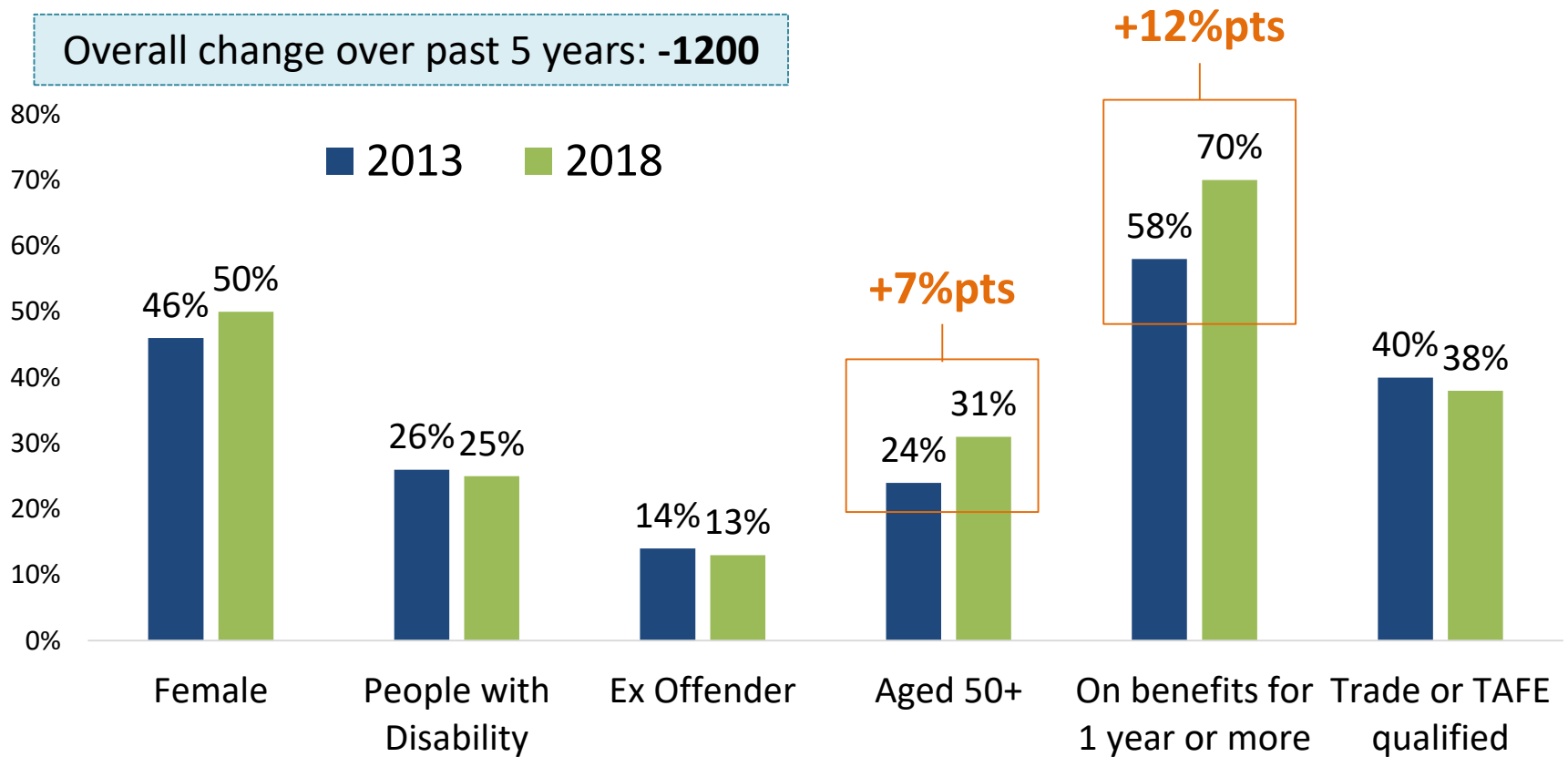
...resulting in falls in male full-time employment

West and North West SA4, change from May 2008 – May 2018



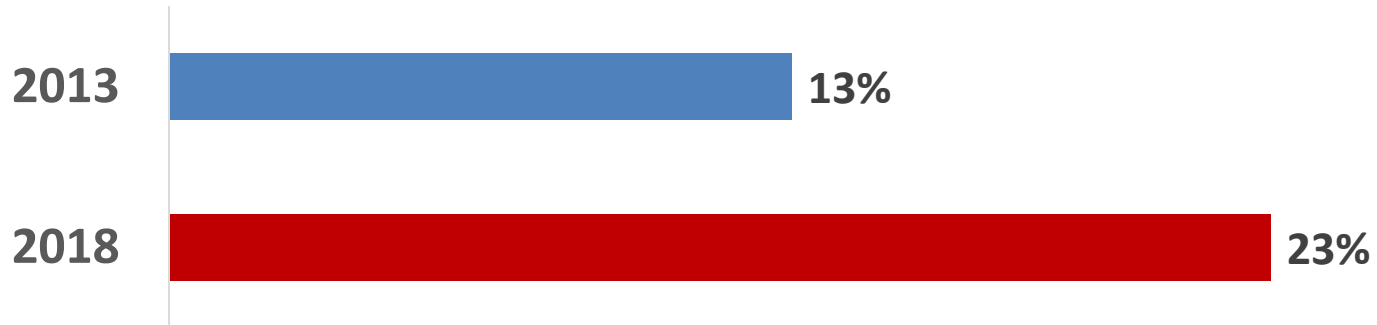
More older, long-term unemployed job seekers in the region...

jobactive caseload, West and North West SA4



...with more job seekers staying unemployed for 5 years or more

% of jobactive job seekers on benefits for 5 years or more:



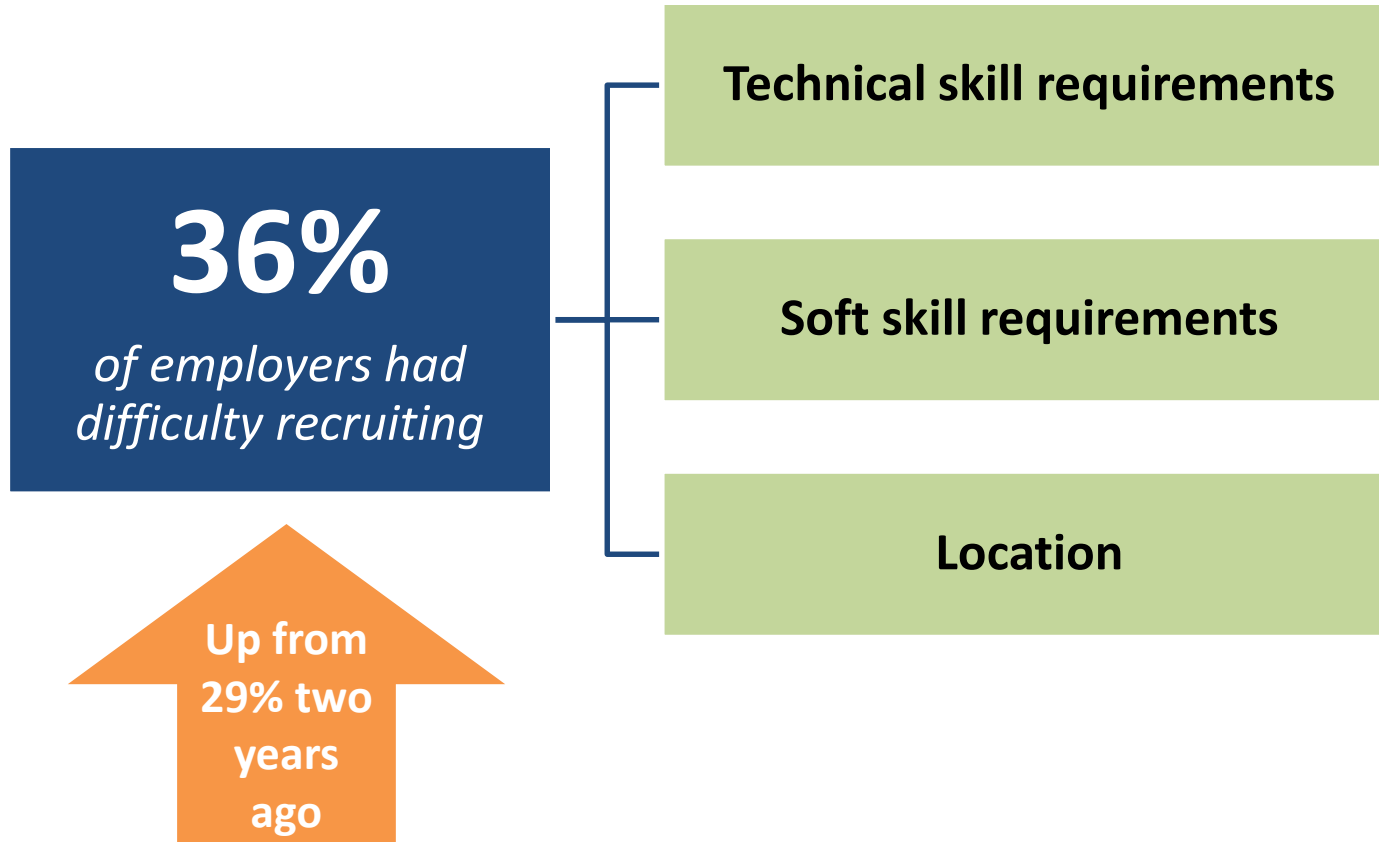
40%
are aged 50 or over

58%
have no post-school
qualifications

12%
are Indigenous

Despite rising unemployment, many employers struggle to fill their vacancies

Main reasons for recruitment difficulty, West and North West SA4



Networks play a significant role in recruitment

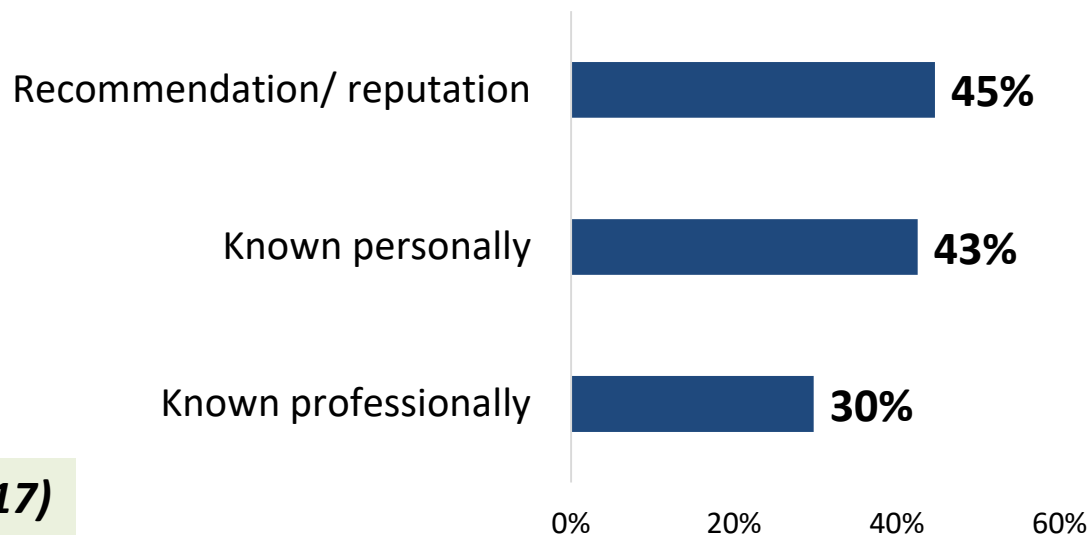
West and North West SA4

42%

knew, or knew of, a
successful applicant

...compared with 35% for Australia (2017)

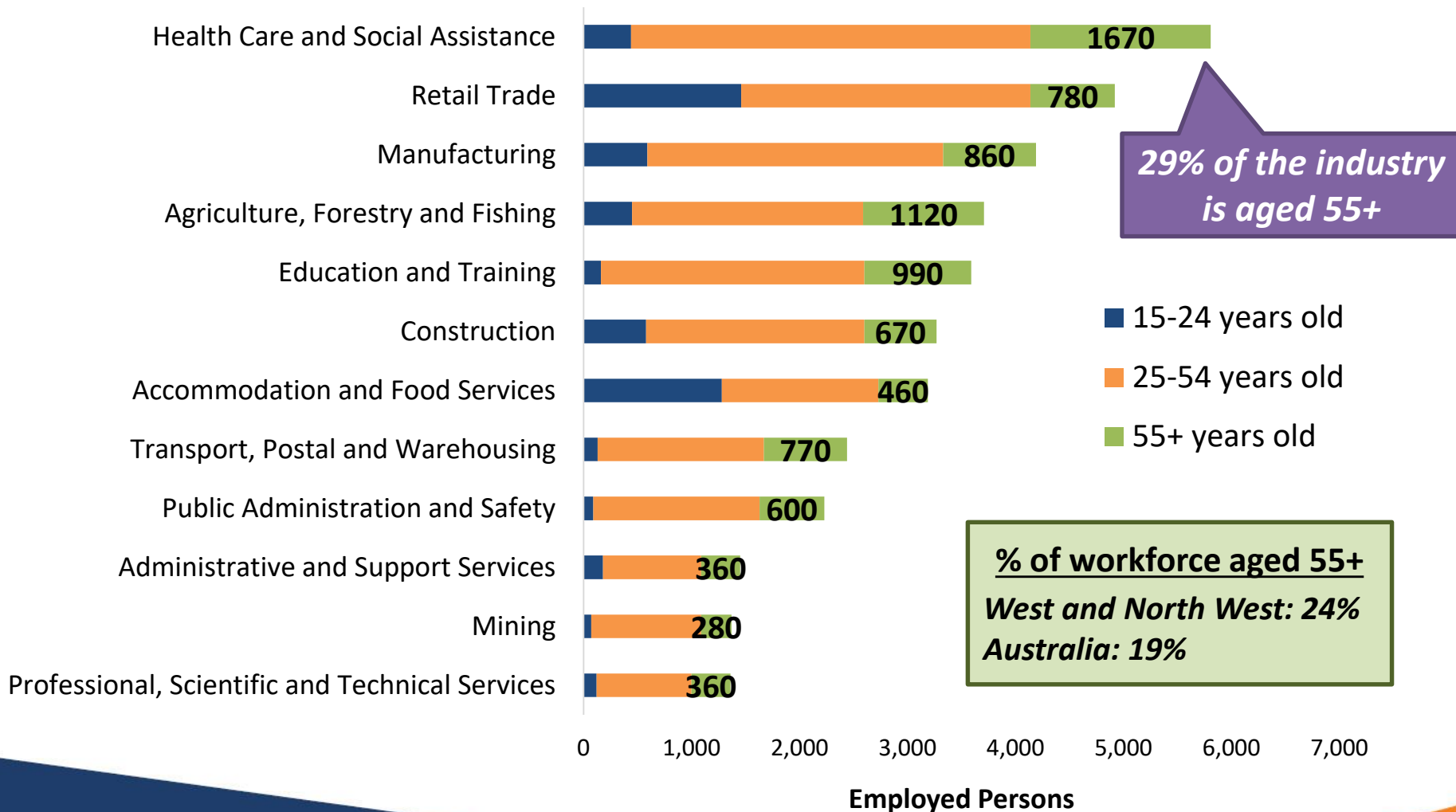
How employers knew applicants:



The challenges ahead

The workforce is ageing

West and North West SA4, Census 2016

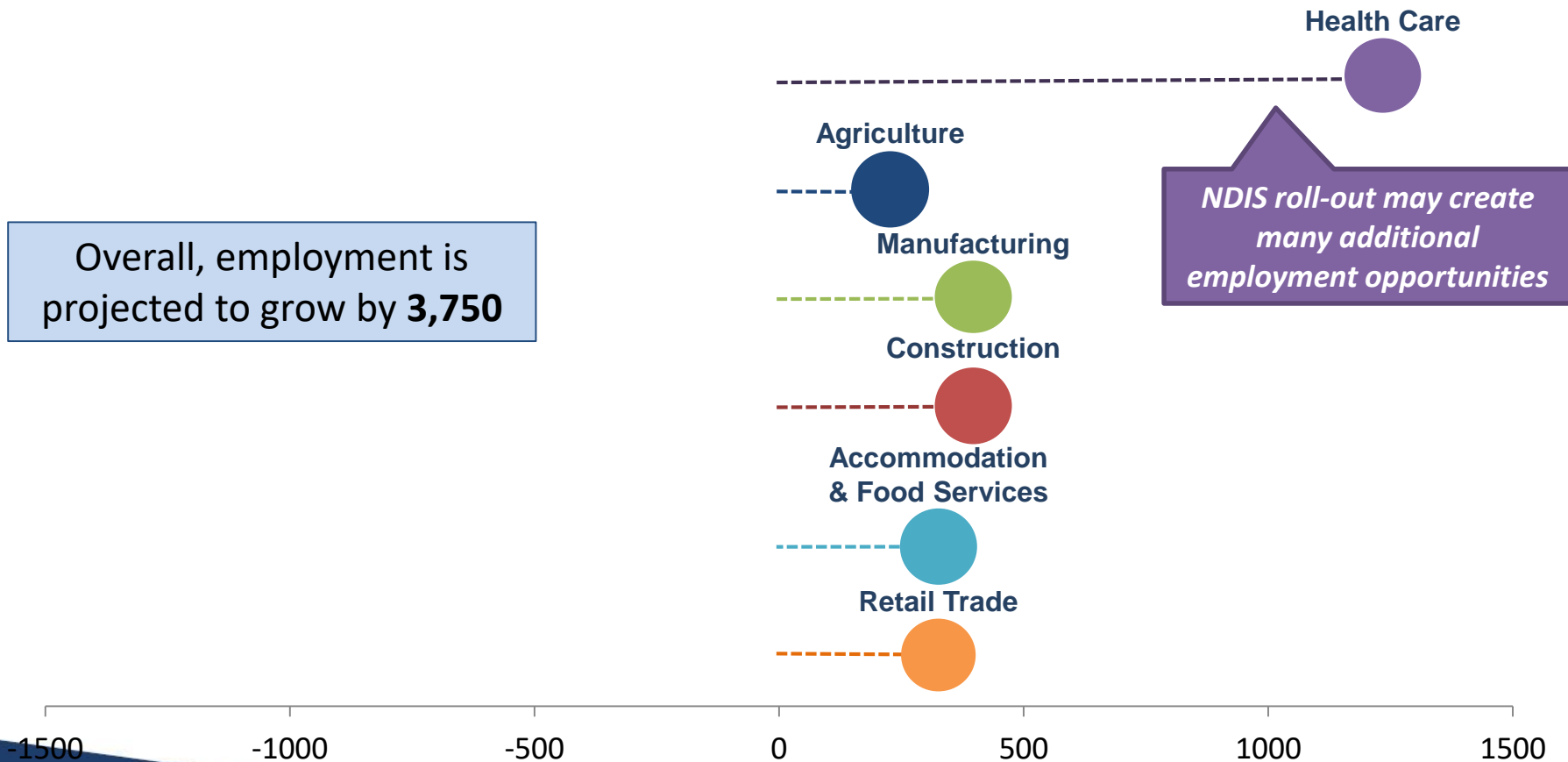


Healthcare projected to be the largest growing industry

Employment projections five years to May 2022, selected industries, West and North West SA4

Future Projection

(May 2017 – May 2022)



Many jobs to be filled in the region

Projected jobs growth: + 3,750
(DJSB Employment Projections to 2022)

New NDIS jobs: + ≈400
(NDIS, Tasmanian Market Position Statement)

Estimated retirements: + 5,700
(Half of employed aged 55+)

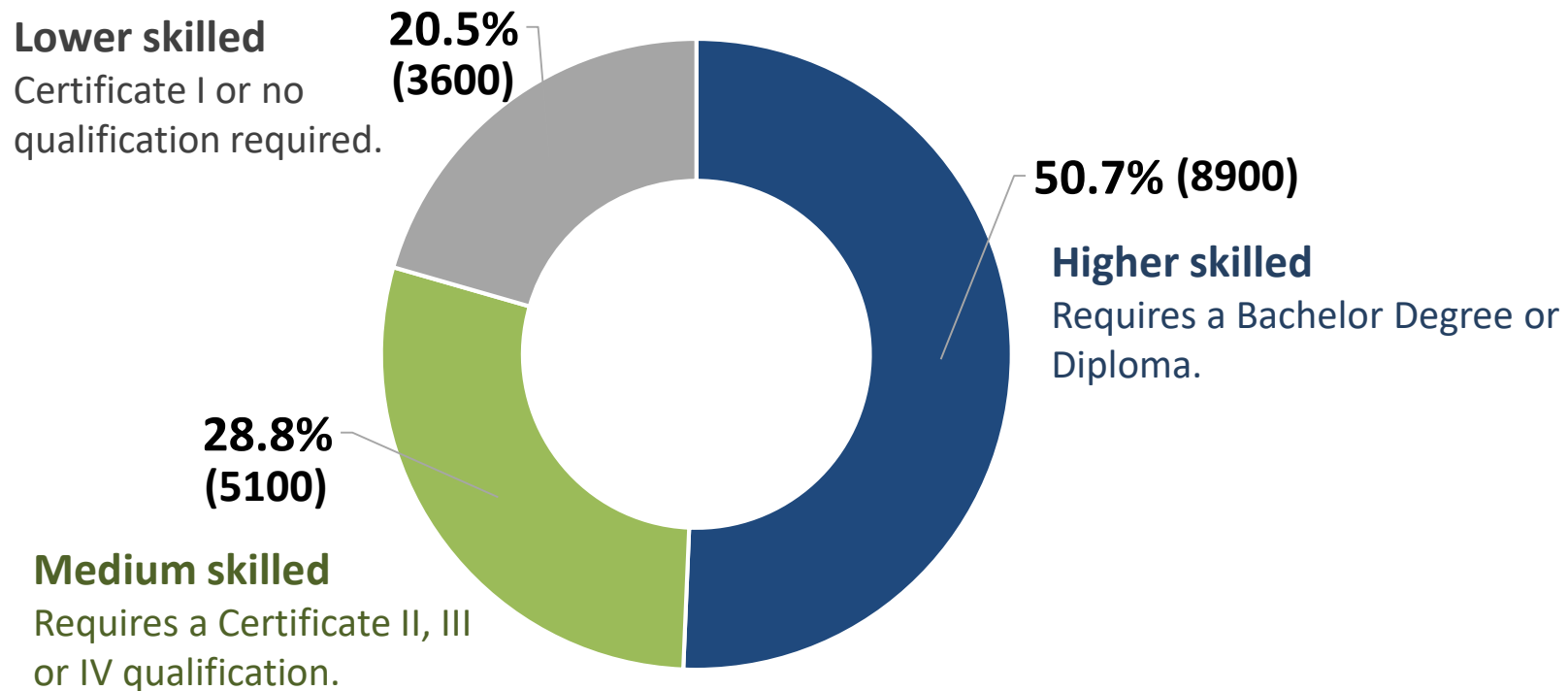
Other turnover + ≈3,000

Total ≈**12,850**

Most new jobs require post-school qualifications...

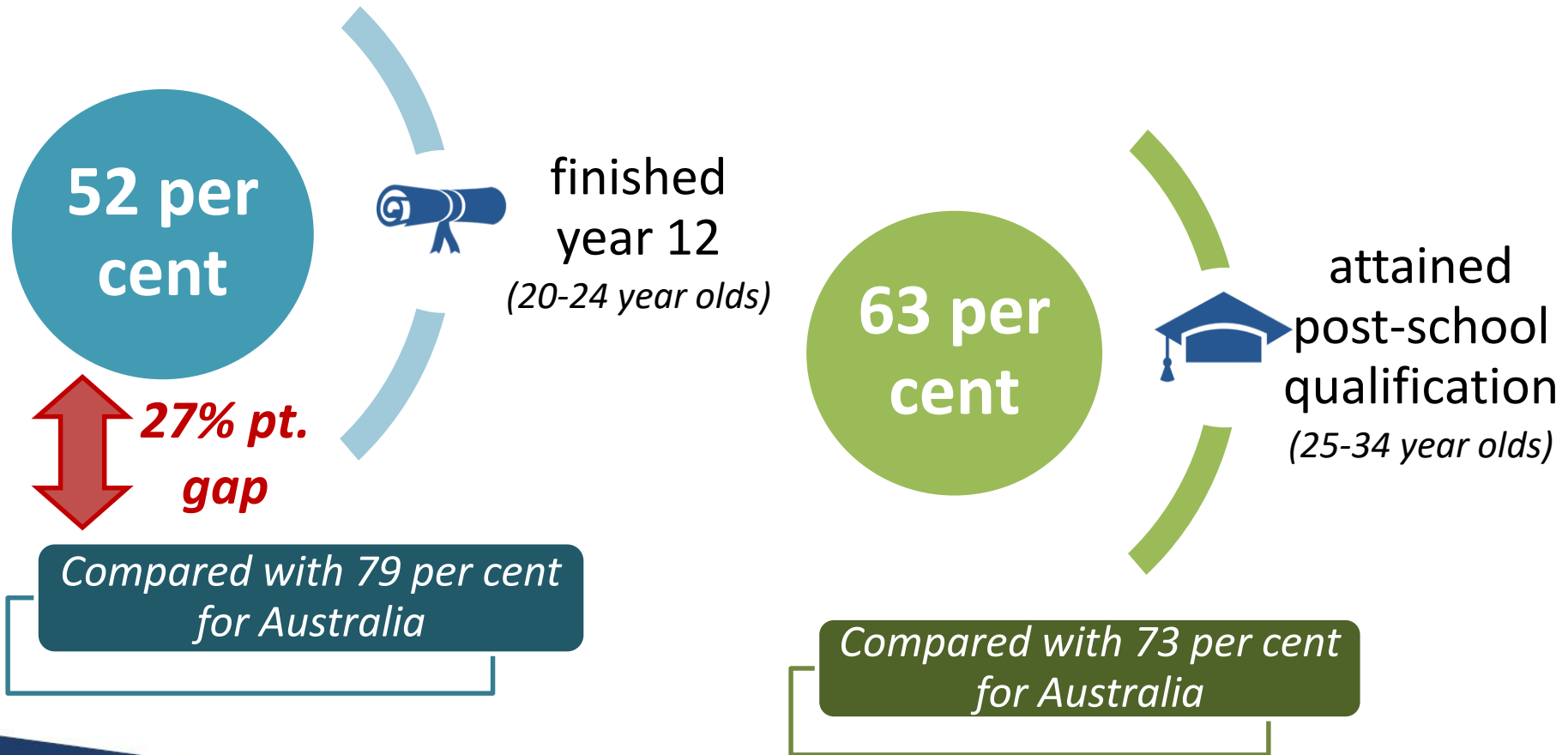
Share of jobs growth by skill level, 2006 to 2016, Tasmania

17,600 new jobs from 2006 to 2016 in Tasmania



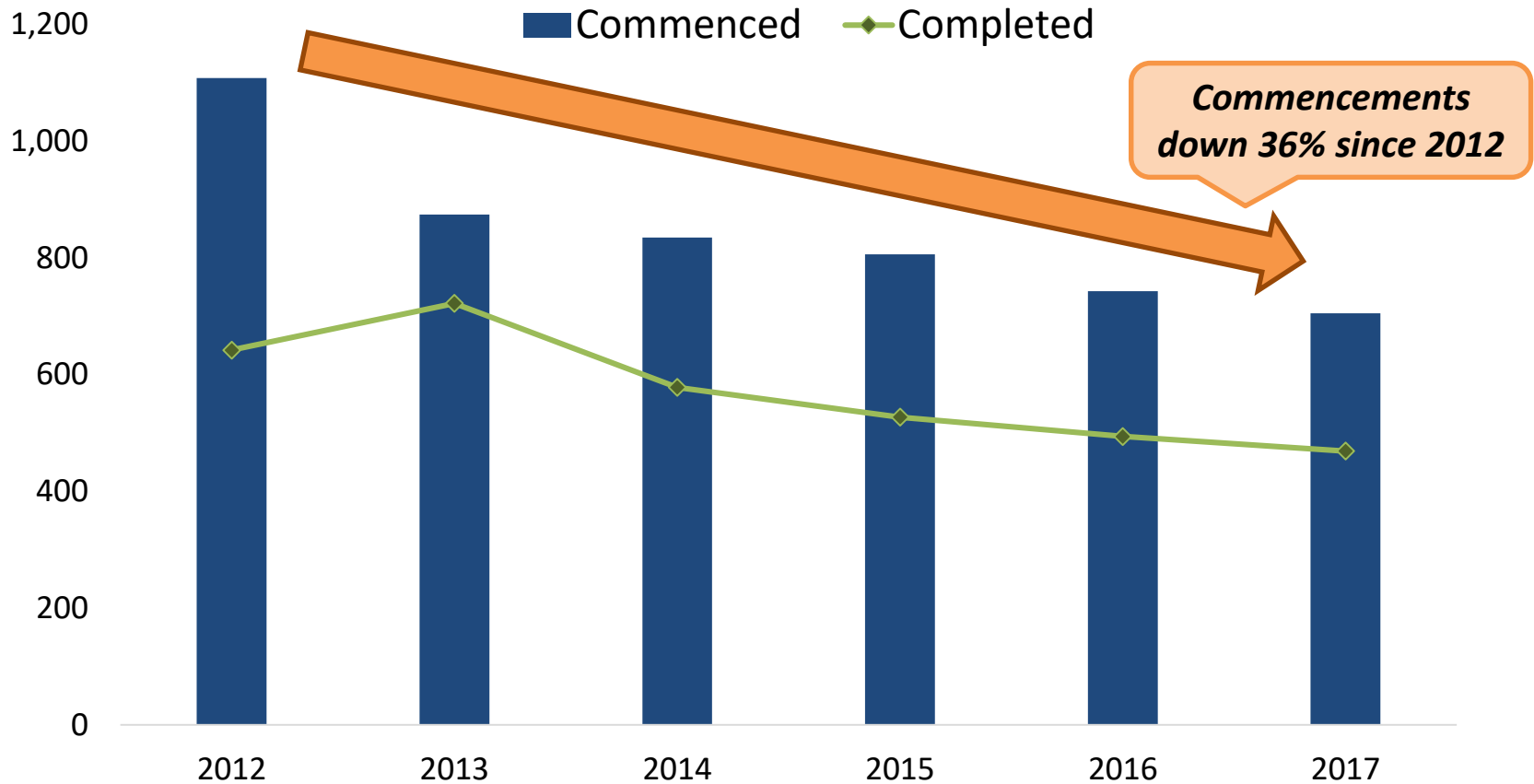
...but education levels in West and North West are well below the average for Australia

West and North West SA4, Census 2016



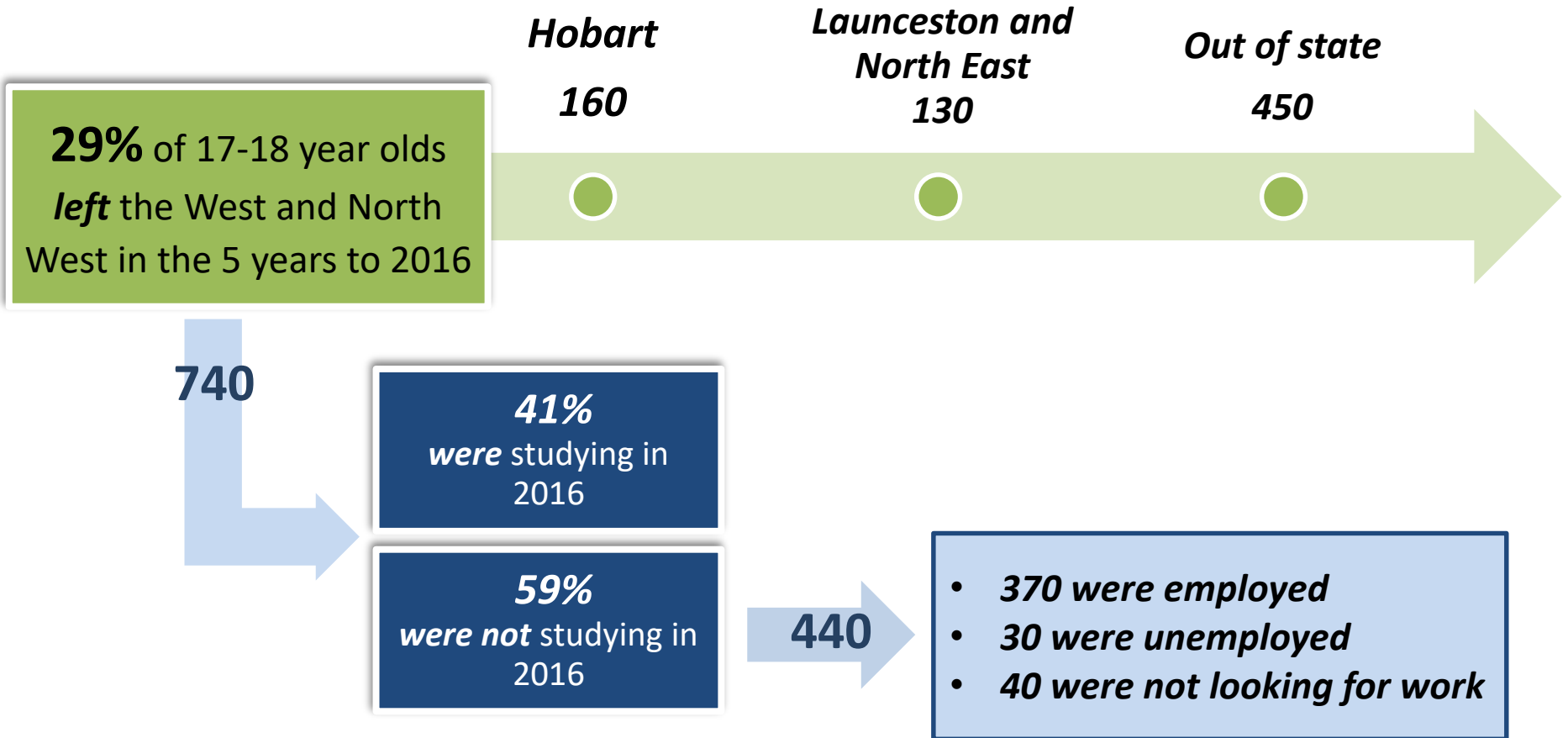
West and North West employers have been taking on fewer young apprentices and trainees in recent years...

15-24 year olds, West and North West SA4



...and many young people have left the region

17-18 year olds who lived in West and North West SA4 in 2011



Concluding thoughts

Longer-term challenges

- Very low/negative population growth
- Young people leaving the region
- Old and ageing workforce in Healthcare and other industries
- Continued structural change will create transitional challenges
- Many job seekers are long-term unemployed
- Education levels are low, but most new jobs require post-school qualifications

The region will have significant labour demands

- Strong growth forecast in the Healthcare and Social Assistance industry
- Imminent retirements in some industries
- More than a third of employers already have difficulty recruiting

Further Information

- www.jobs.gov.au/recruitment-conditions
- <http://lmip.gov.au/>
- www.jobs.gov.au/skillshortages
- <https://www.jobs.gov.au/australian-jobs-publication>
- www.joboutlook.gov.au
- <http://whatsnext.jobs.gov.au>



Australian Government

Department of Jobs and Small Business

If you have any questions about the presentation please contact the Recruitment and Employer Needs Analysis Section at RecruitmentAnalysis@jobs.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of Jobs and Small Business