Labour Force, July 2017

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 17 August 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,	↑	8,300	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	26,000	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,		-	(6.3%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓	1,800	(5.6%)
Labour force:	Queensland,	↑	8,300	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	24,200	(0.2%)

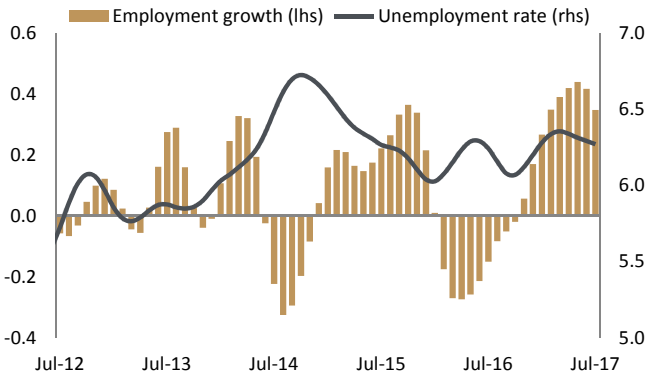
Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.3% in July 2017 (or 8,300 persons), the ninth consecutive monthly increase. Both full-time employment (up 3,300 persons) and part-time employment (up 5,000 persons) rose in July.

Trend employment in Queensland was 2.7% (or 64,000 persons) higher over the year to July 2017. The annual increase in Queensland has been driven largely by part-time employment (up 6.3%), while full-time employment growth was more subdued (up 1.1%). Consequently, part-time employment's share of total employment remained at its highest level on record.

With employment rising at a similar rate to the labour force, Queensland's trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.3% in July 2017. After picking up marginally in late-2016, the rate has been largely steady so far in 2017 (see Chart 1).

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



Queensland's trend participation rate was 65.2% in July 2017, up from an upwardly revised 65.1% in June. The participation rate moderated for much of 2016 but has risen 1.2 percentage points since November 2016, consistent with the turnaround in employment.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 26,000 persons (up 0.2%) in July, to be 2.2% higher over the year.

After Victoria (up 94,200 persons), Queensland (up 64,000 persons) was the second largest contributor to the 259,200 persons gain in national employment over the past year, with all states recording growth over the period (see Table 2).

The national trend unemployment rate was 5.6% in July, unchanged from the rate in June.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, July 2017

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change			
			Month		Year		Month		Year	
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus
Trend										
Employed	2,408.8	12,196.9	8.3	26.0	64.0	259.2	0.3	0.2	2.7	2.2
Full-time	1,644.7	8,353.0	3.3	28.6	18.5	211.8	0.2	0.3	1.1	2.6
Part-time	764.1	3,843.9	5.0	-2.6	45.5	47.5	0.7	-0.1	6.3	1.3
Unemployed	161.1	726.0	0.0	-1.8	5.0	5.3	0.0	-0.2	3.2	0.7
Labour force	2,569.9	12,922.9	8.3	24.2	69.0	264.5	0.3	0.2	2.8	2.1
Seas. Adjusted										
Employed	2,419.3	12,201.4	27.0	27.9	64.0	239.3	1.1	0.2	2.7	2.0
Full-time	1,637.0	8,342.3	-5.2	-20.3	4.1	197.7	-0.3	-0.2	0.3	2.4
Part-time	782.3	3,859.1	32.2	48.3	59.9	41.6	4.3	1.3	8.3	1.1
Unemployed	160.5	730.6	-5.3	1.1	7.6	0.8	-3.2	0.2	5.0	0.1
Labour force	2,579.8	12,932.0	21.6	29.0	71.6	240.1	0.8	0.2	2.9	1.9

	Current		A month ago		A year ago	
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus
Unemploy. Rate						
Trend	6.3	5.6	6.3	5.6	6.2	5.7
Seas. Adjusted	6.2	5.6	6.5	5.7	6.1	5.8
Participation rate						
Trend	65.2	65.0	65.1	65.0	64.5	64.7
Seas. Adjusted	65.4	65.1	65.0	65.0	64.7	64.9

Table 2: Interstate comparison, July 2017

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	*8,300*	*10,600*	*5,600*	*1,100*	*3,300*	*800*	*26,000*
% change on a year ago	2.7	1.3	3.1	1.4	2.3	4.0	2.2
Change on a year ago (no.)	*64,000*	*49,000*	*94,200*	*11,300*	*30,500*	*9,500*	*259,200*
Unemployment rate (trend)							
July-17	6.3	4.8	6.0	6.6	5.4	6.1	5.6
June-17	6.3	4.8	6.0	6.7	5.5	6.0	5.6
July-16	6.2	5.1	5.7	6.8	6.1	6.5	5.7
Participation rate (trend)							
July-17	65.2	63.6	66.1	62.3	67.8	61.2	65.0
June-17	65.1	63.5	66.1	62.3	67.8	61.0	65.0
July-16	64.5	64.0	65.3	61.9	67.4	59.6	64.7
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	1.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.9	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	*27,000*	*600*	*-2,300*	*800*	*-1,200*	*-2,200*	*27,900*
% change on a year ago	2.7	1.2	2.8	1.5	1.9	3.9	2.0
Change on a year ago (no.)	*64,000*	*44,400*	*85,800*	*12,200*	*25,700*	*9,200*	*239,300*
Unemployment rate (sa)							
July-17	6.2	5.0	6.1	6.2	5.4	6.3	5.6
June-17	6.5	4.8	5.9	6.6	5.6	5.6	5.7
July-16	6.1	5.2	5.9	6.5	6.4	6.1	5.8
Participation rate (sa)							
July-17	65.4	63.6	66.0	62.2	67.7	61.1	65.1
June-17	65.0	63.6	66.0	62.4	68.0	61.2	65.0
July-16	64.7	64.0	65.5	61.9	67.9	59.0	64.9

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