

ABS Labour Force, April 2013

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 9 May 2013, 11:30 am AEST

Key data (trend)

Employment:	Queensland,	↑ 1,700	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 16,500	(0.1%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↓ -900	(5.7%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑ 6,300	(5.5%)
Labour Force:	Queensland,	↑ 800	(0.0%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 22,800	(0.2%)

Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland increased 1,700 persons (0.1%) in April 2013, the seventh consecutive monthly rise. However, with the rise in employment only slightly outpacing the rise in the labour force, Queensland's trend unemployment rate remained at 5.7%.

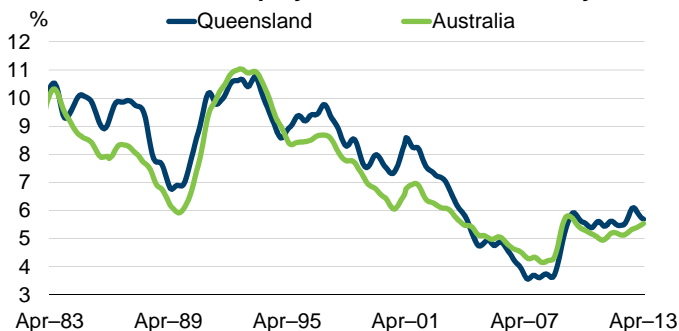
The trend participation rate in Queensland was 65.9% in April 2013, compared with its recent peak of 67.4% recorded in October 2011.

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment rose 5,000 persons (0.2%) in April 2013. The average level of sa employment in the first ten months of 2012-13 was 0.2% higher than the same period a year earlier.

The modest rise in sa employment in the month, along with the number of unemployed falling, meant the sa unemployment rate fell 0.3 percentage point to 5.6%. The average unemployment rate for the first ten months of 2012-13 was 5.9%.

Nationally, sa employment, which has been very volatile in recent months, rose 50,100 persons in April 2013, following a 31,100 person fall the previous month. The April result was a significantly larger rise than market expectations of a 12,000 person rise. With employment growth marginally outpacing labour force growth, the sa unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 5.5%, compared with market expectations of it being unchanged at 5.6%.

Chart 1: Unemployment rate, trend, monthly



Note: Estimates from January 2011 to March 2013 were revised in this month's edition based on the latest population benchmarks. However, the impact of revisions was minor (see Table 1).

Table 1: Impacts of revisions, Queensland

	Civpop ¹ growth (%)		Emp. growth (%)		Unemp. rate (%)	
	2010-11	2011-12	2010-11	2011-12	2010-11	2011-12
Old series	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.2	5.5	5.5
New series	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.3	5.5	5.5

1. Civpop refers to persons aged 15+ years except members of the permanent defence forces etc.

Table 2: Monthly labour force outcomes, April 2013

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	QLD	Aust	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	
Trend											
Employment	2,355.9	11,646.0	1.7	16.5	12.0	147.3	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.3	
Full-time	1,666.3	8,137.2	-3.6	4.6	-16.2	57.1	-0.2	0.1	-1.0	0.7	
Part-time	689.6	3,508.8	5.3	11.8	28.2	90.2	0.8	0.3	4.3	2.6	
Unemployed	142.1	682.9	-0.9	6.3	5.8	61.8	-0.6	0.9	4.3	10.0	
Labour Force	2,498.0	12,328.9	0.8	22.8	17.8	209.1	0.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	
Seas. Adjusted											
Employment	2,354.5	11,663.2	5.0	50.1	6.8	164.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	1.4	
Full-time	1,664.0	8,159.7	3.5	34.4	-20.3	96.2	0.2	0.4	-1.2	1.2	
Part-time	690.5	3,503.5	1.5	15.7	27.1	67.9	0.2	0.5	4.1	2.0	
Unemployed	141.0	685.3	-5.0	-2.7	11.3	84.1	-3.4	-0.4	8.7	14.0	
Labour Force	2,495.5	12,348.5	0.0	47.4	18.1	248.2	0.0	0.4	0.7	2.1	
	Current		A month ago		A year ago						
Unemploy. Rate	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust					
Trend	5.7	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.1					
Seas. Adjusted	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.6	5.2	5.0					
Participation Rate											
Trend	65.9	65.3	65.9	65.2	66.7	65.3					
Seas. Adjusted	65.8	65.3	65.9	65.2	66.7	65.2					

Chart 2: Monthly employment growth, trend

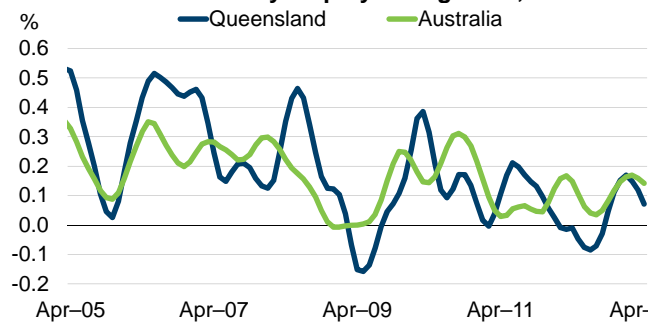


Table 3: Interstate comparison, April 2013

	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	Tas	Aus.
Employment (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	1,700	9,600	2,600	1,200	-900	-300	16,500
% change on a year ago	0.5	2.2	0.6	0.7	1.7	-0.6	1.3
Change on a year ago (no.)	12,000	80,400	17,000	5,900	21,900	-1,400	147,300
Unemployment rate (trend)							
April-13	5.7	5.4	5.8	5.8	4.9	7.4	5.5
March-13	5.7	5.3	5.7	5.8	4.7	7.3	5.5
April-12	5.5	5.0	5.5	5.4	3.8	7.2	5.1
Participation rate (trend)							
April-13	65.9	64.1	64.9	63.1	68.7	60.0	65.3
March-13	65.9	63.9	64.9	63.1	68.8	60.0	65.2
April-12	66.7	63.2	65.4	63.0	69.1	60.5	65.3
Employment (sa)							
% change on a month ago	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.2	-0.3	0.4
Change on a month ago (no.)	5,000	19,800	8,100	5,300	2,000	-600	50,100
% change on a year ago	0.3	3.0	0.6	1.3	1.6	-0.1	1.4
Change on a year ago (no.)	6,800	107,300	16,100	10,500	20,600	-300	164,100
Unemployment rate (sa)							
April-13	5.6	5.3	5.8	5.7	5.2	7.5	5.5
March-13	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.8	4.8	7.3	5.6
April-12	5.2	5.0	5.3	5.2	3.7	8.0	5.0
Participation rate (sa)							
April-13	65.8	64.2	65.0	63.3	68.9	59.9	65.3
March-13	65.9	64.0	64.8	63.0	68.6	59.9	65.2
April-12	66.7	62.9	65.4	62.8	69.1	60.5	65.2

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