

Labour force

October 2023 | Economic brief

Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (trend)	137 937	14 145 373
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.1%	↑0.2%
Annual change (trend)	↓0.2%	↑2.8%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑3.3%	↑3.4%

In October 2023, trend resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.1% to 137,937 persons. Part-time employment increased by 0.6%, partly offset by full-time employment which decreased 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 October 2023, Territory employment increased by 3.3%, reflecting an increase in full-time employment of 4.0% and an increase in part-time employment of 0.8%. Nationally, year-on-year employment increased by 3.4%.

Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (trend)	4.1%	3.7%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.1	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.3	↑0.2

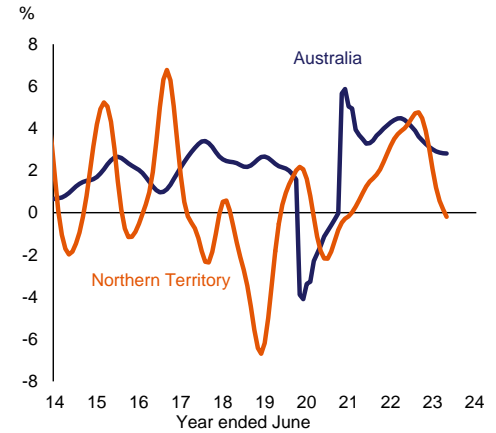
The Territory's trend unemployment rate increased from 4.0% in September 2023 to 4.1% in October 2023 (Chart 2). Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate was flat at 3.7%.

Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (trend)	73.0%	66.8%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.1	↓0.1
Annual change (ppt)	↓0.9	↑0.1

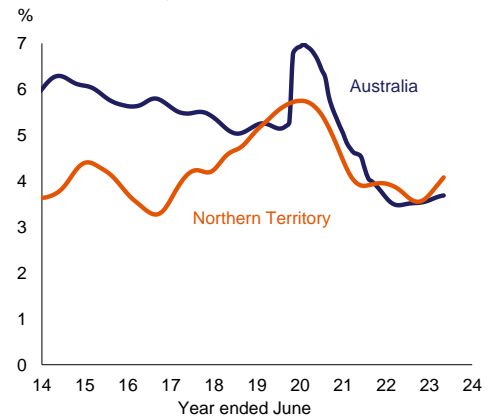
The trend participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.1 percentage points to 73.0% in October 2023. The Territory's participation rate is the second highest of the jurisdictions, and well above the national rate of 66.8% (Chart 3).

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		
	Oct 22	Sep 23	Oct 23	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory						
Original						
Employment	139 506	137 139	140 757	2.6%	0.9%	3.3%
– full-time	106 802	109 424	109 258	-0.2%	2.3%	4.0%
– part-time	32 704	27 715	31 498	13.7%	-3.7%	0.8%
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.1%	4.0%	- 0.1 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	74.6%	72.7%	74.4%	1.7 ppt	- 0.2 ppt	
Labour force	144 886	143 059	146 599	2.5%	1.2%	3.1%
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	138 525	138 145	139 759	1.2%	0.9%	
– full-time	106 868	110 327	109 233	-1.0%	2.2%	
– part-time	31 657	27 818	30 526	9.7%	-3.6%	
Unemployment rate	3.7%	4.1%	4.0%	- 0.1 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	74.0%	73.2%	73.9%	0.7 ppt	- 0.1 ppt	
Labour force	143 871	144 057	145 571	1.1%	1.2%	
Trend						
Employment	138 209	137 868	137 937	0.1%	-0.2%	
– full-time	107 174	108 980	108 891	-0.1%	1.6%	
– part-time	31 036	28 887	29 047	0.6%	-6.4%	
Unemployment rate	3.8%	4.0%	4.1%	0.1 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	73.9%	72.9%	73.0%	0.1 ppt	- 0.9 ppt	
Labour force	143 653	143 589	143 807	0.2%	0.1%	
Australia						
Original						
Employment	13 734 422	14 068 118	14 152 378	0.6%	3.0%	3.4%
– full-time	9 551 124	9 726 387	9 762 003	0.4%	2.2%	4.3%
– part-time	4 183 298	4 341 731	4 390 375	1.1%	5.0%	1.2%
Unemployment rate	3.3%	3.4%	3.6%	0.2 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	66.4%	66.5%	66.8%	0.3 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	14 197 505	14 570 068	14 677 509	0.7%	3.4%	3.1%
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	13 754 562	14 118 527	14 173 503	0.4%	3.0%	
– full-time	9 612 679	9 810 940	9 827 970	0.2%	2.2%	
– part-time	4 141 882	4 307 587	4 345 533	0.9%	4.9%	
Unemployment rate	3.4%	3.6%	3.7%	0.1 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	66.6%	66.8%	67.0%	0.2 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	14 238 422	14 638 429	14 721 349	0.6%	3.4%	
Trend						
Employment	13 758 679	14 117 103	14 145 373	0.2%	2.8%	
– full-time	9 603 570	9 829 921	9 831 909	0.0%	2.4%	
– part-time	4 155 110	4 287 182	4 313 464	0.6%	3.8%	
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	66.7%	66.9%	66.8%	- 0.1 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	14 254 819	14 655 628	14 687 504	0.2%	3.0%	

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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