



AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL LABOUR MARKETS

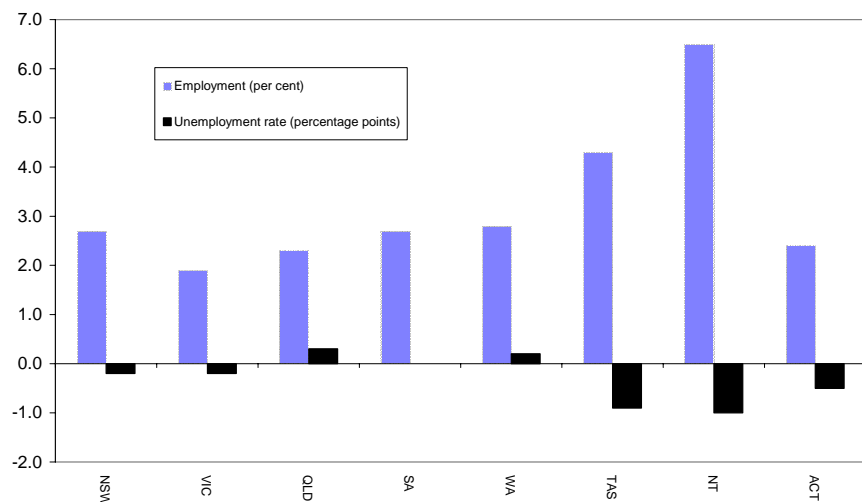
JUNE QUARTER 2008

MAIN FINDINGS

State/territory labour market developments

Employment rose in all States and Territories over the year to the June quarter 2008. The largest increase (in percentage terms) was recorded in the Northern Territory (up by 6.5 per cent), followed by Tasmania (up by 4.3 per cent) and Western Australia (up by 2.8 per cent). The unemployment rate fell in all States and Territories except Queensland, where it rose by 0.3 percentage points to 3.8 per cent, Western Australia where it rose by 0.2 percentage points to 3.4 per cent and South Australia where it was unchanged at 4.9 per cent. The largest falls over the year were recorded in the Northern Territory (down by 1.0 percentage points to 3.8 per cent), Tasmania (down by 0.9 percentage points to 3.7 per cent) and the Australian Capital Territory (down by 0.5 percentage points to 2.6 per cent).

**CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
JUNE QUARTER 2007 TO JUNE QUARTER 2008**



Developments at the ABS Labour Force Region Level

Employment increased in 79 per cent of regions over the year to the June quarter 2008, while 51 per cent of regions recorded a reduction in their unemployment rate. A number of regions have recorded strong employment growth as well as a significant reduction in their unemployment rate over the last 12 months. In particular:

- Inner Sydney and Inner Western Sydney recorded a 13.2 per cent increase in employment while the unemployment rate fell by 2.3 percentage points to 3.0 per cent;
- East Perth recorded an 8.5 per cent increase in employment while the unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points to 3.0 per cent;
- employment in Barwon-Western District in Victoria rose by 6.4 per cent while the unemployment rate fell by 1.2 percentage points to 3.7 per cent.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY ABS LABOUR FORCE REGIONS
JUNE QUARTER 2008
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)
AUSTRALIA	10 702.3	259.6	474.4	4.1	4.2	-0.1	73.3	0.4	65.3	0.4
<i>Metropolitan Australia (b)</i>	<i>6745.0</i>	<i>198.6</i>	<i>279.0</i>	<i>-9.1</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>-0.2</i>	<i>74.0</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>66.2</i>	<i>0.6</i>
<i>Non-metropolitan Australia (b)</i>	<i>3957.4</i>	<i>60.9</i>	<i>195.5</i>	<i>13.2</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>72.1</i>	<i>-0.3</i>	<i>63.8</i>	<i>-0.1</i>
New South Wales	3433.8	88.7	166.4	-3.1	4.6	-0.2	72.0	1.0	63.9	0.7
<i>Sydney</i>	<i>2250.9</i>	<i>72.4</i>	<i>96.3</i>	<i>-5.3</i>	<i>4.1</i>	<i>-0.4</i>	<i>73.4</i>	<i>1.5</i>	<i>65.9</i>	<i>1.0</i>
Inner Sydney and Inner Western Sydney	294.1	34.3	9.0	-5.6	3.0	-2.3	76.8	4.7	71.8	6.0
Inner Sydney	200.0	19.5	6.3	-2.0	3.0	-1.3	78.2	3.5	74.6	5.5
Eastern Suburbs	141.3	12.6	3.9	0.8	2.7	0.3	77.9	3.9	66.3	5.3
St George-Sutherland	241.7	5.6	8.9	-0.2	3.5	-0.2	76.4	0.3	66.4	0.6
Canterbury-Bankstown	143.1	2.3	9.9	0.3	6.5	0.1	65.4	1.1	58.2	0.2
Fairfield-Liverpool/ Outer South Western Sydney	282.5	-14.0	17.6	-5.5	5.9	-1.4	67.9	-1.0	62.7	-5.0
Fairfield-Liverpool	158.9	-7.1	10.6	-3.6	6.3	-1.6	63.9	-1.1	58.7	-4.5
Central Western Sydney	145.7	0.6	7.0	0.2	4.6	0.1	66.1	1.3	59.9	-0.5
North Western Sydney	304.6	10.5	20.8	5.4	6.4	1.4	70.7	1.1	68.2	2.4
Lower Northern Sydney	174.8	2.9	5.3	1.1	2.9	0.6	75.9	-1.5	68.1	0.7
Central Northern Sydney	233.6	-0.4	5.8	1.2	2.4	0.5	77.9	1.0	68.4	-0.7
Northern Beaches	146.5	8.3	2.8	0.0	1.9	-0.1	83.2	1.8	73.5	3.2
Gosford-Wyong	143.0	9.8	5.3	-2.9	3.6	-2.2	73.4	5.4	58.6	2.0
<i>Balance of New South Wales</i>	<i>1182.9</i>	<i>16.3</i>	<i>70.1</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>5.6</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>69.6</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>60.4</i>	<i>0.1</i>
Hunter	293.7	12.7	16.0	1.0	5.2	0.1	71.7	2.4	61.5	1.9
Newcastle	248.6	17.2	13.2	1.3	5.0	0.1	71.9	3.2	62.1	3.6
Illawarra and South Eastern	289.1	12.1	16.9	3.6	5.5	1.0	69.2	1.1	60.5	2.3
Illawarra	188.1	8.1	14.3	3.8	7.1	1.5	67.3	0.3	59.3	2.7
Wollongong	135.2	7.2	8.5	1.5	5.9	0.7	70.9	2.4	62.3	3.0
Richmond-Tweed/ Mid-North Coast	210.1	-10.8	17.7	-1.3	7.8	-0.1	62.9	-1.8	53.5	-3.6
Northern/ Far West-North Western/ Central West	257.1	7.6	13.4	-0.3	5.0	-0.2	72.0	-1.5	64.8	0.9
Murray-Murrumbidgee	133.0	-5.4	6.1	-0.9	4.4	-0.5	73.5	-1.6	63.1	-3.8
Victoria	2642.4	49.9	124.5	-2.3	4.5	-0.2	72.9	-0.1	65.0	0.0
<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>1946.1</i>	<i>41.2</i>	<i>91.3</i>	<i>2.8</i>	<i>4.5</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>73.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>65.7</i>	<i>0.3</i>
Outer Western Melbourne	315.2	17.4	16.8	-3.9	5.1	-1.5	73.8	4.2	66.9	1.6
North Western Melbourne	138.6	5.6	9.0	1.5	6.1	0.7	68.2	-0.8	62.0	1.9
Inner Melbourne	172.5	2.7	5.3	-2.5	3.0	-1.4	76.8	-0.7	73.1	-1.1
North Eastern Melbourne	235.1	1.2	9.9	1.3	4.1	0.5	73.2	1.2	65.0	-0.5
Inner Eastern Melbourne	318.0	-2.8	11.6	-0.9	3.5	-0.2	71.5	-2.6	62.0	-1.8
Southern Melbourne	223.7	4.0	10.5	4.1	4.5	1.6	75.7	-0.3	66.3	1.2
Outer Eastern Melbourne	226.2	5.3	7.4	-0.9	3.2	-0.5	76.5	-2.0	69.0	0.1
South Eastern Melbourne	188.0	10.3	14.7	4.3	7.2	1.7	67.7	-0.3	66.1	3.7
Mornington Peninsula	128.8	-2.5	6.0	0.0	4.4	0.1	73.5	-0.8	62.1	-2.3
<i>Balance of Victoria</i>	<i>696.3</i>	<i>8.6</i>	<i>33.3</i>	<i>-5.2</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>-0.7</i>	<i>72.5</i>	<i>-0.1</i>	<i>63.0</i>	<i>-0.8</i>
Barwon-Western District	196.6	11.8	7.5	-2.1	3.7	-1.2	72.9	-1.4	65.5	2.0
Central Highlands-Wimmera	99.5	1.8	4.3	-4.4	4.1	-4.0	68.7	-1.3	61.8	-2.7
Loddon-Mallee	131.8	-3.0	7.2	-1.0	5.2	-0.5	73.7	1.4	62.2	-2.9
Goulburn-Ovens-Murray	148.1	-5.2	8.9	4.0	5.7	2.6	71.3	-3.3	63.6	-1.6
All Gippsland	120.3	3.2	5.4	-1.7	4.3	-1.5	75.5	5.1	60.1	-0.3

(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.

LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY ABS LABOUR FORCE REGIONS
JUNE QUARTER 2008
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	2178.4	48.6	85.9	9.1	3.8	0.3	74.8	-0.2	67.1	0.0
Gold Coast	255.6	-5.2	11.9	2.9	4.5	1.1	72.6	-2.5	65.3	-2.3
<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>1032.4</i>	<i>36.5</i>	<i>33.1</i>	<i>-4.0</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>-0.5</i>	<i>76.8</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>69.0</i>	<i>0.4</i>
Brisbane City Inner Ring	280.0	15.6	7.3	0.0	2.5	-0.1	81.7	1.5	75.9	2.3
Brisbane City Outer Ring	321.6	17.4	10.9	0.3	3.3	-0.1	76.8	1.6	68.4	2.0
South and East Brisbane Balance	208.8	7.6	8.7	-2.3	4.0	-1.2	73.8	1.1	67.4	-0.1
North and West Brisbane Balance	222.0	-4.1	6.2	-2.0	2.7	-0.8	74.1	-0.4	64.1	-3.4
<i>Balance of Queensland</i>	<i>1146.0</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>52.8</i>	<i>13.1</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>73.1</i>	<i>-1.3</i>	<i>65.5</i>	<i>-0.3</i>
South and East Moreton	246.0	-4.0	11.5	3.2	4.5	1.3	72.9	-2.3	65.6	-1.9
North and West Moreton	179.4	-3.4	8.2	-0.2	4.4	0.0	74.7	0.7	61.9	-2.9
Wide Bay-Burnett	111.2	0.3	7.9	1.6	6.6	1.2	62.6	-2.0	54.2	-0.6
Darling Downs-South West	138.9	3.9	3.1	0.2	2.2	0.1	75.5	0.2	65.9	0.2
Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West	195.7	0.2	9.3	4.5	4.5	2.2	74.2	-3.5	68.6	-0.2
Northern-North West	140.5	8.3	4.6	0.0	3.2	-0.2	77.8	2.0	72.6	2.3
Far North	134.3	6.8	8.2	3.8	5.8	2.4	72.6	-3.0	71.0	3.6
South Australia	775.6	20.6	39.7	1.1	4.9	0.0	71.7	1.0	62.8	0.9
<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>569.8</i>	<i>16.0</i>	<i>28.3</i>	<i>-2.7</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>-0.6</i>	<i>71.7</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>62.3</i>	<i>0.6</i>
Northern Adelaide	178.0	10.7	10.0	-3.5	5.3	-2.1	70.6	3.4	64.3	1.7
Western Adelaide	99.1	1.9	4.3	-0.7	4.1	-0.7	66.8	-2.0	55.6	0.0
Eastern Adelaide	118.2	0.5	4.7	0.5	3.8	0.4	73.7	1.4	61.8	-0.3
Southern Adelaide	174.5	3.0	9.4	1.0	5.1	0.4	74.7	1.4	65.1	0.6
<i>Balance of South Australia</i>	<i>205.8</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>3.9</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>71.8</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>64.3</i>	<i>1.7</i>
Northern and Western SA	73.2	-7.1	4.4	2.0	5.7	2.7	66.3	-5.8	59.0	-4.8
Southern and Eastern SA	132.6	11.7	6.9	1.9	5.0	1.0	75.1	3.7	67.7	5.8
Western Australia	1131.6	30.8	39.3	2.9	3.4	0.2	75.6	0.1	68.1	0.2
<i>Perth</i>	<i>842.5</i>	<i>28.4</i>	<i>26.5</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>76.4</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>68.2</i>	<i>0.5</i>
Central Metropolitan	72.7	-4.5	3.1	2.1	4.1	2.9	74.9	-1.7	65.2	-3.8
East Metropolitan	142.6	11.2	4.4	0.1	3.0	-0.2	73.1	-1.2	67.9	3.6
North Metropolitan	259.7	11.2	6.3	-1.8	2.4	-0.8	78.2	0.6	69.9	0.7
South West Metropolitan	174.1	2.4	7.2	1.5	4.0	0.8	76.7	0.5	67.9	-0.3
South East Metropolitan	193.4	8.0	5.5	-1.3	2.8	-0.8	76.8	3.7	67.7	0.5
<i>Balance of Western Australia</i>	<i>289.1</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>12.8</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>4.2</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>73.3</i>	<i>-1.8</i>	<i>67.7</i>	<i>-0.7</i>
Lower Western WA	152.9	5.0	7.8	3.1	4.9	1.8	73.8	-1.1	67.0	1.7
Remainder-Balance WA	136.2	-2.5	5.0	-0.9	3.6	-0.5	72.8	-2.7	68.5	-3.5
Tasmania	236.7	9.8	9.0	-1.7	3.7	-0.9	71.2	2.4	61.5	1.5
Greater Hobart-Southern	119.1	4.7	3.9	-0.7	3.1	-0.7	72.2	2.0	62.2	1.5
<i>Greater Hobart</i>	<i>103.3</i>	<i>4.2</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>-0.6</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>-0.7</i>	<i>73.4</i>	<i>2.3</i>	<i>63.2</i>	<i>1.6</i>
Northern	66.7	3.0	2.6	-0.2	3.8	-0.5	70.8	2.8	61.6	2.0
Mersey-Lyell	50.8	2.1	2.5	-0.8	4.8	-1.7	69.3	2.7	59.9	0.9
Northern Territory	111.3	6.8	4.4	-0.9	3.8	-1.0	74.4	2.1	73.1	1.7
Australian Capital Territory	192.5	4.5	5.1	-1.0	2.6	-0.5	80.1	0.0	73.0	-0.2

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

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 1350 Statistical Local Areas.

Next issue

The next issue of *Australian Regional Labour Markets*, for the September quarter 2008, is expected to be released in late October 2008.

Contact details

This brochure was prepared by the Economic and Labour Market Analysis Branch, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Canberra. For further information on this brochure or related statistics, contact Kellie Gavin in the Labour Market Analysis Section on (02) 6121 3538 or email Kellie.Gavin@deewr.gov.au

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 the ABS Labour Force Survey area on (02) 6252 6525.