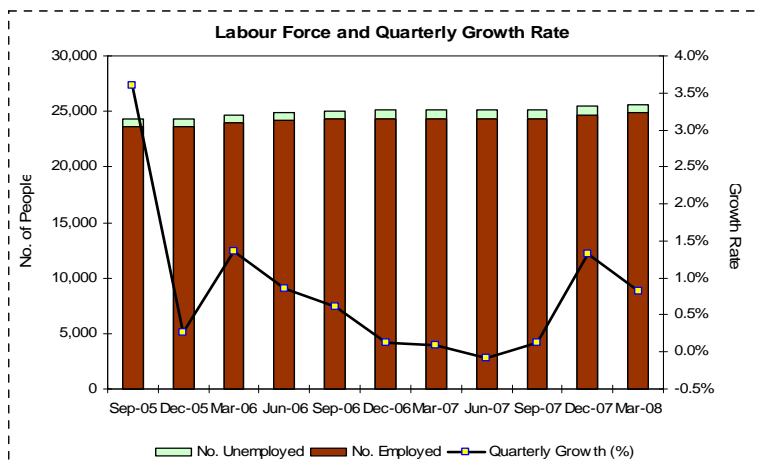




Regional Statistical Summary

Pilbara Labour Force – March Quarter 2008



Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

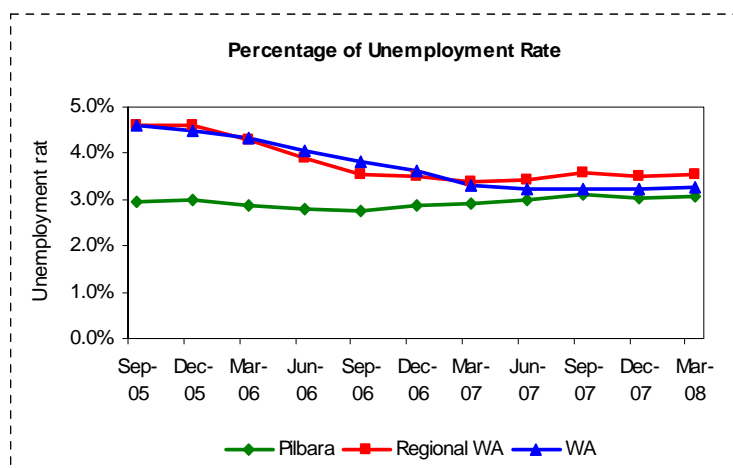
The labour force (total persons employed and unemployed aged 15 and over) in the Pilbara Region, in the March quarter 2008, totalled 25,654 people. This represented an increase of 0.8 per cent from the previous quarter total of 25,445. From September quarter 2005, the labour force in the Region steadily increased from 24,293 to 25,654 in March 2008 quarter (5.6 per cent increase).

Of the total labour force in the March quarter, there were 24,871 people employed and 783 people unemployed.

Quarter	Sep-05	Dec-05	Mar-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Dec-06	Mar-07	Jun-07	Sep-07	Dec-07	Mar-08
No. Employed (#)	23,573	23,631	23,973	24,197	24,360	24,359	24,367	24,329	24,329	24,671	24,871
No. Unemployed (#)	720	725	712	699	687	719	735	751	784	774	783
Labour Force (#)	24,293	24,356	24,685	24,896	25,047	25,078	25,102	25,080	25,113	25,445	25,654
Quarterly Growth (%)	3.6%	0.3%	1.4%	0.9%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%	-0.1%	0.1%	1.3%	0.8%

Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and DLGRD.

When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, employment increased by 2.1 per cent from 24,367 to 24,871. Over the same time frame, the number of unemployed increased by 6.5 per cent from 735 to 783 people.



Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

The unemployment rate in the Pilbara is lower than the State and regional averages due to strong demand for labour in the mining sector. In the March quarter 2008, the Pilbara's unemployment rate was 3.1 per cent compared to the level of 3.5 per cent for regional WA and 3.3 per cent for the State.

The Region's unemployment rate has stayed relatively constant since September quarter 2005, ranging from a high of 3.1 per cent (March 2008 quarter) to a low of 2.7 per cent (September 2006 quarter).

Unemployment Rate (%)

Quarter	Sep-05	Dec-05	Mar-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Dec-06	Mar-07	Jun-07	Sep-07	Dec-07	Mar-08
Pilbara	3.0%	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.9%	2.9%	3.0%	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%
Regional WA	4.6%	4.6%	4.3%	3.9%	3.6%	3.5%	3.4%	3.4%	3.6%	3.5%	3.5%
Western Australia	4.6%	4.5%	4.3%	4.1%	3.8%	3.6%	3.3%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%

Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.