

# Internet job vacancy report

May 2026 | Economic brief

The Commonwealth Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA) Vacancy Report is based on a count of newly lodged online job advertisements in May 2026 on Seek, CareerOne, and Workforce Australia. Unless stated otherwise, all data are reported in trend terms.

Internet vacancies (trend)	NT	Aust
Monthly change	↓0.8%	↓1.3%
Year-ended change	↓5.3%	↓3.1%

## Northern Territory (trend)

Jobs advertised in the Territory declined by 0.8% in May 2026. The largest declines were in the categories of 'community and personal services' (down by 1.7%) and 'managers' (down by 1.7%), while the largest increases were in the categories of 'machinery operators and drivers' (up by 3.4%) and 'technicians and trades' (up by 0.3%) (Chart 1).

The Territory reported the second smallest decline of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a decline of 1.3% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 0.1% in Tasmania. Nationally, the number of new jobs advertised declined by 1.3%.

Jobs advertised in the Territory declined by 5.3% in year-ended May 2026. The largest declines were in the categories of 'sales' (down by 12.9%) and 'machinery operators and drivers' (down by 6.2%), while the largest increases were in the categories of 'labourers' (up by 7.1%) and 'community and personal services' (up by 3.9%).

The Territory reported the second largest decline of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a decline of 11.5% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 2.1% in Tasmania. Nationally, the number of vacancies declined by 3.1% (Chart 2).

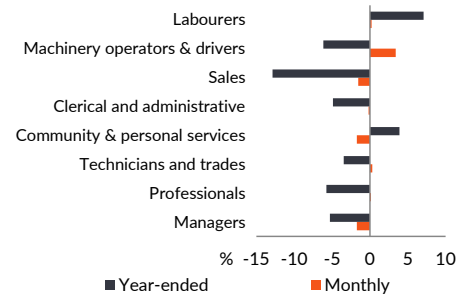
## Regional vacancies (original)

JSA reports regional jobs advertised data in original terms, and as a three-month moving average, though seasonal variations remain.

Jobs advertised in the Darwin region declined by 8.6% in year-ended May 2026 (Chart 3), with 'professionals' (down by 9.1%) and 'technicians and trades workers' (down by 7.1%) reporting the largest declines.

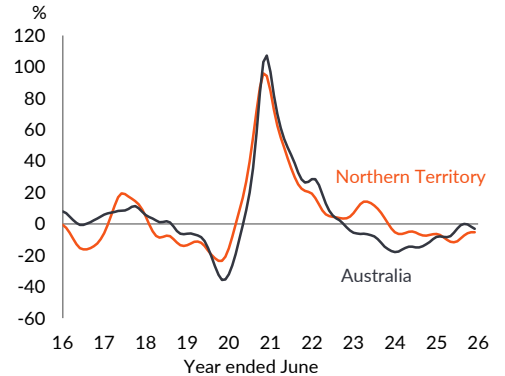
Jobs advertised across regional Northern Territory increased by 10.5% in year-ended May 2026, with 'technicians and trades workers' (up by 12.8%) and 'professionals' (up by 10.8%) reporting the largest increases.

Chart 1: Internet job vacancies by industry (change, trend)



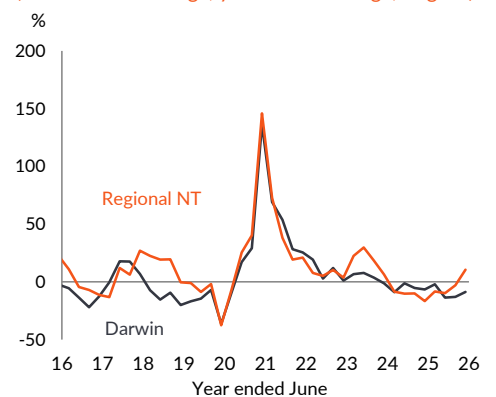
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; Jobs and Skills Australia, *Internet Vacancy Report*

Chart 2: Internet job vacancies (year-ended change, trend)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; Jobs and Skills Australia, *Internet Vacancy Report*

Chart 3: Quarterly regional job vacancies (three month average, year-ended change, original)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; Jobs and Skills Australia, *Internet Vacancy Report*

Table 1: Internet job vacancy report

	Period			Change	
	May 25	Apr 26	May 26	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended <sup>2</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>					
<b>Index (Jan 2006 = 100)</b>					
<b>Trend</b>	<b>120.8</b>	<b>115.3</b>	<b>114.4</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
- managers	151.1	145.6	143.1	-1.7%	-5.3%
- professionals	274.0	257.9	258.2	0.1%	-5.8%
- technicians and trades	104.2	100.3	100.6	0.3%	-3.5%
- community and personal services	125.9	133.1	130.8	-1.7%	3.9%
- clerical and administrative	118.9	113.3	113.1	-0.2%	-4.9%
- sales	73.8	65.3	64.3	-1.5%	-12.9%
- machinery operators and drivers	97.5	88.5	91.5	3.4%	-6.2%
- labourers	41.0	43.8	43.9	0.2%	7.1%
<b>Northern Territory regions</b>					
<b>Index (May 2010 = 100)</b>					
<b>Original</b>					
- Darwin*	82.4	75.7	75.3	n.p.	-8.6%
- Regional NT*	97.1	109.2	107.3	n.p.	10.5%
<b>Australia</b>					
<b>Index (Jan 2006 = 100)</b>					
<b>Trend</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>97.4</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>
- managers	121.3	120.3	119.0	-1.1%	-1.9%
- professionals	125.3	124.6	123.6	-0.8%	-1.4%
- technicians and trades	122.3	120.7	120.2	-0.4%	-1.7%
- community and personal services	159.5	155.4	153.9	-1.0%	-3.5%
- clerical and administrative	77.6	73.1	72.3	-1.1%	-6.8%
- sales	69.9	67.6	66.2	-2.1%	-5.3%
- machinery operators and drivers	94.3	102.0	101.1	-0.9%	7.2%
- labourers	46.7	46.2	45.5	-1.5%	-2.6%

n.p.: not published

1 Compares the latest month with the previous month.

2 Compares the latest month with the same month last year.

\* Three month moving average.

Source: Jobs and Skills Australia, *Internet Job Vacancy Report*

Term	Definition
Monthly change	Compares the latest month with the previous month
Year-ended change	Compares the latest month with the same month last year
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.

The Department of Treasury and Finance has updated the terminology used in the economic brief publications when referencing growth. The table below outlines the changes to terminology. This is a terminology update only and does not impact the definition or growth calculation.

Updated terminology	Prior terminology
Year-ended change	Annual change

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.

JSA advises the sum of the categories in trend terms may not equal the reported total due to the methodology behind the trend data series.

[Internet Vacancy Index | Jobs and Skills Australia \(jobsandskills.gov.au\)](https://www.jobsandskills.gov.au)

## More information

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance  
P: 08 8999 6718 | E: [economics.dtf@nt.gov.au](mailto:economics.dtf@nt.gov.au) | W: [nteconomy.nt.gov.au](https://nteconomy.nt.gov.au)