

# ABS Labour Force, February 2013

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 14 March 2013, 10:30 am AEST

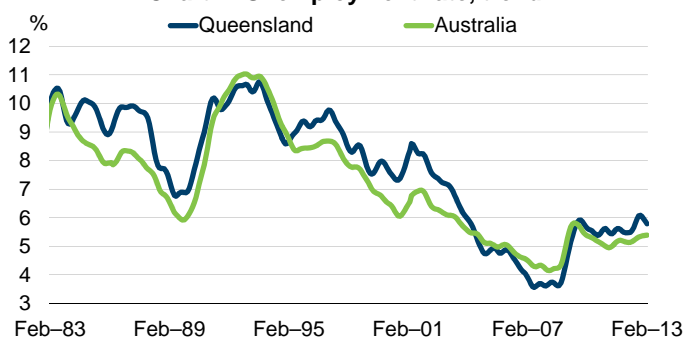
## Key data (trend)

<b>Employment:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 3,900	(0.2%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 15,900	(0.1%)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	Queensland,	↓ 2,000	(5.8%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑ 1,800	(5.4%)
<b>Labour Force:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 1,900	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 17,700	(0.1%)

## Main findings

- Trend employment in Queensland rose for the fifth consecutive month, up 3,900 persons (0.2%) in February 2013. Over the year to February 2013, trend employment was 5,900 persons (0.3%) higher, mainly driven by a rise in part-time employment, with full-time employment also rising slightly.
- With the trend labour force (up 1,900 persons) rising at a slower rate than employment growth in February 2013, Queensland's trend unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 5.8%.
- Meanwhile, the participation rate has generally been trending downwards, to be 66.1% in February 2013, compared with 67.0% recorded in the same month a year earlier.
- In seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment fell 3,900 persons (-0.2%) in February 2013, following a very strong increase of 30,700 persons in January 2013. It should be noted that sa employment data have been particularly volatile recently. The average level of sa employment in the first eight months of 2012-13 was 0.1% higher compared with the same period a year ago.
- With sa employment falling in the month and the sa labour force continuing to grow, the sa unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point to 5.8%.
- Nationally, sa employment rose 71,500 persons in February, a significantly stronger result than market expectations of an increase of 9,000 persons. The sa unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.4%, compared with market expectations of a 0.1 percentage point rise to 5.5%.

Chart 1: Unemployment rate, trend



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

Table 1: Monthly labour force outcomes, February 2013

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	QLD	Aust	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	
<b>Trend</b>											
Employment	2,348.2	11,588.7	3.9	15.9	5.9	134.6	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.2	
Full-time	1,680.4	8,113.2	0.0	-2.0	0.8	54.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	
Part-time	667.8	3,475.5	3.9	17.8	5.1	79.8	0.6	0.5	0.8	2.4	
Unemployed	144.2	660.0	-2.0	1.8	8.5	39.5	-1.4	0.3	6.3	6.4	
Labour Force	2,492.4	12,248.7	1.9	17.7	14.4	174.1	0.1	0.1	0.6	1.4	
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>											
Employment	2,352.0	11,628.3	-3.9	71.5	16.6	197.4	-0.2	0.6	0.7	1.7	
Full-time	1,681.2	8,117.4	-2.8	17.8	10.2	61.7	-0.2	0.2	0.6	0.8	
Part-time	670.8	3,510.9	-1.1	53.7	6.4	135.7	-0.2	1.6	1.0	4.0	
Unemployed	146.1	660.0	8.6	0.4	3.3	32.2	6.3	0.1	2.3	5.1	
Labour Force	2,498.1	12,288.3	4.7	71.9	19.9	229.6	0.2	0.6	0.8	1.9	
	Current		A month ago		A year ago						
<b>Unemploy. Rate</b>	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust					
Trend	5.8	5.4	5.9	5.4	5.5	5.1					
Seas. Adjusted	5.8	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.8	5.2					
<b>Participation Rate</b>											
Trend	66.1	65.1	66.1	65.1	67.0	65.3					
Seas. Adjusted	66.2	65.3	66.2	65.0	67.0	65.2					

Chart 2: Monthly employment growth, trend

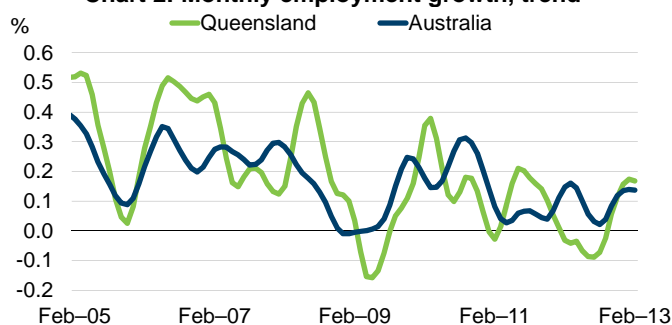


Table 2: Interstate comparison, February 2013

	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aus.
<b>Employment (trend)</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	3,900	4,900	600	1,100	900	0	15,900
% change on a year ago	0.3	1.6	0.9	0.2	3.0	-0.3	1.2
Change on a year ago (no.)	5,900	57,700	24,800	1,500	37,900	-800	134,600
<b>Unemployment rate (trend)</b>							
February-13	5.8	5.2	5.7	5.9	4.4	7.1	5.4
January-13	5.9	5.1	5.7	5.8	4.4	7.1	5.4
February-12	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.2	4.0	7.1	5.1
<b>Participation rate (trend)</b>							
February-13	66.1	63.6	64.9	63.0	69.0	60.2	65.1
January-13	66.1	63.5	65.0	62.9	69.1	60.3	65.1
February-12	67.0	63.3	65.2	63.1	68.9	60.8	65.3
<b>Employment (sa)</b>							
% change on a month ago	-0.2	0.6	1.3	0.1	0.0	2.0	0.6
Change on a month ago (no.)	-3,900	22,000	37,900	1,000	100	4,700	71,500
% change on a year ago	0.7	2.2	2.0	0.2	2.8	0.2	1.7
Change on a year ago (no.)	16,600	78,800	56,600	1,800	35,200	500	197,400
<b>Unemployment rate (sa)</b>							
February-13	5.8	5.2	5.5	5.8	4.5	6.6	5.4
January-13	5.5	5.1	6.1	6.1	4.1	7.7	5.4
February-12	5.8	5.1	5.5	5.3	3.8	7.1	5.2
<b>Participation rate (sa)</b>							
February-13	66.2	63.8	65.0	62.8	68.9	60.5	65.3
January-13	66.2	63.4	64.7	63.0	68.9	60.0	65.0
February-12	67.0	63.2	64.8	63.0	68.8	61.1	65.2

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