

Labour Force, November 2017

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 14 December 2017, 10:30 am AEST.

Note: As noted by the ABS, trend estimates provide the best measure of state level labour market conditions.

Key data (trend)

Employment:	Queensland,	↑ 6,200	(0.3%)
	(persons, growth) Australia,	↑ 22,200	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↓ 400	(5.8%)
	(persons, rate) Australia,	↓ 2,900	(5.4%)
Labour force:	Queensland,	↑ 5,800	(0.2%)
	(persons, growth) Australia,	↑ 19,300	(0.1%)

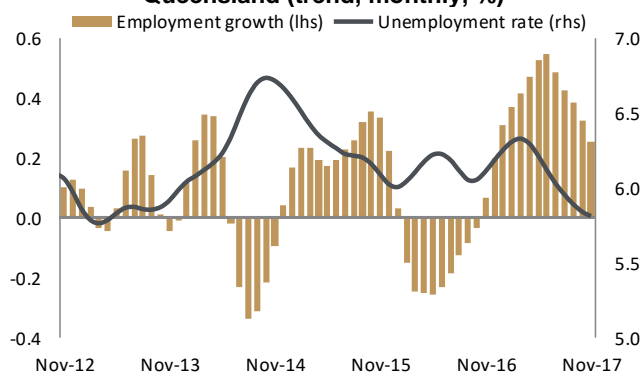
Main findings – Trend estimates

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.3% (or 6,200 persons) in November 2017. A rise in full-time employment (up 6,900 persons) more than offset the marginal fall in part-time employment (down 700 persons) in the month.

Trend employment in Queensland was 4.8% (or 113,000 persons) higher over the year to November 2017. This increase was driven by both full-time (up 59,700 persons) and part-time (up 53,300 persons) employment.

With employment growing at a similar rate to the labour force, Queensland's trend unemployment rate was unchanged in November 2017, from a downwardly revised 5.8% in October. 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 65.9% in November 2017, up 0.1 percentage point from an upwardly revised 65.8% in October. The participation rate fell for much of 2016 but has rebounded 1.8 percentage points since November 2016, consistent with strong employment growth.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 22,200 persons (up 0.2%) in November, to be 3.1% higher over the year. After Queensland, New South Wales (up 111,000 persons) and Victoria (up 94,100 persons) were the largest contributors to the 371,000 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 5.4% in November, the same as October, but 0.3 percentage point lower than a year ago.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland rose 0.3% (or 7,200 persons) in November. Over the year, sa employment rose 4.0% (or 95,200 persons), with similar contributions from both full-time and part-time employment (Table 1).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.9% in November and 0.1 percentage point lower than a year ago. Meanwhile Queensland's sa participation rate rose marginally in November, up 0.1 percentage point to 65.9%.

Nationally, sa employment rose 61,700 persons in the month, much stronger than market expectations for a 18,000 rise. The national sa unemployment rate of 5.4% was unchanged in November 2017, in line with market expectations.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, November 2017

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change				
	Qld	Aus	Month		Year		Month		Year		
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	
Trend											
Employed	2,459.9	12,380.1	6.2	22.2	113.0	371.0	0.3	0.2	4.8	3.1	
Full-time	1,679.5	8,480.4	6.9	15.3	59.7	308.3	0.4	0.2	3.7	3.8	
Part-time	780.4	3,899.7	-0.7	6.9	53.3	62.7	-0.1	0.2	7.3	1.6	
Unemployed	151.8	707.3	-0.4	-2.9	-0.9	-19.9	-0.3	-0.4	-0.6	-2.7	
Labour force	2,611.7	13,087.4	5.8	19.3	112.1	351.1	0.2	0.1	4.5	2.8	
Seas. Adjusted											
Employed	2,459.9	12,403.0	7.2	61.7	95.2	383.3	0.3	0.5	4.0	3.2	
Full-time	1,685.8	8,501.9	11.7	42.0	46.8	304.7	0.7	0.5	2.9	3.7	
Part-time	774.1	3,901.1	-4.5	19.7	48.4	78.7	-0.6	0.5	6.7	2.1	
Unemployed	153.1	707.7	-1.3	4.1	1.8	-24.5	-0.8	0.6	1.2	-3.3	
Labour force	2,613.0	13,110.7	5.9	65.8	97.0	358.8	0.2	0.5	3.9	2.8	
			Current		A month ago		A year ago				
			Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus			
Unemploy. Rate											
Trend			5.8	5.4	5.8	5.4	6.1	5.7			
Seas. Adjusted			5.9	5.4	5.9	5.4	6.0	5.7			
Participation rate											
Trend			65.9	65.4	65.8	65.3	64.1	64.6			
Seas. Adjusted			65.9	65.5	65.8	65.2	64.5	64.7			

Table 2: Interstate comparison, November 2017

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	6,200	8,300	5,500	-300	1,100	-300	22,200
% change on a year ago	4.8	2.9	3.0	1.3	2.8	2.8	3.1
Change on a year ago (no.)	113,000	111,000	94,100	10,800	36,700	6,800	371,000
Unemployment rate (trend)							
November-17	5.8	4.6	5.7	5.8	6.2	5.9	5.4
October-17	5.8	4.7	5.8	5.8	6.1	5.9	5.4
November-16	6.1	5.0	5.9	6.6	6.5	6.3	5.7
Participation rate (trend)							
November-17	65.9	64.0	66.1	62.0	68.4	60.9	65.4
October-17	65.8	64.0	66.1	62.1	68.3	61.0	65.3
November-16	64.1	63.5	65.7	62.1	67.2	59.9	64.6
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.2	0.6	0.9	0.5
Change on a month ago (no.)	7,200	28,500	32,800	2,000	8,600	2,200	61,700
% change on a year ago	4.0	3.1	3.5	1.4	2.7	2.9	3.2
Change on a year ago (no.)	95,200	119,700	109,600	11,200	34,900	7,000	383,300
Unemployment rate (sa)							
November-17	5.9	4.6	5.5	6.1	6.6	5.8	5.4
October-17	5.9	4.6	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.0	5.4
November-16	6.0	4.9	6.1	6.9	6.7	6.3	5.7
Participation rate (sa)							
November-17	65.9	64.2	66.1	62.2	68.8	60.9	65.5
October-17	65.8	63.8	65.7	61.8	68.0	60.6	65.2
November-16	64.5	63.6	65.8	62.2	67.6	60.0	64.7