

# Labour Force, July 2025

Source: ABS *Labour Force*, released 14 August 2025, 11:30 am AEST.

	Queensland		Australia	
Trend - July 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	6,000	0.2%	24,600	0.2%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	1,500	4.1%	6,300	4.2%
Labour force (persons, growth)	7,500	0.2%	31,000	0.2%
Underemployment (persons, rate)	-1,600	5.9%	-1,200	5.9%
Hours worked (thousands, growth)	800	0.2%	2,600	0.1%
Seasonally adjusted - July 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	-6,000	-0.2%	24,500	0.2%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	1,700	4.2%	-10,200	4.2%

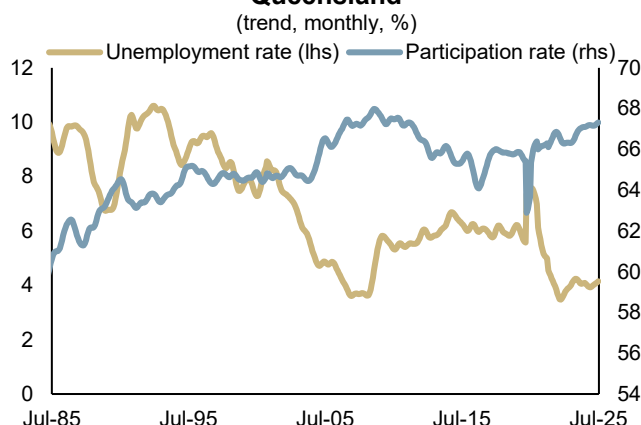
In trend terms, employment in Queensland rose by 6,000 persons (0.2%) in July 2025 to be 75,000 persons (2.6%) higher over the year. Monthly growth reflected a rise in both full-time (up 3,200) and part-time employment (up 2,800).

In more volatile seasonally adjusted terms, employment fell 6,000 persons (down 0.2%) in the month but was 3.0% higher over the year.

The trend unemployment rate was 4.1% in July, unchanged from last month and the previous year, and remaining below the pre-COVID rate of 5.6% in March 2020 (**Chart 1**).

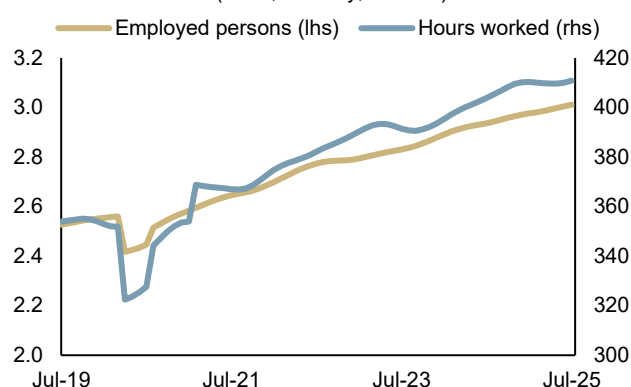
Queensland's participation rate was 67.3% in July, up from 67.1% a year ago, remaining at its highest rate in well over a decade and near the record 68.0% registered during the pre-GFC boom.

**Chart 1: Unemployment and participation rates, Queensland**



**Chart 2: Employment and hours worked, Queensland**

(trend, monthly, millions)



The employment-to-population ratio was 64.5% in July 2025, up from 64.4% a year ago and well above the pre-COVID ratio of 61.8%. Hours worked rose 0.2% in July to be 1.7% higher than a year ago (**Chart 2**).

Queensland's underemployment rate<sup>1</sup> fell 0.1%-point in the month to 5.9%, down from 6.7% a year ago. The underutilisation rate<sup>1</sup> also fell 0.1%-point in July, to 10.0%, down from 10.8% a year earlier.

Queensland's youth unemployment rate was 8.8% in July 2025 (year-average) down from 9.5% a year earlier and well below its pre-COVID rate of 14.4%.

Nationally, trend employment rose by 24,600 persons in July (up 0.2%, **Table 1**) to be 291,000 (2.0%) higher over the year. In seasonally adjusted terms, employment nationally rose by 24,500 persons in the month, in line with market expectations of 25,000.

The ABS noted, '*trend annual employment growth has been faster than population growth for most of the past year, but has slowed in recent months to be in line with annual population growth in July.*'

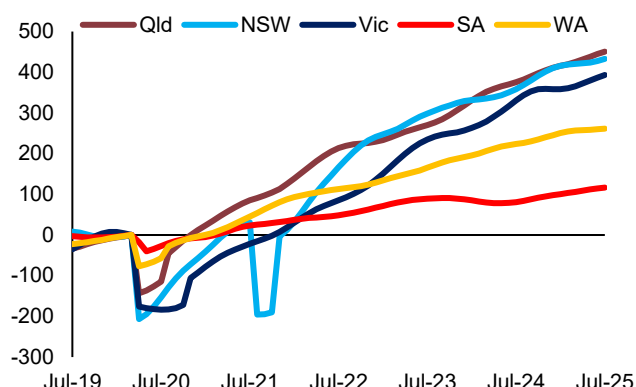
The national trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.2% in July, unchanged from last month and has been very gradually increasing from the low of 3.5% in late 2022.

In seasonally adjusted terms, the national unemployment rate ticked down to 4.2% in July, from 4.3% last month and was unchanged from the previous year but still lower than the pre-COVID rate of 5.2% in March 2020.

Hours worked rose 0.1% in July, to be up 2.1% over the year broadly in line with employment growth.

**Chart 3: Employment growth since March 2020**

(trend, monthly, '000 persons)

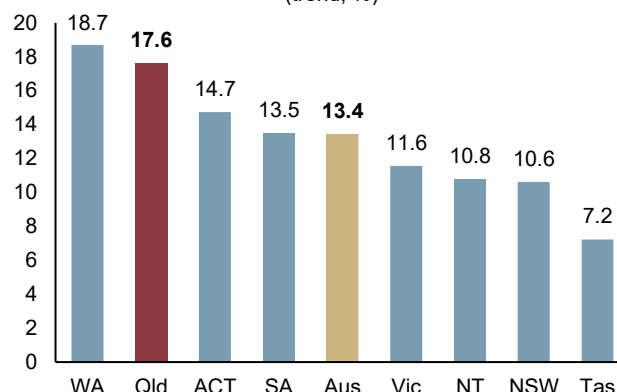


In July, Queensland had the largest employment growth (up 450,600 persons, **Chart 3**) of any state or territory since March 2020, ahead of New South Wales (up 432,800).

In percentage terms, Queensland had the second largest employment growth (up 17.6%) since March 2020, behind Western Australia (up 18.7%, **Chart 4**).

**Chart 4: Employment growth Mar-20 to Jul-25**

(trend, %)



Queensland's annual employment growth (2.6%) was above the national average (2.0%) in July and ahead of all states except for South Australia (up 3.8%).

Unemployment rates remained unchanged across most states with Western Australia the only exception rising to 4.1%, aligning with Queensland and New South Wales as the lowest rates, and below the national average of 4.2% (**Table 1**).

**Table 1: Key labour force indicators, July 2025**

(trend)

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
<b>Employed (000s)</b>	<b>3,010</b>	4,510	3,790	980	1,660	280	<b>14,660</b>
Monthly change (%)	<b>0.2</b>	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	<b>0.2</b>
Monthly change (no.)	<b>5,980</b>	5,560	6,840	2,010	1,560	660	<b>24,630</b>
Annual change (%)	<b>2.6</b>	1.7	1.7	3.8	2.3	1.3	<b>2.0</b>
Annual change (no.)	<b>75,000</b>	74,100	62,500	35,600	37,700	3,700	<b>291,000</b>
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>							
July 25	<b>4.1</b>	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.1	3.9	<b>4.2</b>
June 25	<b>4.1</b>	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.0	3.9	<b>4.2</b>
July 24	<b>4.1</b>	3.9	4.5	4.0	3.8	4.1	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Hours worked (millions)</b>	<b>410.8</b>	610.3	503.6	129.5	236.9	37.5	<b>1,987.9</b>
Monthly change (%)	<b>0.2</b>	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	<b>0.1</b>
Annual change (%)	<b>1.7</b>	1.8	0.8	4.0	4.4	3.7	<b>2.1</b>
<b>Participation rate (%)</b>							
July 25	<b>67.3</b>	66.1	67.7	64.3	69.0	61.0	<b>67.1</b>
June 25	<b>67.3</b>	66.1	67.7	64.2	69.0	60.9	<b>67.0</b>
July 24	<b>67.1</b>	66.0	68.0	62.7	69.1	60.7	<b>66.9</b>
<b>Underemployment rate (%)</b>							
July 25	<b>5.9</b>	5.3	6.5	6.0	5.6	7.5	<b>5.9</b>
June 25	<b>6.0</b>	5.3	6.5	6.1	5.6	7.4	<b>5.9</b>
July 24	<b>6.7</b>	6.1	6.6	7.4	5.4	7.5	<b>6.4</b>

- 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.