

Labour Force, June 2026

Source: ABS *Labour Force*, released 23 July 2026, 11:30 am AEST.

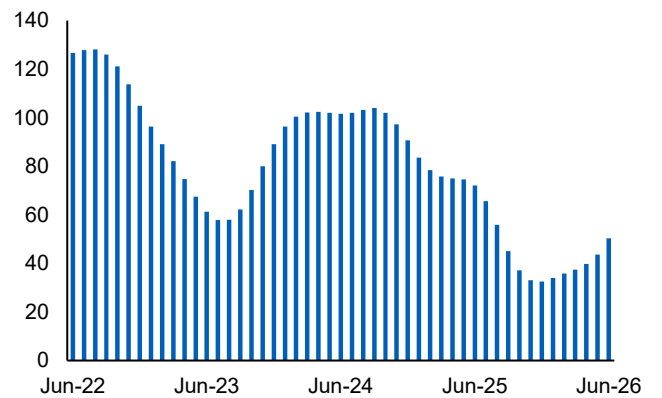
	Queensland		Australia	
Trend - June 2026				
Employment (persons, growth)	8,700	0.3%	32,300	0.2%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	200	4.1%	4,300	4.4%
Labour force (persons, growth)	8,900	0.3%	36,600	0.2%
Underemployment (persons, rate)	3,100	6.2%	16,400	6.3%
Hours worked (thousands, growth)	100	0.0%	700	0.0%
Seasonally adjusted - June 2026				
Employment (persons, growth)	-3,700	-0.1%	76,300	0.5%
Unemployment (persons, rate)	18,400	4.3%	12,700	4.4%

Queensland

In trend terms, employment in Queensland rose by 8,700 persons (0.3%) in June 2026 to be 50,300 (1.7%) higher over the year (**Chart 1**). Both full-time (up 4,300) and part-time (up 4,400) employment rose in June.

In more volatile seasonally adjusted terms, employment fell 3,700 persons (down 0.1%) in the month but was 1.4% higher over the year.

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

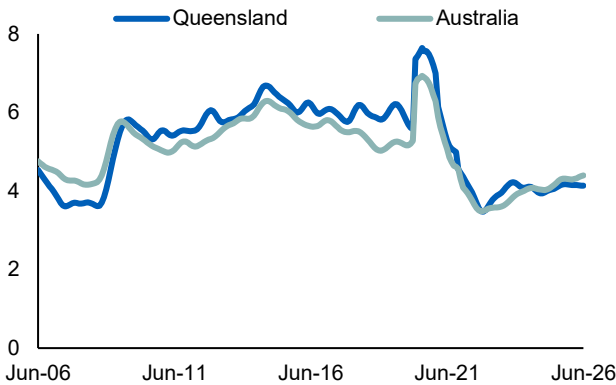


The trend unemployment rate was 4.1% in June, unchanged from the previous month and a year ago. Queensland's unemployment rate has been relatively stable since mid-2023, oscillating in a narrow range between 3.9% and 4.2% (**Chart 2**).

Queensland's participation rate was 67.1% in June, down slightly 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 64.3% in June, down from 64.5% a year ago. Hours worked were unchanged in June, but 1.6% higher annually.

Chart 2: Unemployment rate
(trend, monthly, %)



Queensland's underemployment rate¹ was 6.2% in June, up from 6.1% a year ago. The underutilisation rate¹ was 10.3% in June, up from 10.2% in May and 10.1% a year earlier.

National

Nationally, trend employment rose 32,300 persons in June (up 0.2%, **Table 1**) to be 230,800 (1.6%) higher over the year. In seasonally adjusted terms, employment nationally rose by 76,300 persons in the month, well above market expectations of a 15,300 person increase.

The trend unemployment rate remained at 4.4% in June, up from 4.2% a year earlier and has been edging higher from the recent low of 3.5% in June 2023 (**Chart 2**). In seasonally adjusted terms, the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.4% in June, but up from 4.3% in the previous year.

Hour worked were unchanged in June but were 1.8% higher over the year, ahead of annual employment growth (1.6%).

Interstate comparison

In June, Queensland recorded the second largest annual employment growth (up 50,300 persons) behind New South Wales (up 82,600, **Table 1**).

In percentage terms, Queensland employment grew 1.7% over the year to June, slightly above the national average (up 1.6%, **Chart 3**). This growth outpaced South Australia (up 1.3%) and Victoria (up 0.9%) but was behind New South Wales (up 1.8%) and Western Australia (up 2.4%). Tasmania (down 1.5%) was the only state to see a fall.

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate increased in most states, led by a 1.0-%-pt rise in Tasmania to 4.9%, seeing the national average increase to 4.4%. Meanwhile, the rate remained unchanged in Queensland and declined by 0.2-%-pts in South Australia.

Chart 3: Annual employment growth, Jun-26
(trend, %)

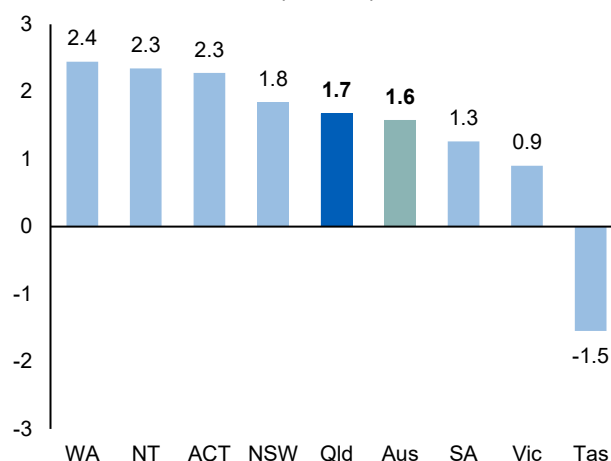


Table 1: Key labour force indicators, June 2026
(trend)

	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
Employed (000s)	3,050	4,560	3,810	990	1,690	280	14,810
Monthly change (%)	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2
Monthly change (no.)	8,700	11,700	6,200	300	3,900	400	32,300
Annual change (%)	1.7	1.8	0.9	1.3	2.4	-1.5	1.6
Annual change (no.)	50,300	82,600	34,200	12,300	40,400	-4,400	230,800
Unemployment rate (%)							
June 2026	4.1	4.2	5.0	4.2	4.3	4.9	4.4
May 2026	4.1	4.2	4.9	4.2	4.3	4.9	4.4
June 2025	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.0	3.9	4.2
Hours worked (millions)	416.5	624.2	506.7	132.9	243.0	36.9	2015.1
Monthly change (%)	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0
Annual change (%)	1.6	3.0	0.6	2.6	3.6	-2.0	1.8
Participation rate (%)							
June 2026	67.1	66.2	67.4	64.1	69.0	60.4	66.9
May 2026	67.0	66.2	67.4	64.2	69.0	60.3	66.8
June 2025	67.2	66.0	67.7	64.3	68.8	61.1	66.9
Underemployment rate (%)							
June 2026	6.2	6.1	6.9	6.5	5.6	7.0	6.3
May 2026	6.1	6.0	6.8	6.5	5.6	7.0	6.2
June 2025	6.1	5.3	6.4	6.2	5.5	7.4	5.9

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.