

Labour Force, December 2014

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 15 January 2015, 10:30 am AEST.

Note: As a result of changes to its supplementary survey program, the ABS implemented a new seasonal adjustment process from the October edition of the *Labour Force Survey*. This interim measure was applied to estimates from December 2013 onwards.

The ABS is undertaking a review of the whole time series, along with further analysis to refine state-level series, as part of the annual seasonal re-analysis which is expected to be completed in early 2015.

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

Key data (trend)

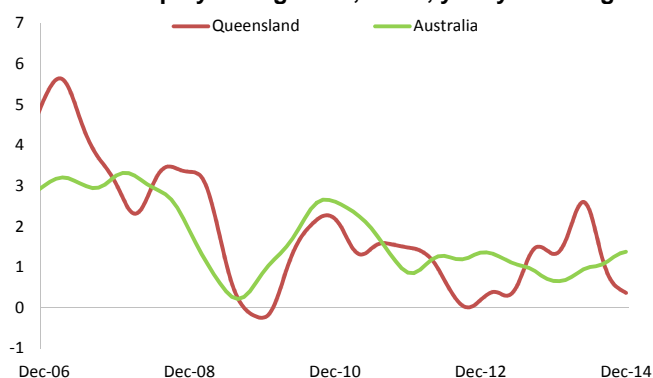
Employment: Queensland, ↓ 600 (0.0%)	
(persons, growth) Australia, ↑ 14,400 (0.1%)	
Unemployment: Queensland, ↓ 1,400 (6.6%)	
(persons, rate) Australia, ↑ 700 (6.2%)	
Labour force: Queensland, ↓ 2,000 (-0.1%)	
(persons, growth) Australia, ↑ 15,000 (0.1%)	

Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland fell for the seventh consecutive month, down 600 persons (0.0%) in December 2014. This result was driven by a 4,400 person decline in part-time employment, while full-time employment rose 3,800 in December.

Over the year to December 2014, Queensland's trend employment rose 8,500 persons (0.4%, see Chart 1), driven by a 9,200 increase in female employment.

Chart 1: Employment growth, trend, yearly % change



The trend participation rate continued to edge lower, down 0.1 percentage point in December 2014, to 65.2%. Queensland's trend participation rate has fallen 1.1 percentage points over the past seven months, to its lowest rate since late 2004.

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With both employment and the labour force lower in December, the trend unemployment rate was unchanged, from a downwardly revised 6.6% in November 2014 (previously 6.9%). Based on December 2014 data, Queensland's trend unemployment rate has been steady at 6.6% for five consecutive months.

Nationally, trend employment rose 14,400 persons (0.1%) in December 2014, to be 1.4% higher over the year. The national trend unemployment rate was also unchanged in the month, at 6.2%.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, December 2014

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	Qld	Aus	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	
Trend											
Employed	2,331.5	11,646.8	-0.6	14.4	8.5	157.9	0.0	0.1	0.4	1.4	
Full-time	1,636.2	8,076.4	3.8	7.1	-2.6	96.1	0.2	0.1	-0.2	1.2	
Part-time	695.3	3,570.4	-4.4	7.2	11.1	61.8	-0.6	0.2	1.6	1.8	
Unemployed	163.7	770.9	-1.4	0.7	16.9	54.9	-0.8	0.1	11.5	7.7	
Labour force	2,495.2	12,417.7	-2.0	15.0	25.4	212.8	-0.1	0.1	1.0	1.7	
Seas. Adjusted											
Employed	2,347.9	11,679.4	22.5	37.5	29.4	213.9	1.0	0.3	1.3	1.9	
Full-time	1,657.0	8,105.3	34.4	41.6	19.6	149.9	2.1	0.5	1.2	1.9	
Part-time	690.9	3,574.1	-11.9	-4.1	9.8	64.1	-1.7	-0.1	1.4	1.8	
Unemployed	153.4	759.2	-16.0	-16.2	6.2	40.2	-9.4	-2.1	4.2	5.6	
Labour force	2,501.3	12,438.5	6.5	21.2	35.6	254.0	0.3	0.2	1.4	2.1	
	Current		A month ago		A year ago						
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus					
Unemploy. Rate											
Trend	6.6	6.2	6.6	6.2	5.9	5.9					
Seas. Adjusted	6.1	6.1	6.8	6.2	6.0	5.9					
Participation rate											
Trend	65.2	64.7	65.3	64.7	65.8	64.7					
Seas. Adjusted	65.3	64.8	65.3	64.7	65.6	64.6					

Table 2: Interstate comparison, December 2014

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.0	0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	-600	3,600	8,400	-1,800	3,100	800	14,400
% change on a year ago	0.4	1.2	1.9	0.2	3.3	4.5	1.4
Change on a year ago (no.)	8,500	43,800	54,500	1,600	43,700	10,400	157,900
Unemployment rate (trend)							
December-14	6.6	5.9	6.7	6.5	5.6	6.8	6.2
November-14	6.6	5.9	6.7	6.5	5.4	6.9	6.2
December-13	5.9	5.8	6.3	6.7	4.7	7.6	5.9
Participation rate (trend)							
December-14	65.2	63.1	65.0	61.5	69.0	61.7	64.7
November-14	65.3	63.0	64.9	61.7	68.8	61.6	64.7
December-13	65.8	63.1	64.6	62.0	68.2	59.8	64.7
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	1.0	-0.1	1.1	-0.5	-0.5	-0.7	0.3
Change on a month ago (no.)	22,500	-3,700	30,800	-3,700	-7,100	-1,800	37,500
% change on a year ago	1.3	1.5	2.8	-0.1	2.8	5.6	1.9
Change on a year ago (no.)	29,400	53,900	79,100	-1,000	38,000	12,900	213,900
Unemployment rate (sa)							
December-14	6.1	5.9	6.5	6.5	6.0	6.7	6.1
November-14	6.8	6.0	6.8	6.6	5.3	6.9	6.2
December-13	6.0	5.8	6.3	6.8	4.6	7.7	5.9
Participation rate (sa)							
December-14	65.3	63.1	65.2	61.3	69.0	61.6	64.8
November-14	65.3	63.3	64.8	61.7	69.0	62.2	64.7
December-13	65.6	63.0	64.5	62.2	68.2	59.2	64.6

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