

### **QUEENSLAND TREASURY**

# MACROECONOMICS TEAM, OESR LABOUR FORCE: JUNE 2006

ABS 6202.0

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#### Summary (TREND)

**Employment:** Queensland, **↑** 6,700 jobs (0.3%)

Australia, ↑ 23,600 jobs (0.2%)

**Labour Force:** Queensland, ↑ 4,800 persons (0.2%) Australia, ↑ 19,100 persons (0.2%)

 Nationally, seasonally adjusted employment rose by 52,000 jobs (0.5%) in June 2006, well above market expectations of a 10,000 job rise.

#### **Analysis**

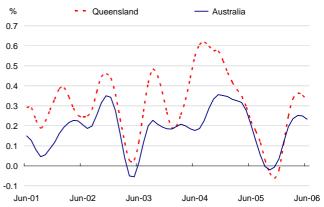
- Queensland's trend unemployment rate was 4.7% in June 2006, down 0.1 percentage point from a revised 4.8% in May. Similarly, the national unemployment rate declined 0.1 percentage point to 4.9% in June, but remained above the rate in Queensland. The monthly trend unemployment rate in Queensland has been below that nationally since July 2004.
- The State recorded strong trend employment growth of 0.3% in June, the fourth consecutive month of above-average (0.3-0.4%) monthly growth. In comparison, national trend employment increased 0.2% for the second consecutive month in June.
- In Queensland, trend growth in full-time employment (up 9,000 jobs) drove jobs growth in June, more than offsetting a decline in part-time employment of 2,300 jobs. Over the year, Queensland recorded an increase in full-time employment of 34,100, which accounted for more than a third (34.4%) of full-time jobs created nationally. Part-time employment in the State increased 4,900 over the year.
- Queensland's trend labour force participation rate was unchanged at 66.3% in June, well above the 64.6% recorded nationally.
- In original year-average terms, Queensland recorded jobs growth of 2.9% in 2005-06. This was marginally below labour force growth of 3.0%, resulting in the year-average unemployment rate rising marginally (up 0.1 percentage point) to 5.0% in 2005-06.
- Despite the recent excellent labour market conditions in Queensland, forward indicators of jobs growth in the State remain somewhat mixed. The trend ANZ Job Ads Series has fallen in recent months, while the number of ABS Job Vacancies reached an historical high of 36,800 in June quarter 2006. In addition, indicators of activity in the labour-intensive retail and construction sectors also remain supportive of jobs growth going forward.

**Note:** This brief uses data provided by the ABS which is more detailed than that published in the ABS *Labour Force* (6202.0) publication. Consequently, some data in the brief may differ slightly to that published in 6202.0, due to rounding.

Table 1

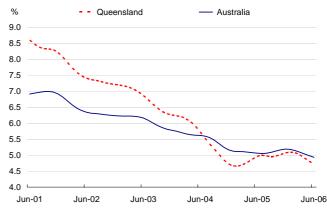
Labour Force, June 2006						
	Monthly Change (number)		% change on a month ago		% change on a year ago	
Monthly Data						
	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust	QLD	Aust
Trend						
Employment	6,700	23,600	0.3	0.2	2.0	1.5
Full-time	9,000	18,100	0.6	0.3	2.4	1.4
Part-time	-2,300	5,600	-0.4	0.2	0.9	1.7
Labour Force	4,800	19,100	0.2	0.2	1.7	1.3
Seas. Adjusted						
Employment	16,400	52,000	0.8	0.5	2.5	1.8
Full-time	18,500	24,300	1.3	0.3	2.9	1.5
Part-time	-2,100	27,600	-0.4	1.0	1.6	2.5
Labour Force	9,600	59,400	0.5	0.6	2.4	1.7
	Current		A month ago		A year ago	
Unemploy. Rate						
Trend	4.7	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.1
Seas. Adjusted	4.6	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.7	5.0
Participation Rate						
Trend	66.3	64.6	66.3	64.6	66.7	64.6
Seas, Adjusted	66.5	64.8	66.3	64.5	66.4	64.6

## Chart 1 Monthly Employment Growth, Trend



Note: Charts for June may not be consistent with Table 1 due to rounding.

#### Chart 2 Unemployment Rate, Trend



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