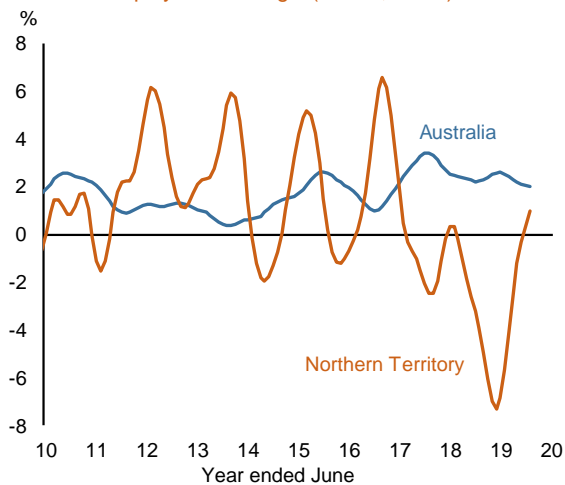
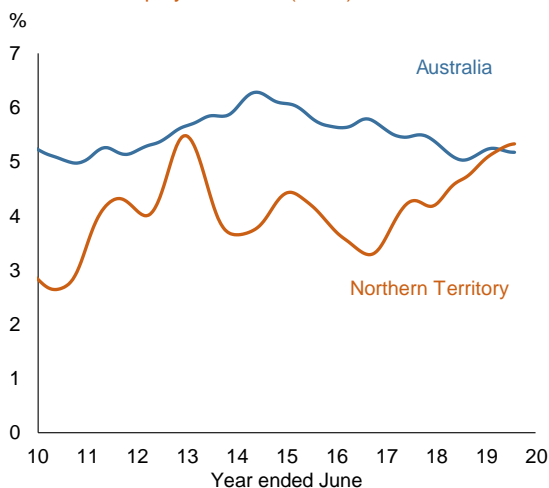


Chart 1: Employment change (annual, trend)



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

Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (trend)	133 198	12 996 670
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.2%	↑0.2%
Annual change (trend)	↑1.0%	↑2.0%
Year-on-year change (original)	↓4.2%	↑2.3%

In January 2020, trend resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.2 per cent to 133 198 persons, compared to the previous month. This was the second highest result of the jurisdictions, equal with Queensland and Victoria. Nationally, trend employment grew by 0.2 per cent to 12 996 670.

Annually, trend resident employment increased by 1.0 per cent compared to the same time last year. This was the lowest increase of the jurisdictions, with South Australia reporting no change. Nationally, trend employment grew by 2.0 per cent (Chart 1).

In the year to January 2020, Territory employment decreased by 4.2 per cent. This was the only year-on-year decline of the jurisdictions, reflecting a 6.3 per cent decline in full-time employment, partly offset by a 4.2 per cent increase in part-time employment. Nationally, year-on-year employment grew by 2.3 per cent.

Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (trend)	5.3%	5.2%
Monthly change (ppt)	flat	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.6	↑0.1

The Territory's monthly trend unemployment rate remained at 5.3 per cent in January 2020 (Chart 2). This was the fourth lowest rate of the jurisdictions. Other jurisdictions ranged from 3.0 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory to 6.1 per cent in Queensland. Nationally, the monthly trend unemployment rate remained at 5.2 per cent.

Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (trend)	75.1%	66.0%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.3	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑1.5	↑0.4

The trend participation rate in the Territory increased 0.3 percentage points to 75.1 per cent compared to the previous month. The Territory's participation rate remains the highest of the jurisdictions and above the national average of 66.0 per cent (Chart 3).

Labour force January 2020

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Change		
	Jan 19	Dec 19	Jan 20	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory						
Original						
Employment	132 719	135 404	130 520	-3.6%	-1.7%	-4.2%
– full-time	105 370	106 238	103 252	-2.8%	-2.0%	-6.3%
– part-time	27 349	29 166	27 268	-6.5%	-0.3%	4.2%
Unemployment rate	5.2%	4.7%	5.3%	0.6 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	74.4%	75.8%	73.5%	- 2.3 ppt	- 0.9 ppt	
Labour force	139 932	142 031	137 793	-3.0%	-1.5%	-3.5%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
– not published for the Northern Territory						
Trend⁵						
Employment	131 914	132 925	133 198	0.2%	1.0%	
– full-time	104 489	103 642	103 923	0.3%	-0.5%	
– part-time	27 425	29 283	29 275	0.0%	6.7%	
Unemployment rate	4.7%	5.3%	5.3%	0.0 ppt	0.6 ppt	
Participation rate	73.5%	74.8%	75.1%	0.3 ppt	1.5 ppt	
Labour force	138 418	140 387	140 696	0.2%	1.6%	
Australia						
Original						
Employment	12 602 342	13 101 739	12 840 613	-2.0%	1.9%	2.3%
– full-time	8 737 264	8 984 944	8 871 159	-1.3%	1.5%	2.3%
– part-time	3 865 079	4 116 796	3 969 454	-3.6%	2.7%	2.2%
Unemployment rate	5.5%	4.9%	5.7%	0.9 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Participation rate	65.2%	66.4%	65.6%	- 0.8 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Labour force	13 329 342	13 770 619	13 619 271	-1.1%	2.2%	2.2%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
Employment	12 748 063	12 981 904	12 995 437	0.1%	1.9%	
– full-time	8 738 299	8 835 964	8 882 184	0.5%	1.6%	
– part-time	4 009 764	4 145 940	4 113 253	-0.8%	2.6%	
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.1%	5.3%	0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	65.7%	66.0%	66.1%	0.1 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	13 425 969	13 676 780	13 721 352	0.3%	2.2%	
Trend⁵						
Employment	12 739 293	12 976 694	12 996 670	0.2%	2.0%	
– full-time	8 733 183	8 864 750	8 879 332	0.2%	1.7%	
– part-time	4 006 110	4 111 943	4 117 338	0.1%	2.8%	
Unemployment rate	5.0%	5.2%	5.2%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	65.7%	66.0%	66.0%	0.0 ppt	0.4 ppt	
Labour force	13 414 517	13 685 751	13 706 295	0.2%	2.2%	

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.

4 Seasonal adjustment removes a series influences that are systemic and calendar related.

5 Trend series represents the underlying series remaining after removing seasonal effects from the original data and smoothing out the irregularities.

* 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, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

Nationally, media analysis of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Labour Force Survey (LFS) is concentrated on seasonally adjusted data. Due to the high standard errors and volatile nature of seasonally adjusted data for the Northern Territory LFS, the ABS only publishes data in original and trend terms.

More information:

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6801 | E: economics.dtf@nt.gov.au | W: <https://nteconomy.nt.gov.au/>