

Labour Force (ABS Cat No 6202.0)

Latest month: October 2018

Release date: 15 November 2018

Next release date: 20 December 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 increased by 200 persons (0.1 per cent) compared to the previous month to 250 100 persons in October 2018. Nationally, employment increased by 0.2 per cent over the same period.

The estimated level of employment in Tasmania in October 2018 was 2 300 persons (0.9 per cent) above the level recorded in October 2017.

Full-time employment was estimated to have remained unchanged at 156 500 persons in October 2018 compared to the previous month, but was 2 900 persons (1.9 per cent) above the level one year earlier.

Part-time employment was estimated to have increased by 200 persons (0.3 per cent) to 93 600 persons in October 2018 compared to the previous month but was down 700 persons (0.7 per cent) from the level in October 2017.

The number of unemployed persons in Tasmania was estimated to have decreased by 100 persons (1.0 per cent) to 15 200 persons in October 2018 compared to the previous month and was 400 persons (2.6 per cent) lower than in October 2017.

The estimated unemployment rate in Tasmania was 5.6 per cent in October 2018, down 0.1 of a percentage point from the previous month and 0.3 of a percentage point from 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 2018.

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

Trend	Tas	Aus
Level of employment ('000)	250.1	12 665.8
Monthly employment growth (%)	0.1	0.2
Unemployment rate (%)	5.6	5.1
Participation rate (%)	60.8	65.6
Seasonally adjusted		
Level of employment ('000)	251.0	12 671.5
Monthly employment growth (%)	0.9	0.3
Unemployment rate (%)	5.3	5.0
Participation rate (%)	60.9	65.6

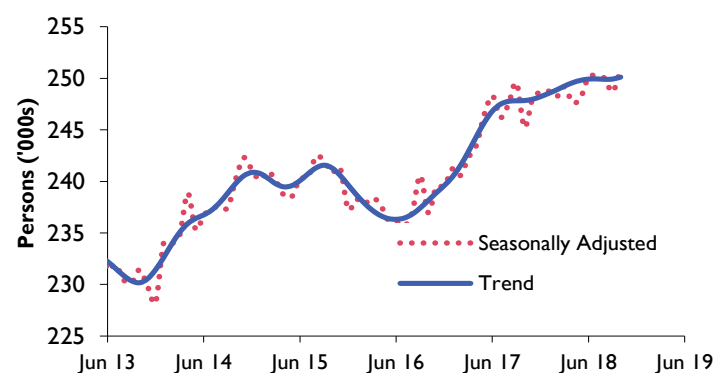
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

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

Trend	Emp cf Sep 18 (%)	UR (%)	PR (%)
NSW	0.3	4.6	65.2
Vic	0.2	4.5	65.5
Qld	0.0	6.2	65.6
SA	0.0	5.5	62.3
WA	0.2	5.9	68.5
Tas	0.1	5.6	60.8
NT	-0.6	4.6	74.7
ACT	-0.2	3.7	70.1
Aus	0.2	5.1	65.6

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 2018 was the third highest in the country, with Western Australia and Queensland both being higher at 5.9 per cent and 6.2 per cent, respectively.

The estimated participation rate in Tasmania was 60.8 per cent in October 2018, down 0.2 of a percentage point from the previous month and down 0.4 of a percentage point from the rate in October 2017. In October 2018, the gap between the Tasmanian and national participation rates was 4.8 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 265 300 persons in October 2018 compared to the previous month and was 1 900 persons higher than the level one year earlier.

Recent performance

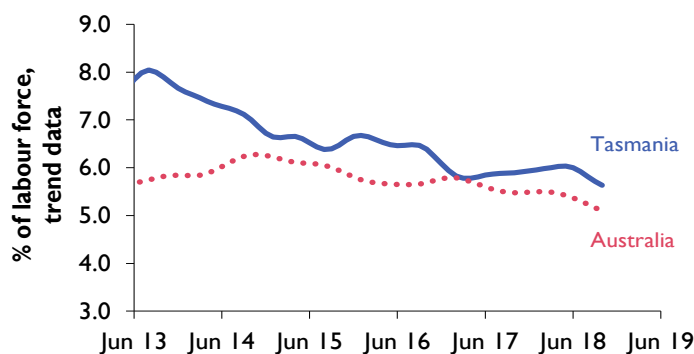
The total estimated trend employment level has generally increased since July 2016, with strong levels of growth in late 2016 to mid-2017 followed by more modest increases since then.

Through the year to October 2018, total male employment increased by 2.5 per cent (3 200 persons), with an increase in both male full-time employment (up 2 000 persons to 101 200 persons) and part-time employment (up 1 200 persons to 29 700 persons) over that period.

Total female employment decreased by 0.7 per cent (900 persons) through the year to October 2018, due to a decrease in female part-time employment (down 1 800 persons to 64 000 persons). Female full-time employment increased (by 900 persons) to 55 300 persons over the same period.

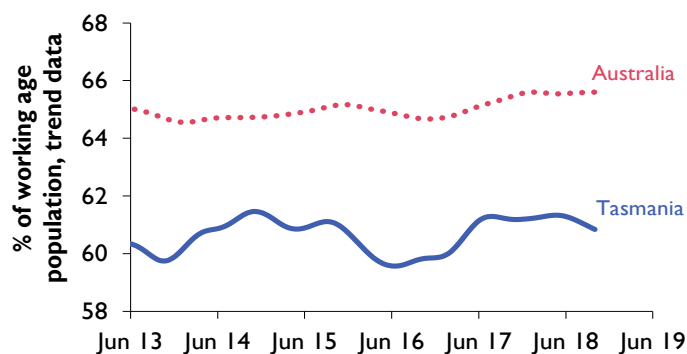
The male participation rate in Tasmania decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point through the year to October 2018 to 64.8 per cent and the female participation rate decreased by 0.6 of a percentage point to 57.1 per cent over the same period.

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



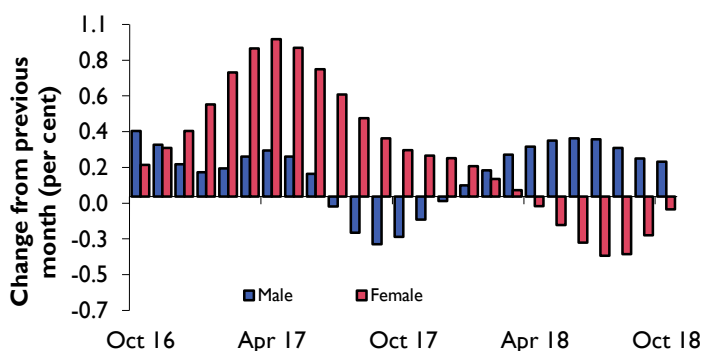
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

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

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Table 3: Key labour force data, Tasmania and Australia

	Tasmania				Australia			
	Oct 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18	Oct 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Employment, trend ('000)	247.8	249.9	249.9	250.1	12 380.0	12 613.9	12 640.4	12 665.8
monthly change ('000)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	32.1	26.8	26.5	25.4
monthly change (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
annual change (%)	4.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	3.1	2.4	2.4	2.3
Employment, sa* ('000)	245.2	250.0	248.7	251.0	12 363.4	12 630.9	12 638.7	12 671.5
monthly change ('000)	-4.4	-0.2	-1.3	2.3	5.6	45.3	7.8	32.8
monthly change (%)	-1.7	-0.1	-0.5	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.3
annual change (%)	3.5	1.0	-0.4	2.3	3.1	2.5	2.3	2.5
Employment, original⁺ ('000)	244.3	248.7	248.7	249.1	12 196.3	12 500.3	12 523.4	12 548.7
year-average change (%)	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.0	1.9	3.0	2.9	2.9
Unemployment, trend ('000)	15.6	15.5	15.3	15.2	717.4	697.1	687.9	680.3
monthly change ('000)	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-9.3	-9.2	-7.6
Unemployment, sa* ('000)	16.2	15.3	15.1	14.2	706.9	704.2	667.5	672.1
monthly change ('000)	1.4	-1.5	-0.2	-0.9	-7.9	4.1	-36.7	4.6
Unemployment, original⁺ ('000)	15.5	15.8	15.8	15.6	729.1	719.3	715.3	712.5
year-average change (%)	-7.3	1.1	2.1	1.1	0.6	-1.5	-2.0	-2.3
Unemployment rate, trend (%)	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.1
monthly change (pp)	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
Unemployment rate, sa* (%)	6.2	5.8	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.0
monthly change (pp)	0.6	-0.5	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.3	0.0
Unemployment rate, original⁺ (%)	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4
year-average change (pp)	-0.6	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2
Participation rate, trend (%)	61.2	61.1	61.0	60.8	65.4	65.6	65.6	65.6
monthly change (pp)	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Participation rate, sa* (%)	60.7	61.1	60.7	60.9	65.3	65.7	65.5	65.6
monthly change (pp)	-0.8	-0.4	-0.4	0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.2	0.1
Participation rate, original⁺ (%)	60.7	61.2	61.1	61.1	65.0	65.6	65.6	65.6
year-average change (pp)	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.6

*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
+ YEAR-AVERAGE

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

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

	Tasmania				Australia			
	Oct 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18	Oct 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	Oct 18
Labour force, trend ('000)	263.4	265.4	265.2	265.3	13 097.4	13 311.0	13 328.3	13 346.1
monthly change (%)	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	3.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	2.8	2.1	2.0	1.9
Labour force, sa* ('000)	261.4	265.3	263.8	265.1	13 070.4	13 335.1	13 306.2	13 343.6
monthly change (%)	-1.1	-0.7	-0.6	0.5	0.0	0.4	-0.2	0.3
annual change (%)	3.2	0.8	-0.2	1.4	2.8	2.2	1.8	2.1
Labour force, original[†] ('000)	259.7	264.5	264.5	264.8	12 925.4	13 219.6	13 238.8	13 261.2
year-average change (%)	2.0	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.8	2.7	2.6
Participation rate, trend (%)								
Male	64.9	64.9	64.8	64.8	70.8	71.0	71.0	71.0
monthly change (pp)	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
annual change (pp)	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2
Female	57.7	57.4	57.3	57.1	60.2	60.4	60.4	60.4
monthly change (pp)	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
annual change (pp)	2.9	-0.1	-0.3	-0.6	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.2
Employment, trend ('000)								
Full-time	153.6	156.7	156.5	156.5	8 478.8	8 631.3	8 658.3	8 681.2
monthly change (%)	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
annual change (%)	0.8	1.3	1.7	1.9	3.7	2.4	2.4	2.4
share of employed persons (%)	62.0	62.7	62.6	62.6	68.5	68.4	68.5	68.5
Part-time	94.3	93.2	93.4	93.6	3 901.2	3 982.6	3 982.1	3 984.6
monthly change (%)	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
annual change (%)	9.9	0.1	-0.5	-0.7	1.8	2.6	2.3	2.1
share of employed persons (%)	38.0	37.3	37.4	37.4	31.5	31.6	31.5	31.5
Male	127.7	130.3	130.6	130.9	6 580.7	6 701.1	6 716.6	6 729.6
monthly change (%)	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
annual change (%)	0.9	1.5	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.3
share of employed persons (%)	51.5	52.1	52.3	52.3	53.2	53.1	53.1	53.1
Female	120.1	119.6	119.3	119.2	5 799.3	5 912.8	5 923.8	5 936.3
monthly change (%)	0.3	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2
annual change (%)	7.6	0.2	-0.4	-0.7	3.8	2.7	2.5	2.4
share of employed persons (%)	48.5	47.9	47.7	47.7	46.8	46.9	46.9	46.9

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

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