

Labour Force, June 2025

Source: ABS Labour Force, released, 17 July 2025, 11:30 am AEST.

	Queensland		Australia	
Trend - June 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	10,300	0.3%	22,800	0.2%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	100	4.0%	8,400	4.2%
Labour force (persons, growth)	10,400	0.3%	31,300	0.2%
Underemployment (persons, rate)	-1,400	6.0%	2,400	5.9%
Hours worked (thousands, growth)	1,000	0.3%	1,600	0.1%
Seasonally adjusted - June 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	-15,500	-0.5%	2,000	0.0%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	13,100	4.1%	33,600	4.3%

In trend terms, employment in Queensland rose by 10,300 persons (0.3%) in June 2025 to be 81,700 persons (2.8%) higher over the year. Monthly growth reflected a rise in both full-time (up 7,600) and part-time employment (up 2,700).

In more volatile seasonally adjusted terms, employment fell 15,500 persons (down 0.5%) in the month but was 2.2% higher over the year.

The trend unemployment rate was 4.0% in June, down slightly from 4.1% a year ago, and remaining well below the pre-COVID rate of 5.6% in March 2020 (**Chart 1**).

Queensland's participation rate was 67.3% in June, up from 67.1% a year ago, remaining at its highest rate in well over a decade and just below the record 68.0% recorded during the pre-GFC boom.

Chart 1: Unemployment and participation rates, Queensland

(trend, monthly, %)

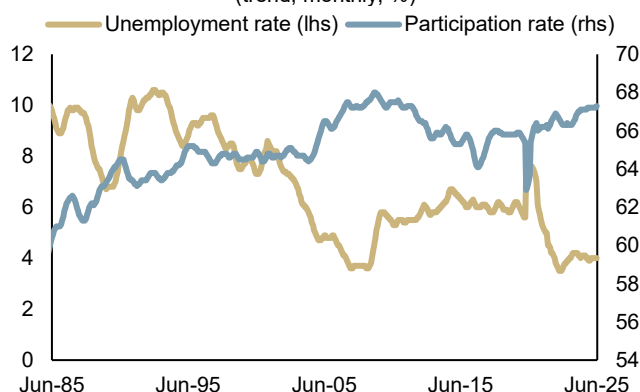
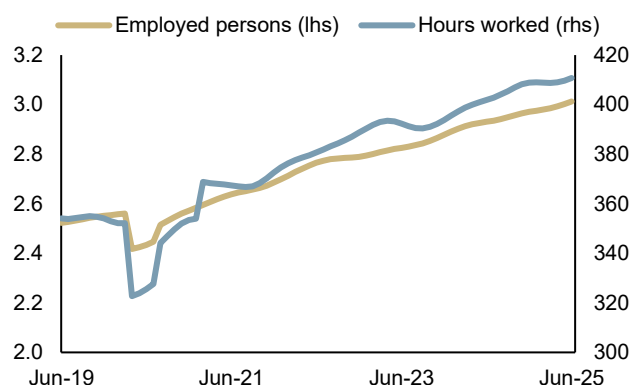


Chart 2: Employment and hours worked, Queensland

(trend, monthly, millions)



The employment-to-population ratio was 64.7% in June 2025, up from 64.4% a year ago and well above its pre-COVID ratio of 61.8%. Hours worked rose 0.3% in June to be 2.2% higher than a year ago (**Chart 2**).

Queensland's underemployment rate¹ fell 0.1%-point to 6.0%, down from 6.8% a year ago. The underutilisation rate¹ fell 0.1%-point to 10.0% in June 2025 remaining around this level since December 2024, an improvement from 10.9% in June 2024.

Queensland's youth unemployment rate was 8.9% (year-average) in June 2025 down from 9.4% a year earlier and well below its pre-COVID rate of 14.4%.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 22,800 persons in June (up 0.2%, **Table 1**) to be 299,100 persons (2.1%) higher over the year. In seasonally adjusted terms, employment nationally rose marginally in the month (up 2,000 persons), which was well below market expectations for an increase of 20,000.

The national trend unemployment rate was 4.2% in June, up from 4.1% last month and has been very gradually increasing from a recent low of 3.5% in late 2022.

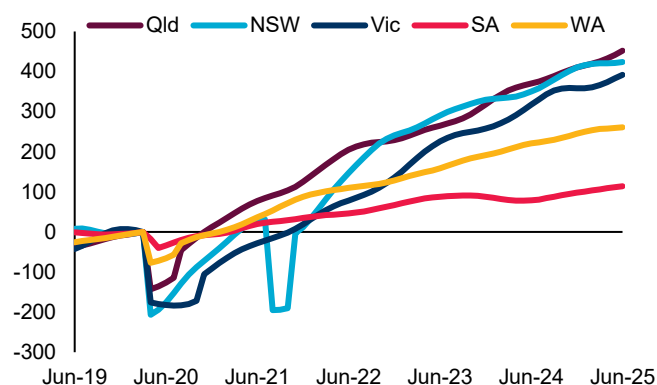
In seasonally adjusted terms, the national unemployment rate ticked up to 4.3% in June from 4.1% in May, to be at its highest level since late-2021, but still lower than the pre-COVID rate of 5.2% in March 2020.

Hours worked nationally rose 0.1% in June to be up 1.8% over the year. The slower growth in hours worked than employment over the year indicates average hours worked fell by 0.3% over the year, continuing its long-term decline.

The ABS noted, 'Monthly hours worked rose 0.1 per cent, which has consistently been smaller than monthly employment growth since the start of 2025.'

Economic Strategy

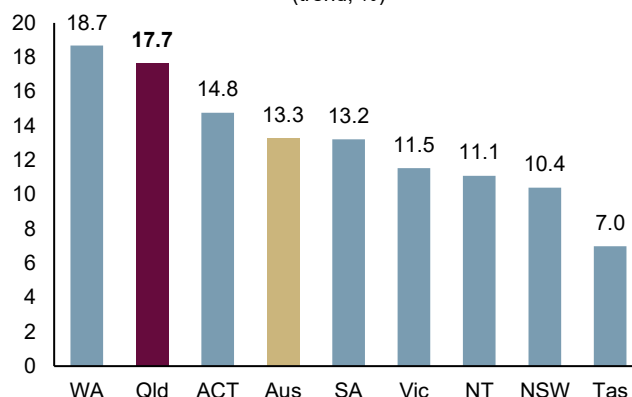
Chart 3: Employment growth since March 2020
(trend, monthly, '000 persons)



In June, Queensland (up 452,100 persons, **Chart 3**) recorded the largest employment growth of any state or territory since March 2020, ahead of New South Wales (up 423,800).

In percentage terms, Queensland had the second largest employment growth (up 17.7%) since March 2020, behind Western Australia (up 18.7%, **Chart 4**).

Chart 4: Employment growth Mar-20 to Jun-25
(trend, %)



Queensland's annual employment growth (2.8%) was above the national average (2.1%) in June and ahead of all states, except South Australia (up 3.7%).

Unemployment rates broadly softened across most states, except for Queensland and Tasmania where rates held steady and decreased, respectively (**Table 1**).

Table 1: Key labour force indicators, June 2025
(trend)

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (000s)	3,013	4,498	3,791	976	1,658	284	14,638
Monthly change (%)	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2
Monthly change (no.)	10,300	2,500	9,100	2,100	1,600	800	22,800
Annual change (%)	2.8	1.7	2	3.7	2.5	0.9	2.1
Annual change (no.)	81,700	73,500	74,600	35,200	40,000	2600	299,100
Unemployment rate (%)							
June-25	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.8	4.2
May-25	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.1
June-24	4.1	3.9	4.5	4.0	3.8	4.1	4.1
Hours worked (millions)	410.7	603.7	503.5	128.4	237.0	37.2	1,976.2
Monthly change (%)	0.3	0.0	0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1
Annual change (%)	2.2	0.9	1.2	3.5	4.9	2.8	1.8
Participation rate (%)							
June-25	67.3	66.1	67.7	64.1	69.0	60.9	67.0
May-25	67.2	66.1	67.7	64.0	69.1	60.7	67.0
June-24	67.1	65.9	67.8	62.6	69.1	60.9	66.9
Underemployment rate (%)							
June-25	6.0	5.5	6.4	6.2	5.4	7.5	5.9
May-25	6.1	5.5	6.4	6.3	5.4	7.5	5.9
June-24	6.8	6.1	6.7	7.4	5.4	7.5	6.4

- The underemployment rate measures underemployed persons as a proportion of the total labour force, and the underutilisation rate combines both unemployment and underemployment to indicate spare capacity in the labour market.