

Australian unemployment rate remains at 5.4 pct in January

SYDNEY, Feb. 7 (Xinhua) -- Australia's unemployment rate remained steady at 5.4 percent in January, the Australian Bureau of Statistics reported on Thursday.

The number of people employed increased by 10,400 to 11,549,100 in the month, driven by a rise in part-time employment amid a drop in full-time employment, said the bureau.

Full-time employment decreased 9,800 people to 8,098,400 in January and part-time employment increased 20,200 people to 3,450, 700.

The number of people unemployed in January increased by 2,000 people to 659,600.

The bureau said the labor force participation rate fell 0.1 percentage points to 65.0 percent in January.