

Summary (trend)

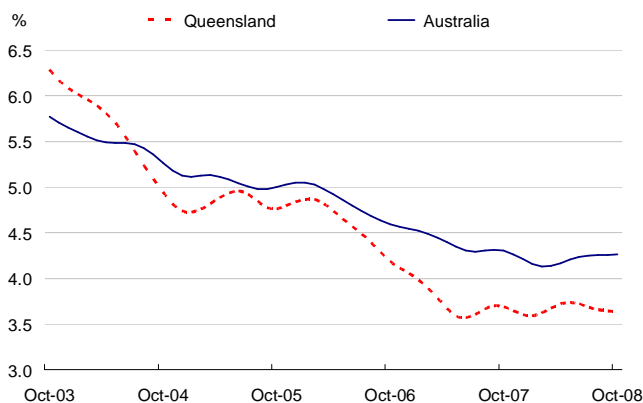
Employment: (persons)	Queensland, Australia,	↑ ↑	4,400 8,900	(0.2%) (0.1%)
Unemployment Rate:	Queensland, Australia,	unchanged unchanged	3.6% 4.3%	
Labour Force: (persons)	Queensland, Australia,	↑ ↑	4,400 9,800	(0.2%) (0.1%)

- Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.2% (4,400 persons) in October 2008, to be 3.0% higher over the year. Annual employment growth comprised 48,300 full time and 17,000 part time jobs.
- The trend participation rate in Queensland was unchanged at 67.5% in October 2008, 0.4 percentage point higher than October 2007.
- The trend unemployment rate in Queensland remained at 3.6% in October 2008, the equal lowest trend unemployment recorded in the 30-year history of the current *Labour Force* series.
- Trend employment nationally rose 0.1% in October, and the trend unemployment rate remained at 4.3%.
- Nationally, seasonally adjusted (sa) employment rose 34,300 in October 2008, well above the market expectation of a 10,000 fall in persons employed. The national sa unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.3%, lower than the market consensus of a 0.1 percentage point increase to 4.4%.

Analysis

- In the coming months, employment growth is likely to weaken, reflecting moderating domestic economic conditions, evidenced by weakness in partial indicators of economic activity such as credit growth, building approvals and retail trade. This may limit hiring intentions going forward.
- Further, the October ANZ *Job Advertisement Series* data show that the average number of newspaper job ads per week (trend) in Queensland fell by 6.1% in October 2008. Trend newspaper job advertisements in Queensland have fallen every month for the past year, and have reached their lowest level since April 1992.

**Chart 1
Unemployment rate, trend**

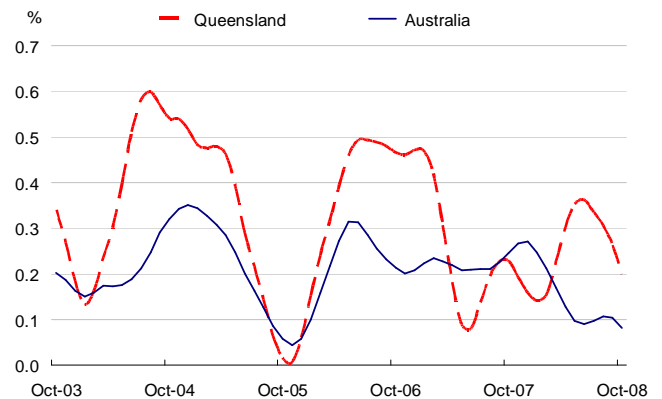


Note: Charts for October may not be consistent with table 1 due to rounding.

**Table 1
Labour force, October 2008**

Monthly Data	Monthly Change (number)		% change on a month ago		% change on a year ago	
	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust
Trend						
Employment	4,400	8,900	0.2	0.1	3.0	1.9
Full-time	1,800	2,900	0.1	0.0	3.1	1.9
Part-time	2,600	6,000	0.4	0.2	2.9	2.0
Labour Force	4,400	9,800	0.2	0.1	3.0	1.8
Seas. Adjusted						
Employment	12,200	34,300	0.6	0.3	3.1	2.1
Full-time	-2,200	-9,200	-0.1	-0.1	1.7	1.2
Part-time	14,400	43,500	2.4	1.4	6.7	4.5
Labour Force	12,800	41,300	0.6	0.4	3.1	2.1
Unemploy. Rate						
Trend	3.6	4.3	3.6	4.3	3.7	4.3
Seas. Adjusted	3.8	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.7	4.3
Participation Rate						
Trend	67.5	65.2	67.5	65.2	67.1	65.1
Seas. Adjusted	67.5	65.3	67.3	65.1	67.2	65.1

**Chart 2
Monthly employment growth, trend**



**Table 2
Interstate comparison, October 2008**

Monthly Trend Data	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aust
Employment							
% change on a month ago	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.1
Change on a month ago (No.)	4,400	-3,100	300	900	6,200	900	8,900
% change on a year ago	3.0	0.7	0.9	2.0	4.9	5.7	1.9
Change on a year ago (No.)	65,200	23,500	24,000	15,500	54,800	13,000	199,600
Labour Force							
% change on a month ago	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1
Change on a month ago (No.)	4,400	-700	-900	2,000	4,500	500	9,800
% change on a year ago	3.0	1.1	0.7	2.4	4.0	3.9	1.8
Change on a year ago (No.)	66,500	39,300	19,800	19,100	46,300	9,500	203,600
Unemployment Rate							
October-08	3.6	5.0	4.3	5.2	2.5	3.7	4.3
September-08	3.6	5.0	4.4	5.1	2.7	3.8	4.3
October-07	3.7	4.6	4.5	4.9	3.4	5.3	4.3
Monthly Difference	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.0
Annual Difference	-0.1	0.4	-0.2	0.3	-0.9	-1.6	0.0
Participation Rate							
October-08	67.5	63.1	64.4	63.5	69.2	62.6	65.2
September-08	67.5	63.2	64.5	63.4	69.1	62.6	65.2
October-07	67.1	63.3	65.1	62.8	68.4	60.9	65.1
Monthly Difference	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Annual Difference	0.4	-0.2	-0.7	0.7	0.8	1.7	0.1

***Note:** The ABS reduced the sample size of this survey by 24% (or 13,300 persons nationally) in the July 2008 survey month, citing "a tight budget situation in 2008-09, which has led to a range in reductions in the ABS work program". This raised the sample standard error, and the volatility of the series. Hence, particular caution should be used when interpreting labour force data from July 2008. This follows an 11% reduction (6,800 persons) between November 2007 and June 2008.