

ABS Labour Force, March 2013

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 11 April 2013, 11:30 am AEST

Key data (trend)

Employment:	Queensland,	↑ 3,900	(0.2%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 12,600	(0.1%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↓ -1,100	(5.8%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑ 3,300	(5.5%)
Labour Force:	Queensland,	↑ 2,800	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 15,900	(0.1%)

Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland increased 3,900 persons (0.2%) in March 2013, to be 9,200 persons (0.4%) higher over the year, with rises in part-time employment more than offsetting falls in full-time employment.

The trend participation rate in Queensland was 66.0% in March 2013 and has been trending downwards since its recent peak of 67.4% recorded in October 2011.

As a result, Queensland's trend unemployment rate remained at 5.8% in March. The State and national unemployment rates have converged somewhat in recent months (see Chart 1).

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment fell 7,400 persons (-0.3%) in March 2013. The average level of sa employment in the first nine months of 2012-13 was 0.1% higher compared with the same period a year ago.

With sa employment and labour force falling at similar rates, the sa unemployment rate remained at 5.9%.

Nationally, sa employment fell 36,200 persons in March 2013, partially unwinding the strong rise of 74,000 persons in the previous month. The March result was a significantly larger fall than market expectations of a 5,000 person decline. The sa unemployment rate rose 0.2 percentage point to 5.6%, compared with market expectations of 5.4%.

Labour market conditions remain soft and employment growth is likely remain modest in the near-term, with indicators such as ANZ Job Ads and the DEEWR *Internet Vacancy Index* showing continued weakness in labour demand.

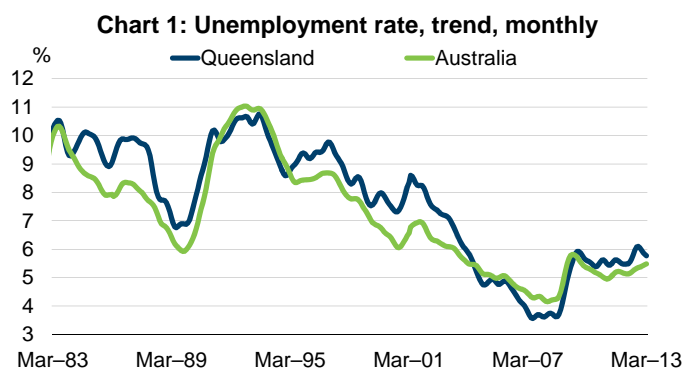


Table 1: Monthly labour force outcomes, March 2013

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change			
			Month		Year		Month		Year	
	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust
Trend										
Employment	2,351.0	11,599.9	3.9	12.6	9.2	126.4	0.2	0.1	0.4	1.1
Full-time	1,670.1	8,109.0	-2.4	-2.8	-10.0	40.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.6	0.5
Part-time	680.9	3,490.9	6.3	15.4	19.2	86.0	0.9	0.4	2.9	2.5
Unemployed	143.9	672.0	-1.1	3.3	8.2	51.7	-0.8	0.5	6.0	8.3
Labour Force	2,494.9	12,271.9	2.8	15.9	17.4	178.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	1.5
Seas. Adjusted										
Employment	2,345.4	11,592.7	-7.4	-36.2	-0.1	108.8	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.9
Full-time	1,659.1	8,111.3	-18.3	-7.4	-28.6	36.0	-1.1	-0.1	-1.7	0.4
Part-time	686.3	3,481.4	10.9	-28.8	28.5	72.8	1.6	-0.8	4.3	2.1
Unemployed	146.5	686.9	0.0	25.9	9.0	60.9	0.0	3.9	6.5	9.7
Labour Force	2,491.9	12,279.6	-7.4	-10.3	8.9	169.7	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	1.4
			Current		A month ago		A year ago			
Unemploy. Rate	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust				
Trend	5.8	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.1				
Seas. Adjusted	5.9	5.6	5.9	5.4	5.5	5.2				
Participation Rate										
Trend	66.0	65.1	66.0	65.1	66.8	65.3				
Seas. Adjusted	65.9	65.1	66.2	65.3	67.0	65.4				

Chart 2: Monthly employment growth, trend

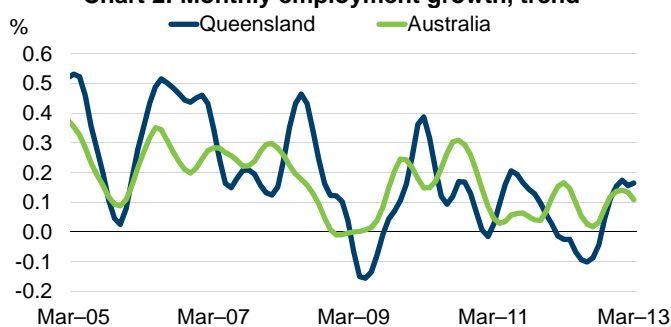


Table 2: Interstate comparison, March 2013

	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aus.
Employment (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	3,900	6,300	300	500	-300	-100	12,600
% change on a year ago	0.4	1.8	0.6	0.3	2.2	-0.3	1.1
Change on a year ago (no.)	9,200	64,200	17,100	2,600	27,900	-600	126,400
Unemployment rate (trend)							
March-13	5.8	5.3	5.7	5.9	4.5	7.2	5.5
February-13	5.8	5.3	5.7	5.8	4.5	7.2	5.5
March-12	5.5	5.0	5.4	5.3	3.9	7.2	5.1
Participation rate (trend)							
March-13	66.0	63.8	64.8	63.0	68.7	60.1	65.1
February-13	66.0	63.7	64.9	63.0	68.9	60.2	65.1
March-12	66.8	63.2	65.3	63.0	69.0	60.6	65.3
Employment (sa)							
% change on a month ago	-0.3	0.1	-0.3	0.4	-0.2	-1.6	-0.3
Change on a month ago (no.)	-7,400	3,400	-9,300	2,900	-3,000	-3,800	-36,200
% change on a year ago	0.0	1.6	0.9	0.4	1.9	-0.6	0.9
Change on a year ago (no.)	-100	58,200	26,500	2,900	24,700	-1,500	108,800
Unemployment rate (sa)							
March-13	5.9	5.5	5.6	5.8	4.7	7.3	5.6
February-13	5.9	5.3	5.4	5.8	4.6	6.6	5.4
March-12	5.5	4.7	5.8	5.2	4.0	6.9	5.2
Participation rate (sa)							
March-13	65.9	63.9	64.8	62.9	68.5	60.0	65.1
February-13	66.2	63.8	64.9	62.8	68.9	60.5	65.3
March-12	67.0	63.2	65.4	63.0	69.1	60.5	65.4

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