

Labour Force (ABS Cat No 6202.0)

Latest month: May 2018

Release date: 14 June 2018

Next release date: 19 July 2018

All data referred to in the commentary below are trend data, which are recommended for smaller jurisdictions like Tasmania. However, seasonally adjusted and original data have been presented in some tables of this release for comparative purposes.

Due to rounding, the sum of some estimates, such as changes in full-time and part-time employment, may not sum to the aggregate estimates.

Features

Tasmanian employment was estimated to have remained unchanged compared to the previous month at 248 500 persons in May 2018. Nationally, employment increased by 0.1 per cent over the same period.

The estimated level of employment in Tasmania in May 2018 was 2 900 persons (1.2 per cent) above the level recorded in May 2017.

Full-time employment was estimated to have increased by 700 persons (0.5 per cent) to 158 000 persons in May 2018 compared to the previous month and was 2 600 persons (1.6 per cent) above the level one year earlier.

Part-time employment was estimated to have decreased by 800 persons (0.9 per cent) to 90 500 persons in May 2018 compared to the previous month, but was up 400 persons (or 0.4 per cent) from the level in May 2017.

The number of unemployed persons in Tasmania was estimated to have increased by 100 persons (1.0 per cent) to 16 500 persons in May 2018 compared to the previous month and was 1 400 persons (9.4 per cent) higher than in May 2017.

The estimated unemployment rate in Tasmania was 6.3 per cent in May 2018, up 0.1 of a percentage point from the previous month and 0.5 of a percentage point above the level one year earlier (Chart 2). Tasmania's estimated trend unemployment rate was 0.8 of a percentage point higher than the national rate in May 2018.

Table 1: Labour force, Tasmania and Australia, May 2018, trend and seasonally adjusted data

Trend	Tas	Aus
Level of employment ('000)	248.5	12 522.3
Monthly employment growth	0.0	0.1
Unemployment rate (%)	6.3	5.5
Participation rate (%)	61.4	65.5
Seasonally adjusted		
Level of employment ('000)	247.6	12 518.3
Monthly employment growth	0.2	0.1
Unemployment rate (%)	6.6	5.4
Participation rate (%)	61.2	65.5

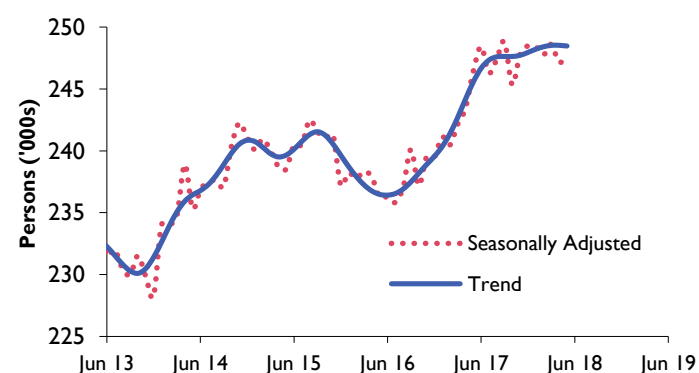
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Table 2: Labour force by jurisdiction, May 2018, trend data

Trend	Emp cf Apr 18 (%)	UR (%)	PR (%)
NSW	0.2	4.9	64.8
Vic	0.2	5.1	65.4
Qld	0.1	6.2	65.8
SA	0.1	5.7	62.9
WA	0.2	6.4	68.6
Tas	0.0	6.3	61.4
NT	0.5	4.0	76.4
ACT	-0.2	3.7	70.5
Aus	0.1	5.5	65.5

SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Chart 1: Tasmanian employment, trend and seasonally adjusted data



SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Labour Force (ABS Cat No 6202.0)

Latest month: May 2018

Tasmania's estimated unemployment rate in May 2018 was the second highest in the country, with Western Australia (6.4 per cent) being higher than Tasmania.

The estimated participation rate in Tasmania was 61.4 per cent in May 2018, up 0.1 of a percentage point compared with April 2018, and 0.5 of a percentage point higher than the rate in May 2017. In May 2018, the gap between the Tasmanian and national participation rates was 4.1 percentage points (Chart 3). Some of this gap is due to Tasmania's older population structure.

Tasmania's labour force was estimated to have increased by 100 persons (less than 0.1 per cent) to 265 000 persons in May 2018 compared to the previous month and was 4 300 persons higher the level one year earlier.

Recent performance

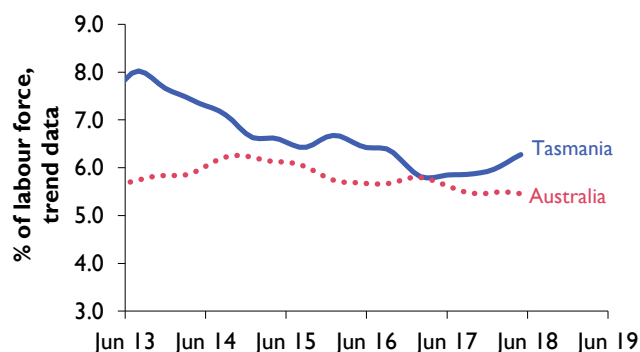
The total estimated trend employment level increased from July 2016 to September 2017, mostly due to increasing female employment. However, since then the level of total employment has increased modestly and then remained unchanged for the past few months.

Through the year to May 2018, total male employment decreased by 0.3 per cent (400 persons), due to a decrease in male full-time employment (down 1 300 persons to 101 200 persons). Male part-time employment increased (by 800 persons) to 26 900 persons over that period.

Total female employment increased by 2.8 per cent (3 300 persons) through the year to May 2018, due to an increase in female full-time employment (up 3 800 persons to 56 800 persons). Female part-time employment decreased (by 500 persons) to 63 600 persons over the same period.

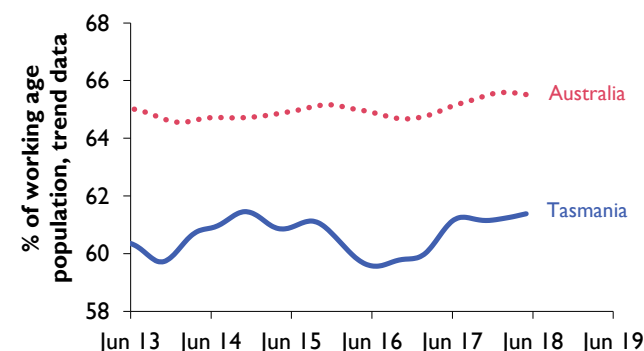
The male participation rate in Tasmania was down 0.3 of a percentage point through the year to May 2018 to 64.9 per cent, while the female participation rate increased by 1.2 percentage points to 58.0 per cent over the same period.

Chart 2: Unemployment rates, Tasmania and Australia, trend data



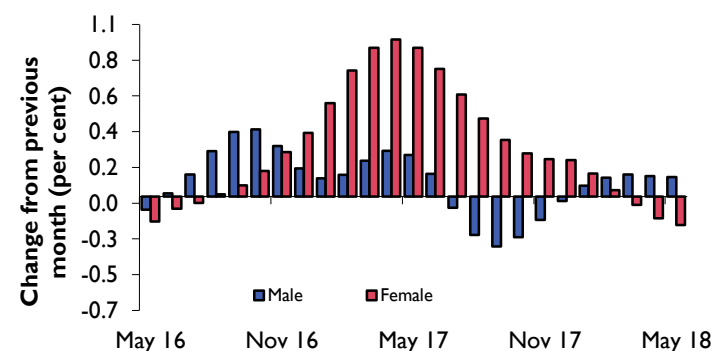
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Chart 3: Participation rates, Tasmania and Australia, trend data



SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Chart 4: Growth in male and female employment, Tasmania, trend data



SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Labour Force (ABS Cat No 6202.0)

Latest month: May 2018

Table 3: Key labour force data, Tasmania and Australia

	Tasmania				Australia			
	May 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	May 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18
Employment, trend ('000)	245.6	248.5	248.5	248.5	12 204.6	12 493.6	12 506.4	12 522.3
monthly change ('000)	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	41.7	13.6	12.8	15.9
monthly change (%)	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	3.9	2.4	1.8	1.2	1.9	3.1	2.8	2.6
Employment, sa* ('000)	246.4	248.6	247.2	247.6	12 214.4	12 487.9	12 506.3	12 518.3
monthly change ('000)	3.0	0.8	-1.4	0.4	33.9	2.1	18.4	12.0
monthly change (%)	1.2	0.3	-0.6	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	4.3	2.7	1.5	0.5	2.1	3.0	2.7	2.5
Employment, original⁺ ('000)	240.0	247.4	247.7	247.8	12 061.8	12 363.6	12 390.7	12 416.2
year-average change (%)	0.2	3.6	3.6	3.2	1.4	2.8	2.9	2.9
Unemployment, trend ('000)	15.1	16.2	16.4	16.5	735.1	725.9	725.1	723.7
monthly change ('000)	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	-4.0	1.2	-0.8	-1.4
Unemployment, sa* ('000)	15.5	16.3	15.9	17.4	717.4	729.7	741.5	714.6
monthly change ('000)	0.2	0.5	-0.4	1.5	-14.6	-1.4	11.8	-26.9
Unemployment, original⁺ ('000)	15.9	15.5	15.5	15.7	729.1	723.5	724.2	723.9
year-average change (%)	-4.1	-3.1	-2.5	-1.3	-2.1	-0.8	-0.8	-0.7
Unemployment rate, trend (%)	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.3	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.5
monthly change (pp)	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unemployment rate, sa* (%)	5.9	6.1	6.1	6.6	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.4
monthly change (pp)	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.2
Unemployment rate, original⁺ (%)	6.2	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.5
year-average change (pp)	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2
Participation rate, trend (%)	60.9	61.3	61.3	61.4	65.0	65.6	65.6	65.5
monthly change (pp)	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Participation rate, sa* (%)	61.2	61.3	60.9	61.2	65.0	65.6	65.6	65.5
monthly change (pp)	0.7	0.2	-0.4	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
Participation rate, original⁺ (%)	60.1	61.1	61.2	61.2	64.8	65.4	65.4	65.5
year-average change (pp)	-0.5	1.3	1.2	1.1	-0.3	0.6	0.6	0.7

*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

+ YEAR-AVERAGE

SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Labour Force (ABS Cat No 6202.0)

Latest month: May 2018

Table 3: Key labour force data, Tasmania and Australia (continued)

	Tasmania				Australia			
	May 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18	May 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	May 18
Labour force, trend ('000)	260.7	264.7	264.9	265.0	12 939.7	13 219.4	13 231.6	13 246.0
monthly change (%)	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	3.0	2.7	2.2	1.7	1.9	2.8	2.6	2.4
Labour force, sa* ('000)	261.9	264.9	263.1	265.0	12 931.8	13 217.7	13 247.7	13 232.9
monthly change (%)	1.2	0.5	-0.7	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.1
annual change (%)	3.8	2.7	1.7	1.2	1.9	2.6	2.6	2.3
Labour force, original⁺ ('000)	255.9	262.8	263.2	263.5	12 790.9	13 087.1	13 114.9	13 140.1
year-average change (%)	-0.1	3.2	3.2	3.0	1.2	2.6	2.7	2.7
Participation rate, trend (%)								
Male	65.2	64.7	64.8	64.9	70.6	70.8	70.8	70.7
monthly change (pp)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
annual change (pp)	0.6	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1
Female	56.8	58.0	58.0	58.0	59.7	60.6	60.6	60.5
monthly change (pp)	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1
annual change (pp)	1.9	2.1	1.6	1.2	0.3	1.2	1.1	0.8
Employment, trend ('000)								
Full-time	155.4	156.4	157.3	158.0	8 332.0	8 529.6	8 530.2	8 534.2
monthly change (%)	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
annual change (%)	0.2	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	3.2	2.8	2.4
share of employed persons (%)	63.3	62.9	63.3	63.6	68.3	68.3	68.2	68.2
Part-time	90.1	92.1	91.3	90.5	3 872.7	3 963.9	3 976.2	3 988.1
monthly change (%)	0.8	-0.9	-0.9	-0.9	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
annual change (%)	10.7	3.6	2.1	0.4	2.3	2.7	2.8	3.0
share of employed persons (%)	36.7	37.1	36.7	36.4	31.7	31.7	31.8	31.8
Male	128.5	127.8	128.0	128.1	6 510.4	6 623.2	6 629.0	6 636.6
monthly change (%)	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	2.8	0.0	-0.2	-0.3	1.6	2.3	2.1	1.9
share of employed persons (%)	52.3	51.4	51.5	51.6	53.3	53.0	53.0	53.0
Female	117.1	120.7	120.6	120.4	5 694.2	5 870.4	5 877.4	5 885.7
monthly change (%)	0.9	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	5.1	5.1	3.9	2.8	2.2	3.9	3.6	3.4
share of employed persons (%)	47.7	48.6	48.5	48.4	46.7	47.0	47.0	47.0

*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
+ YEAR-AVERAGE

SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0, TABLE 12

This Data Release is not to be reproduced or altered without the permission of the Economic Analysis Unit.

Contact Details
Economic Analysis Unit
Economic.Analysis@treasury.tas.gov.au

