

# Labour Force, October 2015

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 12 November 2015, 10:30 am AEST.

**Note: In response to the changed timing and content of the supplementary survey program, the ABS recently altered the way it estimated the seasonality of Labour Force data.**

**All data should be treated with caution until a new seasonal pattern can be established, which is not expected until at least 2017.**

## Key data (trend)

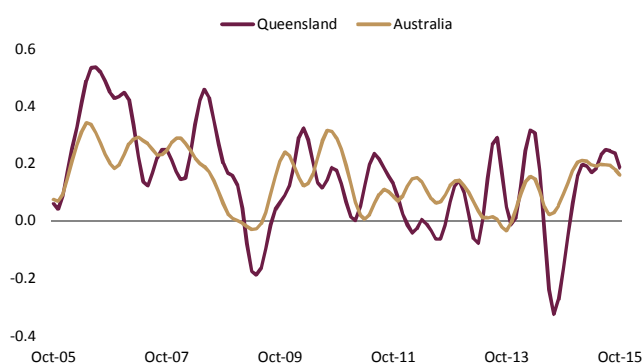
<b>Employment:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 4,300	(0.2%)
	(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 18,800
			(0.2%)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	Queensland,	↓ 300	(6.3%)
	(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓ 3,100
			(6.1%)
<b>Labour force:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 4,000	(0.2%)
	(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 15,800
			(0.1%)

## Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland rose by 4,300 persons (up 0.2%) in October 2015 (see Chart 1). This was the eleventh consecutive monthly rise in employment. The gain in October was driven by a rise in part-time employment (up 5,900 persons), which more than offset the decline in full-time employment (down 1,600 persons). Trend employment in Queensland was 2.1% higher over the year to October 2015.

Queensland's trend participation rate increased slightly, to 65.6% in October 2015. Following a sharp fall in the second half of 2014, Queensland's trend participation rate has edged higher, coinciding with a 47,400 person gain in trend employment so far in 2015.

**Chart 1: Employment growth, trend, monthly % change**



With employment growing at a similar pace as the labour force in October 2015, the trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.3% in the month. The unemployment rate for females increased slightly to 5.7%, while the male unemployment rate fell to 6.8% in October.

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland rose 12,100 persons (up 0.5%) in October 2015, driven by a gain in part-time employment. Full-time

employment was unchanged in the month. Despite the sa labour force increasing in October, the sa unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 6.2%.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 18,800 persons (up 0.2%) in October, to be 2.3% higher over the year. Half of the national employment gain of 260,500 persons over the past year has been in New South Wales (up 130,300). Meanwhile, the national trend unemployment rate was unchanged in the month, from a downwardly revised 6.1% in September.

**Table 1: Labour force outcomes, October 2015**

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	Qld	Aus	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	
<b>Trend</b>											
Employed	2,359.8	11,815.4	4.3	18.8	47.5	260.5	0.2	0.2	2.1	2.3	
Full-time	1,639.7	8,158.1	-1.6	10.7	23.7	146.1	-0.1	0.1	1.5	1.8	
Part-time	720.1	3,657.3	5.9	8.1	23.8	114.5	0.8	0.2	3.4	3.2	
Unemployed	157.8	764.9	-0.3	-3.1	-7.3	-3.1	-0.2	-0.4	-4.4	-0.4	
Labour force	2,517.7	12,580.3	4.0	15.8	40.4	257.4	0.2	0.1	1.6	2.1	
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>											
Employed	2,366.7	11,838.2	12.1	58.6	66.7	315.0	0.5	0.5	2.9	2.7	
Full-time	1,643.4	8,171.6	0.0	40.0	25.1	167.1	0.0	0.5	1.6	2.1	
Part-time	723.3	3,666.6	12.1	18.6	41.6	147.9	1.7	0.5	6.1	4.2	
Unemployed	156.0	739.5	-2.4	-33.4	-19.5	-33.1	-1.5	-4.3	-11.1	-4.3	
Labour force	2,522.7	12,577.8	9.7	25.3	47.1	282.0	0.4	0.2	1.9	2.3	
	Current		A month ago		A year ago						
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus					
Unemploy. Rate											
Trend	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.7	6.2					
Seas. Adjusted	6.2	5.9	6.3	6.2	7.1	6.3					
Participation rate											
Trend	65.6	65.0	65.5	65.0	65.4	64.6					
Seas. Adjusted	65.7	65.0	65.5	64.9	65.4	64.5					

**Table 2: Interstate comparison, October 2015**

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
<b>Employed (trend)</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	4,300	9,200	3,500	-600	1,300	200	18,800
% change on a year ago	2.1	3.6	2.1	0.0	0.9	0.7	2.3
Change on a year ago (no.)	47,500	130,300	61,900	200	11,800	1,600	260,500
<b>Unemployment rate (trend)</b>							
October-15	6.3	5.7	6.0	7.7	6.4	6.2	6.1
September-15	6.3	5.8	6.0	7.8	6.3	6.3	6.1
October-14	6.7	5.9	6.8	6.6	5.3	7.0	6.2
<b>Participation rate (trend)</b>							
October-15	65.6	64.2	64.5	62.1	68.9	61.0	65.0
September-15	65.5	64.1	64.5	62.2	68.8	61.0	65.0
October-14	65.4	63.0	64.8	61.9	68.5	61.4	64.6
<b>Employed (sa)</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.7	1.1	-0.6	0.5
Change on a month ago (no.)	12,100	18,800	26,100	5,500	14,800	-1,400	58,600
% change on a year ago	2.9	3.8	3.0	0.4	1.1	0.3	2.7
Change on a year ago (no.)	66,700	137,100	87,700	3,400	14,400	600	315,000
<b>Unemployment rate (sa)</b>							
October-15	6.2	5.5	5.6	7.5	6.4	6.5	5.9
September-15	6.3	5.8	6.3	7.7	6.1	6.0	6.2
October-14	7.1	5.8	6.8	6.7	5.2	6.7	6.3
<b>Participation rate (sa)</b>							
October-15	65.7	64.0	64.5	62.0	69.2	60.8	65.0
September-15	65.5	64.0	64.5	61.7	68.3	60.9	64.9
October-14	65.4	62.9	64.6	61.8	68.6	61.1	64.5