

Labour force

January 2025 | Economic brief

Seasonally adjusted

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	139 632	14 634 269
- Monthly change	↑0.5%	↑0.3%
- Year-ended change	↑0.3%	↑3.5%
- Year-average change	↑1.5%	↑2.6%
Unemployment rate	4.5%	4.1%
Participation rate	72.8%	67.3%

Employment in the Territory increased by 0.5% to 139,632 persons in January 2025. Part-time employment increased by 7.1%, partly offset by full-time employment which declined by 1.3%. The Territory reported the fourth strongest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a decline of 0.1% in Queensland to an increase of 2.5% in Tasmania. Nationally, employment increased by 0.3%. Employment increased by 0.3% in the Territory over the year to January 2025 (Chart 1).

The Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percentage points (ppt) to 4.5% in January 2025 (Chart 2). The Territory reported the second highest rate of the jurisdictions, which ranged from 3.2% in the Australian Capital Territory to 4.7% in Victoria. Nationally, the monthly unemployment increased by 0.1 ppt to 4.1%. The participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.5 ppt to 72.8%. This is the highest rate of the jurisdictions, and is 5.5 ppt above the national rate (67.3%).

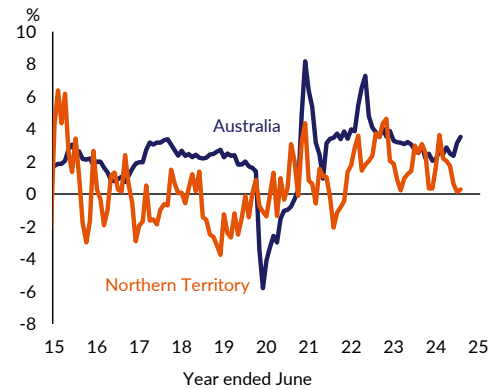
Trend

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	139 275	14 616 380
- Monthly change	↑0.3%	↑0.2%
- Annual change	↑0.1%	↑3.0%
Unemployment rate	4.4%	4.0%
Participation rate	72.5%	67.2%

Employment in the Territory increased by 0.3% to 139,275 persons in January 2025. Part-time employment increased by 1.2% and full-time employment was flat. Employment increased by 0.1% in the Territory over the year to January 2025 (Chart 3).

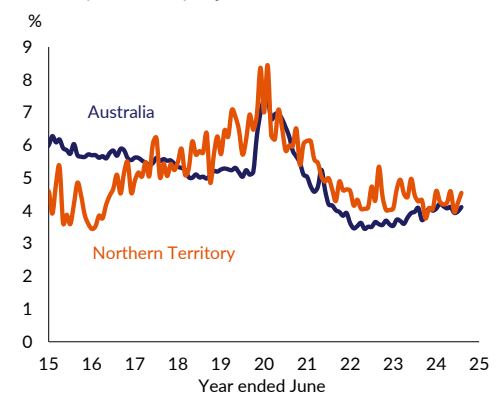
The Territory's unemployment rate was flat at 4.4% in January 2025. The participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.1 ppt to 72.5%.

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



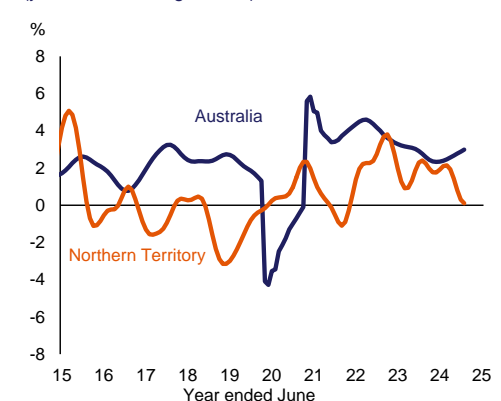
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

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 ¹	Year-ended change ²	
	Jan 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	%	%	No.
Northern Territory						
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	139 226	138 928	139 632	0.5%	0.3%	406
– full-time	111 335	109 367	107 976	-1.3%	-3.0%	- 3 359
– part-time	27 891	29 562	31 656	7.1%	13.5%	3 765
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.2%	4.5%	0.3 ppt	0.2 ppt	
– Unemployed	6 232	6 147	6 647	8.1%	6.7%	415
Participation rate	73.3%	72.3%	72.8%	0.5 ppt	-0.5 ppt	
Labour force	145 458	145 075	146 279	0.8%	0.6%	821
Trend						
Employment	139 122	138 884	139 275	0.3%	0.1%	153
– full-time	110 710	108 061	108 091	0.0%	-2.4%	- 2 619
– part-time	28 412	30 823	31 183	1.2%	9.8%	2 771
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
– Unemployed	6 276	6 361	6 423	1.0%	2.3%	147
Participation rate	73.3%	72.4%	72.5%	0.1 ppt	-0.8 ppt	
Labour force	145 398	145 245	145 697	0.3%	0.2%	299
Australia						
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	14 135 944	14 590 275	14 634 269	0.3%	3.5%	498 325
– full-time	9 747 305	10 038 679	10 092 777	0.5%	3.5%	345 472
– part-time	4 388 639	4 551 596	4 541 492	-0.2%	3.5%	152 853
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.0%	4.1%	0.1 ppt	0.0 ppt	
– Unemployed	602 430	604 110	627 490	3.9%	4.2%	25 060
Participation rate	66.5%	67.2%	67.3%	0.1 ppt	0.8 ppt	
Labour force	14 738 374	15 194 385	15 261 759	0.4%	3.6%	523 385
Trend						
Employment	14 192 283	14 582 655	14 616 380	0.2%	3.0%	424 097
– full-time	9 795 037	10 063 571	10 083 494	0.2%	2.9%	288 457
– part-time	4 397 245	4 519 084	4 532 886	0.3%	3.1%	135 640
Unemployment rate	3.9%	4.0%	4.0%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
– Unemployed	577 790	614 580	615 067	0.1%	6.5%	37 278
Participation rate	66.7%	67.2%	67.2%	0.0 ppt	0.5 ppt	
Labour force	14 770 072	15 197 235	15 231 447	0.2%	3.1%	461 375

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

Table 2: Unemployment rates by jurisdiction (%)

	January 2025		Ranking (highest to lowest)	
	Seasonally adjusted	Trend	Seasonally adjusted	Trend
NSW	4.0	3.9	4	5
Vic	4.7	4.6	1	1
Qld	3.9	3.9	5	6
WA	3.6	3.5	7	7
SA	4.1	4.1	3	3
Tas	3.6	4.0	6	4
ACT	3.2	3.2	8	8
NT	4.5	4.4	2	2
Australia	4.1	4.0		

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://abs.gov.au)

More information

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