

## SUMMARY

During December, total [employment](#):

- fell 1.3% in South Australia in [seasonally adjusted](#) terms (nationally, total employment fell 0.5%); and
- fell 0.1% in South Australia in [trend](#) terms (nationally, total employment rose 0.1%).

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

- was 3.9% in South Australia in **seasonally adjusted** terms (also 3.9% nationally); and
- was 3.8% in South Australia in **trend** terms (also 3.8% nationally).

## FURTHER ANALYSIS

### EMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms in December:

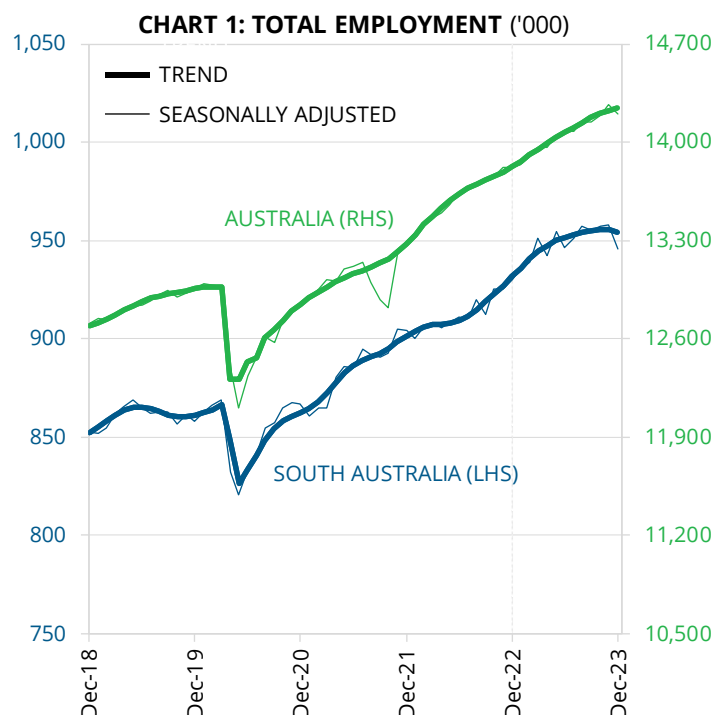
- Total employment in South Australia fell by 12,400 (1.3%), following a rise of 0.1% in November—see Chart 1. Full-time employment fell by 19,800 while part-time employment rose by 7,400.
- Nationally, total employment fell by 65,100 (0.5%). Full-time employment fell by 106,600 and part-time employment rose by 41,400.

[Through the year](#) seasonally adjusted employment growth was 1.7% for South Australia and 2.8% nationally.

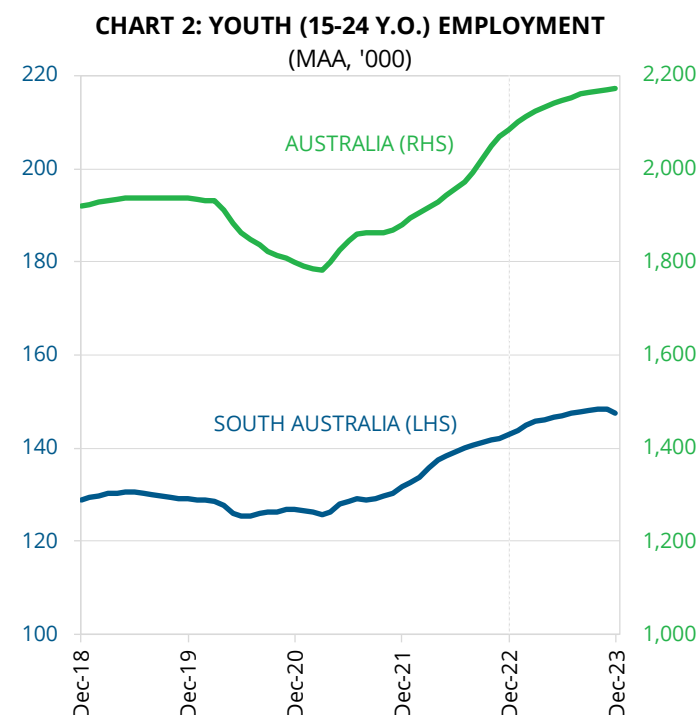
In **trend** terms in December:

- Total employment in South Australia fell by 900 (0.1%). Full-time employment fell by 2,200 and part-time employment rose by 1,300.
- Nationally, total employment rose by 18,800 (0.1%). Full-time employment fell by 1,800 and part-time employment rose by 20,600.

Through the year trend employment growth was 2.5% for South Australia and 3.0% nationally.



In the year to December, the number of employed 15 to 24 year olds in South Australia was 3.2% higher than a year earlier and 4.2% higher nationally ([moving annual average](#) terms)—see Chart 2.



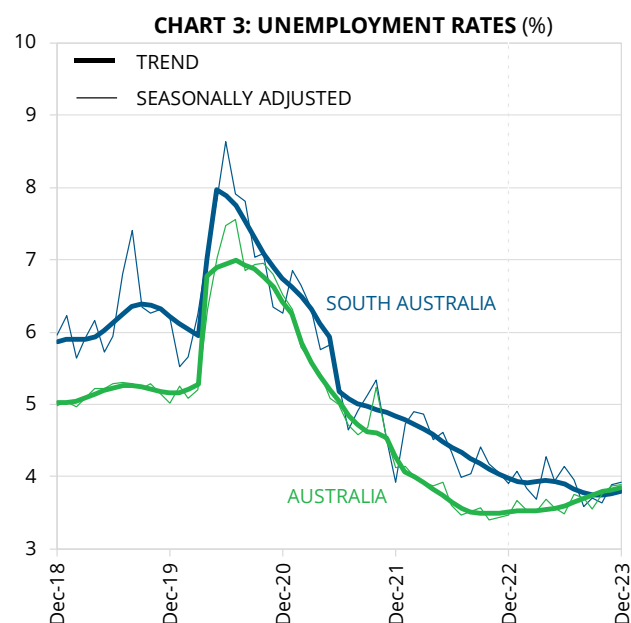
## UNEMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, South Australia's unemployment rate remained unchanged in December at 3.9%. Australia's unemployment rate also remained unchanged in December at 3.9%.

In **trend** terms, the unemployment rate in South Australia remained unchanged in December at 3.8%. Nationally, the unemployment rate also remained unchanged in December at 3.8%—see Table 1 and Chart 3.

**Table 1: Unemployment Rates (%)**

	Last year Dec-22		Last month Nov-23		Latest month Dec-23	
	trend	s.a.	trend	s.a.	trend	s.a.
NSW	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
VIC	3.7	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0
QLD	3.6	3.8	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3
<b>SA</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>
WA	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.9
TAS	3.9	3.7	3.9	3.6	3.9	3.6
NT	3.6	3.9	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.5
ACT	2.9	2.8	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.9
<b>AUS</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>



In South Australia, the **youth** (15-24 year old) unemployment rate was 9.3% in the year to December, down from 9.5% a year earlier and above the 8.4% rate recorded nationally (**annual average terms**).

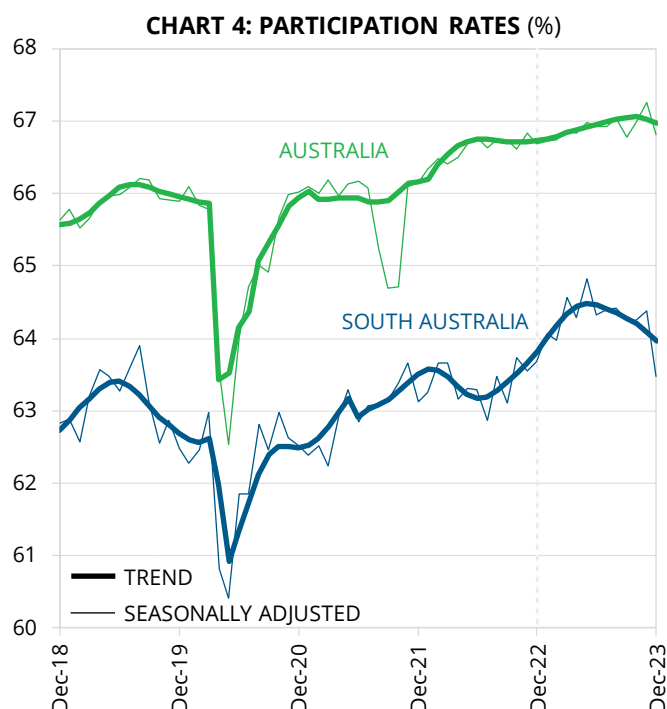
## UNDEREMPLOYMENT

**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 7.5% in December. As a result the overall seasonally adjusted labour force **underutilisation** rate was 11.4% in December, down from 11.8% a year earlier. In December, the national underutilisation rate was 10.4%.

## PARTICIPATION

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, the South Australian participation rate fell 0.9 of a percentage point to 63.5% in December. Nationally, the participation rate fell 0.4 of a percentage point to 66.8%.



In **trend** terms, the **participation rate** in South Australia fell from 64.1% in November to 64.0% in December. Nationally, the participation rate remained unchanged in December at 67.0%—see Chart 4.

In **annual average terms**, the age groups that experienced the largest increases in participation in the year to November 2023 were 65-74 year olds (up 2.7pp) and 25-34 year olds (up 1.9pp). The only age group that experienced a decline in participation over the same period were 35-44 year olds (down 0.1pp)—see Table 2.

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

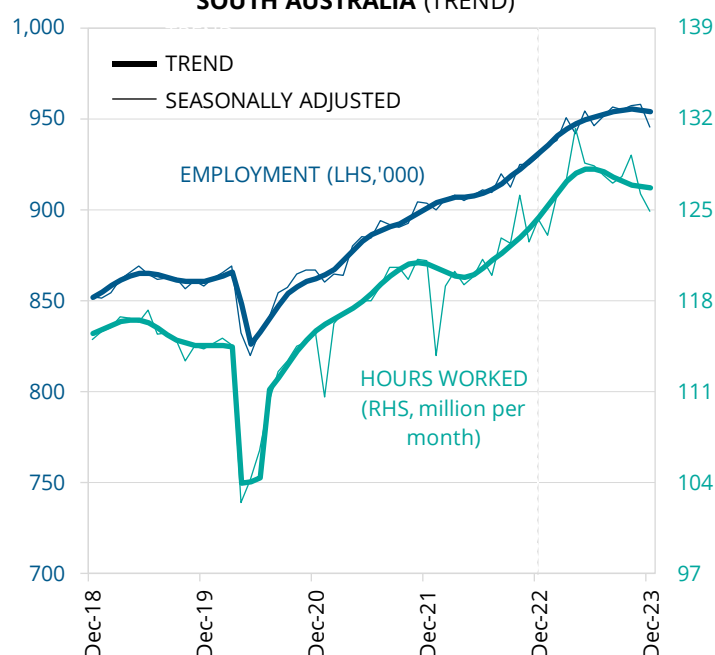
	Yr to Nov 22	Yr to Nov 23	Nov 22 vs Nov 23 (pp.)
15-24	73.0	73.6	0.5
25-34	85.1	87.0	1.9
35-44	86.8	86.7	-0.1
45-54	83.3	84.7	1.4
55-64	67.7	68.0	0.3
65-74	20.1	22.8	2.7
75+	4.3	4.5	0.2

**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.

## HOURS WORKED

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, monthly hours worked in all jobs fell by 1.0% in South Australia in December but were 0.5% higher than a year earlier—see Chart 5. Nationally, monthly hours worked in all jobs rose by 1.2% through the year to December.

**CHART 5: EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS WORKED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA (TREND)**



Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly Cat No 6202.0) is 15 February 2024

Table A1: Labour Force Aggregates - Trend

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	Dec-22	Nov-23	Dec-23	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	970.1	992.8	992.2	-0.6	-0.1%	+22.1	2.3%
Participation rate (%)	63.8	64.1	64.0		-0.1pp		0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	931.5	955.4	954.5	-0.9	-0.1%	+23.0	2.5%
Full-time employment ('000)	613.6	631.9	629.7	-2.2	-0.3%	+16.1	2.6%
Part-time employment ('000)	318.0	323.5	324.9	+1.3	0.4%	+6.9	2.2%
Unemployment ('000)	38.6	37.3	37.6	+0.3	0.7%	-0.9	-2.4%
Unemployment rate (%)	4.0	3.8	3.8		0.0pp		-0.2pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	10.9	11.2	11.2		0.0pp		0.3pp
Total hours worked (million)	124.4	126.8	126.8		0.0%		1.9%

AUSTRALIA	Dec-22	Nov-23	Dec-23	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	14330.9	14792.5	14815.1	+22.5	0.2%	+484.1	3.4%
Participation rate (%)	66.7	67.0	67.0		-0.1pp		0.2pp
Total employment ('000)	13,827.5	14,227.2	14,246.0	+18.8	0.1%	+418.5	3.0%
Full-time employment ('000)	9,677.6	9,858.9	9,857.1	-1.8	0.0%	+179.6	1.9%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,149.9	4,368.3	4,388.9	+20.6	0.5%	+239.0	5.8%
Unemployment ('000)	503.4	565.3	569.0	+3.7	0.7%	+65.6	13.0%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.5	3.8	3.8		0.0pp		0.3pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	9.6	10.3	10.3		0.0pp		0.8pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,909.2	1,933.1	1,928.4		-0.2%		1.0%

Table A2: Labour Force Aggregates - Seasonally Adjusted

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	Dec-22	Nov-23	Dec-23	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	967.6	997.0	984.5	-12.6	-1.3%	+16.9	1.7%
Participation rate (%)	63.7	64.4	63.5		-0.9pp		-0.2pp
Total employment ('000)	929.8	958.3	945.8	-12.4	-1.3%	+16.0	1.7%
Full-time employment ('000)	614.0	638.9	619.0	-19.8	-3.1%	+5.1	0.8%
Part-time employment ('000)	315.8	319.4	326.8	+7.4	2.3%	+11.0	3.5%
Unemployment ('000)	37.8	38.8	38.6	-0.1	-0.4%	+0.8	2.2%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.9	3.9	3.9		0.0pp		0.0pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	11.8	10.9	11.4		0.5pp		-0.3pp
Total hours worked (million)	124.3	126.2	125.0		-1.0%		0.5%

AUSTRALIA	Dec-22	Nov-23	Dec-23	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	14,317.8	14840.6	14,774.7	-65.9	-0.4%	+456.9	3.2%
Participation rate (%)	66.7	67.3	66.8		-0.4pp		0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	13,820.2	14,266.2	14,201.1	-65.1	-0.5%	+381.0	2.8%
Full-time employment ('000)	9,686.5	9,897.8	9,791.2	-106.6	-1.1%	+104.8	1.1%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,133.7	4,368.5	4,409.9	+41.4	0.9%	+276.2	6.7%
Unemployment ('000)	497.6	574.4	573.6	-0.8	-0.1%	+76.0	15.3%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.5	3.9	3.9		0.0pp		0.4pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	9.6	10.4	10.4		0.0pp		0.8pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,903.0	1,936.1	1,925.7		-0.5%		1.2%

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