

Labour force

July 2025 | Economic brief

Seasonally adjusted

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	143 667	14 641 406
- Monthly change	↓0.1%	↑0.2%
- Year-ended change	↓0.4%	↑1.8%
- Year-average change	↑1.0%	↑2.3%
Unemployment rate	4.4%	4.2%
Participation rate	72.7%	67.0%

Employment in the Territory declined by 0.1% to 143,667 persons in July 2025. Full-time employment declined by 1.3%, partly offset by part-time employment which increased by 4.7%. The Territory reported the second weakest result of the jurisdictions, which ranged from a decline of 0.2% in Queensland to an increase of 0.8% in New South Wales. Nationally, employment increased by 0.2%. Employment in the Territory declined by 0.4% over the year to July 2025 (Chart 1). This was the weakest result of the jurisdictions.

The Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.5 percentage points (ppt) to 4.4% in July 2025 (Chart 2). The Territory reported the second highest rate of the jurisdictions, which ranged from 3.8% in Tasmania to 4.6% in Victoria. Nationally, the monthly unemployment declined by 0.1 ppt to 4.2%. The Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.2 ppt over the year to July 2025.

The participation rate in the Territory increased by 0.2 ppt to 72.7%. This is the highest rate of the jurisdictions and is 5.7 ppt above the national rate (67.0%). The Territory's participation rate declined by 1.2 ppt over the year to July 2025.

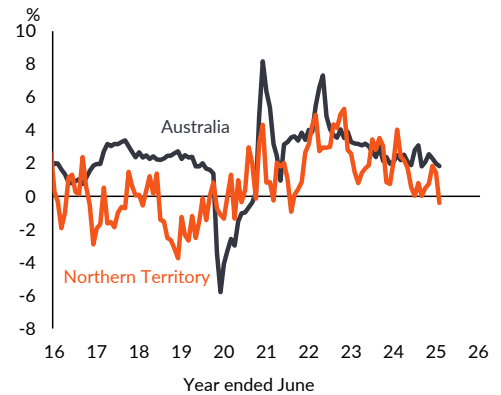
Trend

	NT	Aust
Employed persons	144 009	14 659 251
- Monthly change	flat	↑0.2%
- Year-ended change	↑1.2%	↑2.0%
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.2%
Participation rate	72.7%	67.1%

Employment in the Territory was flat at 144,009 persons in July 2025. Part-time employment increased by 0.3% and full-time employment was flat. Employment increased by 1.2% in the Territory over the year to July 2025 (Chart 3).

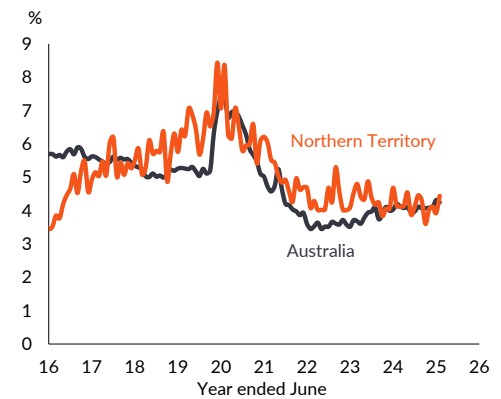
The Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.1 ppt to 4.2% in July 2025 and by 0.1 ppt over the year. The participation rate in the Territory was flat at 72.7%, however declined by 0.2 ppt over the year.

Chart 1: Employment change (year-ended change, seasonally adjusted)



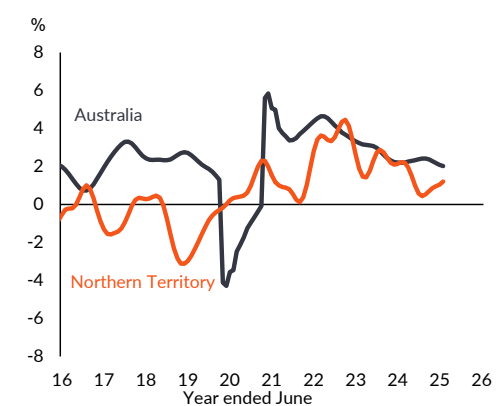
Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Chart 2: Unemployment rate (monthly, seasonally adjusted)



Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Chart 3: Employment change (year-ended change, trend)



Source: DTF; ABS, Labour Force

Table 1: Labour force statistics*

	Period			Monthly change ¹	Year-ended change ²	
	Jul 24	Jun 25	Jul 25	%	%	No.
Northern Territory						
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	144 223	143 881	143 667	-0.1%	-0.4%	- 556
- full-time	114 690	115 183	113 632	-1.3%	-0.9%	- 1 059
- part-time	29 533	28 698	30 036	4.7%	1.7%	503
Unemployment rate	4.2%	3.9%	4.4%	0.5 ppt	0.2 ppt	
- Unemployed	6 245	5 876	6 677	13.6%	6.9%	431
Participation rate	73.9%	72.5%	72.7%	0.2 ppt	- 1.2 ppt	
Labour force	150 468	149 757	150 344	0.4%	-0.1%	- 124
Trend						
Employment	142 303	143 951	144 009	0.0%	1.2%	1 706
- full-time	112 945	114 432	114 410	0.0%	1.3%	1 465
- part-time	29 358	29 518	29 599	0.3%	0.8%	241
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%	0.1 ppt	0.1 ppt	
- Unemployed	6 104	6 184	6 251	1.1%	2.4%	146
Participation rate	72.9%	72.7%	72.7%	0.0 ppt	- 0.2 ppt	
Labour force	148 407	150 135	150 259	0.1%	1.2%	1 852
Australia						
Seasonally adjusted						
Employment	14 377 683	14 616 863	14 641 406	0.2%	1.8%	263 723
- full-time	9 941 659	10 065 427	10 125 889	0.6%	1.9%	184 230
- part-time	4 436 024	4 551 436	4 515 517	-0.8%	1.8%	79 493
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%	- 0.1 ppt	0.0 ppt	
- Unemployed	629 287	659 142	648 977	-1.5%	3.1%	19 690
Participation rate	67.1%	67.0%	67.0%	0.0 ppt	- 0.1 ppt	
Labour force	15 006 970	15 276 005	15 290 383	0.1%	1.9%	283 413
Trend						
Employment	14 368 277	14 634 616	14 659 251	0.2%	2.0%	290 974
- full-time	9 923 680	10 101 840	10 125 197	0.2%	2.0%	201 517
- part-time	4 444 597	4 532 776	4 534 054	0.0%	2.0%	89 457
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.2%	4.2%	0.0 ppt	0.1 ppt	
- Unemployed	610 780	643 289	649 632	1.0%	6.4%	38 851
Participation rate	66.9%	67.0%	67.1%	0.1 ppt	0.2 ppt	
Labour force	14 979 057	15 277 905	15 308 882	0.2%	2.2%	329 826

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.

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

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS, *Labour force*

Table 2: Unemployment rates by jurisdiction (%)

	July 2025		Ranking (highest to lowest)	
	Seasonally adjusted	Trend	Seasonally adjusted	Trend
States				
NSW	4.0	4.1	6	5
Vic	4.6	4.5	1	1
Qld	4.2	4.1	5	4
WA	4.2	4.1	4	6
SA	4.3	4.3	3	2
Tas	3.8	3.9	8	7
ACT	3.9	3.7	7	8
NT	4.4	4.2	2	3
Australia	4.2	4.2		

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS, *Labour force*

Term	Definition
Employment	Work for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers)
Employed full-time	Employed people who usually work 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who usually work less but worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.
Employed part-time	Employed people who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) or were not at work in the reference week.
Unemployed	People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week and had actively looked for full time or part time work.
Unemployment rate	For any group, the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.
Participation rate	For any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.
Labour force	For any group, people who were employed or unemployed, as defined.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year
Year-average change	Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 12-month period
Seasonally adjusted	A seasonally adjusted series involves estimating and removing the cyclical and seasonal effects from the original data. Seasonally adjusting a time series is useful if you wish to understand the underlying patterns of change or movement in a population, without the impact of the seasonal or cyclical effects.
Trend	A trend series is a seasonally adjusted series that has been further adjusted to remove irregular effects and 'smooth' out the series to show the overall 'trend' of the data over time.

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.

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

More information

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