

# Labour force

August 2023 | Economic brief

## Employment

	NT	Aust
Employed persons (trend)	138 113	14 096 057
Monthly change (trend)	↓0.3%	↑0.2%
Annual change (trend)	↑0.6%	↑2.9%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑3.6%	↑4.0%

In August 2023, trend resident employment in the Territory decreased by 0.3% to 138,113 persons. Part-time employment decreased by 1.2% and full-time employment decreased by 0.1%. Nationally, employment increased by 0.2%, with part-time employment increasing by 0.3% and full-time employment increasing by 0.1%.

Annually, trend resident employment increased by 0.6% in the Territory. Nationally, employment increased by 2.9% over the same period (Chart 1). In the year to August 2023, Territory employment increased by 3.6%, reflecting an increase in full-time employment of 4.2% and an increase in part-time employment of 1.7%. Nationally, year-on-year employment increased by 4.0%.

## Unemployment

	NT	Aust
Unemployment rate (trend)	3.7%	3.7%
Monthly change (ppt)	flat	flat
Annual change (ppt)	↓0.2	↑0.2

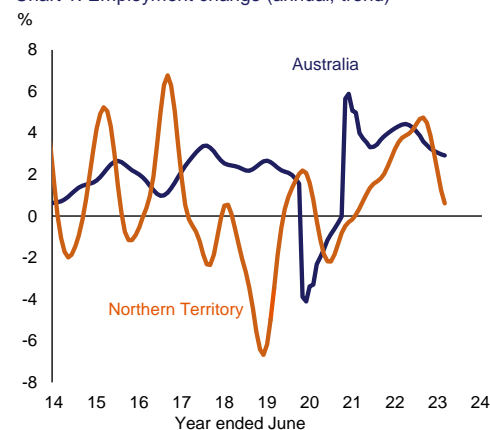
The Territory's trend unemployment rate was flat at 3.7% in the month of August 2023 (Chart 2). Nationally, the monthly unemployment rate was flat at 3.7%.

## Participation

	NT	Aust
Participation rate (trend)	72.9%	67.0%
Monthly change (ppt)	↓0.3	↑0.1
Annual change (ppt)	↓0.6	↑0.3

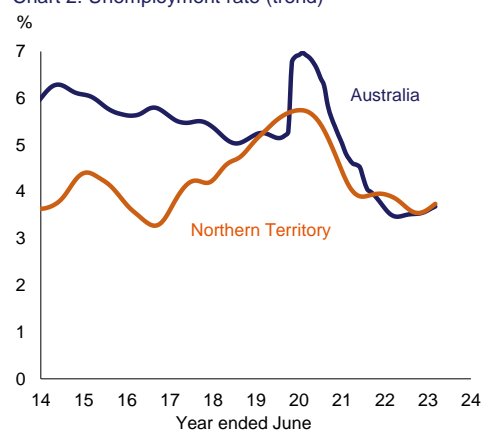
The trend participation rate in the Territory decreased by 0.3 percentage points to 72.9% in August 2023. The Territory's participation rate is the highest of the jurisdictions, equal with the Australian Capital Territory, and well above the national rate of 67.0% (Chart 3).

Chart 1: Employment change (annual, trend)



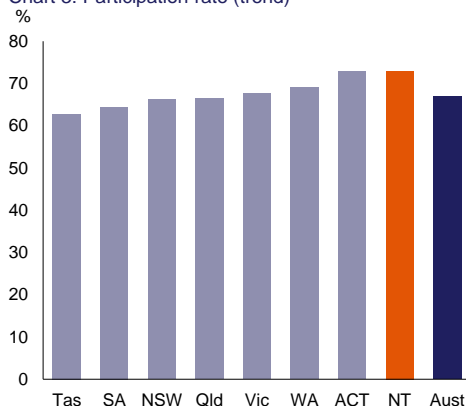
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat No. 6202.0

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

Table 1: Labour force statistics\*

	Period			Change		
	Aug 22	Jul 23	Aug 23	Monthly <sup>1</sup>	Annual <sup>2</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>						
<b>Original</b>						
Employment	134 756	135 685	135 384	-0.2%	0.5%	3.6%
– full-time	104 597	107 551	106 355	-1.1%	1.7%	4.2%
– part-time	30 159	28 134	29 028	3.2%	-3.7%	1.7%
Unemployment rate	4.3%	3.7%	4.4%	0.7 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	72.5%	71.7%	72.0%	0.3 ppt	-0.5 ppt	
Labour force	140 806	140 847	141 596	0.5%	0.6%	3.4%
<b>Seasonally adjusted</b>						
Employment	137 283	137 856	137 976	0.1%	0.5%	
– full-time	106 645	108 765	108 500	-0.2%	1.7%	
– part-time	30 638	29 091	29 476	1.3%	-3.8%	
Unemployment rate	4.2%	3.8%	4.3%	0.5 ppt	0.1 ppt	
Participation rate	73.8%	72.9%	73.3%	0.4 ppt	-0.5 ppt	
Labour force	143 316	143 313	144 172	0.6%	0.6%	
<b>Trend</b>						
Employment	137 270	138 515	138 113	-0.3%	0.6%	
– full-time	106 439	108 648	108 591	-0.1%	2.0%	
– part-time	30 831	29 867	29 522	-1.2%	-4.2%	
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0 ppt	-0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	73.5%	73.2%	72.9%	-0.3 ppt	-0.6 ppt	
Labour force	142 826	143 809	143 482	-0.2%	0.5%	
<b>Australia</b>						
<b>Original</b>						
Employment	13 626 741	14 033 404	14 033 218	0.0%	3.0%	4.0%
– full-time	9 437 970	9 857 837	9 749 687	-1.1%	3.3%	5.1%
– part-time	4 188 771	4 175 567	4 283 530	2.6%	2.3%	1.5%
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.6%	3.7%	0.1 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	66.4%	66.8%	66.6%	-0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Labour force	14 121 399	14 561 657	14 571 608	0.1%	3.2%	3.5%
<b>Seasonally adjusted</b>						
Employment	13 697 160	14 043 040	14 107 895	0.5%	3.0%	
– full-time	9 531 747	9 847 036	9 849 815	0.0%	3.3%	
– part-time	4 165 413	4 196 004	4 258 081	1.5%	2.2%	
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	66.7%	66.9%	67.0%	0.1 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Labour force	14 195 138	14 586 200	14 648 441	0.4%	3.2%	
<b>Trend</b>						
Employment	13 696 393	14 067 766	14 096 057	0.2%	2.9%	
– full-time	9 537 055	9 863 980	9 877 953	0.1%	3.6%	
– part-time	4 159 337	4 203 786	4 218 103	0.3%	1.4%	
Unemployment rate	3.5%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Participation rate	66.7%	66.9%	67.0%	0.1 ppt	0.3 ppt	
Labour force	14 192 584	14 600 699	14 635 795	0.2%	3.1%	

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.

\* 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

[Labour Force, Australia | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://abs.gov.au)

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, as it is often derived from small samples and can be highly volatile. Although due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

## More information

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