

Labour force

March 2022 | Economic brief

Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (seasonally adjusted)	130 764	13 389 899
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	↓1.4%	↑0.1%
Annual change (seasonally adjusted)	↑0.9%	↑2.6%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑0.2%	↑3.8%

In March 2022, seasonally adjusted resident employment in the Territory decreased by 1.4% to 130,764 persons. Full-time employment decreased by 1.0% and part-time employment decreased by 2.7%. Nationally, employment increased by 0.1%, with full-time employment increasing by 0.2%, and part-time employment decreasing by 0.1%.

Annually, seasonally adjusted resident employment increased by 0.9% in the Territory. Nationally, employment increased by 2.6% over the same period (Chart 1). In the year to March 2022, Territory employment increased by 0.2%, reflecting a 0.7% increase in full-time employment, partly offset by a 1.3% decrease in part-time employment. Nationally, year-on-year employment increased by 3.8%.

Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)	4.1%	4.0%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.6	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↓1.5	↓1.7

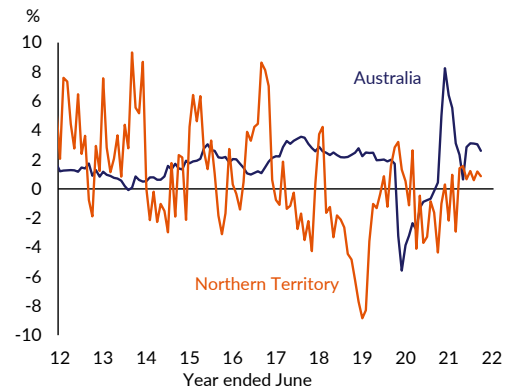
The Territory's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased from 3.5% in February to 4.1% in March 2022 (Chart 2). The sharp increase in the unemployment rate reflects 1,819 people transitioning from employment in the month. Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate was flat at 4.0%.

Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)	71.9%	66.4%
Monthly change (ppt)	↓0.6	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↓0.6	↑0.1

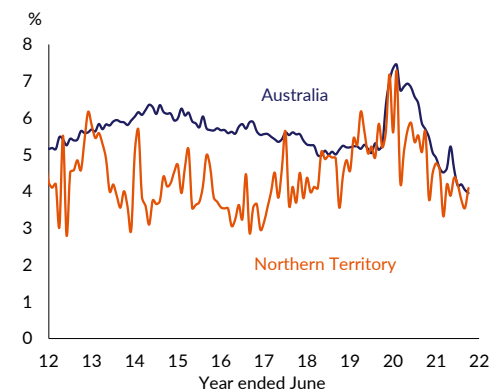
The seasonally adjusted participation rate in the Territory decreased by 0.6 percentage points to 71.9% in March 2022. The Territory's participation rate is the highest of the jurisdictions, and well above the national rate of 66.4% (Chart 3).

Chart 1: Employment change (annual, seasonally adjusted)



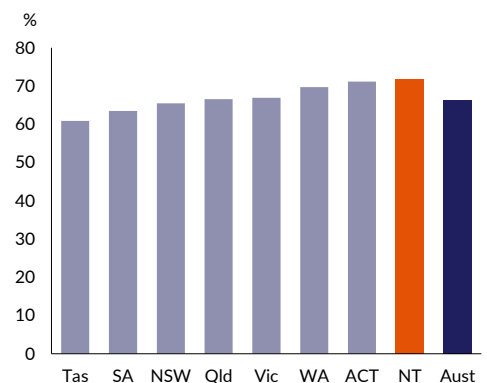
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)



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

Chart 3: Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)



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

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Change		
	Mar 21	Feb 22	Mar 22	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory						
Original						
Employment	130 847	133 177	132 092	-0.8%	1.0%	0.2%
– full-time	99 635	103 208	101 927	-1.2%	2.3%	0.7%
– part-time	31 212	29 969	30 166	0.7%	-3.4%	-1.3%
Unemployment rate	5.8%	3.6%	4.1%	0.5 ppt	-1.7 ppt	
Participation rate	73.3%	72.9%	72.6%	-0.3 ppt	-0.7 ppt	
Labour force	138 852	138 209	137 768	-0.3%	-0.8%	-1.5%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
Employment	129 639	132 583	130 764	-1.4%	0.9%	
– full-time	99 476	102 686	101 689	-1.0%	2.2%	
– part-time	30 162	29 897	29 075	-2.7%	-3.6%	
Unemployment rate	5.6%	3.5%	4.1%	0.6 ppt	-1.5 ppt	
Participation rate	72.5%	72.5%	71.9%	-0.6 ppt	-0.6 ppt	
Labour force	137 361	137 460	136 345	-0.8%	-0.7%	
Trend⁵						
– labour force trend series suspended from the April 2020 release						
Australia						
Original						
Employment	13 063 258	13 437 653	13 400 832	-0.3%	2.6%	3.8%
– full-time	8 836 279	9 343 252	9 240 699	-1.1%	4.6%	4.4%
– part-time	4 226 979	4 094 401	4 160 134	1.6%	-1.6%	2.5%
Unemployment rate	6.0%	4.3%	4.2%	-0.1 ppt	-1.8 ppt	
Participation rate	66.6%	67.0%	66.6%	-0.4 ppt	0.0 ppt	
Labour force	13 894 009	14 045 518	13 981 137	-0.5%	0.6%	1.6%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
Employment	13 051 585	13 372 013	13 389 899	0.1%	2.6%	
– full-time	8 845 779	9 228 018	9 248 565	0.2%	4.6%	
– part-time	4 205 806	4 143 994	4 141 334	-0.1%	-1.5%	
Unemployment rate	5.7%	4.0%	4.0%	0.0 ppt	-1.7 ppt	
Participation rate	66.3%	66.4%	66.4%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	13 839 586	13 935 348	13 941 166	0.0%	0.7%	
Trend⁵						
– labour force trend series suspended from the April 2020 release						

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, as it is often derived from small samples and can be highly volatile. Although due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

More information

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