

ANZ-ROY MORGAN AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER CONFIDENCE MEDIA RELEASE

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CONSUMER CONFIDENCE: STILL ABOVE AVERAGE

- ANZ-Roy Morgan Australian Consumer Confidence slipped 0.6% last week to 115.1, effectively unwinding the 0.7% gain in the previous week, but remaining above its long run average. The details were mixed; sentiment around financial conditions declined, but the remaining indexes posted small gains.
- Households continue to remain upbeat about both current and future economic conditions, with the subindices up 0.9% and 0.8% respectively. In four week moving average terms, views towards current economic conditions are at their highest point since late 2013.
- Views towards current financial conditions fell 2.7% last week, more than reversing the 1.7% gain previously, and bringing the subindex to a 6 week low. Views towards future financial conditions also deteriorated, falling 2.8% last week. Even so, both subindices currently sit above their long term averages.
- Sentiment around the 'time to buy a household item' rose 1.1% last week while inflation expectations were stable at 4.5%.

ANZ'S HEAD OF AUSTRALIAN ECONOMICS, DAVID PLANK, COMMENTED:

"Households' views towards overall economic conditions have improved substantially over the last two months, supported by a strong labour market and accommodative monetary policy. However, confidence in financial conditions, particularly in the near term, remains under pressure. This reflects several headwinds that consumers face, particularly high household debt and persistently weak wage growth.

Still, the overall improvement in sentiment holds out the prospect for a stronger gain in consumer spending in the current quarter after growth of just 0.1% in household consumption in the September quarter. The bounce in retail sales in October suggests this may be the case.

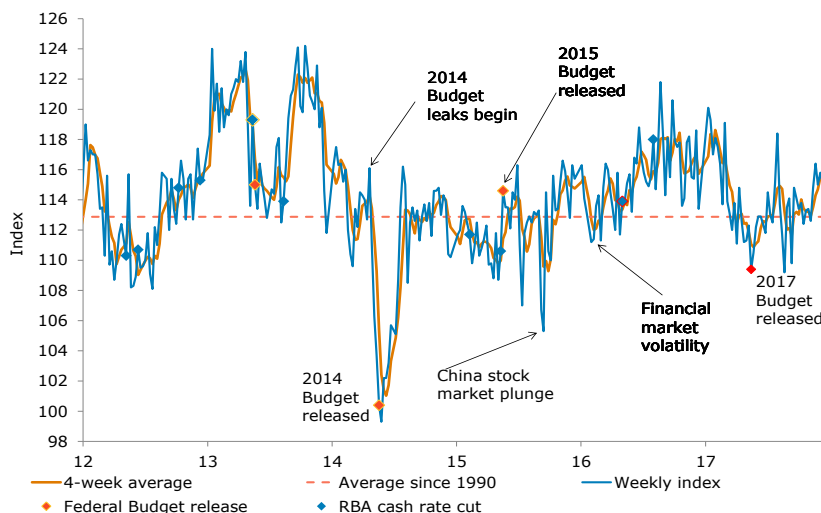
While we expect a lower-than-consensus number for employment growth out later this week, this reflects our view that official numbers have overshot leading indicators, rather than a softening in conditions. Overall, labour market conditions remain solid and will likely continue to support confidence in the near term."

Figure 1. ANZ-Roy Morgan Australian Consumer Confidence & inflation expectations

Last week (9-10 Dec)	Weekly change, %	Four-week average	Monthly average since 1990	Inflation expectations (four-week ma)
115.1	-0.6%	115.6	112.9	4.5%

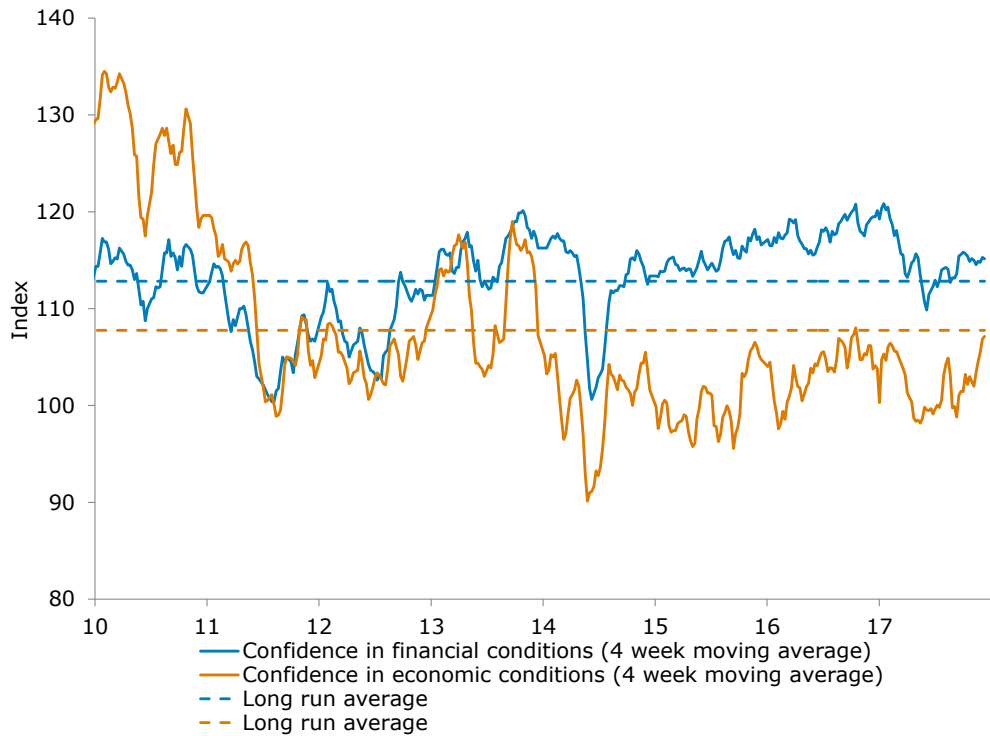
Data collected last weekend (Saturday and Sunday), based on around 1,000 face-to-face interviews. Not seasonally adjusted. Further data history on page 5.

Figure 2. Confidence has recovered strongly since early November



Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

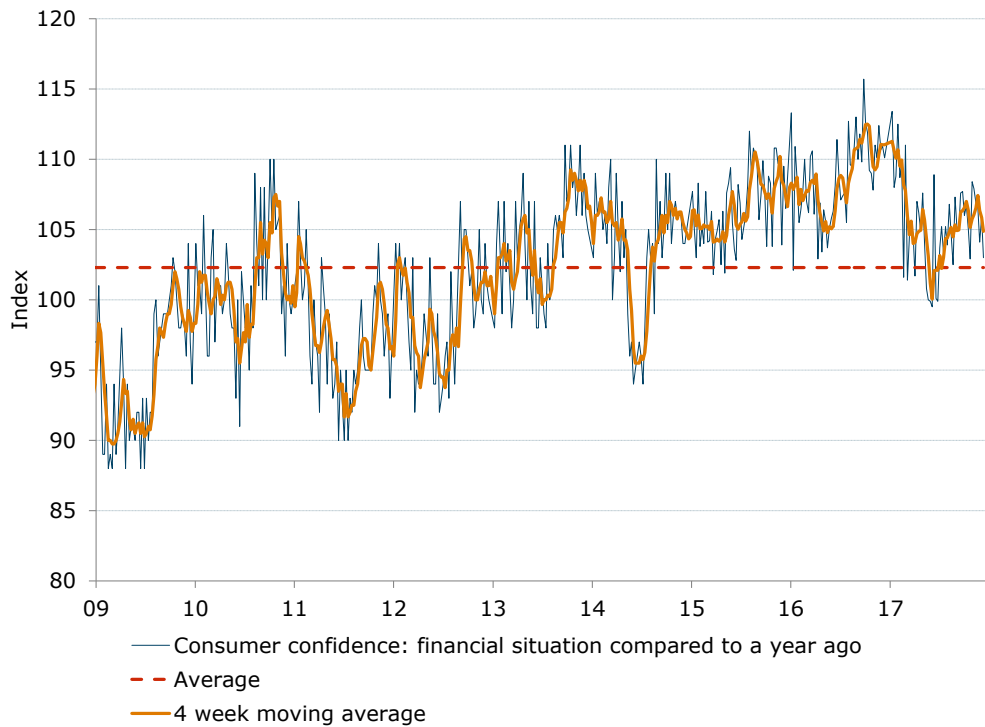
Figure 3. Assessment of overall economic conditions rises to average



Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

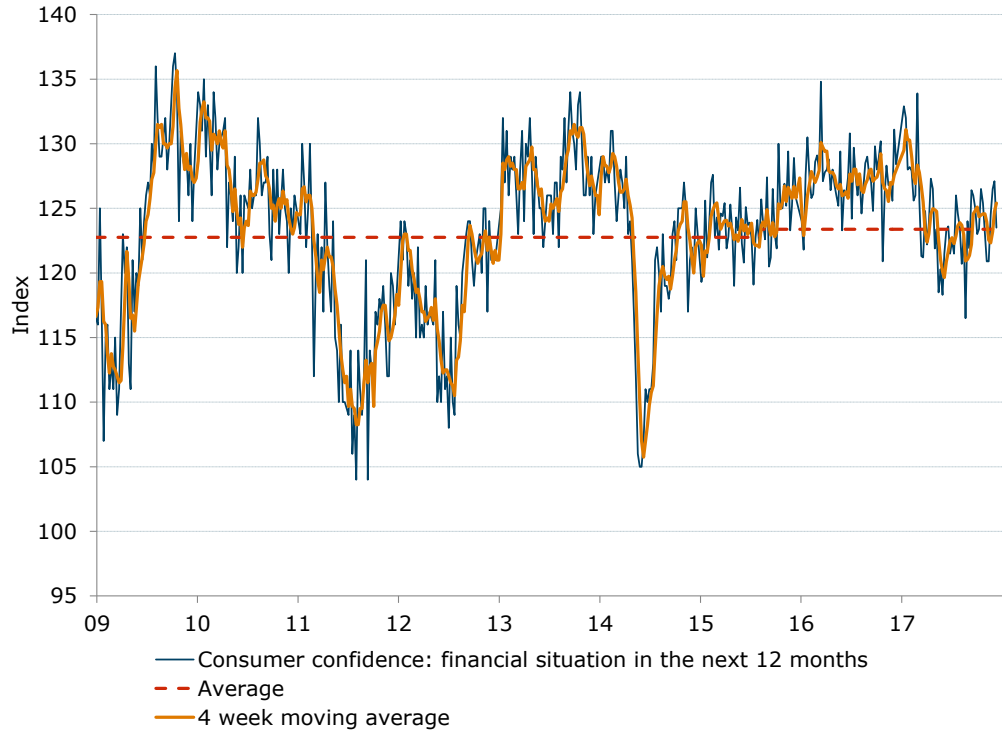
Note: Financial conditions index is an average of 'financial situation compared to a year ago' and 'financial situation next year' sub-indices. Economic conditions index is an average of 'economic conditions in 12 months' and 'economic conditions in five years' subindices.

Figure 4. Current financial conditions are trending down...



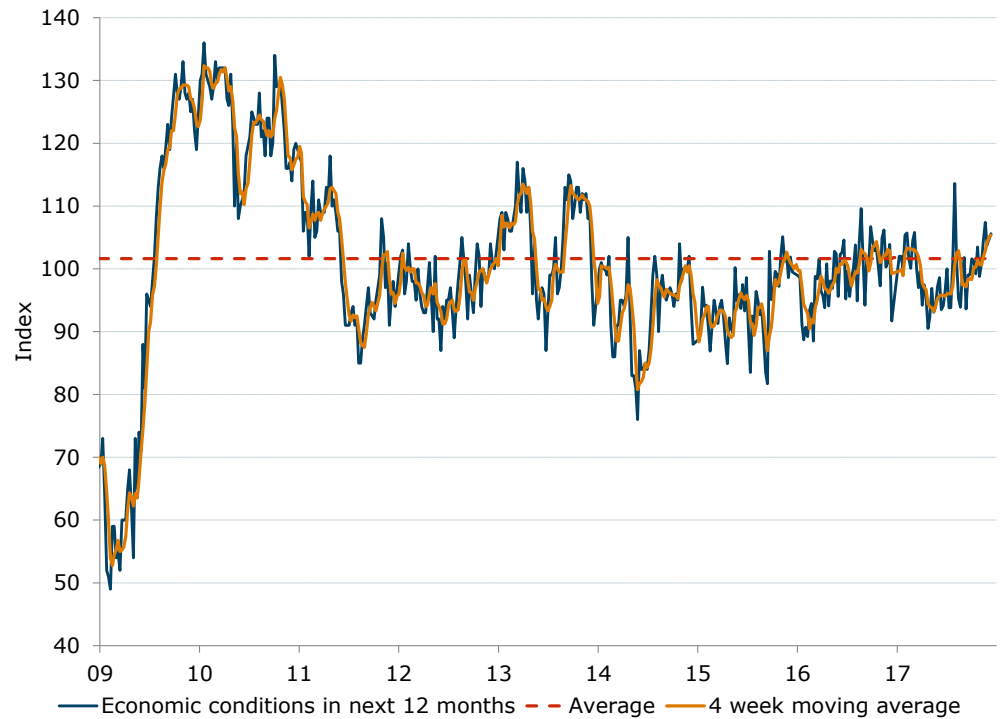
Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

Figure 5. ...though future conditions have improved



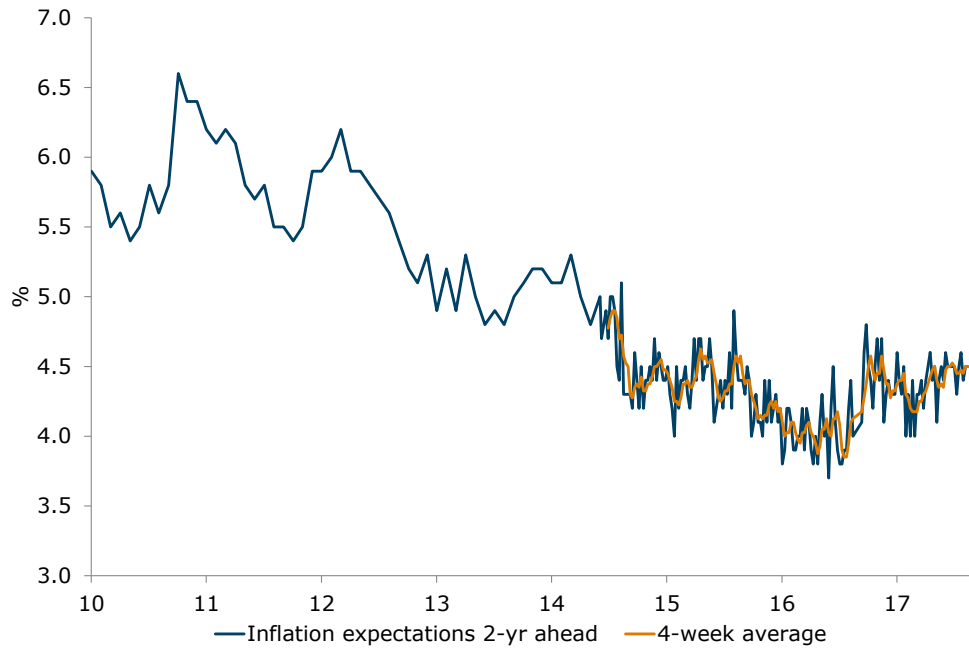
Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

Figure 6. Views around current economic conditions have improved steadily in recent weeks



Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

Figure 7. Inflation expectations remain stable at 4.5%



* Data from Oct-2014 is weekly.
Data prior to that is monthly.

Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

Table 1. ANZ-Roy Morgan Australian 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	105	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
2016 avg	115	-	109	127	99	108	134	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
24-Jul-16	115.5	115.4	105.5	126.0	100.1	108.4	137.3	4.1
31-Jul-16	118.0	115.9	112.7	127.6	103.8	107.8	138.1	3.9
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
4-Sep-16	114.3	118.0	110.0	127.5	94.2	105.3	134.7	4.3
11-Sep-16	118.1	118.2	111.8	127.1	101.8	110.1	139.9	4.0
18-Sep-16	115.5	116.6	109.8	124.8	100.7	108.6	133.5	4.1
25-Sep-16	120.6	117.1	115.7	129.8	106.7	112.5	138.5	3.7
2-Oct-16	117.9	118.0	112.6	128.0	104.5	110.9	133.3	4.2
9-Oct-16	117.5	117.9	111.9	128.9	102.9	111.7	132.2	4.5
16-Oct-16	117.8	118.5	109.2	130.2	103.3	111.6	134.9	4.1
23-Oct-16	113.6	116.7	109.0	120.9	100.5	106.1	131.6	3.9
30-Oct-16	114.1	115.8	107.8	126.1	97.3	104.4	134.6	3.8
6-Nov-16	117.8	115.8	111.0	128.3	104.9	109.8	135.2	3.8
13-Nov-16	118.2	115.9	110.1	126.8	106.2	113.6	134.3	3.9
20-Nov-16	115.5	116.4	112.4	126.8	100.3	105.1	132.9	3.9
27-Nov-16	115.4	116.7	110.7	125.6	101.0	108.4	131.3	4.2
4-Dec-16	118.6	116.9	110.9	131.1	103.9	110.8	136.6	4.4
11-Dec-16	113.4	115.7	110.1	128.4	91.7	108.9	128.1	4.0
8-Jan-17	120.1	116.9	113.4	132.9	102.0	111.3	141.0	4.1
15-Jan-17	119.3	117.9	108.0	132.0	102.0	112.0	142.5	4.6
22-Jan-17	117.0	117.5	108.8	128.0	100.0	109.3	138.9	4.8
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Source: ANZ-Roy Morgan

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