

Summer: A top motivator for Australians to work harder and be more productive

- 58% of Australian managers expect their staff to be more productive during the summer months, with 20% saying they expect staff to be “much more productive”.

Sydney, 22 January 2018 – While some Australian businesses may be concerned about a slump in productivity over the summer months, new independent research commissioned by specialised recruiter [Robert Half](#) has found Australian workers seem to be in fact more productive during summer months.

According to the research, almost nine in 10 (89%) Australian managers predict that employee productivity will either stay the same or rise during the summer months – an indication that warmer weather may in fact be a prime motivator within the workplace.

Geographically, New South Wales’ optimal beaches are not distracting workers as seven in 10 (70%) managers in New South Wales believe their staff are more productive during summer months. This is followed by Western Australia (64%) and Queensland (52%). Victoria however stands at the bottom of the list with just less than half (45%) saying their staff will be more productive during the warmer weather months.

This is a positive step up from previous Robert Half findings in 2015 – of those surveyed who were concerned about potential negative impacts on their business during summer, 21% specifically referred to a loss of productivity due to employees taking annual leave.

Nicole Gorton, Director of Robert Half Australia said: *“While blue skies and beach-perfect weather might seem like distractors in the office, Australian managers believe summer months are no barrier to employee productivity in the office. With end-of-year approaching, summer months can be a good time to work on outstanding projects and tasks, as well as start working on the preparations for the year ahead.”*

“The summer months are also an optimal time for employees to take some well-deserved annual leave and recharge the batteries. A non-stressed and happy workforce that comes back to the office refreshed after a holiday tends to be more productive and engaged, making holidays beneficial to long-term business performance as well.”

“Managers who are concerned about any potential loss of productivity over the summer months due employees taking annual leave also have the option to bring in temporary workers to maintain business operations, continue to meet deadlines and complete projects, without increasing permanent headcount.”

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Notes to editors

About the research

The annual study is developed by Robert Half and was conducted in June-July 2017 by an independent research company among 460 hiring managers from companies across Australia, with the results segmented by size, sector and geographic location.

MEDIA ALERT

The annual study is developed by Robert Half and was conducted in June 2015 by an independent research firm, surveying more than 2,400 Chief Financial Officers (CFO) and finance directors in 16 countries, amongst which 300 in Australia. This survey is part of the international workplace survey, a questionnaire about job trends, talent management and trends in the workplace.

About Robert Half

Robert Half is the world's first and largest specialised recruitment consultancy and member of the S&P 500. Founded in 1948, the company has more than 300 offices worldwide providing temporary, interim and permanent recruitment solutions for accounting and finance, financial services, technology, and administrative professionals. Robert Half Australia has offices in Brisbane, Melbourne, Mount Waverley, Perth and Sydney. More information on roberthalf.com.au.

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