Labour Force, July 2018

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 16 August 2018, 11:30 am AEST.

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

Key data (trend)

Employment: (persons, growth)	Queensland,	↑ 4,400	(0.2%)
	Australia,	↑ 26,900	(0.2%)
Unemployment: (persons, rate)	Queensland,	- 0	(6.1%)
	Australia,	↓ 1,400	(5.4%)
Labour force: (persons, growth)	Queensland,	↑ 4,500	(0.2%)
	Australia,	↑ 25,600	(0.2%)

Main findings – Trend estimates

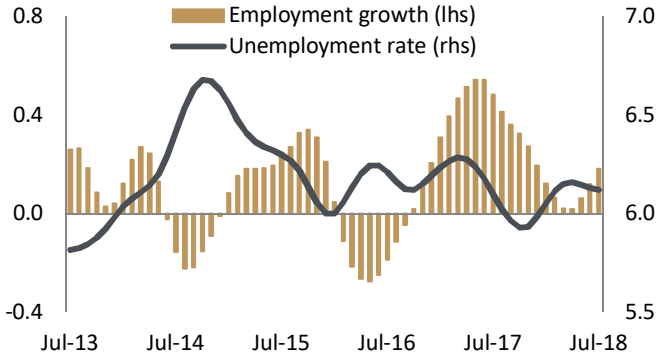
Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.2% (or 4,400 persons) in July 2018 (Chart 1), driven by a rise in both full-time (up 2,300 persons) and part-time (up 2,100 persons) employment.

Over the year to July 2018, trend employment in Queensland was 2.2% (or 52,600 persons) higher. This increase was also the result of rises in both full-time (up 39,400 persons) and part-time (up 13,200 persons) employment.

Queensland's trend unemployment rate was 6.1% in July 2018, unchanged from June.

Queensland's trend participation rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 65.7% in July. The participation rate has eased in recent months following a period of sustained increases (rising 1.9 percentage points between November 2016 and December 2017), where strong employment growth encouraged more people to enter the labour market.

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



Nationally, trend employment rose by 26,900 persons (up 0.2%) in July, to be 2.4% higher over the year. New South Wales (up 123,400 persons), Victoria (up 79,600 persons) and Queensland (up 52,600 persons) were the largest contributors to the 299,200 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 unchanged at 5.4% in July, but 0.2 percentage point lower than a year ago.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland fell 1,800 persons in July, driven by a 10,700 person fall in part-time employment, while full-time employment rose 8,900 persons in the month. Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 2.0% (or 49,300 persons).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point in the month to 6.1%, but was unchanged over the year. Meanwhile, at 65.8%, Queensland's sa participation rate was unchanged in July, but was 0.2 percentage point higher over the year.

Nationally, sa employment fell 3,900 persons in the month, substantially below market expectations for a rise of 15,000 persons. The national sa unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage point to 5.3% in July 2018, marginally lower than market expectations (5.4%).

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, July 2018

	Level (000s)		Difference (000s)				% Change			
			Month		Year		Month		Year	
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus
Trend										
Employed	2,484.2	12,581.6	4.4	26.9	52.6	299.2	0.2	0.2	2.2	2.4
Full-time	1,696.2	8,581.2	2.3	18.2	39.4	177.6	0.1	0.2	2.4	2.1
Part-time	788.0	4,000.5	2.1	8.8	13.2	121.7	0.3	0.2	1.7	3.1
Unemployed	161.9	713.0	0.0	-1.4	4.0	-12.7	0.0	-0.2	2.5	-1.8
Labour force	2,646.2	13,294.7	4.5	25.6	56.7	286.6	0.2	0.2	2.2	2.2
Seas. Adjusted										
Employed	2,484.0	12,575.2	-1.8	-3.9	49.3	300.3	-0.1	0.0	2.0	2.4
Full-time	1,698.3	8,587.5	8.9	19.3	50.0	194.7	0.5	0.2	3.0	2.3
Part-time	785.7	3,987.7	-10.7	-23.2	-0.7	105.6	-1.3	-0.6	-0.1	2.7
Unemployed	162.4	706.0	4.9	-5.7	3.3	-24.9	3.1	-0.8	2.1	-3.4
Labour force	2,646.3	13,281.1	2.9	-9.7	52.5	275.3	0.1	-0.1	2.0	2.1

	Current		A month ago		A year ago	
	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus	Qld	Aus
Unemploy. rate						
Trend	6.1	5.4	6.1	5.4	6.1	5.6
Seas. Adjusted	6.1	5.3	6.0	5.4	6.1	5.6
Participation rate						
Trend	65.7	65.5	65.8	65.5	65.5	65.2
Seas. Adjusted	65.8	65.5	65.8	65.7	65.6	65.2

Table 2: Interstate comparison, July 2018

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	*4,400*	*6,500*	*10,400*	*1,100*	*2,400*	*100*	*26,900*
% change on a year ago	2.2	3.2	2.5	2.2	1.1	1.0	2.4
Change on a year ago (no.)	*52,600*	*123,400*	*79,600*	*18,200*	*15,200*	*2,500*	*299,200*
Unemployment rate (trend)							
July-18	6.1	4.9	5.1	5.6	6.1	6.2	5.4
June-18	6.1	4.9	5.1	5.6	6.2	6.2	5.4
July-17	6.1	4.8	6.1	6.2	5.6	5.9	5.6
Participation rate (trend)							
July-18	65.7	64.9	65.6	62.8	68.5	61.5	65.5
June-18	65.8	64.9	65.6	62.8	68.5	61.4	65.5
July-17	65.5	63.8	66.2	62.2	67.9	61.2	65.2
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	-0.1	-0.7	0.9	0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0
Change on a month ago (no.)	*-1,800*	*-27,200*	*29,400*	*1,600*	*-3,000*	*100*	*-3,900*
%change on a year ago	2.0	2.9	2.9	2.0	0.9	1.5	2.4
Change on a year ago (no.)	*49,300*	*113,600*	*94,100*	*16,700*	*11,800*	*3,600*	*300,300*
Unemployment rate (sa)							
July-18	6.1	4.9	5.0	5.7	6.0	6.4	5.3
June-18	6.0	4.7	5.6	5.4	6.1	5.9	5.4
July-17	6.1	5.0	6.2	6.2	5.4	6.1	5.6
Participation rate (sa)							
July-18	65.8	64.7	65.7	62.9	68.2	61.6	65.5
June-18	65.8	65.1	65.7	62.6	68.5	61.3	65.7
July-17	65.6	63.9	66.1	62.3	67.7	61.1	65.2

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