

# Labour Force, November 2023

Source: ABS Labour Force, released 14 December 2023, 10:30 am AEST.

**NOTE: These data reflect conditions during the survey reference weeks (29 October to 11 November 2023).**

## Key data (trend, monthly)

<b>Employment:</b>	Queensland	9,500	(0.3)
(persons, growth)	Australia	35,600	(0.2)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	Queensland	2,000	(4.3)
(persons, rate)	Australia	4,000	(3.8)
<b>Labour force:</b>	Queensland	11,400	(0.4)
(persons, growth)	Australia	39,600	(0.3)
<b>Underemployment:</b>	Queensland	1,200	(7.0)
(persons, rate)	Australia	3,200	(6.4)
<b>Hours worked:</b>	Queensland	900	(0.2)
(thousands, growth)	Australia	-1,800	(-0.1)

## Key data (seasonally adjusted, monthly)

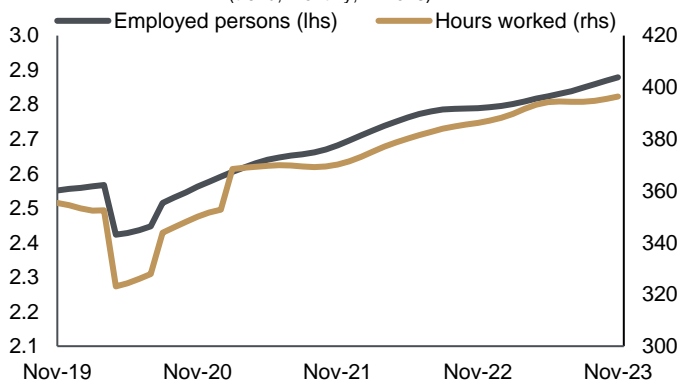
<b>Employment:</b>	Queensland	29,600	(1.0)
(persons, growth)	Australia	61,500	(0.4)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	Queensland	5,200	(4.4)
(persons, rate)	Australia	18,800	(3.9)

## Main findings (trend)

Employment in Queensland rose by 9,500 persons (0.3%) in November 2023 to be 88,800 persons (3.2%) higher over the year. The rise in November was driven by an increase in both full-time and part-time employment (up 1,700 and 7,800 respectively).

The employment-to-population ratio was 64.0% in November 2023, up from 63.9% in October and below its pre-COVID ratio of 61.9%. Hours worked rose 0.2% in November and was 12.5% above its level in March 2020 (Chart 1).

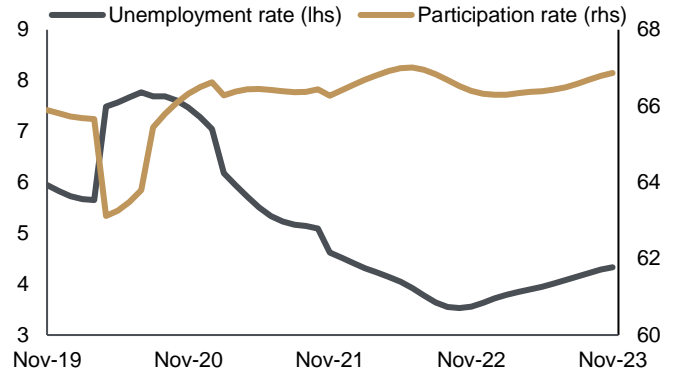
**Chart 1: Employment and hours worked, Queensland**  
(trend, monthly, millions)



The unemployment rate was 4.3% in November, unchanged from October 2023 and still well below the pre-COVID rate of 5.7% in March 2020 (Chart 2).

Meanwhile, Queensland's participation rate was 66.9% in November 2023, up from 66.8% in October 2023, and well above its pre-COVID rate of 65.7%.

**Chart 2: Unemployment and participation rates, Queensland**  
(trend, monthly, %)



Nationally, trend employment rose by 35,600 persons in November (0.2%, Table 2) to be 1,285,900 (9.9%) above its pre-COVID level of March 2020. In seasonally adjusted terms, employment nationally grew by 61,500 persons which was well above market expectations for an 11,000 increase.

The ABS noted, 'We have continued to see employment growth keeping pace with high population growth through 2023.'

The national unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.8% in November 2023 (Table 1). Hours worked decreased by 0.1% in the month to be 10.1% above its pre-COVID level in March 2020.

**Table 1: Labour force outcomes, November 2023**  
(trend)

	QUEENSLAND			AUSTRALIA						
	Nov-23 '000s	Monthly change '000s	Yearly change %	Nov-23 '000s	Monthly change '000s	Yearly change %				
Employed	2,878.6	9.5	0.3	88.8	3.2	14,259.0	35.6	0.2	461.9	3.3
Full-time	1,991.5	1.7	0.1	48.6	2.5	9,904.5	12.6	0.1	280.3	2.7
Part-time	887.1	7.8	0.9	40.2	4.7	4,354.5	23.0	0.5	201.7	4.9
Unemployed	130.4	2.0	1.5	27.4	26.6	559.5	4.0	0.7	60.9	12.2
Underemployed	210.0	1.2	0.6	21.3	11.3	955.7	3.2	0.3	98.6	11.5
Labour force	3,009.0	11.4	0.4	116.2	4.0	14,818.5	39.6	0.3	522.9	3.7
Hours worked	396.4	0.9	0.2	10.1	2.6	1,940.6	-1.8	-0.1	42.4	2.2
	millions	millions	%	millions	%	millions	millions	%	millions	%
	Nov-23	Oct-23	Nov-22	Nov-23	Oct-23	Nov-22	Nov-23	Oct-23	Nov-22	
	%			%			%			
Unemployment rate	4.3	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.5				
Underemployment rate	7.0	7.0	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.0				
Participation rate	66.9	66.8	66.4	67.1	67.1	66.7				

**Table 2: Interstate comparison<sup>1</sup>, November 2023**  
(trend)

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
<b>Employed</b>							
% change on a month ago	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2
Change on a month ago (no.)	9,500	18,200	6,600	2,300	8,500	0	35,600
% change on a year ago	3.2	2.7	4.4	3.6	4.6	0.0	3.3
Change on a year ago (no.)	88,800	115,700	155,400	33,000	69,300	100	461,900
<b>Unemployment rate</b>							
November-23	4.3	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.8
October-23	4.3	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.8
November-22	3.6	3.2	3.7	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.5
<b>Hours worked (millions)</b>							
November 2023	396.4	607.0	498.7	127.8	220.7	37.8	1,940.6
Monthly % change	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Annual % change	2.6	1.6	3.4	3.2	3.4	-0.2	2.2

1. Note – numbers may not add due to rounding.