



A STRONGER ECONOMY. A SECURE FUTURE.

**Our Plan to keep our economy strong and
secure Australia's future for all generations.**

Delivering a stronger economy and keeping Australians safe and together

Our Government is building a stronger Australia, now and for the future.

Since we were first elected we have been making the choices needed to ensure that Australia is the best country in the world to live, work and raise a family.

We want to keep it that way.

In the years ahead it is my plan to protect what you have been able to achieve for you and your family and to make sure we secure the opportunities you need and deserve for your future.

In this election year, the choices we make now will determine the Australia that we live in for the next decade.

We need to keep making the right choices.

By focusing on delivering a strong economy we have been able to pay for and guarantee the essential services that Australians rely on.

Services like a stronger Medicare, where bulk billing is at record levels, and making 1,900 new affordable medicines available through a stronger Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

And stronger schools and hospitals benefiting from record new funding agreements, also paid for by a stronger economy.

More than one million more Australians are now in work, as we promised. More than 100,000 young Australians got a job last financial year – the best result on record.

Taxes are being lowered. Small and family businesses are stronger. In a few months we will deliver the first surplus Budget in a decade. Australia's AAA credit rating has remained safe in our hands. Our borders are secure and our defence and security agencies have been restored and strengthened to keep Australians safe.

But if we make the wrong choices, these gains can so easily be lost.

Bill Shorten's plans represent a great risk to our economy.

Labor's \$200 billion in higher taxes, uncontrolled spending, expanded welfare, weaker borders and softer instincts on national security and community safety will leave Australia weaker at a time when we can least afford it.

By contrast, the Liberals and Nationals plan builds on our Government's progress and sets Australians up for success in the years ahead.

A plan to take us forward. A plan that sets new goals and aspirations. A plan that keeps us on the right track and does not seek to turn everything on its head, as Labor proposes.

A plan that is built on these beliefs: if you have a go in Australia, you should get a go – that's what fairness means; that as Australians we should look out for each other and not set Australians against each other – no Australian should have to do worse for another to do better; and that all Australians should seek to make a contribution to their country rather than take one. That's what we believe.

My plan is to make Australia even stronger. A stronger Australia will always be a fairer Australia.

Keeping our economy strong. Keeping Australians safe. Keeping Australians together.

Stronger. Safer. Together. That's our plan.



SCOTT MORRISON
Prime Minister

What a stronger economy delivers:

- ✔ More than 1.2 million new jobs since we were elected in 2013.
- ✔ More than 100,000 new jobs for young Australians between the ages of 15 and 24 in 2017-18. This is the highest number of jobs in a financial year on record.
- ✔ Lower taxes for households with more than 10 million taxpayers receiving tax relief in 2018-19.
- ✔ Lower taxes for 3.3 million small businesses employing 7 million Australians.
- ✔ The lowest level of welfare dependency in 30 years.
- ✔ An extra \$37.6 billion in schools funding over the next decade, which is on average a 62% increase in funding per student.
- ✔ Over \$5.7 billion for drought relief, recovery and resilience.
- ✔ Record funding for both Medicare and a new hospital agreement, plus a \$1.25 billion Community Health and Hospitals Program.
- ✔ A fully-funded National Disability Insurance Scheme with no increase in the Medicare Levy.
- ✔ More than 1,900 new life-changing medicines worth over \$10 billion listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
- ✔ A record \$75 billion investment in major highway upgrades, local road projects, Inland Rail and a new airport in Western Sydney.
- ✔ Greater support and respect for seniors and retirees; expanded aged care packages.
- ✔ Record investment in Defence and continued action to secure our borders.



OUR PLAN TO KEEP OUR ECONOMY STRONG



Ensure the Government lives *within its means*, and doesn't waste your money. We are returning the Budget to surplus and keeping spending and taxes under control. By doing this and paying down debt, we will protect the next generation.



Lower taxes, so Australians keep more of what they earn and save. This helps Australian families with their household budgets and to build for their future.



Back small, family and medium-sized businesses to realise their potential and create even more jobs.



Ensure affordable and reliable energy for households and businesses, by taking on the big energy companies, ensuring 24/7 reliable power and investing in hydro-electricity.



Build the transport and technology infrastructure we need. This helps to strengthen our economy and connect people, products and markets. By busting congestion in our cities and building the infrastructure of regional Australia, we will also make life easier for families.



Drive *all* our industries forward.

This means encouraging new technology and service industries and strengthening traditional sectors like resources, farming and manufacturing.



Ensure Australians of all generations have the skills they need, for the jobs of today and tomorrow. We will do this by funding more apprenticeships and with vocational education that responds to our economy.



Keep Australians working together, by supporting productive, cooperative and law-abiding workplaces. Australia can't afford a throwback to the lawlessness and conflict that comes when militant union bosses have too much power.



Keep big businesses accountable, especially big banks, energy companies and multinationals. This means ensuring they pay their fair share of tax. It also means ensuring they give customers, employees, suppliers and farmers a fair deal.



Continue to expand opportunities for our exporters to create even more jobs, by securing more trade deals that are in Australia's interests.

Ensure the Government lives within its means

We are committed to living within our means by ending waste and keeping spending and taxes under control. By returning the Budget to surplus we will protect the next generation by paying down Labor's debt.

On track for a Budget surplus

After a decade of deficits, the Budget is on track to return to surplus in 2019-20. Our Government has the lowest real spending growth of any government in the last 50 years.

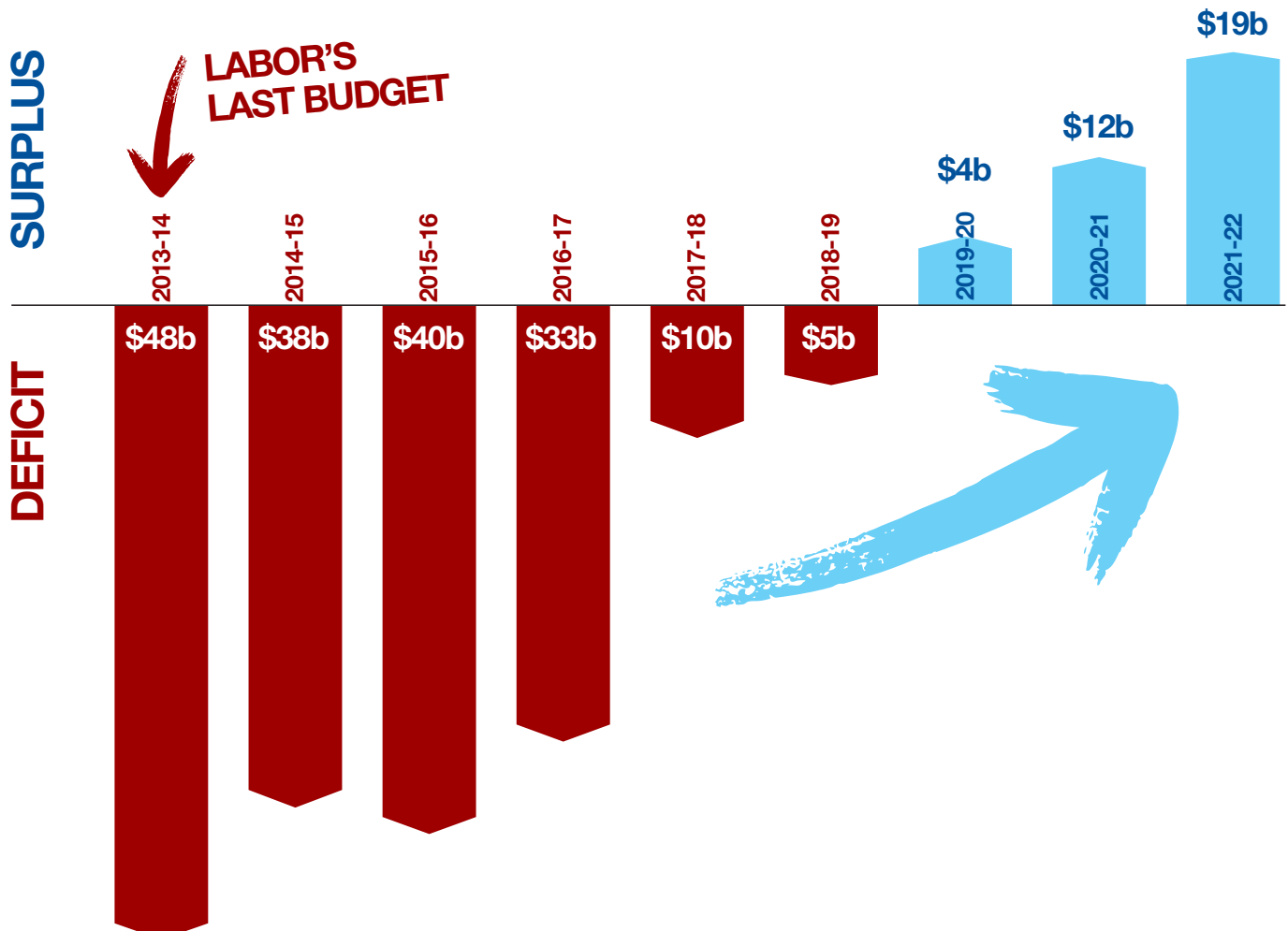
Net debt has peaked and we are starting to pay it down. This reduces the burden on future generations.

This has been achieved without higher taxes and while guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on. We are delivering record funding for health care, disability services, aged care and schools.

The benefits of disciplined economic management

By sticking to our plan, Australia has retained our AAA credit rating from all three major agencies, one of only 10 countries to do so.

Ensuring the Government lives within its means positions Australia to take advantage of future opportunities and helps to protect our economy from international shocks.



Lower taxes

Under our plan, income taxes will be lower, fairer and simpler so Australians keep more of what they earn and save.

Tax relief for all working Australians

We have legislated lower taxes for all working Australians.

Our personal income tax plan begins with permanent tax relief to middle and lower income earners, to reward hard work and assist with cost of living pressures.

We're also tackling bracket creep. In around five years, 94% of taxpayers will pay no more than 32.5 cents of tax in the dollar.

Cutting tax for small and family businesses

We have legislated lower taxes for all small and medium-sized businesses, benefiting around 3.3 million businesses and their 7 million employees.

We have reduced the company tax rate from 30% to 27.5% for all businesses with a turnover of up to \$50 million. The rate will fall to 25% by 2021-22.

For unincorporated businesses with a turnover of less than \$5 million, we have introduced a tax discount of 8%. This will double by 2021-22.

Keeping taxes under control

Higher taxes on families and businesses hurt our economy and risk jobs. That's why we have imposed a "speed limit" on taxes of 23.9% of GDP.

Labor's plan for \$200 billion in new tax grabs would hurt our economy, put jobs at risk and cost every Australian. And a weaker economy would put at risk the ability to fund essential services, like schools and hospitals.



LEGISLATED

From
2018-19

Lower taxes for low and middle income earners first.

With over 10 million low and middle income Australians receiving up to \$530 in tax relief for the 2018-19 income year

From
2022-23

Fairer system by tackling bracket creep.

Rewarding effort and aspiration by low and middle income earners

From
2024-25

Simpler system over the medium-term.

Abolishing the 37 per cent tax bracket and maintaining the highest marginal tax rate at a similar multiple of average earnings



Back small, family and medium-sized businesses

The Morrison Government is backing small businesses, the backbone of our economy, to reach their potential and create even more jobs.

Tax relief

Our tax relief plan benefits around 3.3 million small and medium-sized businesses and their 7 million employees.

Instant asset write-off

Australian small businesses with a turnover under \$10 million can invest in new equipment and machinery and instantly deduct every asset under \$20,000.

Red tape relief

Since 2013, we have cut \$6 billion in small business red tape. Measures include:

- A simplified Business Activity Statement.
- Doubling ASIC financial reporting thresholds.
- \$300 million to help states and territories reduce their red tape on small business.

Better access to finance

A new \$2 billion Australian Business Securitisation Fund will help small businesses get the funding they need at better rates.

The Australian Business Growth Fund will help small business access longer term equity funding.

Helping cash flow by getting paid on time

Our Government is ensuring small businesses get paid on time. From July 2019, government contracts up to \$1 million will be paid within 20 days.

Large businesses seeking government contracts will be required to match this policy.

Large businesses with more than \$100 million in turnover will also have to publish their payment information.

Fairer treatment for small business

We have acted to ensure small business gets a fair go with:

- Changes to competition law to stop big businesses abusing market power.
- New unfair contract legislation.
- Better access to free, fast and binding dispute resolution under the new Australian Financial Complaints Authority.
- Action against illegal phoenixing.
- A new Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman.
- New processes to ensure fair treatment for small business when challenging the Australian Taxation Office.

Backing women entrepreneurs

We are supporting 55,000 young Australian women to become entrepreneurs through our Future Female Entrepreneurs program and our Boosting Female Founders fund.

Supporting small business to go digital

Our Small Business Digital Champions project is helping small businesses transform in the digital economy. We're also helping small business through the Cyber Security Small Business Program.

Government advice can be easily accessed through a one-stop-shop: business.gov.au.

Supporting mental health

Our Government is partnering with the grassroots organisation, Everymind, to support the mental health of small business owners.

Ensure affordable and reliable energy

Our Government's Fair Deal on Energy Plan will deliver affordable and reliable power for Australian households and businesses.

Fairer energy prices

We are introducing a price safety net to stop big power companies ripping off loyal customers who don't have time to shop around.

Our "big stick" legislation will stop price gouging by energy companies. This includes banning sneaky late payment penalties, making energy retailers pass on savings in wholesale prices and stopping anti-competitive behaviour.

We are already seeing results, with average savings for residential customers up to:

- \$200 in NSW.
- \$313 in Victoria.
- \$272 in South Australia.
- \$175 in south-east Queensland.

Backing 24/7 reliable power

The Government is backing 24/7 reliable power by underwriting new electricity generation. This will improve competition, increase supply and reduce wholesale prices.

We are requiring energy companies to sign contracts guaranteeing enough energy to meet demand.

We are securing Australian gas supplies before gas is exported and investing in energy efficiency to help businesses reduce costs.

Investing in hydro-electricity and network infrastructure

The Morrison Government is investing in Australia's world-class hydro resources – Snowy Hydro 2.0 and Tasmania's Battery of the Nation.

These investments will provide reliable, round-the-clock power for millions of households and businesses.





Build transport and technology infrastructure

The Morrison Government is building the transport and technology infrastructure Australia needs. This will help strengthen our economy and connect people, products and markets.

By busting congestion in our cities and building the infrastructure of regional Australia, we will also make life easier for families.

Record transport investment

A record \$75 billion is being invested over the next decade in highway upgrades, local road and rail projects (including Inland Rail) and new airport facilities.

We are investing an average \$2 billion a year more than Labor did in government. And we are investing in a way that gets better results for taxpayers.

Delivering a 10-year infrastructure pipeline

Our Government has committed to a 10-year infrastructure pipeline including:

- Major road upgrades to bust congestion, improve safety and help businesses move products more efficiently.
- Better public transport to improve access and liveability in our cities, including:
 - Brisbane Metro, North Coast Rail and Gold Coast Light Rail in Queensland
 - Sydney Metro and Western Sydney Rail in NSW
 - Melbourne Airport Rail Link, Monash Rail and the Frankston to Baxter upgrade in Victoria
 - Flinders Rail Link and Gawler Rail Electrification Project in SA
 - METRONET in WA
 - Canberra Metro in the ACT
- Building Western Sydney Airport after five decades of indecision.

- An historic investment of \$9.3 billion in Inland Rail. This will change the way freight is moved between Melbourne and Brisbane while creating jobs.
- Removing traffic pinch points through a \$1 billion Urban Congestion Fund.
- Upgrading key regional road corridors through the \$3.5 billion Roads of Strategic Importance Initiative. This will upgrade key freight routes and help agriculture and mining exporters.
- Safer local roads and bridges through the Roads to Recovery, Black Spot and Bridges Renewals programs.
- Helping connect remote communities through the Remote Airstrip Upgrades Program.

Landmark City Deals

Our innovative City Deals break the cycle of governments blaming each other, while taxpayers lose out.

City Deals bring together all three levels of government – aligning planning, investment and governance to better manage population growth, accelerate job creation, stimulate urban renewal and drive economic reforms.

City Deals are already up and running in Western Sydney, Townsville, Launceston and Darwin. We have a \$154 million commitment in Geelong, with new deals slated for Hobart and Perth. We are working with the South Australian Government towards an Adelaide City Deal.

Rolling out the NBN sooner

In contrast to the mess inherited from Labor, under our plan the NBN rollout is ahead of schedule and on-budget.

Our NBN now has more than 4.5 million customers and will be available to all Australians by 2020. It is connecting around the same number of users every two weeks as Labor connected in six years.

Major projects underway include:

National projects

- **\$9.3 billion** Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Rail.
- **\$1 billion** Urban Congestion Fund.
- **\$250 million** for Major Project Business Case Fund.
- Roads of Strategic Importance: **\$3.5 billion**, including **\$1.5 billion** for Northern Australia Package, **\$400 million** for Tasmanian Roads Package, **\$100 million** for NSW and ACT Barton Highway Corridor Package and **\$1.5 billion** for future national priorities.

NSW

- **Up to \$5.3 billion** Western Sydney Airport.
- **\$1.5 billion** of funding and a **\$2 billion** concessional loan for the WestConnex project in Sydney.
- **\$2.9 billion** Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan.

VIC

- **\$500 million** M80 Ring Road.
- **\$500 million** Monash Freeway Upgrade.

QLD

- **\$6.7 billion** Bruce Highway.

WA

- **\$1.3 billion** METRONET, including **\$490 million** for the Forrestfield Airport Link.

SA

- **\$1.6 billion** Adelaide North-South Corridor.

TAS

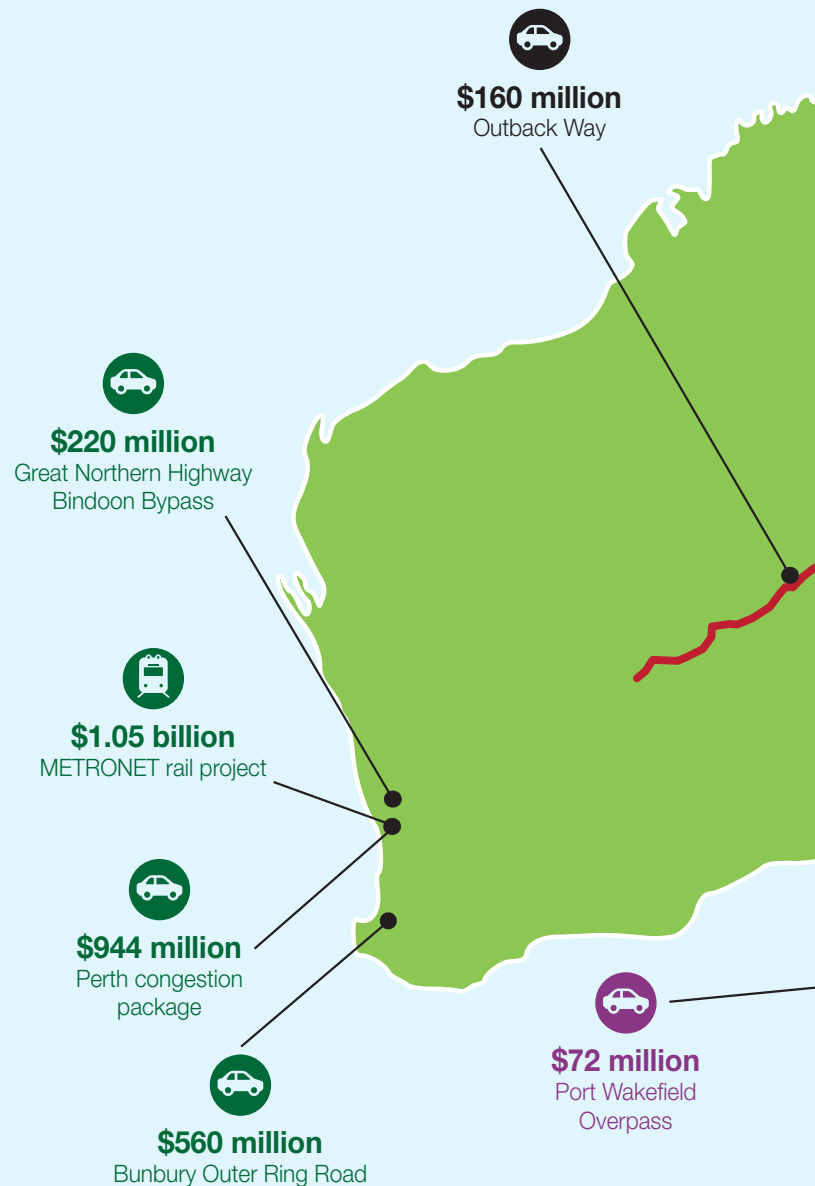
- **\$400 million** Midland Highway.

ACT

- **\$67 million** for Capital Metro under the Asset Recycling Initiative.

NT

- **\$192 million** for the Northern Australia Roads Program.



Funding commitments
as part of the
2018-19 Budget





Drive all our industries forward

The Morrison Government has strong plans to help our industries prosper.

We are delivering lower taxes, more affordable energy, export deals and less red tape.

We're backing traditional sectors such as resources, farming and manufacturing which employ millions of Australians.

We're also encouraging new technology, medical and services industries.

Playing to our strengths

Our plans for traditional sectors include:

- Investing in farming with the \$1 billion National Water Infrastructure Fund, enhanced biosecurity and supporting farmers through drought.

- Growing Australia's defence industry while rebuilding our Defence Force. For example, our shipbuilding program will see 54 ships built in Australia (by contrast Labor did not commission a single vessel in six years).
- A plan to double the value of our aquaculture industry by 2027.
- Growing a billion more plantation trees over the next decade.
- Developing new opportunities for mining and energy. This includes a national hydrogen industry and exploration of critical minerals such as lithium.
- Modernising manufacturing with the Advanced Manufacturing Fund and an Innovative Manufacturing Cooperative Research Centre.
- The Tourism 2020 Strategy to double visitor expenditure.



New frontiers

We are investing over \$9 billion a year in science, technology and commercialisation of home-grown ideas.

And we are backing the growth of new industries which have the potential to boost the economy and create more jobs:

- The Medical Industry Growth Plan is backed by our \$20 billion Medical Research Future Fund (one of the largest medical research funds in the world). This will help create world-leading medical industries and life-saving medicines.
- We're investing \$41 million to establish the Australian Space Agency in Adelaide, with the aim of trebling Australia's space economy by 2030.
- AustCyber and the Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre are helping Australia develop a world-leading cyber security industry.
- We're helping start-ups and FinTech with tax incentives for early-stage investors and a favourable framework for crowd-sourced equity funding.





Ensure Australians of all generations have the skills they need

Our Government is ensuring all Australians have the skills needed for the jobs of today and tomorrow. We have a plan to build on the more than 1.2 million jobs created since we were first elected.

Apprenticeship drive

Our \$1.5 billion Skilling Australians Fund will create 300,000 more apprenticeships over the next four years. It targets occupations in demand and the needs of rural and regional communities experiencing structural change.

To encourage rural and regional employers to take on more apprentices, we have established the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program. This will support up to 1,630 new apprentices.

Skilling up older Australians

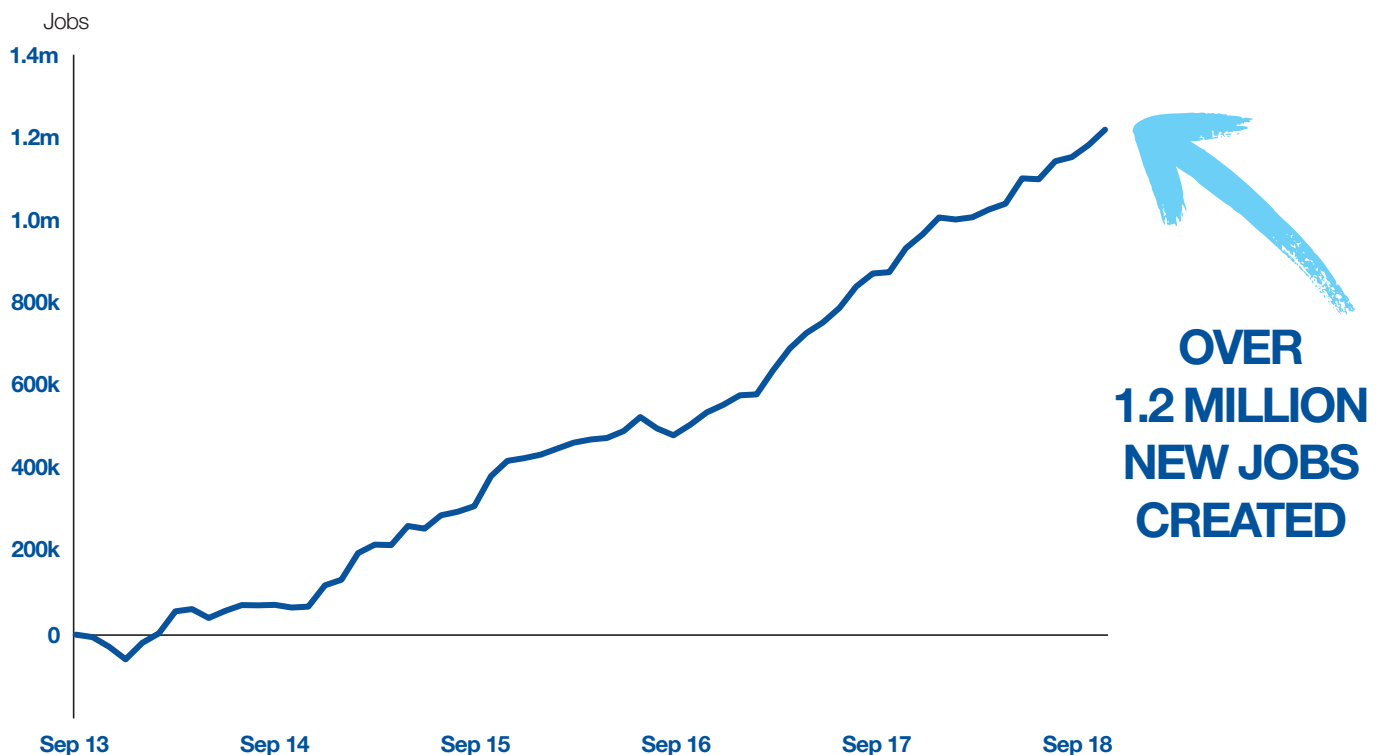
Our plan helps Australians to update their skills over their entire working lives. We have increased support for older Australians looking to upskill or transition into new careers.

Our Skills Checkpoint for Older Workers Program will provide up to 20,000 eligible Australians with advice and guidance on new career opportunities.

Strengthening vocational education

The Morrison Government has commissioned a comprehensive review of Australia's vocational education and training sector. This will ensure our system is responsive to the needs of employers, employees and young Australians.

We have taken steps to lift the quality of training providers and replaced Labor's failed VET FEE-HELP scheme with improved VET Student Loans.



Keep Australians working together

Australian workers and businesses thrive when they work together.

Our Government's workplace policies support productive, cooperative workplaces that are free from union intimidation and lawlessness.

Fair and productive

The Government has acted to:

- Protect 1.1 million employees and 350,000 small businesses and tradies in the construction industry from union lawlessness. Since we re-established the Australian Building and Construction Commission, days lost to industrial action in this industry have fallen more than 60%.
- End the union veto over vital new infrastructure projects.
- Ensure union bosses are accountable to members by establishing the Registered Organisations Commission.
- Protect workers from exploitation by unscrupulous employers.
- End the secret payments between employers and unions that hurt workers.
- Abolish Labor's union-friendly tribunal, which threatened the livelihoods of thousands of owner truck drivers.





Keep big businesses accountable

We are ensuring big businesses, especially big banks, energy companies and multinationals, are accountable.

This means ensuring they pay their fair share of tax. It also means ensuring they give customers, employees, suppliers and farmers a fair deal.

Stronger tax avoidance laws

The Morrison Government believes taxes in Australia should be as low as possible. But they must be paid.

Australia now has some of the strongest multinational tax laws in the world. This includes the Multinational Anti-Avoidance Law and the Diverted Profits Tax.

Since 2016, the ATO has netted \$7.7 billion of additional tax from large companies through these new rules and the new Tax Avoidance Taskforce.

Action on financial misconduct

The Government is funding law enforcement agencies, regulators and courts to pursue misconduct by financial institutions, including that highlighted by the Royal Commission.

The Government's Banking Executive Accountability Regime is imposing higher standards of behaviour.

A fairer deal

The Morrison Government is standing up for the interests of consumers, workers, small businesses and farmers. Examples include:

- Helping regulators respond to misconduct in the electricity market with stronger powers and more resources.
- Abolishing super fund exit fees. This makes it easier to consolidate superannuation accounts and helps Australians keep more of their retirement savings.
- Increasing transparency with a new code of conduct between dairy farmers and processors.

“
Taxes should be lower, simpler and fairer, but taxes must also be paid.
”

Expand export opportunities

Our Government has opened up new opportunities for Australian exporters.

Australia's exports increased to \$404 billion in 2017-18, up from \$307 billion in 2012-13.

We continue to pursue trade agreements in Australia's national interest.

Trading towards a stronger economy

More than 50,000 Australian businesses are exporters.

For every business that benefits from trade, dozens more small and medium-sized businesses also benefit.

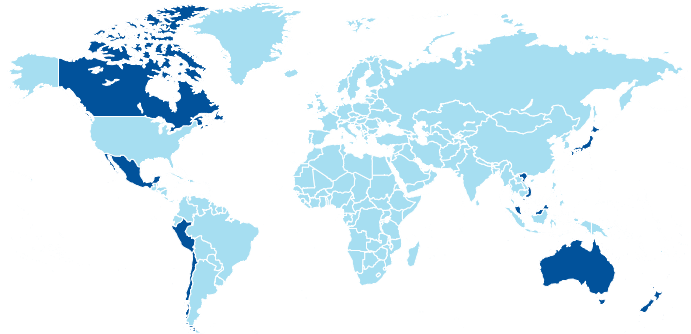
One in five Australian jobs rely on trade.

Over the past five years we have secured trade agreements with 10 major economies through the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

We have also signed agreements with China, Japan, South Korea, Peru, Hong Kong, plus nine Pacific Island nations and New Zealand (under the PACER Plus Agreement).

We are working to deliver new agreements with Indonesia and the EU.

Trans-Pacific Partnership



New Trade Agreements with



Japan



China



South Korea



Hong Kong



Peru



AUSTRALIA CAN'T AFFORD LABOR

- ✗ Labor doesn't have a plan to keep Australia's economy strong.
- ✗ Last time, Labor left the Budget in a mess. After inheriting a surplus, they racked up \$240 billion in deficits over six years.
- ✗ Labor can't manage money, which means they end up coming after yours.
- ✗ Bill Shorten wants to increase taxes by \$200 billion – with higher taxes on retirees, housing, electricity, family businesses, incomes, investments and superannuation.
- ✗ Labor's Retiree Tax would hit 900,000 individuals, 200,000 self-managed super funds and 2,000 super funds. This would punish Australians who have worked hard and saved for their retirement.
- ✗ Labor's Housing Tax would hit property values, increase rents and damage Australia's economy. It would also hurt 1.3 million mum and dad investors who use negative gearing.
- ✗ With a softer housing market, now is the worst time to introduce Labor's Housing Tax.
- ✗ Labor's plan to increase capital gains tax by 50% would punish Australian investors and give Australia one of the highest capital gains tax rates in the world.
- ✗ Labor's 45 per cent emissions reduction target and 50 per cent renewable energy target will mean higher electricity prices and a less reliable system.
- ✗ Under Labor, militant union bosses will demand more power to strike, more control over businesses and more deals to entrench their power.
- ✗ Bill Shorten's tax grabs would hurt our economy, put jobs at risk and cost every Australian. And a weaker economy would put at risk the ability to fund essential services, like schools and hospitals.
- ✗ Australia can't afford Labor. Under Labor, you'll pay more.



*If you have a go in this country you'll get a go.
That's what fairness in Australia means.
My ambition is for an even stronger Australia –
to keep our economy strong, to keep Australians
safe and to keep Australians together.*



