ABS Labour Force, August 2013

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 12 September 2013, 11:30 am AEST.

Key data (trend)

| Employment: (trend) | Queensland, 13,100 (0.1%) | (persons, growth) Australia, 1,500 (0.0%) |
| Unemployment: (trend) | Queensland, 600 (6.0%) | (persons, rate) Australia, 4,700 (5.8%) |
| Labour Force: (trend) | Queensland, 3,700 (0.1%) | (persons, growth) Australia, 3,200 (0.0%) |

Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.1% for the third consecutive month in August 2013, to be 0.9% higher over the year (see Chart 1). Over the year to August 2013, trend employment grew 22,200 persons, with part-time employment rising 20,700 persons and full-time employment 1,500 persons. Today’s results show Queensland recorded the strongest trend employment growth of any State in August (see Table 2).

With the trend labour force also rising 0.1% in the month, Queensland’s trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.0% in August (with July revised down to 6.0%).

The trend participation rate in Queensland remained at 65.8% in August 2013, well below the peak of 67.4% recorded in October 2011.

Chart 1: Employment growth, trend, monthly % change

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland fell 5,100 persons in August 2013, partially unwinding the very strong 18,500 person rise recorded in July. With sa employment falling, the sa unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage point to 6.0%.

Nationally, sa employment fell 10,800 persons in August 2013, following a similar decline in July and a much weaker result than market expectations of a 10,000 person rise. The sa unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point, from 5.7% to 5.8%, in line with market expectations.

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