



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 continue to strengthen.
- The level of **employment** in Western Australia increased by 0.6 per cent over the month, and increased by 48,100 (or 3.6 per cent) over the year.
 - The level of **full-time employment** in Western Australia increased by 50,300 (or 5.6 per cent) over the year.
 - Part-time employment** in Western Australia has declined by 2,200 (or 0.5 per cent) over the year.
- The State's **youth unemployment** rate has increased by 1.9 per cent over the year, to stand at 13.3 per cent. This is the highest rate recorded since February 2004.
- The level of **unemployment** in Western Australia has decreased by 2,300 (or 2.72 per cent) over the year, to 82,800 in September 2017. The State's **unemployment rate** has fallen from 6.0 per cent to 5.7 per cent.

The following September 2017 ABS Labour Force Data were released 19/10/17.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

| Employed Persons ('000) | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 1,322.4 | 1,362.2 | 1,370.5 |
| Australia | 11,918.7 | 12,270.4 | 12,290.2 |

| Employed ('000) by Employment Type | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| Full time | 889.6 | 935.4 | 939.9 |
| Part time (Original data) | 432.9 | 426.7 | 430.6 |

| Participation Rate (%) | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 66.6 | 68.0 | 68.2 |
| Australia | 64.4 | 65.2 | 65.2 |

| Unemployed Persons ('000) | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 85.1 | 85.0 | 82.8 |
| Australia | 716.6 | 723.3 | 711.5 |

| Unemployment Rate (%) | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 6.0 | 5.9 | 5.7 |
| Australia | 5.7 | 5.6 | 5.5 |

| Youth Unemployment (15-24yrs, %) | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA* | 11.4 | 13.1 | 13.3 |
| Australia [^] | 12.5 | 12.9 | 12.8 |

* 12 month moving average of original data

[^] Trend data

TREND

| Employed Persons ('000) | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 1,330.1 | 1,367.1 | 1,369.1 |
| Australia | 11,945.7 | 12,257.5 | 12,281.2 |

| WA Employed ('000) | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| Full time | 896.4 | 940.4 | 940.6 |
| Part time (Original data) | 432.9 | 426.4 | 430.7 |

| Participation Rate (%) | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 67.2 | 68.0 | 68.1 |
| Australia | 64.6 | 65.2 | 65.2 |

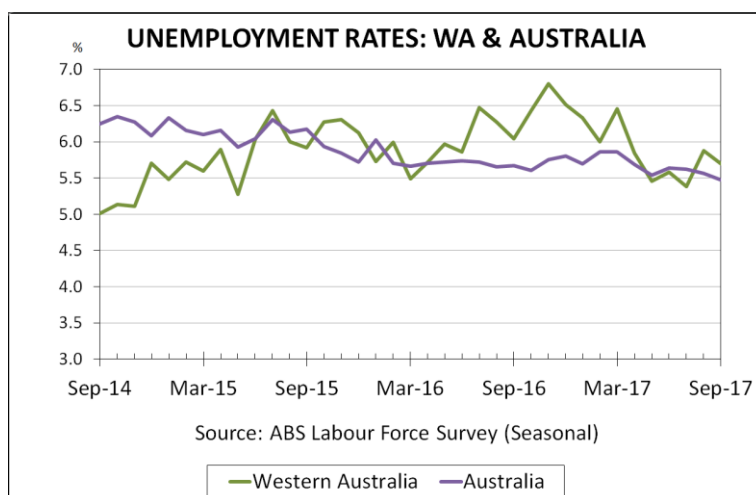
| Unemployed Persons ('000) | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 90.7 | 80.9 | 81.1 |
| Australia | 718.8 | 718.8 | 716.6 |

| Unemployment Rate (%) | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Sep-16 | Aug-17 | Sep-17 |
| WA | 6.4 | 5.6 | 5.6 |
| Australia | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.5 |

¹ Seasonally adjusted data

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- The level of unemployment in WA has declined by 5.8 per cent over the year.
- WA’s unemployment rate has also fallen, from 6.0 per cent in September 2016 to 5.7 per cent in September 2017.
- WA’s unemployment rate is currently 0.2 per cent above the national unemployment rate of 5.5%.



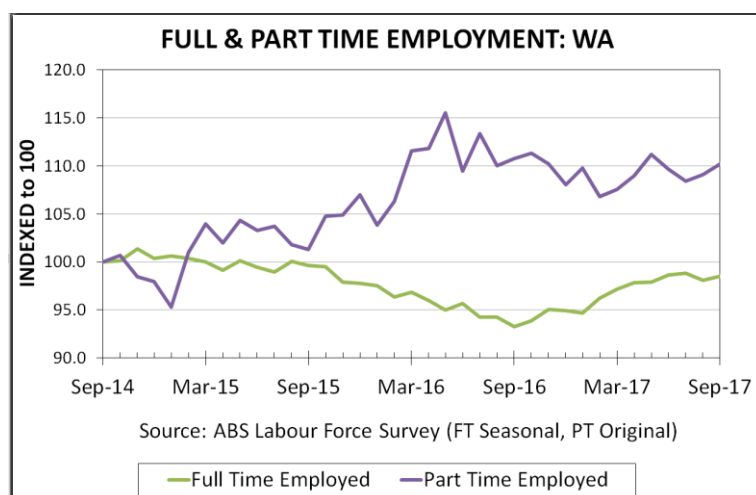
EMPLOYMENT

- Labour market conditions in WA continue to strengthen.
- The level of employment in WA increased by 48,100 (or 3.6 per cent) over the year, to stand at 1,370,500 in September 2017.
- The total number of males employed in WA has increased by 32,000 (or 4.4 per cent) over the year. The number of females employed has increased by 16,000 (or 2.7 per cent) over the same period.
- Male employment increased over the month by 9,400 (1.27 per cent), while female employment declined over the same period by 1,100 (0.2 per cent).



FULL TIME AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT

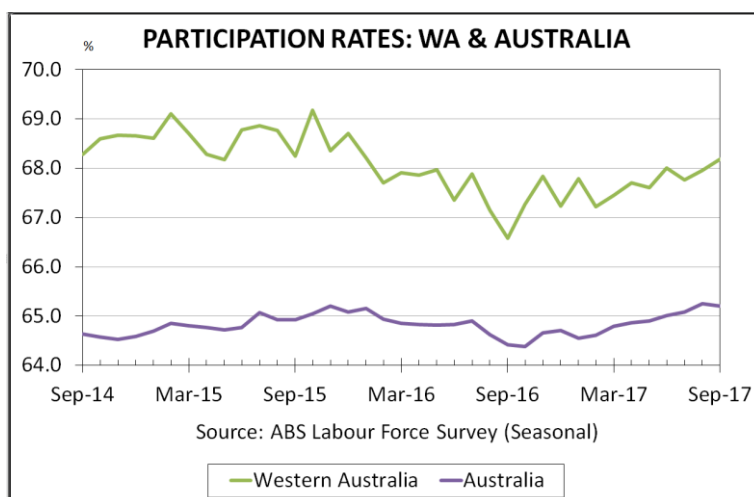
- Over the year, persons in full-time employment increased by 50,300 (or 5.6 per cent), to stand at 939,900.
- Full time employment has increased for both males and females, rising by 4.9 percent and 7.2 per cent respectively over the past 12 months.
- Persons in part-time employment declined by 2,200 (or 0.5 per cent) over the year, to sit at 430,200 at September 2017.²
- The decline in part-time employment has been driven by a 1.6 per cent decrease in female part-time employment.



² Original data.

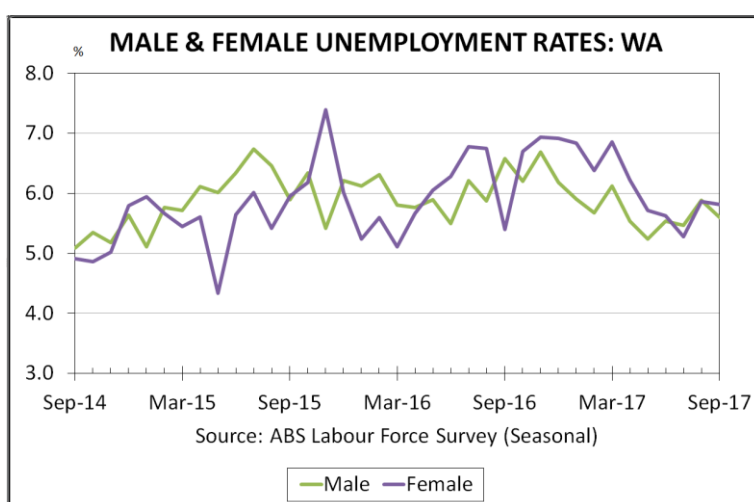
PARTICIPATION RATE

- The participation rate in WA has increased by 2.4 per cent over the year to sit at 68.2 percent. The national participation rate is 65.2 per cent.
- Participation rates for males and females in WA have increased over the year to sit at 74.8 per cent and 61.6 per cent respectively.
- Nationally, participation rates sit at 70.7 per cent for males and 59.8 per cent for females.



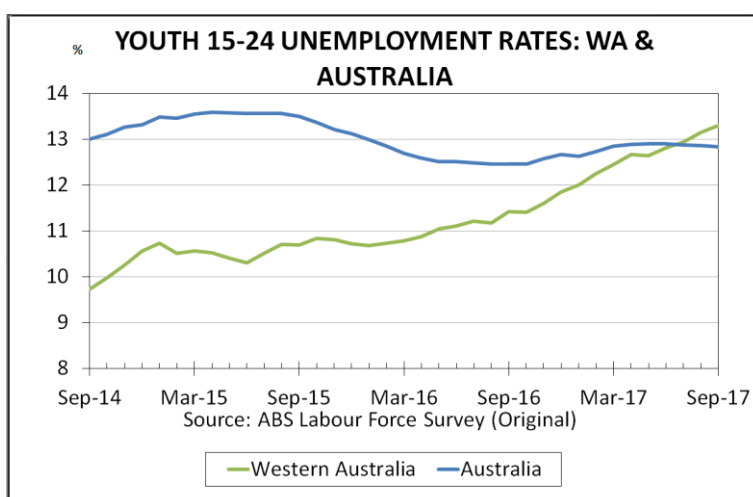
MALE AND FEMALE UNEMPLOYMENT

- Over the year the WA unemployment rate for males decreased by 1.0 per cent to sit at 5.6 per cent.
- The WA unemployment rate for females increased by 0.4 per cent over the same period to sit at 5.8 per cent.
- Nationally, male unemployment sits at 5.4 per cent. Female unemployment sits at 5.5 per cent.



YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT (15-24 YEAR OLDS)³

- WA's youth unemployment rate increased by nearly 1.9 per cent over the year to sit at 13.3 per cent.
- This is the highest rate recorded in WA since February 2004 and sits above the national rate.
- Youth unemployment has been trending upwards since late 2014, and last sat around the current level in early 2002.



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

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH BY GENDER AND TYPE

- Overall employment in WA has increased by 48,100 over the past 12 months. This increase has been overwhelmingly driven by an increase in full time employment.
 - Full time employment has grown by 50,300 while part time employment has decreased by 2,300.
 - The growth in full time employment has occurred for both males and females.
 - The slight decline in part time employment over the year can be largely attributed to a decrease in the level of female part time employment. Male part time employment increased by 2,900 over the year.

