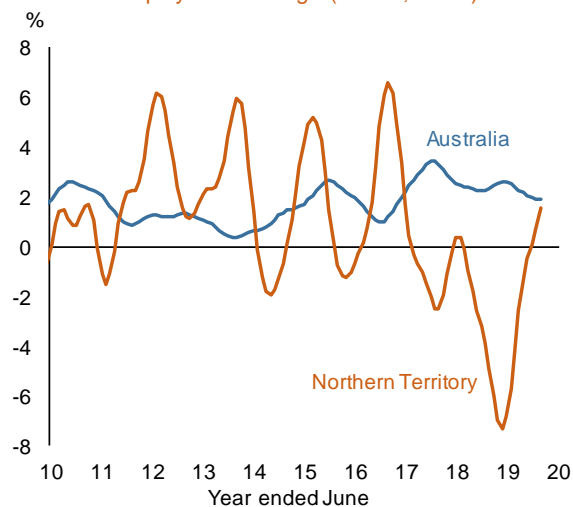
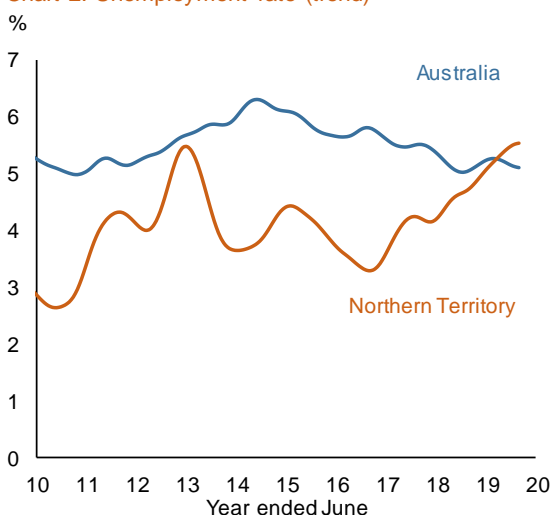


Chart 1: Employment change (annual, trend)



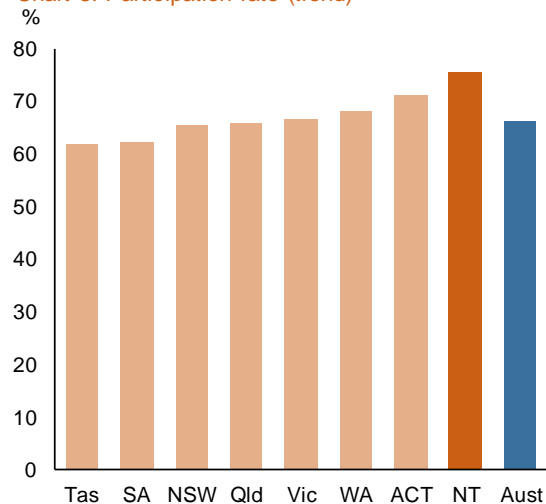
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (trend)



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

Chart 3: Participation rate (trend)



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

## Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (trend)	133 204	13 010 163
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.2%	↑0.2%
Annual change (trend)	↑1.6%	↑1.9%
Year-on-year change (original)	↓3.8%	↑2.2%

In February 2020, trend resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.2 per cent to 133 204 persons, compared to the previous month. This was the third highest result of the jurisdictions, equal with Western Australia. Nationally, trend employment grew by 0.2 per cent to 13 010 163 persons.

Annually, trend resident employment increased by 1.6 per cent compared to the same time last year, reporting the third lowest result of the jurisdictions, with South Australia recording the only decrease of 0.2 per cent. Nationally, trend employment grew by 1.9 per cent (Chart 1).

In the year to February 2020, Territory employment decreased by 3.8 per cent. This was the only year-on-year decline of the jurisdictions, reflecting a 6.1 per cent decline in full-time employment, partly offset by a 5.5 per cent increase in part-time employment. Nationally, year-on-year employment grew by 2.2 per cent.

## Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (trend)	5.5%	5.1%
Monthly change (ppt)	flat	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.8	flat

The Territory's monthly trend unemployment rate remained at 5.5 per cent in February 2020 (Chart 2). This was the third highest rate of the jurisdictions. Other jurisdictions ranged from 2.9 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory to 5.8 per cent in South Australia. Nationally, the monthly trend unemployment rate remained at 5.1 per cent.

## Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (trend)	75.4%	66.0%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.3	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑2.3	↑0.3

The trend participation rate in the Territory increased 0.3 percentage points to 75.4 per cent compared to the previous month. The Territory's participation rate remains the highest of the jurisdictions and above the national average of 66.0 per cent (Chart 3).

# Labour force February 2020

Table 1: Labour force statistics\*

	Period			Change		
	Feb 19	Jan 20	Feb 20	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Annual <sup>2</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>						
<b>Original</b>						
Employment	131 388	130 335	132 651	1.8%	1.0%	-3.8%
– full-time	103 794	103 139	103 447	0.3%	-0.3%	-6.1%
– part-time	27 593	27 196	29 204	7.4%	5.8%	5.5%
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.3%	6.0%	0.7 ppt	0.9 ppt	
Participation rate	73.5%	73.5%	75.3%	1.9 ppt	1.9 ppt	
Labour force	138 320	137 577	141 050	2.5%	2.0%	-3.1%
<b>Seasonally adjusted<sup>4</sup></b>						
– not published for the Northern Territory						
<b>Trend<sup>5</sup></b>						
Employment	131 132	132 939	133 204	0.2%	1.6%	
– full-time	103 562	103 727	103 903	0.2%	0.3%	
– part-time	27 570	29 212	29 301	0.3%	6.3%	
Unemployment rate	4.7%	5.5%	5.5%	0.0 ppt	0.8 ppt	
Participation rate	73.1%	75.1%	75.4%	0.3 ppt	2.3 ppt	
Labour force	137 647	140 703	141 010	0.2%	2.4%	
<b>Australia</b>						
<b>Original</b>						
Employment	12 803 191	12 831 268	13 056 667	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%
– full-time	8 828 598	8 864 907	8 971 676	1.2%	1.6%	2.2%
– part-time	3 974 592	3 966 360	4 084 991	3.0%	2.8%	2.3%
Unemployment rate	5.4%	5.7%	5.5%	- 0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	66.1%	65.6%	66.5%	0.9 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	13 531 250	13 609 115	13 821 150	1.6%	2.1%	2.2%
<b>Seasonally adjusted<sup>4</sup></b>						
Employment	12 758 865	12 988 408	13 015 121	0.2%	2.0%	
– full-time	8 740 228	8 877 863	8 884 560	0.1%	1.7%	
– part-time	4 018 638	4 110 545	4 130 561	0.5%	2.8%	
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.3%	5.1%	- 0.2 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	65.6%	66.1%	66.0%	- 0.1 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	13 424 427	13 713 877	13 714 175	0.0%	2.2%	
<b>Trend<sup>5</sup></b>						
Employment	12 768 853	12 989 041	13 010 163	0.2%	1.9%	
– full-time	8 753 145	8 872 319	8 885 633	0.2%	1.5%	
– part-time	4 015 707	4 116 722	4 124 530	0.2%	2.7%	
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.1%	5.1%	0.0 ppt	0.0 ppt	
Participation rate	65.7%	66.0%	66.0%	0.0 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Labour force	13 447 724	13 689 224	13 709 081	0.1%	1.9%	

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.

Nationally, media analysis of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Labour Force Survey (LFS) is concentrated on seasonally adjusted data. Due to the high standard errors and volatile nature of seasonally adjusted data for the Northern Territory LFS, the ABS only publishes data in original and trend terms.

## More information:

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