

Labour force

November 2025 | Economic brief

Seasonally adjusted

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	145 414	14 655 707
- Monthly change	↑1.1%	↓0.1%
- Year-ended change	↑2.9%	↑1.3%
- Year-average change	↑0.9%	↑1.9%
Unemployment rate	4.4%	4.3%
Participation rate	73.0%	66.7%

Employment in the Territory increased by 1.1% to 145,414 persons in November 2025. Part-time employment increased by 6.7%, partly offset by full-time employment which declined by 0.4%. The Territory reported the strongest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from a decline of 2.6% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 0.5% in South Australia and Victoria. Nationally, employment declined by 0.1%. Employment in the Territory increased by 2.9% over the year to November 2025 (Chart 1). This was the second strongest result of the jurisdictions.

The Territory's unemployment rate declined by 0.8 percentage points (ppt) to 4.4% in November 2025 (Chart 2). The Territory reported the fourth highest rate of the jurisdictions, which ranged from 3.9% in New South Wales to 4.7% in Victoria. Nationally, the monthly unemployment was flat at 4.3%. The Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.5 ppt over the year to November 2025.

The participation rate in the Territory was flat at 73.0%. This is the highest rate of the jurisdictions and is 6.3 ppt above the national rate (66.7%). The Territory's participation rate increased by 1.1 ppt over the year to November 2025.

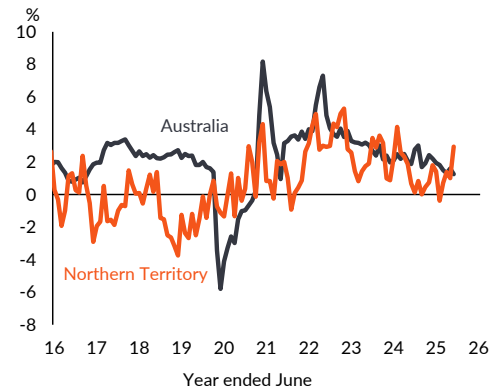
Trend

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	144 532	14 677 732
- Monthly change	↑0.1%	↑0.1%
- Annual change	↑1.5%	↑1.3%
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.3%
Participation rate	72.7%	66.8%

Employment in the Territory increased by 0.1% to 144,532 persons in November 2025. Part-time employment increased by 0.6% while full-time employment was flat. Employment increased by 1.5% in the Territory over the year to November 2025 (Chart 3).

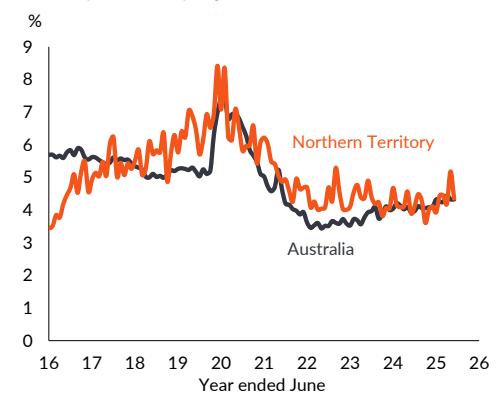
The Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.1 ppt to 4.5% in November 2025 and by 0.4 ppt over the year. The participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.1 ppt to 72.7% and by 0.1 ppt over the year.

Chart 1: Employment change (year-ended change, seasonally adjusted)



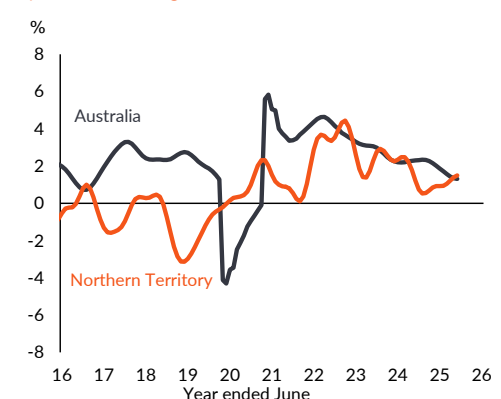
Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (monthly, seasonally adjusted)



Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Chart 3: Employment change (year-ended change, trend)



Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Monthly change ¹		Year-ended change ²	
	Nov 24	Oct 25	Nov 25	%	%	No.	
Northern Territory							
Seasonally adjusted							
Employment	141 257	143 856	145 414	1.1%	2.9%	4 157	
– full-time	111 460	113 130	112 643	-0.4%	1.1%	1 183	
– part-time	29 797	30 726	32 771	6.7%	10.0%	2 974	
Unemployment rate	3.9%	5.2%	4.4%	- 0.8 ppt	0.5 ppt		
– Unemployed	5 728	7 861	6 618	-15.8%	15.5%	889	
Participation rate	71.9%	73.0%	73.0%	0.0 ppt	1.1 ppt		
Labour force	146 985	151 718	152 032	0.2%	3.4%	5 047	
Trend							
Employment	142 392	144 338	144 532	0.1%	1.5%	2 140	
– full-time	112 044	112 311	112 300	0.0%	0.2%	256	
– part-time	30 348	32 027	32 232	0.6%	6.2%	1 884	
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.5%	4.5%	0.1 ppt	0.4 ppt		
– Unemployed	6 081	6 729	6 855	1.9%	12.7%	774	
Participation rate	72.6%	72.7%	72.7%	0.1 ppt	0.1 ppt		
Labour force	148 473	151 067	151 387	0.2%	2.0%	2 915	
Australia							
Seasonally adjusted							
Employment	14 473 283	14 677 050	14 655 707	-0.1%	1.3%	182 424	
– full-time	10 029 214	10 133 340	10 076 837	-0.6%	0.5%	47 624	
– part-time	4 444 069	4 543 710	4 578 869	0.8%	3.0%	134 800	
Unemployment rate	3.9%	4.3%	4.3%	0.0 ppt	0.4 ppt		
– Unemployed	593 151	664 379	662 298	-0.3%	11.7%	69 147	
Participation rate	66.9%	66.9%	66.7%	- 0.2 ppt	- 0.2 ppt		
Labour force	15 066 434	15 341 429	15 318 005	-0.2%	1.7%	251 571	
Trend							
Employment	14 487 797	14 656 691	14 677 732	0.1%	1.3%	189 935	
– full-time	10 002 373	10 095 497	10 104 522	0.1%	1.0%	102 149	
– part-time	4 485 424	4 561 193	4 573 210	0.3%	2.0%	87 786	
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.4%	4.3%	0.0 ppt	0.3 ppt		
– Unemployed	608 004	667 208	665 818	-0.2%	9.5%	57 814	
Participation rate	67.1%	66.8%	66.8%	0.0 ppt	- 0.2 ppt		
Labour force	15 095 801	15 323 899	15 343 550	0.1%	1.6%	247 749	

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.

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

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS, *Labour force*

Table 2: Unemployment rates by jurisdiction (%)

	November 2025		Ranking (highest to lowest)	
	Seasonally adjusted	Trend	Seasonally adjusted	Trend
States				
NSW	3.9	4.1	8	7
Vic	4.7	4.7	1	1
Qld	4.2	4.2	5	6
WA	4.6	4.4	2	3
SA	4.0	4.3	7	5
Tas	4.1	4.0	6	8
ACT	4.5	4.4	3	4
NT	4.4	4.5	4	2
Australia	4.3	4.3		

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS, *Labour force*

Term	Definition
Employment	Work for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers)
Employed full-time	Employed people who usually work 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who usually work less but worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.
Employed part-time	Employed people who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) or were not at work in the reference week.
Unemployed	People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week and had actively looked for full time or part time work.
Unemployment rate	For any group, the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.
Participation rate	For any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.
Labour force	For any group, people who were employed or unemployed, as defined.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year
Year-average change	Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 12 month period
Seasonally adjusted	A seasonally adjusted series involves estimating and removing the cyclical and seasonal effects from the original data. Seasonally adjusting a time series is useful if you wish to understand the underlying patterns of change or movement in a population, without the impact of the seasonal or cyclical effects.
Trend	A trend series is a seasonally adjusted series that has been further adjusted to remove irregular effects and 'smooth' out the series to show the overall 'trend' of the data over time.

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.

[Labour force, Australia | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://abs.gov.au)

More information

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6718 | E: economics.dtf@nt.gov.au | W: nteconomy.nt.gov.au