

Labour Force, November 2025

Source: ABS *Labour Force*, released 11 December 2025, 10:30 am AEST.

	Queensland		Australia	
Trend - November 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	1,900	0.1%	21,000	0.1%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	600	4.2%	-1,400	4.3%
Labour force (persons, growth)	2,500	0.1%	19,700	0.1%
Underemployment (persons, rate)	1,800	6.2%	7,000	5.9%
Hours worked (thousands, growth)	600	0.1%	1,300	0.1%
Seasonally adjusted - November 2025				
Employment (persons, growth)	-9,700	-0.3%	-21,300	-0.1%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	700	4.2%	-2,100	4.3%

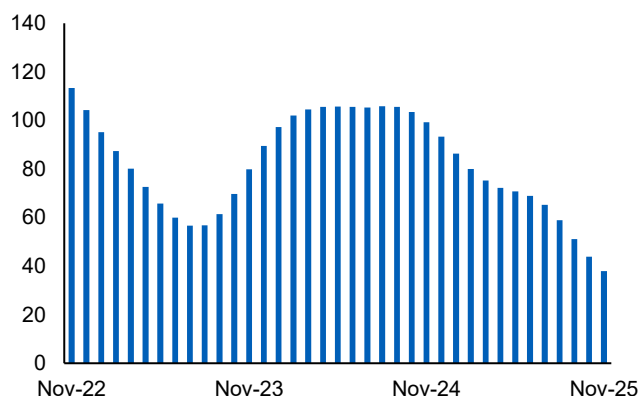
Queensland

In trend terms, employment in Queensland rose by 1,900 persons (0.1%) in November 2025 to be 38,000 persons (1.3%) higher over the year (**Chart 1**). Both full-time (up 1,100) and part-time (up 700) employment rose modestly in November.

In more volatile seasonally adjusted terms, employment fell 9,700 persons down (0.3%) in the month but was 0.8% higher over the year.

Chart 1: Annual change in employment, Queensland

(trend, monthly, '000s)



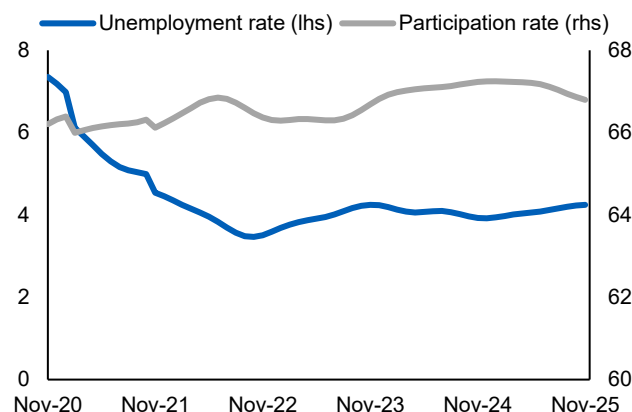
The trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.2% in November, but up from 3.9% in the previous year. Queensland's unemployment rate has been relatively stable since mid-2023, fluctuating between 3.9% and 4.2% (**Chart 2**).

Queensland's participation rate was 66.8% in November, down from a recent high of 67.2% a year ago.

The employment-to-population ratio was 64.0% in November 2025, down from 64.6% a year ago. Hours worked rose 0.1% in November to be 0.7% higher than a year ago.

Chart 2: Unemployment and participation rates, Queensland

(trend, monthly, %)



Queensland's underemployment rate¹ was 6.2% in November, up from 6.1% in the previous month but unchanged from a year ago. The underutilisation rate¹ was 10.4% in November up from 10.3% in October and 10.2% a year earlier.

National

Nationally, trend employment rose 21,000 persons in November (up 0.1%, **Table 1**) to be 189,900 (1.3%) higher over the year. In seasonally adjusted terms, employment nationally fell 21,300 persons in the month, well below market expectations of a 20,000 person increase.

The trend unemployment rate was 4.3% in November 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 was 4.3% in November, unchanged from October but up from 3.9% in the previous year.

Hour worked rose 0.1% in November, to be up 1.1% over the year, broadly in line with employment growth.

Interstate comparison

In November, Queensland recorded the second largest annual employment growth (up 38,000 persons) of any state or territory, behind Victoria (up 71,600, **Table 1**).

In percentage terms, Queensland employment grew 1.3% over the year to November, in line with the national average (**Chart 3**) and ahead of Western Australia and New South Wales but below South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria.

Compared to a year ago, the unemployment rate remained unchanged in most states (**Table 1**), with a 0.1%-pt decrease in South Australia to 4.3% bringing down the national Average to 4.3%.

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

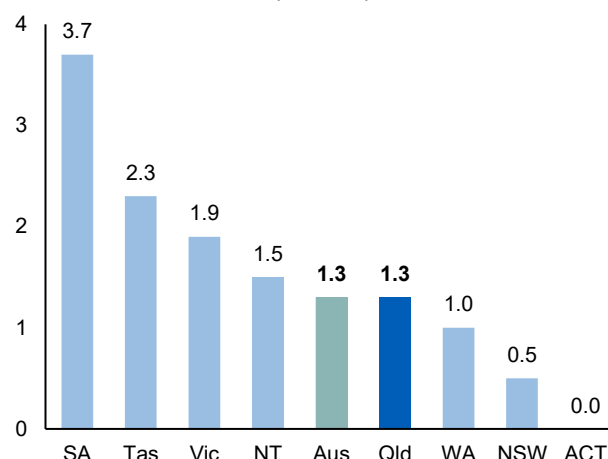


Table 1: Key labour force indicators, November 2025
(trend)

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (000s)	3,000	4,500	3,830	990	1,650	290	14,680
Monthly change (%)	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1
Monthly change (no.)	1,900	8,000	9,200	3,100	2,600	-100	21,000
Annual change (%)	1.3	0.5	1.9	3.7	1.0	2.3	1.3
Annual change (no.)	38,000	23,200	71,600	35,500	16,000	6,600	189,900
Unemployment rate (%)							
November 2025	4.2	4.1	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.0	4.3
October 2025	4.2	4.1	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.4
November 2024	3.9	3.9	4.5	4.0	3.6	4.1	4.0
Hours worked (millions)	411.9	611.3	514.3	130.6	232.9	37.3	1994.2
Monthly change (%)	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Annual change (%)	0.7	0.6	2.4	2.4	0.7	3.1	1.1
Participation rate (%)							
November 2025	66.8	65.6	68.1	64.9	68.5	61.3	66.8
October 2025	66.9	65.6	68.0	64.8	68.4	61.3	66.8
November 2024	67.2	66.3	68.1	63.3	69.1	60.2	67.1
Underemployment rate (%)							
November 2025	6.2	5.4	6.6	6.3	5.7	7.2	5.9
October 2025	6.1	5.3	6.6	6.3	5.7	7.2	5.9
November 2024	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.9	5.5	7.6	6.1

1. 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.