

SUMMARY

During February, total [employment](#):

- rose 0.8% in South Australia in [seasonally adjusted](#) terms (nationally, total employment rose 0.7%).

During February, the [unemployment rate](#):

- was 6.8% in South Australia in **seasonally adjusted** terms (5.8% nationally).

Note: Due to the impacts of COVID-19 on the labour market, the ABS has suspended the trend series from April 2020 onwards until further notice.

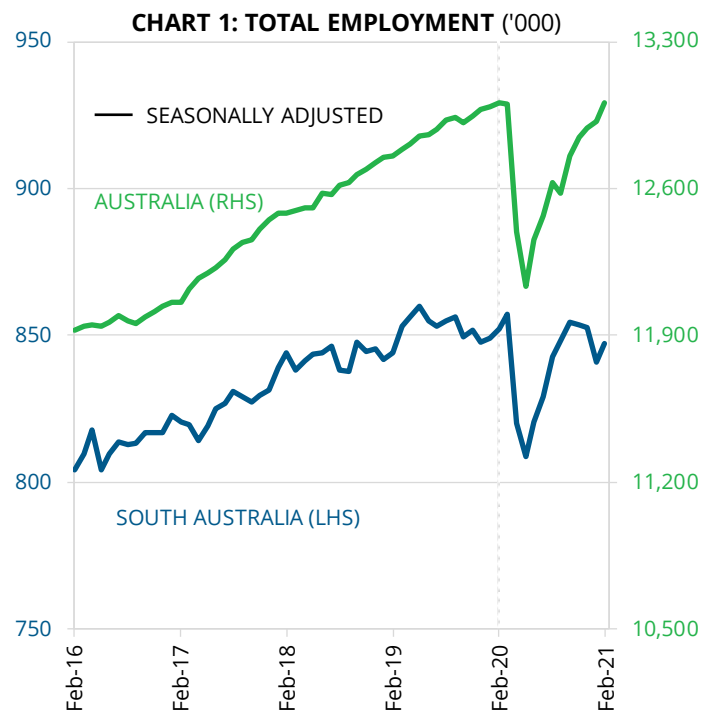
FURTHER ANALYSIS

EMPLOYMENT

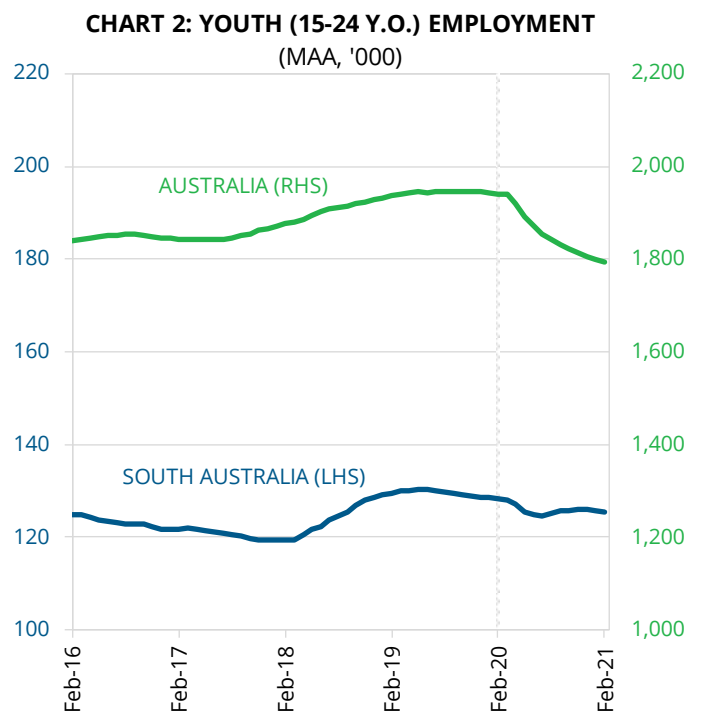
In **seasonally adjusted** terms, total employment in South Australia rose by 6,600 (0.8%), and rose by 88,700 (0.7%) nationally in February—see Chart 1.

- In South Australia, full-time employment rose by 3,100 (0.6%) and part-time employment rose by 3,500 (1.2%).
- Nationally, full-time employment rose by 89,100 (1.0%) and part-time employment fell by a marginal 500 persons.

[Through the year](#) seasonally adjusted employment growth was 0.6% lower for South Australia and was unchanged nationally.



In the year to February, the number of employed 15 to 24 year olds in South Australia was 2.3% lower than a year earlier and 7.6% lower nationally ([moving annual average](#) terms)—see Chart 2.

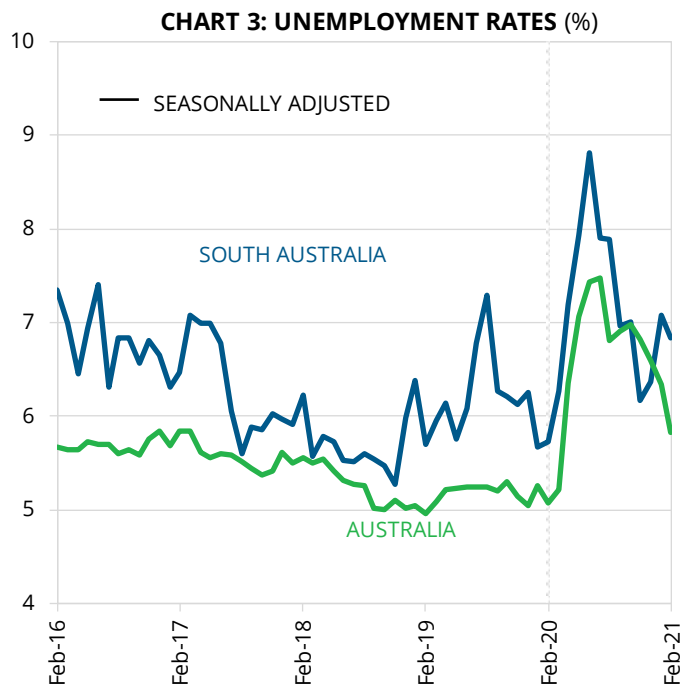


UNEMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, the unemployment rate in South Australia fell from 7.1% in January to 6.8% in February. Nationally, the unemployment rate fell from 6.3% in January to 5.8% in February—see Table 1 and Chart 3.

Table 1: Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (%)

	Feb-20	Jan-21	Feb-21
NSW	4.6	6.0	5.6
VIC	5.3	6.3	5.6
QLD	5.6	7.0	6.1
SA	5.7	7.1	6.8
WA	5.2	6.2	6.0
TAS	4.9	5.9	5.7
AUS	5.1	6.3	5.8



In South Australia, the **youth** (15-24 year old) unemployment rate was 15.4% in the year to February, up from 13.9% a year earlier and above the 14.5% rate recorded nationally (**annual average terms**).

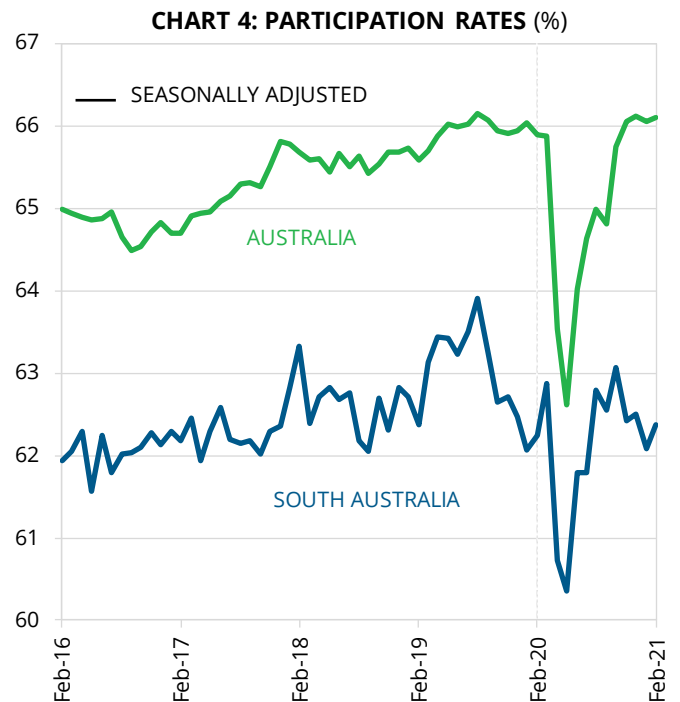
UNDEREMPLOYMENT

Underemployed workers are those who are employed part-time and who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have.

The **seasonally adjusted** underemployment rate in South Australia was 8.6% in February. As a result the overall seasonally adjusted labour force **underutilisation** rate was 15.4% in February, unchanged from a year earlier. In February, the national underutilisation rate was 14.4%.

PARTICIPATION

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, the **participation rate** in South Australia rose from 62.1% in January to 62.4% in February. Nationally, the participation rate rose by 0.1 of a percentage point and was 66.1% in February—see Chart 4.



HOURS WORKED

In **annual average terms**, age groups that experienced increases in participation in the year to January 2021 were 25-34 year olds (up 0.5pp) and 15-24 year olds (up 0.2pp). All other age groups experienced declines in participation over the same period, led by 65-74 year olds (down 3.7pp) and 75+ year olds (down 0.9pp) —see Table 2.

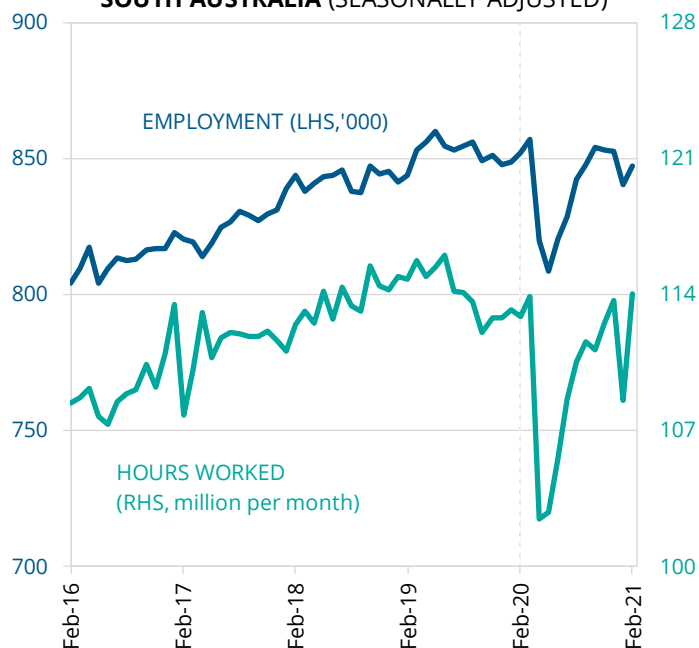
Table 2: Participation by Age Group, South Australia (Annual Average, %)

	Yr to Jan 20	Yr to Jan 21	Jan 20 vs Jan 21 (pp.)
15-24	68.7	68.9	0.2
25-34	82.6	83.1	0.5
35-44	86.4	86.0	-0.4
45-54	83.0	82.9	-0.1
55-64	66.6	66.1	-0.6
65-74	23.2	19.5	-3.7
75+	3.0	2.1	-0.9

Note: The breakdown of participation by age group is published on the Thursday following the main release. The age breakdowns of participation reported in this brief reflect annual average rates up to the previous month.

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, monthly hours worked in all jobs rose by 5.0% in South Australia in February and were 1.0% higher than a year earlier—see Chart 5. Nationally, monthly hours worked in all jobs higher by 0.2% through the year to February.

CHART 5: EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS WORKED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly Cat No 6202.0) is 15 April 2021

Table 3: Labour Force Aggregates - Seasonally Adjusted

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	<i>Feb-20</i>	<i>Jan-21</i>	Feb-21	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	904.0	904.8	909.6	+4.7	0.5%	+5.6	0.6%
Participation rate (%)	62.2	62.1	62.4		0.3pp		0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	852.3	840.7	847.4	+6.6	0.8%	-4.9	-0.6%
Full-time employment ('000)	544.1	549.1	552.3	+3.1	0.6%	+8.2	1.5%
Part-time employment ('000)	308.2	291.6	295.1	+3.5	1.2%	-13.1	-4.2%
Unemployment ('000)	51.7	64.1	62.2	-1.9	-2.9%	+10.5	20.2%
Unemployment rate (%)	5.7	7.1	6.8		-0.2pp		1.1pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	15.4	15.4	15.4		0.0pp		0.0pp
Total hours worked (million)	112.9	108.6	114.0		5.0%		1.0%
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AUSTRALIA	<i>Feb-20</i>	<i>Jan-21</i>	Feb-21	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	13704.4	13793.3	13812.1	+18.8	0.1%	+107.7	0.8%
Participation rate (%)	65.9	66.1	66.1		0.1pp		0.2pp
Total employment ('000)	13,008.7	12,918.2	13,006.9	+88.7	0.7%	-1.8	0.0%
Full-time employment ('000)	8,889.5	8,805.9	8,895.0	+89.1	1.0%	+5.5	0.1%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,119.2	4,112.3	4,111.9	-0.5	0.0%	-7.3	-0.2%
Unemployment ('000)	695.7	875.1	805.2	-69.9	-8.0%	+109.5	15.7%
Unemployment rate (%)	5.1	6.3	5.8		-0.5pp		0.8pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	13.7	14.5	14.4		-0.1pp		0.6pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,763.8	1,664.9	1,766.8		6.1%		0.2%

pp represents percentage points; totals may not reconcile due to rounding