

# Labour Force, January 2017

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 16 February 2017, 10:30 am AEST.

**Note: All data should be treated with caution until the ABS evaluates a new seasonal pattern from late 2017. Trend estimates provide the best measure of labour market conditions across the states.**

## Key data (trend)

<b>Employment:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 2,000	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 11,700	(0.1%)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 1,400	(6.1%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑ 2,700	(5.7%)
<b>Labour force:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 3,500	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 14,400	(0.1%)

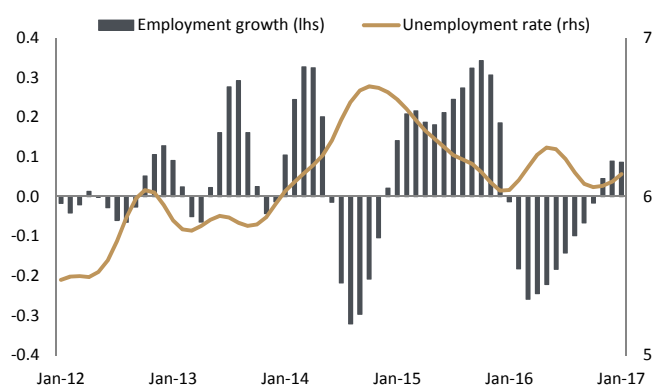
## Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland rose marginally in January 2017 (up 2,000 persons). This increase was due to a rise in part-time employment of 4,300 persons, which more than offset a decline in full-time employment (down 2,300 persons). This shift from full-time to part time employment has resulted in the part-time share of total employment reaching its highest level since the inception of the series (31.2%).

Over the year to January 2017, trend employment in Queensland fell 1.2% (or 28,200 persons).

Queensland's trend unemployment rate was unchanged in January 2017, from an upwardly revised 6.1% in December. Queensland's unemployment rate has now been steady at 6.1% since September 2016 (see Chart 1).

**Chart 1: Employment growth and unemployment rate, Queensland (trend, monthly, %)**



Queensland's trend participation rate was 64.1% in January 2017, up from an upwardly revised 64.0% in December. Consistent with trends in employment, Queensland's participation rate has moved lower since January 2016, keeping downward pressure on the State's unemployment rate. December 2016 marked the first upward movement in the State's participation rate in a year.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 11,700 persons in January, to be 0.8% higher over the year. The gain in national employment of 89,800 persons over the past 12 months was driven by Victoria (up 101,100 persons) and, to a lesser extent, South Australia (up 11,400 persons). The national trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.7% in January 2017.

**Table 1 Labour force outcomes, January 2017**

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	Qld	Aus	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	
<b>Trend</b>											
Employed	2,347.5	11,984.3	2.0	11.7	-28.2	89.8	0.1	0.1	-1.2	0.8	
Full-time	1,614.2	8,146.1	-2.3	6.6	-42.6	-40.1	-0.1	0.1	-2.6	-0.5	
Part-time	733.3	3,838.2	4.3	5.1	14.4	129.8	0.6	0.1	2.0	3.5	
Unemployed	153.6	726.1	1.4	2.7	0.8	-6.3	0.9	0.4	0.5	-0.9	
Labour force	2,501.2	12,710.4	3.5	14.4	-27.4	83.5	0.1	0.1	-1.1	0.7	
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>											
Employed	2,354.0	11,998.2	8.5	13.5	-32.2	103.3	0.4	0.1	-1.3	0.9	
Full-time	1,599.6	8,125.7	-28.1	-44.9	-65.9	-56.1	-1.7	-0.5	-4.0	-0.7	
Part-time	754.4	3,872.5	36.6	58.3	33.7	159.4	5.1	1.5	4.7	4.3	
Unemployed	157.0	720.2	2.1	-19.4	-7.8	-38.0	1.4	-2.6	-4.7	-5.0	
Labour force	2,511.0	12,718.5	10.6	-5.8	-40.1	65.4	0.4	0.0	-1.6	0.5	
			Current		A month ago		A year ago				
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus			
Unemploy. Rate											
Trend			6.1	5.7	6.1	5.7	6.0	5.8			
Seas. Adjusted			6.3	5.7	6.2	5.8	6.5	6.0			
Participation rate											
Trend			64.1	64.6	64.0	64.6	65.7	65.0			
Seas. Adjusted			64.3	64.6	64.1	64.7	66.3	65.2			

**Table 2 Interstate comparison, January 2017**

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
<b>Employed (trend)</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	2,000	-2,600	3,700	1,600	2,300	400	11,700
% change on a year ago	-1.2	0.0	3.4	1.4	-0.7	0.5	0.8
Change on a year ago (no.)	-28,200	200	101,100	11,400	-9,000	1,200	89,800
<b>Unemployment rate (trend)</b>							
January-17	6.1	5.1	5.9	6.7	6.6	5.9	5.7
December-16	6.1	5.0	5.9	6.7	6.6	6.1	5.7
January-16	6.0	5.3	6.0	7.2	6.0	6.7	5.8
<b>Participation rate (trend)</b>							
January-17	64.1	63.2	65.6	62.3	67.6	59.7	64.6
December-16	64.0	63.3	65.6	62.2	67.5	59.7	64.6
January-16	65.7	64.2	64.8	62.1	68.2	60.2	65.0
<b>Employed (sa)</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.4	-0.4	-0.3	0.7	1.1	0.6	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	8,500	-13,800	-9,800	5,500	15,100	1,500	13,500
% change on a year ago	-1.3	-0.1	3.8	1.9	-0.2	0.8	0.9
Change on a year ago (no.)	-32,200	-5,200	112,800	15,400	-2,500	2,000	103,300
<b>Unemployment rate (sa)</b>							
January-17	6.3	5.0	5.7	6.4	6.5	5.6	5.7
December-16	6.2	5.2	6.0	6.8	6.6	6.3	5.8
January-16	6.5	5.5	6.3	6.9	5.9	6.6	6.0
<b>Participation rate (sa)</b>							
January-17	64.3	63.0	65.3	62.4	67.8	59.6	64.6
December-16	64.1	63.5	65.9	62.3	67.2	59.8	64.7
January-16	66.3	64.4	64.6	61.9	68.2	60.2	65.2