

Labour Force, October 2025

Source: ABS *Labour Force*, released 13 November 2025, 10:30 am AEST.

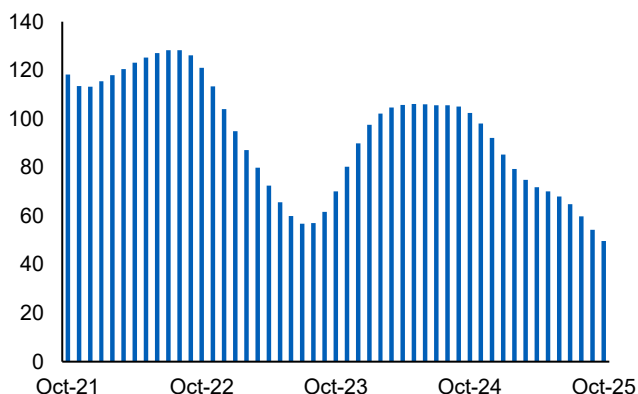
	Queensland		Australia	
Trend - October 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	3,100	0.1%	27,100	0.2%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	500	4.2%	3,100	4.4%
Labour force (persons, growth)	3,600	0.1%	30,200	0.2%
Underemployment (persons, rate)	400	6.0%	-3,200	5.8%
Hours worked (thousands, growth)	500	0.1%	2,100	0.1%
Seasonally adjusted - October 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	1,100	0.0%	42,200	0.3%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	-600	4.2%	-17,000	4.3%

Queensland

In trend terms, employment in Queensland rose by 3,100 persons (0.1%) in October 2025 to be 49,700 persons (1.7%) higher over the year (Chart 1). Both full-time (up 900) and part-time (up 2,300) employment rose in October.

In more volatile seasonally adjusted terms, employment rose 1,100 persons in the month to be 0.9% higher over the year.

Chart 1: Annual change in employment, Queensland
(trend, monthly, '000s)

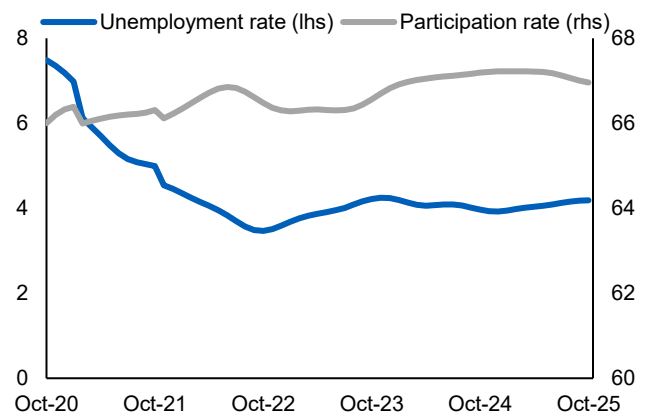


The trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.2% in October, but up from 4.0% in the previous year. Queensland's unemployment rate has been relatively stable since late 2023, fluctuating between 3.9% and 4.2% (Chart 2).

Queensland's participation rate was 67.0% in October, down from 67.2% a year ago but remaining close to its highest rate in well over a decade and near the record 68.0% in early 2009 during the coal mining investment boom.

The employment-to-population ratio was 64.2% in October 2025, down from 64.5% a year ago. Hours worked rose 0.1% in October to be 1.1% higher than a year ago.

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



Queensland's underemployment rate¹ was unchanged at 6.0% in the month and was down from 6.3% a year ago. The underutilisation rate¹ was 10.2% in October, unchanged from September, but down from 10.3% a year earlier.

National

Nationally, trend employment rose 27,100 persons in October (up 0.2%, Table 1) to be 216,600 (1.5%) higher over the year. In seasonally adjusted terms, employment nationally rose by 42,200 persons in the month, well above market expectations of a 20,000 person increase.

The trend unemployment rate remained at 4.4% in October but was up from 4.0% a year earlier and has been edging higher from the low of 3.5% in late 2022. In seasonally adjusted terms, the unemployment rate fell to 4.3% in October, from 4.5% in September and up from 4.1% in the previous year.

Hour worked rose 0.1% in October, to be up 1.4% over the year, broadly in line with employment growth.

Interstate comparison

In October, Queensland recorded the second largest annual employment growth (up 49,700 persons) of any state or territory, behind Victoria (up 59,400, Table 1).

In percentage terms, Queensland employment grew 1.7% over the year to October, above the national average of 1.5% (Chart 3), but below South Australia (up 3.6%) and Tasmania (up 2.7%). Compared to a year ago, the unemployment rate is higher across every state except Tasmania where it fell 0.1%-pt to 4.0%.

Chart 3: Annual employment growth, Oct-25
(trend, %)

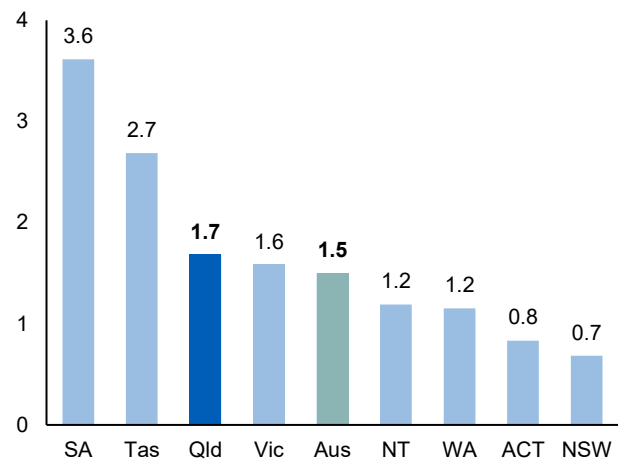


Table 1: Key labour force indicators, October 2025
(trend)

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (000s)	3,010	4,500	3,810	990	1,650	290	14,680
Monthly change (%)	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Monthly change (no.)	3,100	6,300	7,400	2,700	1,600	300	27,100
Annual change (%)	1.7	0.7	1.6	3.6	1.2	2.7	1.5
Annual change (no.)	49,700	30,500	59,400	34,500	18,800	7,500	216,600
Unemployment rate (%)							
October 2025	4.2	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.4
September 2025	4.2	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.2	4.0	4.4
October 2024	4.0	3.9	4.5	4.0	3.6	4.1	4.0
Hours worked (millions)	411.6	613.0	510.8	129.6	233.5	38.0	1992.9
Monthly change (%)	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.1
Annual change (%)	1.1	1.4	1.7	2.5	1.5	5.3	1.4
Participation rate (%)							
October 2025	67.0	65.8	67.9	64.8	68.4	61.5	67.0
September 2025	67.0	65.8	67.9	64.7	68.5	61.4	66.9
October 2024	67.2	66.2	68.2	63.1	69.1	60.2	67.1
Underemployment rate (%)							
October 2025	6.0	5.3	6.3	6.3	5.3	6.9	5.8
September 2025	6.0	5.3	6.4	6.3	5.3	7.0	5.8
October 2024	6.3	5.9	6.4	7.1	5.4	7.6	6.2

- 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.