



Update Your
Profile

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In this Edition

NEWS
ACE2021
UPCOMING EVENTS
PARTNER EVENTS
READING AND LISTENING
CAREERS

Newsletter #82

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

Welcome to our July newsletter. Read on for information about upcoming economics events and activities, including the new date for the deferred Young Economist Network **Trivia Night** and information about an address from the **RBA's Governor, Philip Lowe**.

News

Transition to electric cars

Exclusive. Top economists call for budget measures to speed the switch to electric cars



Elektronik-Zeit/Shutterstock

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

Australia's top economists overwhelmingly back government measures to speed the transition to electric cars in order to meet emission reduction targets.

An exclusive poll of 62 of Australia's preeminent economists — selected by their peers — finds 51 back measures to boost the take-up of electric cars including subsidising public charging stations, subsidising the purchase of all-electric vehicles, and setting a date to ban the import of traditionally-powered cars.

Only 11 oppose such measures, three of them because they prefer a carbon tax.

Six of the 51 who supported special measures said they did so reluctantly, as their preferred alternative would be a carbon price or a carbon tax, rather than subsidising “one alternative out of many to reduce emissions”.

Cars account for roughly half of Australia's transport emissions, making them about 8% of Australia's total emissions.

Yet Australia's take-up of electric vehicles is dwarfed by the rest of the world.

On one measure, all-electric cars accounted for just 0.7% of new car sales in Australia in 2020 compared to 5% in China and 3.5% in the European Union.

Australia has no domestic car industry to protect, meaning industry policy concerns needn't hold back the transition.

Read more:

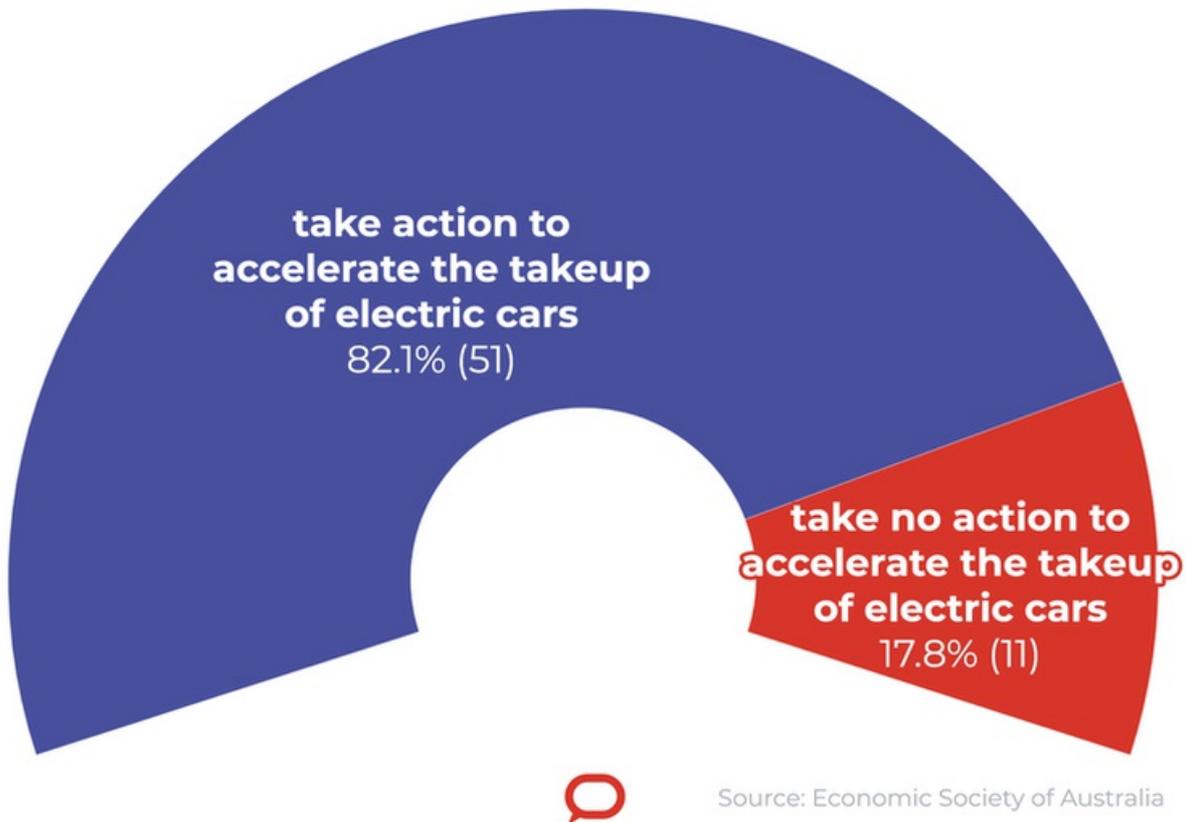
[*Going electric could be Australia's next big light bulb moment*](#)

Norway plans to outlaw new petrol car sales from 2025; Denmark, the Netherlands, Ireland and Israel from 2030; and California and Britain from 2035.

Asked whether Australia should take action to speed the transition, eight in ten of the 62 economists selected by the Economic Society said it should.

Responses from 62 economists to the question:

"As part of efforts to reduce carbon emissions, Australian governments should..."



Economic Society of Australia/The Conversation, [CC BY-ND](#)

The results represent a departure for a profession whose usual advice is to avoid interfering with markets.

One participant, University of NSW professor Gigi Foster said an important question needed to be answered in order to justify government intervention: "what is the market failure here?"

The market failure was pollution, imposing costs on the community beyond the drivers of conventionally-powered cars and on the planet by pushing up global temperatures.

Broad support: subsidies for charging points

If it wasn't to be dealt with by a carbon price, measures that sped up the switchover to electric vehicles could achieve some of the same effect.

By far the most popular measure of six presented to the panellists who supported government action was subsidising public charging points, backed by 84%.

The next most popular was removing the luxury car tax from electric-only vehicles. At present the 35% tax applies to cars valued at more than **\$69,152**, and \$79,659 for fuel-efficient vehicles.

43% supported making charging points compulsory in new homes and new car parks. 39% supported setting a date to ban the import of petrol and diesel cars.

 Made with Flourish

Matthew Butlin, who chairs South Australia's Productivity Commission, noted that much of Australia was not urban and unlikely to be served by charging points for some time.

Without government measures to speed the installation of remote charging stations, many buyers would be reluctant to go electric, even if most of their driving was in cities.

When they were in place, there would be a good case for banning the import of petrol and diesel vehicles, but not until then.

Read more:

[Could electric car batteries feed power back into the grid?](#)

Others wanted to hold off on banning the import of conventionally-powered cars until Australia had a lower-emissions mix of electricity.

Macquarie University's Lisa Magnani said that with three quarters of Australia's electricity generated from coal, electric vehicles created considerable emissions.

The Grattan Institute's Danielle Wood disagreed, saying "network effects" built a case for switching over early.

Network effects build on themselves

The more people switched, the more charging stations would be built and the lower electric vehicle prices would drop, driving more people to switch, and increasing the benefits of decarbonising the electricity supply.

The sooner Australia swapped over, the easier it would be to get to net zero emissions by 2050 without the need for a "cash for clunkers" style scheme to buy back polluting vehicles.

Setting 2035 as the date for banning imports of petrol-powered cars as recommended this year by the [International Energy Agency](#) would give buyers time to adjust while the charging infrastructure developed.

Read more:

[Want an electric car? Here's how to buy second-hand](#)

Tax specialist John Freebairn said electric cars were already heavily subsidised by escaping the fuel excise used to fund roads,

despite the efforts of some states to [plug the gap](#).

Sydney University economist Stefanie Schurer argued on the other hand bulky and polluting sport utility vehicles were effectively subsidised because of the tax benefits they attracted when used for work.

Former Liberal Party leader John Hewson who heads the Crawford School of Public Policy said smoothing the transition had become urgent.

Smooth transition now “urgent”

It took only ten years from 1903-13 for the United States to switch from horse-drawn to petrol-driven vehicles, and technology take-up was quicker today, particularly in Australia.

Other economists surveyed noted that there was much that could be done to reduce harmful emissions in addition to going electric.

Sue Richardson said Australia should impose serious limits on the tailpipe emissions of new cars. Australia is unusual among developed nations in not having such a limit, making it a favoured market for high-emission cars.

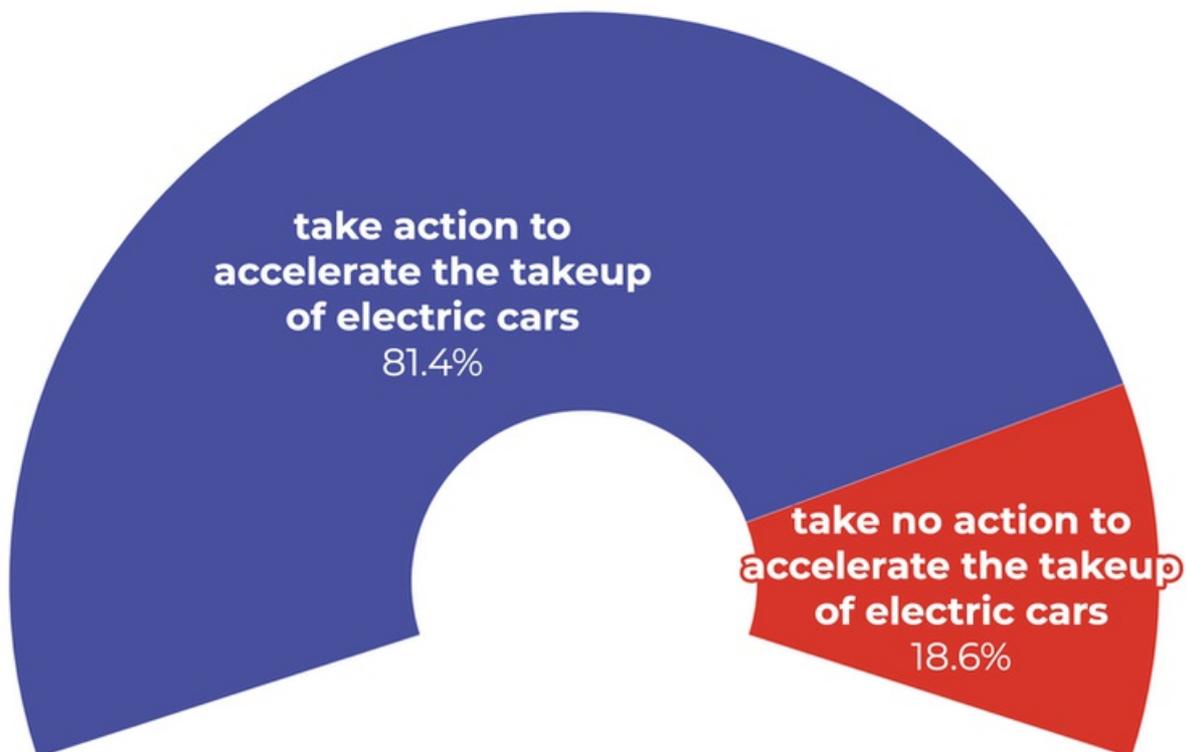
Read more:

[The trucking industry has begun to turn electric; cars will take longer](#)

Rana Roy said a better approach would be to limit transport itself through remote working and efforts to encourage walking and cycling. Subsidies for electric cars could send such moves backwards.

When responses to the survey were weighted by the confidence respondents had in them on a scale of 1 to 10, support of special measures to drive the transition remained about as strong, backed by eight in ten of the economists surveyed.

Responses weighted by confidence:



Source: Economic Society of Australia

Economic Society of Australia/The Conversation, [CC BY-ND](#)

Detailed responses:

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

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2021 Treasury OECD Essay Competition

Entries are now open for the [2021 Treasury Essay Competition](#). This is a national essay contest run by The Treasury for Australian university students. This year the topic commemorates Australia's 50 years of membership of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Who can enter?

Entry is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students enrolled at an Australian tertiary education institution as at 30 June 2021.

The topic

In 2021 Australia will celebrate 50 years as a member of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The [OECD Convention](#), established in 1961, begins with an important statement: that economic strength and prosperity are essential for securing peace, preserving individual liberty and increasing general wellbeing.

Over the last 50 years, how has Australia's membership of the OECD helped to improve our nation's economic strength and prosperity? You may choose to answer this with respect to a particular policy field where the OECD has been prominent, or with respect to overall measures of strength and prosperity in Australia. What lessons are there for Australia's ongoing engagement with the OECD?

The prizes

The winner will receive a prize of \$2,500, with prizes of \$1,000 each awarded to up to four runners up.

The finer details

All the details on how to enter, the judging process and the [terms and conditions](#), are available on [the Treasury website](#).

Entries close at 5 pm (AEST) Friday 13 August 2021.

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 were forced to defer the Trivia Night - we look forward to welcoming you to this event on **Wednesday 28 July**, COVID restrictions permitting.

National Webinar with Mr Philip Lowe, Governor, RBA

RBA Governor's Address

Originally planned as a sit-down lunch in Queensland, the recent COVID restrictions has forced this event to move online. As such, the Economic Society of Australia is able to offer this as a national event.

The webinar will address recent developments in the economy. There are a lot of interesting issues to cover! The address will be followed by a Q&A session.

Date: Thursday, 8 July 2021

Time: 12,30pm until 1.30pm AEST

Location: Online only - register below (link will be forwarded shortly before the event starts)

Pricing: Free

Mr Philip Lowe holds a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a B.Comm (Honours) in Economics/Econometrics from the University of New South Wales. He has authored numerous papers, including on the linkages between monetary policy and financial stability. He commenced as Governor on 18 September 2016.

He is Chair of the Reserve Bank Board and Payments System Board, and Chair of the Council of Financial Regulators. He is a member of the Financial Stability Board. Prior to his current role, he held the positions of Deputy Governor, Assistant Governor (Economic) and Assistant Governor (Financial System). He also spent two years at the Bank for International Settlements working on financial stability issues.

Mr Lowe is Chair of the Financial Markets Foundation for Children and a director of The Anika Foundation. He is also Chair of the Committee on the Global Financial System of the Bank for International Settlements. He is a signatory to The Banking and Finance Oath.

Principal sponsor



Trivia Night 2021 - NEW DATE

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.

More than a word: How can economics contribute to Indigenous Reconciliation?

Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021, "More than a word", highlights the need to convert awareness into action.

"For reconciliation to be effective, it must involve truth-telling, and actively address issues of inequality, systemic racism and instances where the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are ignored, denied or reduced."

Co-hosted by the ESA, WEN and Charles Darwin University (CDU), this event will showcase recent contributions to research by economists in Australia on issues affecting the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as well as learning from the expertise of members of Australia's Indigenous community.

Our academic speakers **Professor Guyonne Kalb** (Melbourne Institute) and **Dr Maneka Jayasinghe** (Charles Darwin University) will be joined by **Renee Long** (Charles Darwin University), an Aboriginal Territorian who has had an extensive career in the public sector in both State and Federal Governments

This is a hybrid event where participants have the opportunity to attend in-person in Darwin or virtually via a zoom webinar if located elsewhere in Australia. We especially encourage participants in Darwin to come along in person, as a way of building a WEN and

ESA community in NT.

Details

Date: Tuesday 27th July 2021

Time:	11.00am	10.30am	9.00am
	Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney, Tasmania	Darwin and Adelaide	Perth

Darwin venue details:

Location: 21, Kitchener Dr, Asia Pacific College of Business and Law, Charles Darwin University, Waterfront Campus, NT0800. Venue WFD3.08. The in-person event will be held according to COVID-19 safety guidelines and is subject to COVID-19 safety restrictions.

Zoom link: will be included in your auto-generated invoice email

The presentation will include key findings from two recent papers on Indigenous wellbeing published in the Economic Society of Australia's *Economic Record* and *Economic Papers*.

1. Childcare Use and Its Role in Indigenous Child Development: Evidence from the Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children in Australia (F. Azpitarte, A. Chigavazira, G. Kalb, B.M. Farrant, F. Perales, S.R. Zubrick) ([Link](#)) (Awarded ESA Best Paper in 2019) Abstract

"We investigate patterns of childcare use and its influence on the cognitive development of Indigenous children. The influence of childcare on Indigenous children's cognitive outcomes is less well understood than for non-Indigenous children due to a lack of appropriate data. We focus on a cohort of Indigenous children in Australia who have been followed from infancy and for whom rich information on childcare use and cognitive outcomes is observed. Compared to Indigenous children who never participated in childcare, Indigenous children who participated in childcare performed better on several early cognitive outcomes. Using regression and propensity score matching, we show that this difference is driven by selection into childcare, with children from more advantaged families being more likely to attend formal childcare. However, matching analysis results suggest that relatively disadvantaged children might benefit more from attending childcare, as indicated by the positive estimated effects found for those who never attended childcare."

2. The Financial Resilience and Life Satisfaction Nexus of Indigenous Australians (M. Jayasinghe, E.A. Selvanathan and S. Selvanathan) ([Link](#)) Abstract

Abstract

"Financial resilience is characterised by four sets of variables, namely economic resources, financial inclusion, financial capability and social capital. The purpose of this study is to examine the association between financial resilience and life satisfaction of Indigenous Australians using the (2014/2015) National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey data. The results reveal that running out of money for living and problems in accessing financial services have significant negative implications on the life satisfaction of Indigenous Australians. The ability to raise money in an emergency, social connections and community support in times of crisis contributes to greater life satisfaction."

Ms Renee Long will present on the topic of "Achieving Indigenous economic participation by intervening around contracting conditions: Possibilities, issues and future challenges". This presentation will discuss recent developments and policy options linked with favouring Indigenous businesses; public procurement approaches; distinctions around North versus South Australian perspectives; considering bureaucratic and transaction costs; evidence and demonstration of outcomes; and the need to link economic thinking to realistic policy design

Meet our Panel

Professor Guyonne Kalb



Guyonne Kalb is a Professorial Fellow at the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research at the University of Melbourne. She has a PhD in Econometrics from Monash University. Before joining the Melbourne Institute in 2001, she worked at the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales, and at The Department of Econometrics at Monash University. She is a Chief Investigator in the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course, a Research Fellow at the Institute of Labor Economics (IZA) and associate editor for *Fiscal Studies* and co-editor of *The Economic Record*

Her research interests are mainly in the field of applied micro-economics and include labour supply issues, in particular female labour supply; the interaction of labour supply, social security and taxation; labour supply and childcare; and the impact of childcare/parental activities on child development and health. Her work is well-cited and includes over 60 refereed publications in national and international journals. In addition, she has been involved in several research projects providing evidence for policy makers, including a number of evaluation studies, such as the evaluation of the Paid Parental Leave

scheme. She is currently leading the evaluation of the Future Directions policy, a large social housing policy reform in New South Wales, for the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.

Dr Maneka Jayasinghe



Maneka Jayasinghe is a Senior Lecturer in Economics in the Asia Pacific College of Business and Law at Charles Darwin University. She is an applied economist, with research interests in consumer demand analysis, poverty, inequality, and well-being, feminist economics, and tourism analysis. Her research has appeared in international refereed journals, such as *Energy Economics*, *Social Indicators Research*, *Applied Economics*, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, and *International Journal of Tourism Research*.

Ms Renee Long



Renee is an Aboriginal Territorian who has had an extensive career in the public sector in both State and Federal Governments. Renee was also the inaugural Chief Executive Officer for the Northern Territory Indigenous Business Network. Working across a broad range of projects that include policy development, program management and service delivery has led to developing strong knowledge of Aboriginal economic development and employment programs. Renee has almost completed her Master of Public Policy and has qualifications in Government Contracting and Procurement and PRINCE2 Project Management.

Registration and Joining this Event / Webinar

To register please book online below. The link to join this webinar will be included in your auto-generated invoice email - please look out for this and keep it safe until the webinar is due to be broadcast. Note, these emails sometimes get caught in spam folders. This is a joint event between WEN, ESA and CDU and will be held in-person at Charles Darwin University as well as live-streamed via Zoom. **Please indicate how you plan to join this event in the Attendee Information area when registering.**

The Economic Society of Australia acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia, and respects their continuing connections to land, water and community.

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

Partner Events

International Economic Association World Congress

July 2, 2021, 12:00 am to July 6, 2021, 12:00 am

We are delighted to share with you the program of **live** sessions for the upcoming World Congress of the International Economic Association taking place 2-6 July. All sessions in the program are by Zoom and you are required to register in advance. The email below contains instructions on how to register. **Registration is free of charge.** [Click here to download the program and complete the registration form.](#)

[Read More...](#)



The 25th Australasian Teaching Economics Conference

The 25th Australasian Teaching Economics Conference (ATEC2021) will be hosted by the University of Queensland, Brisbane on 15-16 July 2021. All presentations will be delivered via Zoom.

The theme of the conference this year is Teaching Design for Cooperative Learning. Papers on this topic are encouraged, but submissions on any aspect of Economics Education are welcome too.

We are delighted to announce that Professor KimMarie McGoldrick (University of Richmond), a leading scholar in Economics Education and Cooperative Learning and co-editor of the Journal of Economic Education, will deliver the keynote lecture.

A further highlight will be the presentation by Dr Jacqui Dwyer (Head of Information Department, RBA), regarding the latest insights of the RBA's research on studying economics in Australia.

There are no submission and registration fees.

For all your queries, please contact [ATEC Admin](#).

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

Credible Economist Blog Series

We are inviting WEN members to submit articles to be shared as part of the NSW WEN's blog series. If you are interested, please email wen@esansw.org.au. The rest of the articles in the series can be found at: <https://esawen.org.au/content/1140/credible-economist-blog-series>.

Reminder - you can 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 Economist & Economist

About us

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia (the Guild) represents the members who are the proprietors of community pharmacies. They form a unique network of trusted healthcare professionals across Australia. The Guild is committed to offering staff a supportive, flexible and rewarding work environment.

The Guild undertakes sophisticated economic analysis, modelling, and forecasting that underpins the viability of the community pharmacy industry – a key component of Australia's health sector.

The Guild currently has two vacancies for full-time permanent positions based in Canberra:

- **Senior Economist**
- **Economist / Data Analyst**

These varied roles will offer exciting challenges and allow you to work with a highly skilled multidisciplinary team of advisory professionals.

About the team

Both roles involve working in the multidisciplinary **Health Economics and Policy** Group using economics and data science to analyse, model and forecast issues impacting the community pharmacy industry in Australia as well as the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), which is one of the largest Australian Government spending programs. You will have the opportunity to create and maintain quantitative forecasting models in R, conduct statistical and econometric analysis on large and complex data sets, and use economic and financial reasoning to analyse and advise Senior Executives on policy developments.

About the role

The Economics & Data team within the Health Economics and Policy Group has two positions available. The Senior Economist position will suit candidates with 5+ years professional work experience in either government departments, consultancy, or industry association economist roles. The Economist / Data Analyst position will suit candidates with 1-2 years' professional experience. We

are interested in hearing from motivated, high-performing applicants with strong quantitative skills and experience, to help develop the economic and data analytics capabilities of the Guild and support the design, implementation, and evaluation of policies to support the Guild members and broader Australian health system.

To be considered for these roles, you will need to demonstrate the following skills and experience:

Selection criteria

- Experience in applied quantitative economic analysis - particularly in building financial models and working with complex and large data sets
- Experience using statistical software such as SQL, R and Excel (advanced) to analyse large complex datasets
- Experience in leading complex economic analyses (Senior Economist)
- Well-developed written and oral communication skills, including an ability to write and present findings through high-quality briefing and reports
- An ability to manage multiple tasks and deadlines concurrently
- An ability to take initiative to complete tasks to a high level and to work cooperatively as a team member.

Are you the one to join our team? Please submit a short cover letter, current resume and responses to the selection criteria to recruit@guild.org.au. We welcome applications as soon as possible. This role is based in Barton, Canberra.

recruit@guild.org.au

Applications not addressing the selection criteria will not be considered

For more information regarding this opportunity, please contact the People and Culture Team at recruit@guild.org.au

Pharmacy Guild values workplace diversity and is committed to providing a supportive, inclusive and respectful work environment. We welcome applications from people of all abilities, backgrounds and life experiences and encourage application from indigenous Australians, people with a disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and mature-age people. Should you require special assistance through any stage of the selection process, please contact the recruitment team.

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 30th June, 2021.**

Macroeconomist - Senior Consultant/Manager, Valuations, Modelling and Economics

The opportunity

Our economic practice is going through an exciting period of growth. We are looking for an Economist to play a leading role in the growth. The role will see you work alongside our Chief Economist and assist with the delivery of a number of high-profile engagements working with our global networks and fast-moving clients.

As part of our team, you'll develop your capabilities in macroeconomic analysis, managing relationships and challenging assumptions. In our friendly, collaborative environment, you'll receive the support, formal training and coaching you need to progress quickly along the career path you choose.

A better working world truly starts with the people at EY who are building it every day. Now more than ever we need talented people from diverse backgrounds to help our clients navigate the complexities of this Transformative Age: people with the passion, curiosity and drive to make things better.

As a Manager/Senior Consultant specialising in analysing macroeconomic trends in the Australian economy, you will work across all industries and operate in a broad range of disciplines including macro-economic modelling, policy analysis and advice, data analytics and visualisation, simulation and optimisation, transaction and decision support modelling and other advanced economic modelling techniques.

Your key responsibilities

- Analyse economic trends and emerging issues in the Australian economy
 - Work with the Chief Economist's team to drive the firms' views
 - Develop research themes
 - Assist with publications and presentations
 - Work on client engagements across a variety of industries
 - Assist clients by drawing on your insights to bring clarity in an uncertain economic environment
- Skills and attributes for success

To qualify for the role you must have

- Experience analysing trends in the Australian macro landscape
- Sound working knowledge of key economic data sets (notably ABS) and evaluation methodologies
- Experience at the RBA or Treasury (or similar)

- Experience at a financial institution or macro research team
- Understanding of econometrics and modelling techniques
- Innovative creative thinking
- Effective communication skills, both verbal and written
- Effective presentations skills• Collaborative nature
- Ability to exercise initiative and work under limited supervision, delivering to tight timelines

Ideally, you'll also have

- Proficiency in Macrobond
- Ability to program in R, Python and SQL
- Understand application of CGE modelling

What we offer

- **Success as defined by you:** We'll provide the tools and flexibility, so you can make a meaningful impact, your way.
- **Continuous learning:** personalised career development including coaching, experiences and formal learning so you'll develop the mindset and skills you'll need to thrive in the future.
- **Diverse and inclusive culture:** You'll be embraced for who you are and empowered to use your voice to help others find theirs.

At EY, you'll be **rewarded** and recognised based on your performance and our comprehensive benefits package can be tailored to your individual needs. We hold a collective commitment to foster an environment where all differences are valued and respected, practices are equitable and everyone experiences a sense of belonging. If you require any adjustments to the recruitment process in order to equitably participate, we encourage you to advise us at the time of application via contactrecruitment@au.ey.com or phone +61 3 8650 7788 (option 4).

We understand the importance of social distancing at this time so our recruitment and onboarding process may be managed virtually so we can continue to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of EY people, clients, guests and the broader public.

APPLY NOW

Economist (mid-level)

Frontier Economics is a significant economic consultancy looking for mid-level economic consultants (3-6 years' experience) to join our team based in Melbourne.

Position summary

Our economic consultants work on a range of microeconomics projects undertaken on behalf of clients. Having intellectual curiosity, and an interest in solving the economic problems our clients face is important. Good time management is critical to being a consultant, as is enjoying diverse issues to work on, and a changing environment of clients.

You will be required to research, collect data and use economics to develop appropriate frameworks to solve business and public policy problems. As part of your work, you develop quantitative economic models that help you analyse problems. You will learn and become proficient in using existing economic models, tools and software developed or used by Frontier Economics for your project work.

You will report in writing on the results and conclusions of your work. At times, you will present these results and conclusions to colleagues, clients and the public. It is likely you will be working on projects concurrently.

As Frontier Economics, our project teams are put together for each specific client engagement. Economists can work across a variety of practice areas and with different colleagues. Frontier Economics has a flat structure, so economists will at times lead teams as project manager. All economists are required to actively engage in developing clients and winning new work.

Position requirements

Selection criteria

We are seeking economists with:

- at least three years' experience providing micro-economic advice within a government department, consulting firm, regulator, or business
- honours or Master's level degree qualifications in economics or econometrics
- demonstrated ability to write and present complex economic ideas to a variety of different audiences
- ability to work independently and as part of a team
- strong organisational skills, including managing multiple tasks, items or projects and ability to prioritise workload and deliverables
- clear written and oral communications skills, including preparation of reports, presentations and proposals
- Experience in working effectively and positively with clients or relevant stakeholders.

The following credentials will be viewed favourably:

- Proficiency in, or aptitude for, computer coding and modelling skills, particularly Excel, R and/or Python are also desirable.
- An understanding of, and experience in, one of the key industry sectors that Frontier Economics works in, such as energy, transport, infrastructure or water, particularly in Australia, New Zealand and/or South East Asia.

Main activities as an economic consultant

Activities	Description of activities and responsibilities
Economic research and advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct economic research on behalf of clients which could involve analysis of firm and industry:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Costs◦ Revenues◦ Profits◦ Production◦ Competition◦ Demand• Analyse data using mathematical models and statistical techniques• Develop existing and new economic models both for the clients and internal use• Interpret the results of reports, model outputs and provide verbal and written advice to clients• Present results and conclusions of economic research to colleagues, clients and the public as required
Operational	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assist the company provide high quality, independent economic advice to our clients• Ensure that all Company policies, product, legal requirements are adhered to by all employees involved in the reform and regulation activity area• Proactively identify ways to reduce expenditure or improve activity area profitability without affecting agreed KPIs, or adherence to legal or product requirements
Management and leadership	Consistent with the Company's policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-operate with the company and other employees to ensure work is undertaken competently and efficiently• Develop client management skills• Assist other employees to develop their technical and communication skill
Professional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep up-to-date with the latest economic, regulatory and modelling techniques• As required and approved by the Managing Director, attend industry forums, seminars and conferences ensuring networking relationships are developed and maintained
Relationship management	Maintain and develop positive relationships between yourself and: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• employees• clients and potential clients• company supporters• government• regulators• corporate groups

To apply

Apply online at <https://www.frontier-economics.com.au/careers/current-opportunities/>

You will need to upload your CV, a covering letter addressing the selection criteria, a copy of your academic transcript or proof of your academic qualifications and some identification.

We ask for this information as part of our employment screening policy (available on our website).

To apply for a role at Frontier Economics you must have Australian Permanent Residency or Citizenship, or a visa with the right to work in Australia.

For more information, please contact Ms Elly Davis on 03 9620 4488.

Applications close Sunday 4 July 2021 at 11.59pm.

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