



This publication provides summary data and commentary on the latest ABS Labour Force Cat: 6202.0 release for Western Australia. It also includes brief information on other selective WA labour market indicators.

KEY POINTS¹

- Labour market conditions in Western Australia have strengthened.
- The level of **employment** in Western Australia has trended upwards since March 2017.
- The level of **full-time employment** in Western Australia rose by 1,700 in July 2017, and by 44,400 over the past 12 months.
- Overall employment is up 25,600 over the 12 months to July 2017, representing a 1.9 per cent increase.
- The State's **youth unemployment rate** has increased by 1.7 percentage points over the year, to stand at 13 per cent in July 2017, the highest rate recorded since February 2004.
- The level of **unemployment** has declined by 0.2 per cent 0.4 percent on the previous month and now sits below the National rate.²

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Employed Persons ('000)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	1,340.4	1,367.3	1,366.1
Australia	11,962.1	12,173.5	12,201.4

Employed ('000) by Employment Type			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
Full time	899.9	942.6	944.3
Part time (Original data)	443.0	424.8	421.8

Participation Rate (%)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	67.9	68.0	67.7
Australia	64.9	65.0	65.1

Unemployed Persons ('000)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	92.4	80.8	77.6
Australia	729.8	729.5	730.6

Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	6.4	5.6	5.4
Australia	5.8	5.7	5.6

Youth Unemployment (15-24yrs, %)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA*	11.2	12.8	13.0
Australia [^]	12.5	12.9	12.9

* 12 month moving average of original data

[^] Trend data

TREND

Employed Persons ('000)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	1,336.3	1,363.5	1,366.8
Australia	11,937.7	12,170.9	12,196.9

WA Employed ('000)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
Full time	901.6	941.6	945.3
Part time (Original data)	443.0	429.3	424.4

Participation Rate (%)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	67.4	67.8	67.8
Australia	64.7	65.0	65.0

Unemployed Persons ('000)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	87.5	80.0	78.3
Australia	720.7	727.8	726.0

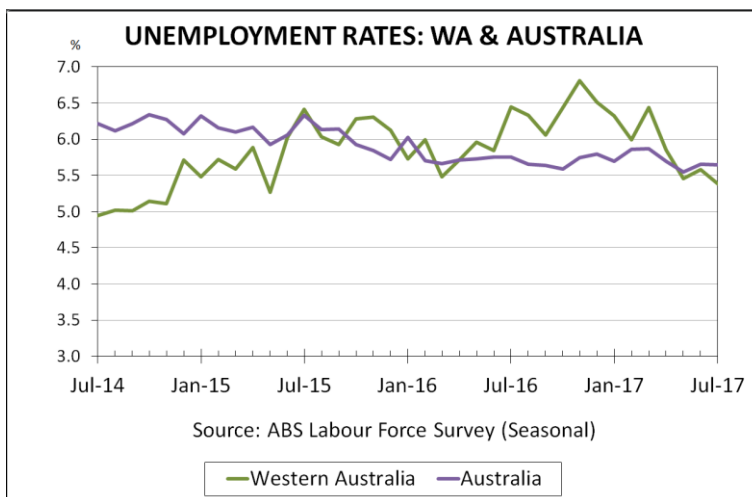
Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Jul-16	Jun-17	Jul-17
WA	6.1	5.5	5.4
Australia	5.7	5.6	5.6

¹ Seasonally adjusted data

² 12 month moving average of original data

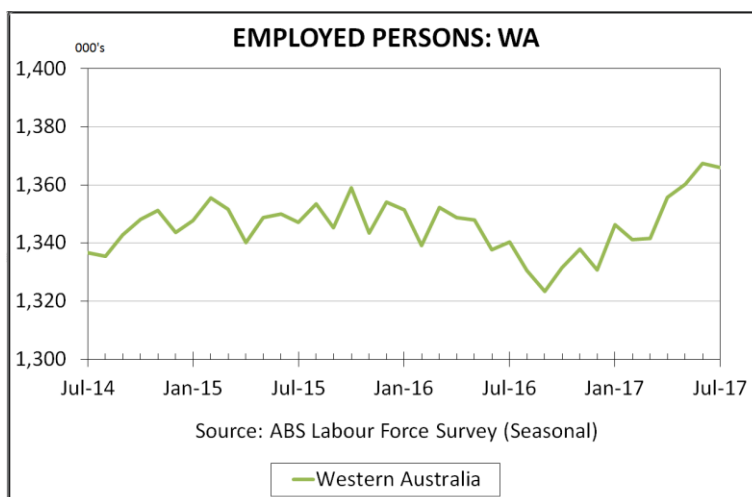
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- The level of unemployment in Western Australia has decreased by 14,800 (or 16.0 per cent) over the year, to 77,600 in July 2017.
- WA’s unemployment rate has also fallen, from 6.4 per cent in July 2016, to 5.4 per cent in July 2017.
- WA’s unemployment rate is 0.2 percentage points below the national unemployment rate of 5.6%.



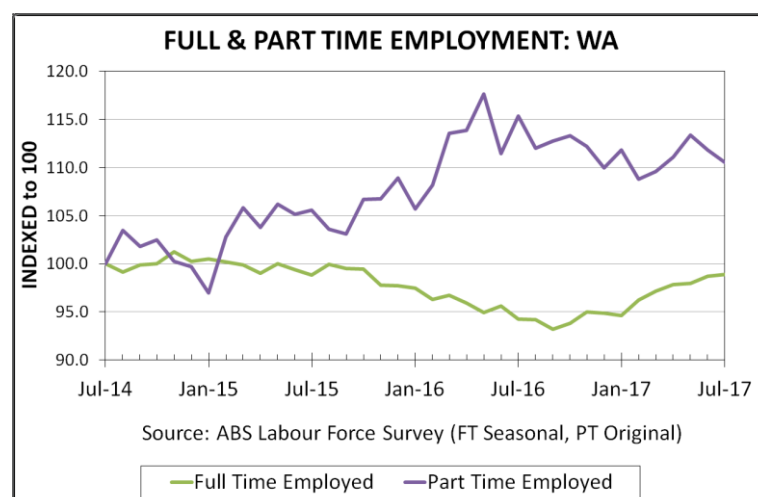
EMPLOYMENT

- Labour market conditions in Western Australia have strengthened.
- The level of employment in Western Australia increased by 25,600 (or 1.9 per cent) over the year, to stand at 1,366,100 in July 2017.
- The total number of males employed in WA has increased by 18,300 (or 2.5 per cent) over the year. The number of females employed has increased by 7,400 (or 1.21 per cent) over the same period.
- While male employment is up over the year, over the month it decreased by 2,600. Female employment increased by 1,700 during this period.



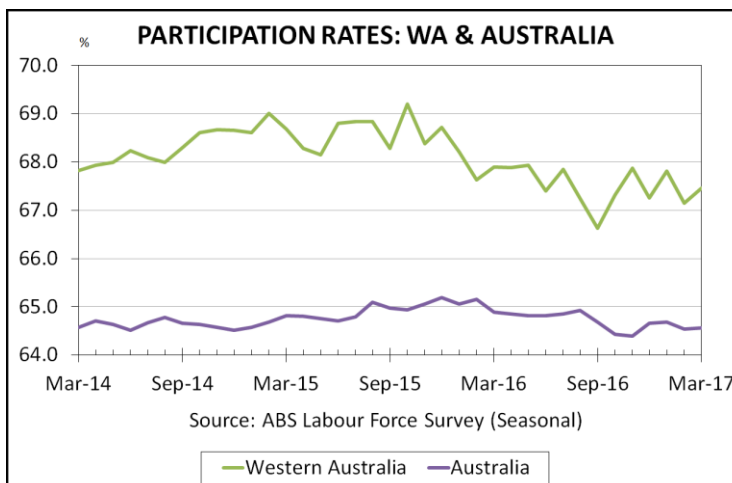
FULL TIME AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT

- Over the year, persons in full-time employment increased significantly, up by 44,400 (or 4.9 per cent), to stand at 944,300.
- Persons in part-time employment declined over the year, by 18,700 (or 4.2 per cent), to 421,800 in July 2017.
- Full time employment has increased for both males and females, rising by 19,700 and 24,600 respectively over the past 12 months.
- The decline in part time employment has been largely driven by a 5.5 per cent fall in female part time employment.



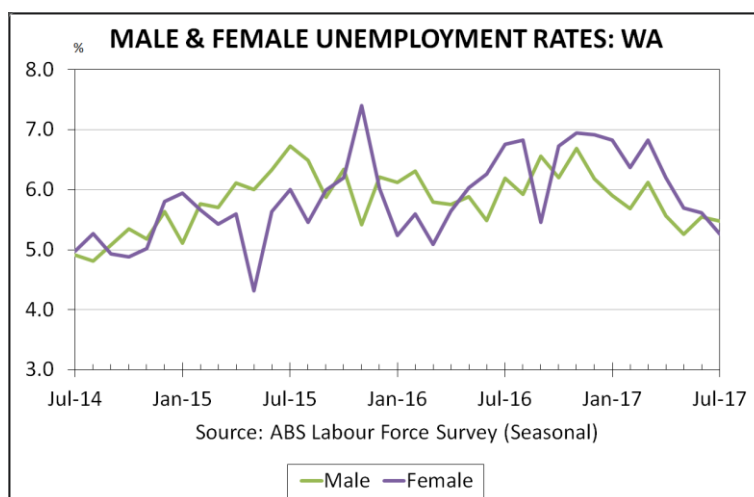
PARTICIPATION RATE

- The participation rate in Western Australia has decreased from 67.9 per cent in July 2016, to 67.7 per cent in July 2017, although it remains above the national rate of 65.1 per cent.
- WA’s participation rate is currently 0.2 percentage points lower than that recorded one year ago.
- Participation rates for males and females in WA sit at 74.4 per cent and 61.0 per cent respectively.
- Nationally, participation rates sit at 70.7 per cent for males and 59.6 per cent for females.



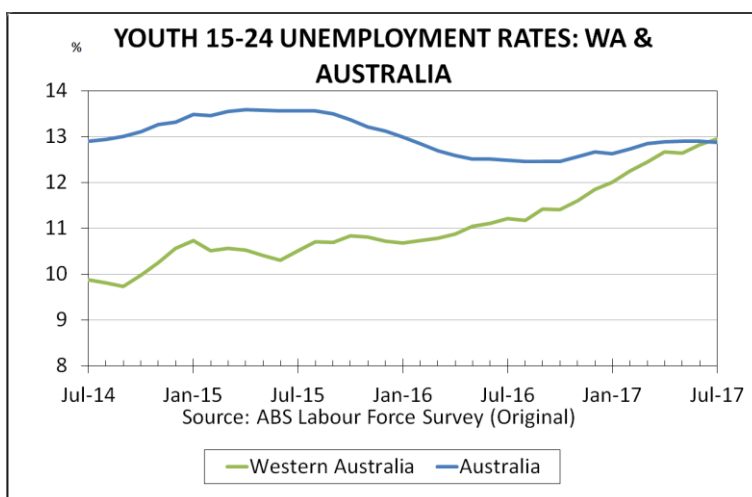
MALE AND FEMALE UNEMPLOYMENT

- Male and female unemployment has fallen considerably over the past 12 months to July 2017.
- The WA unemployment rate for males decreased by 0.1 percentage points from the previous month to stand at 5.5 per cent. This compares to 6.2 per cent one year ago.
- The WA unemployment rate for females decreased by 0.4 percentage points from the previous month to stand at 5.3 per cent. This compares to 6.8 per cent one year ago.
- Nationally, male unemployment sits at 5.6 per cent, on par with 12 months ago. Female unemployment sits at 5.7 per cent.



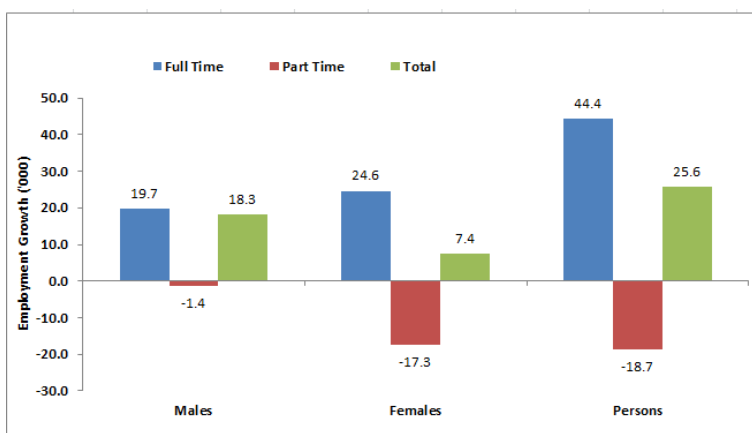
YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT (15-24 YEAR OLDS)³

- WA’s youth unemployment rate increased by 1.7 percentage points over the year to 13.0 per cent in July 2017.
- At July 2017 there were 276,500 15-24 year olds unemployed in WA compared to 282,200 in July 2016.



EMPLOYMENT GROWTH BY GENDER AND TYPE

- Overall employment has risen by 25,600 persons in WA over the past 12 months, driven by an increase in full time employment in both males and females.
- Part time employment in WA decreased by 18,700 persons.
- Part time employment for females decreased by 17,300 and increased by 1,400 for males.
- Over the same period, full time employment for males increased by 19,700 and full time employment for females increased by 24,600.



³ ABS Labour Force Survey estimates for youth unemployment are subject to high levels of sampling error and, as such, should be used with caution.