

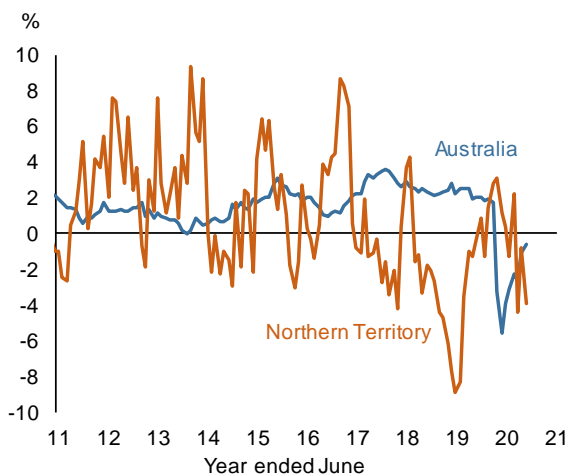
ECONOMIC BRIEF

Labour force

November 2020

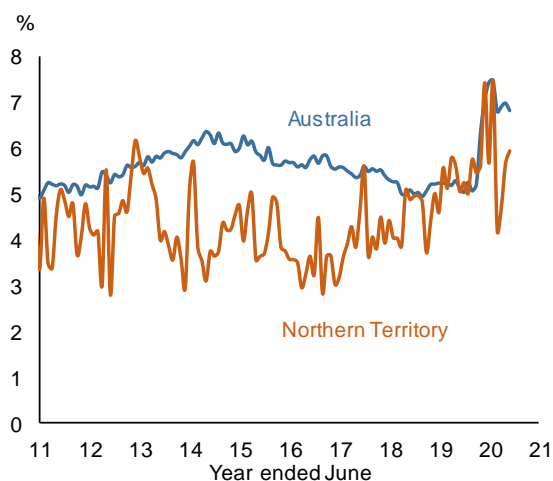
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Chart 1: Employment change (annual, seasonally adjusted)



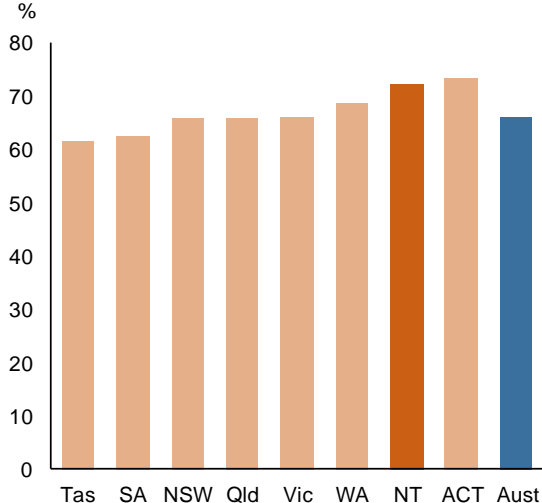
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)



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

Chart 3: Participation rate (seasonally adjusted)



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

Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (season. adjusted)	128 315	12 860 741
Monthly change (season. adjusted)	↓1.0%	↑0.7%
Annual change (season. adjusted)	↓4.0%	↓0.6%
Year-on-year change (original)	flat	↓1.3%

In November 2020, seasonally adjusted resident employment in the Territory decreased by 1.0 per cent to 128 315 persons. Full-time employment increased by 1.4 per cent but part-time employment decreased by 8.0 per cent. Nationally, employment increased by 0.7 per cent, with full-time and part-time employment increasing by 1.0 per cent and 0.1 per cent respectively.

Annually, seasonally adjusted resident employment decreased by 4.0 per cent in the Territory. Nationally, employment fell by 0.6 per cent over the same period (Chart 1). In the year to November 2020, Territory employment remained flat, reflecting a 6.0 per cent increase in part-time employment, being offset by a 1.7 per cent decline in full-time employment. Nationally, year-on-year employment decreased by 1.3 per cent.

Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (season. adjusted)	5.9%	6.8%
Monthly change (ppt)	↑0.2	↓0.2
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.8	↑1.7

The Territory's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.9 per cent in November 2020 (Chart 2), as the number of unemployed persons increased from 7782 to 8111. Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate decreased to 6.8 per cent.

Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (season. adjusted)	72.3%	66.1%
Monthly change (ppt)	↓0.4	↑0.3
Annual change (ppt)	↓2.4	↓0.2

The seasonally adjusted participation rate in the Territory decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 72.3 per cent in November 2020. This is the second highest of the jurisdictions, behind the Australian Capital Territory (73.5 per cent) and well above the national rate of 66.1 per cent (Chart 3).

Labour force November 2020

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Change		
	Nov 19	Oct 20	Nov 20	Monthly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory						
Original						
Employment	134 478	130 664	129 170	-1.1%	-3.9%	0.0%
– full-time	105 003	96 796	99 187	2.5%	-5.5%	-1.7%
– part-time	29 475	33 867	29 983	-11.5%	1.7%	6.0%
Unemployment rate	5.2%	5.6%	6.1%	0.5 ppt	0.9 ppt	
Participation rate	75.3%	73.3%	72.9%	- 0.4 ppt	- 2.4 ppt	
Labour force	141 912	138 425	137 629	-0.6%	-3.0%	0.7%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
Employment	133 598	129 557	128 315	-1.0%	-4.0%	
– full-time	103 900	96 733	98 120	1.4%	-5.6%	
– part-time	29 698	32 823	30 195	-8.0%	1.7%	
Unemployment rate	5.1%	5.7%	5.9%	0.2 ppt	0.8 ppt	
Participation rate	74.7%	72.7%	72.3%	- 0.4 ppt	- 2.4 ppt	
Labour force	140 717	137 339	136 426	-0.7%	-3.0%	
Trend⁵						
– labour force trend series suspended from the April 2020 release						
Australia						
Original						
Employment	12 992 527	12 756 937	12 909 048	1.2%	-0.6%	-1.3%
– full-time	8 871 711	8 608 178	8 760 685	1.8%	-1.3%	-1.2%
– part-time	4 120 816	4 148 759	4 148 363	0.0%	0.7%	-1.4%
Unemployment rate	4.8%	6.7%	6.4%	- 0.3 ppt	1.6 ppt	
Participation rate	65.9%	65.5%	66.0%	0.5 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Labour force	13 646 212	13 666 470	13 786 554	0.9%	1.0%	0.0%
Seasonally adjusted⁴						
Employment	12 943 864	12 770 736	12 860 741	0.7%	-0.6%	
– full-time	8 836 601	8 641 461	8 725 706	1.0%	-1.3%	
– part-time	4 107 263	4 129 275	4 135 034	0.1%	0.7%	
Unemployment rate	5.1%	7.0%	6.8%	- 0.2 ppt	1.7 ppt	
Participation rate	65.9%	65.8%	66.1%	0.3 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Labour force	13 645 251	13 730 131	13 802 815	0.5%	1.2%	
Trend⁵						
– labour force trend series suspended from the April 2020 release						

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.

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/>