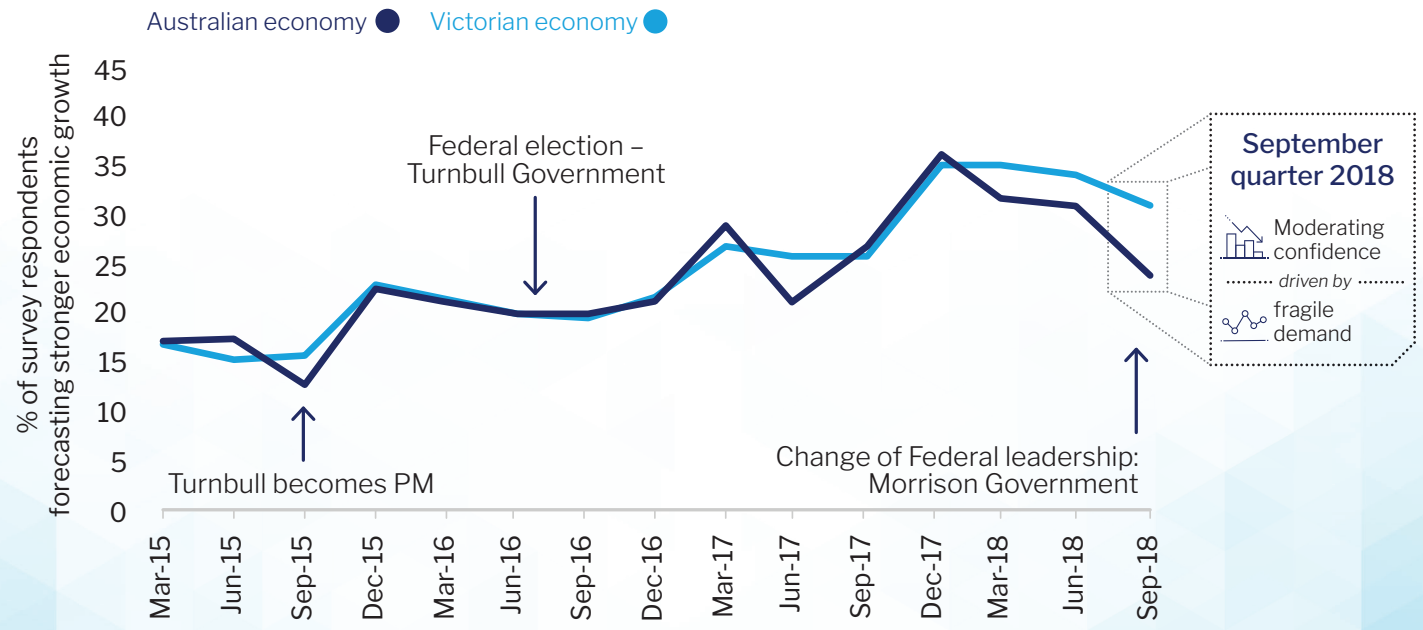


# SURVEY OF BUSINESS TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

## BUSINESS SENTIMENT

31% expect the **state** economy to grow in the next 12 months  
25% expect the **national** economy to grow in the next 12 months



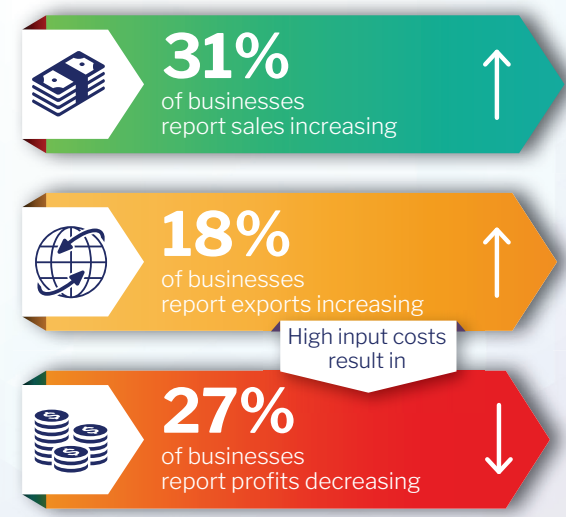
## BUSINESS INDICATORS

September quarter 2018



## AGRIBUSINESS

September quarter 2018



# BUSINESSES HAVE SPOKEN

what the next State Government must do

**An increase in the payroll tax threshold will grow Victorian jobs**



**32%**  
of Victorian  
businesses

would expand their workforce if the payroll tax threshold was increased.



Victoria's current payroll tax threshold is the worst among all Australian states.



**Recommendation to the next State Government:**

**Increase the payroll tax threshold to \$850,000.**

**More needs to be done to increase the number of Victorian apprentices and trainees**



**48%**  
of Victorian  
businesses

find it difficult to attract and retain apprentices and trainees.



**Recommendation to the next State Government:**

Launch a **public awareness campaign** to promote the value of apprenticeships and traineeships.

**Triple the number of exporting businesses**



**36%**  
of Victorian  
businesses

find it difficult to export.



Less than 3% of Victorian businesses export.



**Recommendation to the next State Government:**

Establish a **\$25 million** 'Supply Chain Development' pilot program to help businesses export.

**Provide more opportunities for business to access government procurement**



**43%**  
of Victorian  
businesses

find it difficult to access government procurement opportunities.



Each year the Victorian Government spends around \$30 billion on procurement activities.



**Recommendation to the next State Government:**

**Prioritise local content and stronger requirements** to award contracts to SMEs and regional companies.

The Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Survey of Business Trends and Prospects is a state-wide quarterly survey that monitors current business conditions and prospects for the state and national economies over the next 12 months. The survey results reflect the responses of 340 micro, small, medium and large-sized businesses that represent the spectrum of Victorian industry.

For further information, please contact Katherine Smith, Manager, Industry Policy at [ksmith@victorianchamber.com.au](mailto:ksmith@victorianchamber.com.au) or phone 03 8662 5227.



**Victorian  
Chamber of Commerce  
and Industry**

**vtic**  
VICTORIA TOURISM INDUSTRY COUNCIL