



- **Employment increased to 229,600**
- **Unemployment rate increased marginally to 5.4%**
- **Participation rate increased to 61.1%**

Note: All Labour Force estimates are from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' *Labour Force Survey* and are *Trend estimates* unless otherwise stated.

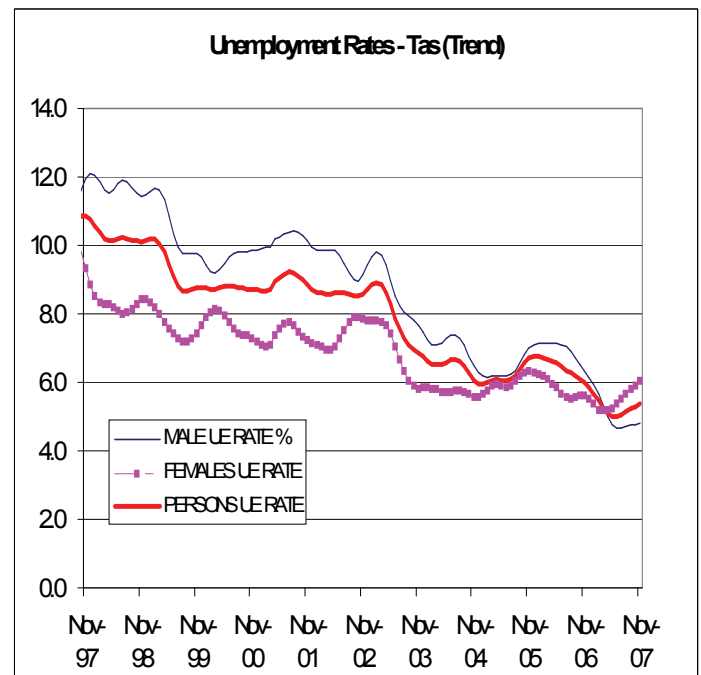
Employment

Total employment in Tasmania continued to rise slowly in November, and was 2.8% higher than in November last year. Full-time employment grew by 1.9% over the year, while part-time employment increased by 4.8% over the same period. Most of the increases appear to have been in male employment, which increased by 4.4% over the year, in total. This increase was made up of a 4.4% increase in male full-time employment and a 4.4% increase in part-time employment. Total female employment increased by 1.0% over the year, with a 4.9% increase in part-time employment and a 2.7% decline in female full-time employment. Total employment has now increased for 12 consecutive months in Tasmania.

Unemployment

The total number of unemployed Tasmanians increased slightly over the month of November to stand at 13,000, but was still 8.4% lower than it was in November last year. The number of

unemployed Tasmanian males fell by 21.6% over the year. However there was an increase in female unemployment of 9.0% over the whole year. The total unemployment rate in November was 5.3% in comparison to 6.1% in the same month last year. The national unemployment rate is currently 4.5%. In other States, the rate was 4.7% in NSW, 4.5% in Vic, 3.9% in Qld, 5.0% in SA and 3.4% in WA.



Labour Force & Participation Rates

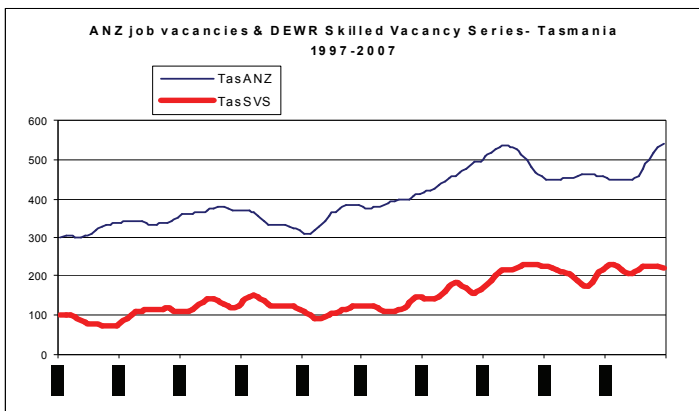
There were an estimated 242,600 people in the Tasmania labour force in November, an increase of 2,700 on the same month in the same month. This increase was made up of 4.2% males and 1.0% females entering or re-entering the labour force. The participation rate in Tasmania was 61.1% in November, up from 60.3% last year. The current national participation rate stands at 65.2%.

Labour Force Estimates—Tasmania (Trend data)

	Nov-2006	Oct-2007	Nov-2007
	000's	000's	000's
Employment			
Male	120.4	125.6	125.7
Female	102.9	103.5	103.9
Full-time	154.1	156.8	157.1
Part-time	69.3	72.3	72.6
Persons	223.3	229.1	229.6
Unemployment			
Male	8.1	6.3	6.4
Female	6.1	6.5	6.7
Persons	14.2	12.8	13.0
Labour Force			
Male	128.5	131.9	132.1
Female	109.0	110.0	110.6
Persons	237.6	241.9	242.6
Unemployment Rate %			
Male	6.3	4.8	4.8
Female	5.6	5.9	6.0
Persons	6.0	5.3	5.4
Full-time Teenage*	27.5	23.7	29.9
Participation Rate %			
Male	66.8	68.0	68.0
Female	54.1	54.2	54.4
Persons	60.3	60.9	61.1

Job Vacancies

The **ANZ Bank Job Advertisement series (trend)** for Tasmania grew by 1.3% in November, the 8th successive monthly rise. The series is now 21.2% higher than it was in November last year. Nationally, the series increased by 0.2%

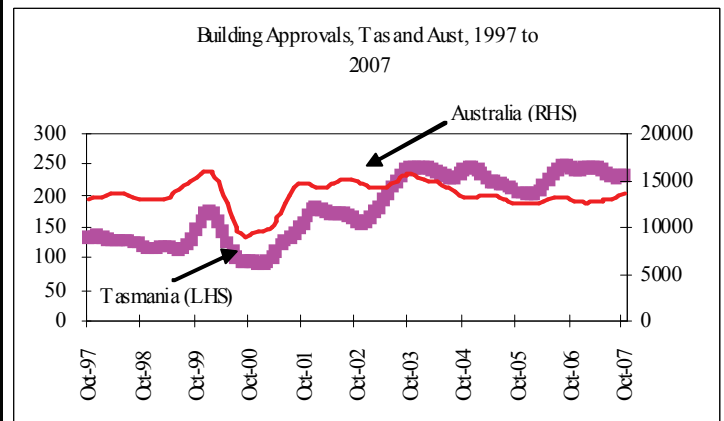


over the month, and was 1.8% higher than in November 2006.

DEWR's Skilled Vacancy Survey Index (trend) for Tasmania decreased by 1.9% in November

Other Indicators

Building Approvals in Tasmania remained stable in October but were 4.9% lower than they were in October last year. Nationally, building approvals declined by 1.0% over the month, however they were 5.4% higher than in October 2006.



Newstart & Youth Allowees

Benefit recipients (Newstart & Youth Allowances) Tasmania

	<12 months	> 12 months	Total	% > 12 months
Oct-2006	4,643	8,816	13,459	65.5%
Oct-2007	4,053	7,308	11,361	64.3%
Number difference	-590	-1,508	-2,098	
% difference	-12.7%	-17.1%	-15.6%	

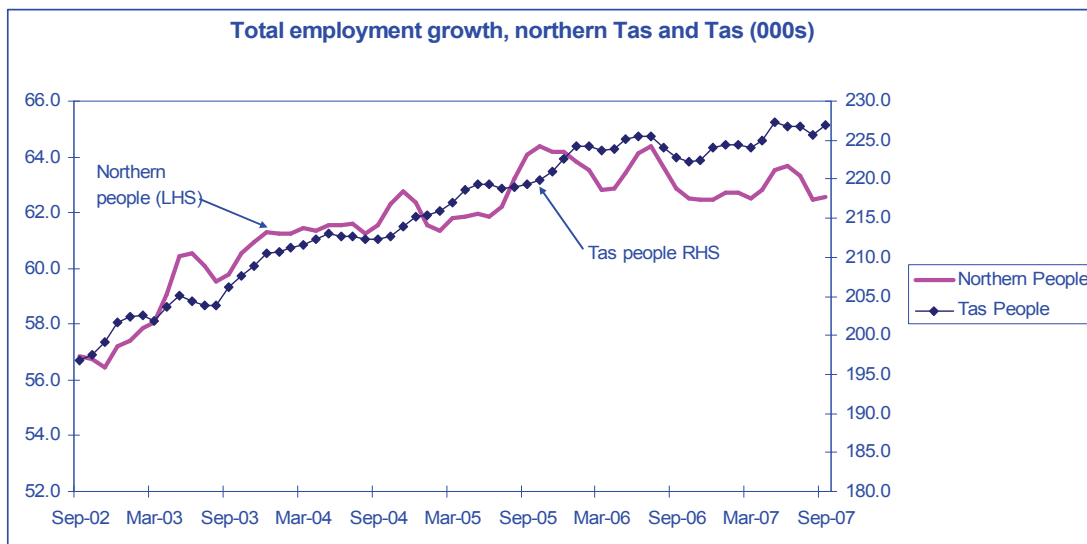
REGIONAL PROFILE - NORTHERN TASMANIA

Introduction

The following article is the second of three that will look at the changes to the main labour force indicators in each of Tasmania's regions. The data is drawn primarily from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' monthly labour force survey, and three month averages have been used in an attempt to smooth the volatility of the data. The main point of the article will be to compare the performance of the labour market in the north of the State to that of Tasmania as a whole.

Employment

The following graph shows employment growth in Tasmania compared to that for the northern region.



Total employment in northern Tasmania grew by 5,700 or 10.1% between September 2002 and September 2007. Over the same period, employment in the whole State grew by 15.3%. In the north, the growth was 11.8% for male employment, and 7.9% for female employment. This growth pattern was quite different to the State average, where growth of 14.3% was recorded for males, and 16.5% for females. This discrepancy is also reflected in the full-time and part-time employment split. In the north full-time employment grew by 11.8%, compared to the State average of 14.2%. Part-time employment in the north grew by 6.4%, compared to 17.8% growth state-wide. There is a correlation between female employment growth and part-time employment growth, in that traditionally around 50% of females have work part-time while only 16% of males were working part-time in September 2007.

In September 2002, 28.7% of employed people in Tasmania lived in the north. By 2007 this had fallen slightly to 27.6%.

Unemployment

Total unemployment in the north fell by 25.5%, or 1,300 between 2002 and 2007. This compares to a state-wide fall of 36.5% over the same period. In 2002 there were more males unemployed than females in the north, but by 2007, the

numbers were virtually the same.

The total unemployment rate in the north, fell from 8.0% in 2002, to 5.6% in 2007. This compares to a state-wide fall from 9.0% to 5.2% over the same period.

In September 2002, approximately 25.4% of the State's unemployed lived in the north, compared to 29.8% in 2007.

Labour Force and Participation Rates

The number of people in the labour force in northern Tasmania increased by 7.2% over the last five years. The labour force for the whole State increased by 10.6% over the same period. The main increases in the northern labour force were among males, as the male labour force increased by 8.3%, compared to an increase in the female labour force of 5.9%. By contrast, the male labour force for the whole State increased by 8.6%, while the female labour force increased at more than twice the rate it did in the north, at 13.1%.

In September 2002, approximately 28.6% of the State's labour force lived in the northern region, but by 2007, this had fallen to 27.7%.

The participation rate in northern Tasmania was 58.3% in 2002, and had risen to 59.3% by September 2007. The participation rate for the whole of Tasmania was lower five years ago at 57.6%, but by 2007 had increased at a greater rate than the north, to 60.3%. Again, there are differences in the experiences of males and females in the northern region, when compared to the State as a whole. Male participation rates increased in the north by 1.6 percentage points, compared to a State average increase of 1.8 percentage points. Female participation rates in the north only increased by 0.3 percentage points compared to the State average of a 3.6 percentage point increase. These participation rates, for both Tasmania and the northern region, are still significantly below the national rates of 72.4% for males, 57.9% for females, and 65.0% for persons.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN NOVEMBER 2007

- 13th Nov Work is about to begin on three accommodation units as part of Multicap's \$1 million Panorama Project in Burnie. A turning of the sod ceremony was held recently to mark the start of the development which will provide independent living options for people with disabilities. (*The Examiner*)
- 13th Nov Stage one of George Town's \$20 million York Cove Seaport development is almost complete. The restaurant, hotel and eight apartments are expected to be completed by mid-December 2007. (*The Examiner*)
- 14th Nov Master Builders Association of Tasmania executive director Chris Atkins, said spending on state commercial development totalled \$160 million in 1996-97 and was up to \$322 million in 2006-07. Mr Atkins said those figures did not cover the East Coast's Hazards at Freycinet tourist development by the Federal Group, Kingston High School redevelopment in the South, the pulp mill near Launceston, Hobart's Myer store rebuilding and potential further development at Cambridge south of Hobart.

The Federal Group also had plans for a motel redevelopment at Port Arthur on Tasmania's south-east peninsular and Mr Atkins said a retail residential development was proposed for Argyle St in the Hobart CBD by a company with Korean contacts; the Australian Technical College for Launceston was at the tender stage and a further campus of the college was planned for Burnie in the North West.

Derwent Park Developments Pty Ltd, the company behind the big Clive Peeters-Natuzzi-Beacon Lighting project is working on another at Sunderland Street in Hobart's northern suburbs. Its managing director Troy Harper, said the Sunderland St project would provide new premises for Tradelink, Tasmania's Own Redline Coaches and Blueline Laundry. Building was about to begin and would take about four months.

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In Southern Tasmania the Kingborough Council recently received applications for redevelopment and major extensions at Oyster Cove Marina, a total redevelopment of Kingston Beach Hotel, including apartment accommodation, and a significant retail outlet at Snug. It expects to get applications for other large commercial developments at central Kingston and Margate.

Development on Hobart's waterfront was relatively subdued in the past financial year. Its value totalled \$11.7 million, the main works being redevelopment of the former Antarctic Adventure site in Salamanca Square and refurbishment of some restaurants and nightspots. Future Sullivans Cove projects include the \$30 million improvement of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and development of a new base for the ferry fleet at Brooke St. Short lists of developers interested in the ferry base project are preparing tender bids and concept plans for the Department of Economic Development. Meanwhile, the Department of Treasury and Finance recently advertised for consultants to submit expressions of interest for the large site behind Parliament House. *(Reported by Charles Waterhouse - The Mercury)*

- 14th Nov Work has begun on a \$65 million aged-care development at Tolosa St in Hobart's northern suburb of Glenorchy. The developers are One-Care Ltd and the facility will support the migrant population of the Glenorchy municipality. The project includes 100 independent-living units, a building housing 96 aged-care beds and a 32-bed step-down unit (for a level of care less than critical) and dementia respite hostel. It also includes an activities centre with a gymnasium, pool and hydrotherapy pool, and apartments with one and two bedrooms. It will also have a tennis court and a bocce area. OneCare Chairman Jeff Briscoe said the development would create 140 jobs and when complete would see an additional \$8 million injected into the local economy in wages and services each year. *(The Mercury)*
- 28th Nov A \$5 million three level catamaran capable of carrying 222 people has been officially christened. Named 'The Eagle', the catamaran is the largest passenger vessel ever to operate on the Gordon River in Tasmania's North West. The vessel is considered a significant boost for the Tasmanian tourism

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industry and the West Coast in particular.

The 35 metre ship, which will begin service early next month, is the first vessel to be completed at Richardson Devine Marine's new shipbuilding facilities at Prince of Wales Bay near Hobart. The new, state of the art facility now allows Richardson Devine Marine to build more than one vessel at a time, and establishes the Prince of Wales Bay area as one of Tasmania's major shipbuilding precincts. In addition to the two levels of seating, the new vessel has a reference library and separate children's play area. The Eagle will replace World Heritage Cruises' existing catamarans Adventurer and Wanderer II, which have both been sold to a New Zealand ferry company. (*The Department of Economic Development news site - www.tas.gov.au*)

30th Nov Engineering construction activity in Tasmania could double in the next few years, with thousands of additional workers needed to meet demand, according to a new study. The report from the Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board says construction activity has soared, and shows no signs of slackening. The implementation of the Rudd Government's election promises in the North will add to the construction pipeline. (*The Mercury*)

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