

Key Message

Despite continuing to maintain the lowest unemployment rate (4.3%) and the highest participation rate (73.9%) of all jurisdictions, the Northern Territory labour market is showing some signs of moderation. A marginal decrease in employment since June 2015, 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	- 0.0 ppt	4.3%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	5.8%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In February 2016, the Territory's unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.3%, 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 5.3% respectively.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate was also unchanged at 5.8% in the month from the previous month's revised figure.

Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↓ 0.2%	131.3
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	11 903.1
Full-Time Employed	NT	↓ 0.2%	106.3
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	8 203.7
Part-Time Employed	NT	↓ 0.4%	25.0
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	3 699.4

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In February 2016, there were 131 260 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 300 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment decreased by 200 to 106 280 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 100 to 24 980 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 11 370 (0.1%) to 11 903 140 persons.
- National full-time employment increased by 5890 to 8 203 710 persons and part-time employment increased by 5480 to 3 699 430 persons.

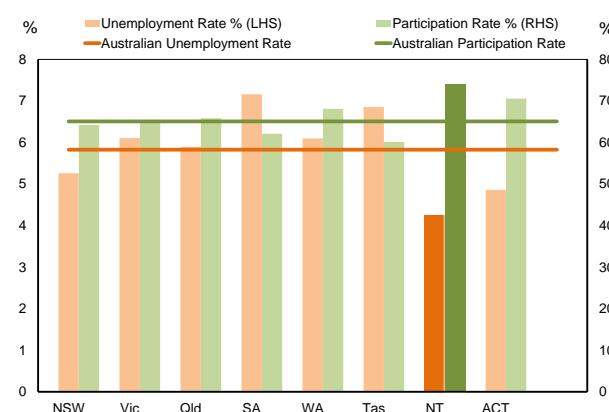
Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	↓ 0.2 ppt	73.9%
	Australia	- 0.1 ppt	65.1%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In February 2016, the Territory's labour force participation rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 73.9% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory has the highest participation rate in Australia (73.9%), followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.6%) and Western Australia (68.1%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate was unchanged at 65.1% 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%	137.1
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	12 639.7
Civilian Population	NT	- 0.0%	185.5
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	19 441.5

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In February 2016, the Territory's labour force decreased by 320 (0.2%) to 137 090 persons.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 10 710 (0.1%) to 12 639 750 persons.

ANZ Newspaper Job Advertisements

		Monthly Change	Number of Job Ads
ANZ Job Ads	NT	↓ 2.9%	239
	Australia	↓ 0.9%	2 786

Source: ANZ Job Advertisement Series

- In February 2016, ANZ newspaper job ads decreased by 2.9% to 239 job ads in the Territory.
- Newspaper job ads decreased in all jurisdictions, except for South Australia (8.3%) and New South Wales (1.2%).
- Compared to February 2015, newspaper job ads decreased by 26.1% in the Territory, with all other jurisdictions also recording declines, except for New South Wales and South Australia, with increases of 9.3% and 6.7% respectively. The decreases ranged from a 52.0% fall in Western Australia to a 1.0% decline in Victoria.

Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Jan 2015	Year to Date to Jan 2016
Commencements	↓ 31.2%	260	179
Completions	↓ 31.3%	67	46

Source: Northern Territory Department of Business

- In the period 1 January to 29 February 2016, there were 179 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, a decrease of 31.2% (81) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the period 1 January to 29 February 2016, there were 46 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 31.3% (21) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 29 February 2016, there were 3577 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

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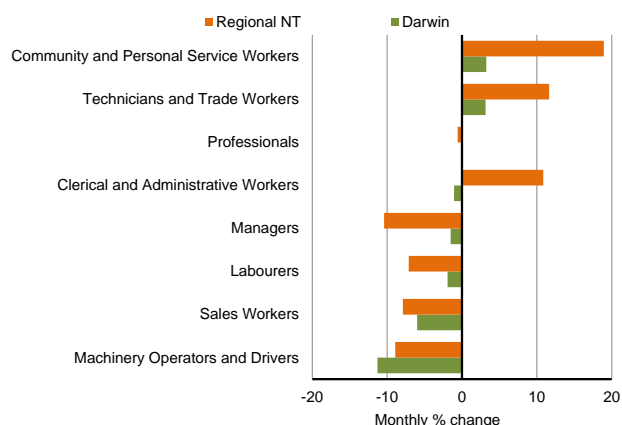
Internet Job Vacancies (January 2016)

Occupation	Monthly Change	Number of Vacancies
Community and Personal Service Workers	↑ 3.2%	137
Technicians and Trade Workers	↑ 3.1%	220
Professionals	- 0.0%	387
Clerical and Administrative Workers	↓ 1.1%	215
Managers	↓ 1.5%	150
Labourers	↓ 1.9%	102
Sales Workers	↓ 6.0%	105
Machinery Operators and Drivers	↓ 11.3%	71
Total	↓ 0.8%	1 386

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In January 2016, internet job vacancies decreased by 0.8% in the Territory, with decreases recorded across all occupation groups, except for Community and personal service workers, and Technicians and trade workers.
- In January 2016, internet job vacancies for Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest monthly decrease (11.3%).
- In regional NT, the highest decrease was for Managers (10.4%). Community and personal service workers (18.9%), Technicians and trade workers (11.6%), and Clerical and administrative workers (10.9%), all reported increases.

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies



Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)