

Labour force

May 2023 | Economic brief

Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (trend)	144 334	14 003 367
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.6%	↑0.3%
Annual change (trend)	↑6.2%	↑3.1%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑4.0%	↑4.3%

In May 2023, trend resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.6% to 144,334 persons. Part-time employment increased by 1.1% and full-time employment increased by 0.5%. Nationally, employment increased by 0.3%, with full-time employment increasing by 0.3% and part-time employment increasing by 0.2%.

Annually, trend resident employment increased by 6.2% in the Territory. Nationally, employment increased by 3.1% over the same period (Chart 1). In the year to May 2023, Territory employment increased by 4.0% on a year-on-year basis, reflecting an increase in full-time employment of 5.1% and an increase in part-time employment of 0.3%. Nationally, year-on-year employment increased by 4.3%.

Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (trend)	3.6%	3.5%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.2	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↓0.3	↓0.2

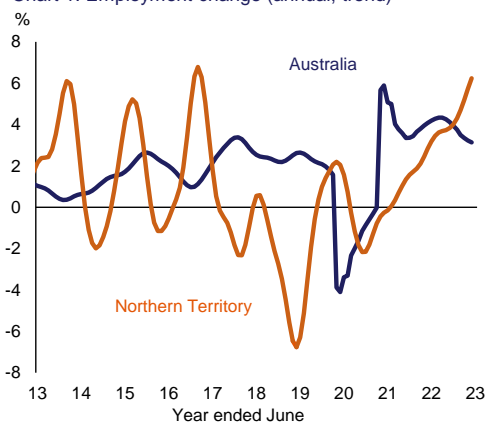
The Territory's trend unemployment rate increased from 3.4% in April 2023 to 3.6% in May 2023 (Chart 2). Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate was flat at 3.5%.

Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (trend)	76.2%	66.8%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.3	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑3.2	↑0.1

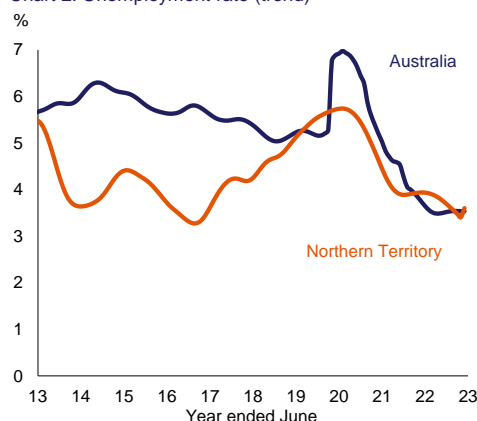
The trend participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.3 percentage points to 76.2% in May 2023. The Territory's participation rate is the highest of the jurisdictions, and well above the national rate of 66.8% (Chart 3).

Chart 1: Employment change (annual, trend)



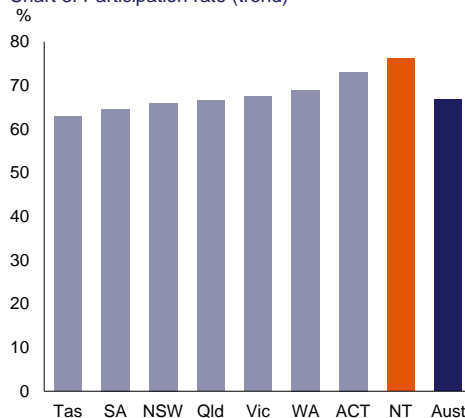
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (trend)



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

Chart 3: Participation rate (trend)



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

Labour force

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Change		
	May 22	Apr 23	May 23	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory						
Original						
Employment	138 710	144 886	142 354	-1.7%	2.6%	4.0%
– full-time	105 234	113 269	107 046	-5.5%	1.7%	5.1%
– part-time	33 476	31 617	35 308	11.7%	5.5%	0.3%
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.5%	2.9%	- 0.6 ppt	- 1.0 ppt	
Participation rate	74.4%	76.7%	74.8%	- 1.9 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	144 288	150 068	146 679	-2.3%	1.7%	3.6%
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	138 329	143 736	141 970	-1.2%	2.6%	
– full-time	105 947	111 616	107 802	-3.4%	1.8%	
– part-time	32 382	32 119	34 169	6.4%	5.5%	
Unemployment rate	4.2%	3.3%	3.1%	- 0.2 ppt	- 1.1 ppt	
Participation rate	74.4%	75.9%	74.7%	- 1.2 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Labour force	144 324	148 656	146 538	-1.4%	1.5%	
Trend						
Employment	135 858	143 407	144 334	0.6%	6.2%	
– full-time	105 299	109 951	110 506	0.5%	4.9%	
– part-time	30 559	33 456	33 828	1.1%	10.7%	
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.4%	3.6%	0.2 ppt	- 0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	73.0%	75.9%	76.2%	0.3 ppt	3.2 ppt	
Labour force	141 426	148 464	149 327	0.6%	5.6%	
Australia						
Original						
Employment	13 634 107	13 934 259	14 102 888	1.2%	3.4%	4.3%
– full-time	9 447 299	9 733 009	9 835 557	1.1%	4.1%	5.5%
– part-time	4 186 809	4 201 250	4 267 331	1.6%	1.9%	1.6%
Unemployment rate	3.8%	3.8%	3.5%	- 0.3 ppt	- 0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	67.0%	66.8%	67.3%	0.5 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Labour force	14 180 006	14 477 362	14 614 815	0.9%	3.1%	3.4%
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	13 546 209	13 935 816	14 011 752	0.5%	3.4%	
– full-time	9 440 903	9 764 504	9 826 184	0.6%	4.1%	
– part-time	4 105 306	4 171 311	4 185 568	0.3%	2.0%	
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.7%	3.6%	- 0.1 ppt	- 0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	66.7%	66.7%	66.9%	0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Labour force	14 097 604	14 468 258	14 527 660	0.4%	3.1%	
Trend						
Employment	13 576 790	13 963 588	14 003 367	0.3%	3.1%	
– full-time	9 424 617	9 784 967	9 818 053	0.3%	4.2%	
– part-time	4 152 173	4 178 621	4 185 314	0.2%	0.8%	
Unemployment rate	3.7%	3.5%	3.5%	0.0 ppt	- 0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	66.7%	66.8%	66.8%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	14 104 084	14 475 251	14 516 147	0.3%	2.9%	

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.

* 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.

[Labour Force, Australia, May 2023 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://abs.gov.au)

More information

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