

# Labour Force, September 2024

Source: ABS Labour Force, released 17 October 2024, 10:30 am AEST.

**NOTE: These data reflect conditions during the survey reference weeks (1 – 14 September 2024).**

## Key data (trend, monthly)

<b>Employment:</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>(0.2%)</b>
(persons, growth)	Australia	44,400	(0.3%)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>(4.1%)</b>
(persons, rate)	Australia	1,100	(4.1%)
<b>Labour force:</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>(0.2%)</b>
(persons, growth)	Australia	45,400	(0.3%)
<b>Underemployment:</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>(6.7%)</b>
(persons, rate)	Australia	800	(6.4%)
<b>Hours worked:</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>(0.3%)</b>
(thousands, growth)	Australia	4,300	(0.2%)

## Key data (seasonally adjusted, monthly)

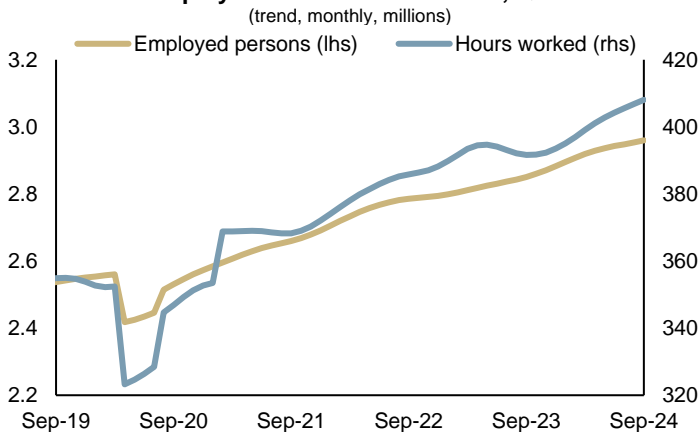
<b>Employment:</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>(0.3%)</b>
(persons, growth)	Australia	64,100	(0.4%)
<b>Unemployment:</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>-3,900</b>	<b>(4.1%)</b>
(persons, rate)	Australia	-9,200	(4.1%)

## Main findings (trend)

Employment in Queensland rose by 6,000 persons (0.2%) in September 2024 to be 109,500 persons (3.8%) higher over the year. The rise in September reflected increases in both full-time (up 2,400) and part-time (up 3,600) employment.

The employment-to-population ratio was 64.4% in September 2024, unchanged from August but well above its pre-COVID ratio of 61.8%. Hours worked rose 0.3% in September and were 15.8% above its level in March 2020 (Chart 1).

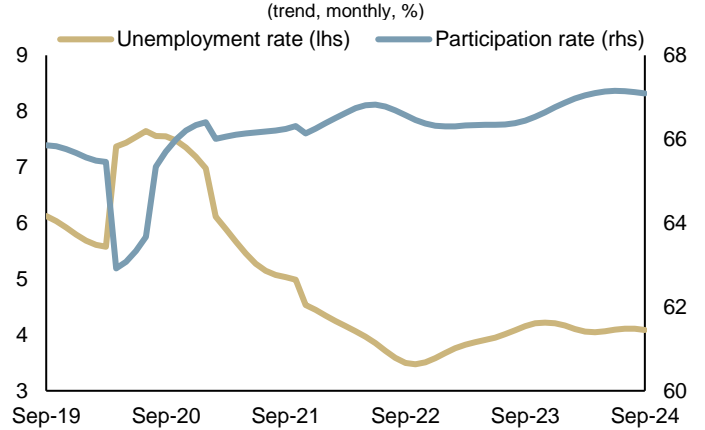
**Chart 1: Employment and hours worked, Queensland**



The unemployment rate was 4.1% in September, unchanged from August and still well below the pre-COVID rate of 5.6% in March 2020 (Chart 2).

Queensland's participation rate was 67.1% in September 2024, unchanged from August, and remaining above its pre-COVID rate of 65.5%.

**Chart 2: Unemployment and participation rates, Queensland**



Nationally, trend employment rose by 44,400 persons in September (0.3%, Table 1) to be 1,591,200 (12.3%) above its pre-COVID level of March 2020. In seasonally adjusted terms, employment nationally grew by 64,100 persons which was well above market expectations for a 25,000 increase.

The ABS noted, 'the trend employment and participation measures are at an all-time high, while unemployment and underemployment measures are still low, especially compared with what we saw before the pandemic. This suggests the labour market continues to be relatively tight.'

The national unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.1% in September 2024 (Table 1). Hours worked rose 0.2% in the month, to be 11.5% above its pre-COVID level in March 2020.

**Table 1: Interstate comparison<sup>1</sup>, September 2024**

	(trend)						
	Qld	NSW	Vic	SA	WA	Tas	Aus
<b>Employed</b>							
Employed (000s, no.)	2,960	4,480	3,800	950	1,620	280	14,510
Monthly % change	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	-0.1	0.3
Monthly change (no.)	6,000	14,300	16,300	3,000	3,600	-200	44,400
Annual % change	3.8	2.2	3.7	-0.3	3.6	-1.3	2.9
Annual change (no.)	109,500	97,300	135,400	-2,600	56,100	-3,700	403,400
Since March-20 (%)	15.6	9.9	11.8	9.8	16.1	6.1	12.3
Since March-20 (no.)	398,900	404,900	402,400	84,200	224,700	16,100	1,591,200
<b>Unemployment rate</b>							
September 2024	4.1	3.9	4.4	4.2	3.7	4.3	4.1
August 2024	4.1	3.9	4.5	4.2	3.8	4.2	4.1
September 2023	4.2	3.4	3.8	3.8	3.7	4.2	3.7
<b>Hours worked (millions)</b>							
September 2024	408.0	604.7	508.4	124.6	226.5	36.3	1965.0
Monthly % change	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.2
Annual % change	4.2	0.6	2.9	-1.0	2.7	-3.5	1.9
<b>Participation rate</b>							
September 2024	67.1	66.2	68.4	62.9	69.0	60.8	67.2
August 2024	67.1	66.2	68.3	62.8	69.0	60.8	67.1
September 2023	66.4	65.9	67.4	63.9	68.8	62.0	66.7
<b>Emp. to pop ratio</b>							
September 2024	64.4	63.6	65.4	60.3	66.4	58.2	64.4
August 2024	64.4	63.5	65.3	60.2	66.4	58.3	64.4
September 2023	63.7	63.7	64.9	61.5	66.2	59.4	64.2
<b>Underemployment rate</b>							
September 2024	6.7	6.0	6.7	7.5	5.4	7.5	6.4
August 2024	6.7	6.1	6.7	7.5	5.4	7.5	6.4
September 2023	7.1	6.5	6.6	7.5	6.0	6.7	6.5

1. Note – numbers may not add due to rounding.