

# Labour market brief – April 2018

## Key Message

In April 2018, the Territory had the second lowest unemployment rate (4.3%) and the highest participation rate (76.2%) of the jurisdictions. Employment levels increased with a growth in full-time. However, falling job vacancies may point to employers using other methods to advertise their vacancies, or labour market conditions softening in the short term.

## Employment

		Monthly Change	Number of Persons ('000)
Total Employed	NT	↑ 0.2%	136 711
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	12 505 151
Full-Time Employed	NT	↑ 0.5%	108 169
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	8 543 841
Part-Time Employed	NT	↓ 1.0%	28 542
	Australia	↑ 0.2%	3 961 310

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In April 2018, there were 136 711 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 311 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment increased by 589 to 108 169 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 279 persons to 28 542 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 13 750 to 12 505 151 persons.
- National full-time employment increased by 5876 to 8 543 841 persons and part-time employment increased by 7874 to 3 961 310 persons.

## Unemployment Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Unemployment Rate	NT	▪ 0.0 ppt	4.3%
	Australia	▪ 0.0 ppt	5.5%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In April 2018, the Territory's unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.3%, from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is the second lowest of the jurisdictions, after the Australian Capital Territory (4.0%). Western Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.4%.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.5% from the previous month's revised figure.

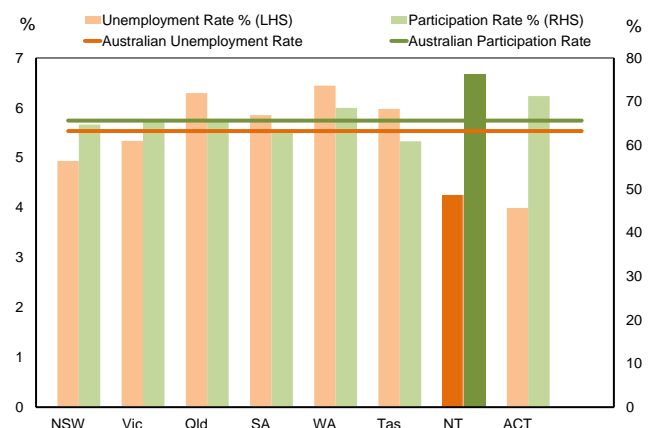
## Participation Rate

		Monthly Change	Rate
Participation Rate	NT	▪ 0.0 ppt	76.2%
	Australia	▪ 0.0 ppt	65.7%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In April 2018, the Territory's labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 76.2% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (71.3%) and Western Australia (68.5%).
- 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	↑ 0.2%	142 861
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	13 238 438
Civilian Population	NT	↑ 0.2%	187 105
	Australia	↑ 0.1%	20 184 181

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In April 2018, the Territory's labour force increased by 261 to 142 861 persons.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 15 141 to 13 238 438 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)

	Year to Date Change	Year to Date to Mar 2017	Year to Date to Mar 2018
Commencements	↑ 12.4%	653	734
Completions	↓ 14.3%	210	180

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

- In the year to date to March 2018, there were 734 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 12.4% (81) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the year to date to March 2018, there were 180 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 14.3% (30) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 March 2018, there were 3257 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.
- 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%).

### 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/](http://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

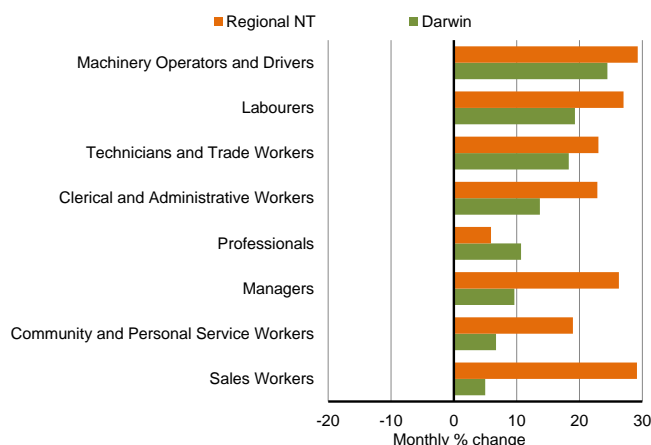
Email: [SPAR.DTBI@nt.gov.au](mailto:SPAR.DTBI@nt.gov.au)

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- 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)