

# Labour force

August 2024 | Economic brief

## Seasonally adjusted

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	139 406	14 458 606
- Monthly change	↓0.7%	↑0.3%
- Year-ended change	↑2.1%	↑2.7%
- Year-average change	↑1.9%	↑2.7%
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.2%
Participation rate	72.8%	67.1%

In August 2024, employment in the Territory declined by 0.7% to 139,406 persons. Part-time employment declined by 5.7%, partly offset by full-time employment which increased by 0.6%. Nationally, employment increased by 0.3%, with part-time employment increasing by 1.1% while full-time employment was flat.

Over the year to August 2024, employment increased by 2.1% in the Territory (Chart 1). In year-average terms, Territory employment increased by 1.9%, reflecting an increase in full-time employment of 3.2%, partly offset by a decline in part-time employment of 3.0%.

In August 2024, the Territory's unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage points (ppt) to 4.2% (Chart 2). Nationally, the monthly unemployment was flat at 4.2%. The participation rate in the Territory declined by 0.7 ppt to 72.8%. This is the highest rate of the jurisdictions, and well above the national rate of 67.1%.

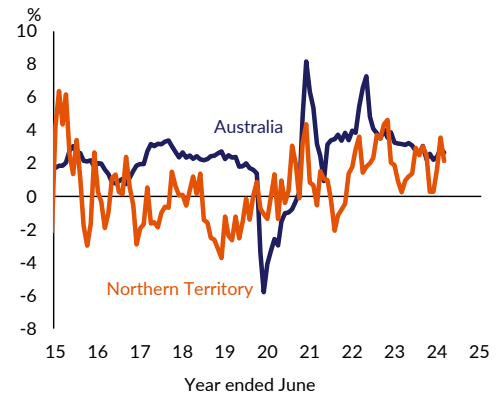
## Trend

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	139 776	14 443 565
- Monthly change	↑0.3%	↑0.3%
- Year-ended	↑2.7%	↑2.6%
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.1%
Participation rate	73.1%	67.0%

In August 2024, employment in the Territory increased by 0.3% to 139,776 persons. Full-time employment increased by 0.5%, partly offset by part-time employment which declined by 0.8%. Over the year to August 2024, employment increased by 2.7% in the Territory (Chart 3).

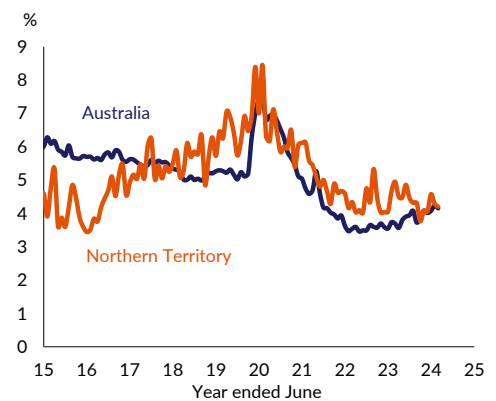
In August 2024, the Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.1 ppt to 4.3%. The participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.1 ppt to 73.1%.

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



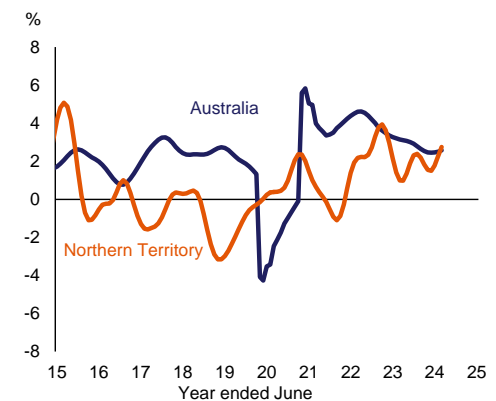
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (monthly, seasonally adjusted)



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

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



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

Table 1: Labour force statistics\*

	Period			Monthly change <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended change <sup>2</sup>	
	Aug 23	Jul 24	Aug 24	%	%	No.
<b>Northern Territory</b>						
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	136 481	140 383	139 406	-0.7%	2.1%	2 925
– full-time	109 229	111 535	112 202	0.6%	2.7%	2 972
– part-time	27 252	28 848	27 204	-5.7%	-0.2%	- 48
Unemployment rate	5.0%	4.3%	4.2%	-0.1 ppt	-0.8 ppt	
– Unemployed	7 112	6 305	6 120	-2.9%	-14.0%	- 992
Participation rate	72.7%	73.5%	72.8%	-0.7 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	143 594	146 687	145 526	-0.8%	1.3%	1 932
Trend						
Employment	136 038	139 425	139 776	0.3%	2.7%	3 738
– full-time	108 910	111 127	111 719	0.5%	2.6%	2 809
– part-time	27 128	28 298	28 057	-0.8%	3.4%	929
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.2%	4.3%	0.1 ppt	-0.2 ppt	
– Unemployed	6 475	6 166	6 254	1.4%	-3.4%	- 221
Participation rate	72.1%	73.0%	73.1%	0.1 ppt	1.0 ppt	
Labour force	142 513	145 591	146 030	0.3%	2.5%	3 517
<b>Australia</b>						
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	14 084 436	14 411 146	14 458 606	0.3%	2.7%	374 170
– full-time	9 814 885	9 982 262	9 979 117	0.0%	1.7%	164 232
– part-time	4 269 551	4 428 884	4 479 488	1.1%	4.9%	209 938
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.2%	4.2%	0.0 ppt	0.5 ppt	
– Unemployed	540 319	637 432	626 952	-1.6%	16.0%	86 633
Participation rate	66.7%	67.1%	67.1%	0.0 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	14 624 755	15 048 578	15 085 558	0.2%	3.2%	460 803
Trend						
Employment	14 080 745	14 403 264	14 443 565	0.3%	2.6%	362 819
– full-time	9 814 057	9 949 555	9 980 112	0.3%	1.7%	166 055
– part-time	4 266 689	4 453 709	4 463 453	0.2%	4.6%	196 764
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.1%	4.1%	0.0 ppt	0.4 ppt	
– Unemployed	541 904	620 161	625 175	0.8%	15.4%	83 271
Participation rate	66.7%	67.0%	67.0%	0.0 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Labour force	14 622 650	15 023 426	15 068 740	0.3%	3.1%	446 090

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 Cat. No. 6202.0

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://www.abs.gov.au)

## More information

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