

Labour Force, July 2019

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 15 August 2019, 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:	Queensland,	↑	6,100	(0.2%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	24,600	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↑	2,700	(6.4%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑	6,600	(5.3%)
Labour Force:	Queensland,	↑	8,800	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	31,200	(0.2%)
Underemployment:	Queensland,	↓	1,000	(8.6%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑	2,500	(8.4%)

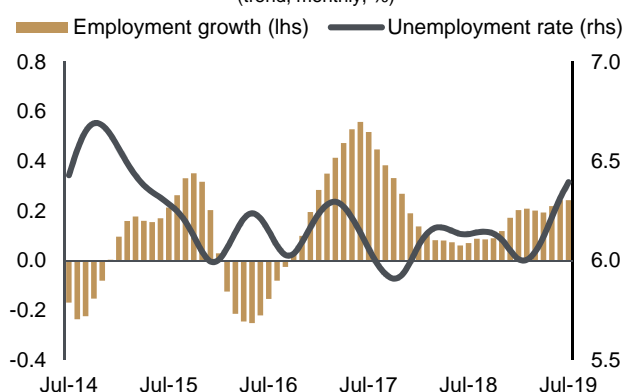
Main findings – Trend estimates

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.2% (or 6,100 persons) in July 2019, reflecting a rise in both full-time employment (up 4,100 persons) and part-time employment (up 2,100 persons). Employment growth over the year was solid at 2.1% (or 51,700 persons), driven by a rise in full-time employment (up 47,700 persons), while growth in part-time employment was softer (up 4,000 persons).

Consistent with solid employment growth, Queensland's trend participation rate has increased over the past year, up 0.3 percentage point to 66.0% in July 2019. This moderate increase is in contrast to the volatile period from December 2015 to January 2018, when the participation rate fell from 65.8% to 64.1% before rising to 66.1%.

Queensland's trend unemployment rate has moved higher recently, to 6.4% in July 2019, up from 6.1% a year earlier. This in part reflects increased participation amid solid employment growth.

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



Nationally, trend employment rose 24,600 persons (up 0.2%) in July, to be 2.7% higher over the year. New South Wales (up 138,700) and Victoria (up 109,700) were the largest contributors to the 339,200 person rise in employment nationally over the past year (Table 2).

The national trend unemployment rate was 5.3% in July 2019, up from 5.2% in June, but unchanged over the year. Further, the national trend participation rate rose to 66.1% in July, the highest

rate recorded nationally since the ABS monthly labour force series began in 1978.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland rose 19,900 persons in July, driven by a rise in part-time employment (up 18,100 persons). Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 2.3% (or 57,500 persons).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate fell from 6.5% in June to 6.4% in July, but was 0.3 percentage point higher than a year earlier. Queensland's sa participation rate rose 0.3 percentage point to 66.1% in July.

Nationally, sa employment rose 41,100 persons in the month, primarily driven by an increase in full-time employment. The sa unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.2%.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, July 2019

	Queensland				Australia					
	Jul-19 '000	Monthly change '000	Yearly change %	Yearly change '000	Jul-19 '000	Monthly change '000	Yearly change %	Yearly change '000		
Trend										
Employed	2,533.5	6.1	0.2	51.7	21.1	12,915.2	24.6	0.2	339.2	2.7
Full-time	1,746.9	4.1	0.2	47.7	2.8	8,849.5	15.1	0.2	257.0	3.0
Part-time	786.6	2.1	0.3	4.0	0.5	4,065.7	9.6	0.2	82.2	2.1
Unemployed	173.1	2.7	1.6	10.9	6.7	715.6	6.6	0.9	11.5	1.6
Underemployed	233.4	-1.0	-0.4	-5.5	-2.3	1,141.6	2.5	0.2	26.1	2.3
Labour force	2,706.6	8.8	0.3	62.6	2.4	13,630.8	31.2	0.2	350.7	2.6
Seas. Adjusted										
Employed	2,538.6	19.9	0.8	57.5	2.3	12,908.2	41.1	0.3	332.6	2.6
Full-time	1,745.7	1.9	0.1	44.9	2.6	8,847.1	34.5	0.4	255.6	3.0
Part-time	792.9	18.1	2.3	12.6	1.6	4,061.1	6.7	0.2	77.0	1.9
Unemployed	172.4	-2.8	-1.6	11.1	6.9	712.9	0.8	0.1	14.0	2.0
Underemployed	231.3	0.2	0.1	-5.9	-2.5	1,143.3	32.4	2.9	22.8	2.0
Labour force	2,711.0	17.1	0.6	68.6	2.6	13,621.1	41.9	0.3	346.7	2.6
Trend	Jul-19	Jun-19	Jul-18	Jul-19	Jun-19	Jul-18				
Unemployment rate	6.4	6.3	6.1	5.3	5.2	5.3				
Underemployment rate	8.6	8.7	9.0	8.4	8.4	8.4				
Participation rate	66.0	65.9	65.8	66.1	66.0	65.5				
Seas. Adjusted										
Unemployment rate	6.4	6.5	6.1	5.2	5.2	5.3				
Underemployment rate	8.5	8.6	9.0	8.4	8.2	8.4				
Participation rate	66.1	65.8	65.7	66.1	66.0	65.5				

Table 2: Interstate comparison, July 2019

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	6,100	11,500	5,000	300	3,700	200	24,600
% change on a year ago	2.1	3.5	3.3	1.6	1.2	-0.9	2.7
Change on a year ago (no.)	51,700	138,700	109,700	13,400	15,400	-2,200	339,200
Unemployment rate (trend)							
July-19	6.4	4.5	4.8	6.3	5.9	6.7	5.3
June-19	6.3	4.5	4.8	6.2	5.9	6.7	5.2
July-18	6.1	4.7	4.9	5.6	6.2	6.0	5.3
Participation rate (trend)							
July-19	66.0	66.0	66.1	63.4	68.3	60.3	66.1
June-19	65.9	65.9	66.1	63.4	68.2	60.3	66.0
July-18	65.8	65.0	65.6	62.6	68.5	61.2	65.5
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	0.8	0.3	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	0.6	0.3
Change on a month ago (no.)	19,900	13,000	3,600	-1,700	-4,200	1,600	41,100
% change on a year ago	2.3	4.0	3.0	0.8	1.5	-0.6	2.6
Change on a year ago (no.)	57,500	161,400	97,800	6,900	19,500	-1,600	332,600
Unemployment rate (sa)							
July-19	6.4	4.4	4.8	6.9	5.9	6.0	5.2
June-19	6.5	4.6	4.8	6.0	5.7	6.8	5.2
July-18	6.1	4.9	4.9	5.6	6.1	6.3	5.3
Participation rate (sa)							
July-19	66.1	65.9	66.0	63.6	68.4	60.0	66.1
June-19	65.8	65.9	66.1	63.2	68.6	60.1	66.0
July-18	65.7	64.7	65.7	62.8	68.2	61.4	65.5