

SUMMARY

During May, total [employment](#):

- fell 0.4% in South Australia in [seasonally adjusted](#) terms (nationally, total employment rose 0.3%); and
- fell 0.1% in South Australia in [trend](#) terms (nationally, total employment rose 0.3%).

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

- was 4.0% in South Australia in **seasonally adjusted** terms (4.0% nationally); and
- was 3.9% in South Australia in **trend** terms (4.0% nationally).

FURTHER ANALYSIS

EMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms in May:

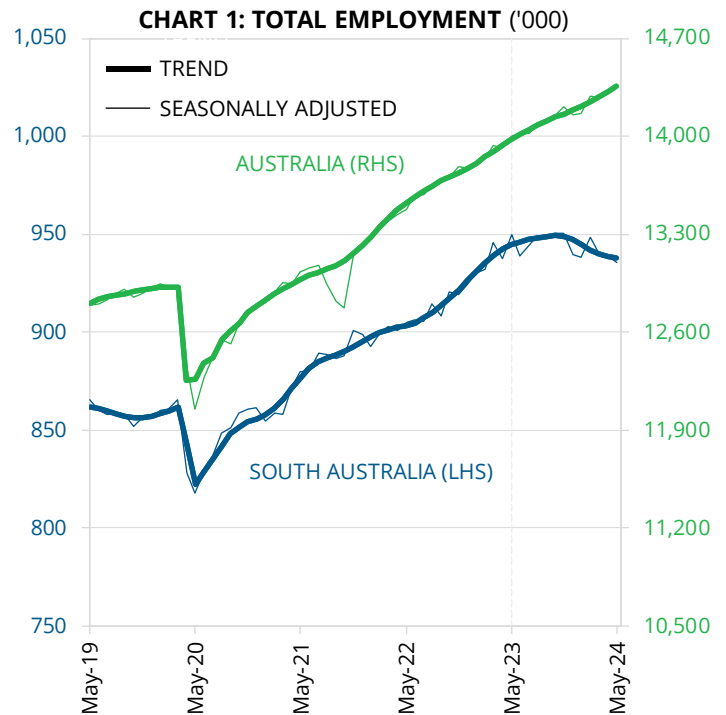
- Total employment in South Australia fell by 3,400 (0.4%), following no change in April—see Chart 1. Full-time employment fell by 4,700 while part-time employment rose by 1,300.
- Nationally, total employment rose by 39,700 (0.3%). Full-time employment rose by 41,700 (0.4%) and part-time employment fell by 2,100.

[Through the year](#) seasonally adjusted employment fell by 1.5% for South Australia and rose by 2.5% nationally.

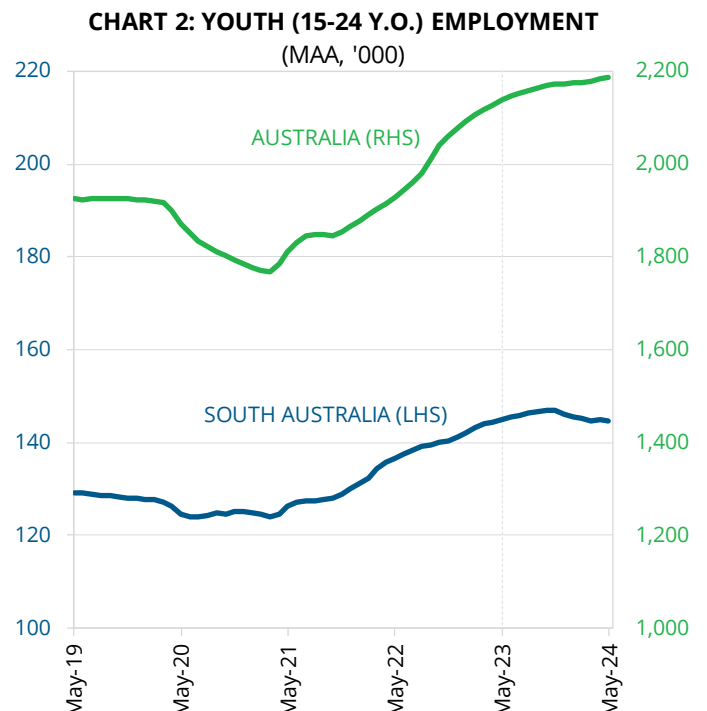
In **trend** terms in May:

- Total employment in South Australia fell by 700 (0.1%). Full-time employment fell by 1,900 while part-time employment rose by 1,200.
- Nationally, total employment rose by 38,700 (0.3%). Full-time employment rose by 26,200 and part-time employment rose by 12,500.

Through the year trend employment fell by 0.7% for South Australia but rose by 2.7% nationally.



In the year to May, the number of employed 15 to 24 year olds in South Australia was 0.3% lower than a year earlier but was 2.3% higher nationally ([moving annual average](#) terms)—see Chart 2.



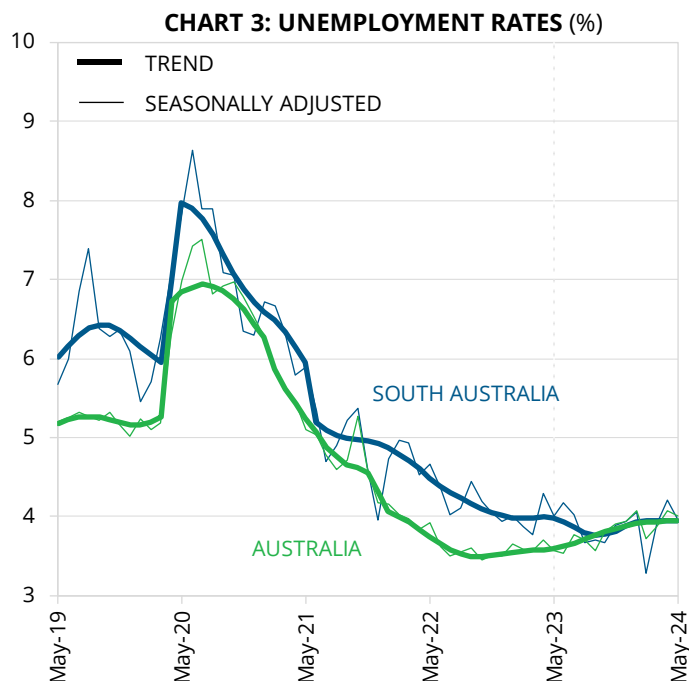
UNEMPLOYMENT

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, South Australia's unemployment rate fell from 4.2% in April to 4.0% in May. Australia's unemployment rate fell from 4.1% in April to 4.0% in May.

In **trend** terms, the unemployment rate in South Australia fell from 4.0% in April to 3.9% in May. Nationally, the unemployment rate rose from 3.9% in April to 4.0% in May—see Table 1 and Chart 3.

Table 1: Unemployment Rates (%)

	Last year		Last month		Latest month	
	May-23	May-23	Apr-24	Apr-24	May-24	May-24
	trend	s.a.	trend	s.a.	trend	s.a.
NSW	3.3	3.1	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.8
VIC	3.7	3.7	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4
QLD	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0
SA	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.2	3.9	4.0
WA	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.0	3.6	3.6
TAS	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1
NT	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.1
ACT	3.2	3.2	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8
AUS	3.6	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0



In South Australia, the **youth** (15-24 year old) unemployment rate was 9.3% in the year to May, down from 9.4% a year earlier but above the 9.1% rate recorded nationally (**annual average terms**).

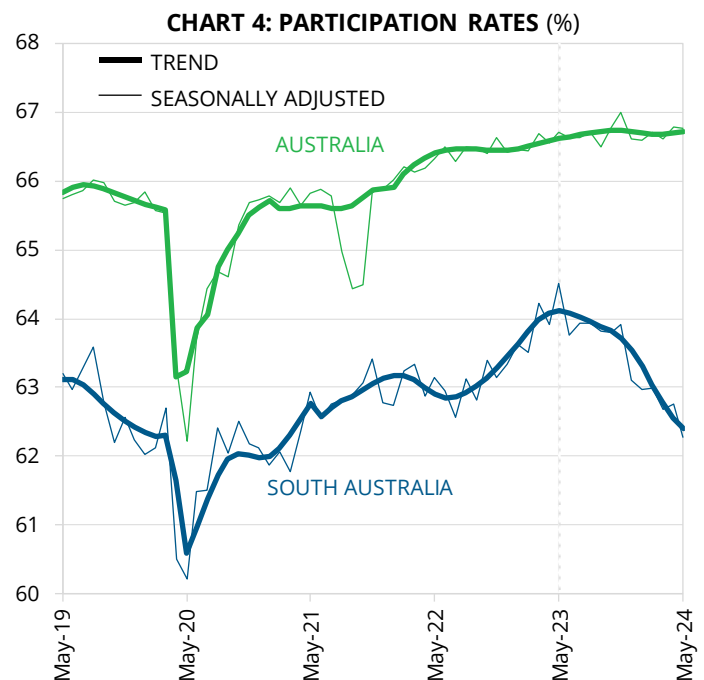
UNDEREMPLOYMENT

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 May. As a result the overall labour force **underutilisation** rate was 11.4% in May, up from 11.1% a year earlier. In May, the national underutilisation rate was 10.7%.

PARTICIPATION

In **seasonally adjusted** terms, the South Australian participation rate fell 0.5 of a percentage point to 62.3% in May. Nationally, the participation rate remained unchanged at 66.8%.



In **trend** terms, the **participation rate** in South Australia fell from 62.6% in April to 62.4% in May. Nationally, the participation rate remained unchanged from 66.7% in April—see Chart 4.

In **annual average terms**, the age groups that experienced the largest increases in participation in the year to April 2024 were 45-54 year olds (up 3.2pp) and 65-74 year olds (up 1.9pp). The age groups that experienced the largest falls in participation over the same period were 15-24 year olds (down 2.2pp) and 35-44 year olds (down 1.3pp)—see Table 2.

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

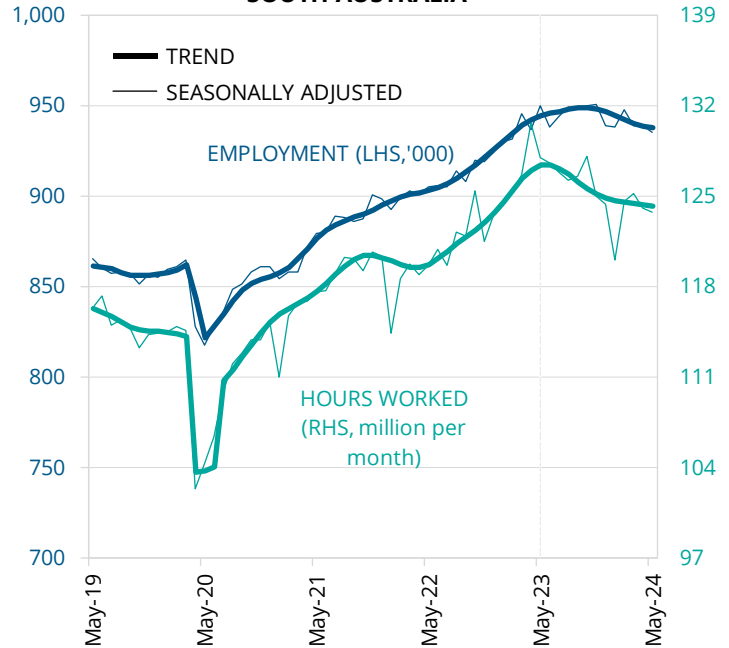
	Yr to May 23	Yr to Apr 24	May 23 vs Apr 24 (pp.)
15-24	73.3	71.2	-2.2
25-34	85.5	85.9	0.4
35-44	86.4	85.2	-1.3
45-54	82.4	85.6	3.2
55-64	68.1	67.0	-1.0
65-74	20.5	22.4	1.9
75+	5.0	4.4	-0.6

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 0.3% in South Australia in May to be 3.3% lower than a year earlier—see Chart 5. Nationally, monthly hours worked in all jobs rose by 0.6% through the year to May.

CHART 5: EMPLOYMENT AND HOURS WORKED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly Cat No 6202.0) is 18 July 2024.

Table A1: Labour Force Aggregates - Trend

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	May-23	Apr-24	May-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	983.8	977.2	976.4	-0.8	-0.1%	-7.4	-0.7%
Participation rate (%)	64.1	62.6	62.4		-0.2pp		-1.7pp
Total employment ('000)	944.6	938.6	937.9	-0.7	-0.1%	-6.7	-0.7%
Full-time employment ('000)	630.2	603.7	601.8	-1.9	-0.3%	-28.4	-4.5%
Part-time employment ('000)	314.4	334.9	336.1	+1.2	0.4%	+21.7	6.9%
Unemployment ('000)	39.2	38.6	38.6	-0.0	-0.1%	-0.6	-1.6%
Unemployment rate (%)	4.0	4.0	3.9		0.0pp		0.0pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	11.3	11.3	11.3		0.1pp		0.1pp
Total hours worked (million)	127.4	124.3	124.3		-0.1%		-2.5%

AUSTRALIA	May-23	Apr-24	May-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	14500.0	14904.3	14945.8	+41.4	0.3%	+445.8	3.1%
Participation rate (%)	66.6	66.7	66.7		0.0pp		0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	13,977.9	14,316.4	14,355.1	+38.7	0.3%	+377.2	2.7%
Full-time employment ('000)	9,792.5	9,865.8	9,892.0	+26.2	0.3%	+99.5	1.0%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,185.5	4,450.6	4,463.1	+12.5	0.3%	+277.7	6.6%
Unemployment ('000)	522.1	587.9	590.6	+2.8	0.5%	+68.6	13.1%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.6	3.9	4.0		0.0pp		0.4pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	10.0	10.6	10.6		0.0pp		0.7pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,941.4	1,952.6	1,958.3		0.3%		0.9%

Table A2: Labour Force Aggregates - Seasonally Adjusted

SOUTH AUSTRALIA	May-23	Apr-24	May-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	989.7	980.3	974.2	-6.1	-0.6%	-15.5	-1.6%
Participation rate (%)	64.5	62.8	62.3		-0.5pp		-2.2pp
Total employment ('000)	950.1	939.1	935.7	-3.4	-0.4%	-14.4	-1.5%
Full-time employment ('000)	633.7	601.4	596.6	-4.7	-0.8%	-37.1	-5.8%
Part-time employment ('000)	316.4	337.7	339.1	+1.3	0.4%	+22.7	7.2%
Unemployment ('000)	39.7	41.2	38.5	-2.7	-6.5%	-1.2	-2.9%
Unemployment rate (%)	4.0	4.2	4.0		-0.2pp		-0.1pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	11.1	11.5	11.4		-0.1pp		0.4pp
Total hours worked (million)	128.0	124.1	123.8		-0.3%		-3.3%

AUSTRALIA	May-23	Apr-24	May-24	Change			
				In month		Through year	
Labour force ('000)	14,519.6	14924.1	14,954.5	+30.5	0.2%	+435.0	3.0%
Participation rate (%)	66.7	66.8	66.8		0.0pp		0.1pp
Total employment ('000)	14,000.7	14,316.0	14,355.6	+39.7	0.3%	+354.9	2.5%
Full-time employment ('000)	9,806.4	9,858.2	9,899.9	+41.7	0.4%	+93.5	1.0%
Part-time employment ('000)	4,194.3	4,457.8	4,455.7	-2.1	0.0%	+261.4	6.2%
Unemployment ('000)	518.9	608.1	598.9	-9.2	-1.5%	+80.0	15.4%
Unemployment rate (%)	3.6	4.1	4.0		-0.1pp		0.4pp
Under-utilisation rate (%)	10.0	10.7	10.7		0.0pp		0.7pp
Total hours worked (million)	1,939.9	1,960.3	1,950.8		-0.5%		0.6%

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