

# Labour Market Brief – September 2016

## Key Message

In September 2016, the Northern Territory continued to report the lowest unemployment rate in Australia of 3.4%, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (3.5%). The Territory continues to maintain the highest participation rate (74.3%) of all jurisdictions. The Territory labour market continues to show signs of resilience, with the unemployment rate falling. However, job advertisements and vacancies have been declining, which may point to softening labour market conditions over the coming year.

## Unemployment Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Unemployment Rate	NT	↓ 0.1 ppt	3.4%
	Australia	↓ 0.1 ppt	5.6%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2016, the Territory's unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 3.4%, from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is the lowest of the jurisdictions followed by the Australian Capital Territory (3.5%), while Tasmania reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.7%.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.6% in the month from the previous month's revised figure.

## Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↓ 0.1%	134.2
	Australia	- 0.0%	11 959.5
Full-Time Employed	NT	↓ 0.5%	106.7
	Australia	↓ 0.1%	8 136.9
Part-Time Employed	NT	↑ 1.7%	27.5
	Australia	↑ 0.3%	3 822.6

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2016, there were 134 230 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 70 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment decreased by 540 to 106 740 persons, while part-time employment increased by 470 to 27 480 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 3870 to 11 959 540 persons.
- National full-time employment decreased by 7930 to 8 136 900 persons while part-time employment increased by 11 800 to 3 822 640 persons.

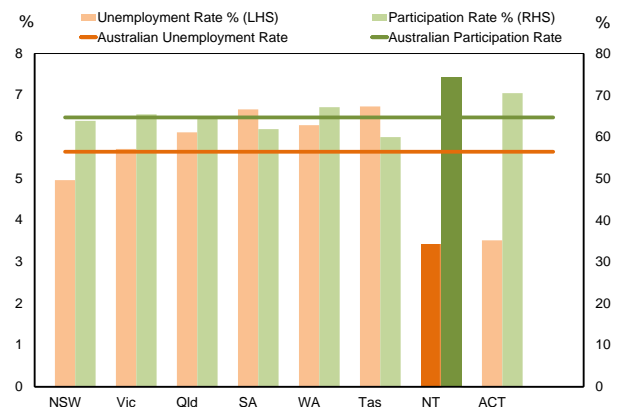
## Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	↓ 0.1 ppt	74.3%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	64.7%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2016, the Territory's labour force participation rate decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 74.3% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory has the highest participation rate in Australia (74.3%), followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.5%) and Western Australia (67.1%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 64.7% 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	↓ 0.1%	139.0
	Australia	- 0.0%	12 674.7
Civilian Population	NT	- 0.0%	187.0
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	19 611.6

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In September 2016, the Territory's labour force decreased by 130 to 138 980 persons.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 730 to 12 674 650 persons.

## ANZ Newspaper Job Advertisements

		Monthly Change	Number of Job Ads
ANZ Job Ads	NT	↓ 16.8%	149
	Australia	↓ 5.1%	1 640

Source: ANZ Job Advertisement Series

- In September 2016, ANZ newspaper job ads decreased by 16.8% to 149 job ads in the Territory.
- Newspaper job ads decreased in all jurisdictions in the month, except for Tasmania and South Australia, which increased by 2.4% and 1.7% respectively.
- Compared to September 2015, newspaper job ads decreased by 49.1% in the Territory, with all other jurisdictions also recording declines. The decreases ranged from a 59.2% fall in New South Wales and Western Australia to a 9.7% decline in Victoria.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Aug 2015	Year to Date to Aug 2016
Commencements	↑ 4.9%	1 640	1 720
Completions	↓ 13.8%	705	608

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

- In the period 1 January to 31 August 2016, there were 1 720 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 4.9% (80) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the period 1 January to 31 August 2016, there were 608 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 13.8% (97) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 August 2016, there were 3 713 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.*

### 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.

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/](http://www.abs.gov.au/)

### Data Sources

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Catalogue Number 6202.0  
 ANZ Banking Corporation Limited, Job Advertisement Series  
 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.DTBI@nt.gov.au](mailto:SPAR.DTBI@nt.gov.au)

### Disclaimer

The Northern Territory of Australia gives no warranty of assurance, and makes no representation as to the accuracy of any information or advice contained in this publication, or that it is suitable for your intended use. You should not rely upon information in this publication for the purpose of making any serious business or investment decisions without obtaining independent, professional advice in relation to your particular situation.

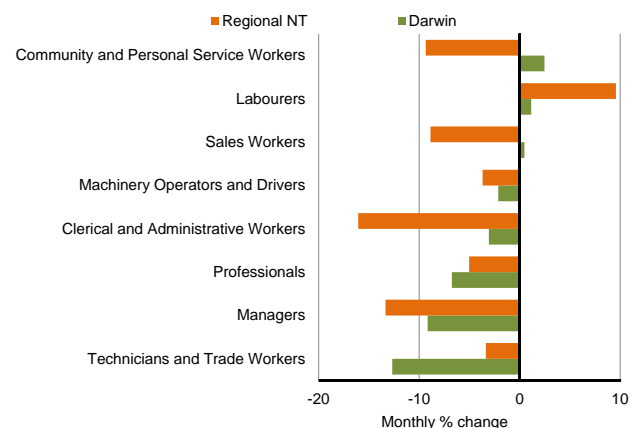
## Internet Job Vacancies (August 2016)

Occupation	Monthly Change	Number of Vacancies
Community and Personal Service Workers	↑ 2.5%	178
Labourers	↑ 1.2%	114
Sales Workers	↑ 0.5%	126
Machinery Operators and Drivers	↓ 2.1%	92
Clerical and Administrative Workers	↓ 3.1%	263
Professionals	↓ 6.7%	382
Managers	↓ 9.2%	159
Technicians and Trade Workers	↓ 12.7%	278
Total	↓ 5.2%	1 592

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In August 2016, internet job vacancies decreased by 5.2% in the Territory, with decreases recorded across all occupation groups except Community and personal service workers, Labourers, and Sales workers.
- In August 2016, internet job vacancies for Technicians and trade workers reported the largest monthly decrease (12.7%) while Community and personal service workers reported the largest increase (2.5%).
- In regional NT, decreases were recorded across all occupation groups except Labourers workers which increased by 9.6%. Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest decrease (16.1%), followed by Managers (13.3%).

### Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies



Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)