



**Note:** In the July 2006 *Labour Force* publication, the ABS noted that the employment of temporary staff for the conducting of the 2006 Census may have affected the number of employed persons in July. While no estimates of the impact are available yet, the net impact on employment from the both the 2001 and 1996 Census was estimated to be about 10,000 persons nationally.

### Summary (TREND)

<b>Employment:</b>	Queensland, ↑	8,600 jobs (0.4%)
	Australia, ↑	30,600 jobs (0.3%)
<b>Unemployment Rate:</b>	Queensland, ↓	4.5%
	Australia, ↓	4.8%
<b>Labour Force:</b>	Queensland, ↑	6,500 persons (0.3%)
	Australia, ↑	25,400 persons (0.2%)

- Nationally, seasonally adjusted employment rose by 50,700 jobs (0.5%) in July 2006, well above market expectations of a 7,500 job rise.

### Analysis

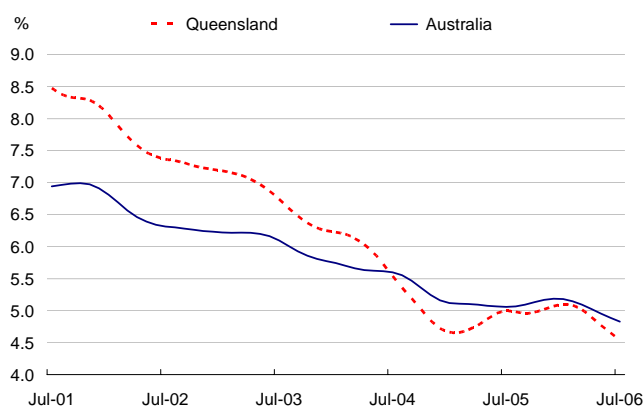
- Queensland's trend unemployment rate was 4.5% in July 2006, down 0.2 percentage point from 4.7% in June. This is the lowest monthly trend unemployment rate recorded in Queensland since the inception of the current *Labour Force* series in February 1978, beating the previous low of 4.7% recorded both in June 2006 and in each month from December 2004 to March 2005.
- Similarly, the national unemployment rate in July was the lowest recorded in over 28 years, declining 0.1 percentage point to 4.8%. However, the national trend unemployment rate remained above the rate in Queensland, as it has done for two years (see Chart 1).
- The record low unemployment rate has been driven by a period of very strong jobs growth (see Chart 2). The State recorded trend employment growth of 0.4% in July, the fifth consecutive month of growth between 0.4-0.5%. In comparison, national trend employment increased 0.3% for the fifth consecutive month in July.
- In Queensland, trend growth in full-time employment (up 8,100 jobs) continued to drive jobs growth in July, while part-time employment increased slightly (up 500 jobs). Over the year, Queensland recorded an increase in full-time employment of 42,200, which accounted for almost a third (33.1%) of full-time jobs created nationally. Part-time employment in the State increased 9,200 over the year.
- Remarkably, despite the recent excellent labour market conditions in Queensland, forward indicators of jobs growth in the State remain somewhat mixed, with the trend ANZ Job Ads series falling for seven

consecutive months. Conversely, the number of ABS Job Vacancies reached an historical high of 36,800 in July quarter 2006 and indicators of activity in the labour-intensive retail and construction sectors remains solid.

**Table 1**  
**Labour Force, July 2006**

Monthly Data	Monthly Change (number)		% change on a month ago		% change on a year ago	
	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust
<b>Trend</b>						
Employment	8,600	30,600	0.4	0.3	2.6	1.9
Full-time	8,100	20,000	0.6	0.3	2.9	1.8
Part-time	500	10,600	0.1	0.4	1.6	2.1
Labour Force	6,500	25,400	0.3	0.2	2.1	1.6
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>						
Employment	15,700	50,600	0.8	0.5	2.9	2.2
Full-time	-4,500	27,100	-0.3	0.4	2.5	2.0
Part-time	20,200	23,600	3.6	0.8	3.8	2.7
Labour Force	14,200	36,500	0.7	0.3	2.4	1.9
<b>Unemploy. Rate</b>						
Trend	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.1
Seas. Adjusted	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.9	4.9	5.0
<b>Participation Rate</b>						
Trend	66.6	64.8	66.5	64.7	66.7	64.6
Seas. Adjusted	66.9	65.0	66.6	64.8	66.7	64.6

**Chart 1**  
**Unemployment Rate, Trend**



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

**Chart 2**  
**Monthly Employment Growth, Trend**

