

# Wage price index

## June quarter 2023 | Economic brief

The wage price index (WPI) measures changes in the hourly price of labour. It reflects changes in awards, enterprise agreements, minimum wage, and individual contracts but does not reflect changes in the composition of the workforce or employee characteristics which may impact the quality and quantity of the work performed.

Territory WPI data are only reported in original terms. Data in this briefing is in original terms unless stated otherwise.

| Wage price index    | NT    | Aust  |
|---------------------|-------|-------|
| Quarterly change    | ↑0.6% | ↑0.6% |
| Annual change       | ↑3.3% | ↑3.6% |
| Year-on-year change | ↑2.8% | ↑3.5% |

## Quarterly result

The Territory WPI increased by 0.6% in the June quarter 2023, reflecting an increase of 0.7% in the private sector and an increase of 0.6% in the public sector.

Nationally, the WPI increased by 0.6%, with an increase of 0.6% in the private sector and an increase of 0.5% in the public sector.

## Annual result

The Territory WPI increased by 3.3% in annual terms (Chart 1), reflecting an increase of 4.4% in the private sector and an increase of 1.6% in the public sector (Chart 2).

The Territory reported the weakest annual growth of the jurisdictions. In other jurisdictions, the change in WPI ranged from 3.4% in New South Wales to 4.2% in Western Australia (Chart 3).

Nationally, the WPI increased by 3.6% in annual terms, with an increase of 3.8% in the private sector and an increase of 3.1% in the public sector.

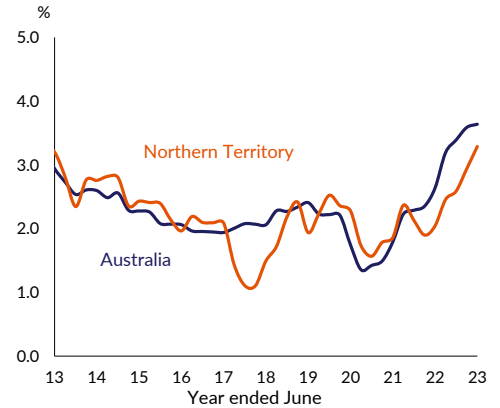
Nationally, the arts and recreation services industry, reported the strongest growth in the private sector, up 4.7%. The industry that experienced the weakest growth in private sector wages in Australia was education and training, up by 3.1%.

## Year-on-year result

The Territory reported a year-on-year WPI increase of 2.8%, reflecting an increase of 4.0% in the private sector and an increase of 1.0% in the public sector.

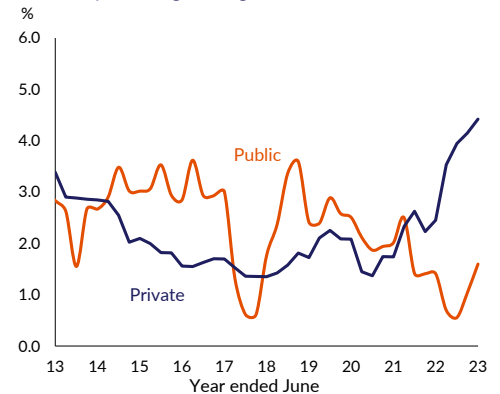
The national WPI increased by 3.5%, with an increase of 3.7% in the private sector and an increase of 2.7% in the public sector.

Chart 1: Wage price index (Annual percentage change)



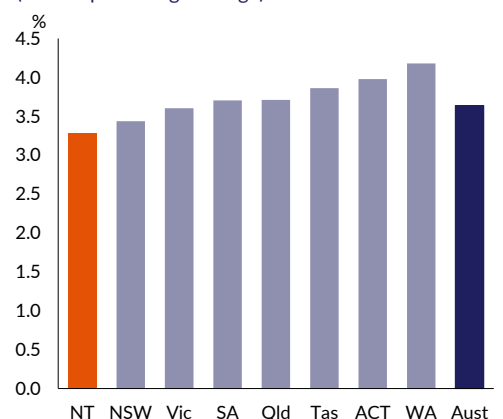
Source: DTF, ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

Chart 2: Wage price index, Northern Territory (Annual percentage change)



Source: DTF, ABS, Cat. No. 6345.0

Chart 3: Wage price index by jurisdictions (Annual percentage change)



Source: DTF, ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

Table 1: Wage price index (hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses, original)

|                           | Period       |              |              |              | Change                 |                     |                           |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
|                           | Jun qtr 22   | Mar qtr 23   | Jun qtr 23   | Year average | Quarterly <sup>1</sup> | Annual <sup>2</sup> | Year-on-year <sup>3</sup> |
| <b>Northern Territory</b> | <b>139.9</b> | <b>143.6</b> | <b>144.5</b> | <b>143.2</b> | <b>0.6%</b>            | <b>3.3%</b>         | <b>2.8%</b>               |
| Public                    | 143.8        | 145.2        | 146.1        | 145.0        | 0.6%                   | 1.6%                | 1.0%                      |
| Private                   | 138.0        | 143.1        | 144.1        | 142.6        | 0.7%                   | 4.4%                | 4.0%                      |
| <b>Australia</b>          | <b>140.1</b> | <b>144.3</b> | <b>145.2</b> | <b>143.7</b> | <b>0.6%</b>            | <b>3.6%</b>         | <b>3.5%</b>               |
| Public                    | 143.1        | 146.7        | 147.5        | 145.9        | 0.5%                   | 3.1%                | 2.7%                      |
| Private                   | 139.2        | 143.6        | 144.5        | 143.1        | 0.6%                   | 3.8%                | 3.7%                      |

Table 2: Wage price index - Australia industry (hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses, original)

|   | Period     |            |            |              | Change                 |                     |                           |
|---|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Jun qtr 22 | Mar qtr 23 | Jun qtr 23 | Year average | Quarterly <sup>1</sup> | Annual <sup>2</sup> | Year-on-year <sup>3</sup> |
| <b>Public</b>                                   |            |            |            |              |                        |                     |                           |
| Electricity, gas, water and waste services      | 145.1      | 149.0      | 150.8      | 148.9        | 1.2%                   | 3.9%                | 3.7%                      |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 136.8      | 140.6      | 140.9      | 139.4        | 0.2%                   | 3.0%                | 2.6%                      |
| Public administration and safety                | 141.3      | 144.8      | 145.2      | 144.0        | 0.3%                   | 2.8%                | 2.6%                      |
| Education and training                          | 144.9      | 149.2      | 149.7      | 147.9        | 0.3%                   | 3.3%                | 2.8%                      |
| Health care and social assistance               | 143.8      | 146.8      | 147.8      | 146.1        | 0.7%                   | 2.8%                | 2.5%                      |
| <b>Private</b>                                  |            |            |            |              |                        |                     |                           |
| Mining  | 139.8      | 143.9      | 145.5      | 143.3        | 1.1%                   | 4.1%                | 3.5%                      |
| Manufacturing                                   | 140.5      | 145.3      | 146.3      | 144.5        | 0.7%                   | 4.1%                | 4.0%                      |
| Electricity, gas, water and waste services      | 147.5      | 152.4      | 153.2      | 151.4        | 0.5%                   | 3.9%                | 3.4%                      |
| Construction                                    | 139.5      | 143.0      | 145.0      | 142.8        | 1.4%                   | 3.9%                | 3.8%                      |
| Wholesale trade                                 | 138.7      | 143.7      | 144.5      | 143.0        | 0.6%                   | 4.2%                | 4.1%                      |
| Retail trade                                    | 134.7      | 139.4      | 139.9      | 139.1        | 0.4%                   | 3.9%                | 3.9%                      |
| Accommodation and food services                 | 136.6      | 141.0      | 141.5      | 140.4        | 0.4%                   | 3.6%                | 3.3%                      |
| Transport, postal and warehousing               | 139.4      | 142.8      | 143.8      | 142.4        | 0.7%                   | 3.2%                | 3.0%                      |
| Information media and telecommunications        | 134.8      | 138.5      | 139.3      | 138.0        | 0.6%                   | 3.3%                | 3.3%                      |
| Financial and insurance services                | 142.5      | 146.9      | 147.6      | 146.3        | 0.5%                   | 3.6%                | 3.7%                      |
| Rental, hiring and real estate services         | 134.2      | 138.0      | 139.1      | 137.9        | 0.8%                   | 3.7%                | 3.7%                      |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 139.0      | 143.5      | 144.4      | 142.9        | 0.6%                   | 3.9%                | 3.7%                      |
| Administrative and support services             | 133.4      | 138.0      | 138.8      | 137.4        | 0.6%                   | 4.0%                | 3.8%                      |
| Public administration and safety                | 138.7      | 143.8      | 144.1      | 143.2        | 0.2%                   | 3.9%                | 3.8%                      |
| Education and training                          | 145.8      | 149.6      | 150.3      | 148.6        | 0.5%                   | 3.1%                | 2.7%                      |
| Health care and social assistance               | 145.5      | 150.3      | 150.8      | 150.0        | 0.3%                   | 3.6%                | 3.6%                      |
| Arts and recreation services                    | 141.3      | 146.9      | 147.9      | 145.9        | 0.7%                   | 4.7%                | 4.2%                      |
| Other services                                  | 138.2      | 143.6      | 144.1      | 142.7        | 0.3%                   | 4.3%                | 4.0%                      |

<sup>1</sup> Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.

<sup>2</sup> Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year.

<sup>3</sup> Compares the 4 quarters up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 4 quarter period.

Caution is advised when using quarterly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

Although due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

[Wage Price Index, Australia, June Quarter 2023 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/Wage-Price-Index-Australia-June-Quarter-2023)

## More information

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