

Labour Force, October 2018

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 15 November 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,	↓ 600	(0.0%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 25,400	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↑ 1,200	(6.2%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↓ 7,600	(5.1%)
Labour force:	Queensland,	↑ 700	(0.0%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑ 17,800	(0.1%)
Underemployment:	Queensland,	↓ 800	(8.8%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑ 300	(8.3%)

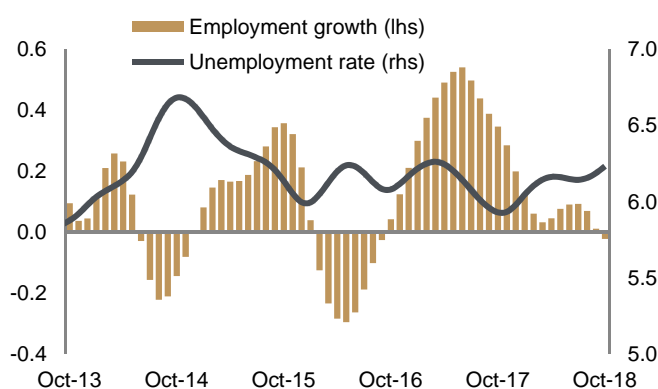
Main findings – Trend estimates

Trend employment in Queensland fell marginally, down 600 persons, in October 2018. A rise in full-time employment (up 2,000 persons) in the month, was more than offset by a fall in part-time employment (down 2,600 persons).

Over the year to October 2018, trend employment in Queensland was 1.1% (or 26,400 persons) higher, with a rise in full-time employment (up 29,700 persons) more than offsetting a fall in part-time employment (down 3,300 persons). This recent moderation in employment growth follows a period of very strong growth. Consequently, in October 2018, trend employment was 5.9% above that two years earlier (Chart 1).

Queensland's trend unemployment rate was 6.2% in October 2018, unchanged from an upwardly revised rate in September, but 0.3 percentage point higher over the year.

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



Consistent with moderating employment growth, the State's trend participation rate has eased in 2018, to be 65.6% in October. This follows a period when the participation rate rose 2.0 percentage points from a low of 64.1% in October 2016.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 25,400 persons (up 0.2%) in October, to be 2.3% higher over the year. New South Wales (up 136,100), Victoria (up 82,900) and Queensland (up 26,400) were the largest contributors to the 285,800 persons gain in national employment over the past year, with all states recording growth over the period (Table 2).

The national trend unemployment rate fell slightly to 5.1% in October 2018.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland fell 3,200 persons in October, driven by a 5,000 person fall in full-time employment. Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 0.7% (or 17,100 persons).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage point to 6.3% in October, and was 0.4 percentage point higher over the year. Meanwhile, the State's participation rate was unchanged at 65.5%.

Nationally, sa employment rose 0.3% (or 32,800 persons) in the month, substantially above market expectations for a rise of 20,000 persons. The national sa unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.0% in October 2018, below the market expectations rate of 5.1%.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, October 2018

	QUEENSLAND					AUSTRALIA					
	Oct-18	Monthly change	Yearly change	Oct-18	Monthly change	Yearly change	Oct-18	Monthly change	Yearly change		
	000s	000s	%	000s	%	000s	000s	%	000s	%	
Trend											
Employed	2,485.9	-0.6	0.0	26.4	1.1	12,665.8	25.4	0.2	285.8	2.3	
Full-time	1,709.7	2.0	0.1	29.7	1.8	8,681.2	22.9	0.3	202.4	2.4	
Part-time	776.2	-2.6	-0.3	-3.3	-0.4	3,984.6	2.5	0.1	83.4	2.1	
Unemployed	165.3	1.2	0.7	10.2	6.6	680.3	-7.6	-1.1	-37.1	-5.2	
Underemployed	232.3	-0.8	-0.3	5.4	2.4	1,109.5	0.3	0.0	-6.5	-0.6	
Labour force	2,651.2	0.7	0.0	36.6	1.4	13,346.1	17.8	0.1	248.7	1.9	
Seas. Adjusted											
Employed	2,480.3	-3.2	-0.1	17.1	0.7	12,671.5	32.8	0.3	308.1	2.5	
Full-time	1,707.6	-5.0	-0.3	28.3	1.7	8,703.7	42.3	0.5	238.8	2.8	
Part-time	772.7	1.8	0.2	-11.2	-1.4	3,967.9	-9.4	-0.2	69.4	1.8	
Unemployed	165.4	6.9	4.4	9.8	6.3	672.1	4.6	0.7	-34.8	-4.9	
Underemployed	227.0	-6.5	-2.8	7.3	3.3	1,105.5	2.0	0.2	-6.6	-0.6	
Labour force	2,645.7	3.7	0.1	26.8	1.0	13,343.6	37.4	0.3	273.2	2.1	
Trend	Oct-18	Sep-18	Oct-17	Oct-18	Sep-18	Oct-17					
Unemployment rate	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.1	5.2	5.5					
Underemployment rate	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.3	8.3	8.5					
Participation rate	65.6	65.7	65.9	65.6	65.6	65.4					
Seas. Adjusted											
Unemployment rate	6.3	6.0	5.9	5.0	5.0	5.4					
Underemployment rate	8.6	8.8	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.5					
Participation rate	65.5	65.5	66.0	65.6	65.5	65.3					

Table 2: Interstate comparison, October 2018

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	-600	10,400	6,100	200	2,700	200	25,400
% change on a year ago	1.1	3.5	2.6	1.5	1.2	0.9	2.3
Change on a year ago (no.)	26,400	136,100	82,900	12,400	15,800	2,300	285,800
Unemployment rate (trend)							
October-18	6.2	4.6	4.5	5.5	5.9	5.6	5.1
September-18	6.2	4.6	4.6	5.5	6.0	5.7	5.2
October-17	5.9	4.7	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.5
Participation rate (trend)							
October-18	65.6	65.2	65.5	62.3	68.5	60.8	65.6
September-18	65.7	65.1	65.5	62.4	68.5	61.0	65.6
October-17	65.9	64.1	66.2	62.2	68.3	61.2	65.4
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	-0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.3
Change on a month ago (no.)	-3,200	16,300	-3,600	7,800	3,100	2,300	32,800
% change on a year ago	0.7	3.9	2.9	2.1	1.9	2.4	2.5
Change on a year ago (no.)	17,100	151,000	93,100	17,700	25,800	5,800	308,100
Unemployment rate (sa)							
October-18	6.3	4.4	4.5	5.4	5.7	5.3	5.0
September-18	6.0	4.4	4.6	5.5	6.0	5.7	5.0
October-17	5.9	4.5	5.8	5.8	6.0	6.2	5.4
Participation rate (sa)							
October-18	65.5	65.2	65.4	62.5	68.5	60.9	65.6
September-18	65.5	65.0	65.6	62.0	68.6	60.7	65.5
October-17	66.0	63.8	65.8	61.9	67.9	60.7	65.3