

SUMMARY

During March, total [employment](#):

- fell 1.0% in South Australia in [seasonally adjusted](#) terms (remained unchanged nationally); and
- fell 0.1% in South Australia in [trend](#) terms (nationally, total employment rose 0.2%).

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

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

FURTHER ANALYSIS

EMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms in March:

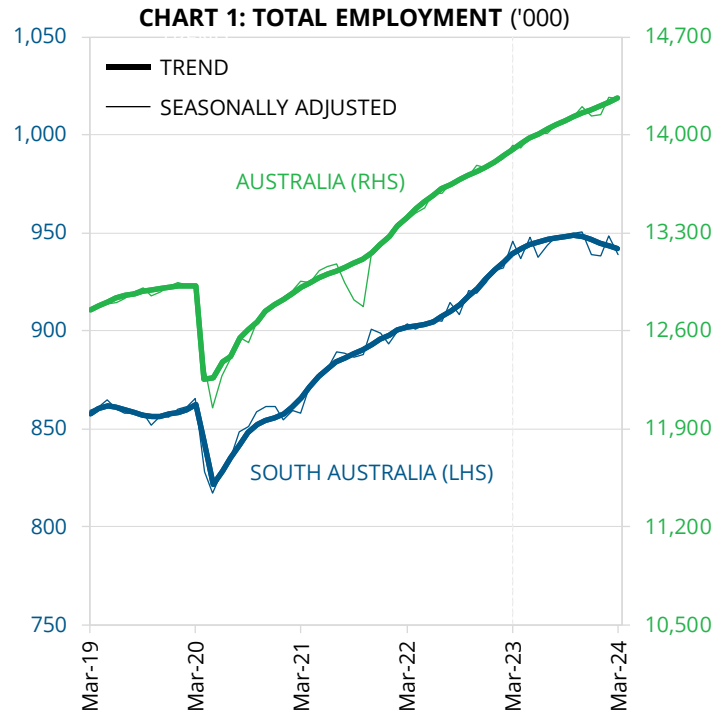
- Total employment in South Australia fell by 9,200 (1.0%), following a rise of 1.1% in February—see Chart 1. Full-time employment fell by 11,400 while part-time employment rose by 2,200.
- Nationally, total employment fell marginally by 6,600. Full-time employment rose by 27,900 while part-time employment fell by 34,500.

[Through the year](#), employment fell 0.7% in South Australia, but rose 2.4% nationally, in seasonally adjusted terms.

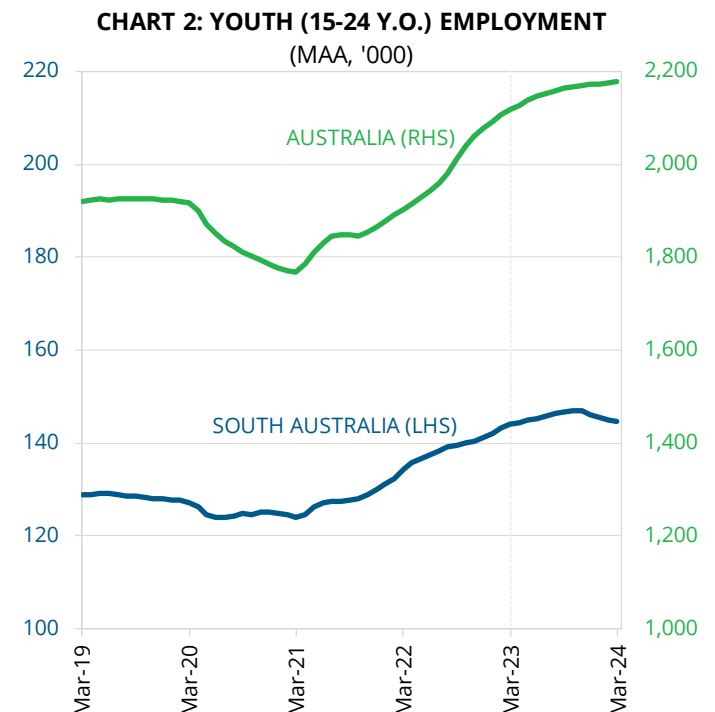
In **trend** terms in March:

- Total employment in South Australia fell by 1,000 (0.1%). Full-time employment fell by 2,700, while part-time employment rose by 1,700.
- Nationally, total employment rose by 28,500 (0.2%). Full-time employment rose by 20,400 and part-time employment rose by 8,100.

Through the year trend employment growth was 0.3% for South Australia and 2.6% nationally.



In the year to March, the number of employed 15 to 24 year olds in South Australia was 0.3% higher than a year earlier and 2.8% higher nationally ([moving annual average](#) terms)—see Chart 2.



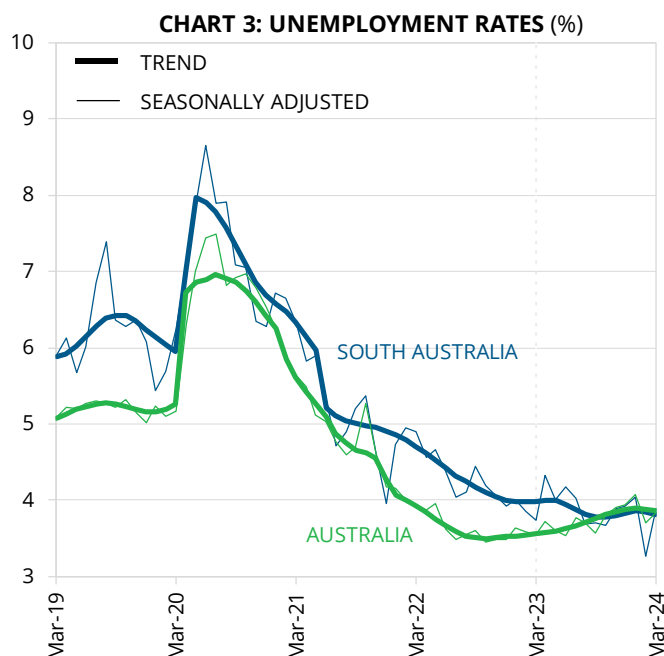
UNEMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, South Australia's unemployment rate rose from 3.3% in February* to 3.9% in March. Australia's unemployment rate rose from 3.7% in February to 3.8% in March. In **trend** terms, the unemployment rate in South Australia remained unchanged at 3.8% in March. Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.9% in March—see Table 1 and Chart 3.

Table 1: Unemployment Rates (%)

	Last year		Last month		Latest month	
	Mar-23		Feb-24		Mar-24	
	trend	s.a.	trend	s.a.	trend	s.a.
NSW	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.8
VIC	3.8	3.7	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.1
QLD	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.1
SA	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.3*	3.8	3.9
WA	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.4
TAS	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.0	3.8
NT	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3	3.8
ACT	3.1	2.9	3.9	4.1	3.9	2.9
AUS	3.6	3.6	3.9	3.7	3.9	3.8

* Revised (originally published as 3.2%)



In South Australia, the **youth** (15-24 year old) unemployment rate was 9.2% in the year to March, down from 9.4% a year earlier and above the 8.8% rate recorded nationally (**annual average terms**).

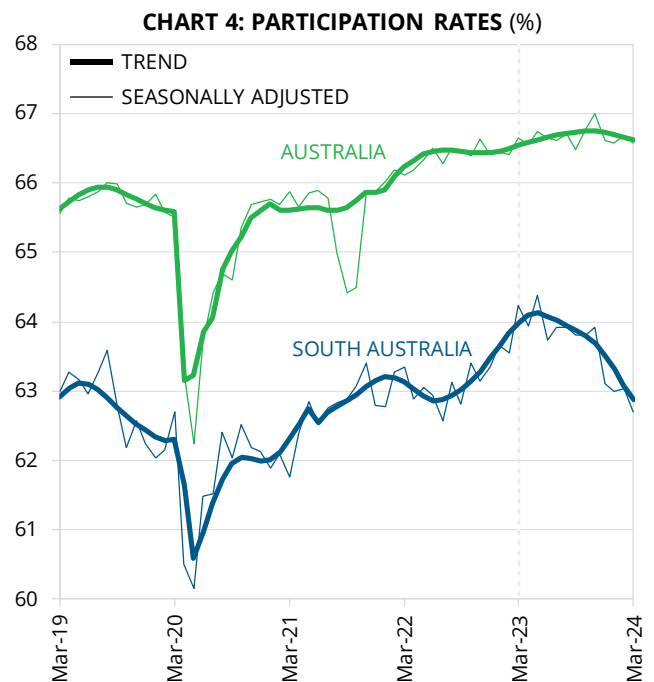
UNDEREMPLOYMENT

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 7.1% in March. As a result the overall seasonally adjusted labour force **underutilisation** rate was 10.9% in March, down from 11.1% a year earlier. In March, the national underutilisation rate was 10.3%.

PARTICIPATION

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, the South Australian participation rate fell 0.3 of a percentage point to 62.7% in March. Nationally, the participation rate fell 0.1 of a percentage point to 66.6%.



In **trend** terms, the **participation rate** in South Australia fell from 63.1% in February to 62.9% in March. Nationally, the participation rate fell from 66.7% in February to 66.6% in March—see Chart 4.

In **annual average terms**, the age groups that experienced the largest increases in participation in the year to February 2024 were 45-54 year olds (up 3.2pp) and 65-74 year olds (up 2.5pp). The age group that experienced the largest decline in participation over the same period was 15-24 year olds (down 1.5pp)—see Table 2.

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

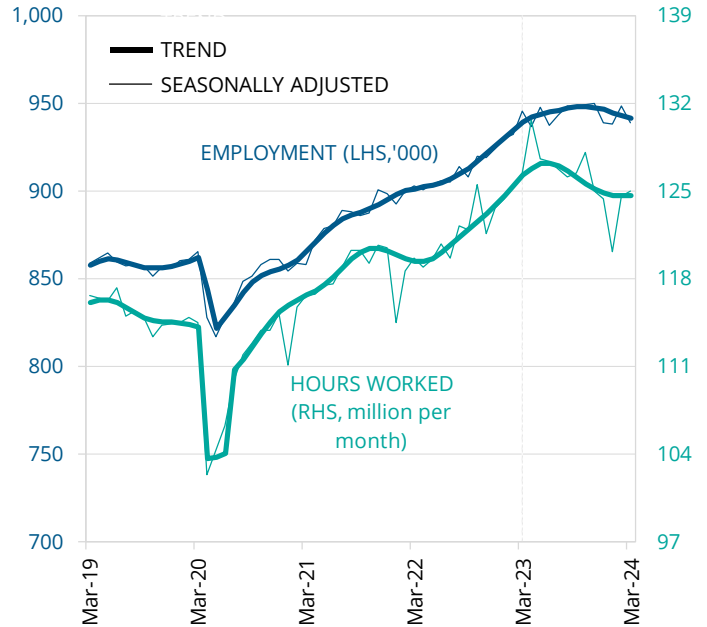
	Yr to Feb 23	Yr to Feb 24	Feb 23 vs Feb 24 (pp.)
15-24	73.0	71.5	-1.5
25-34	84.9	86.3	1.5
35-44	86.1	85.6	-0.5
45-54	82.2	85.5	3.2
55-64	68.0	67.8	-0.2
65-74	20.3	22.8	2.5
75+	4.8	4.3	-0.5

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 rose by 0.4% in South Australia in March but were 1.1% lower than a year earlier—see Chart 5. Nationally, monthly hours worked in all jobs rose by 1.7% through the year to March.

CHART 5: EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS WORKED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly Cat No 6202.0) is 16 May 2024.

Table A1: Labour Force Aggregates - Trend

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	978.3	980.9	979.5	-1.5	-0.1%	+1.2	0.1%
Participation rate (%)	64.0	63.1	62.9		-0.2pp		-1.1pp
Total employment ('000)	939.3	943.2	942.2	-1.0	-0.1%	+2.8	0.3%
Full-time employment ('000)	621.0	613.0	610.3	-2.7	-0.4%	-10.7	-1.7%
Part-time employment ('000)	318.3	330.1	331.8	+1.7	0.5%	+13.5	4.2%
Unemployment ('000)	39.0	37.8	37.3	-0.4	-1.2%	-1.7	-4.3%
Unemployment rate (%)	4.0	3.8	3.8		0.0pp		-0.2pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	11.1	11.0	11.0		-0.1pp		-0.2pp
Total hours worked (million)	126.3	124.6	124.6		0.0%		-1.3%

AUSTRALIA	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	14406.5	14806.5	14832.8	+26.4	0.2%	+426.4	3.0%
Participation rate (%)	66.5	66.7	66.6		0.0pp		0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	13,894.1	14,231.3	14,259.8	+28.5	0.2%	+365.8	2.6%
Full-time employment ('000)	9,729.7	9,818.2	9,838.6	+20.4	0.2%	+108.9	1.1%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,164.3	4,413.1	4,421.2	+8.1	0.2%	+256.8	6.2%
Unemployment ('000)	512.4	575.1	573.0	-2.1	-0.4%	+60.6	11.8%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.6	3.9	3.9		0.0pp		0.3pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	9.8	10.5	10.4		0.0pp		0.7pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,926.5	1,927.9	1,928.5		0.0%		0.1%

Table A2: Labour Force Aggregates - Seasonally Adjusted

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	982.4	980.4	977.2	-3.2	-0.3%	-5.1	-0.5%
Participation rate (%)	64.2	63.0	62.7		-0.3pp		-1.5pp
Total employment ('000)	945.6	948.4	939.2	-9.2	-1.0%	-6.3	-0.7%
Full-time employment ('000)	633.2	618.3	606.8	-11.4	-1.8%	-26.3	-4.2%
Part-time employment ('000)	312.4	330.2	332.4	+2.2	0.7%	+20.0	6.4%
Unemployment ('000)	36.8	32.0	38.0	+6.0	18.8%	+1.2	3.3%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.7	3.3	3.9		0.6pp		0.1pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	11.1	10.5	10.9		0.4pp		-0.2pp
Total hours worked (million)	126.5	124.6	125.1		0.4%		-1.1%

AUSTRALIA	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	14,435.5	14815.8	14,829.8	+14.0	0.1%	+394.3	2.7%
Participation rate (%)	66.7	66.7	66.6		-0.1pp		-0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	13,923.0	14,266.5	14,259.9	-6.6	0.0%	+336.9	2.4%
Full-time employment ('000)	9,763.9	9,825.9	9,853.8	+27.9	0.3%	+89.9	0.9%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,159.0	4,440.6	4,406.1	-34.5	-0.8%	+247.1	5.9%
Unemployment ('000)	512.5	549.3	569.9	+20.6	3.7%	+57.3	11.2%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.6	3.7	3.8		0.1pp		0.3pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	9.8	10.3	10.3		0.0pp		0.5pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,922.5	1,938.6	1,956.1		0.9%		1.7%

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