

Key Message

Despite continuing to maintain the lowest unemployment rate (4.0%) and the highest participation rate (74.3%) of all jurisdictions, the Northern Territory labour market is showing some signs of moderation. A marginal decrease in employment over the past six months, and lower newspaper job advertisements suggest further slowing in employment activity in the Territory in the short term is likely.

Unemployment Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Unemployment Rate	NT	↓ 0.1 ppt	4.0%
	Australia	↓ 0.1 ppt	5.8%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In January 2016, the Territory's unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 4.0%, from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is the lowest of the jurisdictions, followed by the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales, reporting an unemployment rate of 4.9% and 5.2% respectively.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.8% in the month from the previous month's revised figure.

Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↓ 0.1%	132.8
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	11 909.9
Full-Time Employed	NT	↓ 0.1%	107.5
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	8 210.9
Part-Time Employed	NT	↓ 0.2%	25.3
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	3 699.0

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In January 2016, there were 132 790 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 120 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment decreased by 60 to 107 460 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 60 to 25 330 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 19 790 (0.2%) to 11 909 870 persons.
- National full-time employment increased by 11 150 to 8 210 880 persons and part-time employment increased by 8 640 to 3 699 000 persons.

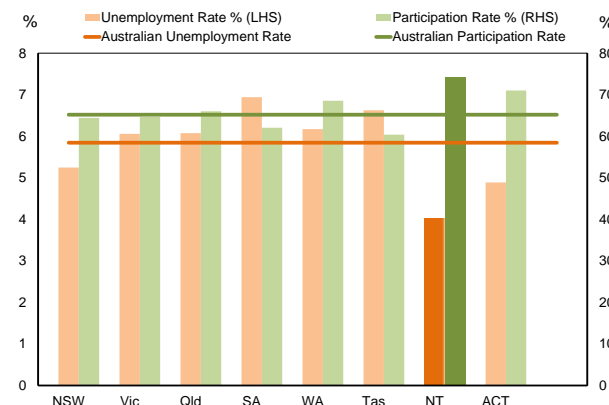
Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	↓ 0.2 ppt	74.3%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	65.2%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In January 2016, the Territory's labour force participation rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points 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 (71.0%) and Western Australia (68.6%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate was unchanged at 65.2% 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	↓ 0.2%	138.3
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	12 649.2
Civilian Population	NT	- 0.0%	186.1
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	19 416.7

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In January 2016, the Territory's labour force decreased by 270 (0.2%) to 138 350 persons.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 15 430 (0.1%) to 12 649 230 persons.

ANZ Newspaper Job Advertisements

		Monthly Change	Number of Job Ads
ANZ Job Ads	NT	↓ 5.9%	233
	Australia	↓ 2.2%	2 757

Source: ANZ Job Advertisement Series

- In January 2016, ANZ newspaper job ads decreased by 5.9% to 233 job ads in the Territory.
- Newspaper job ads decreased in all jurisdictions, except for South Australia (1.8%) and New South Wales (0.4%).
- Compared to January 2015, newspaper job ads decreased by 28.7% in the Territory, with all other jurisdictions also recording declines, except for New South Wales, which increased by 4.5%. The decreases ranged from a 48.0% fall in Western Australia to a 3.4% decline in Victoria.

Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Dec 2014	Year to Date to Dec 2015
Commencements	↓ 26.1%	2 930	2 165
Completions	↓ 19.2%	1 291	1 043

Source: Northern Territory Department of Business

- In the period 1 January to 31 December 2015, there were 2165 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, a decrease of 26.1% (765) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the period 1 January to 31 December 2015, there were 1043 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 19.2% (248) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 December 2015, there were 3482 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: <http://www.dob.nt.gov.au/Employment/labour-market/Pages/default.aspx>.

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: <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 Business

Enquiries

Strategic Policy and Research, Department of Business

Email: employment.strategy@nt.gov.au

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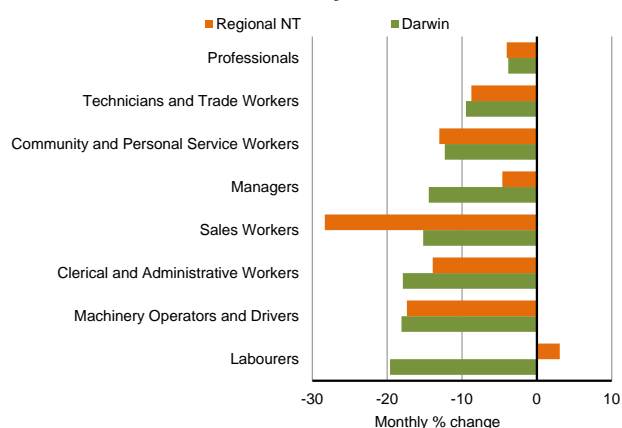
Internet Job Vacancies (December 2015)

Occupation	Monthly Change	Number of Vacancies
Professionals	↓ 3.8%	387
Technicians and Trade Workers	↓ 9.5%	213
Community and Personal Service Workers	↓ 12.3%	133
Managers	↓ 14.4%	152
Sales Workers	↓ 15.2%	112
Clerical and Administrative Workers	↓ 17.9%	217
Machinery Operators and Drivers	↓ 18.1%	80
Labourers	↓ 19.6%	104
Total	↓ 12.1%	1 398

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In December 2015, internet job vacancies decreased by 12.1% in the Territory, with decreases recorded across all occupation groups.
- In December 2015, internet job vacancies for Labourers reported the largest monthly decrease (19.6%).
- In regional NT, the highest decrease was for Sales workers (28.3%), followed by Machinery operators and drivers (17.4%). The only occupation group to report an increase was Labourers (3.1%).

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies



Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)