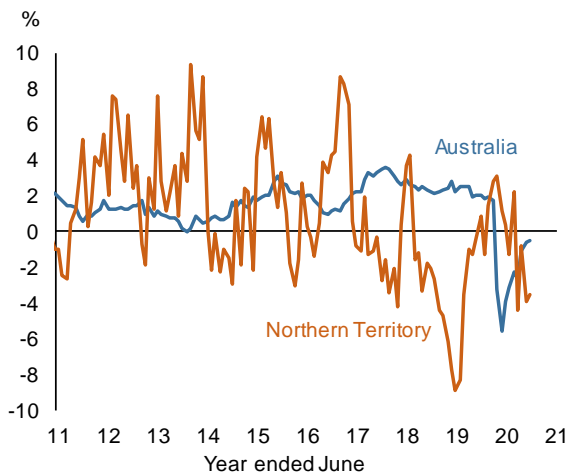
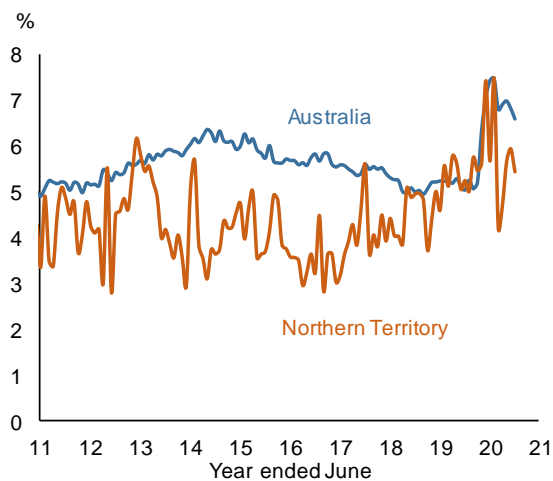


Chart 1: Employment change (annual, seasonally adjusted)



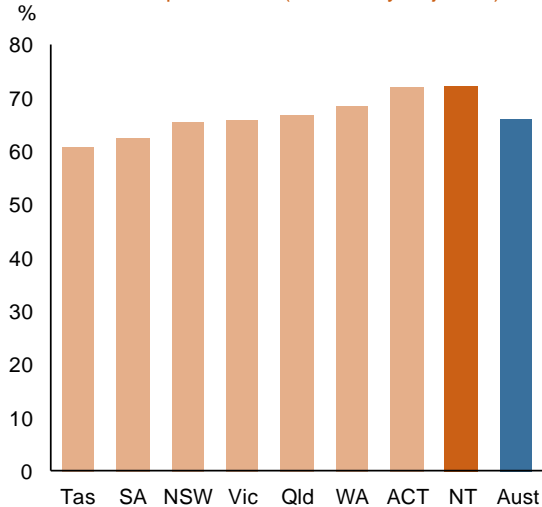
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No.

Chart 3: Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No.

Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (season. adjusted)	129 173	12 910 777
Monthly change (season. adjusted)	↑0.7%	↑0.4%
Annual change (season. adjusted)	↓3.6%	↓0.5%
Year-on-year change (original)	↓0.4%	↓1.5%

In December 2020, seasonally adjusted resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.7 per cent to 129 173 persons. Part-time employment increased by 5.8 per cent and full-time employment decreased by 0.9 per cent. Nationally, employment increased by 0.4 per cent, with full-time employment increasing by 1.7 per cent and part time employment decreasing 0.7 per cent.

Annually, seasonally adjusted resident employment decreased by 3.6 per cent in the Territory. Nationally, employment fell by 0.5 per cent over the same period (Chart 1). In 2020, Territory employment decreased by 0.4 per cent, reflecting a 2.3 per cent decrease in full-time employment, partly offset by a 6.2 per cent increase in part-time employment. Nationally, year-on-year employment decreased by 1.5 per cent.

Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (season. adjusted)	5.4%	6.6%
Monthly change (ppt)	↓0.5	↓0.2
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.2	↑1.5

The Territory's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.4 per cent in December 2020 (Chart 2), as the number of unemployed persons decreased from 8111 to 7434. Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate decreased to 6.6 per cent.

Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (season. adjusted)	72.4%	66.2%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.1	↑0.1
Annual change (ppt)	↓2.7	↑0.2

The seasonally adjusted participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.1 percentage points to 72.4 per cent in December 2020. This is the highest of the jurisdictions, and well above the national rate of 66.2 per cent (Chart 3).

Labour force December 2020

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Change		
	Dec 19	Nov 20	Dec 20	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory						
Original						
Employment	135 913	129 170	131 036	1.4%	-3.6%	-0.4%
– full-time	106 660	99 187	99 016	-0.2%	-7.2%	-2.3%
– part-time	29 254	29 983	32 020	6.8%	9.5%	6.2%
Unemployment rate	4.7%	6.1%	4.9%	- 1.3 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	75.7%	72.9%	73.0%	0.1 ppt	- 2.7 ppt	
Labour force	142 549	137 629	137 718	0.1%	-3.4%	0.3%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
Employment	133 997	128 315	129 173	0.7%	-3.6%	
– full-time	104 766	98 120	97 234	-0.9%	-7.2%	
– part-time	29 232	30 195	31 939	5.8%	9.3%	
Unemployment rate	5.3%	5.9%	5.4%	- 0.5 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	75.1%	72.3%	72.4%	0.1 ppt	- 2.7 ppt	
Labour force	141 427	136 426	136 608	0.1%	-3.4%	
Trend⁵						
– labour force trend series suspended from the April 2020 release						
Australia						
Original						
Employment	13 093 243	12 909 048	13 028 386	0.9%	-0.5%	-1.5%
– full-time	8 984 317	8 760 685	8 907 521	1.7%	-0.9%	-1.4%
– part-time	4 108 926	4 148 363	4 120 865	-0.7%	0.3%	-1.6%
Unemployment rate	4.8%	6.4%	6.3%	- 0.1 ppt	1.5 ppt	
Participation rate	66.4%	66.0%	66.6%	0.5 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	13 760 201	13 786 554	13 904 275	0.9%	1.0%	-0.1%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
Employment	12 974 713	12 860 741	12 910 777	0.4%	-0.5%	
– full-time	8 837 392	8 725 706	8 761 448	0.4%	-0.9%	
– part-time	4 137 321	4 135 034	4 149 329	0.3%	0.3%	
Unemployment rate	5.1%	6.8%	6.6%	- 0.2 ppt	1.5 ppt	
Participation rate	65.9%	66.1%	66.2%	0.1 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Labour force	13 664 964	13 802 815	13 822 767	0.1%	1.2%	
Trend⁵						
– labour force trend series suspended from the April 2020 release						

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding

ppt.: percentage point

1 Compares the latest month with the previous month.

2 Compares the latest month with the same month in the previous year.

3 Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12 month period.

4 Seasonal adjustment removes a series influences that are systemic and calendar related.

5 Trend series represents the underlying series remaining after removing seasonal effects from the original data and smoothing out the irregularities.

* Due to rounding, percentage changes in the table may not reflect the actual change.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

More information: