

# Labour Force, November 2019

Source: ABS 6202.0, released 19 December 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)

|                         |             |          |        |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------|--------|
| <b>Employment:</b>      | Queensland, | ↑ 5,900  | (0.2%) |
| (persons, growth)       | Australia,  | ↑ 17,400 | (0.1%) |
| <b>Unemployment:</b>    | Queensland, | ↓ 100    | (6.4%) |
| (persons, rate)         | Australia,  | ↓ 1,200  | (5.2%) |
| <b>Labour force:</b>    | Queensland, | ↑ 5,800  | (0.2%) |
| (persons, growth)       | Australia,  | ↑ 16,200 | (0.1%) |
| <b>Underemployment:</b> | Queensland, | ↓ 100    | (8.4%) |
| (persons, rate)         | Australia,  | ↓ 300    | (8.4%) |

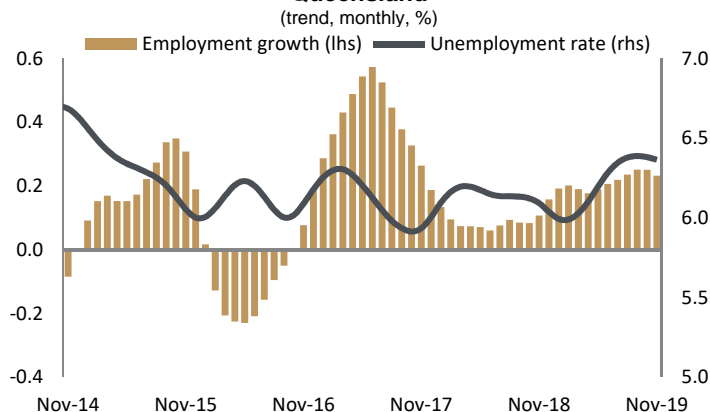
## Main findings – Trend estimates

Trend employment in Queensland rose 0.2% (or 5,900 persons) in November 2019, reflecting a rise in both full-time employment (up 1,800 persons) and part-time employment (up 4,200 persons). Employment growth over the year was solid at 2.5% (or 63,100 persons), again driven by increases in both full-time (up 34,600 persons) and part-time (up 28,500 persons) jobs.

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 0.6%-point to 66.2% in November 2019.

Queensland's trend unemployment rate has moved higher recently, to 6.4% in November 2019, up from 6.1% a year earlier (Chart 1), reflecting increased participation. The trend underemployment rate was steady at 8.4% in November, in line with the national rate.

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



Nationally, trend employment rose 17,400 persons (up 0.1%) in November, to be 2.1% higher over the year. Victoria (up 99,900) and New South Wales (up 80,900) continued to be the largest contributors to the 268,900 persons rise in employment nationally over the past year (Table 2).

The national trend unemployment rate eased to 5.2% in November 2019. The national trend participation rate remained unchanged, at 66.1% in November, 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 17,300 persons in November 2019 after falling by 16,400 persons in the previous month. Over the year, sa employment in Queensland rose 2.4% (or 59,100 persons).

Queensland's sa unemployment rate fell to 6.3% in November, to be down from 6.4% a year earlier. Queensland's sa participation rate rose 0.3%-point to 66.2% in November.

Nationally, sa employment rose 39,900 persons in the month, driven mainly by increases in part-time employment (up 35,700 persons). The sa unemployment rate fell 0.1%-point to 5.2% in November.

**Table 1: Labour force outcomes, November 2019**

|                       | QUEENSLAND     |                        |                    |                |                    | AUSTRALIA      |                        |                    |                |                    |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
|                       | Nov-19<br>000s | Monthly change<br>000s | Yearly change<br>% | Nov-19<br>000s | Yearly change<br>% | Nov-19<br>000s | Monthly change<br>000s | Yearly change<br>% | Nov-19<br>000s | Yearly change<br>% |
| <b>Trend</b>          |                |                        |                    |                |                    |                |                        |                    |                |                    |
| Employed              | 2,553.6        | 5.9                    | 0.2                | 63.1           | 2.5                | 12,962.0       | 17.4                   | 0.1                | 268.9          | 2.1                |
| Full-time             | 1,753.5        | 1.8                    | 0.1                | 34.6           | 2.0                | 8,843.6        | 8.3                    | 0.1                | 140.8          | 1.6                |
| Part-time             | 800.1          | 4.2                    | 0.5                | 28.5           | 3.7                | 4,118.4        | 9.0                    | 0.2                | 128.1          | 3.2                |
| Unemployed            | 173.6          | -0.1                   | 0.0                | 12.0           | 7.4                | 716.3          | -1.2                   | -0.2               | 44.0           | 6.5                |
| Underemployed         | 229.5          | -0.1                   | 0.0                | -5.1           | -2.2               | 1,144.5        | -0.3                   | 0.0                | 39.3           | 3.6                |
| Labour force          | 2,727.2        | 5.8                    | 0.2                | 75.1           | 2.8                | 13,678.3       | 16.2                   | 0.1                | 312.9          | 2.3                |
| <b>Seas. Adjusted</b> |                |                        |                    |                |                    |                |                        |                    |                |                    |
| Employed              | 2,556.2        | 17.3                   | 0.7                | 59.1           | 2.4                | 12,954.4       | 39.9                   | 0.3                | 254.9          | 2.0                |
| Full-time             | 1,756.7        | 6.6                    | 0.4                | 66.0           | 3.9                | 8,837.3        | 4.2                    | 0.0                | 144.7          | 1.7                |
| Part-time             | 799.5          | 10.7                   | 1.4                | -6.9           | -0.9               | 4,117.2        | 35.7                   | 0.9                | 110.2          | 2.8                |
| Unemployed            | 172.2          | -2.4                   | -1.4               | 1.8            | 1.1                | 708.1          | -16.8                  | -2.3               | 22.6           | 3.3                |
| Underemployed         | 222.7          | -17.0                  | -7.1               | -25.4          | -10.2              | 1,136.0        | -26.6                  | -2.3               | -2.8           | -0.2               |
| Labour force          | 2,728.4        | 14.9                   | 0.6                | 60.9           | 2.3                | 13,662.5       | 23.1                   | 0.2                | 277.5          | 2.1                |
| <b>Trend</b>          | Nov-19         | Oct-19                 | Nov-18             |                |                    | Nov-19         | Oct-19                 | Nov-18             |                |                    |
| Unemployment rate     | 6.4            | 6.4                    | 6.1                |                |                    | 5.2            | 5.3                    | 5.0                |                |                    |
| Underemployment rate  | 8.4            | 8.4                    | 8.8                |                |                    | 8.4            | 8.4                    | 8.3                |                |                    |
| Participation rate    | 66.2           | 66.2                   | 65.6               |                |                    | 66.1           | 66.1                   | 65.6               |                |                    |
| <b>Seas. Adjusted</b> |                |                        |                    |                |                    |                |                        |                    |                |                    |
| Unemployment rate     | 6.3            | 6.4                    | 6.4                |                |                    | 5.2            | 5.3                    | 5.1                |                |                    |
| Underemployment rate  | 8.2            | 8.8                    | 9.3                |                |                    | 8.3            | 8.5                    | 8.5                |                |                    |
| Participation rate    | 66.2           | 66.0                   | 66.0               |                |                    | 66.0           | 66.0                   | 65.7               |                |                    |

**Table 2: Interstate comparison, November 2019**

|                                   | Qld    | NSW    | Vic    | SA    | WA     | Tas   | Aus     |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|---------|
| <b>Employed (trend)</b>           |        |        |        |       |        |       |         |
| % change on a month ago           | 0.2    | 0.0    | 0.3    | -0.1  | 0.1    | 0.5   | 0.1     |
| Change on a month ago (no.)       | 5,900  | 1,500  | 9,300  | -600  | 1,900  | 1,200 | 17,400  |
| % change on a year ago            | 2.5    | 2.0    | 3.0    | 0.7   | 1.7    | 1.9   | 2.1     |
| Change on a year ago (no.)        | 63,100 | 80,900 | 99,900 | 6,200 | 22,500 | 4,800 | 268,900 |
| <b>Unemployment rate (trend)</b>  |        |        |        |       |        |       |         |
| November-19                       | 6.4    | 4.7    | 4.7    | 6.3   | 5.8    | 6.1   | 5.2     |
| October-19                        | 6.4    | 4.6    | 4.7    | 6.3   | 5.7    | 6.2   | 5.3     |
| November-18                       | 6.1    | 4.3    | 4.5    | 5.8   | 6.3    | 6.1   | 5.0     |
| <b>Participation rate (trend)</b> |        |        |        |       |        |       |         |
| November-19                       | 66.2   | 65.6   | 66.4   | 62.9  | 68.4   | 60.9  | 66.1    |
| October-19                        | 66.2   | 65.6   | 66.3   | 63.0  | 68.4   | 60.7  | 66.1    |
| November-18                       | 65.6   | 65.0   | 65.8   | 62.6  | 68.4   | 60.5  | 65.6    |
| <b>Employed (sa)</b>              |        |        |        |       |        |       |         |
| % change on a month ago           | 0.7    | -0.1   | 0.4    | 0.3   | 0.0    | 0.9   | 0.3     |
| Change on a month ago (no.)       | 17,300 | -2,800 | 13,700 | 2,600 | 300    | 2,400 | 39,900  |
| % change on a year ago            | 2.4    | 1.8    | 2.7    | 0.7   | 0.9    | 2.3   | 2.0     |
| Change on a year ago (no.)        | 59,100 | 71,900 | 91,700 | 5,700 | 12,400 | 5,700 | 254,900 |
| <b>Unemployment rate (sa)</b>     |        |        |        |       |        |       |         |
| November-19                       | 6.3    | 4.7    | 4.6    | 6.3   | 5.8    | 6.0   | 5.2     |
| October-19                        | 6.4    | 4.8    | 4.8    | 6.2   | 5.7    | 6.0   | 5.3     |
| November-18                       | 6.4    | 4.3    | 4.6    | 5.4   | 6.5    | 5.9   | 5.1     |
| <b>Participation rate (sa)</b>    |        |        |        |       |        |       |         |
| November-19                       | 66.2   | 65.3   | 66.3   | 62.9  | 68.3   | 61.1  | 66.0    |
| October-19                        | 66.0   | 65.6   | 66.3   | 62.7  | 68.3   | 60.5  | 66.0    |
| November-18                       | 66.0   | 64.9   | 66.0   | 62.4  | 68.9   | 60.3  | 65.7    |