

Labour Force (ABS Cat No 6202.0)

Latest month: January 2017

Release date: 16 February 2017

Next release date: 16 March 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 increased by 400 persons (0.2 per cent) from the previous month to 239 300 persons in January 2017. Nationally, employment increased by 0.1 per cent over the same period.

The estimated level of employment in Tasmania in January 2017 was 1 200 persons (0.5 per cent) above the level recorded in January 2016.

Full-time employment was estimated to have decreased by 300 persons (0.2 per cent) to 150 200 persons in January 2017 and was 4 600 persons (3.0 per cent) below the level one year earlier.

Part-time employment was estimated to have increased by 700 persons (0.9 per cent) to 89 100 persons in January 2017 compared to the previous month and was up 5 800 persons (or 7.0 per cent) from the level in January 2016.

The number of unemployed persons in Tasmania was estimated to have decreased by 2.5 per cent (400 persons) to 15 100 persons in January 2017 compared to the previous month and was 2 000 persons (11.6 per cent) lower than in January 2016.

The estimated unemployment rate in Tasmania was 5.9 per cent in January 2017, 0.2 of a percentage point below the level in the previous month and 0.8 of a percentage point below the level one year earlier (Chart 2). Tasmania's current estimated unemployment rate was 0.2 of a percentage point higher than the national rate of 5.7 per cent.

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

Trend	Tas	Aus
Level of employment ('000)	239.3	11 984.3
Monthly employment growth (%)	0.2	0.1
Unemployment rate (%)	5.9	5.7
Participation rate (%)	59.7	64.6
Seasonally adjusted		
Level of employment ('000)	240.1	11 998.2
Monthly employment growth (%)	0.6	0.1
Unemployment rate (%)	5.6	5.7
Participation rate (%)	59.7	64.6

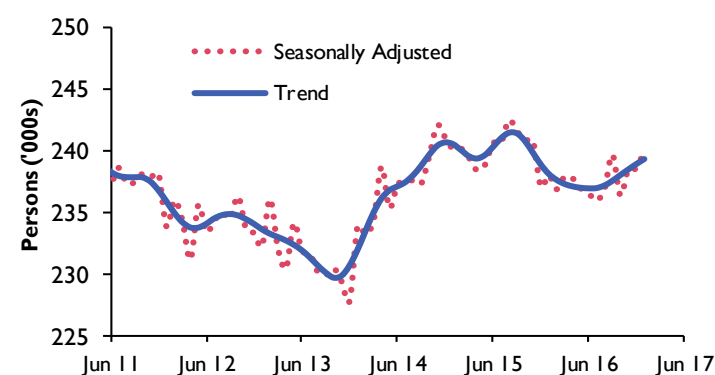
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

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

Trend	Emp cf Dec 16 (%)	UR (%)	PR (%)
NSW	-0.1	5.1	63.2
Vic	0.1	5.9	65.6
Qld	0.1	6.1	64.1
SA	0.2	6.7	62.3
WA	0.2	6.6	67.6
Tas	0.2	5.9	59.7
NT	0.7	4.0	77.4
ACT	0.0	3.7	70.3
Aus	0.1	5.7	64.6

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 January 2017 was equal to Victoria and was below the rate in South Australia (6.7 per cent), Western Australia (6.6 per cent) and Queensland (6.1 per cent).

The estimated participation rate in Tasmania was 59.7 per cent in January 2017, unchanged from December 2016, but 0.5 of a percentage point lower than the rate in January 2016. In January 2017, the gap between the Tasmanian and national participation rates was 4.9 percentage points (Chart 3). Some of this gap is due to Tasmania's older population structure.

Tasmania's labour force was estimated to have remained unchanged at 254 400 persons in January 2017 compared to the previous month, but was 800 persons below the level one year earlier.

Recent performance

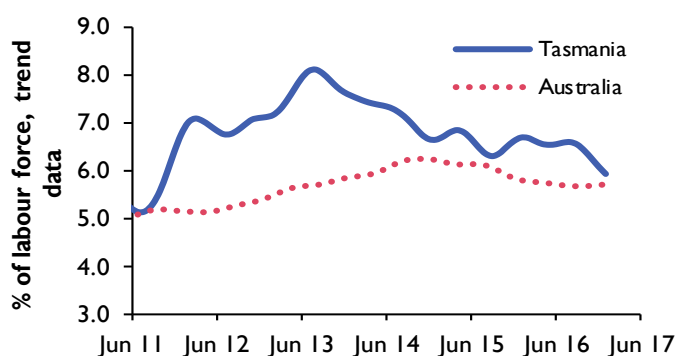
The total estimated trend employment levels declined from October 2015 to May 2016 due to decreases in both male and female employment. However, the level of total employment has increased since that time, mostly due to increasing male employment.

Through the year to January 2017, total male employment increased by 1.2 per cent (1 500 persons), due to an increase in both male full-time employment (up 700 persons to 101 400 persons) and male part-time employment (up 900 persons to 26 800 persons) over that period.

Total female employment decreased by 0.3 per cent (300 persons) through the year to January 2017, with a decline of 9.9 per cent (5 400 persons) in female full-time employment being partly offset by an increase of 8.7 per cent (5 100 persons) in female part-time employment over the same period.

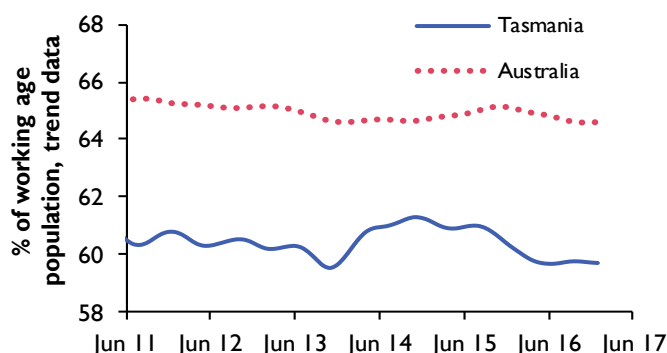
The male participation rate in Tasmania was estimated to have decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point through the year to January 2017 to 65.0 per cent, while the female participation rate was estimated to have decreased by 0.8 of a percentage point to 54.6 per cent over the same period.

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



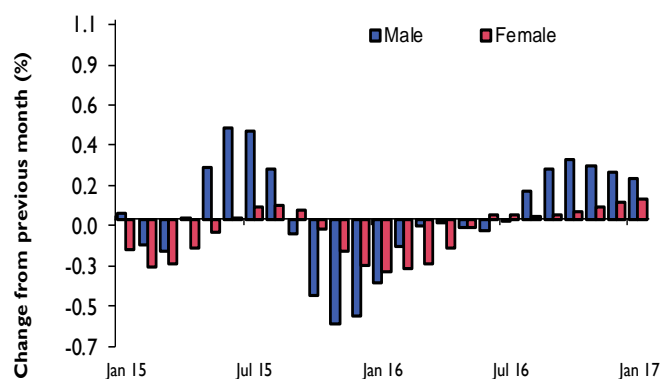
SOURCE: LABOUR FORCE, ABS CAT NO 6202.0: TABLE 12

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			
	Jan 16	Nov 16	Dec 16	Jan 17	Jan 16	Nov 16	Dec 16	Jan 17
Employment, trend ('000)	238.1	238.5	238.9	239.3	11 894.5	11 960.0	11 972.6	11 984.3
monthly change ('000)	-0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4	12.7	11.3	12.6	11.7
monthly change (%)	-0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	-1.0	-0.6	0.0	0.5	2.5	0.8	0.8	0.8
Employment, sa* ('000)	238.1	238.5	238.6	240.1	11 894.9	11 968.4	11 984.7	11 998.2
monthly change ('000)	0.9	2.1	0.1	1.5	2.2	37.1	16.3	13.5
monthly change (%)	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	-0.9	-1.0	0.6	0.8	2.5	0.7	0.8	0.9
Employment, original+ ('000)	240.1	237.5	237.7	237.8	11 774.6	11 928.3	11 935.7	11 943.2
year-average change (%)	0.9	-1.3	-1.1	-0.9	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.4
Unemployment, trend ('000)	17.1	15.9	15.5	15.1	732.4	720.9	723.4	726.1
monthly change ('000)	0.1	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-4.8	2.1	2.5	2.7
Unemployment, sa* ('000)	16.8	16.0	16.0	14.2	758.2	724.9	739.6	720.2
monthly change ('000)	-0.4	0.1	0.0	-1.8	35.2	17.5	14.7	-19.4
Unemployment, original+ ('000)	16.9	16.7	16.6	16.4	756.4	722.9	724.4	721.1
year-average change (%)	-7.9	-1.3	-2.0	-3.1	0.7	-4.9	-4.5	-4.7
Unemployment rate, trend (%)	6.7	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7
monthly change (pp)	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unemployment rate, sa* (%)	6.6	6.3	6.3	5.6	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.7
monthly change (pp)	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	-0.1
Unemployment rate, original+ (%)	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.7
year-average change (pp)	-0.6	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3
Participation rate, trend (%)	60.2	59.7	59.7	59.7	65.0	64.6	64.6	64.6
monthly change (pp)	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Participation rate, sa* (%)	60.2	59.8	59.8	59.6	65.2	64.6	64.7	64.6
monthly change (pp)	0.1	0.5	0.0	-0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Participation rate, original+ (%)	60.8	59.9	59.8	59.8	65.0	64.8	64.8	64.7
year-average change (pp)	-0.2	-1.1	-1.1	-1.0	0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2

*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

+ YEAR-AVERAGE

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Latest month: January 2017

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

	Tasmania				Australia			
	Jan 16	Nov 16	Dec 16	Jan 17	Jan 16	Nov 16	Dec 16	Jan 17
Labour force, trend ('000)	255.2	254.4	254.4	254.4	12 626.9	12 680.9	12 696.0	12 710.4
monthly change (%)	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	-1.0	-0.8	-0.6	-0.3	2.0	0.6	0.6	0.7
Labour force, sa* ('000)	254.9	254.5	254.6	254.3	12 653.1	12 693.3	12 724.3	12 718.5
monthly change (%)	0.2	0.9	0.0	-0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.0
annual change (%)	-1.0	-1.3	0.1	-0.3	2.2	0.6	0.9	0.5
Labour force, original+ ('000)	257.0	254.2	254.3	254.2	12 531.0	12 651.2	12 660.1	12 664.3
year-average change (%)	0.2	-1.3	-1.1	-1.1	1.9	1.3	1.2	1.1
Participation rate, trend (%)								
Male	65.1	65.0	65.0	65.0	70.9	70.2	70.2	70.2
monthly change (pp)	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0
annual change (pp)	-1.2	-0.5	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.8	-0.8	-0.7
Female	55.4	54.6	54.6	54.6	59.4	59.0	59.1	59.1
monthly change (pp)	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
annual change (pp)	-0.8	-1.2	-1.1	-0.8	0.9	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Employment, trend ('000)								
Full-time	154.8	151.0	150.5	150.2	8 186.2	8 135.0	8 139.5	8 146.1
monthly change (%)	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
annual change (%)	0.2	-2.9	-2.9	-3.0	1.9	-0.5	-0.6	-0.5
share of employed persons (%)	65.0	63.3	63.0	62.8	68.8	68.0	68.0	68.0
Part-time	83.3	87.4	88.4	89.1	3 708.4	3 825.0	3 833.1	3 838.2
monthly change (%)	-0.6	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
annual change (%)	-3.2	3.7	5.4	7.0	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.5
share of employed persons (%)	35.0	36.7	37.0	37.2	31.2	32.0	32.0	32.0
Male	126.7	127.6	127.9	128.2	6 384.5	6 407.5	6 411.4	6 414.6
monthly change (%)	-0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
annual change (%)	-0.7	-0.1	0.7	1.2	1.7	0.6	0.5	0.5
share of employed persons (%)	53.2	53.5	53.6	53.6	53.7	53.6	53.6	53.5
Female	111.4	110.8	111.0	111.1	5 510.0	5 552.5	5 561.2	5 569.7
monthly change (%)	-0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
annual change (%)	-1.3	-1.1	-0.7	-0.3	3.3	1.1	1.1	1.1
share of employed persons (%)	46.8	46.5	46.4	46.4	46.3	46.4	46.4	46.5

*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

+ YEAR-AVERAGE

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

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