

# UPPER HUNTER ECONOMIC INDICATORS

**Presented by Dr Anthea Bill**  
**Hunter Research Foundation Centre**  
**10 April 2019**



**HUNTER RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION CENTRE**

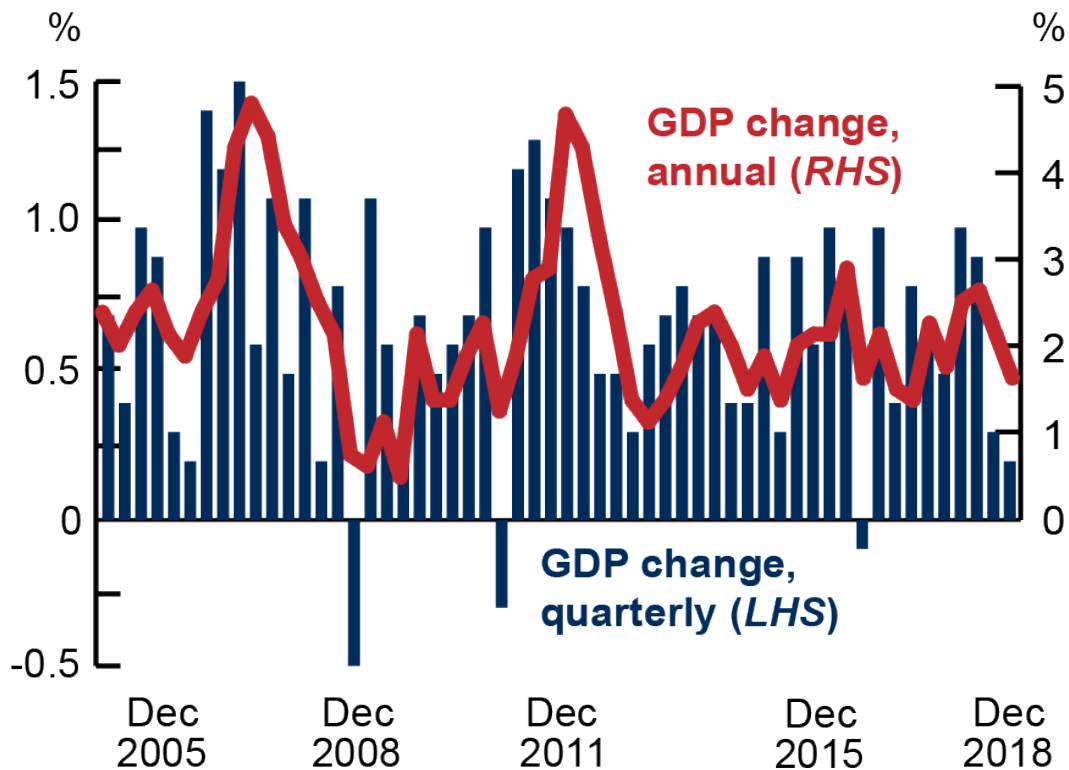


**THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE  
AUSTRALIA**

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- **National context:** growing uncertainty
- **Upper Hunter:** recovery softens further, business performance declines, and expectations of regional economy fall

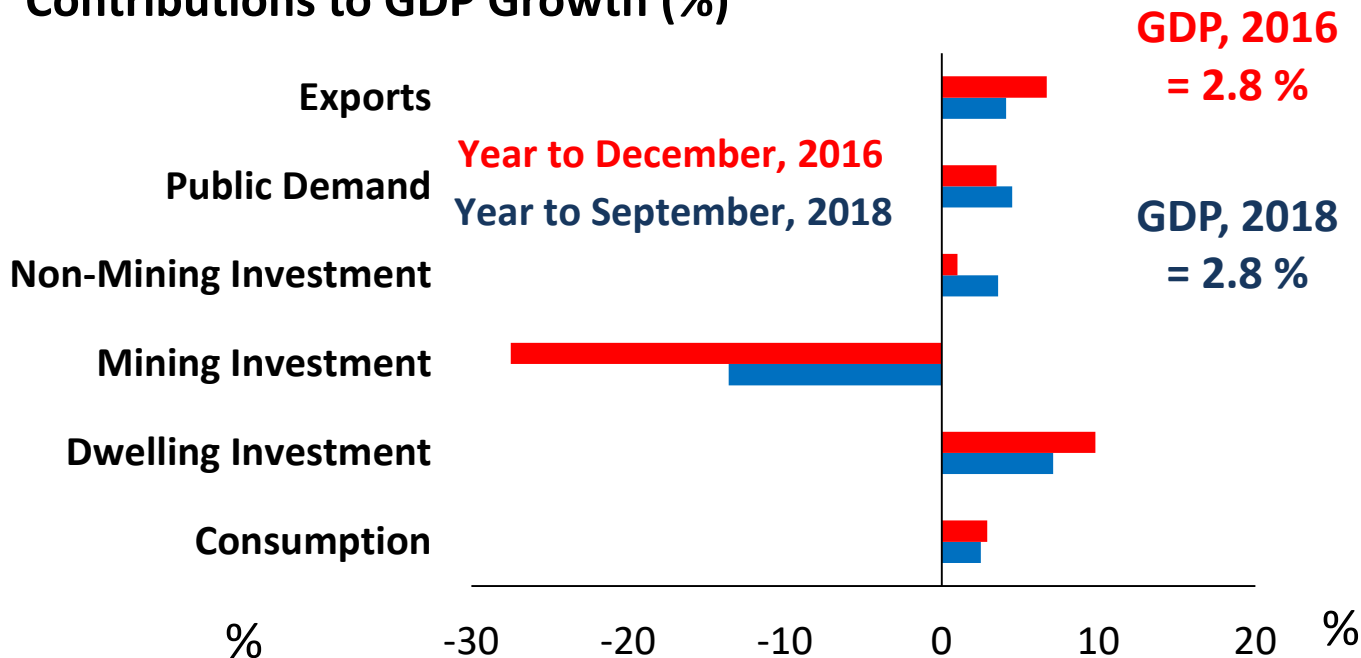
# GDP GROWTH: HOUSEHOLDS SUBDUED



Source: Seasonally Adjusted Chain Volume Measure, ABS

# CONTRIBUTIONS TO GROWTH

## Contributions to GDP Growth (%)



# SUMMARY

## MACRO TRENDS



**Household sector  
- spending  
subdued over  
longer-term**



**International -  
growth forecasts  
downgraded;  
more  
uncertainty**



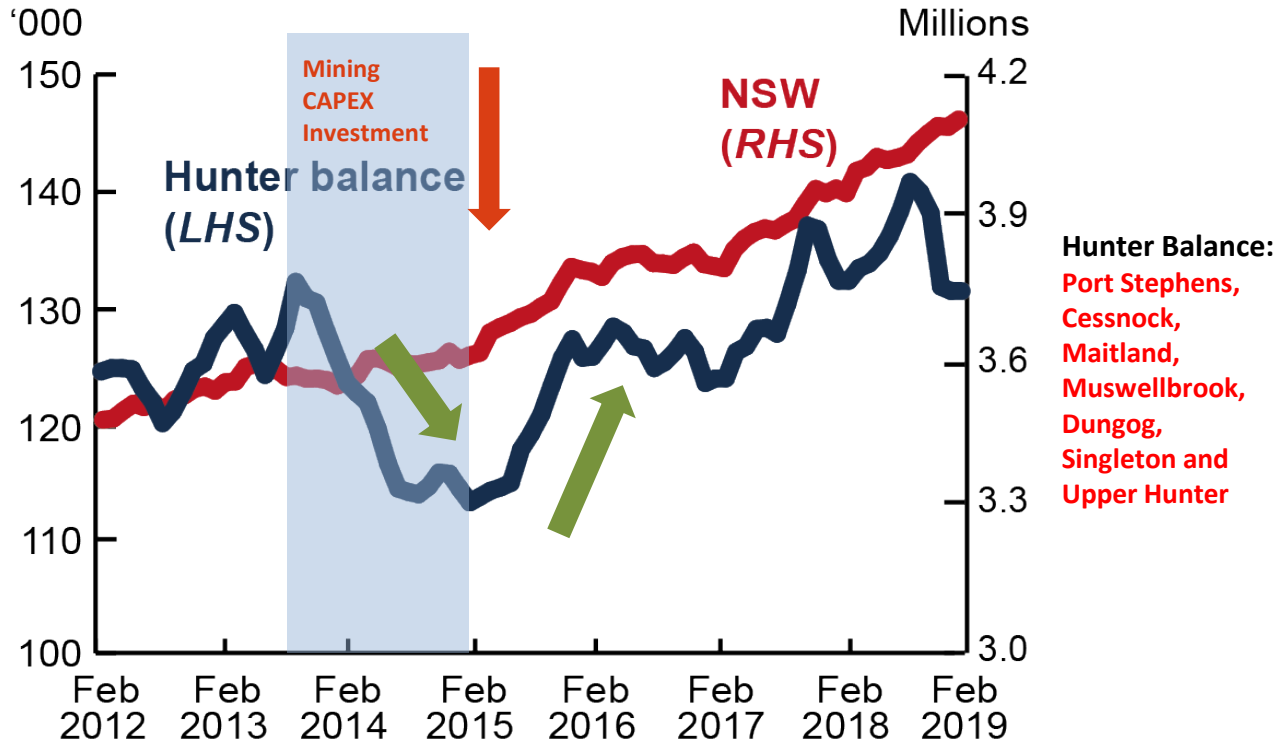
**Coal -  
weakened  
Chinese import  
demand**

# UPPER HUNTER ECONOMY

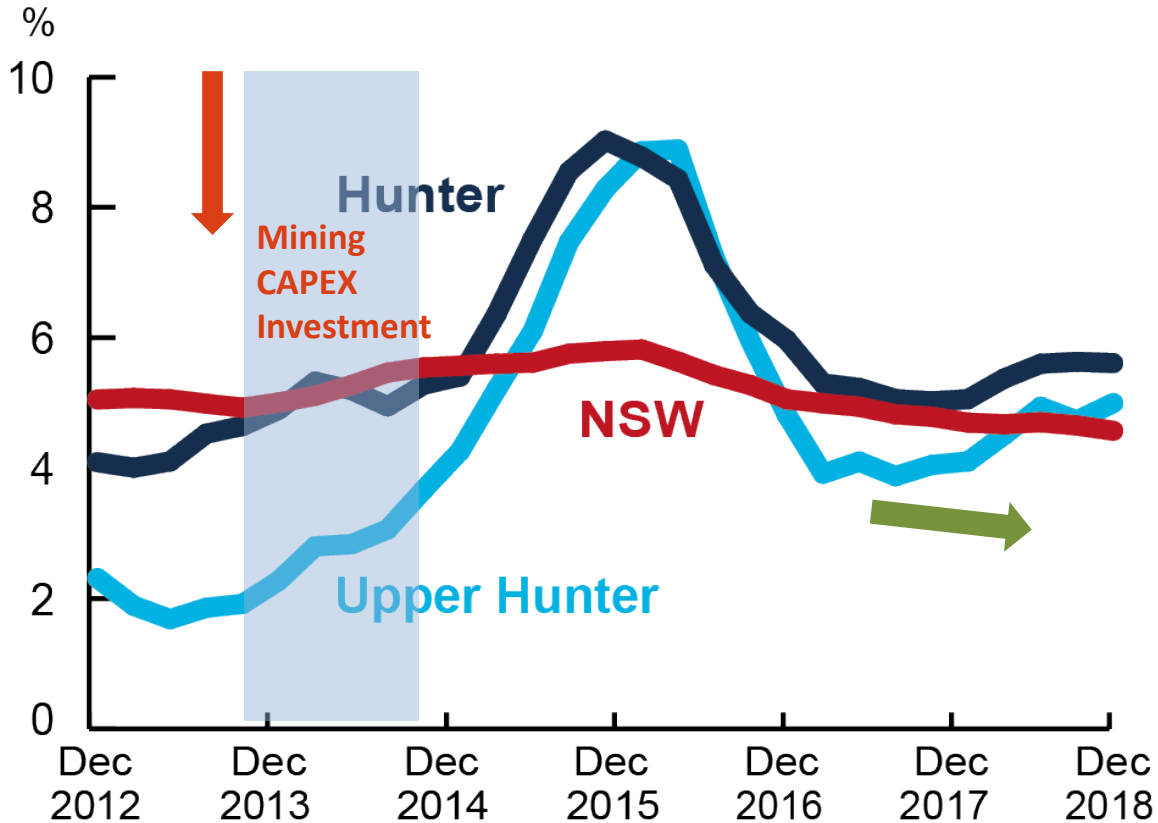


*Recovery slows*

# EMPLOYMENT: JOB LOSSES

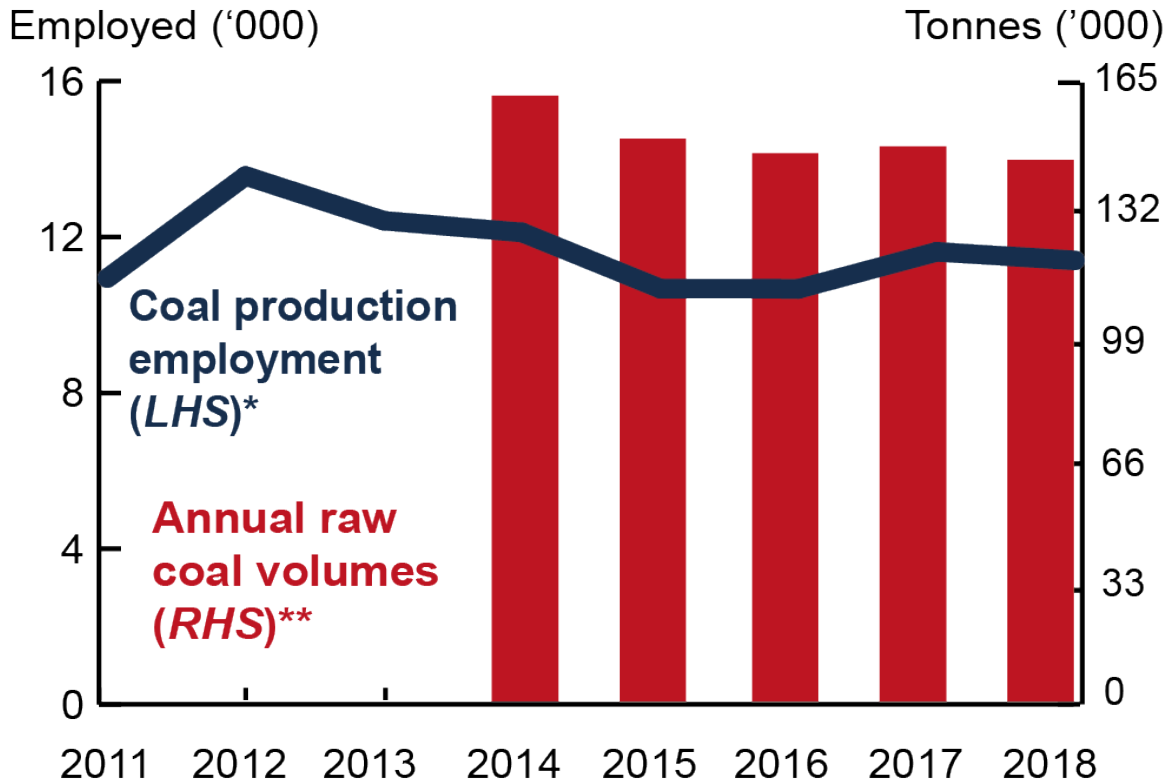


# UNEMPLOYMENT: BELOW HUNTER

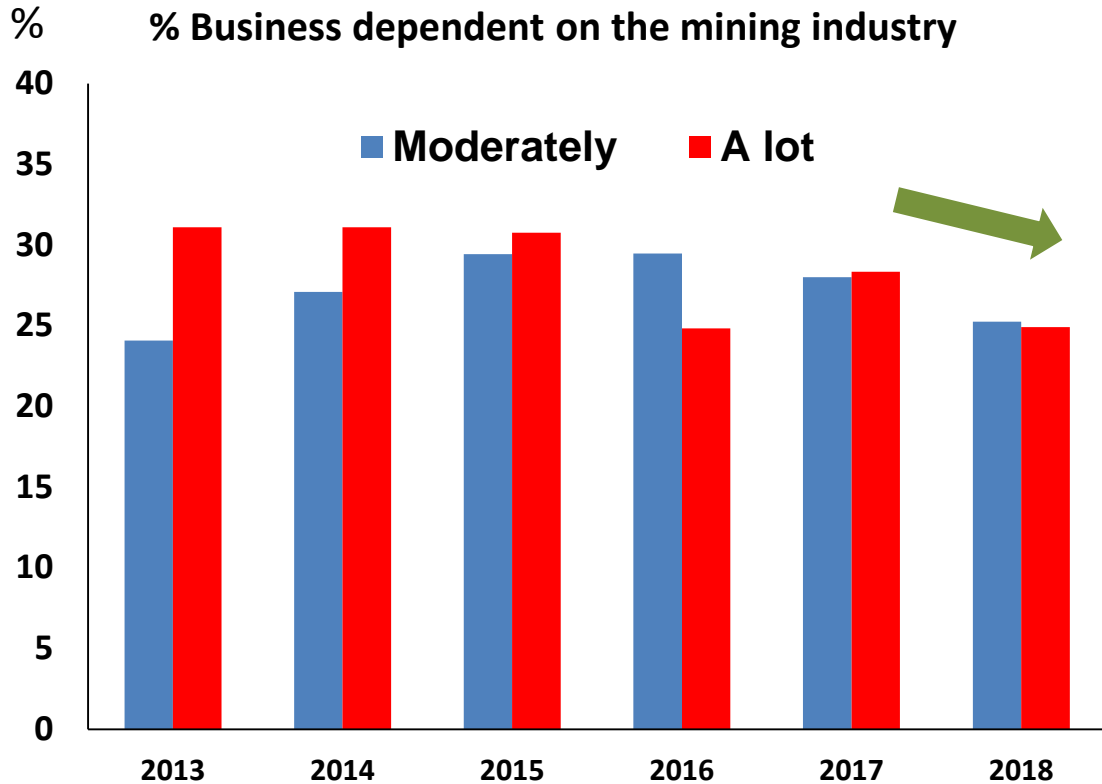




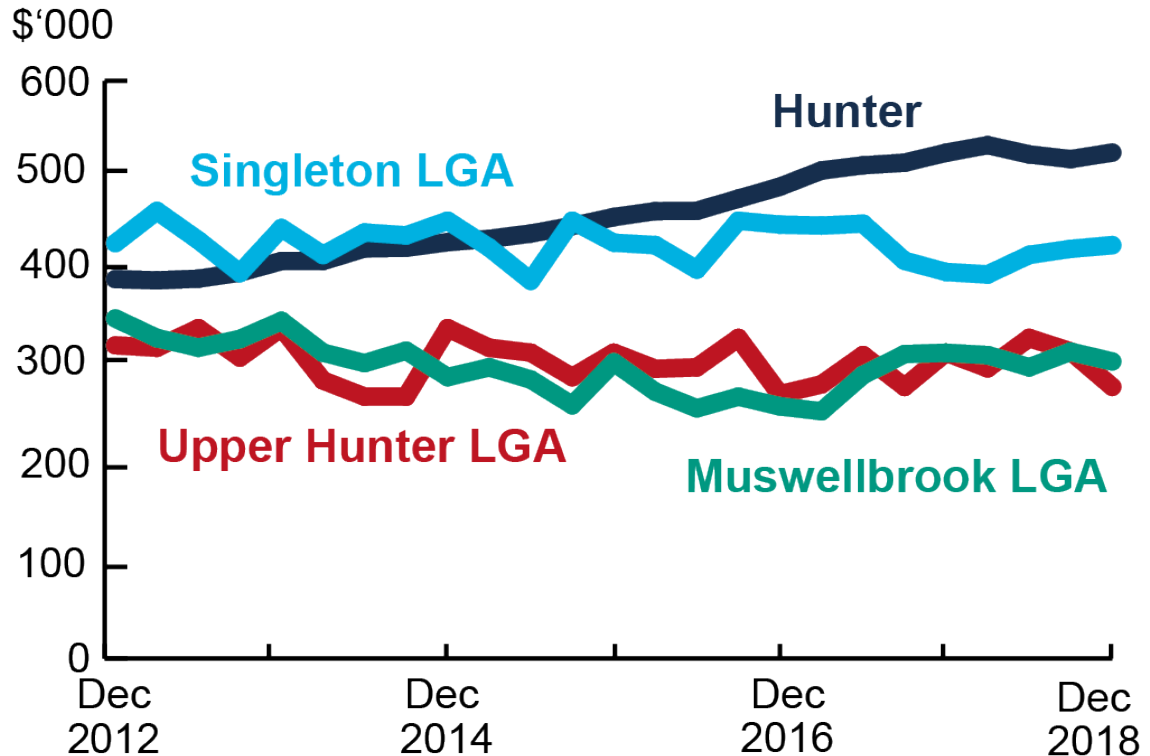
# HUNTER COALFIELDS



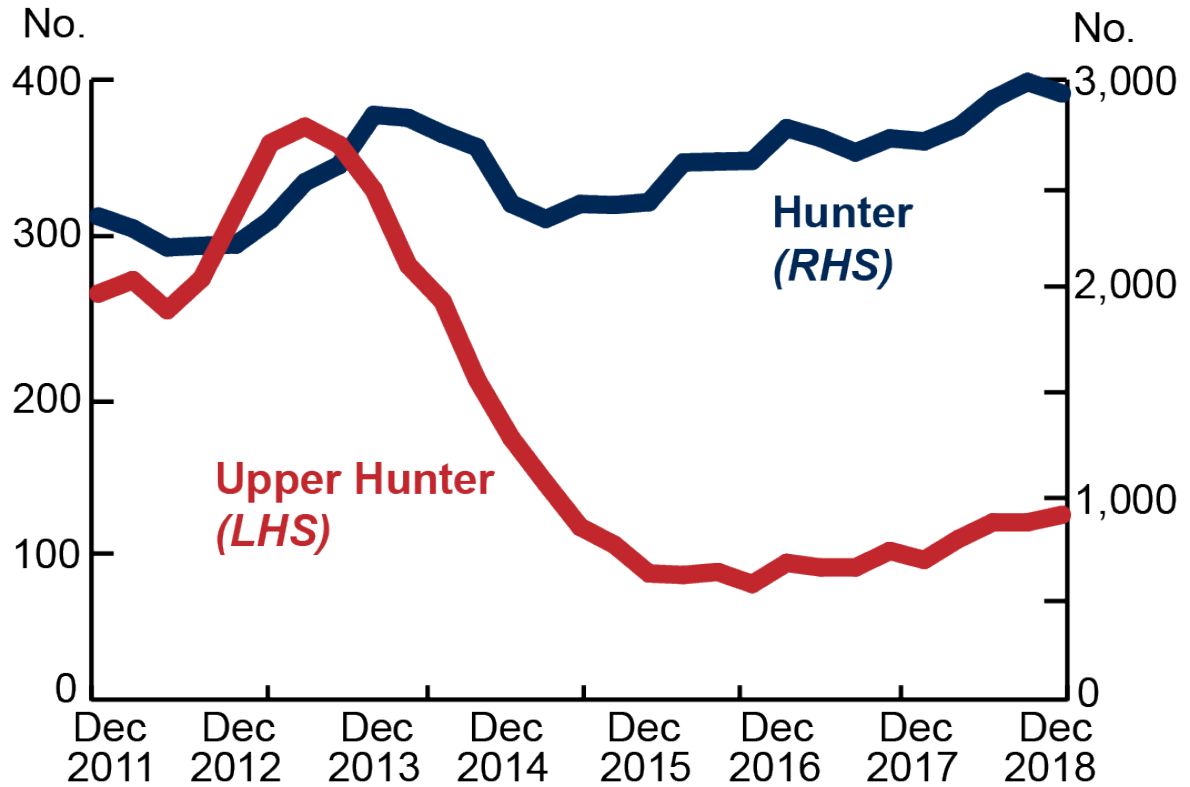
# DEPENDENCE ON MINING



# HOUSING: MIXED RESULTS



# RESIDENTIAL PIPELINE GROWING

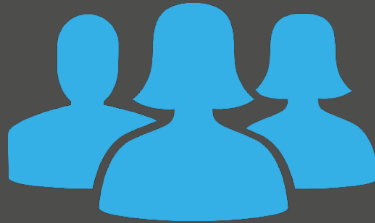


Source: ABS, Building Approvals, Australia.

# PULSE SURVEYS



**Phone  
surveys**

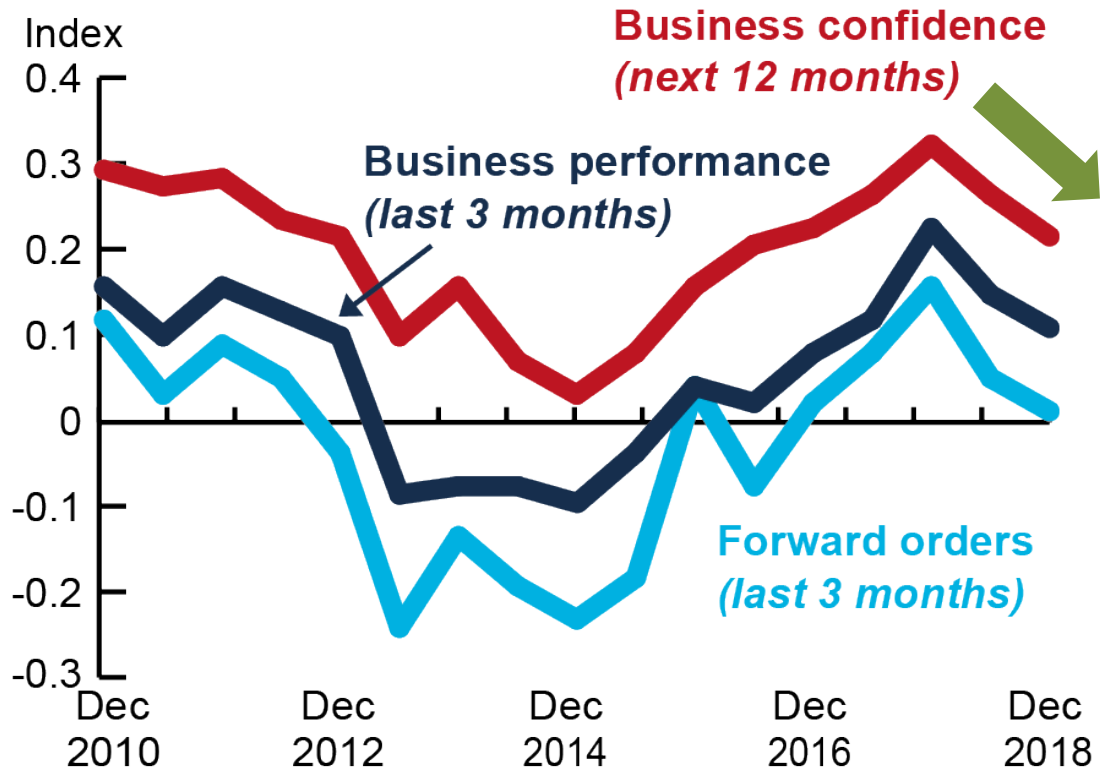


**300  
Households**



**300  
Businesses**

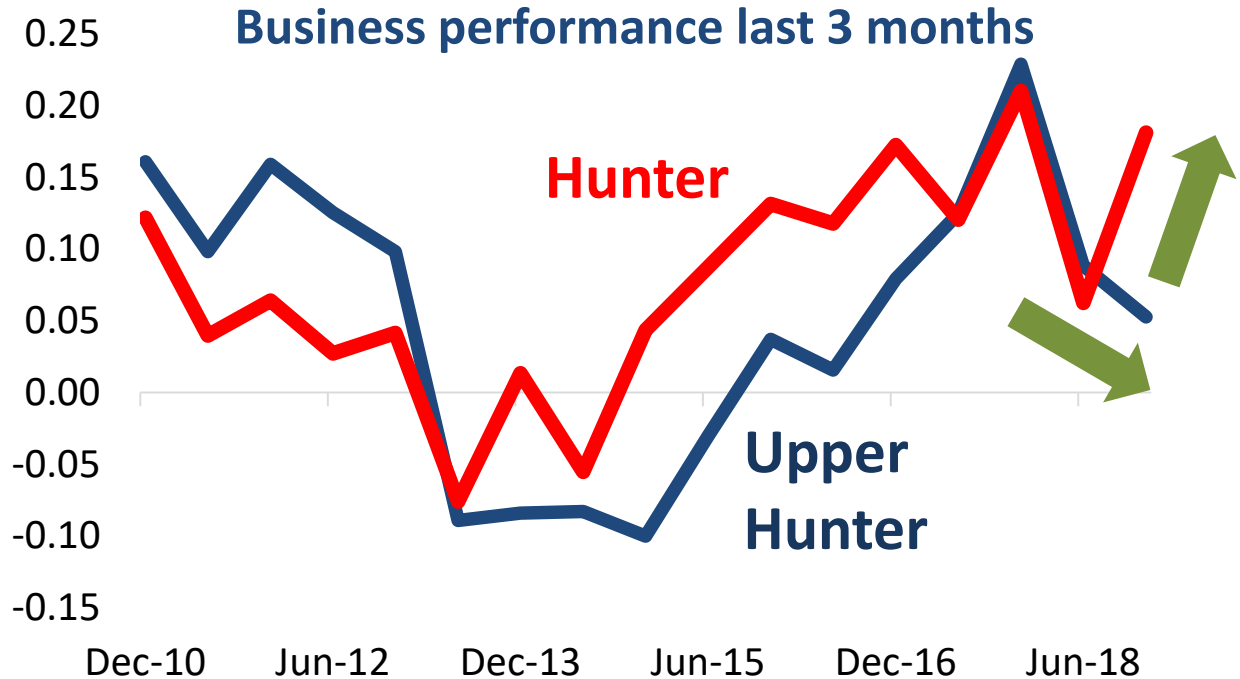
# BUSINESS: GROWTH SLOWS



Source: HRF Centre, Upper Hunter Business Pulse.

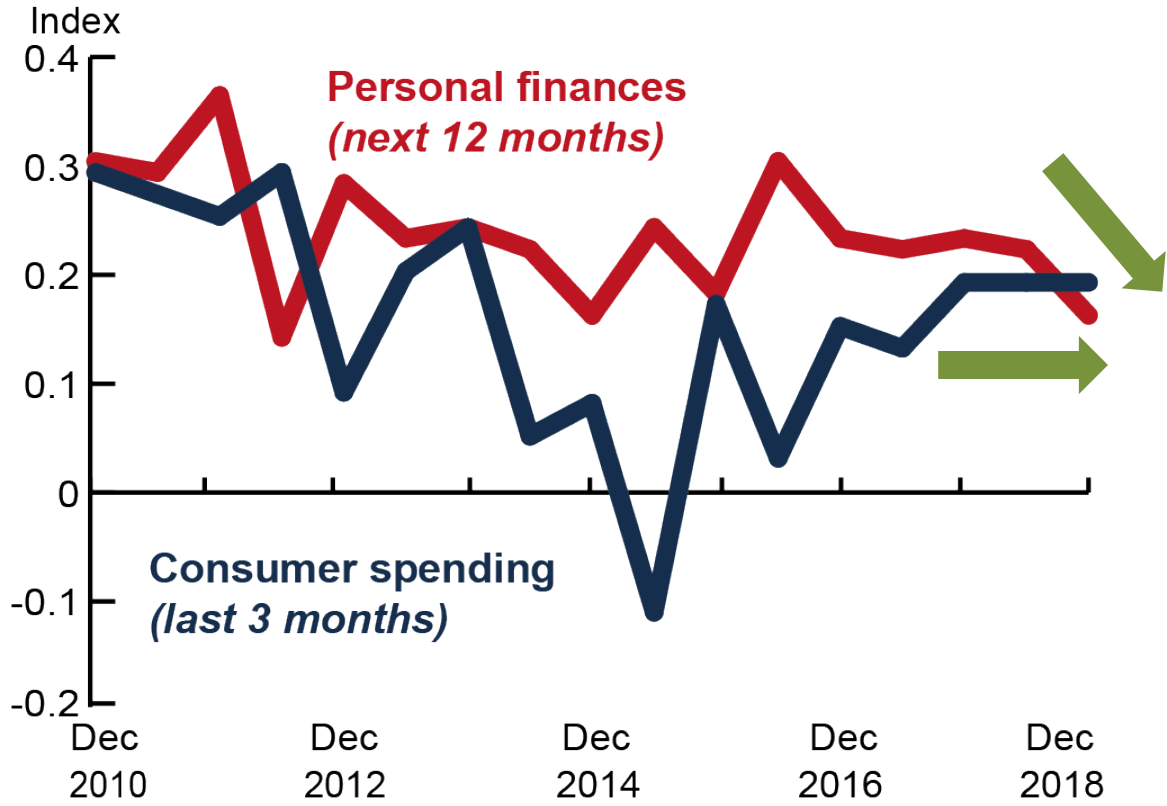
\*Business Performance figure has been interpolated for June 2015

# HUNTER vs UPPER HUNTER



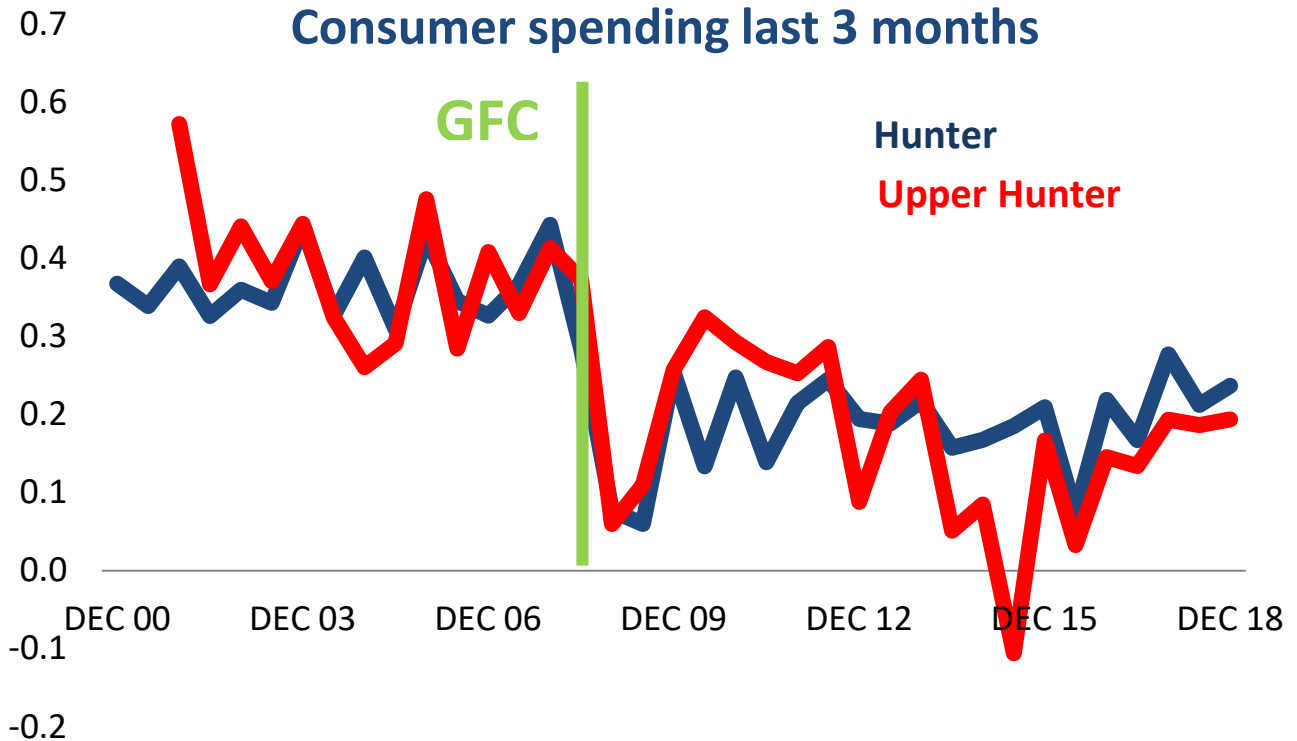
Source: HRF Centre, Upper Hunter Business Pulse  
Figure has been interpolated for June 2015.

# HOUSEHOLDS: STEADY



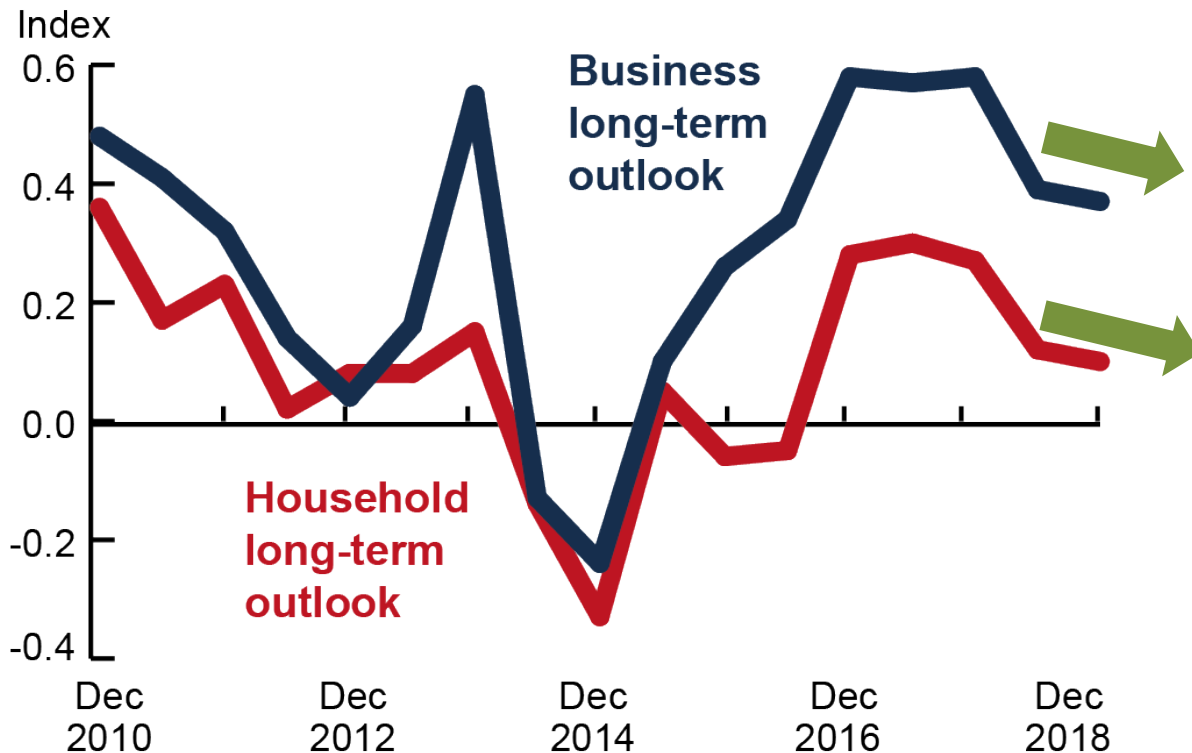


# HUNTER vs UPPER HUNTER



Source: HRF Centre, Upper Hunter Household Pulse Surveys

# REGIONAL OUTLOOK: EXPECTATIONS DAMPEN



# SUMMARY



- **Housing (Singleton & Upper Hunter) and rental market**
- **Low unemployment rates holding steady**



- **Consumer spending**
- **Jobs decline**
- **Business confidence and performance**
- **Long-term confidence in the regional economy?**

THANK YOU

*HRF Centre's latest*

**Upper Hunter Economic Indicators**

*available as you leave*