

Labour Force, September 2018

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 18 October 2018, 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,	↑ 1,900	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 26,400	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↑ 300	(6.1%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓ 10,500	(5.2%)
Labour force:	Queensland,	↑ 2,200	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 15,900	(0.1%)
Underemployment:	Queensland,	↓ 700	(8.9%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓ 2,100	(8.3%)

Main findings – Trend estimates

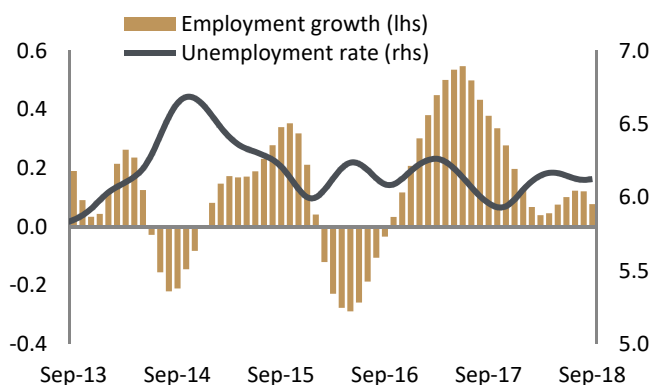
Trend employment in Queensland rose marginally, up 0.1% (or 1,900 persons) in September 2018 (Chart 1), driven by a solid rise in full-time employment (up 5,500 persons), which more than offset a fall in part-time employment (down 3,600 persons).

Over the year to September 2018, trend employment in Queensland was 1.6% (or 39,100 persons) higher. This increase was also the result of a rise in full-time employment (up 42,000 persons) more than offsetting the fall in part-time employment (down 2,900 persons).

Queensland's trend unemployment rate was 6.1% in September 2018, unchanged from a downwardly revised rate in August, and marginally higher over the year.

Queensland's trend participation rate was unchanged at 65.8% in September, from a downwardly revised rate in August. Consistent with a sustained period of employment growth, the State's trend participation rate has risen 1.7 percentage points from a recent low of 64.1% in October 2016.

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



Nationally, trend employment rose by 26,400 persons (up 0.2%) in September, to be 2.4% higher over the year. New South Wales (up 134,700 persons), Victoria (up 85,200 persons) and Queensland (up 39,100 persons) were the largest contributors to the 290,600 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 5.2% in September 2018.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland fell 11,700 persons in September, driven by a 11,900 person fall in part-time employment. Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 1.4% (or 35,500 persons).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate fell 0.3 percentage point to 6.0% in September, but was marginally higher over the year. Meanwhile, the State's participation rate fell 0.6 percentage point to 65.5%.

Nationally, sa employment rose 5,600 persons in the month, substantially below market expectations for a rise of 15,000 persons. The national sa unemployment rate fell to 5.0% in September 2018, below the market expectations rate of 5.3%.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, September 2018

	QUEENSLAND				AUSTRALIA			
	Sep-18 000s	Monthly change 000s	Yearly change %	Yearly change 000s	Sep-18 000s	Monthly change 000s	Yearly change %	Yearly change 000s
Trend								
Employed	2,490.2	1.9	0.1	39.1	12,640.8	26.4	0.2	290.6
Full-time	1,712.2	5.5	0.3	42.0	8,645.8	21.5	0.2	186.2
Part-time	778.0	-3.6	-0.5	-2.9	3,995.0	4.9	0.1	104.4
Unemployed	162.5	0.3	0.2	7.1	688.5	-10.5	-1.5	-29.0
Underemployed	237.1	-0.7	-0.3	10.4	1,111.3	-2.1	-0.2	-2.8
Labour force	2,652.7	2.2	0.1	46.3	13,329.3	15.9	0.1	261.6
Seas. Adjusted								
Employed	2,484.7	-11.7	-0.5	35.5	12,636.3	5.6	0.0	280.9
Full-time	1,713.7	0.2	0.0	45.5	8,654.4	20.3	0.2	217.5
Part-time	771.0	-11.9	-1.5	-10.0	3,981.9	-14.7	-0.4	63.3
Unemployed	158.1	-10.5	-6.2	4.9	665.8	-37.1	-5.3	-47.4
Underemployed	234.1	3.9	1.7	9.9	1,103.2	1.1	0.1	-12.5
Labour force	2,642.9	-22.1	-0.8	40.6	13,302.1	-31.5	-0.2	233.5
Trend	Sep-18	Aug-18	Sep-17		Sep-18	Aug-18	Sep-17	
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.1	6.0		5.2	5.2	5.5	
Underemployment rate	8.9	9.0	8.7		8.3	8.4	8.5	
Participation rate	65.8	65.8	65.7		65.6	65.6	65.3	
Seas. Adjusted								
Unemployment rate	6.0	6.3	5.9		5.0	5.3	5.5	
Underemployment rate	8.9	8.6	8.6		8.3	8.3	8.5	
Participation rate	65.5	66.1	65.6		65.4	65.7	65.3	

Table 2: Interstate comparison, September 2018

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	1,900	8,600	7,900	-1,000	1,800	-300	26,400
% change on a year ago	1.6	3.4	2.6	1.3	1.0	0.6	2.4
Change on a year ago (no.)	39,100	134,700	85,200	10,900	13,400	1,600	290,600
Unemployment rate (trend)							
September-18	6.1	4.5	4.7	5.6	6.1	5.9	5.2
August-18	6.1	4.6	4.8	5.6	6.1	5.9	5.2
September-17	6.0	4.7	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.9	5.5
Participation rate (trend)							
September-18	65.8	65.1	65.6	62.3	68.5	60.9	65.6
August-18	65.8	65.1	65.6	62.4	68.6	61.1	65.6
September-17	65.7	64.0	66.2	62.1	68.2	61.2	65.3
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	-0.5	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.2	-0.6	0.0
Change on a month ago (no.)	-11,700	2,800	20,000	-200	3,100	-1,400	5,600
% change on a year ago	1.4	3.4	2.6	0.8	1.2	-0.4	2.3
Change on a year ago (no.)	35,500	134,200	85,500	6,600	15,900	-900	280,900
Unemployment rate (sa)							
September-18	6.0	4.4	4.5	5.5	6.0	5.8	5.0
August-18	6.3	4.6	4.7	5.7	6.4	5.8	5.3
September-17	5.9	4.7	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.5
Participation rate (sa)							
September-18	65.5	65.0	65.6	62.0	68.6	60.6	65.4
August-18	66.1	65.2	65.4	62.1	68.7	61.0	65.7
September-17	65.6	64.0	66.3	62.1	68.1	61.5	65.3