

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. The following analysis is based on trend series data unless stated otherwise.

Summary

Trend resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.5 per cent in June 2018. The Territory's trend unemployment rate was 4.1 per cent and the trend participation rate was 76.9 per cent in the month.

Employment

	NT	AUST
Employment numbers (trend)	140 103	12 562 828
Change in the month (trend)	▲0.5%	▲0.2%
Annual change (trend)	▲2.2%	▲2.6%
Year on year (original)	▼1.1%	▲3.0%

In June 2018, trend resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.5 per cent to 140 103 persons, compared to the previous month.

The Territory recorded the highest monthly increase of the jurisdictions, which ranged from 0.1 per cent in Tasmania and South Australia to an increase of 0.3 per cent in New South Wales. Nationally, trend employment growth was 0.2 per cent in the month.

Annually, trend resident employment increased by 2.2 per cent in the Territory compared to June 2017, reporting the third lowest annual growth of the jurisdictions. Nationally, trend employment grew by 2.6 per cent over the same period (Chart 1).

In 2017-18, Territory employment decreased by 1.1 per cent, which was the only year on year decline of the jurisdictions. Year on year employment growth ranged from 2.1 per cent in South Australia to 4.1 per cent in Queensland. Nationally, year on year employment grew by 3.0 per cent.

Unemployment

	NT	AUST
Unemployment rate (trend)	4.1%	5.4%
Change in the month (ppt)	flat	flat
Annual change (ppt)	▲0.7	▼0.2

*ppt = percentage point

The Territory's monthly trend unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.1 per cent (Chart 2). This was the second lowest trend unemployment rate of the jurisdictions, which ranged from 3.5 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory to 6.2 per cent in Western Australia. Nationally, the monthly trend unemployment rate also remained at 5.4 per cent.

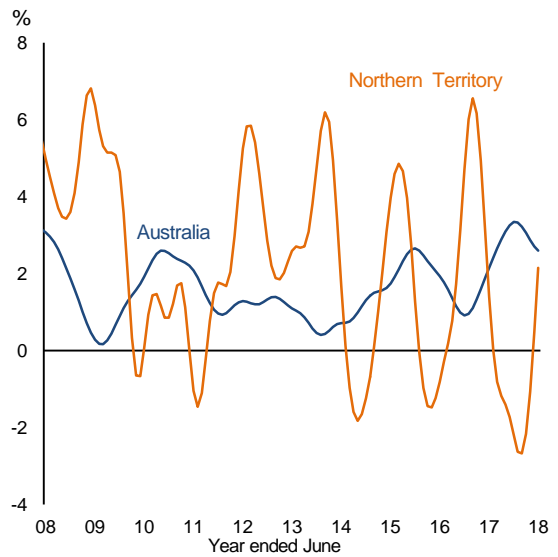
Labour Force Participation

	NT	AUST
Participation rate (trend)	76.9%	65.6%
Change in the month (ppt)	▲0.2	flat
Annual change (ppt)	▲1.6	▲0.4

*ppt = percentage points

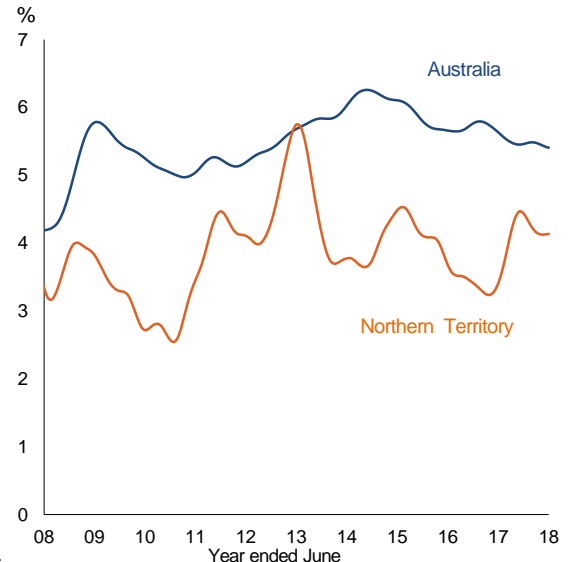
The trend participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.2 percentage points to 76.9 per cent in the month. This remains the highest monthly trend participation rate of the jurisdictions and above the national average of 65.6 per cent (Chart 3).

Chart 1: Trend Employment (annual % ch.)



Source: DTF; ABS Cat No . 6202.0

Chart 2: Trend Unemployment Rate



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

Chart 3: Trend Participation Rate



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

Labour Force Statistics *

				change		
	Jun 17	May 18	Jun 18	monthly ¹	annual ²	year on year ³
Northern Territory						
original						
employment	135 750	139 397	141 251	1.3%	4.1%	-1.1%
- full time	106 572	111 272	113 477	2.0%	6.5%	-1.0%
- part time	29 177	28 125	27 774	-1.2%	-4.8%	-1.6%
unemployment rate	3.1%	3.6%	4.3%	0.7 ppt	1.2 ppt	
participation rate	74.3%	76.3%	77.7%	1.4 ppt	3.5 ppt	
labour force	140 144	144 656	147 633	2.1%	5.3%	-0.3%
seasonally adj						
not published for the Northern Territory						
trend ⁵						
employment	137 153	139 428	140 103	0.5%	2.2%	
- full time	107 471	111 026	111 850	0.7%	4.1%	
- part time	29 681	28 402	28 253	-0.5%	-4.8%	
unemployment rate	3.4%	4.1%	4.1%	0.0 ppt	0.7 ppt	
participation rate	75.3%	76.7%	76.9%	0.2 ppt	1.6 ppt	
labour force	142 251	145 477	146 146	0.5%	2.7%	
Australia						
original						
employment	12 267 248	12 574 376	12 610 658	0.3%	2.8%	3.0%
- full time	8 389 742	8 517 220	8 550 032	0.4%	1.9%	3.2%
- part time	3 877 506	4 057 156	4 060 626	0.1%	4.7%	2.5%
unemployment rate	5.5%	5.3%	5.2%	-0.1 ppt	-0.3 ppt	
participation rate	65.1%	65.7%	65.7%	0.0 ppt	0.6 ppt	
labour force	12 974 593	13 276 125	13 298 864	0.2%	2.5%	2.8%
seasonally adj ⁴						
employment	12 234 552	12 522 664	12 573 570	0.4%	2.8%	
- full time	8 406 986	8 523 956	8 565 195	0.5%	1.9%	
- part time	3 827 566	3 998 708	4 008 376	0.2%	4.7%	
unemployment rate	5.7%	5.4%	5.4%	0.0 ppt	-0.3 ppt	
participation rate	65.1%	65.5%	65.7%	0.2 ppt	0.6 ppt	
labour force	12 967 518	13 237 838	13 287 674	0.4%	2.5%	
trend ⁵						
employment	12 244 979	12 535 930	12 562 828	0.2%	2.6%	
- full time	8 370 108	8 543 267	8 556 693	0.2%	2.2%	
- part time	3 874 871	3 992 663	4 006 135	0.3%	3.4%	
unemployment rate	5.6%	5.4%	5.4%	0.0 ppt	-0.2 ppt	
participation rate	65.1%	65.6%	65.6%	0.0 ppt	0.4 ppt	
labour force	12 976 226	13 256 187	13 281 850	0.2%	2.4%	

* Due to rounding, percentage changes in the table may not reflect the actual change.

ppt = percentage point

1 compares the latest month with the previous month.

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

3 compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12 month period.

4 seasonal adjustment removes from 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.

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

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

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