

Labour Force, September 2017

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 19 October 2017, 10:30 am AEST.

Note: All data should be treated with caution until the ABS evaluate 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,	↑ 7,400	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 23,700	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↓ 1,600	(5.9%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓ 2,200	(5.5%)
Labour force:	Queensland,	↑ 6,000	(0.2%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 21,500	(0.2%)

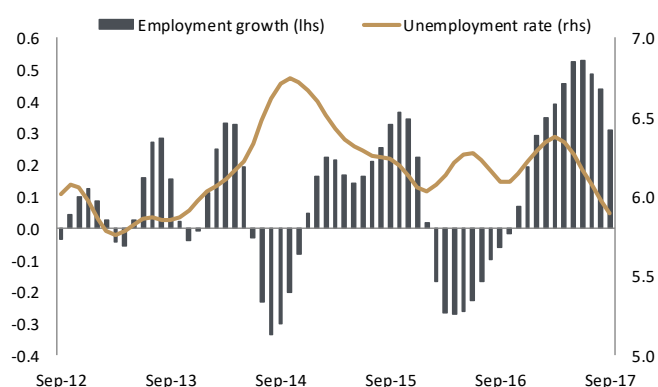
Main findings

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.3% (or 7,400 persons) in September 2017. Both full-time employment (up 1,700 persons) and part-time employment (up 5,700 persons) rose in September.

Trend employment in Queensland was 4.1% (or 95,800 persons) higher over the year to September 2017. The annual increase in Queensland has been driven largely by part-time employment (up 9.0%), while full-time employment growth was more modest (up 1.9%). Consequently, part-time employment's share of total employment remained at its highest level on record (32.1%).

With employment growth outpacing growth in the labour force, Queensland's trend unemployment rate fell to 5.9% in September 2017, down from 6.0% in August. The unemployment rate has steadily fallen since March 2017 (Chart 1).

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



Queensland's trend participation rate was 65.5% in September 2017, up from a downwardly revised 65.4% in August. The participation rate moderated for much of 2016 but has risen 1.5 percentage points since November 2016, consistent with the turnaround in employment.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 23,700 persons (up 0.2%) in September, to be 2.8% higher over the year.

After Victoria (up 96,600 persons), Queensland (up 95,800 persons) was the second largest contributor to the 335,500 persons gain in national employment over the past year, with all states recording growth over the period (Table 2).

The national trend unemployment rate was 5.5% in September, unchanged from a downwardly revised rate in August.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, September 2017

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	Qld	Aus	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	
Trend											
Employed	2,436.8	12,281.2	7.4	23.7	95.8	335.5	0.3	0.2	4.1	2.8	
Full-time	1,653.6	8,403.1	1.7	16.0	31.1	271.3	0.1	0.2	1.9	3.3	
Part-time	783.2	3,878.1	5.7	7.7	64.7	64.1	0.7	0.2	9.0	1.7	
Unemployed	152.7	716.6	-1.6	-2.2	0.7	-2.2	-1.0	-0.3	0.5	-0.3	
Labour force	2,589.6	12,997.8	6.0	21.5	96.7	333.2	0.2	0.2	3.9	2.6	
Seas. Adjusted											
Employed	2,435.7	12,290.2	-4.4	19.8	98.5	371.5	-0.2	0.2	4.2	3.1	
Full-time	1,658.4	8,398.2	3.0	6.1	57.1	316.0	0.2	0.1	3.6	3.9	
Part-time	777.3	3,892.0	-7.4	13.7	41.4	55.5	-0.9	0.4	5.6	1.4	
Unemployed	151.8	711.5	4.0	-11.8	-4.2	-5.1	2.7	-1.6	-2.7	-0.7	
Labour force	2,587.5	13,001.7	-0.3	8.0	94.4	366.4	0.0	0.1	3.8	2.9	
	Current	A month ago	A year ago								
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus					
Unemploy. Rate											
Trend	5.9	5.5	6.0	5.5	6.1	5.7					
Seas. Adjusted	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.6	6.3	5.7					
Participation rate											
Trend	65.5	65.2	65.4	65.2	64.1	64.6					
Seas. Adjusted	65.4	65.2	65.5	65.2	64.1	64.4					

Table 2: Interstate comparison, September 2017

	QLD	NSW	VIC	SA	WA	TAS	AUST
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	7,400	7,700	5,600	1,600	2,000	300	23,700
% change on a year ago	4.1	2.1	3.1	1.9	2.9	3.9	2.8
Change on a year ago (no.)	95,800	79,100	96,600	15,100	39,000	9,300	335,500
Unemployment rate (trend)							
September-17	5.9	4.8	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.9	5.5
August-17	6.0	4.8	6.0	6.0	5.6	6.0	5.5
September-16	6.1	5.0	5.8	6.7	6.4	6.6	5.7
Participation rate (trend)							
September-17	65.5	63.8	66.2	62.1	68.1	61.2	65.2
August-17	65.4	63.7	66.2	62.2	68.0	61.2	65.2
September-16	64.1	63.6	65.5	62.0	67.2	59.7	64.6
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	-0.2	0.5	0.3	-0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	-4,400	21,000	8,900	-1,800	8,300	1,000	19,800
% change on a year ago	4.2	2.3	3.7	1.7	3.6	3.0	3.1
Change on a year ago (no.)	98,500	87,300	114,400	14,000	48,100	7,100	371,500
Unemployment rate (sa)							
September-17	5.9	4.6	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.5
August-17	5.7	4.9	6.1	5.7	5.9	6.0	5.6
September-16	6.3	4.9	5.8	6.8	6.0	6.5	5.7
Participation rate (sa)							
September-17	65.4	63.8	66.3	62.0	68.2	61.1	65.2
August-17	65.5	63.7	66.3	62.1	68.0	61.1	65.2
September-16	64.1	63.6	65.2	61.9	66.6	60.3	64.4