



AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL LABOUR MARKETS

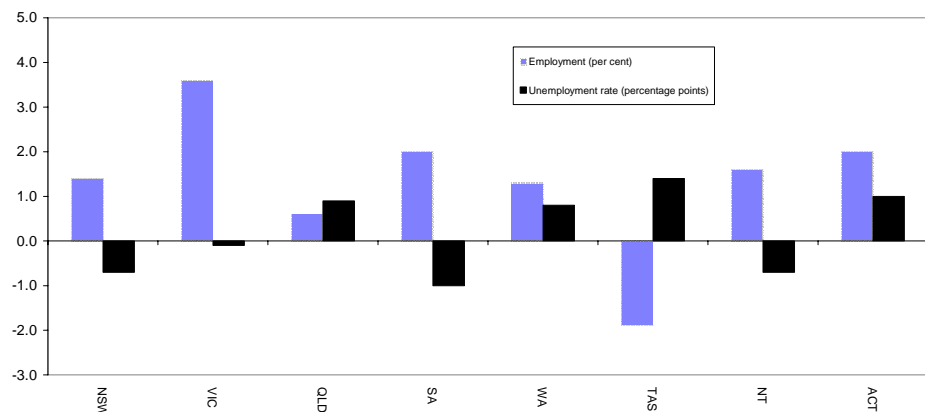
MARCH QUARTER 2010

State/Territory labour market developments

MAIN FINDINGS

Employment rose in every State and Territory except Tasmania over the year to the March quarter 2010. The largest increases in employment (in percentage terms) were recorded in Victoria (up by 3.6 per cent), South Australia and the ACT (both up by 2.0 per cent). Employment in Tasmania fell by 1.9 per cent. The unemployment rate rose in half of the States and Territories over the year to the March quarter 2010, with the largest increases recorded in Tasmania (up by 1.4 percentage points to 6.1 per cent) and the ACT (up by 1.0 percentage points to 4.0 per cent). The largest decrease in the unemployment rate was in South Australia (down by 1.0 percentage point to 5.3 per cent), followed by New South Wales (down by 0.7 percentage points to 5.9 per cent) and the Northern Territory (also down by 0.7 percentage points to 4.0 per cent).

**CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
MARCH QUARTER 2009 TO MARCH QUARTER 2010**



Developments at the ABS Labour Force Region Level

Employment rose in around two-thirds of regions over the year to the March quarter 2010. Nevertheless, 51.3 per cent of regions recorded an increase in their unemployment rate over the period. Regions recording a significant increase in their unemployment rate over the year to the March quarter 2010 included:

- South and East Brisbane, up by 2.4 percentage points to 8.3 per cent; and
- Northern Tasmania, up by 2.7 percentage points to 5.7 per cent.

On the other hand, the unemployment rate fell in Eastern Adelaide (down by 3.1 percentage points to 4.1 per cent) and Barwon-Western District in Victoria (down by 1.4 percentage points, also to 4.9 per cent) over the period.

**LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY ABS LABOUR FORCE REGION
MARCH QUARTER 2010
Not Seasonally Adjusted**

State/Region	Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rate		Employment rate (a)		Participation rate	
	'000	Annual change (%)	'000	Annual change (%)	%	Annual change (% pts)	%	Annual change (% pts)	%	Annual change (% pts)
New South Wales	3423.3	1.4	214.4	-10.4	5.9	-0.7	69.9	-0.3	63.0	-0.7
<i>Sydney</i>	2252.0	1.8	133.1	-11.6	5.6	-0.8	71.2	-0.1	65.6	-0.5
Inner Sydney and Inner Western Sydney	324.6	2.4	13.6	-32.3	4.0	-1.9	75.4	-0.6	69.6	-1.8
Inner Sydney	231.6	3.9	8.8	-36.6	3.6	-2.2	77.2	0.2	73.6	-1.2
Inner Western Sydney	93.1	-1.3	4.8	-22.9	4.9	-1.3	71.3	-2.7	61.5	-3.2
Eastern Suburbs	139.6	0.8	4.5	8.0	3.1	0.2	73.8	-1.3	67.3	0.0
St George-Sutherland	239.3	4.0	16.6	32.1	6.5	1.3	74.6	-0.2	68.7	2.7
Canterbury-Bankstown	124.0	-5.1	12.6	6.5	9.2	0.9	61.6	-0.6	53.9	-2.9
Fairfield-Liverpool/ Outer South Western Sydney	275.5	-0.5	16.8	-39.1	5.7	-3.3	63.7	-0.4	60.9	-3.6
Fairfield-Liverpool	151.9	-4.3	10.5	-43.7	6.4	-4.0	58.1	-2.6	56.3	-6.1
Outer South Western Sydney	123.6	4.6	6.3	-29.5	4.9	-2.2	72.5	3.1	67.7	0.3
Central Western Sydney	143.5	-7.3	13.3	4.3	8.5	0.9	62.2	-4.6	57.7	-5.3
North Western Sydney	313.0	2.5	21.6	-20.1	6.4	-1.7	71.2	-0.1	69.7	-0.7
Lower Northern Sydney	171.2	0.8	7.7	-4.3	4.3	-0.2	73.2	-3.1	67.1	-0.6
Central Northern Sydney	240.3	7.1	8.9	-18.8	3.6	-1.1	78.3	5.3	69.5	2.7
Northern Beaches	134.2	1.7	6.9	41.4	4.9	1.3	78.6	-1.2	72.0	1.5
Gosford-Wyong	146.6	11.4	10.7	-1.0	6.8	-0.8	71.2	4.4	61.4	4.8
<i>Balance of New South Wales</i>	1171.3	0.6	81.3	-8.2	6.5	-0.6	67.4	-0.6	58.7	-1.1
Hunter	306.1	7.3	17.7	-5.8	5.5	-0.7	70.3	1.9	61.5	2.6
Newcastle	255.6	8.0	16.3	-1.7	6.0	-0.6	70.2	3.2	61.6	3.1
Illawarra and South Eastern	282.8	-4.5	19.3	-6.1	6.4	-0.1	66.0	-2.3	56.9	-3.9
Illawarra	181.4	-2.7	12.1	-11.0	6.3	-0.5	63.6	-2.6	55.0	-2.9
Wollongong	118.2	-8.3	8.1	-29.5	6.4	-1.8	60.8	-5.5	53.9	-7.0
South Eastern	101.4	-7.4	7.1	3.5	6.6	0.6	70.8	-1.4	60.5	-6.0
Richmond-Tweed/ Mid-North Coast	213.1	-3.8	18.3	-26.0	7.9	-2.1	61.5	0.0	50.6	-4.5
Northern/ Far West-North Western/ Central West	236.7	2.9	17.6	12.4	6.9	0.6	69.3	-2.0	63.5	1.5
Murray-Murrumbidgee	132.5	0.9	8.4	-4.3	5.9	-0.3	71.9	-3.4	64.1	-0.5
Victoria	2743.6	3.6	167.4	1.5	5.7	-0.1	72.1	0.7	65.4	0.7
<i>Melbourne</i>	2061.5	3.5	122.8	0.0	5.6	-0.2	72.6	0.7	66.5	0.6
Outer Western Melbourne	350.5	5.8	22.9	-18.1	6.1	-1.6	70.6	-0.3	66.4	0.5
North Western Melbourne	142.8	-2.0	13.9	68.7	8.9	3.5	66.1	-3.9	61.1	-0.5
Inner Melbourne	222.1	8.1	9.3	4.1	4.0	-0.2	79.8	2.2	77.3	2.9
North Eastern Melbourne	243.0	5.4	13.2	10.1	5.1	0.2	73.8	2.0	67.2	2.4
Inner Eastern Melbourne	309.0	1.2	18.3	24.3	5.6	1.0	71.6	-1.1	63.7	0.6
Southern Melbourne	227.6	5.3	11.4	-32.7	4.8	-2.5	75.5	5.1	67.9	0.6
Outer Eastern Melbourne	214.9	-1.8	10.8	-1.7	4.8	0.0	73.9	-2.5	67.7	-2.4
South Eastern Melbourne	220.7	6.3	18.4	13.4	7.7	0.4	69.2	3.3	66.4	2.0
Mornington Peninsula	130.9	0.6	4.7	-31.5	3.5	-1.6	75.0	1.5	60.2	-2.0
<i>Balance of Victoria</i>	682.0	3.6	44.5	5.8	6.1	0.1	70.5	0.7	62.5	1.1
Barwon-Western District	189.4	2.3	9.8	-21.3	4.9	-1.4	72.1	0.7	63.0	-0.7
Central Highlands-Wimmera	95.2	-2.1	9.3	16.4	8.9	1.3	66.5	-1.0	62.8	-1.5
Loddon-Mallee	129.1	2.8	9.1	-4.6	6.6	-0.5	71.2	2.5	62.1	0.3
Goulburn-Ovens-Murray	144.3	9.8	9.0	40.8	5.9	1.2	70.5	0.5	61.8	5.2
All Gippsland	124.1	4.3	7.5	27.0	5.7	1.0	70.7	0.9	62.5	2.0

(a) The employment rate refers to the proportion of the working age (15-64) population who are employed.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY ABS LABOUR FORCE REGION
MARCH QUARTER 2010
Not Seasonally Adjusted

State/Region	Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rate		Employment Rate (a)		Participation rate	
	'000	Annual change (%)	'000	Annual change (%)	%	Annual change (% pts)	%	Annual change (% pts)	%	Annual change (% pts)
Queensland	2234.5	0.6	149.7	19.6	6.3	0.9	72.9	-1.2	67.2	-0.6
<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>1032.1</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>62.5</i>	<i>23.6</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>74.8</i>	<i>-0.6</i>	<i>69.6</i>	<i>0.0</i>
Brisbane City Inner Ring	281.8	2.7	13.5	15.4	4.6	0.5	80.2	-0.3	75.3	0.8
Brisbane City Outer Ring	302.9	-2.6	18.4	21.2	5.7	1.1	72.5	-3.1	66.7	-2.3
South and East Brisbane Balance	196.0	0.7	17.8	44.0	8.3	2.4	74.5	-0.3	72.7	0.7
North Brisbane Balance	177.3	7.1	9.7	26.7	5.2	0.8	73.1	2.6	65.2	3.0
Ipswich City	74.2	0.5	3.1	-16.0	4.0	-0.7	70.5	1.0	64.9	-1.9
<i>Balance of Queensland</i>	<i>1202.4</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>87.2</i>	<i>16.8</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>71.4</i>	<i>-1.6</i>	<i>65.4</i>	<i>-1.0</i>
Gold Coast	295.5	1.3	22.8	33.5	7.2	1.6	71.9	-2.7	66.5	-0.3
Sunshine Coast	152.1	2.1	10.3	24.5	6.3	1.1	70.3	0.3	60.3	-0.1
West Moreton	35.8	-2.5	1.2	-45.7	3.3	-2.5	66.5	0.5	60.2	-4.7
Wide Bay-Burnett	123.0	2.2	7.7	-18.7	5.9	-1.4	66.8	2.4	55.4	-1.2
Darling Downs-South West	131.2	-1.5	5.9	149.6	4.3	2.6	75.6	-3.0	66.0	-0.3
Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West	198.1	-5.2	12.0	-6.9	5.7	-0.1	72.2	-4.1	66.5	-5.5
Northern-North West	139.4	3.7	9.4	31.2	6.3	1.3	78.1	0.8	75.7	2.4
Far North	127.2	0.3	17.9	18.2	12.4	1.7	66.3	-4.0	70.3	0.0
South Australia	802.6	2.0	44.9	-15.8	5.3	-1.0	72.0	0.4	63.4	-0.2
<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>593.9</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>35.9</i>	<i>-18.4</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>-1.5</i>	<i>72.2</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>64.1</i>	<i>1.0</i>
Northern Adelaide	180.8	0.2	14.3	-20.7	7.3	-1.8	68.0	0.6	63.6	-2.1
Western Adelaide	102.5	4.2	5.3	-37.5	4.9	-3.0	71.5	2.5	58.8	0.1
Eastern Adelaide	130.5	14.9	5.6	-36.9	4.1	-3.1	75.9	5.7	65.8	5.8
Southern Adelaide	180.2	2.3	10.8	23.5	5.6	0.9	74.7	0.9	66.7	1.4
<i>Balance of South Australia</i>	<i>208.7</i>	<i>-4.3</i>	<i>9.0</i>	<i>-3.5</i>	<i>4.1</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>71.5</i>	<i>-4.4</i>	<i>61.5</i>	<i>-3.7</i>
Northern and Western SA	71.8	-3.1	3.4	-21.1	4.5	-1.0	67.9	-1.8	57.7	-2.9
Southern and Eastern SA	136.9	-5.0	5.6	11.4	4.0	0.6	73.6	-6.0	63.7	-4.2
Western Australia	1176.2	1.3	67.7	20.4	5.4	0.8	74.1	-1.5	68.4	-0.7
<i>Perth</i>	<i>886.1</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>51.1</i>	<i>20.6</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>74.7</i>	<i>-1.6</i>	<i>69.0</i>	<i>-0.7</i>
Central Metropolitan	79.7	4.9	5.6	73.8	6.6	2.5	73.9	-1.3	68.3	2.8
East Metropolitan	145.3	-5.8	8.9	116.8	5.8	3.2	71.6	-6.4	67.9	-4.0
North Metropolitan	279.0	4.5	14.3	9.7	4.9	0.2	77.7	1.0	71.3	1.0
South West Metropolitan	183.3	3.0	12.1	14.4	6.2	0.6	74.9	0.5	68.8	0.3
South East Metropolitan	198.8	-0.4	10.2	-11.0	4.9	-0.5	72.9	-3.5	67.4	-2.8
<i>Balance of Western Australia</i>	<i>290.2</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>16.6</i>	<i>19.7</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>72.6</i>	<i>-1.1</i>	<i>66.4</i>	<i>-0.6</i>
Lower Western WA	158.9	-4.5	8.6	15.9	5.1	0.9	72.3	-2.9	64.0	-4.8
Remainder-Balance WA	131.2	9.2	8.0	24.0	5.7	0.7	73.0	1.1	69.7	4.9
Tasmania	234.4	-1.9	15.3	29.7	6.1	1.4	69.3	-1.7	61.1	-1.0
Greater Hobart-Southern	117.6	-1.6	6.8	4.6	5.4	0.3	69.8	-0.8	61.2	-1.5
<i>Greater Hobart</i>	<i>101.1</i>	<i>-1.2</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>70.2</i>	<i>-1.0</i>	<i>61.9</i>	<i>-1.2</i>
Northern	67.7	-2.6	4.1	91.1	5.7	2.7	70.5	-3.7	62.3	-0.7
Mersey-Lyell	49.1	-1.5	4.4	39.4	8.2	2.3	66.5	-1.3	59.3	-0.1
Northern Territory	117.2	1.6	4.8	-14.1	4.0	-0.7	73.0	-1.1	72.2	-1.3
Australian Capital Territory	198.1	2.0	8.3	36.2	4.0	1.0	78.6	0.0	73.2	1.1
AUSTRALIA	10 930.0	1.7	672.4	1.5	5.8	0.0	71.8	-0.3	65.3	-0.3
<i>Metropolitan Australia (b)</i>	<i>6926.8</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>411.2</i>	<i>-1.1</i>	<i>5.6</i>	<i>-0.2</i>	<i>72.7</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>66.7</i>	<i>0.0</i>
<i>Non-metropolitan Australia (b)</i>	<i>4003.2</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>261.2</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>6.1</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>70.4</i>	<i>-1.0</i>	<i>63.0</i>	<i>-0.7</i>

(a) The employment rate refers to the proportion of the working age (15-64) population who are employed.

(b) The ABS defines metropolitan as those regions located within the State capital cities. Non-metropolitan is defined as those regions located outside the State capital cities as well as the two Territories.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The regional labour market estimates presented in this brochure are three-month averages derived from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Monthly Labour Force Survey. These estimates are not adjusted to take account of seasonal and other variations and can exhibit irregular movements. They should therefore be used with caution.

Related information

Users may wish to refer to the DEEWR *Small Area Labour Markets, Australia* publication, which is available, free of charge, at <http://www.workplace.gov.au> (in PDF format), or as a printed booklet upon request. This publication contains quarterly estimates of unemployment rates and levels for approximately 1400 Statistical Local Areas.

Next issue

The next issue of *Australian Regional Labour Markets*, for the June quarter 2010, is expected to be released in late July 2010.

Contact details

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More detailed monthly national, State and regional labour force statistics are available from the ABS. For further information on ABS labour force statistics, go to the 'Labour' theme page at the ABS website (www.abs.gov.au), or contact the ABS Labour Force Survey area on (02) 6252 6525.