

**Note:** In June 2007, the ABS introduced a new methodology which provides roughly the same standard error with a smaller sample size. Beginning in November, and continuing for eight months, the sample will be gradually reduced by about 11% (or 6,800 persons). Caution should be used when interpreting data over this period.

**Summary (trend)**

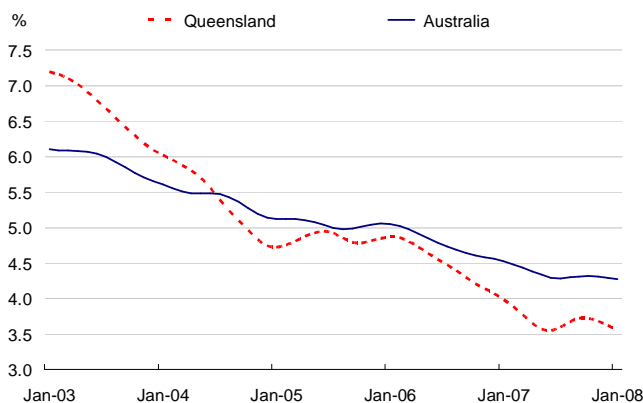
<b>Employment:</b> (jobs)	Queensland, Australia,	↑ ↑	2,200 19,400	(0.1%) (0.2%)
<b>Unemployment Rate:</b>	Queensland, Australia,	unchanged unchanged	3.6% 4.3%	
<b>Labour Force:</b> (persons)	Queensland, Australia,	↑ ↑	700 17,600	(0.0%) (0.2%)

- Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.1% (2,200 persons) in January 2008, to be 2.4% higher over the year. Annual employment growth was comprised of 28,300 full time and 21,600 part time jobs.
- The trend unemployment rate in Queensland remained unchanged from a revised 3.6% in January, 0.4 percentage point lower than January 2007.
- The trend participation rate in Queensland fell to 67.0% in January 2008, 0.4 percentage point lower than in the same month last year.
- Nationally, trend employment rose 0.2% (19,400 persons) in January, while the trend unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.3%.
- Nationally, seasonally adjusted (sa) employment rose 26,800 jobs in January 2008, above the market expectation of a 15,000 job increase. The national sa unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage point, to 4.1%, below the market consensus of 4.3%.

**Outlook**

- Leading indicators suggest that jobs growth in the coming months may be modest. The latest ANZ *Job Advertisement Series* shows that trend job ads in Queensland fell 0.7% in January 2008, while the DEWR Skilled Vacancy Index (trend) for Queensland fell 0.9% in the same month.

**Chart 1  
Unemployment Rate, Trend**

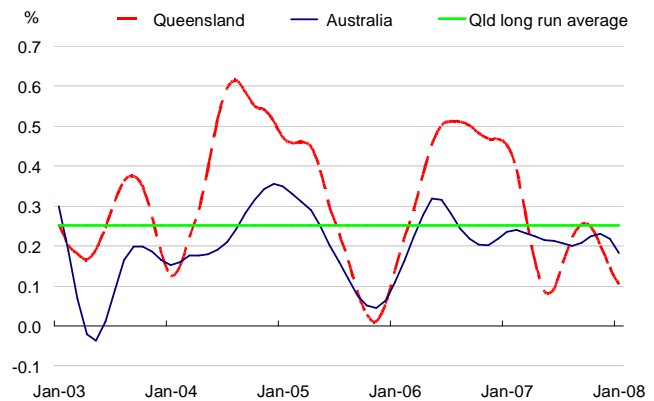


Note: Charts for January may not be consistent with Table 1 due to rounding.

**Table 1  
Labour Force, January 2008**

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	2,200	19,400	0.1	0.2	2.4	2.6
Full-time	-300	8,100	0.0	0.1	1.8	2.7
Part-time	2,500	11,100	0.4	0.4	3.8	2.4
Labour Force	700	17,600	0.0	0.2	1.9	2.4
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>						
Employment	-6,400	26,800	-0.3	0.3	1.7	2.7
Full-time	-8,800	-7,800	-0.6	-0.1	1.4	2.5
Part-time	2,400	34,600	0.4	1.1	2.6	3.1
Labour Force	-9,200	12,900	-0.4	0.1	1.1	2.3
<b>Unemploy. Rate</b>						
Trend	3.6	4.3	3.6	4.3	4.0	4.5
Seas. Adjusted	3.4	4.1	3.5	4.3	4.0	4.5
<b>Participation Rate</b>						
Trend	67.0	65.2	67.1	65.2	67.4	64.8
Seas. Adjusted	66.6	65.2	67.0	65.2	67.6	64.8

**Chart 2  
Monthly Employment Growth, Trend**



**Table 2  
Interstate comparison, January 2008**

Monthly Trend Data	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aust
<b>Employment</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (No.)	2,200	5,700	6,500	1,300	2,200	300	19,400
% change on a year ago	2.4	2.1	3.2	2.6	3.8	2.9	2.6
Change on a year ago (No.)	49,900	70,900	81,200	19,300	40,900	6,500	271,700
<b>Labour Force</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (No.)	700	5,700	7,800	900	2,300	300	17,600
% change on a year ago	1.9	1.8	2.9	2.0	4.0	2.4	2.4
Change on a year ago (No.)	41,800	61,900	79,200	16,300	44,800	5,800	254,900
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>							
January-08	3.6	4.6	4.6	4.8	3.3	5.3	4.3
December-07	3.6	4.7	4.6	4.8	3.3	5.3	4.3
January-07	4.0	5.0	4.9	5.2	3.1	5.7	4.5
Monthly Difference	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Annual Difference	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	0.2	-0.4	-0.2
<b>Participation Rate</b>							
January-08	67.0	63.4	65.4	63.0	68.4	61.2	65.2
December-07	67.1	63.4	65.3	63.0	68.4	61.1	65.2
January-07	67.4	63.1	64.6	62.5	67.4	60.2	64.8
Monthly Difference	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Annual Difference	-0.4	0.3	0.8	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.4

The time the ABS provides to prepare the labour force brief before the embargo release of 10.30 am daylight savings time has been reduced from 90 minutes to 30 minutes. This has resulted in a change in the format and content of the labour force brief.