

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 decreased by 0.3 per cent in November 2018. The Territory's trend unemployment rate was 5.0 per cent and the trend participation rate was 74.0 per cent in the month.

## Employment

	NT	AUST
Employment numbers (trend)	133 669	12 694 806
Change in the month (trend)	↓0.3%	↑0.2%
Annual change (trend)	↓2.2%	↑2.4%
Year on year (original)	↓1.2%	↑2.8%

In November 2018, trend resident employment in the Territory decreased by 0.3 per cent to 133 669 persons, compared to the previous month. This was the lowest recorded employment change of all jurisdictions.

Across the other jurisdictions, the employment growth ranged from no change in Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and South Australia to a 0.3 per cent increase in Victoria. Nationally, trend employment growth increased by 0.2 per cent in the month.

Annually, trend resident employment decreased by 2.2 per cent in the Territory compared to the same time last year, reporting the lowest annual result of the jurisdictions. Nationally, trend employment grew by 2.4 per cent over the same period (Chart 1).

In the year to November 2018, Territory employment decreased by 1.2 per cent. This was the only year on year decline of the jurisdictions. Across the other jurisdictions, growth ranged from 1.8 per cent in Tasmania and Western Australia to 3.6 per cent in New South Wales. Nationally, year on year employment grew by 2.8 per cent.

## Unemployment

	NT	AUST
Unemployment rate (trend)	5.0%	5.1%
Change in the month (ppt)	↑0.3	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↑0.6	↓0.4

\*ppt = percentage point

The Territory's monthly trend unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percentage points to 5.0 per cent (Chart 2). This was the fourth highest result of the jurisdictions. Across the other jurisdictions growth ranged from 3.4 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory to 6.3 per cent in Queensland and Western Australia. Nationally, the monthly trend unemployment rate remained unchanged to 5.1 per cent.

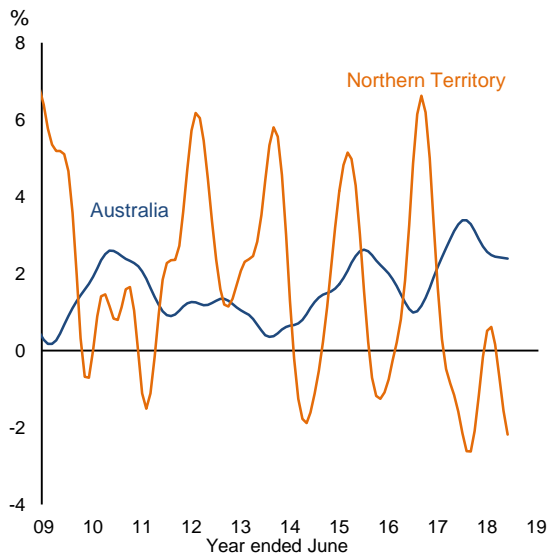
## Labour Force Participation

	NT	AUST
Participation rate (trend)	74.0%	65.7%
Change in the month (ppt)	↓0.3	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↓1.8	↑0.2

\*ppt = percentage points

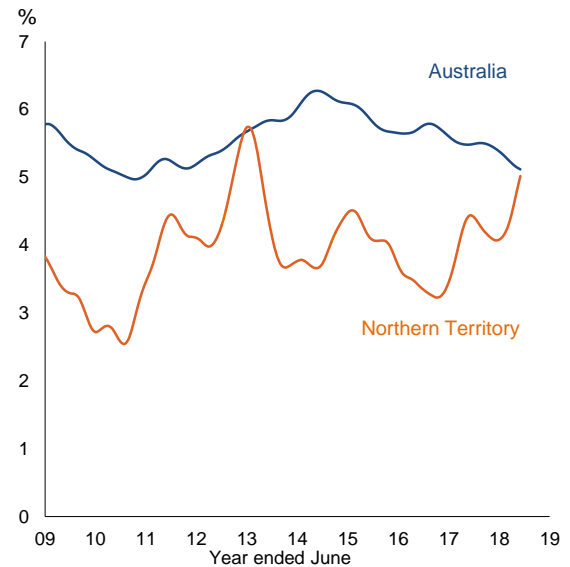
The trend participation rate in the Territory declined to 74.0 per cent in November 2018, however remains the highest trend participation rate of the jurisdictions and above the national average of 65.7 per cent (Chart 3).

Chart 1: Trend Employment (annual % ch.)



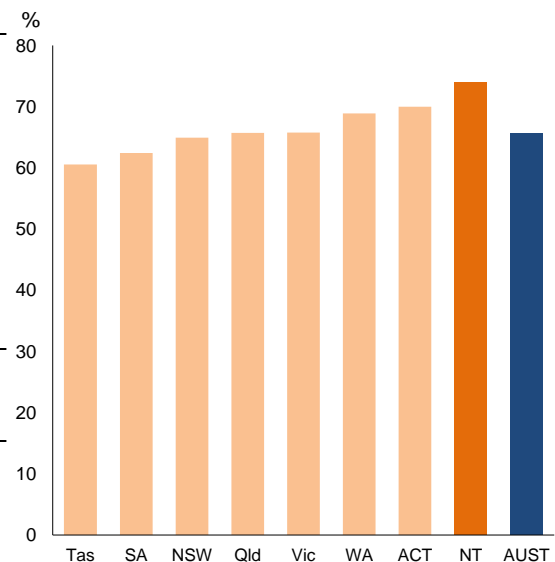
Source: DTF; ABS Cat No. 6202.0

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		
	Nov 17	Oct 18	Nov 18	monthly <sup>1</sup>	annual <sup>2</sup>	year on year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>						
original						
employment	137 414	133 865	135 347	1.1%	-1.5%	-1.2%
- full time	108 986	105 263	108 240	2.8%	-0.7%	-0.2%
- part time	28 428	28 602	27 108	-5.2%	-4.6%	-4.8%
unemployment rate	4.7%	4.9%	5.0%	0.1 ppt	0.3 ppt	
participation rate	76.4%	74.4%	75.4%	1.0 ppt	-1.1 ppt	
labour force	144 144	140 690	142 431	1.2%	-1.2%	-0.6%
seasonally adj						
not published for the Northern Territory						
trend <sup>5</sup>						
employment	136 649	134 012	133 669	-0.3%	-2.2%	
- full time	107 827	107 396	107 131	-0.2%	-0.6%	
- part time	28 821	26 616	26 538	-0.3%	-7.9%	
unemployment rate	4.4%	4.8%	5.0%	0.3 ppt	0.6 ppt	
participation rate	75.8%	74.3%	74.0%	-0.3 ppt	-1.8 ppt	
labour force	142 708	140 698	140 588	-0.1%	-1.5%	
<b>Australia</b>						
original						
employment	12 453 138	12 652 024	12 739 197	0.7%	2.3%	2.8%
- full time	8 543 184	8 660 717	8 724 042	0.7%	2.1%	2.9%
- part time	3 909 954	3 991 307	4 015 155	0.6%	2.7%	2.7%
unemployment rate	5.0%	4.8%	4.7%	0.0 ppt	-0.3 ppt	
participation rate	65.5%	65.3%	65.7%	0.4 ppt	0.2 ppt	
labour force	13 114 493	13 285 591	13 374 081	0.7%	2.0%	2.5%
seasonally adj <sup>4</sup>						
employment	12 408 549	12 657 246	12 694 257	0.3%	2.3%	
- full time	8 504 390	8 691 029	8 684 619	-0.1%	2.1%	
- part time	3 904 159	3 966 217	4 009 638	1.1%	2.7%	
unemployment rate	5.4%	5.0%	5.1%	0.1 ppt	-0.3 ppt	
participation rate	65.5%	65.5%	65.7%	0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt	
labour force	13 119 548	13 327 855	13 377 381	0.4%	2.0%	
trend <sup>5</sup>						
employment	12 399 093	12 666 024	12 694 806	0.2%	2.4%	
- full time	8 492 489	8 673 275	8 692 550	0.2%	2.4%	
- part time	3 906 604	3 992 749	4 002 256	0.2%	2.4%	
unemployment rate	5.5%	5.2%	5.1%	0.0 ppt	-0.4 ppt	
participation rate	65.5%	65.6%	65.7%	0.0 ppt	0.2 ppt	
labour force	13 117 300	13 353 420	13 379 157	0.2%	2.0%	

\* 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.