

**Note:** In June 2007, the ABS introduced a new methodology which provides roughly the same standard error with a smaller sample size. Between November 2007 and June 2008, the sample will be reduced by about 11% (or 6,800 persons). ABS analysis has shown that the new sample has had minimal impact on the series.

**Summary (trend)**

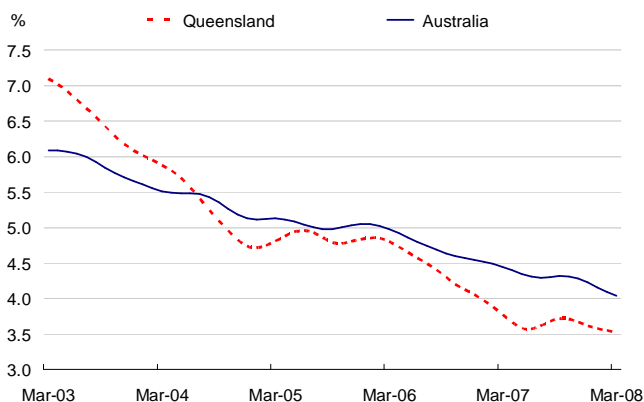
<b>Employment:</b> (jobs)	Queensland, Australia,	↑ ↑	1,900 20,200	(0.1%) (0.2%)
<b>Unemployment Rate:</b>	Queensland, Australia,	↓ ↓		3.5% 4.0%
<b>Labour Force:</b> (persons)	Queensland, Australia,	↑ ↑	1,400 14,600	(0.1%) (0.1%)

- The trend unemployment rate in Queensland fell to 3.5% in March, the lowest level in the history of the monthly labour force series.
- Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.1% (1,900 persons) in March 2008, to be 1.9% higher over the year. Annual employment growth was comprised of 6,800 full time and 33,600 part time jobs.
- The trend participation rate in Queensland fell to 66.8% in March 2008, 0.6 percentage point lower than in the same month last year.
- Nationally, trend employment rose 0.2% (20,200 persons) in March, while the trend unemployment rate fell to 4.0%.
- Nationally, seasonally adjusted (sa) employment rose 14,800 jobs in March 2008, above the market expectation of a 10,000 job increase. The national sa unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point, to 4.1%, equal to the market consensus.

**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 4.3% in March 2008, while the Queensland DEWR Skilled Vacancy Index (trend) fell 4.2% in the same month.

**Unemployment Rate, Trend**

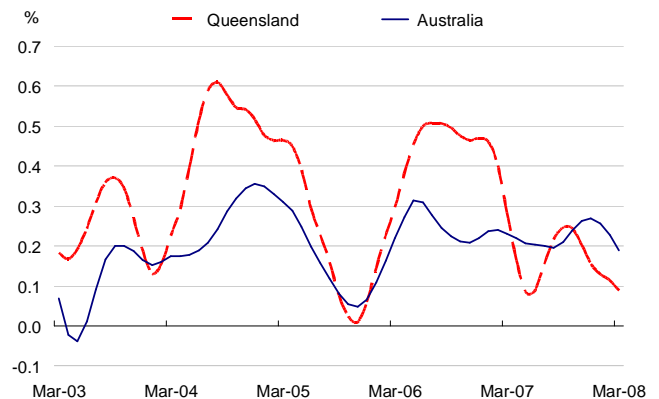


Note: Charts for March may not be consistent with Table 1 due to rounding.

**Table 1  
Labour Force, March 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	1,900	20,200	0.1	0.2	1.9	2.7
Full-time	-1,200	10,800	-0.1	0.1	0.4	2.4
Part-time	3,100	9,300	0.5	0.3	5.9	3.4
Labour Force	1,400	14,600	0.1	0.1	1.6	2.3
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>						
Employment	2,100	14,800	0.1	0.1	1.9	2.9
Full-time	-6,100	5,300	-0.4	0.1	0.1	2.4
Part-time	8,200	9,600	1.4	0.3	7.0	4.0
Labour Force	2,100	28,600	0.1	0.3	1.6	2.4
<b>Unemploy. Rate</b>						
Trend	3.5	4.0	3.6	4.1	3.8	4.4
Seas. Adjusted	3.6	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.9	4.5
<b>Participation Rate</b>						
Trend	66.8	65.2	66.9	65.2	67.4	64.9
Seas. Adjusted	66.9	65.2	67.0	65.2	67.6	64.9

**Chart 2  
Monthly Employment Growth, Trend**



**Table 2  
Interstate comparison, March 2008**

Monthly Trend Data	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aust
<b>Employment</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (No.)	1,900	12,100	1,100	1,300	2,600	-300	20,200
% change on a year ago	1.9	3.2	2.4	3.2	3.7	1.8	2.7
Change on a year ago (No.)	40,400	106,200	62,500	24,100	40,100	4,100	282,000
<b>Labour Force</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.1
Change on a month ago (No.)	1,400	9,800	-400	700	2,000	-500	14,600
% change on a year ago	1.6	2.5	1.9	2.5	3.7	1.4	2.3
Change on a year ago (No.)	36,400	85,800	52,100	20,200	42,200	3,400	247,700
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>							
March-08	3.5	4.3	4.3	4.5	3.1	5.0	4.0
February-08	3.6	4.4	4.4	4.6	3.1	5.0	4.1
March-07	3.8	5.0	4.8	5.1	3.0	5.3	4.4
Monthly Difference	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Annual Difference	-0.3	-0.7	-0.5	-0.6	0.1	-0.3	-0.4
<b>Participation Rate</b>							
March-08	66.8	63.8	65.0	62.9	68.4	60.5	65.2
February-08	66.9	63.7	65.1	62.9	68.4	60.7	65.2
March-07	67.4	63.1	64.9	62.1	67.6	60.1	64.9
Monthly Difference	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0
Annual Difference	-0.6	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.3

As part of the sample rotation process, the ABS changes the sample in remote areas concurrently. This month, the ABS introduced the new sample in remote areas of NSW, WA, NT and the ACT. Next month the new sample will be introduced in remote areas of QLD, VIC, SA and TAS. Care should be used when interpreting data during the sample rotation months.