

Labour Force, October 2019

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 14 November 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,	↑	3,400	(0.1%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	12,300	(0.1%)
Unemployment:	Queensland,	↑	1,600	(6.5%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑	1,800	(5.3%)
Labour Force:	Queensland,	↑	5,000	(0.2%)
(persons, growth)	Australia,	↑	14,100	(0.1%)
Underemployment:	Queensland,	↑	2,400	(8.7%)
(persons, rate)	Australia,	↑	4,400	(8.5%)

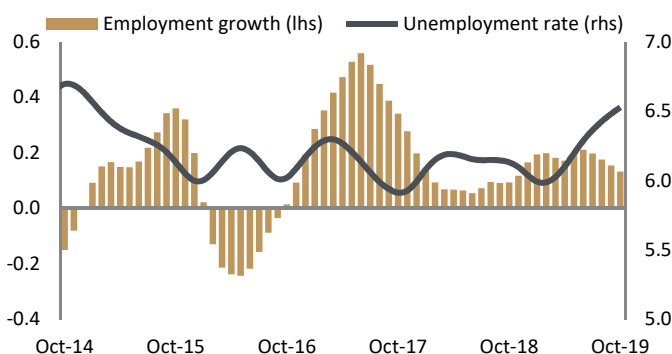
Main findings – Trend estimates

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.1% (or 3,400 persons) in October 2019, reflecting a rise in both full-time employment (up 500 persons) and part-time employment (up 2,900 persons). Employment growth over the year was solid at 2.1% (or 52,600 persons), predominantly driven by a rise in full-time employment (up 34,700 persons).

Solid employment growth has encouraged jobseekers to re-enter the labour market in search of work. Consequently, Queensland's trend participation rate has increased over the past year, up 0.5%-point to 66.1% in October 2019.

Queensland's trend unemployment has moved higher recently, to 6.5% in October 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 8.7% in October, only slightly above the national rate of 8.5%.

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



Nationally, trend employment rose 12,300 persons (up 0.1%) in October, to be 2.1% higher over the year. Victoria (up 97,500) and New South Wales (up 92,700) continued to be the largest contributors to the 268,500 persons rise in employment nationally over the past year (**Table 2**).

The national trend unemployment rate was unchanged in October 2019, at 5.3%. The national trend participation rate also remained unchanged, at 66.1% in October, 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 fell 14,000 persons in October 2019 after rising by 26,200 persons in the previous month. Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 2.5% (or 62,500 persons).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate was 6.5% in October, up from 6.2% a year earlier. Queensland's sa participation rate decreased 0.5%-point to 66.0% in October.

Nationally, sa employment fell 19,000 persons in the month, driven by falls in both full-time and part-time employment. The sa unemployment rate rose 0.1%-point to 5.3% in October.

Table 1: Labour force outcomes, October 2019

	QUEENSLAND					AUSTRALIA				
	Oct-19 000s	Monthly change 000s	Yearly change %	Oct-19 000s	Yearly change %	Oct-19 000s	Monthly change 000s	Yearly change %	Oct-19 000s	Yearly change %
Trend										
Employed	2,540.7	3.4	0.1	52.6	2.1	12,935.7	12.3	0.1	268.5	2.1
Full-time	1,747.8	0.5	0.0	34.7	2.0	8,835.6	5.8	0.1	155.2	1.8
Part-time	792.9	2.9	0.4	17.9	2.3	4,100.0	6.5	0.2	113.3	2.8
Unemployed	177.4	1.6	0.9	14.9	9.2	722.4	1.8	0.3	43.6	6.4
Underemployed	237.4	2.4	1.0	2.7	1.2	1,165.0	4.4	0.4	59.7	5.4
Labour force	2,718.1	5.0	0.2	67.5	2.5	13,658.1	14.1	0.1	312.1	2.3
Seas. Adjusted										
Employed	2,539.5	-14.0	-0.6	62.5	2.5	12,919.2	-19.0	-0.1	251.8	2.0
Full-time	1,749.6	2.3	0.1	43.7	2.6	8,833.8	-10.3	-0.1	135.7	1.6
Part-time	789.9	-16.3	-2.0	18.8	2.4	4,085.4	-8.7	-0.2	116.1	2.9
Unemployed	175.7	-2.6	-1.5	11.0	6.7	726.1	17.1	2.4	57.5	8.6
Underemployed	239.8	3.2	1.3	12.7	5.6	1,163.2	25.9	2.3	60.6	5.5
Labour force	2,715.2	-16.7	-0.6	73.4	2.8	13,645.3	-1.9	0.0	309.3	2.3
Trend	Oct-19	Sep-19	Oct-18			Oct-19	Sep-19	Oct-18		
Unemployment rate	6.5	6.5	6.1			5.3	5.3	5.1		
Underemployment rate	8.7	8.7	8.9			8.5	8.5	8.3		
Participation rate	66.1	66.1	65.6			66.1	66.1	65.6		
Seas. Adjusted										
Unemployment rate	6.5	6.5	6.2			5.3	5.2	5.0		
Underemployment rate	8.8	8.7	8.6			8.5	8.3	8.3		
Participation rate	66.0	66.5	65.4			66.0	66.1	65.6		

Table 2: Interstate comparison, October 2019

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (trend)							
% change on a month ago	0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	3,400	-100	7,300	-1,000	1,700	800	12,300
% change on a year ago	2.1	2.3	2.9	0.8	1.3	0.8	2.1
Change on a year ago (no.)	52,600	92,700	97,500	6,900	17,500	1,900	268,500
Unemployment rate (trend)							
October-19	6.5	4.7	4.8	6.3	5.7	6.1	5.3
September-19	6.5	4.6	4.8	6.3	5.7	6.2	5.3
October-18	6.1	4.4	4.6	5.7	6.3	5.9	5.1
Participation rate (trend)							
October-19	66.1	65.7	66.3	62.9	68.4	60.4	66.1
September-19	66.1	65.8	66.3	63.1	68.4	60.3	66.1
October-18	65.6	65.0	65.7	62.6	68.5	60.6	65.6
Employed (sa)							
% change on a month ago	-0.6	-0.2	0.1	-0.8	0.5	0.2	-0.1
Change on a month ago (no.)	-14,000	-10,300	2,900	-6,500	6,300	600	-19,000
% change on a year ago	2.5	1.5	3.2	0.0	0.7	0.3	2.0
Change on a year ago (no.)	62,500	62,800	107,700	0	10,100	700	251,800
Unemployment rate (sa)							
October-19	6.5	4.8	4.8	6.2	5.7	5.9	5.3
September-19	6.5	4.5	4.7	6.3	5.7	6.2	5.2
October-18	6.2	4.4	4.5	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.0
Participation rate (sa)							
October-19	66.0	65.6	66.3	62.7	68.3	60.4	66.0
September-19	66.5	65.6	66.3	63.2	68.0	60.5	66.1
October-18	65.4	65.3	65.5	62.7	68.4	60.8	65.6