

Cairns SA4



Another positive month with some increases in employment. Despite a small increase in participation, the Trend unemployment rate has dropped to 6.4% and is now more in line with the State trend which sits at 6.1%.

Annual Trend employment growth now stands at just -4.2% in Cairns versus +2.2% for QLD, +1.7% in Greater Brisbane and +2.6% in the Rest of Queensland. Annual employment has now been negative for six months.

Over the course of the past 12 months most new employment has come in the youth cohort (+5,400) with the middle aged seeing drops (down 6,600). Even though full time employment sees an increase this month, over the course of the year it remains down 10,300. **The increase in the**

Trend unemployment rate over the year is being driven by that decline in employment, and subsequent increase in the unemployment rate, in the middle-aged cohort.

Although this month's numbers are encouraging, we should note that the Trend employment figures have only lifted in the past two months. We would generally recommend seeing Trend shift for at least three months before getting too optimistic that we have seen the bottom for Cairns...although at this stage that appears likely to be the case.

The quarterly Conus Trend Industry Jobs data for May shows that the only sector seeing significant gains over the past year was Healthcare. Declines were seen in Education & Training, Manufacturing and (perhaps surprisingly) Construction.

Cairns SA4		Trend ¹	change m/m	change yr/yr
Employment '000		114.3	+1.1	-5.0
	Full time	73.3	+0.9	-10.3
	Part time	40.9	+0.2	+5.2
Unemployment '000		7.9	-0.2	+1.1
Unemp Rate		6.4%	-0.3%	+1.0%
Participation Rate		59.9%	+0.3%	-2.9%
Youth Unemp Rate ²		11.1%	-0.7%	-1.4%
Middle Unemp Rate ³		7.7%	-0.1%	+3.4%
Older Unemp Rate ⁴		3.5%	-0.1%	-0.8%
Med Search weeks		16	-1	-7

Notes:

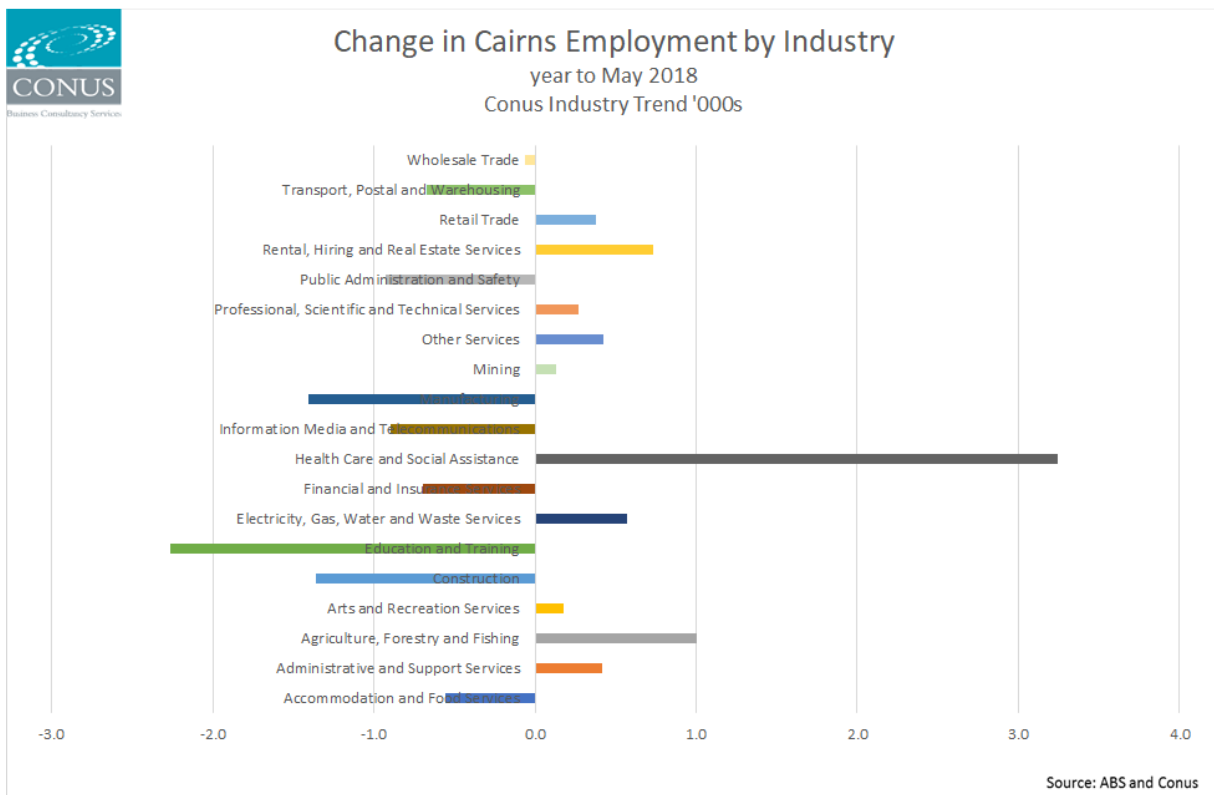
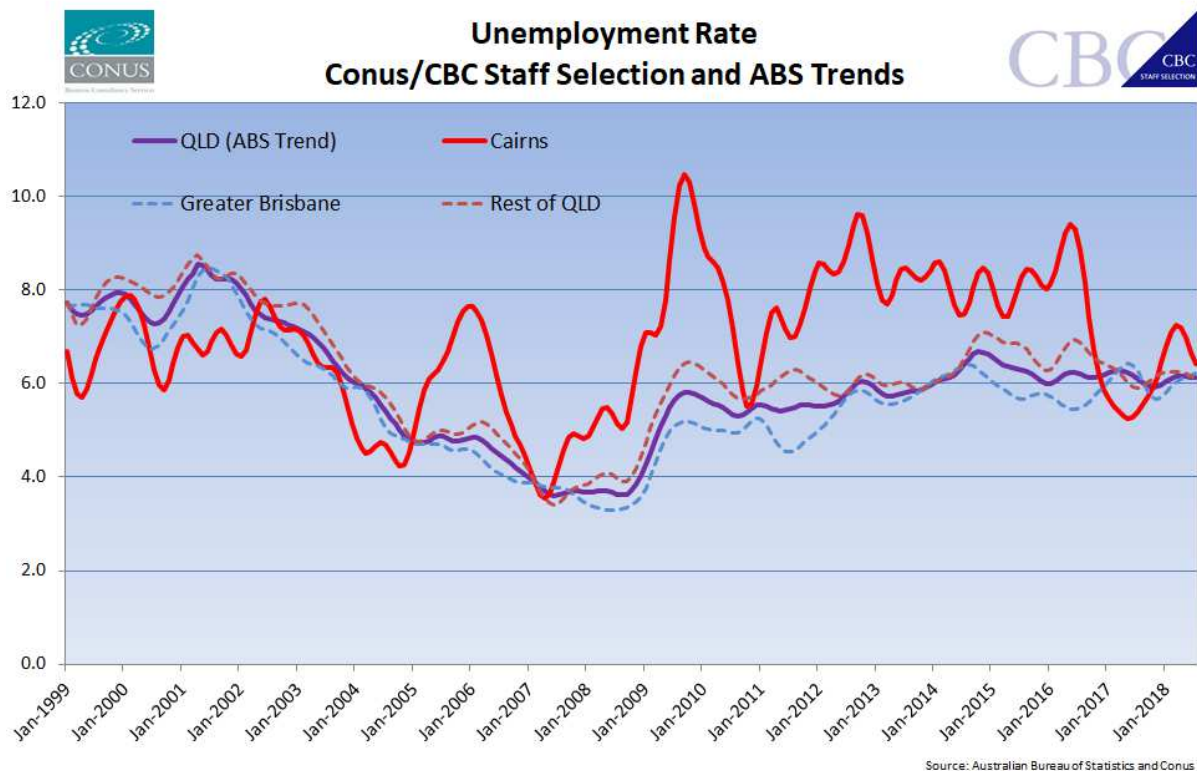
1. Trend relates to the Conus/CBC Staff Selection Employment Trend; derived from original ABS data

2. 15-24 year olds

3. 25-44 year olds

4. 45+ year olds

Note Full and Part time numbers will not always add to Total due to rounding





Regional Labour Force Briefing – July 2018



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This report uses Conus/CBC Staff Selection Trend data for the SA4 Regions of Queensland. Trend estimates are based upon Original ABS Labour Force data.

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