



## ABS LABOUR FORCE SURVEY NSW RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 2010

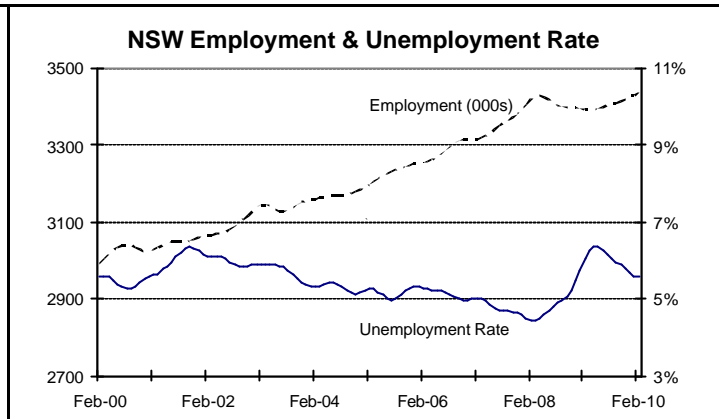
### SUMMARY (Trend data)

**Employment:** Up 6,800 to 3,436,600

**Unemployment:** Down 3,000 to 202,300

**Unemployment rate:** Unchanged at 5.6%

**Participation rate:** Unchanged at 63.1%



### Trend (smooth seasonally adjusted) figures

Unemployment has been trending down in NSW since May 2009 and employment has been rising since March 2009, although all the growth has been in part-time employment. Employment in NSW rose by 6,800 in February and has increased by 46,300 since March 2009. Over the year to February, employment was 44,800 or 1.3 per cent higher. Full-time employment was unchanged in February from January but fell by 24,900 or 1.0 per cent over the year. Part-time employment was 69,700 higher in February than a year earlier.

The number of unemployed persons in NSW fell by 3,000 in February to 202,300. Unemployment was 28,500 lower than in May 2009 and 15,100 or 6.9 per cent lower than a year ago. NSW's unemployment rate was unchanged from January at 5.6 per cent and was lower than in May 2009 (6.4 per cent) and a year ago (6.0 per cent). Labour force participation in NSW was unchanged from the previous month at 63.1 per cent, which was lower than the recent peak of 63.7 per cent in June 2009 and the February 2009 figure of 63.6 per cent.

Australian employment rose by 197,200 in the nine months to February and was 184,400 or 1.7 per cent higher than in the same month in 2009. Full-time employment in Australia has increased by 74,500 since August 2009 but was 4,200 or 0.1 per cent lower than a year ago. Part-time employment was 188,500 higher over the year. The national unemployment rate has fallen from 5.8 per cent in August 2009 to 5.3 per cent in February but was higher than a year earlier (5.2 per cent).

### Regional labour market data

Regional labour force estimates (original data averaged for the three months to January 2010) are in Table 2. Employment in Sydney grew by 1.6 per cent over the year to the January quarter while employment in the balance of NSW fell by 1.2 per cent. The Hunter and Northern & Far West-North Western & Central West were the only non-Sydney regions to show employment growth over the year.

Sydney's unemployment rate rose from 5.5 per cent to 5.7 per cent over the year to the January quarter while the rate in the balance of NSW increased from 5.3 per cent to 6.1 per cent. Unemployment rose over the year in all non-Sydney regions except Richmond-Tweed & Mid-North Coast. Of the five major non-Sydney regions, the unemployment rate in the January quarter was lower than the NSW average in the Hunter and Murray-Murrumbidgee.

**Table 1**  
**LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS for February 2010**

	<i>Trend (smoothed seasonally adjusted)*</i>					<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>		
	Feb-10	Change from previous				Feb-10	Monthly change	
		(000s)	%	(000s)	%		(000s)	%
<b>NSW</b>								
<b>Persons</b>								
Employed (000s)	3436.6	6.8	0.2	44.8	1.3	3444.5	13.6	0.4
-- Full-time	2405.7	0.0	0.0	-24.9	-1.0	2397.0	-15.0	-0.6
-- Part-time	1030.9	6.8	0.7	69.7	7.3	1047.5	28.6	2.8
Unemployed (000s)	202.3	-3.0	-1.5	-15.1	-6.9	194.8	-9.1	-4.5
Unemployment rate (%)	5.6	0.0 % points		-0.4 % points		5.4	-0.2 % points	
Participation rate (%)	63.1	0.0 % points		-0.5 % points		63.1	0.0 % points	
<i>January figures for:</i>								
LTU (000s)**	51.0	2.0	3.9	14.9	41.3			
LTU share of Une. (%)	23.4	1.0 % points		5.5 % points				
15-19 yrs Une. rate (%)	19.0	0.2 % points		0.1 % points				
20-24 yrs Une. rate (%)	7.9	-0.1 % points		-0.8 % points				
<b>Males</b>								
Employed (000s)	1878.4	5.7	0.3	34.8	1.9			
-- Full-time	1569.4	3.1	0.2	22.1	1.4			
-- Part-time	309.0	2.6	0.8	12.7	4.3			
Unemployed (000s)	114.1	-1.7	-1.5	-3.2	-2.7			
Unemployment rate (%)	5.7	-0.1 % points		-0.3 % points				
Participation rate (%)	70.5	0.1 % points		0.0 % points				
<b>Females</b>								
Employed (000s)	1558.3	1.3	0.1	10.1	0.7			
-- Full-time	836.3	-3.1	-0.4	-47.0	-5.3			
-- Part-time	722.0	4.4	0.6	57.1	8.6			
Unemployed (000s)	88.1	-1.4	-1.6	-12.1	-12.1			
Unemployment rate (%)	5.4	0.0 % points		-0.7 % points				
Participation rate (%)	56.0	-0.1 % points		-1.0 % points				
<b>ACT</b>								
<b>Persons</b>								
Employed (000s)	198.4	0.8	0.4	2.6	1.3			
-- Full-time	147.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2			
-- Part-time	50.6	0.8	1.6	2.3	4.8			
Unemployed (000s)	8.0	0.1	1.3	2.5	45.5			
Unemployment rate (%)	3.9	0.1 % points		1.2 % points				
Participation rate (%)	73.3	0.3 % points		0.9 % points				
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>								
<b>Persons</b>								
Employed (000s)	10971.6	26.8	0.2	184.4	1.7	10971.1	0.4	0.0
-- Full-time	7659.0	11.8	0.2	-4.2	-0.1	7659.7	11.4	0.1
-- Part-time	3312.5	14.9	0.5	188.5	6.0	3311.4	-11.0	-0.3
Unemployed (000s)	614.7	-8.3	-1.3	18.9	3.2	615.9	10.7	1.8
Unemployment rate (%)	5.3	-0.1 % points		0.1 % points		5.3	0.1 % points	
-- 15-19 yrs Une. rate (%)	16.1	0.0 % points		0.5 % points		16.3	0.6 % points	
Participation rate (%)	65.2	0.0 % points		-0.2 % points		65.2	-0.1 % points	

Due to the volatility of the seasonally adjusted series, only major variables from it are included here.

\* The LTU and youth unemployment figures are trended by the NSW Labour Economics Office.

\*\* Persons continuously unemployed for at least 52 weeks.

Minor inconsistencies may be evident due to rounding of estimates.

**Table 2**  
**Regional Labour Force Data January Quarter 2010**

Original (non-seasonally adjusted) figures in quarterly averages. Minor inconsistencies due to rounding of estimates.

REGION	EMPLOYMENT (000s)			UNEMPLOYMENT (000s)			UE RATE		PARTICIPATION	
	Same Qtr Last Year	Current Quarter	Change	Same Qtr Last Year	Current Quarter	Change	Same Qtr Last Year	Current Quarter	Same Qtr Last Year	Current Quarter
<b>NSW</b>	<b>3397.2</b>	<b>3418.8</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>193.8</b>	<b>212.2</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>63.5%</b>	<b>63.2%</b>
<b>SYDNEY</b>	<b>2216.6</b>	<b>2251.9</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>127.9</b>	<b>136.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>65.8%</b>	<b>65.9%</b>
Inner Sydney and Inner Western Sydney	321.7	321.3	-0.4	14.6	15.7	1.1	4.4%	4.7%	71.6%	69.8%
Inner Sydney	226.0	228.8	2.8	9.3	8.6	-0.7	4.0%	3.6%	74.7%	73.1%
Eastern Suburbs	139.5	138.9	-0.6	2.8	5.0	2.2	2.0%	3.5%	67.2%	67.3%
St George-Sutherland	223.9	241.4	17.5	11.6	12.1	0.4	4.9%	4.8%	64.2%	68.3%
Canterbury-Bankstown	134.3	126.7	-7.6	11.6	13.7	2.1	7.9%	9.8%	58.1%	55.5%
Fairfield-Liverpool and Outer South Western Sydney	273.7	279.1	5.4	24.5	19.6	-4.9	8.2%	6.6%	63.3%	62.4%
Fairfield-Liverpool	155.5	154.2	-1.3	15.7	10.6	-5.1	9.2%	6.4%	60.5%	57.4%
Central Western Sydney	153.4	142.1	-11.3	10.6	12.7	2.1	6.5%	8.2%	61.9%	57.3%
North Western Sydney	308.1	314.0	5.8	21.7	18.8	-2.9	6.6%	5.7%	70.0%	69.6%
Lower Northern Sydney	170.1	176.3	6.2	6.3	8.4	2.1	3.6%	4.6%	67.3%	69.5%
Central Northern Sydney	227.3	236.2	8.8	9.4	11.5	2.2	4.0%	4.7%	67.4%	69.3%
Northern Beaches	131.3	135.0	3.7	4.5	5.2	0.7	3.3%	3.7%	70.0%	71.7%
Gosford-Wyong	133.3	141.0	7.7	10.2	13.2	3.0	7.1%	8.6%	57.1%	60.5%
<b>BALANCE OF NSW</b>	<b>1180.6</b>	<b>1167.0</b>	<b>-13.6</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>76.2</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>59.6%</b>	<b>58.5%</b>
Hunter	293.2	297.4	4.2	16.5	17.4	0.9	5.3%	5.5%	60.2%	60.1%
Newcastle	244.4	246.6	2.2	14.1	14.4	0.4	5.4%	5.5%	59.9%	59.4%
Illawarra and South Eastern NSW	296.9	279.5	-17.3	15.4	18.9	3.5	4.9%	6.3%	60.2%	56.5%
Illawarra	191.1	172.4	-18.6	10.0	13.4	3.4	5.0%	7.2%	58.4%	53.0%
Wollongong	131.7	113.4	-18.3	8.6	9.6	1.0	6.1%	7.8%	61.0%	52.7%
Richmond-Tweed and Mid-North Coast	225.4	216.9	-8.6	18.1	15.2	-2.9	7.4%	6.5%	54.6%	50.9%
Northern, Far West-North Western and Central West	233.1	241.2	8.1	9.8	17.0	7.2	4.0%	6.6%	61.3%	64.7%
Murray-Murrumbidgee	132.0	131.9	-0.1	6.1	7.7	1.6	4.4%	5.5%	63.9%	63.8%
ACT	196.6	196.2	-0.3	5.3	7.3	2.1	2.6%	3.6%	72.8%	72.5%
NSW and ACT	3593.7	3615.1	21.3	199.0	219.5	20.5	5.2%	5.7%	63.9%	63.6%
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>10798.7</b>	<b>10915.2</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>526.2</b>	<b>624.0</b>	<b>97.8</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>65.3%</b>	<b>65.2%</b>

Source: ABS Labour Force Survey. Data refers to residents. TAKE CARE: Data for small regions can be very imprecise and movements may be exaggerated.