



Summary (TREND)

Employment:	Queensland	↓	1,900 jobs (-0.1%)
	Australia	↑	400 jobs (0.0%)
Unemployment Rate:	Queensland	Unchanged	5.0%
	Australia	Unchanged	5.2%
Labour Force:	Queensland	↓	1,400 persons (-0.1%)
	Australia	↑	3,400 persons (0.0%)

Analysis

- Queensland's trend unemployment rate was 5.0% in January 2006, unchanged from a revised 5.0% in December. Similarly, at 5.2% in January, the national unemployment rate remained unchanged from a revised 5.2% in the previous month. The monthly trend unemployment rate in Queensland has been below or equal to that nationally since July 2004 (see Chart 1).
- Following a sustained period of exceptional growth throughout 2004-05, trend monthly jobs growth in Queensland eased over the second half of 2005. The trend number of employed persons declined slightly in January 2006 (down 0.1% or 1,900 jobs), the third consecutive monthly decline of 0.1%. Nationally, the trend level of employment remained virtually unchanged (0.0%) over the month, the sixth consecutive month in which this has occurred.
- Despite the recent monthly declines, Queensland continued to record trend annual jobs growth in January (up 1.7%, compared with 1.6% nationally). The State's annual rise in employment of 33,800 accounted for 21.1% of national jobs growth, remaining above the State's 19.5% population share.
- Over the month, both part-time jobs (down 300) and full-time jobs (down 1,600) declined. In annual terms, Queensland recorded similar growth in both full-time and part-time employment (up 18,500 and 15,300 jobs respectively).
- The State's trend labour force participation rate declined 0.1% point to 65.9% in January 2006. The participation rate has now fallen 0.8% point from the record high of 66.7% recorded in both June and July 2005.
- Employment in Queensland has eased over recent months. However, this follows an extended period of exceptional jobs growth throughout 2004-05. Further, job advertisements, which are a leading indicator of jobs growth, have recorded solid growth over the last four months. This suggests monthly employment growth should improve going forward.

Table 1
Labour Force, January 2006

Monthly Data	Monthly Change (number)		% change on a month ago		% change on a year ago	
	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust
Trend						
Employment	-1,900	400	-0.1	0.0	1.7	1.6
Full-time	-1,600	4,900	-0.1	0.1	1.3	1.5
Part-time	-300	-4,500	-0.1	-0.2	2.8	2.0
Unemployment	500	3,000	0.5	0.5	9.3	3.3
Labour Force	-1,400	3,400	-0.1	0.0	2.1	1.7
Seas. Adjusted						
Employment	-1,200	1,800	-0.1	0.0	1.8	1.6
Full-time	3,200	30,500	0.2	0.4	1.8	2.0
Part-time	-4,400	-28,700	-0.8	-1.0	1.7	0.6
Unemployment	8,100	10,900	7.9	2.0	11.9	5.1
Labour Force	6,800	12,800	0.3	0.1	2.3	1.8
Unemploy. Rate						
Trend	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.2	4.7	5.1
Seas. Adjusted	5.3	5.3	4.9	5.2	4.8	5.1
Participation Rate						
Trend	65.9	64.3	66.0	64.4	65.9	64.0
Seas. Adjusted	66.0	64.4	65.9	64.4	65.9	64.1

Chart 1
Unemployment Rate, Trend

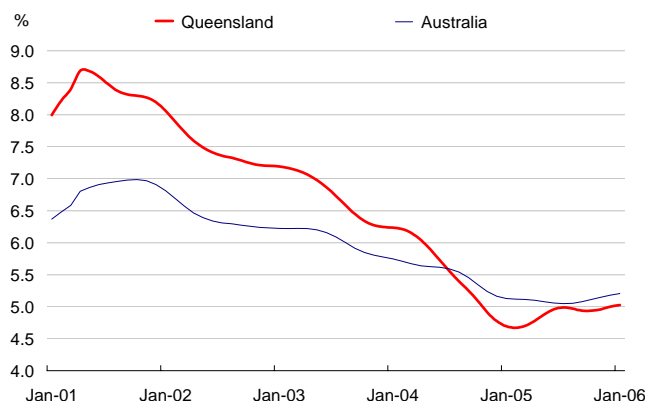
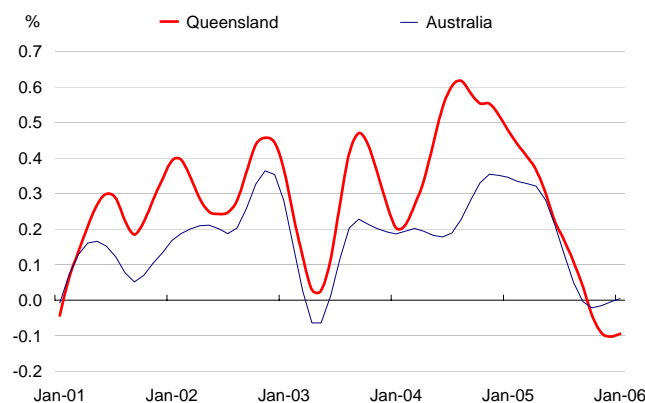


Chart 2
Monthly Employment Growth, Trend



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