Labour Force, May 2017

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 15 June 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)

Employment: Queensland, ↑ 5,900 (0.2%)
(persoons, growth) Australia, ↑ 25,100 (0.2%)

Unemployment: Queensland, ↓ 600 (6.3%)
(persoons, rate) Australia, ↓ 4,800 (5.7%)

Labour force: Queensland, ↑ 5,300 (0.2%)
(persoons, growth) Australia, ↑ 20,400 (0.2%)

Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.2% (or 5,900 persons), in May 2017, the seventh consecutive monthly increase in employment. Both full-time (up 3,600 persons) and part-time employment (up 2,300 persons) rose in May.

Trend employment in Queensland was 1.3% (or 31,100 persons) higher over the year to May 2017. The annual increase in employment has been driven largely by part-time employment (up 4.1%), while full-time employment rose marginally (up 0.1%). Consequently, part-time employment’s share of total employment is at its highest level on record.

Queensland’s trend unemployment rate was unchanged in May 2017, from a downwardly revised 6.3% in April. After picking up marginally in late-2016, Queensland’s trend unemployment rate has been largely steady so far in 2017 (see Chart 1).

While Victoria (up 103,900 persons) was the largest contributor to the 194,100 persons gain in national employment over the past year, all States recorded growth over the period (see Table 2). The national trend unemployment rate was 5.7% in May, unchanged from a downwardly revised rate in April.

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