

**Note:** In previous years, the ABS has adjusted the employment series in years where Easter occurred during the April *Labour Force* interview period. However, based on the April 2007 data, the ABS no longer considers the Easter adjustment necessary.

### Summary (TREND)

**Employment:** Queensland, € 6,900 jobs (0.3%)  
Australia, € 18,600 jobs (0.2%)

**Unemployment Rate:** Queensland, € 3.7%  
Australia, unchanged 4.5%

**Labour Force:** Queensland, € 5,600 persons (0.2%)  
Australia, € 16,500 persons (0.2%)

- Nationally, seasonally adjusted employment increased by 49,600 jobs in April 2007, much stronger than market expectation of a 10,000 job rise.

### Analysis

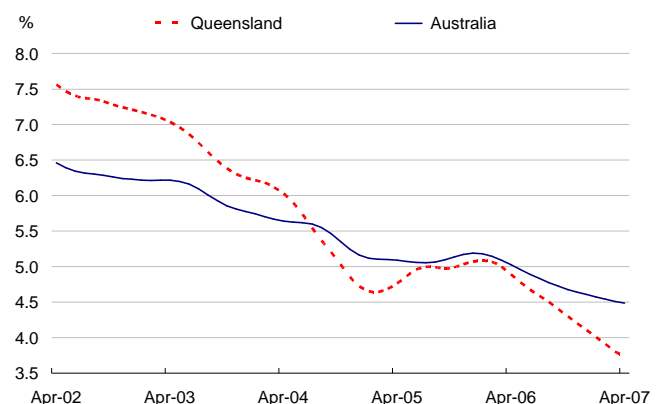
- Queensland's trend unemployment rate continued to fall in April 2007, to a new 29-year low of 3.7%. This represents a decline of 0.1 percentage point from a revised 3.8% in March 2007 and the fourteenth consecutive month that the unemployment rate has declined. Remarkably, this strong outcome has coincided with the trend labour force participation rate rising to a revised historic high 67.6% in April 2007, the highest among the states.
- Nationally, the trend unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.5% in April 2007. While this also represents a 29-year low nationally, Queensland's unemployment rate has been equal or below the rate recorded in Australia for more than two years (see Chart 1).
- Solid jobs growth continues to drive Queensland's record low unemployment rate. Following strong growth recorded in 2006, employment growth in Queensland eased to 0.3% in April 2007. However, the State's employment growth was above the 0.2% growth recorded nationally in April, representing the fourteenth consecutive month that Queensland has outperformed Australia in terms of employment growth (see Chart 2).
- In April 2007, trend jobs growth in Queensland was concentrated in full-time employment, which rose by 7,100 jobs, compared with a decrease of 200 part-time jobs. Over the year, total employment rose by 114,300 persons, comprised of 101,100 full-time and 13,200 part-time jobs and accounting for more than 40% of all jobs created nationally.
- Growth in job vacancies suggests that the labour market outlook remains solid in Queensland. Other

indicators of labour-intensive industries also remain supportive of solid jobs growth going forward, with annual growth in trend retail trade (nominal) strengthening to 6.8% and annual growth in building approvals remaining robust at 8.1% in March 2007.

**Table 1  
Labour Force, April 2007**

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	6,900	18,600	0.3	0.2	5.7	2.8
Full-time	7,100	17,500	0.5	0.2	7.0	3.1
Part-time	-200	900	0.0	0.0	2.3	1.8
Labour Force	5,600	16,500	0.2	0.2	4.4	2.2
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>						
Employment	5,500	49,600	0.3	0.5	5.8	3.1
Full-time	7,200	11,600	0.5	0.2	7.4	3.3
Part-time	-1,700	38,100	-0.3	1.3	1.6	2.6
Labour Force	-6,200	43,900	-0.3	0.4	4.3	2.4
<b>Unemploy. Rate</b>						
Trend	3.7	4.5	3.8	4.5	4.9	5.0
Seas. Adjusted	3.4	4.4	3.9	4.5	4.7	5.1
<b>Participation Rate</b>						
Trend	67.6	64.9	67.5	64.9	66.3	64.5
Seas. Adjusted	67.3	64.9	67.6	64.8	66.1	64.5

**Chart 1  
Unemployment Rate, Trend**



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

**Chart 2  
Monthly Employment Growth, Trend**

