



Unemployment news defies pessimism

Employment figures for October surprised economists, with the national jobless rate remaining firm at 4.3%, in defiance of pessimism over the worldwide economic difficulties.

The number of people with jobs rose 34,300 in October, despite a fall in full-time employment, with a move to part-time work helping to bolster the figures. Economists had predicted a decline in total employment and had expected the unemployment rate to increase to 4.4%.

Both South Australia and Tasmania surprised by recording a drop in their unemployment rates. In South Australia the jobless rate fell from 5.7% to 5.3%, after jobs growth outstripped the national average for the ninth consecutive month. A record 784,000 South Australians are now in work.

More articles and information at
www.directnegotiations.com.au