

Summary (trend)

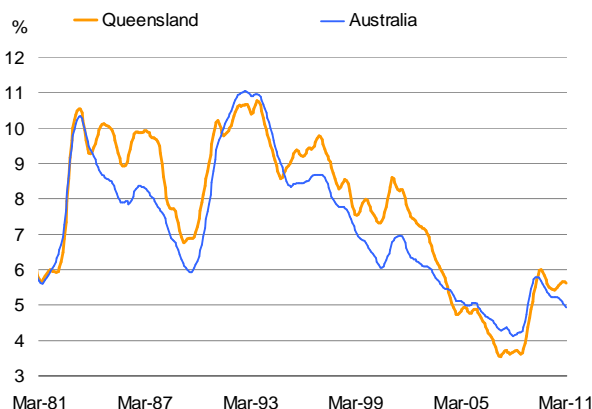
Employment:	Queensland,	↓	-4,100	(-0.2%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	8,600	(0.1%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↓	-700	(5.6%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓	-5,400	(4.9%)
Labour Force:	Queensland,	↓	-4,800	(-0.2%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	3,200	(0.0%)

- Revised trend data indicate that employment in Queensland fell by 4,100 persons (-0.2%) in March 2011, but was 32,000 persons (1.4%) higher over the year. March was the third straight month in which employment fell (with February revised to a 2,600 person fall), following 16 months of consecutive rises.
- Since reaching a peak of 67.8% in December 2010, Queensland's participation rate has fallen 0.5 percentage point, limiting upward pressure on the unemployment rate over the period.
- Queensland's trend unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 5.6% in March 2011.
- Following a 22,700 person fall in seasonally adjusted (sa) employment in February 2011, sa employment recovered by 11,900 persons in March 2011. Along with a slight fall in unemployment, this led to a 0.1 percentage point fall in the unemployment rate to 5.5%.
- National sa employment rose 37,800 persons in March 2011, a stronger result than market expectations of a 22,000 person increase. With a weaker rise in the national sa labour force, the sa unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 4.9%. Market expectations were for an unchanged rate of 5.0%.
- National trend employment rose 0.1% (8,600 persons) in March 2011, to be 2.8% (309,500 persons) higher over the year. With employment growth outpacing labour force growth, the trend national unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 4.9%.

Analysis

- While employment outcomes may be modest in the near term, leading indicators (such as job advertisements) suggest that employment growth should recover from mid-2011. This will put downward pressure on the unemployment rate, which is expected to fall modestly through 2011-12.

Chart 1: Unemployment rate, trend



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

Table 1: Monthly labour force outcomes, March 2011

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change			
	QLD	Aust	Month		Year		Month		Year	
			QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust
Trend										
Employment	2,322.9	11,448.5	-4.1	8.6	32.0	309.5	-0.2	0.1	1.4	2.8
Full-time	1,665.9	8,082.9	1.0	14.0	34.0	283.4	0.1	0.2	2.1	3.6
Part-time	657.0	3,365.5	-5.1	-5.5	-2.0	26.0	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3	0.8
Unemployed	138.7	594.7	-0.7	-5.4	4.8	-29.1	-0.5	-0.9	3.6	-4.7
Labour Force	2,461.6	12,043.2	-4.8	3.2	36.8	280.4	-0.2	0.0	1.5	2.4
Seas. Adjusted										
Employment	2,322.5	11,457.1	11.9	37.8	33.4	319.3	0.5	0.3	1.5	2.9
Full-time	1,672.9	8,105.6	13.5	32.1	47.5	313.2	0.8	0.4	2.9	4.0
Part-time	649.6	3,351.5	-1.6	5.7	-14.1	6.1	-0.2	0.2	-2.1	0.2
Unemployed	135.9	592.9	-1.6	-10.2	2.2	-39.6	-1.2	-1.7	1.6	-6.3
Labour Force	2,458.4	12,050.0	10.3	27.6	35.6	279.7	0.4	0.2	1.5	2.4
Unemploy. Rate										
	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust				
Trend	5.6	4.9	5.7	5.0	5.5	5.3				
Seas. Adjusted	5.5	4.9	5.6	5.0	5.5	5.4				
Participation Rate										
Trend	67.3	65.8	67.5	65.8	67.6	65.3				
Seas. Adjusted	67.2	65.8	67.0	65.7	67.5	65.3				

Chart 2: Monthly employment growth, trend

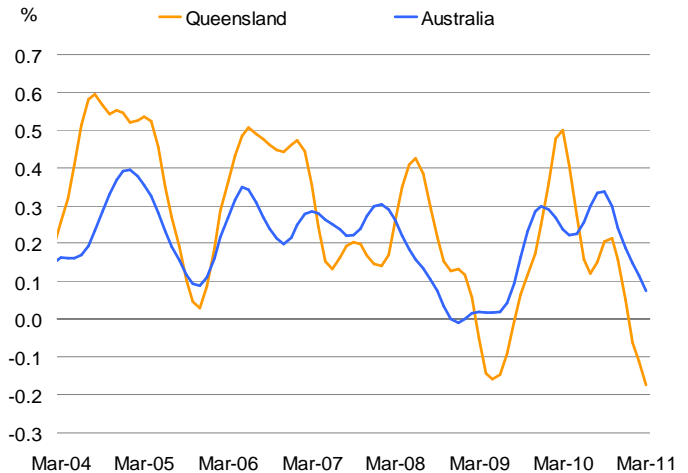


Table 2: Interstate comparison, March 2011

Monthly Trend Data	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aust
Employment							
% change on a month ago	-0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Change on a month ago (No.)	-4,100	5,200	4,700	1,000	-100	300	8,600
% change on a year ago	1.4	4.0	3.4	1.3	2.0	1.4	2.8
Change on a year ago (No.)	32,000	138,000	96,200	10,500	24,100	3,400	309,500
Labour Force							
% change on a month ago	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.0
Change on a month ago (No.)	-4,800	4,700	1,200	900	-1,000	600	3,200
% change on a year ago	1.5	3.2	2.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	2.4
Change on a year ago (No.)	36,800	118,800	81,700	13,600	18,800	3,200	280,400
Unemployment Rate							
March-11	5.6	4.8	4.7	5.5	4.3	5.8	4.9
February-11	5.7	4.9	4.8	5.5	4.3	5.7	5.0
March-10	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.3	4.7	6.0	5.3
Monthly Difference	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Annual Difference	0.1	-0.7	-0.7	0.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.4
Participation Rate							
March-11	67.3	64.2	65.9	63.5	68.0	61.5	65.8
February-11	67.5	64.2	66.0	63.5	68.1	61.4	65.8
March-10	67.6	63.2	65.3	63.3	68.3	61.3	65.3
Monthly Difference	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.0
Annual Difference	-0.3	1.0	0.6	0.2	-0.3	0.2	0.5

***Note:** Note that, following the September quarter 2010 release of ABS *Australian Demographic Statistics*, quarterly population projections used in creating the labour force survey population benchmarks have been revised.