

Meet the *Economists* ...

Kellie Bellrose

Senior Analyst,
Reserve Bank of Australia



Why did you decide to become an economist?

When I was 17 years old, I was offered a year-long business traineeship at the RBA. The traineeship was an exceptional program that not only introduced inexperienced young adults into the work environment, but also provided training in a Business Administration Certificate III. This was an invaluable opportunity to gain insight into the corporate world and understand the broader economic industry.

How did you become an economist?

I went on to university to do a four-year Honours Degree in Psychology and Business/Finance. I discovered I had an interest in statistics and worked for the university as a statistics tutor. Upon completion, I was fortunate to be offered a research position in Financial Markets at the RBA. From there, I worked in many different roles and positions while studying my Masters of Applied Finance part time at Macquarie University.

If there is anything that I have learnt through my experiences, it is to 'grab all opportunities with both hands' and make the most of them – you never know what pathway it may lead you down in the future.

What do you do from day to day?

I have worked in several different sections throughout the RBA, but currently my role is to conduct analysis on key trends and risks in the domestic financial sector. Our section mostly

focuses on banks, and particularly the major banks, given their critical importance to financial stability in Australia. The role offers a mix of daily work, as well as longer-term analytical research to identify trends and topical themes that impact broader economic conditions. There are also many opportunities to express your ideas and analysis through a range of different mediums, including briefings, publications, presentations and liaison with other industry members.

What's the best thing about your job?

What I really enjoy about economics is that every day is different. Having the opportunity to work in many different areas within the RBA, you encounter unpredictable variables and changing scenarios on a regular basis. This requires the need for quick and timely decisions as you learn to adapt to different situations. You build a strong rapport and friendship with your team, and collaborate with colleagues all around the RBA, making it an enjoyable and interactive work environment. These skills are invaluable qualities that are beneficial to both your professional and personal life.

And when you're not at work?

My main hobby is playing and watching sport, which generally helps me to unwind. I have also recently joined the Army Reserves – as a city girl, this has certainly been a learning curve and given me an appreciation of 'going back to basics'!

Explore economics.



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