

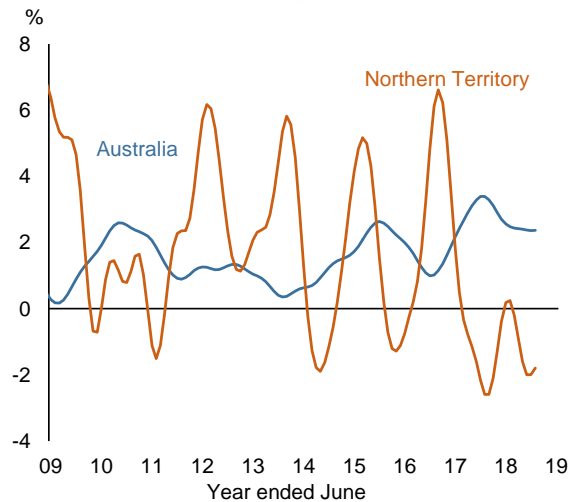
# ECONOMIC BRIEF

## Labour force

January 2019

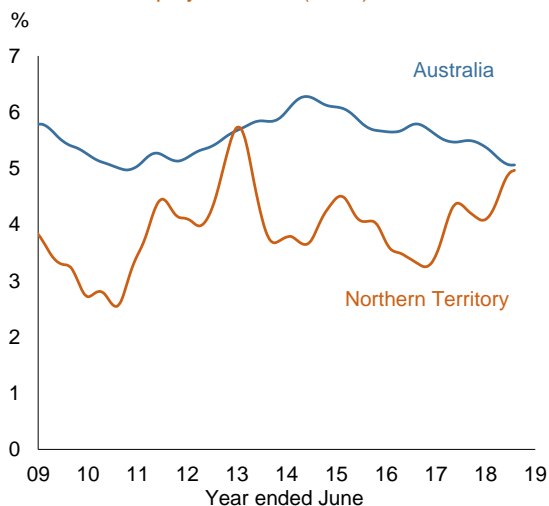
Released: 21 February 2019 | Next release: 21 March 2019

Chart 1: Employment change (annual, trend)



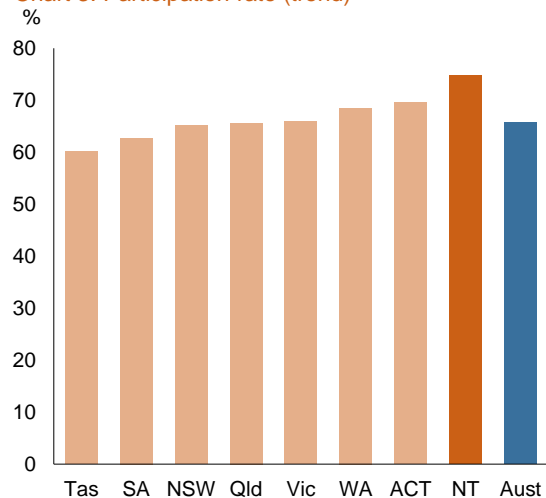
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

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)	134 889	12 747 717
Monthly change (trend)	↑0.4%	↑0.2%
Annual change (trend)	↓1.8%	↑2.4%
Year-on-year change (original)	↓1.1%	↑2.6%

In January 2019, trend resident employment in the Territory increased by 0.4 per cent to 134 889 persons, compared to the previous month. This was the highest increase of the jurisdictions.

Annually, trend resident employment decreased by 1.8 per cent compared to the same time last year, reporting the lowest annual result of the jurisdictions. Nationally, trend employment grew by 2.4 per cent (Chart 1).

In the year to January 2019, Territory employment decreased by 1.1 per cent. This was the only year on year decline of the jurisdictions, reflecting a 5.8 per cent decline in part-time employment partly offset by an increase of 0.2 per cent in full-time employment. Nationally, year on year employment grew by 2.6 per cent.

## Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (trend)	5.0%	5.1%
Monthly change (ppt)	flat	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.7	↓0.4

The Territory's monthly trend unemployment rate remained at 5.0 per cent (Chart 2). This was the fourth lowest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from 3.5 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory to 6.6 per cent in Western Australia. Nationally, the monthly trend unemployment rate remained at 5.1 per cent.

## Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (trend)	74.8%	65.7%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.2	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↓1.3	↑0.1

In the month, the trend participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.2 percentage points to 74.8 per cent, remaining the highest trend participation rate of the jurisdictions and above the national average of 65.7 per cent (Chart 3).

# Labour force January 2019

Table 1: Labour force statistics\*

	Period			Change		
	Jan 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Annual <sup>2</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>						
<b>Original</b>						
Employment	135 901	135 221	133 223	-1.5%	-2.0%	-1.1%
– full-time	106 869	107 586	105 832	-1.6%	-1.0%	0.2%
– part-time	29 032	27 635	27 391	-0.9%	-5.7%	-5.8%
Unemployment rate	3.9%	4.4%	5.1%	0.8 ppt	1.3 ppt	
Participation rate	75.0%	74.9%	74.4%	- 0.5 ppt	- 0.6 ppt	
Labour force	141 377	141 382	140 426	-0.7%	-0.7%	-0.5%
<b>Seasonally adjusted<sup>4</sup></b>						
– not published for the Northern Territory						
<b>Trend<sup>5</sup></b>						
Employment	137 350	134 296	134 889	0.4%	-1.8%	
– full-time	108 265	106 513	106 707	0.2%	-1.4%	
– part-time	29 085	27 782	28 183	1.4%	-3.1%	
Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.9%	5.0%	0.0 ppt	0.7 ppt	
Participation rate	76.1%	74.6%	74.8%	0.2 ppt	- 1.3 ppt	
Labour force	143 455	141 111	141 833	0.5%	-1.1%	
<b>Australia</b>						
<b>Original</b>						
Employment	12 304 443	12 838 314	12 603 769	-1.8%	2.4%	2.6%
– full-time	8 444 266	8 828 160	8 738 998	-1.0%	3.5%	2.6%
– part-time	3 860 176	4 010 154	3 864 771	-3.6%	0.1%	2.5%
Unemployment rate	6.0%	4.8%	5.4%	0.6 ppt	- 0.5 ppt	
Participation rate	65.1%	66.1%	65.3%	- 0.9 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	13 084 490	13 486 334	13 329 935	-1.2%	1.9%	2.3%
<b>Seasonally adjusted<sup>4</sup></b>						
Employment	12 480 469	12 712 733	12 751 813	0.3%	2.2%	
– full-time	8 506 973	8 677 731	8 743 100	0.8%	2.8%	
– part-time	3 973 495	4 035 002	4 008 713	-0.7%	0.9%	
Unemployment rate	5.5%	5.0%	5.0%	0.0 ppt	- 0.5 ppt	
Participation rate	65.7%	65.6%	65.7%	0.1 ppt	0.0 ppt	
Labour force	13 203 859	13 379 626	13 425 297	0.3%	1.7%	
<b>Trend<sup>5</sup></b>						
Employment	12 452 245	12 722 789	12 747 717	0.2%	2.4%	
– full-time	8 518 756	8 720 608	8 737 397	0.2%	2.6%	
– part-time	3 933 489	4 002 180	4 010 320	0.2%	2.0%	
Unemployment rate	5.5%	5.1%	5.1%	0.0 ppt	- 0.4 ppt	
Participation rate	65.6%	65.7%	65.7%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	13 173 948	13 401 000	13 427 769	0.2%	1.9%	

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:

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