

Labour Force, September 2019

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 17 October 2019, 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,	↑	6,600	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	20,200	(0.2%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↑	2,500	(6.6%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑	1,600	(5.3%)
Labour Force:	Queensland,	↑	9,000	(0.3%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	21,800	(0.2%)
Underemployment:	Queensland,	↑	1,200	(8.6%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑	1,800	(8.4%)

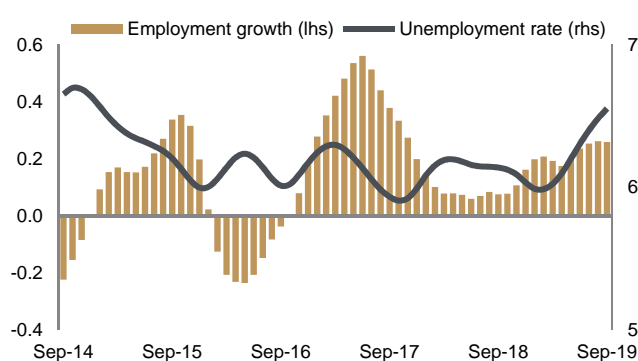
Main findings – Trend estimates

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.3% (or 6,600 persons) in September 2019, reflecting a rise in both full-time employment (up 2,400 persons) and part-time employment (up 4,100 persons). Employment growth over the year was solid at 2.4% (or 58,500 persons), driven by a rise in full-time employment (up 41,900 persons).

Consistent with solid employment growth, Queensland's trend participation rate has increased over the past year, up 0.6%-point to 66.3% in September 2019.

Queensland's trend unemployment has moved higher recently, to 6.6% in September 2019, up from 6.1% a year earlier (Chart 1). This in part reflects increased participation amid solid employment growth. Meanwhile, the trend underemployment rate was steady at 8.6% in September, and only slightly above the national rate (8.4%).

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



Nationally, trend employment rose 20,200 persons (up 0.2%) in September, to be 2.4% higher over the year. New South Wales (up 110,800) and Victoria (up 102,900) continued to be the largest contributors to the 303,100 person rise in employment nationally over the past year (Table 2).

The national trend unemployment rate was unchanged in September 2019 at 5.3%. The national trend participation rate also remained unchanged, at 66.2% in September, to remain the highest rate recorded since the ABS monthly labour force survey began in 1978.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

In more volatile seasonally adjusted (sa) terms, employment in Queensland rose 25,300 persons in September 2019 after falling by 6,500 persons in August. A 29,300 person rise in part-time employment in September was partly offset by a 3,900 person fall in full-time employment. Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 3.1% (or 75,900 persons).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate rose to 6.5% in September, up from 6.0% a year earlier. Queensland's sa participation rate increased 0.6 percentage point to 66.5% in September.

Nationally, sa employment rose 14,700 persons in the month, driven by a strong increase in full-time employment. The sa unemployment rate decreased slightly to 5.2%, from 5.3% in August.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, September 2019

	QUEENSLAND					AUSTRALIA				
	Sep-19 000s	Monthly change 000s	%	Yearly change 000s	%	Sep-19 000s	Monthly change 000s	%	Yearly change 000s	%
Trend										
Employed	2,544.2	6.6	0.3	58.5	2.4	12,942.8	20.2	0.2	303.1	2.4
Full-time	1,749.5	2.4	0.1	41.9	2.5	8,840.2	9.0	0.1	185.9	2.1
Part-time	794.7	4.1	0.5	16.5	2.1	4,102.6	11.3	0.3	117.2	2.9
Unemployed	178.4	2.5	1.4	15.8	9.7	718.0	1.6	0.2	32.3	4.7
Underemployed	234.4	1.2	0.5	-0.7	-0.3	1,151.6	1.8	0.2	43.4	3.9
Labour force	2,722.6	9.0	0.3	74.3	2.8	13,660.7	21.8	0.2	335.3	2.5
Seas. Adjusted										
Employed	2,554.2	25.3	1.0	75.9	3.1	12,944.0	14.7	0.1	311.6	2.5
Full-time	1,747.5	-3.9	-0.2	35.0	2.0	8,847.2	26.2	0.3	191.7	2.2
Part-time	806.7	29.3	3.8	40.9	5.3	4,096.9	-11.4	-0.3	119.9	3.0
Unemployed	176.9	4.7	2.7	18.5	11.6	709.6	-8.1	-1.1	43.6	6.6
Underemployed	236.1	7.3	3.2	2.6	1.1	1,139.7	-24.6	-2.1	34.1	3.1
Labour force	2,731.1	30.0	1.1	94.4	3.6	13,653.6	6.6	0.0	355.2	2.7
Trend	Sep-19	Aug-19	Sep-18			Sep-19	Aug-19	Sep-18		
Unemployment rate	6.6	6.5	6.1			5.3	5.3	5.2		
Underemployment rate	8.6	8.6	8.9			8.4	8.4	8.3		
Participation rate	66.3	66.1	65.7			66.2	66.2	65.6		
Seas. Adjusted										
Unemployment rate	6.5	6.4	6.0			5.2	5.3	5.0		
Underemployment rate	8.6	8.5	8.9			8.3	8.5	8.3		
Participation rate	66.5	65.9	65.4			66.1	66.2	65.4		

Table 2: Interstate comparison, September 2019

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	6,600	3,800	7,900	400	1,400	700	20,200
% change on a year ago	2.4	2.7	3.1	1.5	0.9	0.3	2.4
Change on a year ago (no.)	58,500	110,800	102,900	12,900	12,500	600	303,100
Unemployment rate (trend)							
September-19	6.6	4.5	4.8	6.5	5.7	6.4	5.3
August-19	6.5	4.5	4.8	6.4	5.8	6.4	5.3
September-18	6.1	4.5	4.6	5.6	6.2	5.9	5.2
Participation rate (trend)							
September-19	66.3	65.9	66.3	63.4	68.2	60.4	66.2
August-19	66.1	65.8	66.2	63.4	68.2	60.3	66.2
September-18	65.7	65.0	65.6	62.5	68.6	60.8	65.6
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	1.0	-0.6	0.3	0.2	-0.4	0.9	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	25,300	-23,000	8,600	1,500	-5,900	2,200	14,700
% change on a year ago	3.1	2.4	3.1	2.0	0.6	1.1	2.5
Change on a year ago (no.)	75,900	96,100	103,200	17,000	8,700	2,800	311,600
Unemployment rate (sa)							
September-19	6.5	4.5	4.7	6.3	5.7	6.2	5.2
August-19	6.4	4.3	4.9	7.3	5.8	6.4	5.3
September-18	6.0	4.4	4.6	5.6	6.1	5.9	5.0
Participation rate (sa)							
September-19	66.5	65.6	66.3	63.3	68.1	60.5	66.1
August-19	65.9	66.0	66.4	63.9	68.5	60.2	66.2
September-18	65.4	65.0	65.6	62.1	68.6	60.5	65.4