Labour Force, November 2018

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 20 December 2018, 10:30 am AEST.

Key data (trend)

Employment: Queensland, † 2,900 (0.1%) (persons, growth) Australia, † 28,800 (0.2%)
Unemployment: Queensland, † 1,600 (6.3%) (persons, rate) Australia, † 3,000 (5.1%)
Labour force: Queensland, † 4,500 (0.2%) (persons, growth) Australia, † 25,800 (0.2%)
Underemployment: Queensland, † 2,100 (9.0%) (persons, rate) Australia, † 5,600 (8.4%)

Main findings – Trend estimates
Trend employment in Queensland rose, up 2,900 persons, in November 2018. A fall in full-time employment (down 1,400 persons) in the month, was more than offset by a rise in part-time employment (up 4,300 persons).

Over the year to November 2018, trend employment in Queensland was 1.1% (or 28,100 persons) higher, with a rise in both full-time employment (up 10,200 persons) and part-time employment (up 17,900 persons). This recent moderate employment growth follows a period of very strong growth (Chart 1). Consequently, in November 2018, trend employment was 6.1% above that two years earlier.

Queensland’s trend unemployment rate was 6.3% in November 2018, unchanged from an upwardly revised rate in October, but 0.4 percentage point higher over the year.

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

Consistent with moderate employment growth, the State’s trend participation rate has eased in 2018, to be 65.7% in November. This follows a period when the participation rate rose 1.9 percentage points from a low of 64.1% in November 2016 to late 2017.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 28,800 persons (up 0.2%) in November, to be 2.4% higher over the year. New South Wales (up 126,700), Victoria (up 103,300) and Queensland (up 28,100) were the largest contributors to the 295,700 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 November 2018.

Seasonally adjusted estimates
In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland rose 21,700 persons in November, with a fall in full-time employment (down 10,900 persons) more than offset by a rise in part-time employment (up 32,600 persons). Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 1.6% (or 38,500 persons).

Queensland’s sa unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point to 6.4% in November, and was 0.5 percentage point higher over the year. Meanwhile, the State’s sa participation rate rose 0.5 percentage point to 66.0%.

Nationally, sa employment rose 0.3% (or 37,100 persons) in the month. The national sa unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage point to 5.1% in November 2018.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, November 2018

Table 2: Interstate comparison, November 2018

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