• Revised trend data show employment in Queensland was largely unchanged in December 2012 (up 100 persons) following 10 consecutive monthly falls.

• Trend employment was 10,600 lower over the year to December 2012, driven by lower part-time employment which fell 12,200 persons.

• With growth in the trend labour force (up 1,400 persons) slightly outpacing growth in trend employment, Queensland’s trend unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point to 6.3% in December 2012.

• The trend unemployment rate has increased 0.8 percentage point since its recent low in May 2012. This occurred as the trend participation rate fell 0.4 percentage point, to 66.2%.

• The weakness in Queensland’s labour force outcomes in the second half of 2012 reflected a weakening global outlook that saw survey measures of business conditions and confidence deteriorate and weigh on hiring intentions.

• The more volatile Queensland seasonally adjusted (sa) employment series fell 22,900 persons (-1.0%) in December 2012, following a rise of 29,700 in November 2012. With the sa unemployment rate rising 0.1 percentage point to 6.2%, with the November unemployment rate also upwardly revised 0.1 percentage point since its recent low in May 2012.

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• The more volatile Queensland seasonally adjusted (sa) employment series fell 22,900 persons (-1.0%) in December 2012, following a rise of 29,700 in November 2012. With the sa labour force falling at a slightly slower rate than sa employment in December 2012, the sa unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point to 6.2%, with the November unemployment rate also upwardly revised 0.1 percentage point to 6.1%.

• Nationally, sa employment fell 5,500 persons in December, a weaker result than market expectations of the level being unchanged. The sa unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point to 5.4%, with the November unemployment rate also upwardly revised 0.1 percentage point to 5.3%. Market expectations were for a 0.2 percentage point rise to 5.4%.

• With the resiliently high A$ and global economic uncertainty continuing to weigh on business sentiment and consumer confidence, any employment growth in Queensland will likely remain modest over the near-term.