

Labour force

June 2026 | Economic brief

Trend

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	148 726	14 807 399
- Monthly change	↑0.3%	↑0.2%
- Year-ended change	↑2.3%	↑1.6%
Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.4%
Participation rate	73.4%	66.9%

Employment in the Territory increased by 0.3% to 148,726 persons in June 2026. Part-time employment increased by 0.4% and full-time employment increased by 0.2%. Employment in the Territory increased by 2.3% in the year-ended June 2026 (Chart 1). This is the the second strongest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a decline of 1.5% in Tasmania to an increase of 2.4% in Western Australia. Nationally, employment increased by 1.6% in the year-ended June 2026.

The Territory's unemployment rate was flat at 4.7% in June 2026 and increased by 0.6 ppt in year-ended terms (Chart 2). This is the third highest rate of the jurisdictions, which ranged from 4.1% in the Australian Capital Territory to 5.0% in Victoria. Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate increased by 0.2 ppt to 4.4%.

The participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.1 ppt to 73.4% and by 0.6 ppt in year-ended terms. This is the highest rate of the jurisdictions, and is 6.5 ppt above the national rate (66.9%).

Seasonally adjusted

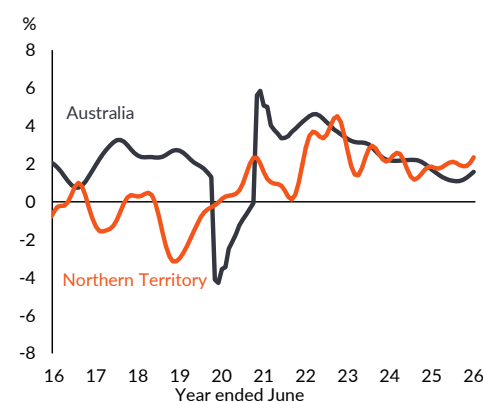
	NT	Aust
Employed persons	147 535	14 823 289
- Year-ended change	↑1.5%	↑1.7%
- Year-average change	↑2.1%	↑1.3%
Unemployment rate	5.0%	4.4%
Participation rate	73.1%	67.0%

Employment in the Territory increased by 1.5% to 147,535 persons in the year-ended June 2026 (Chart 3). This is the fourth strongest result of the jurisdictions. Nationally, employment increased by 1.7% in the year-ended June 2026.

The Territory's unemployment rate increased by 1.1 ppt to 5.0% in the year-ended June 2026 (Chart 2). This is the second highest rate of the jurisdictions. Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate increased by 0.1 ppt to 4.4%.

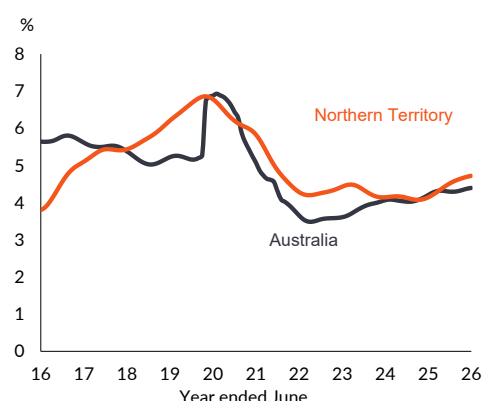
The Territory's participation rate increased by 0.5 ppt to 73.1% in the year-ended June 2026. This is the highest rate of the jurisdictions, and is 6.0 ppt above the national rate (67.0%).

Chart 1: Employment change (year-ended change, trend)



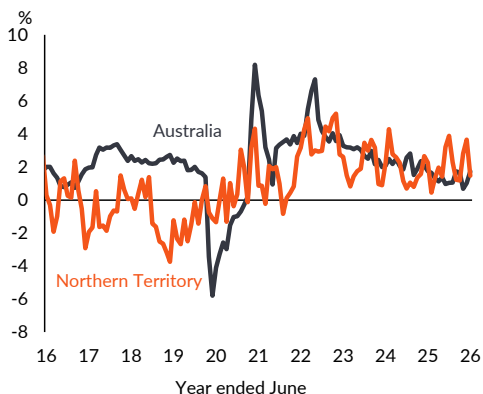
Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (monthly, trend)



Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Chart 3: Employment change (year-ended change, seasonally adjusted)



Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Monthly change ¹	Year-ended change ²	
	Jun 25	May 26	Jun 26	%	%	No.
Northern Territory						
Trend						
Employment	145 316	148 355	148 726	0.3%	2.3%	3 410
– full-time	114 672	115 170	115 425	0.2%	0.7%	753
– part-time	30 645	33 185	33 301	0.4%	8.7%	2 656
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.7%	4.7%	0.0 ppt	0.6 ppt	
– Unemployed	6 280	7 318	7 371	0.7%	17.4%	1 092
Participation rate	72.8%	73.4%	73.4%	0.1 ppt	0.6 ppt	
Labour force	151 596	155 673	156 097	0.3%	3.0%	4 501
Australia						
Trend						
Employment	14 576 586	14 775 070	14 807 399	0.2%	1.6%	230 813
– full-time	10 053 298	10 157 817	10 176 035	0.2%	1.2%	122 737
– part-time	4 523 287	4 617 253	4 631 364	0.3%	2.4%	108 076
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.4%	4.4%	0.0 ppt	0.2 ppt	
– Unemployed	639 608	676 539	680 798	0.6%	6.4%	41 190
Participation rate	66.9%	66.8%	66.9%	0.1 ppt	0.0 ppt	
Labour force	15 216 193	15 451 609	15 488 196	0.2%	1.8%	272 003
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	14 571 250	14 746 947	14 823 289	0.5%	1.7%	252 039
– full-time	10 034 307	10 144 201	10 173 499	0.3%	1.4%	139 192
– part-time	4 536 943	4 602 746	4 649 790	1.0%	2.5%	112 847
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%	0.1 ppt	0.1 ppt	
– Unemployed	656 668	674 108	686 842	1.9%	4.6%	30 173
Participation rate	67.0%	66.7%	67.0%	0.3 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	15 227 919	15 421 055	15 510 131	0.6%	1.9%	282 212

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, *Labour force*

Table 2: Unemployment rates by jurisdiction (%)

	June 2026		Ranking (highest to lowest)	
	Seasonally adjusted	Trend	Seasonally adjusted	Trend
States				
NSW	4.0	4.2	8	6
Vic	5.1	5.0	1	1
Qld	4.3	4.1	6	7
WA	4.2	4.3	7	4
SA	4.3	4.2	5	5
Tas	4.9	4.9	3	2
ACT	4.3	4.1	4	8
NT	5.0	4.7	2	3
Australia	4.4	4.4		

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS, *Labour force*

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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