

Labour market brief – March 2018

Key Message

In March 2018, the Territory had the lowest unemployment rate (3.9%) and the highest participation rate (76.4%) of the jurisdictions. Employment levels increased with growth in part-time and full-time employment levels.

Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↑ 0.5%	137 342
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	12 485 800
Full-Time Employed	NT	↑ 0.4%	107 361
	Australia	- 0.0%	8 524 368
Part-Time Employed	NT	↑ 0.9%	29 981
	Australia	↑ 0.3%	3 961 432

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In March 2018, there were 137 342 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 675 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment increased by 414 to 107 361 persons, and part-time employment increased by 261 persons to 29 981 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 14 027 to 12 485 800 persons.
- National full-time employment increased by 1153 to 8 524 368 persons and part-time employment increased by 12 875 to 3 961 432 persons.

Unemployment Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Unemployment Rate	NT	↓ 0.1 ppt	3.9%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	5.6%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In March 2018, the Territory's unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 3.9%, from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is the lowest of the jurisdictions, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (4.1%). Western Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.4%.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.6% from the previous month's revised figure.

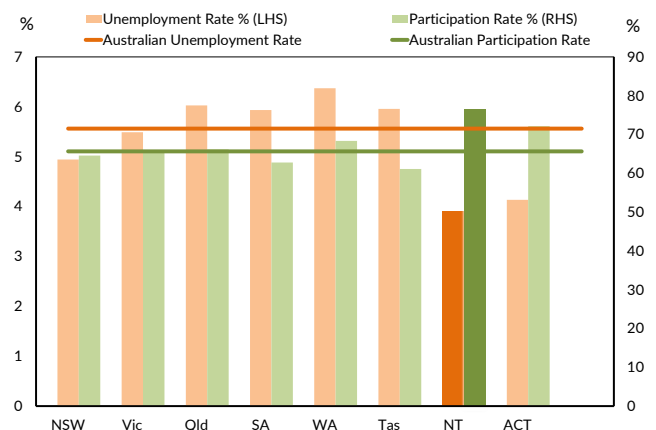
Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	↑ 0.2 ppt	76.4%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	65.7%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In March 2018, the Territory's labour force participation rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 76.4% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (72.1%) and Western Australia (68.4%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at to 65.7% 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	↑ 0.4%	143 090
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	13 220 780
Civilian Population	NT	- 0.0%	186 797
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	20 160 626

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In March 2018, the Territory's labour force increased by 591 to 143 090 persons.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 17 549 to 13 220 780 persons.

Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Feb 2017	Year to Date to Feb 2018
Commencements	↑ 2.2%	459	469
Completions	↑ 5.8%	121	128

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

- In the year to date to February 2018, there were 469 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 2.2% (10) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the year to date to February 2018, there were 121 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, an increase of 5.8% (7) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 January 2018, there were 3181 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 (March 2018)

Occupation	Monthly Change	Number of Vacancies
Machinery Operators and Drivers	↑ 1.2%	139
Labourers	↑ 0.8%	168
Professionals	↓ 0.4%	481
Community and Personal Service Workers	↓ 0.5%	185
Technicians and Trade Workers	↓ 0.6%	353
Sales Workers	↓ 1.3%	125
Clerical and Administrative Workers	↓ 2.0%	393
Managers	↓ 2.3%	217
Total	↓ 0.4%	1929

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In March 2018, internet job vacancies decreased by 0.4% in the Territory, with all of the occupation groups decreasing except for the Machinery operators and drivers, and Labourers, which increased by 1.2% and 0.8% respectively.

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

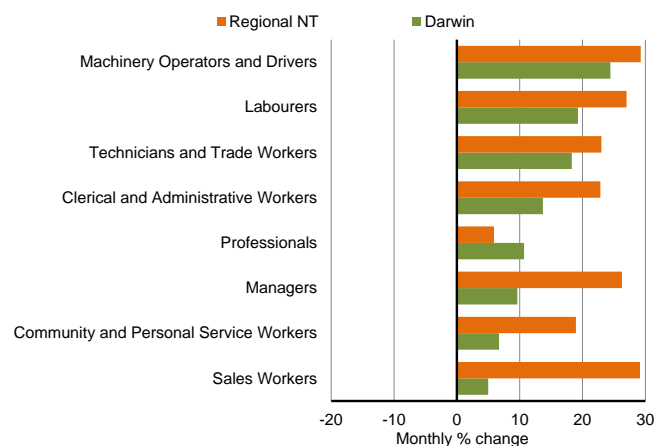
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- In March 2018, internet job vacancies for Managers reported the largest monthly decrease (2.3%), followed by Clerical and administrative workers (2.0%), and Sales workers (1.3%).
- In regional NT, all the occupation groups recorded increases in the month. Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest increase (29.3%), followed by Sales workers (29.1%), and then Labourers (27.0%).
- In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded increases. The largest monthly increase was reported for Machinery operators and drivers (24.4%), followed by Labourers (19.3%), then Technicians and trade workers (18.3%).

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies



Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)