

# ABS Labour Force, May 2013

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 13 June 2013, 11:30 am AEST.

## Key data (trend)

|                      |             |          |        |
|----------------------|-------------|----------|--------|
| <b>Employment:</b>   | Queensland, | ↓ 500    | (0.0%) |
| (persons, growth)    | Australia,  | ↑ 9,900  | (0.1%) |
| <b>Unemployment:</b> | Queensland, | ↓ 300    | (5.7%) |
| (persons, rate)      | Australia,  | ↑ 4,700  | (5.6%) |
| <b>Labour Force:</b> | Queensland, | ↓ 800    | (0.0%) |
| (persons, growth)    | Australia,  | ↑ 14,600 | (0.1%) |

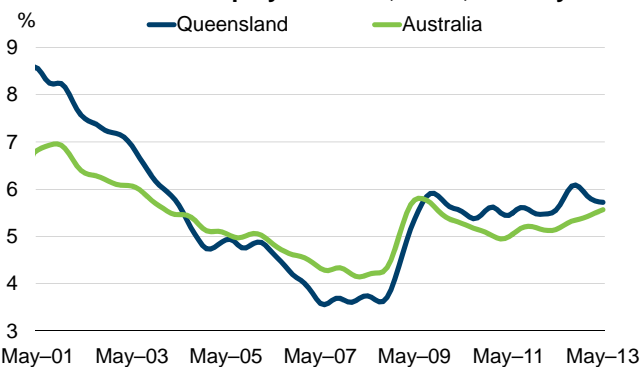
## Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland fell 500 persons (0.0%) in May 2013. This was the first fall following seven consecutive monthly increases. Over the year to May 2013, trend employment grew 12,100 persons (0.5%), with a rise in part-time employment more than offsetting a fall in full-time employment.

With the trend labour force falling at a similar rate as employment in May 2013, Queensland's trend unemployment rate remained at 5.7% in the month (see Chart 1).

The trend participation rate in Queensland eased further in May 2013, falling 0.1 percentage point to 65.8%, compared with its recent peak of 67.4% recorded in October 2011.

Chart 1: Unemployment rate, trend, monthly



In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment rose 2,400 persons (0.1%) in May 2013.

The average level of sa employment in the first eleven months of 2012-13 was 0.3% higher than the same period a year earlier.

With the sa labour force rising faster than employment, the unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point to 5.8% (with the April 2013 rate upwardly revised 0.1 percentage point). The average sa unemployment rate for the first eleven months of 2012-13 was 5.9%.

Table 1: Monthly labour force outcomes, May 2013

| Trend                     | Level (000s) |          | Difference (000s) |      |       |       | % Change |      |      |      |
|---------------------------|--------------|----------|-------------------|------|-------|-------|----------|------|------|------|
|                           | QLD          | Aust     | Month             |      | Year  |       | Month    |      | Year |      |
|                           |              |          | QLD               | Aust | QLD   | Aust  | QLD      | Aust | QLD  | Aust |
| Employment                | 2,355.2      | 11,664.6 | -0.5              | 9.9  | 12.1  | 151.1 | 0.0      | 0.1  | 0.5  | 1.3  |
| Full-time                 | 1,664.9      | 8,150.6  | -3.6              | 3.9  | -18.5 | 64.4  | -0.2     | 0.0  | -1.1 | 0.8  |
| Part-time                 | 690.3        | 3,514.0  | 3.1               | 6.1  | 30.6  | 86.7  | 0.5      | 0.2  | 4.6  | 2.5  |
| Unemployed                | 143.0        | 687.7    | -0.3              | 4.7  | 5.1   | 62.8  | -0.2     | 0.7  | 3.7  | 10.0 |
| Labour Force              | 2,498.2      | 12,352.3 | -0.8              | 14.6 | 17.2  | 213.9 | 0.0      | 0.1  | 0.7  | 1.8  |
| <b>Seas. Adjusted</b>     |              |          |                   |      |       |       |          |      |      |      |
| Employment                | 2,356.7      | 11,663.3 | 2.4               | 1.1  | 13.1  | 124.5 | 0.1      | 0.0  | 0.6  | 1.1  |
| Full-time                 | 1,669.5      | 8,153.6  | 5.5               | -5.4 | -18.5 | 41.1  | 0.3      | -0.1 | -1.1 | 0.5  |
| Part-time                 | 687.2        | 3,509.7  | -3.1              | 6.5  | 31.6  | 83.4  | -0.4     | 0.2  | 4.8  | 2.4  |
| Unemployed                | 144.8        | 682.9    | 3.3               | -3.6 | 0.9   | 54.7  | 2.3      | -0.5 | 0.6  | 8.7  |
| Labour Force              | 2,501.5      | 12,346.2 | 5.7               | -2.5 | 14.0  | 179.2 | 0.2      | 0.0  | 0.6  | 1.5  |
| <b>Unemploy. Rate</b>     |              |          |                   |      |       |       |          |      |      |      |
| Trend                     | 5.7          | 5.6      | 5.7               | 5.5  | 5.6   | 5.1   |          |      |      |      |
| Seas. Adjusted            | 5.8          | 5.5      | 5.7               | 5.6  | 5.8   | 5.2   |          |      |      |      |
| <b>Participation Rate</b> |              |          |                   |      |       |       |          |      |      |      |
| Trend                     | 65.8         | 65.3     | 65.9              | 65.3 | 66.6  | 65.3  |          |      |      |      |
| Seas. Adjusted            | 65.8         | 65.2     | 65.8              | 65.3 | 66.8  | 65.5  |          |      |      |      |

Nationally, sa employment rose 1,100 persons in May 2013, a stronger result than market expectations of a 10,000 person fall. With the national sa labour force falling, the sa unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 5.5% (with the April 2013 rate upwardly revised 0.1 percentage point). Market expectations were for the unemployment rate to rise 0.1 percentage point, from 5.5% to 5.6%.

Table 2: Interstate comparison, May 2013

|                                   | QLD    | NSW    | VIC    | SA     | WA     | Tas    | Aus.    |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| <b>Employment (trend)</b>         |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| % change on a month ago           | 0.0    | 0.2    | 0.1    | 0.3    | -0.1   | 0.0    | 0.1     |
| Change on a month ago (no.)       | -500   | 7,900  | 3,900  | 2,100  | -1,600 | 100    | 9,900   |
| % change on a year ago            | 0.5    | 2.5    | 0.7    | 1.4    | 1.3    | -0.1   | 1.3     |
| Change on a year ago (no.)        | 12,100 | 88,800 | 19,800 | 11,800 | 17,500 | -300   | 151,100 |
| <b>Unemployment rate (trend)</b>  |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| May-13                            | 5.7    | 5.5    | 5.6    | 5.9    | 5.1    | 7.3    | 5.6     |
| April-13                          | 5.7    | 5.4    | 5.6    | 5.8    | 4.9    | 7.3    | 5.5     |
| May-12                            | 5.6    | 5.0    | 5.5    | 5.5    | 3.7    | 7.1    | 5.1     |
| <b>Participation rate (trend)</b> |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| May-13                            | 65.8   | 64.3   | 64.9   | 63.4   | 68.6   | 60.1   | 65.3    |
| April-13                          | 65.9   | 64.2   | 64.9   | 63.3   | 68.7   | 60.1   | 65.3    |
| May-12                            | 66.6   | 63.2   | 65.5   | 62.9   | 69.0   | 60.4   | 65.3    |
| <b>Employment (sa)</b>            |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| % change on a month ago           | 0.1    | 0.0    | 0.4    | 0.6    | -0.1   | 1.2    | 0.0     |
| Change on a month ago (no.)       | 2,400  | -1,700 | 11,400 | 4,700  | -700   | 2,700  | 1,100   |
| % change on a year ago            | 0.6    | 1.9    | 0.5    | 1.6    | 1.2    | -0.6   | 1.1     |
| Change on a year ago (no.)        | 13,100 | 68,400 | 13,400 | 13,300 | 15,200 | -1,300 | 124,500 |
| <b>Unemployment rate (sa)</b>     |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| May-13                            | 5.8    | 5.6    | 5.4    | 5.9    | 4.9    | 7.3    | 5.5     |
| April-13                          | 5.7    | 5.3    | 5.8    | 5.8    | 5.3    | 7.5    | 5.6     |
| May-12                            | 5.8    | 5.0    | 5.5    | 5.2    | 3.8    | 6.4    | 5.2     |
| <b>Participation rate (sa)</b>    |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| May-13                            | 65.8   | 64.3   | 64.9   | 63.7   | 68.5   | 60.4   | 65.2    |
| April-13                          | 65.8   | 64.2   | 65.0   | 63.3   | 69.0   | 59.8   | 65.3    |
| May-12                            | 66.8   | 63.5   | 65.8   | 62.9   | 69.2   | 60.4   | 65.5    |

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