

Labour Force (ABS Cat No 6202.0)

Latest month: October 2017

Release date: 16 November 2017

Next release date: 14 December 2017

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 decreased by 200 persons (0.1 per cent) from the previous month to 245 300 persons in October 2017. Nationally, employment increased by 0.2 per cent over the same period.

The estimated level of employment in Tasmania in October 2017 was 7 200 persons (3.0 per cent) above the level recorded in October 2016.

Full-time employment was estimated to have decreased by 800 persons (0.5 per cent) to 152 000 persons in October 2017 compared to the previous month but was 400 persons (0.3 per cent) above the level one year earlier.

Part-time employment was estimated to have increased by 400 persons (0.5 per cent) to 93 200 persons in October 2017 compared to the previous month and was up 6 700 persons (or 7.8 per cent) from the level in October 2016.

The number of unemployed persons in Tasmania was unchanged at 15 700 persons in October 2017 compared to the previous month and was 700 persons (4.4 per cent) lower than in October 2016.

The estimated unemployment rate in Tasmania was 6.0 per cent in October 2017, unchanged from the previous month and 0.5 of a percentage point below the level one year earlier (Chart 2). Tasmania's estimated trend unemployment rate was 0.5 of a percentage point higher than the national rate in October 2017.

Table 1: Labour force, Tasmania and Australia, October 2017, trend and seasonally adjusted data

Trend	Tas	Aus
Level of employment ('000)	245.3	12 301.2
Monthly employment growth	-0.1	0.2
Unemployment rate (%)	6.0	5.5
Participation rate (%)	60.9	65.2
Seasonally adjusted		
Level of employment ('000)	243.3	12 297.1
Monthly employment growth	-1.4	0.0
Unemployment rate (%)	6.0	5.6
Participation rate (%)	60.4	65.1

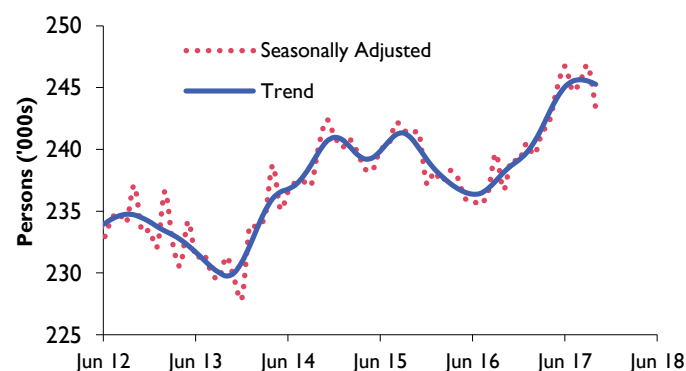
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

Table 2: Labour force by jurisdiction, October 2017, trend data

Trend	Emp cf Sep 17 (%)	UR (%)	PR (%)
NSW	0.2	4.7	63.7
Vic	0.1	5.9	66.0
Qld	0.3	5.9	65.7
SA	0.1	5.6	61.9
WA	0.0	5.8	68.1
Tas	-0.1	6.0	60.9
NT	-0.1	4.2	73.8
ACT	0.6	3.8	71.6
Aus	0.2	5.5	65.2

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

Chart 1: Tasmanian employment, trend and seasonally adjusted data



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Tasmania's estimated unemployment rate in October 2017 was the highest in the country, with Victoria and Queensland being slightly lower (both at 5.9 per cent).

The estimated participation rate in Tasmania was 60.9 per cent in October 2017, down 0.1 of a percentage point compared with September 2017, but 1.1 percentage points higher than the rate in October 2016. In October 2017, the gap between the Tasmanian and national participation rates was 4.3 percentage points (Chart 3). Some of this gap is due to Tasmania's older population structure when compared to national averages.

Tasmania's labour force was estimated to have decreased by 200 persons to 261 000 persons in October 2017 compared to the previous month and was 6 400 persons higher than the level one year earlier.

Recent performance

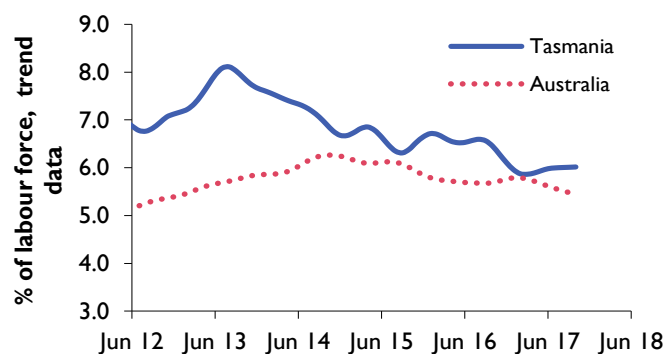
The total estimated trend employment level increased from June 2016 to August 2017, mostly due to increasing female employment. However, the level of total employment has decreased since that time, due to decreasing full-time male employment.

Through the year to October 2017, total male employment decreased by 0.2 per cent (200 persons), due to a decrease in male full-time employment (down 2 800 persons to 98 900 persons). Male part-time employment increased (by 2 600 persons) to 28 100 persons over that period.

Total female employment increased by 6.6 per cent (7 400 persons) through the year to October 2017, due to an increase in both female full-time employment (up 3 200 persons to 53 100 persons) and female part-time employment (up 4 100 persons to 65 100 persons) over the same period.

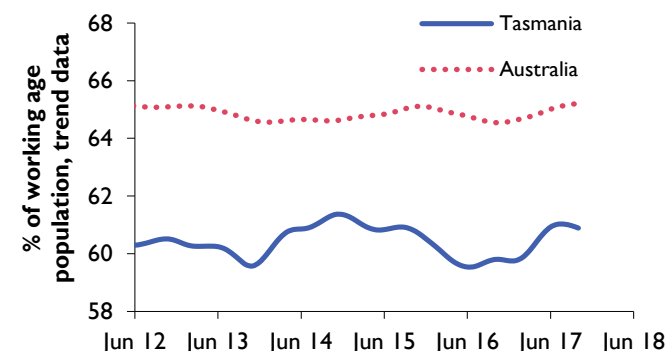
The male participation rate in Tasmania was down 0.6 of a percentage point through the year to October 2017 to 64.4 per cent, while the female participation rate increased by 2.8 percentage points to 57.5 per cent over the same period.

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



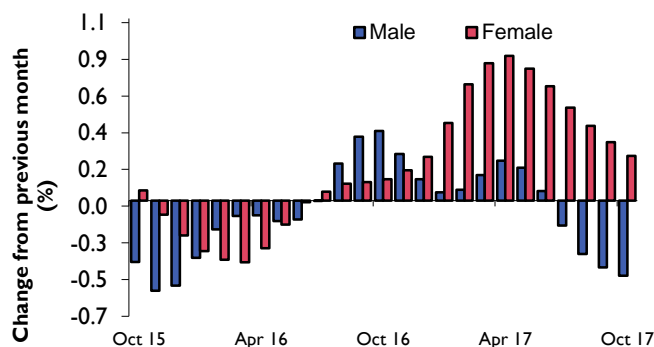
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

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)

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Table 3: Key labour force data, Tasmania and Australia

	Tasmania				Australia			
	Oct 16	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Oct 16	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17
Employment, trend ('000)	238.1	245.6	245.5	245.3	11 954.5	12 255.0	12 281.2	12 301.2
monthly change ('000)	0.7	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	8.0	30.6	26.2	20.0
monthly change (%)	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
annual change (%)	-1.2	3.7	3.4	3.0	1.0	2.6	2.8	2.9
Employment, sa* ('000)	236.7	245.5	246.8	243.3	11 941.4	12 266.8	12 293.4	12 297.1
monthly change ('000)	-3.0	0.8	1.3	-3.5	20.0	51.4	26.6	3.7
monthly change (%)	-1.2	0.3	0.5	-1.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0
annual change (%)	-1.9	3.8	3.0	2.8	0.9	2.7	3.1	3.0
Employment, original+ ('000)	237.7	241.8	242.4	242.9	11 926.2	12 079.4	12 110.4	12 139.6
year-average change (%)	-1.2	1.5	1.8	2.2	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.8
Unemployment, trend ('000)	16.4	15.7	15.7	15.7	721.0	716.4	712.3	709.4
monthly change ('000)	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	-4.2	-4.1	-2.9
Unemployment, sa* ('000)	16.1	15.7	15.1	15.9	710.3	722.3	709.6	701.5
monthly change ('000)	-0.7	-0.9	-0.6	0.8	-4.3	-4.3	-12.7	-8.1
Unemployment, original+ ('000)	16.8	15.6	15.5	15.5	724.0	728.5	728.1	727.3
year-average change (%)	-1.1	-6.5	-8.0	-7.8	-5.2	-0.5	0.1	0.5
Unemployment rate, trend (%)	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.5
monthly change (pp)	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Unemployment rate, sa* (%)	6.4	6.0	5.8	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4
monthly change (pp)	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2	0.3	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Unemployment rate, original+ (%)	6.6	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
year-average change (pp)	0.0	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Participation rate, trend (%)	59.8	61.0	61.0	60.9	64.5	65.1	65.2	65.2
monthly change (pp)	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Participation rate, sa* (%)	59.4	61.0	61.1	60.4	64.4	65.2	65.2	65.1
monthly change (pp)	-0.9	-0.1	0.1	-0.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Participation rate, original+ (%)	60.0	60.3	60.4	60.5	64.9	64.8	64.9	64.9
year-average change (pp)	-1.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.1

*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
+ YEAR-AVERAGE

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

	Tasmania				Australia			
	Oct 16	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Oct 16	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17
Labour force, trend ('000)	254.5	261.3	261.2	261.0	12 675.5	12 971.4	12 993.5	13 010.5
monthly change (%)	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
annual change (%)	-1.1	3.1	2.8	2.5	0.7	2.5	2.6	2.6
Labour force, sa* ('000)	252.9	261.3	261.9	259.2	12 651.7	12 989.1	13 003.0	12 998.5
monthly change (%)	-1.4	0.0	0.2	-1.0	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.0
annual change (%)	-2.0	2.6	2.1	2.5	0.5	2.6	2.9	2.7
Labour force, original+ ('000)	254.5	257.4	257.9	258.4	12 650.2	12 807.9	12 838.5	12 866.9
year-average change (%)	-1.2	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.7
Participation rate, trend (%)								
Male	65.0	64.8	64.6	64.4	70.3	70.7	70.7	70.7
monthly change (pp)	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
annual change (pp)	-0.7	0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4
Female	54.7	57.3	57.4	57.5	59.0	59.8	59.9	59.9
monthly change (pp)	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
annual change (pp)	-1.4	2.5	2.6	2.8	-0.3	0.7	0.8	0.9
Employment, trend ('000)								
Full-time	151.6	153.5	152.8	152.0	8 133.8	8 387.6	8 407.0	8 423.0
monthly change (%)	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.2
annual change (%)	-2.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	-0.4	3.1	3.4	3.6
share of employed persons (%)	63.7	62.5	62.2	62.0	68.0	68.4	68.5	68.5
Part-time	86.5	92.1	92.8	93.2	3 820.7	3 867.4	3 874.2	3 878.1
monthly change (%)	1.6	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
annual change (%)	2.0	9.9	8.9	7.8	4.1	1.6	1.6	1.5
share of employed persons (%)	36.3	37.5	37.8	38.0	32.0	31.6	31.5	31.5
Male	127.3	128.1	127.6	127.0	6 403.2	6 541.3	6 552.1	6 560.1
monthly change (%)	0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1
annual change (%)	-1.0	1.5	0.7	-0.2	0.8	2.3	2.4	2.5
share of employed persons (%)	53.4	52.2	52.0	51.8	53.6	53.4	53.4	53.3
Female	110.9	117.5	117.9	118.2	5 551.3	5 713.7	5 729.1	5 741.1
monthly change (%)	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2
annual change (%)	-1.4	6.2	6.5	6.6	1.3	3.1	3.3	3.4
share of employed persons (%)	46.6	47.8	48.0	48.2	46.4	46.6	46.6	46.7

*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
+ YEAR-AVERAGE

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

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