

Labour Force, September 2014

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 9 October 2014, 10:30 am AEST.

Note: In the September 2014 edition of the Labour Force Survey, the ABS advised of significant issues relating to the seasonal adjustment of labour force estimates. The ABS observed different seasonal patterns in data for July, August and September 2014 than were evident in previous years. As a result, the ABS will suspend its seasonal adjustment process.

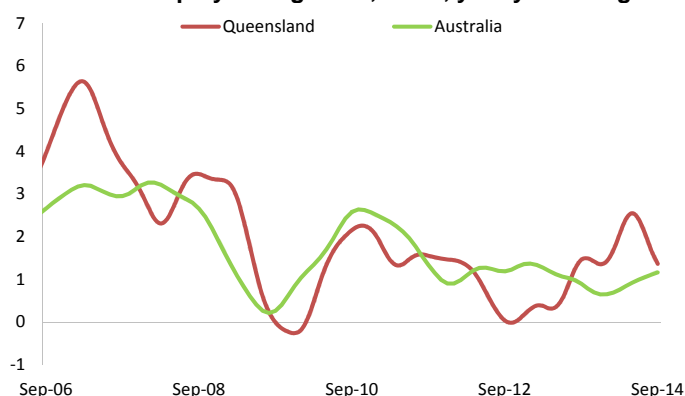
While the ABS has maintained its seasonally adjusted series, these data are the same as the original series for estimates from July 2014. This issue is expected to be resolved for the October 2014 Labour Force release.

As a way to mitigate the uncertainty surrounding ABS Labour Force data, and in accordance with ABS advice, this brief solely focuses on trend estimates. However, trend estimates have been significantly revised from last month's Labour Force release.

Until these issues are resolved, these data should be treated with caution.

Nationally, trend employment rose 5,600 persons (0.0%) in September 2014, to be 1.2% higher over the year. With employment growing at a similar rate to the labour force in the month, the trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.0%.

Chart 1: Employment growth, trend, yearly % change



Key data (trend)

Employment:	Queensland,	↓ 2,900	(-0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 5,600	(0.0%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↑ 200	(6.4%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑ 4,600	(6.0%)
Labour force:	Queensland,	↓ 2,700	(-0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 10,200	(0.1%)

Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland fell by 2,900 persons (-0.1%) in September 2014, following a similar decline in August. The monthly decline was driven by a fall in full-time employment, down 4,600 persons, while part-time employment rose 1,700 persons.

Over the year to September 2014, Queensland recorded a 31,600 person increase in trend employment, driven by a 29,200 rise in part-time female employment. The 1.4% annual growth in Queensland's trend employment was slightly higher than the national average of 1.2% (see Chart 1).

The trend participation rate edged lower in September 2014, to 65.9%. ABS revisions have resulted in the trend participation rate declining for the past four months, to be unchanged over the year to September 2014. With the fall in employment outpacing the decline in the labour force in the month, Queensland's trend unemployment rate was marginally higher in September 2014, at 6.4%, from a downwardly revised 6.3% in August (previously 6.7%).

Table 1: Trend labour force outcomes, September 2014

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change			
	Qld	Aus	Month		Year		Month		Year	
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus
Employed	2,348.7	11,604.9	-2.9	5.6	31.6	133.5	-0.1	0.0	1.4	1.2
Full-time	1,636.3	8,038.8	-4.6	-6.2	-12.8	38.3	-0.3	-0.1	-0.8	0.5
Part-time	712.4	3,566.1	1.7	11.8	44.4	95.2	0.2	0.3	6.6	2.7
Unemployed	159.4	745.5	0.2	4.6	15.7	46.5	0.1	0.6	10.9	6.7
Labour force	2,508.1	12,350.4	-2.7	10.2	47.3	180.0	-0.1	0.1	1.9	1.5
	Current		A month ago		A year ago					
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus				
Unemploy. Rate	6.4	6.0	6.3	6.0	5.8	5.7				
Participation rate	65.9	64.6	66.0	64.6	65.9	64.8				

Table 2: Trend interstate comparison, September 2014

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed							
% change on a month ago	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Change on a month ago (no.)	-2,900	100	4,700	700	2,600	0	5,600
% change on a year ago	1.4	0.7	0.8	0.9	3.0	2.6	1.2
Change on a year ago (no.)	31,600	24,300	22,000	7,000	40,000	6,000	133,500
Unemployment rate							
September-14	6.4	5.7	6.7	6.3	4.9	7.2	6.0
August-14	6.3	5.7	6.6	6.5	4.9	7.2	6.0
September-13	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.6	4.5	8.1	5.7
Participation rate							
September-14	65.9	62.9	64.6	62.0	68.3	60.7	64.6
August-14	66.0	62.9	64.6	62.1	68.3	60.7	64.6
September-13	65.9	63.4	64.8	62.2	68.1	60.0	64.8

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