

# Labour Force, April 2017

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 18 May 2017, 11:30 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,	↑ 6,600	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 19,900	(0.2%)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 1,500	(6.4%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑ 1,600	(5.8%)
<b>Labour force:</b>	Queensland,	↑ 8,000	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 21,500	(0.2%)

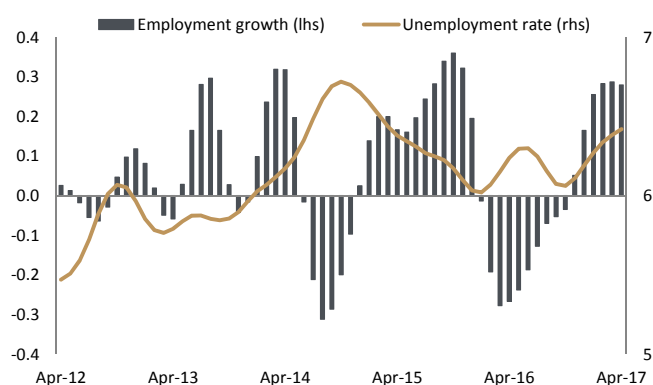
## Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.3% in April 2017 (or 6,600 persons), marking the sixth consecutive monthly increase in employment. Both full-time (up 4,700 persons) and part-time employment (up 1,900 persons) rose in April.

Trend employment in Queensland was 0.6% (or 14,500 persons) higher over the year to April 2017. The annual increase in employment has been driven entirely by part-time employment (up 3.2%), while full-time employment fell 0.5%. Consequently, part-time employment's share of total employment remained at its highest level on record.

Queensland's trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.4% in April 2017. After moderating in mid-2016, Queensland's unemployment rate has edged higher since November 2016 (see Chart 1).

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



Queensland's trend participation rate was 64.6% in April 2017, up marginally from an upwardly revised 64.5% in March. Queensland's participation rate edged lower for much of 2016 but has risen since November 2016, consistent with the turnaround in employment.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 19,900 persons (up 0.2%) in April, to be 1.3% higher over the year. The gain in national employment of 152,100 persons over the past 12 months was largely driven by Victoria (up 100,100

persons). The national trend unemployment rate was 5.8% in April, unchanged from a downwardly revised 5.8% in March.

**Table 1: Labour force outcomes, April 2017**

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	Qld	Aus	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	
<b>Trend</b>											
Employed	2,373.0	12,071.3	6.6	19.9	14.5	152.1	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.3	
Full-time	1,632.2	8,216.3	4.7	12.4	-8.5	49.3	0.3	0.2	-0.5	0.6	
Part-time	740.8	3,855.0	1.9	7.5	23.0	102.8	0.3	0.2	3.2	2.7	
Unemployed	162.8	744.4	1.5	1.6	5.9	20.3	0.9	0.2	3.8	2.8	
Labour force	2,535.7	12,815.7	8.0	21.5	20.3	172.4	0.3	0.2	0.8	1.4	
<b>Seas. Adjusted</b>											
Employed	2,383.6	12,099.3	9.8	37.4	32.2	192.0	0.4	0.3	1.4	1.6	
Full-time	1,647.8	8,227.4	9.1	-11.5	18.0	80.8	0.6	-0.1	1.1	1.0	
Part-time	735.8	3,871.9	0.7	48.9	14.2	111.2	0.1	1.3	2.0	3.0	
Unemployed	160.3	732.3	1.6	-19.1	-2.1	9.7	1.0	-2.5	-1.3	1.3	
Labour force	2,543.9	12,831.6	11.4	18.3	30.1	201.7	0.5	0.1	1.2	1.6	
	Current		A month ago		A year ago						
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus					
Unemploy. Rate											
Trend	6.4	5.8	6.4	5.8	6.2	5.7					
Seas. Adjusted	6.3	5.7	6.3	5.9	6.5	5.7					
Participation rate											
Trend	64.6	64.8	64.5	64.7	65.1	64.9					
Seas. Adjusted	64.8	64.8	64.6	64.8	65.1	64.8					

**Table 2: Interstate comparison, April 2017**

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
<b>Employed (trend)</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.3	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	6,600	3,700	6,600	-600	2,500	600	19,900
% change on a year ago	0.6	0.1	3.3	0.9	0.3	1.9	1.3
Change on a year ago (no.)	14,500	2,600	100,100	7,300	3,600	4,400	152,100
<b>Unemployment rate (trend)</b>							
April-17	6.4	5.0	6.1	7.0	6.1	5.8	5.8
March-17	6.4	5.0	6.1	6.9	6.2	5.8	5.8
April-16	6.2	5.2	5.7	6.9	5.8	6.6	5.7
<b>Participation rate (trend)</b>							
April-17	64.6	63.0	65.9	62.3	67.5	60.0	64.8
March-17	64.5	63.0	65.9	62.2	67.6	59.9	64.7
April-16	65.1	64.1	64.9	62.0	67.8	59.7	64.9
<b>Employed (sa)</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.4	0.3	0.6	-0.6	1.0	0.4	0.3
Change on a month ago (no.)	9,800	9,700	18,500	-5,000	13,200	1,000	37,400
% change on a year ago	1.4	0.6	3.8	-0.5	0.7	1.9	1.6
Change on a year ago (no.)	32,200	21,900	115,600	-4,400	8,900	4,500	192,000
<b>Unemployment rate (sa)</b>							
April-17	6.3	4.7	6.1	7.3	5.9	5.9	5.7
March-17	6.3	5.0	6.1	7.0	6.5	6.0	5.9
April-16	6.5	5.3	5.6	6.7	5.8	6.3	5.7
<b>Participation rate (sa)</b>							
April-17	64.8	63.0	66.1	62.1	67.7	60.1	64.8
March-17	64.6	63.1	65.9	62.3	67.5	60.0	64.8
April-16	65.1	64.1	64.7	62.4	67.9	59.7	64.8