

Labour market brief – September 2018

Key Message

In August 2018, the Territory continues to hold the second lowest unemployment rate and the highest participation rate of all the jurisdictions. Employment levels fell marginally, and falling job vacancies indicate employment may be weak in the short term.

Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↓ 0.5%	137 245
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	12 640 791
Full-Time Employed	NT	↓ 0.6%	110 811
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	8 645 769
Part-Time Employed	NT	↓ 0.1%	26 434
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	3 995 022

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2018, there were 137 245 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 733 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment decreased by 700 to 110 811 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 33 persons to 26 434 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 26 401 to 12 640 791 persons.
- National full-time employment increased by 21 469 to 8 645 769 persons and part-time employment increased by 4931 to 3 995 022 persons.

Unemployment Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Unemployment Rate	NT	↑ 0.1 ppt	4.1%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	5.2%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2018, the Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 4.1%, from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is the second lowest of the jurisdictions, after the Australian Capital Territory (3.6%). Queensland reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.1%.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.2% from the previous month's revised figure.

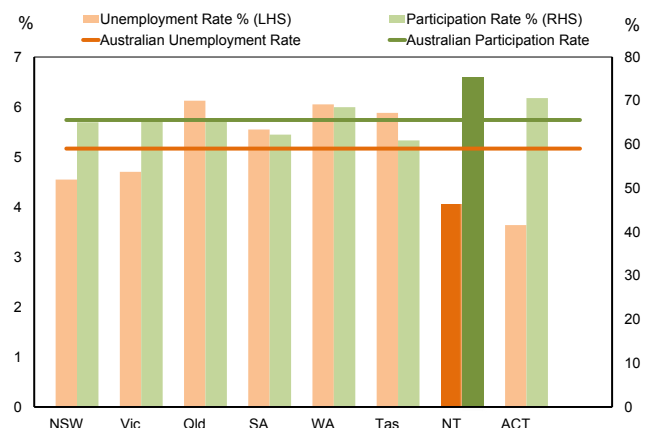
Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	↓ 0.4 ppt	75.3%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	65.6%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2018, the Territory's labour force participation rate decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 75.3% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.6%) and then Western Australia (68.5%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 65.6% 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	↓ 0.5%	143 183
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	13 329 264
Civilian Population	NT	- 0.0%	190 128
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	20 325 829

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2018, the Territory's labour force was 143 183 persons, a decrease of 676 from the previous month's revised figure.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 15 871 to 13 329 264 persons.

Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Aug 2017	Year to Date to Aug 2018
Commencements	↑ 16.1%	1510	1753
Completions	↓ 11.6%	619	547

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

- In the year to date to August 2018, there were 1753 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 16.1% (243) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the year to date to August 2018, there were 547 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 11.6% (72) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 August 2018, there were 3405 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 (August 2018)

Occupation	Monthly Change	Number of Vacancies
Clerical and Administrative Workers	↑ 1.3%	397
Managers	↑ 0.4%	227
Professionals	↑ 0.2%	504
Sales Workers	↓ 0.9%	119
Community and Personal Service Workers	↓ 1.3%	178
Technicians and Trade Workers	↓ 1.3%	309
Machinery Operators and Drivers	↓ 2.6%	110
Labourers	↓ 3.8%	133
Total	↓ 1.1%	1859

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In August 2018, internet job vacancies decreased by 1.1% in the Territory, with most occupation groups decreasing except for Clerical and administrative workers, Managers, and Professionals.

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

Strategic Policy and Research, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

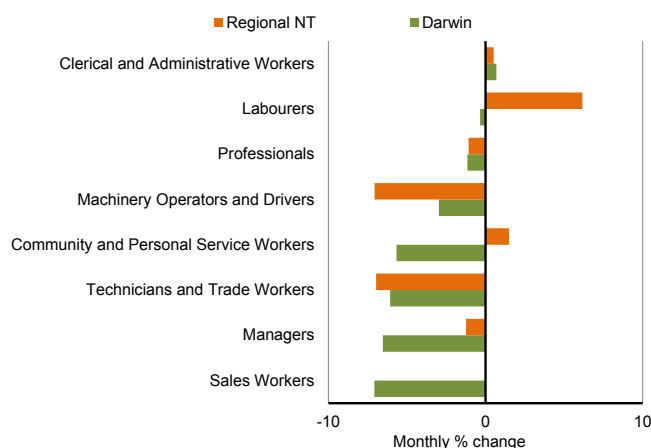
Email: spar.dtb@nt.gov.au

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- In August 2018, internet job vacancies for Labourers reported the largest monthly decrease (3.8%), followed by Machinery operators and drivers (2.6%), and Technicians and trade workers (1.3%).
- In regional NT, most occupation groups recorded increases in the month, except for Machinery operators and drivers, Technicians and trade workers, Managers, and Professionals. Labourers reported the largest increase (6.2%), followed by Community and personal service workers (1.5%), and then Clerical and administrative workers (0.5%).
- In the Darwin region, the largest monthly decrease was reported for Sales workers (7.1%), followed by Managers (6.5%), then Technicians and trade workers (6.1%).

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies



Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)