

Summary (trend)

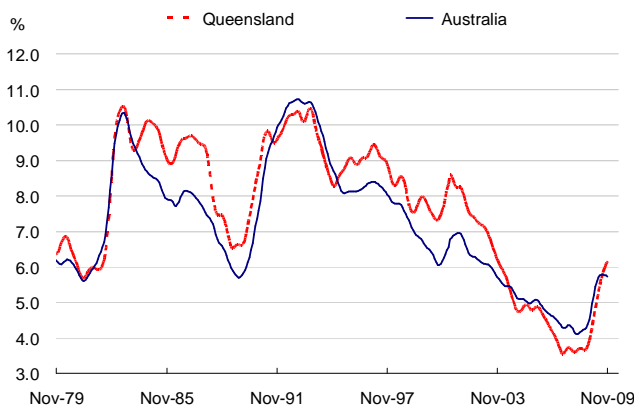
Employment:	Queensland,	↑	1,400	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	17,300	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↑	1,800	(6.2%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓	2,400	(5.7%)
Labour Force:	Queensland,	↑	3,200	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	14,900	(0.1%)

- Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.1% (1,400 persons) in November 2009, but was 0.3% (6,000 persons) lower over the year.
- The trend participation rate in Queensland remained at 67.4% in November 2009, only 0.3 percentage point lower than its historic high. Stable participation, along with fast population growth, is supporting strong labour force growth in the State.
- With employment growth weaker than growth in the labour force, Queensland's trend unemployment rate rose to 6.2% in November 2009, remaining the highest in the nation. Queensland's trend unemployment rate has now risen 2.5 percentage points from the generational low last reached in early 2008. However, by historical standards, an unemployment rate of around 6% is still quite low (See Chart 1).
- National trend employment rose 0.2% (17,300 persons) in November and the trend unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 5.7%.
- Nationally, sa employment rose 31,200 persons in November 2009, well above market expectations of a 5,000 person increase. Further, the sa unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point, to 5.7%, better than market expectations of a rise to 5.9%.

Analysis

- Leading indicators of employment, such as the ANZ *Job Advertisements Series*, appear to be stabilising at a low level, implying subdued employment outcomes in coming months. While falls in trend employment both nationally and in Queensland appear to have troughed in June quarter 2009, employment growth in Queensland is not expected to materially exceed population growth in the short term, which is likely to result in a higher unemployment rate going forward.

Chart 1: Unemployment rate, trend



Note: Charts may not be consistent with Tables due to rounding.

Table 1: Monthly labour force outcomes, November 2009

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	QLD	Aust	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	
Trend											
Employment	2,224.1	10,844.4	1.4	17.3	-6.0	38.0	0.1	0.2	-0.3	0.4	
Full-time	1,587.0	7,600.1	-0.1	8.3	-26.1	-116.4	0.0	0.1	-1.6	-1.5	
Part-time	637.1	3,244.3	1.5	9.0	20.1	154.5	0.2	0.3	3.3	5.0	
Unemployed	145.9	659.4	1.8	-2.4	54.7	148.0	1.2	-0.4	60.0	28.9	
Labour Force	2,370.0	11,503.8	3.2	14.9	48.7	186.0	0.1	0.1	2.1	1.6	
Seas. Adjusted											
Employment	2,220.3	10,868.2	-8.4	31.2	-13.0	69.7	-0.4	0.3	-0.6	0.6	
Full-time	1,585.7	7,627.4	-6.4	30.8	-46.5	-94.2	-0.4	0.4	-2.8	-1.2	
Part-time	634.6	3,240.8	-2.0	0.4	33.5	163.9	-0.3	0.0	5.6	5.3	
Unemployed	143.7	653.1	0.6	-13.2	53.7	139.9	0.4	-2.0	59.7	27.3	
Labour Force	2,364.0	11,521.3	-7.8	18.0	40.7	209.6	-0.3	0.2	1.8	1.9	
			Current		A month ago		A year ago				
Unemploy. Rate	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust					
Trend	6.2	5.7	6.1	5.8	3.9	4.5					
Seas. Adjusted	6.1	5.7	6.0	5.8	3.9	4.5					
Participation Rate											
Trend	67.4	65.2	67.4	65.2	67.5	65.3					
Seas. Adjusted	67.2	65.2	67.5	65.3	67.6	65.3					

Chart 2: Monthly employment growth, trend

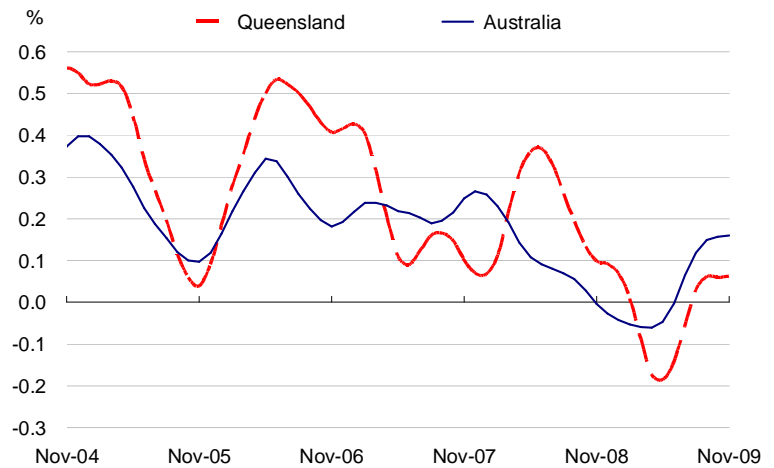


Table 2: Interstate comparison, November 2009

Monthly Trend Data	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aust
Employment							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.1	-0.3	0.2
Change on a month ago (No.)	1,400	1,200	11,000	1,000	1,100	-700	17,300
% change on a year ago	-0.3	0.4	2.0	0.4	-1.4	-3.6	0.4
Change on a year ago (No.)	-6,000	13,600	52,400	3,000	-17,000	-8,600	38,000
Labour Force							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1
Change on a month ago (No.)	3,200	-200	8,500	800	300	-300	14,900
% change on a year ago	2.1	1.1	3.0	0.5	1.0	-2.4	1.6
Change on a year ago (No.)	48,700	38,700	84,400	3,900	12,400	-5,900	186,000
Unemployment Rate							
November-09	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.7
October-09	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.2	5.8
November-08	3.9	5.3	4.6	5.4	2.9	4.2	4.5
Monthly Difference	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.1
Annual Difference	2.3	0.6	1.0	0.1	2.4	1.2	1.2
Participation Rate							
November-09	67.4	63.2	65.1	63.2	68.0	60.2	65.2
October-09	67.4	63.3	65.0	63.2	68.1	60.3	65.2
November-08	67.5	63.5	64.5	63.6	69.2	62.3	65.3
Monthly Difference	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Annual Difference	-0.1	-0.3	0.6	-0.4	-1.2	-2.1	-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. In May 2009, the ABS announced that the 24% reduction in the sample size will be reversed between September and December 2009. This will decrease the standard error of the sample by approximately 15%, but may introduce volatility during the transition.