

SUMMARY

During December, total [employment](#):

- fell 0.1% in South Australia in [Seasonally Adjusted](#) terms (nationally, total employment rose 0.4%).

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

- was 6.4% in South Australia in **seasonally adjusted** terms (6.6% 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.

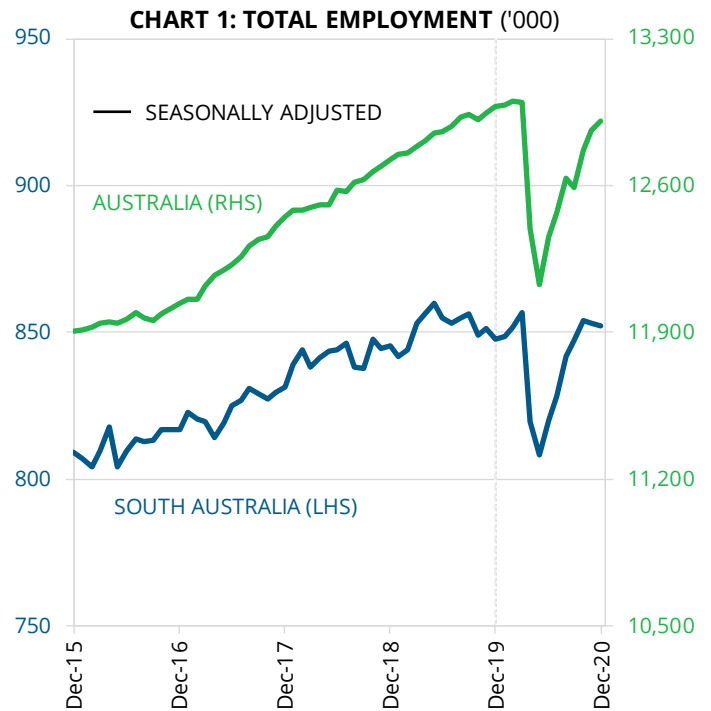
FURTHER ANALYSIS

EMPLOYMENT

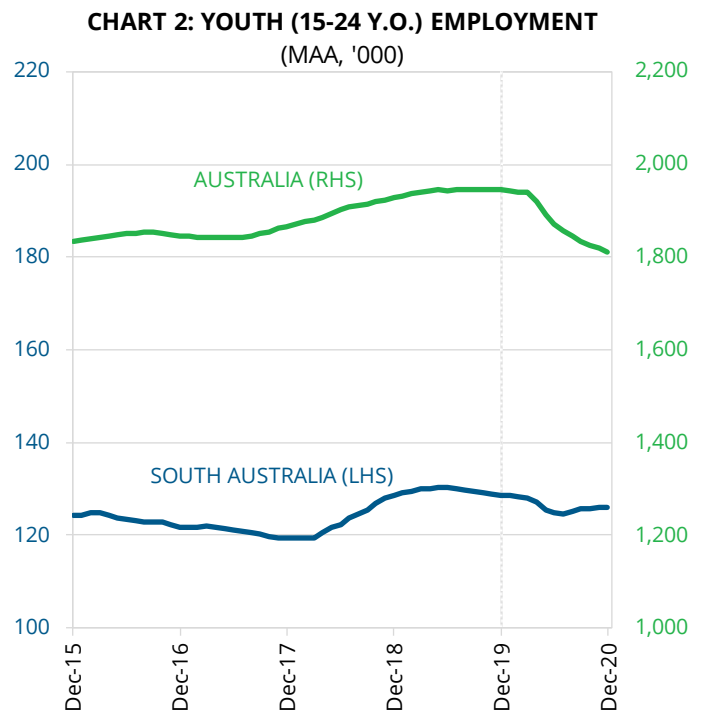
In **seasonally adjusted** terms, total employment in South Australia fell by 500 (0.1%), and rose by 50,000 (0.4%) nationally in December—see Chart 1.

- In South Australia, full-time employment rose by 8,800 (1.6%) and part-time employment fell by 9,300 (3.0%).
- Nationally, full-time employment rose by 35,700 (0.4%) and part-time employment rose by 14,300 (0.3%).

[Through the year](#) seasonally adjusted employment growth was 0.6% for South Australia but was 0.5% lower nationally.



In the year to December, the number of employed 15 to 24 year olds in South Australia was 2.0% lower than a year earlier and 6.9% lower nationally ([moving annual average](#) terms)—see Chart 2.

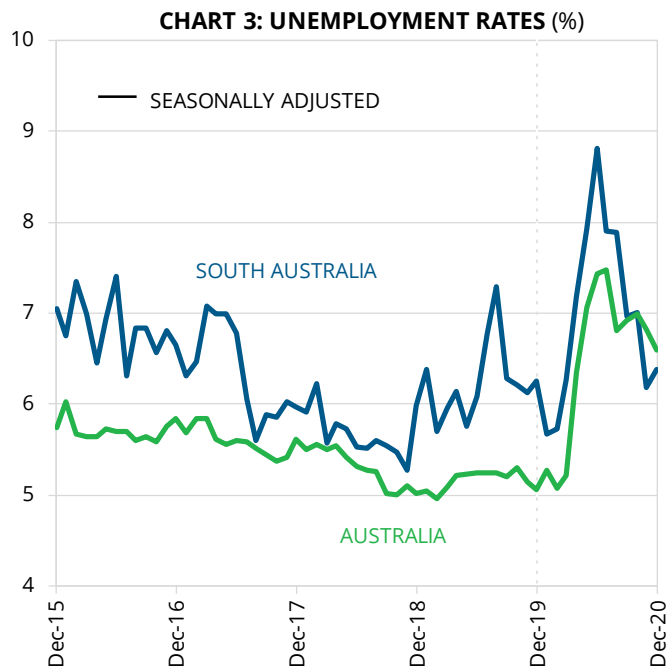


UNEMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, the unemployment rate in South Australia rose from 6.2% in November to 6.4% in December. Nationally, the unemployment rate fell from 6.8% in November to 6.6% in December—see Table 1 and Chart 3.

Table 1: Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (%)

	Dec-19	Nov-20	Dec-20
NSW	4.5	6.5	6.4
VIC	4.9	7.1	6.5
QLD	5.7	7.7	7.5
SA	6.3	6.2	6.4
WA	5.4	6.4	6.2
TAS	5.5	7.9	7.0
AUS	5.1	6.8	6.6



In South Australia, the **youth** (15-24 year old) unemployment rate was 14.5% in the year to December, up from 14.2% a year earlier and above the 14.2% rate recorded nationally (**annual average terms**).

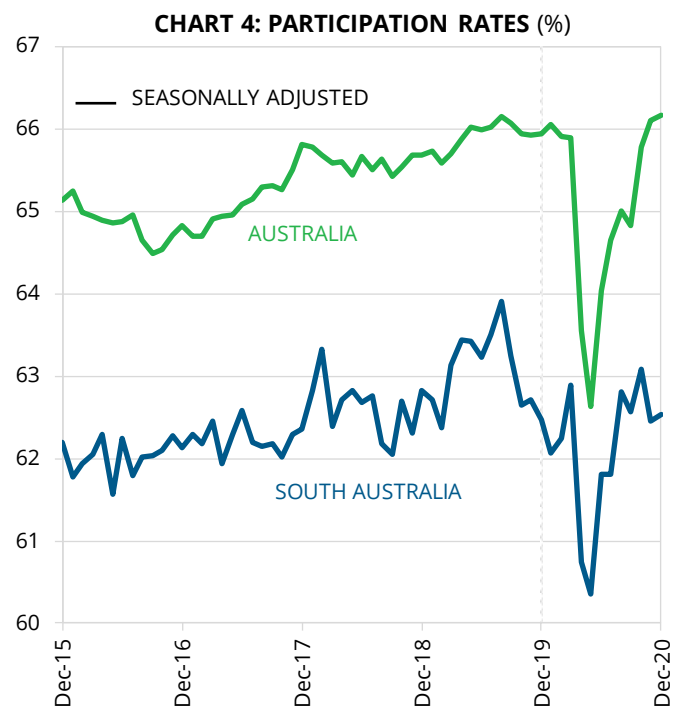
UNDEREMPLOYMENT

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 10.4% in December. As a result the overall seasonally adjusted labour force underutilisation rate was 16.7% in December, up from 15.7% a year earlier. In December, the national underutilisation rate was 15.1%.

PARTICIPATION

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, the participation rate in South Australia was up 0.1 of a percentage point to be 62.5% in December. Nationally, the participation rate rose from 66.1% in November to 66.2% in December—see Chart 4.



HOURS WORKED

In **annual average terms**, the only age group to experience an increase in participation in the year to November 2020 was the 45-54 year olds (up 0.1pp). The age groups that experienced the largest declines in participation over the same period were 65-74 year olds (down 3.4pp) and 55-64 year olds (down 0.9pp) —see Table 2.

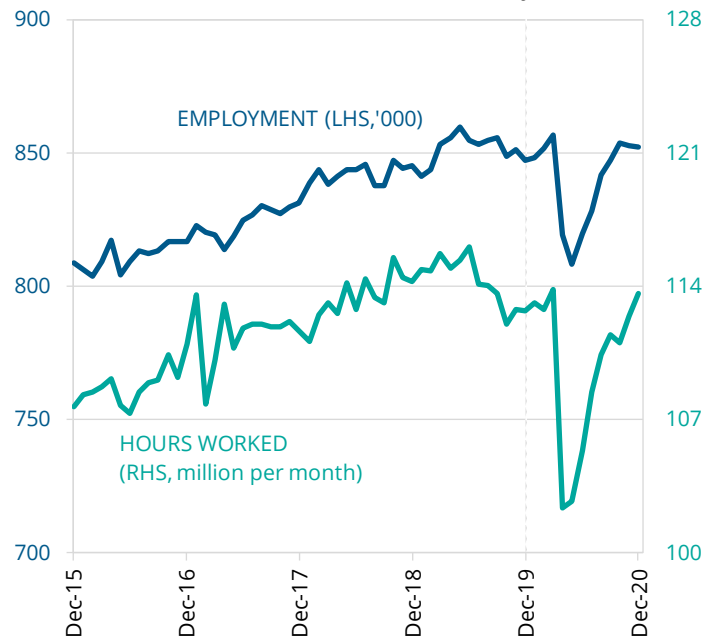
Table 2: Participation by Age Group, South Australia (Annual Average, %)

	Yr to Nov 19	Yr to Nov 20	Nov 19 vs Nov 20 (pp.)
15-24	68.9	68.4	-0.4
25-34	83.0	82.8	-0.2
35-44	86.0	86.0	0.0
45-54	82.8	83.0	0.1
55-64	67.0	66.1	-0.9
65-74	23.0	19.6	-3.4
75+	2.9	2.2	-0.7

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 1.1% in South Australia in December and were 0.8% higher than a year earlier—see Chart 5. Nationally, monthly hours worked in all jobs was 1.5% lower through the year to December.

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



Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly Cat No 6202.0) is 18 February 2021

Table 3: Labour Force Aggregates - Seasonally Adjusted

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	<i>Dec-19</i>	<i>Nov-20</i>	Dec-20	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	904.0	909.1	910.4	+1.4	0.1%	+6.5	0.7%
Participation rate (%)	62.5	62.5	62.5		0.1pp		0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	847.4	852.9	852.4	-0.5	-0.1%	+5.0	0.6%
Full-time employment ('000)	545.4	546.6	555.4	+8.8	1.6%	+10.0	1.8%
Part-time employment ('000)	302.1	306.3	297.0	-9.3	-3.0%	-5.1	-1.7%
Unemployment ('000)	56.5	56.1	58.0	+1.9	3.4%	+1.5	2.7%
Unemployment rate (%)	6.3	6.2	6.4		0.2pp		0.1pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	15.7	16.8	16.7		-0.1pp		1.0pp
Total hours worked (million)	112.8	112.5	113.6		1.1%		0.8%
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AUSTRALIA	<i>Dec-19</i>	<i>Nov-20</i>	Dec-20	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	13665.0	13802.8	13822.8	+20.0	0.1%	+157.8	1.2%
Participation rate (%)	65.9	66.1	66.2		0.1pp		0.2pp
Total employment ('000)	12,974.7	12,860.7	12,910.8	+50.0	0.4%	-63.9	-0.5%
Full-time employment ('000)	8,837.4	8,725.7	8,761.4	+35.7	0.4%	-75.9	-0.9%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,137.3	4,135.0	4,149.3	+14.3	0.3%	+12.0	0.3%
Unemployment ('000)	690.3	942.1	912.0	-30.1	-3.2%	+221.7	32.1%
Unemployment rate (%)	5.1	6.8	6.6		-0.2pp		1.5pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	13.3	16.2	15.1		-1.1pp		1.9pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,779.6	1,751.5	1,753.2		0.1%		-1.5%

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