



Summary (TREND)

Employment:	Queensland, ↑	3,400 jobs (0.2%)
	Australia, ↑	18,700 jobs (0.2%)
Unemployment Rate:	Queensland, Unchanged	5.1%
	Australia, Unchanged	5.0%
Labour Force:	Queensland, ↑	5,500 persons (0.3%)
	Australia, ↑	16,500 persons (0.2%)

Analysis

- Trend monthly employment growth in Queensland has eased over recent months and in each of the three months to August 2005 has been 0.2% (see chart 1). Jobs growth nationally remained at 0.2% for the second consecutive month in August.
- Queensland recorded strong trend annual jobs growth of 4.9% in August, compared with national growth of 3.6%. The State's annual rise in employment of 92,600 persons accounted for 26% of national employment growth, well above Queensland's 19% population share.
- Full-time jobs growth of 3,400 jobs accounted for all of the State's employment growth in August. In annual terms, Queensland's employment growth was driven by full-time jobs (63,800), while part-time employment increased by 28,800 jobs.
- Recent strong jobs growth in Queensland continues to encourage people to enter the labour force. The State's trend labour force participation rate increased by 1.6% point over the year to 66.9% in August 2005, the highest rate recorded in over 30 years.
- Queensland's trend unemployment rate remained 5.1% for the second consecutive month in August. Similarly, the unemployment rate nationally remained unchanged in August at 5.0%.

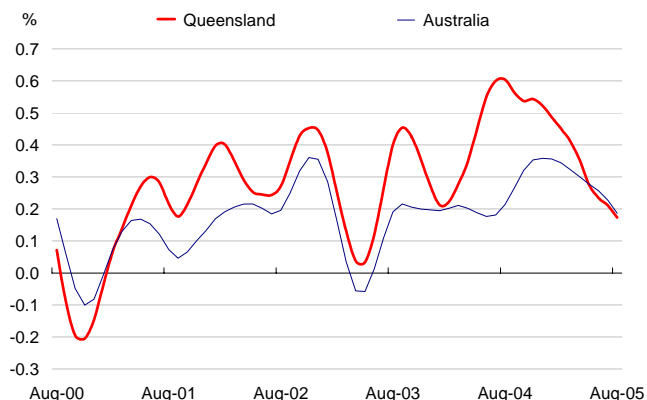
Implications

- Queensland labour market conditions have moderated over recent months, reflecting easing growth in the labour-intensive domestic sector of the economy.
- However, domestic economic activity has returned to more sustainable levels in 2005, compared with the very strong growth recorded in late 2003 and 2004.
- Activity in the construction and retail sectors, a low interest rate environment and continued population growth should support trend jobs growth at around its long-term average of 0.2% in coming months.

**Table 1
Labour Force, August 2005**

Monthly Data	Monthly Change (number)		% change on a month ago		% change on a year ago	
	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust
Trend						
Employment	3,400	18,700	0.2	0.2	4.9	3.6
Full-time	3,400	11,300	0.2	0.2	4.6	3.4
Part-time	0	7,400	0.0	0.3	5.5	4.3
Unemployment	2,100	-2,200	2.0	-0.4	-0.4	-7.1
Labour Force	5,500	16,500	0.3	0.2	4.6	3.0
Seas. Adjusted						
Employment	-800	32,600	0.0	0.3	5.1	4.2
Full-time	-5,900	16,100	-0.4	0.2	4.6	3.5
Part-time	5,100	16,400	0.9	0.6	6.5	6.0
Unemployment	6,200	5,100	5.9	1.0	2.6	-8.8
Labour Force	5,400	37,600	0.3	0.4	5.0	3.4
Unemp. Rate						
Trend	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.4	5.5
Seas. Adjusted	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.7
Participation Rate						
Trend	66.9	64.7	66.8	64.7	65.3	63.6
Seas. Adjusted	66.9	64.8	66.9	64.6	65.1	63.4

**Chart 1
Monthly Employment Growth, Trend**



Note: Charts for August may not be consistent with Table 1 due to rounding.

**Chart 2
Unemployment Rate, Trend**

