

Labour Market Brief – November 2016

Key Message

In November 2016, the Northern Territory's unemployment rate was 3.7%, the equal lowest in Australia with the Australian Capital Territory. The Territory continues to maintain the highest participation rate (75.2%) of all jurisdictions. The Territory labour market continues to show signs of resilience, with a growing labour force, low unemployment rate, and high participation rate. 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	3.7%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	5.6%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In November 2016, the Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 3.7%, from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is equal lowest of the jurisdictions with the Australian Capital Territory (3.7%), while South Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.7%.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate was also unchanged at 5.6% in the month from the previous month's revised figure.

Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↑ 0.2%	134.8
	Australia	- 0.0%	11,949.3
Full-Time Employed	NT	↑ 0.1%	107.3
	Australia	- 0.0%	8,129.2
Part-Time Employed	NT	↑ 0.3%	27.5
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	3,820.1

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In November 2016, there were 134,800 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 210 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment increased by 120 to 107,300 persons, while part-time employment increased by 100 to 27,500 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 3,100 to 11,949,300 persons.
- National full-time employment decreased by 100 to 8,129,200 persons while part-time employment increased by 3,100 to 3,820,000 persons.

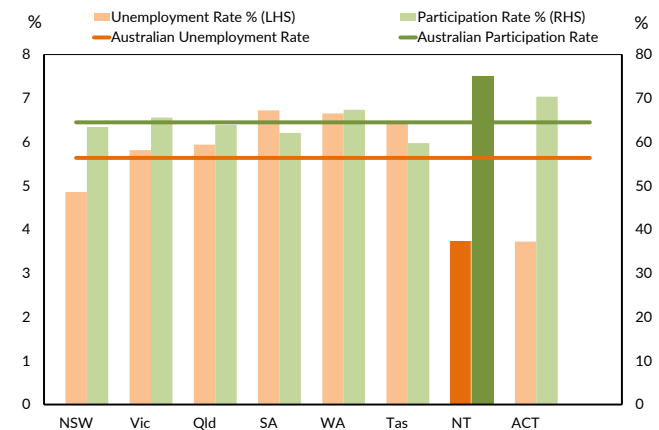
Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	↑ 0.2 ppt	75.2%
	Australia	- 0.0 ppt	64.5%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In November 2016, the Territory's labour force participation rate increased by 0.2 of a percentage point to 75.2% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory has the highest participation rate in Australia (75.2%), followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.4%) and Western Australia (67.4%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 64.5% 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%	140.0
	Australia	- 0.0%	12,663.2
Civilian Population	NT	↓ 0.1%	186.1
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	19,642.7

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In November 2016, the Territory's labour force increased by 300 to 140,000 persons.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 2,400 to 12,663,200 persons.

SEEK Internet Job Advertisements

		Monthly Change	Number of Job Ads
SEEK Job Ads	NT	↓ 0.2%	121
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	109

Source: SEEK and National Australia Bank, SEEK Employment Index

- In October 2016, SEEK internet job ads decreased by 0.2% to 121 job ads in the Territory.
- Internet job ads increased in all jurisdictions in the month, except for the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, which decreased by 0.2% and 0.1% respectively.
- Compared to October 2015, internet job ads increased by 7.2% in the Territory, with other jurisdictions also recording increases, except for Western Australia. The increases ranged from 1.1% in Queensland to 13.8% in South Australia.

Note: ANZ Newspaper Jobs Ads data no longer available at state/territory level. The Department of Trade, Business and Innovation will now provide monthly internet jobs ads data from SEEK.

Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Oct 2015	Year to Date to Oct 2016
Commencements	↑ 5.3%	1,914	2,016
Completions	↓ 14.9%	917	780

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

- In the period 1 January to 31 October 2016, there were 2,016 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 5.3% (102) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the period 1 January to 31 October 2016, there were 780 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 14.9% (137) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 October 2016, there were 3,476 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/

Data Sources

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Catalogue Number 6202.0

SEEK and National Australia Bank, SEEK Employment Index

Australian Government Department of Employment, Vacancy Report

Northern Territory Government Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

Enquiries

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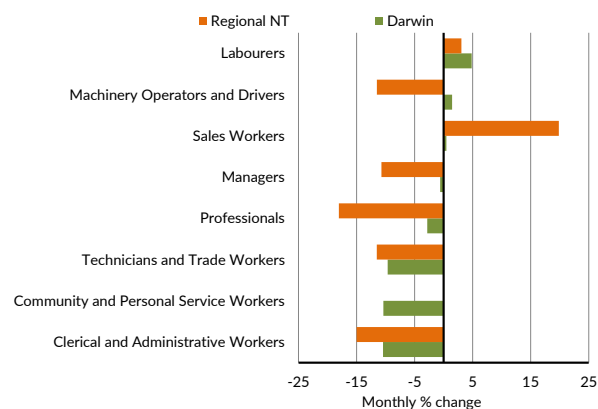
Internet Job Vacancies (October 2016)

Occupation	Monthly Change	Number of Vacancies
Labourers	↑ 4.8%	124
Machinery Operators and Drivers	↑ 1.5%	90
Sales Workers	↑ 0.5%	128
Managers	↓ 0.6%	166
Professionals	↓ 2.8%	345
Technicians and Trade Workers	↓ 9.6%	231
Community and Personal Service Workers	↓ 10.4%	147
Clerical and Administrative Workers	↓ 10.4%	214
Total	↓ 4.6%	1,445

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In October 2016, internet job vacancies decreased by 4.6% in the Territory, with decreases recorded across most occupation groups except Labourers, Machinery operators and drivers, and Sales workers.
- In October 2016, internet job vacancies for Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest monthly decrease (10.4%), while Labourers reported the largest increase (4.8%).
- In regional NT, decreases were recorded across all occupation groups except Sales workers which increased by 19.9%, and Labourers (3.1%), while Community and personal service workers reported no change. Professionals reported the largest decrease (18.0%), followed by Clerical and administrative workers (15.0%).

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies



Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)