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Newsletter #81

Economic Society of Australia,
New South Wales Branch,
June 2021
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Dear friend,

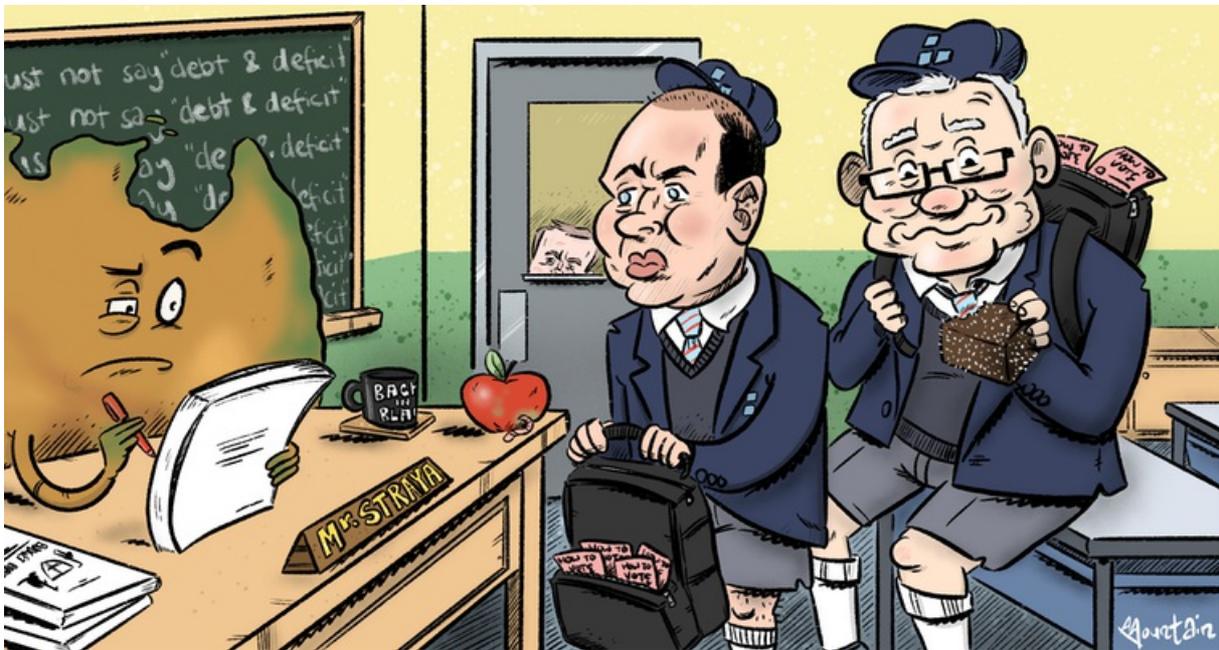
Welcome to our June newsletter. Read on for information about upcoming economics events and activities, including the Young Economist Network Trivia Night.

News

The latest NEP poll asked what grade our Panellists would give the Federal Budget. You can read the results of the survey below.

The Federal Budget May 2021

Great approach, weak execution. Economists decline to give budget top marks



Wes Mountain/The Conversation, [CC BY-ND](#)

Peter Martin, *Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University*

Despite overwhelmingly endorsing the general stance of the 2021 budget, only a few of the 56 leading economists surveyed by the Economic Society of Australia and The Conversation are prepared to give it top marks.

Asked to grade the budget on a scale of A to F given Treasurer Josh Frydenberg's objective of [securing Australia's economic recovery and building for the future](#), only three of the 56 economists surveyed gave it an 'A'.

But a very large 41% awarded it either an A or a B, up from 37% in last year's October COVID budget.

The economists chosen to take part in the Economic Society of Australia survey have been recognised by their peers as Australia's leaders in fields including macroeconomics, economic modelling, housing and budget policy.

Among them are a former head of Australia's prime minister's department, a former member of the Reserve Bank board, a former OECD director and two former frontbenchers, one from Labor and one from the Coalition.

Of the panel members who commented on the historic stance of the budget — expanding the size of the deficit [beyond what it would have been](#) in order to drive down unemployment — all but three offered enthusiastic endorsement.

Emeritus Professor Sue Richardson of the University of Adelaide commended the government for at last turning its back on a "debt and deficit" mantra, that was "never justified".

Read more:

[Exclusive. Top economists back budget push for an unemployment rate beginning with '4'](#)

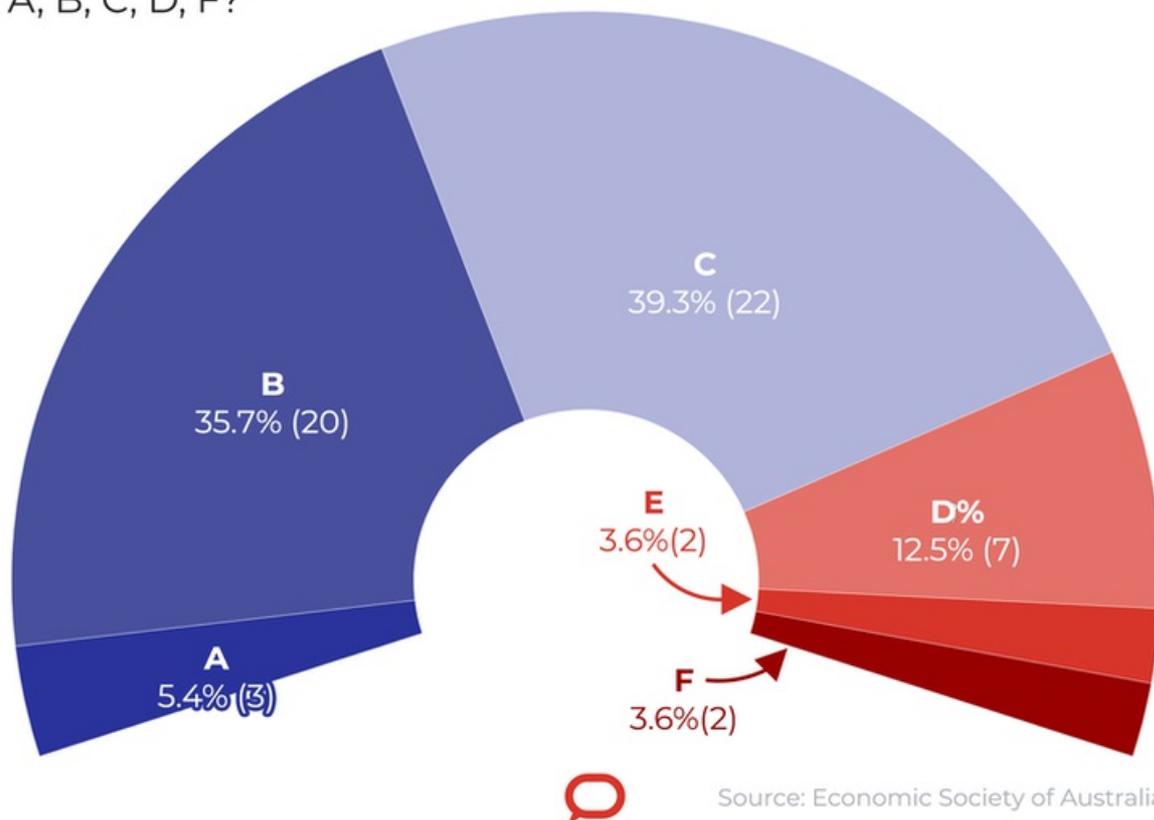
Professor Richard Holden praised the "watershed". In due course there should be increased attention paid to the structure and quality of spending, but for now we should applaud the "Frydenberg Pivot".

Saul Eslake said the strategy of providing further stimulus to push unemployment down to levels [not seen consistently since the first half of the 1970s](#) was the right one. It meant the Reserve Bank and the treasury would no longer be working at "cross purposes" as they had been for most of the past two decades.

Responses from 56 economists to the question:

"On May 11, the government delivered a budget designed, in the Treasurer's words, to 'secure Australia's economic recovery and build for the future'.

What grade would you give the budget given that objective: A, B, C, D, F?"



The Conversation, CC BY-ND

But Eslake said the budget fell short in the A\$20 billion it devoted to tax concessions for small business in the mistaken and unfounded belief it is "the engine room of the economy" and in housing measures that failed to heed warnings from history about the risks of ultra-high loan-to-valuation ratios.

Rebecca Cassells of the Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre said the claim that 60,000 jobs would flow from extending the temporary loss carry back and full expensing tax concessions was "a stretch," with the connection quite tenuous.

Bucks, but not the biggest bang

Consultant Nicki Hutley said a bigger boost to the JobSeeker unemployment payment would have achieved much more than the \$7.8 billion one-year extension of the "lamington" low and middle income tax offset.

Economic modeller Janine Dixon said while spending more to get more people into work was the "right setting for the times," Australia had to ensure its workforce was ready to supply the extra aged care and child care and disability services it had funded by delivering the right training, especially in the absence of migration, which has traditionally been used to address workforce shortages.

Labour market specialist Elisabetta Magnani said measures to boost wages in the caring occupations could have achieved the double bonus of drawing more workers into those occupations and shrinking the gender pay gap, given that more than 80% of the workers in residential aged care are female.

Little for net-zero

Michael Keating, a former head of the prime minister's department, said restoring high wage growth would require big investments in education and training, which sits oddly with the cuts in funding for universities. The extra funding for apprentices and trainees only makes up for past cuts.

Professor Gigi Foster said the \$1.7 billion spent on childcare subsidies was only "surface-level fiddling with the sticker price".

"Where is the supply-side intervention required to make childcare services sustainably accessible and of high quality?" she asked. "Childcare should be viewed as social infrastructure. Instead, when we heard infrastructure, it was mainly code for transportation."

Read more:

[Fewer hard hats, more soft hearts: budget pivots to women and care](#)

Margaret Nowak of Curtin University said a budget that really “built for the future” would not have focused on the “infrastructure of the past”. Professor Richardson lamented that most of the infrastructure spending was on traditional “roads and ports” when the future was net-zero emissions.

“There is little in the budget that supports this transformation,” she said. “It is an extraordinary lost opportunity.

Nicki Hutley said retooling the economy for zero emissions would have brought forth “more jobs, higher wages, more growth and private sector co-investment”.

Some concern about debt

Former OECD director Adrian Blundell-Wignall said a much-greater investment in vaccinations would have helped “get the economy back to work and the borders opened sooner which, in turn, would have saved unemployment benefits, tourism, aviation support and the need for the extension of temporary measures”.

And he was concerned that a jump in US inflation might cause international interest rates to rise faster than expected, forcing Australia to cut its projected budget deficits in order to stabilise net debt.

Read more:

[Frydenberg spends the bounty to drive unemployment to new lows](#)

Former International Monetary Fund economist Tony Makin, a **critic** of government spending during the global financial crisis, described the budget spending as a “knee-jerk primitive Keynesian reaction” to the COVID recession.

Unease about going into debt to keep and create jobs aside (and very few of the economists surveyed shared Makin’s unease) the criticisms of the economists surveyed relate to execution and details. If Frydenberg had been judged on his approach, most would have given him an A.

Peter Martin, Visiting Fellow, [Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University](#)

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Virtual ACE 2021

ACE2021

It is our pleasure to invite you to the Australian Conference of Economists (ACE) 2021 to be held from 12 to 14 July 2021 as a fully virtual event.

ACE 2021 will celebrate over 100 years of welfare economics and will bring together like-minded individuals to explore concepts of allocation, utilisation and distribution of our resources as they relate to the wealth and wellbeing of individuals and our society. The conference program will feature presentations on research and/or policy papers that deal with **Wealth, Wellbeing and other issues in economics**.

Be sure to add ACE 2021 to your calendar and join us in this celebration of a centenary of learnings and achievements. We look forward to reconnecting with many of our members, as well as new and returning faces.

[VISIT THE DEDICATED ACE2021 WEBSITE](#)

Upcoming Events

The Young Economist Network invite you to join them at the ever popular **Trivia Night** being held on Wednesday 23 June.

Trivia Night 2021

ESA's Trivia Night promises a night of fun, networking, general knowledge and trivia. The Young Economists Network invites its members, Economic Society of Australia members, young professionals, academics & students, and friends to a night of trivia fun and networking.

After the postponement last year, we look forward to welcoming everyone back for our annual flagship event. You can register in teams or individually and the trivia will cover both general knowledge and economics questions. Finger food will be provided.

PRIZES for the winning team will be awarded on the night.

Previous 3 winners: NSW Treasury (2019), RBA (2018), Deloitte (2017).

Please enter the names and email addresses of your team in the spaces provided so that we can send confirmation emails and gather any special dietary requirements. This information can be updated by the booker at any time by logging into the ESA website and navigating to **My Payments / Edit Event Attendees** via the **My Menu** bar.

Details

We encourage attendees to form a full table of 10 contestants, however, individual tickets can also be purchased and you will be placed in a team with diverse knowledge.

Members - remember to login to get the member price.

Please also keep an eye out for webinar events from other ESA Branches. The Central Council [Calendar](#) has all this information.

Partner Events

Assumptions challenged, learnings and implications for debt...
ABE are pleased to present a briefing and discussion with

Mr Rob Nicholl

Chief Executive Officer

Australian Office of Financial Management (AOFM)

A number of the AOFM's assumptions about liquidity management, operational flexibility, and its understanding of the AGS market were challenged in 2020. Some of the learnings from last year will be important as we plan for 2021-22 and beyond."

Details

Time: 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Venue: Four Seasons Sydney, 199 George Street, The Rocks

Cost: \$165 members, \$195 for non-members, \$1480 table of 8 guests

Register and pay online [here](#)

Registration in advance is essential

Mr Nicholl has agreed to take questions from the audience.

Enquiries: info@abe.org.au or call 0419 256 339

If you're not a current member of ABE, join or renew now and remain financial through until June 2022. Take advantage of free and discounted places at our events. Join or renew online at the event registration page.



Rob Nicholl

Mr Nicholl was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Office of Financial Management in January 2011. He has extensive public and financial policy experience having had a number of senior executive appointments in the Tasmanian Treasury and Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources. His public and financial policy knowledge is broad and during his eight-year appointment as a Tasmanian Treasury Deputy Secretary he gained significant commercial and regulatory experience taking a lead role in major whole-of-government projects. In 2000, Mr Nicholl worked as Senior Advisor to the then Tasmanian Deputy Premier. Prior to joining the public service, he spent several years in academia as a research fellow and lecturing in economics. He has worked as a consultant and has a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Tasmania and a Master of Arts from the University of Alberta.

Australian Business Economists (ABE) aims to encourage greater understanding of economic issues by fostering debate in the financial markets, business and commercial sectors and across the community in general. Visit us at: abe.org.au

Australian Business Economists

email: info@abe.org.au web: abe.org.au phone: 0419 256 339

Critical Junctures/Critical perspectives – a call for new voices in tax reform

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended societies worldwide. It has exposed the consequences of economic stratification with the poor and marginalised disproportionately bearing the economic impact of the pandemic, the consequences of lockdown responses (such as the shut-down of Melbourne's public housing towers) and the burden of disease.

COVID-19 has also been more likely to affect groups at the intersection of economic and social disadvantage. The effects of the pandemic have fallen unequally on women. It has further entrenched gender pay/wealth gaps, with women more likely to have lost their job and to have undertaken additional care. Affected groups also include low-paid migrant workers on the COVID front line; Indigenous people especially vulnerable to COVID due to a higher likelihood of co-morbidities and restricted access to essential services; and LGBTIQ+ individuals who are potentially more vulnerable to COVID-related lockdown measures being statistically more likely to face additional physical and mental health issues.

The pandemic has also exposed the impact of a continued neglect of public institutions and declining investment in public goods – be it with under-resourced and overwhelmed health systems or decimated local supply chains.

In Australia, the bipartisan political response has paired massive government spending with declining revenue (both as a consequence of the pandemic reducing the income and consumption tax base as well as deliberate policy decisions to cut personal income tax rates and introduce tax concessions).

It is likely that the fiscal pressure from these developments will ultimately require fundamental tax reform. That is, the impact of COVID-19 on fiscal systems worldwide is exactly the type of crisis often thought necessary to precipitate major tax reform.

At such a critical juncture, it is essential to open the discussion of tax reform to new voices and new perspectives. The technical subject matter of taxation (and the general public apathy towards this perceived technical detail) means that certain groups and epistemic communities can dominate tax policy formation, development and implementation. This is despite the stakes being so high – taxation is one of the primary means to address wealth and income inequality in a political system that is tied to a market-based economy.

This symposium seeks to open the debate on reform to new voices and new perspectives that are able to challenge the status quo. It invites papers from scholars from all disciplines (for example, law, politics, economics, sociology) to offer critical perspectives on taxation. Topics might include (but are not limited to):

- The role of taxation in addressing wealth and income inequality
- Taxation and gender inequality
- The differential impact of tax policy on marginalised groups such as Indigenous people, migrant and refugee communities and LGBTIQ+ groups
- The role of taxation in addressing environmental issues.

The symposium will be hosted online from Melbourne and be held from **15-16 July 2021**. Eligible participants will be invited to submit their written papers for possible inclusion in a special issue of the *Australian Tax Review* in 2022.

The symposium offers the opportunity for scholars from diverse disciplines to be paired to respond to a common issue. Scholars might choose to do so themselves through submitting a joint abstract or express an interest in being paired with a scholar from another discipline when they submit their abstract. In the latter case, an effort will be made (subject to constraints) to link scholars whose abstracts are accepted with others who may wish to, and be suitable to, collaborate on the topic. Papers from early career scholars and people from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds are especially welcome to apply. Due to logistical and other considerations, the call for papers is primarily (but not exclusively) directed at participants in Australia and New Zealand.

Enquiries and abstracts of no more than a page should be submitted to kathryn.james@monash.edu. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 7 March 2021.

[READ MORE](#)

Reading and Listening

Catch up on ESA Central Council's National Webinar Program [here](#).

Careers and Graduate Opportunities

Advertising an economics position on the ESA website is a good way to get wide exposure for a role. If you would like to advertise a role on the website, please contact our [administrator](#) for more information. There is a small fee of \$110 inc GST.

Current opportunities are listed below.

Senior Researchers – Economics and Tax

Department of Parliamentary Services, Canberra, ACT

Working in the Parliamentary Library

Library research specialists provide high-quality and impartial information, analysis and advice directly to parliamentarians, their

staff and other parliamentary clients. The opportunity to directly inform the work of the Parliament makes the Parliamentary Library a unique and rewarding environment in which to work.

As a research specialist you can expect to undertake a diverse range of interesting and challenging work that is highly valued by our parliamentary clients, including preparing confidential commissioned research and writing commentaries on Bills before Parliament (known as Bills Digests). You will also have the opportunity to write research publications on matters of interest to the Parliament.

Working in the Economic Policy Section

Members of the Economic Policy section respond to client research requests across a wide range of public policy areas, including: economics; banking and financial services; competition and markets policy; budgets; communications; infrastructure; trade; agriculture; energy and resources; taxation; regional development; labour markets; industrial relations; and Commonwealth-state financial relations. Senior Researchers have individual responsibility for particular policy areas but must be sufficiently flexible to take on other policy responsibilities as required.

Senior Researchers — Tax and Economics

The Economic Policy section in the Research Branch of the Parliamentary Library is recruiting a Senior Researcher in the areas of tax and superannuation and a Senior Researcher in economics. These positions are at the Parliamentary Executive Level 1 (PEL1). Any merit pool created from this recruitment process may be used to fill ongoing or non-ongoing positions that may arise over the next 12 months. The Parliamentary Library is a division of the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS)

Who we are looking for

We are looking for people with relevant tertiary qualifications, expertise and experience. Tertiary qualifications and experience in economics, commerce or law are preferred. For the position of Senior Researcher in tax and superannuation, relevant qualifications, knowledge and/or experience in tax and superannuation law and practice will be highly regarded.

We are looking for someone with strong research and analytical skills and an ability to explain complex matters to experts and non-experts simply, clearly and accurately, in writing, over the phone, or in person. You must be able to produce accurate briefs by agreed deadlines and manage competing priorities.

You will be required to work directly to clients under limited supervision in a collaborative environment. You must be well-informed, motivated, adaptable and able to provide excellent client service. Professionalism and sound judgement are essential and you must be able to maintain strict confidentiality and impartiality in accordance with Library policies.

An awareness of current affairs, parliamentary processes and the workings of government is desirable. The ability to work with legislation will also be highly regarded.

These are ongoing positions. Any merit pool created from this recruitment process may be used to fill ongoing or non-ongoing positions that may arise over the next 12 months.

For further information and to apply, please visit: <https://career10.successfactors.com/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=27124&company=DPS>

Closing Date: 2nd June, 2021
Opportunities at Investment NSW

About the Agency

As a central agency, Investment NSW will drive all trade and investment attraction activities within the NSW Government, which will maximise economic benefits and jobs growth.

Investment NSW will:

- target local and global businesses to drive investment
- provide rapid responses to business needs
- be a single point of accountability and one-stop-shop for the private sector
- help Australian businesses to scale up and 'go global' for maximum jobs growth
- market Sydney and NSW on the world stage as a destination for tourism, major events, business investment, international study, and global talent.

Location

The Economic Development Branch has employees located in both Sydney CBD and Orange. Applicants can choose to work in either location, Orange or Sydney.

Orange is a vibrant town known for its excellent local produce, impressive vineyards, fine dining restaurants and outdoor activities. Orange is arguably the hub of medical and health expertise outside Sydney and is home to excellent schools and tertiary education institutions. This role will allow you the opportunity to grow your career, while maintaining a healthy work-life balance.

Associate Director Economic Research 8ANR

- Lead a team delivering high quality economic research to produce tangible outcomes for NSW residents and drive opportunities for business, investment, and jobs growth in NSW.
- Put your research experience and analytical skills to good use as you work with teams across Investment NSW and other agencies to deliver timely and evidence-based advice and recommendations for action.
- The role is a permanent position located in Orange or Sydney NSW.
- Package includes base salary (\$128,473- \$148,578) plus superannuation and leave loading.

The Associate Director, Economic Research role is part of the Economic Development Branch, which provides strategic economic analysis and advice to inform strategy, policy and investment decisions across the agency and NSW Government.

For information about Investment NSW go to <https://www.investment.nsw.gov.au/>

About the Role

The **Associate Director, Economic Research** will lead and manage the Agency's primary economic research unit in delivering policy-relevant research on issues of significance to the NSW economy. In this role, you will lead the conceptual planning and implementation of economic research projects to inform the design and development NSW Government programs and policies. Providing evidence-based advice and timely recommendations for action in policy areas across Investment NSW and NSW Government clients is an essential element of this role.

Please review the [Role Description](#) for more information.

About you

We are looking for an Associate Director who:

- has a strong grasp of economic principles and public policy development, experience building economic models and undertaking technical analysis across diverse policy issues
- can successfully lead and manage a team, including coaching and mentoring where appropriate
- has the management skills to balance ad hoc requests with longer-term research projects to deliver timely advice and recommendations.

Required knowledge, skills & experience

- Tertiary qualifications in economics, commerce or other related fields undertaking significant economic analysis or equivalent knowledge.

How to apply

To learn more about the role and the application process through I work for NSW, please [click here to apply now](#)

Salary: Clerk Grade 11/12. Package includes base salary (\$128,473- \$148,578) plus superannuation and leave loading.

Closing date: Sunday, 30 May 2021 (11:59 PM)

Senior Analyst, Applied Economics – 00008AKP

- Would you like to develop influential economic analysis to deliver better outcomes for the people of NSW?
- Do you have experience in developing strategic and evidence-based materials that demonstrate your exceptional communication and analytical skills?
- This is an opportunity for an innovative and versatile Economist to join Investment NSW and drive trade and investment attraction activities to maximise economic benefits and jobs growth in NSW.

About the Role

The **Senior Analyst, Applied Economics** will develop highly effective advice, based on economic analysis, to inform strategy, policy and investment decisions that facilitate the delivery of major initiatives. This will include, developing compelling, innovative and fit-for-purpose materials to communicate complex economic concepts and the results of data analysis.

Want to know more? Please refer to the [Role Description](#).

About the Branch

The Economic Development Branch in Investment NSW provides strategic economic analysis and advice to inform strategy, policy and investment decisions across the agency and NSW Government.

About you

We are looking for a Senior Analyst who can successfully:

- 'tell a story with data' and communicate complex economic concepts to build a compelling case, developing options and influencing decision makers
- develop and lead projects that include economic analysis on a wide range of industry, regional and economic issues, and create the fit-for-purpose materials, including business cases, that make the results accessible and valued
- manage and support project teams with effective research design and project management skills

Required knowledge, skills & experience

- Tertiary qualifications in economics, commerce or other related fields undertaking significant economic analysis or equivalent knowledge.
- Experience in applying economic principles, developing policy and strategy options, and clearly communicating complex economic analysis in various forms.
- Demonstrated project management, stakeholder engagement and policy development skills.

Interested in applying?

To learn more about the role and the application process through I work for NSW please [click here to apply now](#).

Salary: Clerk Grade 9/10. Package includes base salary (\$111,077- \$122,404) plus superannuation and leave loading.

Closing date: Thursday, 3 June 2021 (11:59 PM)

Senior Analyst, Evaluation – 000089V0

- Are you passionate about policy and program evaluation?
- Would you like the opportunity to work with a dynamic and responsive team committed to continual improvement of program delivery for the residents of NSW?
- Ongoing, Clerk Grade 9/10 role

About the Role

Our **Senior Analyst, Evaluation**, is responsible for conducting program design and evaluation, developing policy advice and providing input into business cases to support decision-making and program design. A fast paced, high volume role, providing you with challenges to develop your evaluation skills and widen your experience, while using your high-level attention to detail and stakeholder engagement skills.

Want to know more? Please refer to the [Role Description](#)

About you

We are looking for a Senior Analyst who:

- Identifies and solves problems
- Is a strong communicator
- Shows drive and motivation
- Self reflects and has a commitment to learning
- Works both autonomously and collaboratively
- Deliver work within required timeframes
- Interpret complex data and distil evidence-based learnings

Required knowledge, skills and experience

- Demonstrated experience in program evaluation including program design, policy and business case development, and investment appraisal.
- Tertiary qualifications in economics, commerce, public policy or related disciplines or equivalent knowledge and experience.

About the Team

The Program Evaluation Unit (PEU) provides a range of program design, policy, business case and evaluation services to ensure Investment NSW programs are well targeted and achieving their objectives.

Location

The **Senior Analyst, Evaluation** role is located in Orange, a vibrant town known for its excellent local produce, its impressive vineyards, its fine dining restaurants and outdoor activities. Orange is arguably the hub of medical and health expertise outside Sydney and is home to excellent schools and tertiary education institutions. This role will allow you the opportunity to grow your career and work hard, while maintaining a healthy work-life balance. Sydney based applicants would also be considered for this role.

Interested in applying?

To learn more about the role and the application process through I work for NSW please [click here to apply now](#)

Salary: Clerk Grade 9/10. Package includes base salary (\$111,077 - \$122,404) plus superannuation and leave loading.

Closing date: Wednesday, 2 June 2021 (11:59 PM)

Analyst, Evaluation – 0000885M

- Are you passionate about policy and program evaluation?
- Would you like the opportunity to work with a dynamic and responsive team committed to continual improvement of program delivery for the residents of NSW?
- Temporary, Clerk Grade 7/8 role up to 31 December 2021

About the Role

The **Analyst, Evaluation** role undertakes a range of activities that support program, policy and business case development to support decision-making and program design. Activities will include undertaking evaluations, writing quality reports, assisting with the development of policy advice and business case materials.

Want to know more? Please refer to the [Role Description](#).

About you

We are looking for an Analyst who can successfully:

- Identify and solve problems
- Work both autonomously and collaboratively
- Deliver work within required timeframes
- Develop strong professional relationships with stakeholders
- Interpret complex data and distil evidence-based learnings

Required knowledge, skills and experience

- Tertiary qualifications in economics, commerce, public policy or related disciplines or equivalent knowledge and experience.
- Has demonstrated policy or program evaluation or research experience as well as previous experience reporting evaluation results and research findings

About the Team

The Program Evaluation Unit (PEU) provides a range of program design, policy, business case and evaluation services to ensure Investment NSW programs are well targeted and achieving their objectives.

Location

The **Analyst, Evaluation** role is located in Orange, a vibrant town known for its excellent local produce, its impressive vineyards, its fine dining restaurants and outdoor activities. Orange is arguably the hub of medical and health expertise outside Sydney and is home to excellent schools and tertiary education institutions. This role will allow you the opportunity to grow your career and work hard, while maintaining a healthy work-life balance. Sydney based applicants would also be considered for this role.

Interested in applying?

To learn more about the role and the application process through I work for NSW please [click here to apply now](#).

Salary:Clerk Grade 7/8. Package includes base salary (\$97,443- \$107,864) plus superannuation and leave loading.

Closing date: Wednesday 2 June 2021 (11:59 PM)

Associate Director, Economic Research 89NP

An exciting opportunity to join a dynamic and responsive team who are passionate about delivering policy-relevant economic research contributing to the global competitiveness of NSW as a place to invest, do business and live.

- Lead a team delivering high quality economic research to produce tangible outcomes for NSW residents and drive opportunities for business, investment and jobs growth in NSW.
- Put your research experience and analytical skills to good use as you work with teams across Investment NSW and other agencies to deliver timely and evidence-based advice and recommendations for action.
- The role is a permanent position located in Orange or Sydney NSW.
- Package includes base salary (\$128,473- \$148,578) plus superannuation and leave loading.

About the Agency

As a central agency, Investment NSW will drive all trade and investment attraction activities within the NSW Government, which will maximise economic benefits and jobs growth.

Investment NSW will:

- target local and global businesses to drive investment
- provide rapid responses to business needs
- be a single point of accountability and one-stop-shop for the private sector
- help Australian businesses to scale up and 'go global' for maximum jobs growth
- market Sydney and NSW on the world stage as a destination for tourism, major events, business investment, international study and global talent.

The Associate Director, Economic Research role is part of the Economic Development Branch, which provides strategic economic analysis and advice to inform strategy, policy and investment decisions across the agency and NSW Government.

For information about Investment NSW go to <https://www.investment.nsw.gov.au/>

Location

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About the Role

The Associate Director, Economic Research will lead and manage the Agency's primary economic research unit in delivering policy-relevant research on issues of significance to the NSW economy. In this role, you will lead the conceptual planning and implementation of economic research projects to inform the design and development NSW Government programs and policies. Providing evidence-based advice and timely recommendations for action in policy areas across Investment NSW and NSW Government clients is an essential element of this role.

About you

We are looking for an Associate Director who:

- has a strong grasp of economic principles and public policy development, experience building economic models and undertaking technical analysis across diverse policy issues
- can successfully lead and manage a team, including coaching and mentoring where appropriate
- has the management skills to balance ad hoc requests with longer-term research projects to deliver timely advice and recommendations.

Required knowledge, skills & experience

- Tertiary qualifications in economics, commerce or other related fields undertaking significant economic analysis or equivalent knowledge.

How to apply

To learn more about the role and the application process through I work for NSW please [click here to apply now](#).

Salary:Clerk Grade 11/12. Package includes base salary (\$128,473- \$148,578) plus superannuation and leave loading.

Closing date: Sunday, 30 May 2021 (11:59 PM)

Eligibility

Please note: To be eligible to apply for these roles, applicants must have existing Australian work rights.

The selection process will include a range of assessment techniques to assist in determining your suitability for the role.

The successful applicant will be required to undertake pre-employment checks.

Applicants can request a reasonable adjustment throughout each step of the recruitment process. If you require a reasonable adjustment to the recruitment process, please note this in your application.

A recruitment pool may be created from this recruitment action for ongoing and temporary roles for this role or similar roles that may become available over the next 18 months.

About Investment NSW

To learn more, please visit our website: <https://www.investment.nsw.gov.au/about-investment-nsw/>
Consultant and Senior Consultant Roles

Consultant Melbourne | Brisbane

As an economist / analyst you will be working in project teams toward the development and delivery of business cases, feasibility reports, economic and financial assessment reports, and quantitative tools/models.

You will participate in client and internal team meetings and be closely involved in the creation of documents (including research papers, and project and proposal reports).

In the role, you will undertake economic and related research (including data gathering/ sorting and high-level policy/legislative analysis) and provide assistance to project managers in the compilation of information required for project or proposal outputs as directed by our clients.

As a valued member of Aalto you will be responsible for upholding and contributing to our corporate culture at all times.

You are looking for a professional role which:

Puts you in project teams with senior practitioners on a daily basis,

- Presents a great deal of variety, working for a diverse range of clients across numerous infrastructure sectors,
- gives you direct exposure to highly accomplished clients, including senior leaders among our project partners and senior executives at Commonwealth and State Government departments
- provides access to projects which really 'make a difference' in the future of Australia's economic and social performance over the long term.

You bring the following background and experience:

- work experience in a professional services environment
- relevant qualifications in economics, finance, commerce or engineering
- experience in applying analytical methods to projects and strong financial/economic literacy
- experience in excel-based economic/financial modelling including advanced formulas
- strong analytical skills and the capacity to interpret qualitative and quantitative data
- the capability to think, express yourself and write clearly
- strong communication, organisational and interpersonal skills
- self motivated team player.

Senior Consultant Melbourne | Brisbane

As a senior consultant you will be working in and leading project teams toward the development and delivery of business cases, feasibility reports, economic and financial assessment reports, quantitative tools/models, and mentoring and managing junior staff.

You will participate in client and internal team meetings and be closely involved in the design and delivery of documents (including research papers, and project and proposal reports). As a Senior consultant you will be empowered to plan and deliver work and manage client relationships.

You are looking for a professional role which:

- Provides you an opportunity to both lead and contribute to major project development
- Presents a great deal of variety, working for a diverse range of clients in numerous infrastructure sectors
- gives you direct exposure to a set of highly accomplished clients, including senior project partners and senior executives within Commonwealth and State Government departments
- provides access to projects which really 'make a difference' in the future of Australia's economic and social performance over the long term.

As a Senior Consultant, you bring the following background and experience:

- Five years or more consulting work experience
- relevant qualifications in economics, finance or commerce
- experience in applying analytical methods to projects
- experience in financial / economic modelling including building models from scratch
- strong analytical skills and the capacity to interpret qualitative and quantitative data
- the capability to think, articulate and write logically
- strong communication, organisational and interpersonal skills
- good level of self-motivation, and an engaging team player
- familiarity in our key sectors of work, including water & environment, defence, transport, arts & culture, health and science & research (see aalto.com.au)

Our shared values

- Teamwork and collaboration
- Client service orientation
- Professional excellence and challenge
- Social responsibility, environmental sustainability and safe practices.

Aalto is an equal opportunity employer, and celebrates the diversity of our team, our project partners and our clients. Aalto is a flexible workplace that offers consulting opportunities on a full-time and part-time basis.

And some fine print...

All consulting employees at Aalto must be Australian citizens and eligible to obtain a Commonwealth Government security clearance.

Direct applicants only - no recruitment consultants please.

If you are looking for your next career move to a dynamic, young and high performing team, with opportunities to work for some of the nation's best clients on fascinating projects - we would love to hear from you.

Please send a CV including academic transcript and Covering Letter to recruitment@aalto.com.au by the closing date of **Friday 11th June, 2021**.

Research Fellow / Senior Research Fellow

Academic B, \$97,176 – \$115,396, or Academic C, \$119,040 - \$137,259 plus 17% employer superannuation contribution. This is a full time (36.75 hours per week) fixed term contract until 31 July 2022.

- Join a leading research institution
- Work in a high performing and motivated team
- The position is located at our City Flinders Campus.

About the role

An opportunity exists for a highly motivated senior researcher with strong quantitative skills to join the economic modelling team at the Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS) at Victoria University. CoPS specialises in the development and application of large-scale computable general equilibrium (CGE) models. CoPS' staff are the creators of a number of high profile CGE models, and the CGE modelling software package, GEMPACK, used in over 95 countries. Each year, CoPS undertakes contract research studies for private and public sector agencies around the world. Recent CoPS studies have covered a wide range of policy topics in such diverse areas as: tax, trade, macro policy, climate change, water policy, banking and finance, migration, major projects, microeconomic reform, transport, and labour markets. Working together with the Director of CoPS and other senior CoPS staff, the researcher will be required to undertake research in the development, application and/or computation of large-scale economy-wide models.

About the person

The position will appeal to a researcher who has a strong background in applied economics or a relevant quantitative background in applied mathematics or computer science, who values the importance of detailed quantitative analysis in informing evidence-based decision making in economics. The position represents an excellent opportunity for a person with the necessary modelling skills to join and play a senior role in this highly regarded research centre. The position requires a demonstrated strong record of research output in the form of publications, conference papers, reports, external engagements, and/or professional and/or technical contributions in the area of policy applications of large-scale economic models.

Duties

Duties you perform will include:

- Undertaking economic research for diverse funding agencies, nationally and internationally
- Undertaking development of large-scale economic models
- Training others in the development and application of large scale economic models

Benefits

- Salary sacrifice options
- Professional development opportunities
- Flexible working arrangements available

How to apply

For a position description and to submit an application please visit our 'Employment Vacancies' website: www.vu.edu.au/jobs.

Applications must be submitted as ONE PDF document comprising:

- A cover letter
- Your curriculum vitae/resume, and
- Your responses to the selection criteria listed in the position description.

Note: Applications which do not address the selection criteria will not be considered.

Applications close **4.00 pm Thursday 24 June 2021**

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