

Labour Market Brief – July 2017

Key Message

In July 2017, the Territory retained the lowest unemployment rate and highest participation rate of the jurisdictions. However, labour market conditions continue to soften, with employment declining by over 6000 jobs or 4.6% over the last five months.

Unemployment Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Unemployment Rate	NT	▬ 0.0 ppt	3.2%
	Australia	▬ 0.0 ppt	5.6%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In July 2017, the Territory's unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.2%, from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is the lowest of the jurisdictions with the Australian Capital Territory second (4.8%), while South Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.6%.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.6% from the previous month's revised figure.

Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↓ 1.2%	133 775
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	12 196 889
Full-Time Employed	NT	↓ 1.0%	104 482
	Australia	↑ 0.3%	8 353 016
Part-Time Employed	NT	↓ 1.9%	29 293
	Australia	↓ 0.1%	3 843 873

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In July 2017, there were 133 775 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 1647 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment decreased by 1069 to 104 482 persons, while part-time employment decreased by 578 to 29 293 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 26 028 to 12 196 889 persons.
- National full-time employment increased by 28 635 to 8 353 016 persons while part-time employment decreased by 2607 to 3 843 873 persons.

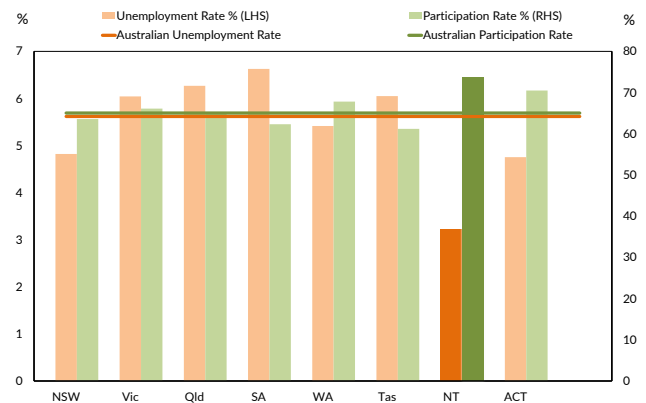
Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	↓ 1.1 ppt	73.7%
	Australia	▬ 0.0 ppt	65.0%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In July 2017, the Territory's labour force participation rate decreased by 1.1% to 73.7% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory has the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.5%) and Western Australia (67.8%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 65.0% from the previous month's revised figure.

Chart 1: Unemployment and Participation Rates



Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

Labour Force

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Labour Force	NT	↓ 1.3%	138 212
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	12 922 876
Civilian Population	NT	↑ 0.1%	187 472
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	19 877 491

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In July 2017, the Territory's labour force decreased by 1755 to 138 212 persons.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 24 222 to 12 922 876 persons.

Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Jun 2016	Year to Date to Jun 2017
Commencements	↓ 17.5%	1419	1171
Completions	↓ 6.2%	469	440

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

- In the year to date to June 2017, there were 1171 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, a decrease of 17.5% (248) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the year to date to June 2017, there were 440 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 6.2% (29) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 30 June 2017, there were 3256 apprentices and trainees in training.

Caution should be exercised in the use of this data as training data has a natural lag (up to 6 months after the commencement date) and are subject to future revisions.

Internet Job Vacancies (June 2017)

Occupation	Monthly Change	Number of Vacancies
Managers	↑ 1.5%	207
Professionals	↑ 0.9%	488
Technicians and Trade Workers	↓ 0.5%	278
Machinery Operators and Drivers	↓ 1.2%	82
Labourers	↓ 1.2%	111
Sales Workers	↓ 1.9%	112
Clerical and Administrative Workers	↓ 2.4%	412
Community and Personal Service Workers	↓ 3.2%	170
Total	↓ 0.5%	1699

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In June 2017, internet job vacancies decreased by 0.5% in the Territory, with decreases recorded across most occupation groups.
- In June 2017, internet job vacancies for Managers reported the largest monthly increase (1.5%), followed by Professionals (0.9%).
- Community and personal service workers reported the largest decrease (3.2%), followed by Clerical and administrative workers (2.4%), and then Sales workers (1.9%).

Notes

Employment figures refer to Territory residents that are employed and do not capture persons working in the Territory that normally reside outside the Territory.

All data referred to in the brief are in trend terms, except for the apprentice and trainee data, which are in original terms.

Current labour market briefs are available online at: <https://business.nt.gov.au/business-and-economic-data/labour-market-information/nt-labour-market-information>

For information on the data sources used and a glossary of labour market terms please see Labour Market Terms and Information at the above link. Please note that changes to geographical standards and population re-benchmarking have resulted in revisions to labour market estimates. For further information please go to: www.abs.gov.au/

Data Sources

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Catalogue Number 6202.0
 Australian Government Department of Employment, Vacancy Report
 Northern Territory Government Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

Enquiries

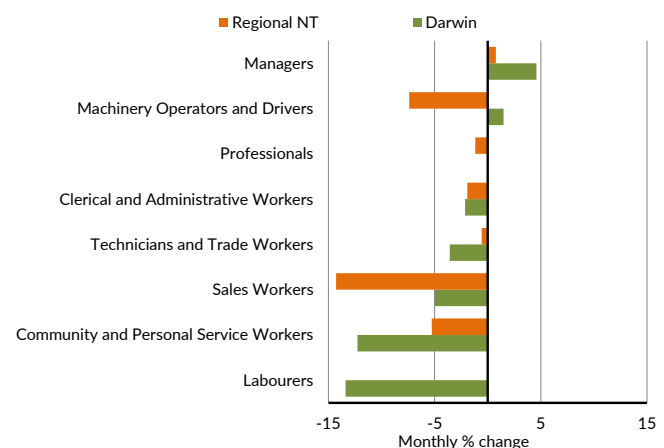
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- In regional NT, almost all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month, except for Managers which increased to 0.8%, and Labourers remained unchanged. Sales workers reported the largest decrease (14.3%), followed by Machinery operators and drivers (7.4%), then Community and personal service workers (5.3%).
- In the Darwin region, almost all occupation groups recorded decreases. The largest monthly decrease was reported for Labourers (13.4%), followed by Community and personal service workers (12.3%), and then Sales workers (5.0%). Managers and Machinery operators and drivers were the only occupations to record increases, 4.6% and 1.5% respectively.

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies



Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)