

Labour force

September 2023 | Economic brief

Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (trend)	137 494	14 115 088
Monthly change (trend)	↓0.2%	↑0.2%
Annual change (trend)	↓0.2%	↑2.8%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑3.4%	↑3.7%

In September 2023, trend resident employment in the Territory decreased by 0.2% to 137,494 persons. Part-time employment decreased by 1.5% partly offset by full-time employment which increased by 0.1%. Nationally, employment increased by 0.2%, with part-time employment increasing by 0.6%, while full-time employment was flat.

Annually, trend resident employment decreased by 0.2% in the Territory. Nationally, employment increased by 2.8% over the same period (Chart 1). In the year to September 2023, Territory employment increased by 3.4%, reflecting an increase in full-time employment of 4.1% and an increase in part-time employment of 1.1%. Nationally, year-on-year employment increased by 3.7%.

Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (trend)	3.9%	3.6%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.1	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.1	↑0.1

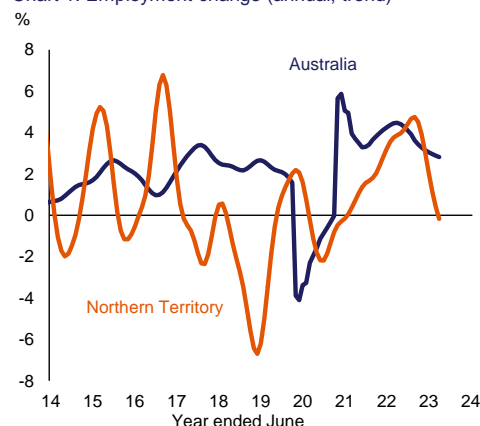
The Territory's trend unemployment rate increased from 3.8% in August 2023 to 3.9% in September 2023 (Chart 2). Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate was flat at 3.6%.

Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (trend)	72.7%	66.8%
Monthly change (ppt)	↓0.2	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↓1.0	↑0.1

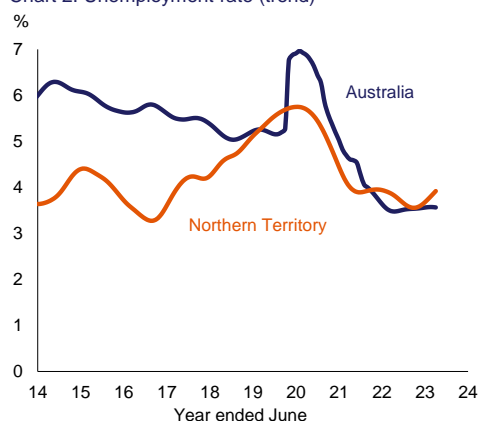
The trend participation rate in the Territory decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 72.7% in September 2023. The Territory's participation rate is the second highest of the jurisdictions, and well above the national rate of 66.8% (Chart 3).

Chart 1: Employment change (annual, trend)



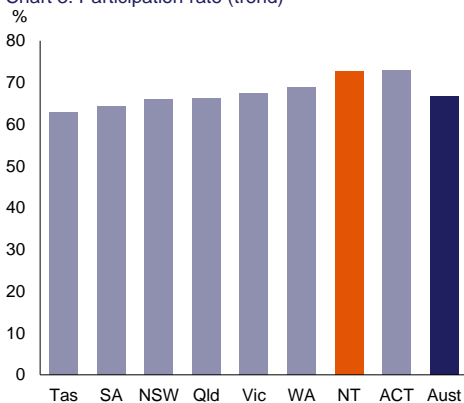
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

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

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Change		
	Sep 22	Aug 23	Sep 23	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory						
Original						
Employment	135 763	135 384	137 139	1.3%	1.0%	3.4%
– full-time	105 399	106 355	109 424	2.9%	3.8%	4.1%
– part-time	30 364	29 028	27 715	-4.5%	-8.7%	1.1%
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.4%	4.1%	- 0.3 ppt	0.0 ppt	
Participation rate	72.8%	72.0%	72.7%	0.7 ppt	- 0.1 ppt	
Labour force	141 500	141 596	143 059	1.0%	1.1%	3.2%
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	136 653	137 805	138 045	0.2%	1.0%	
– full-time	106 423	108 525	110 509	1.8%	3.8%	
– part-time	30 229	29 280	27 536	-6.0%	-8.9%	
Unemployment rate	3.9%	4.3%	4.1%	- 0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	73.2%	73.2%	73.1%	- 0.1 ppt	- 0.1 ppt	
Labour force	142 217	144 012	143 954	0.0%	1.2%	
Trend						
Employment	137 724	137 813	137 494	-0.2%	-0.2%	
– full-time	106 755	109 082	109 203	0.1%	2.3%	
– part-time	30 969	28 731	28 292	-1.5%	-8.6%	
Unemployment rate	3.8%	3.8%	3.9%	0.1 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	73.7%	72.9%	72.7%	- 0.2 ppt	- 1.0 ppt	
Labour force	143 230	143 310	143 103	-0.1%	-0.1%	
Australia						
Original						
Employment	13 676 323	14 033 218	14 068 118	0.2%	2.9%	3.7%
– full-time	9 492 411	9 749 687	9 726 387	-0.2%	2.5%	4.8%
– part-time	4 183 912	4 283 530	4 341 731	1.4%	3.8%	1.3%
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.7%	3.4%	- 0.3 ppt	- 0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	66.4%	66.6%	66.5%	- 0.1 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	14 167 343	14 571 608	14 570 068	0.0%	2.8%	3.3%
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	13 716 825	14 104 503	14 111 163	0.0%	2.9%	
– full-time	9 566 762	9 846 221	9 806 355	-0.4%	2.5%	
– part-time	4 150 063	4 258 282	4 304 808	1.1%	3.7%	
Unemployment rate	3.6%	3.7%	3.6%	- 0.1 ppt	0.0 ppt	
Participation rate	66.7%	67.0%	66.7%	- 0.3 ppt	0.0 ppt	
Labour force	14 226 277	14 644 760	14 631 649	-0.1%	2.8%	
Trend						
Employment	13 729 176	14 092 046	14 115 088	0.2%	2.8%	
– full-time	9 571 045	9 846 056	9 845 499	0.0%	2.9%	
– part-time	4 158 130	4 245 991	4 269 589	0.6%	2.7%	
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	66.7%	66.8%	66.8%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	14 223 870	14 614 123	14 636 765	0.2%	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 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://abs.gov.au)

More information

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