# Key Message

In May 2018, the Territory had the second lowest unemployment rate (4.0%) and the highest participation rate (76.4%) of the jurisdictions. Employment levels increased with a growth in full-time employment. Growth in employment and falling job vacancies indicate an improvement in labour market conditions in the short term.

## Employment



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In May 2018, there were 139 337 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 637 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment increased by 865 to 110 527 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 228 persons to 28 810 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 15 893 to 12 522 301 persons.
* National full-time employment increased by 3958 to 8 534 162 persons and part-time employment increased by 11 935 to 3 988 139 persons.

## Unemployment Rate



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In May 2018, the Territory’s unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.0%, from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory’s unemployment rate is the second lowest of the jurisdictions, after the Australian Capital Territory (3.7%). 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



*Source: ABS**Cat No 6202.0*

* In May 2018, the Territory’s labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 76.4% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.5%) and Western Australia (68.6%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at to 65.5% from the previous month’s revised figure.

**Chart 1: Unemployment and Participation Rates***Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

## Labour Force



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In May 2018, the Territory’s labour force increased by 552 to 145 213 persons.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 14 425 to 13 245 975 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)



*Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation*

* In the year to date to April 2018, there were 1036 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 19.2% (167) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to date to April 2018, there were 255 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 6.9% (19) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* As at 30 April 2018, there were 3327 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 (April 2018)



*Source: Australian Government Department of Employment*

* In April 2018, internet job vacancies decreased by 0.1% in the Territory, with all of the occupation groups decreasing except for the Community and personal service workers, which increased by 0.3%, and Professionals which was unchanged in the month.
* In April 2018, internet job vacancies for Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest monthly decrease (2.6%), followed by Managers (1.8%), and Clerical and administrative workers (1.2%).
* In regional NT, most occupation groups recorded increases in the month. Sales workers reported the largest increase (15.5%), followed by Managers (7.2%), and then Clerical and administrative workers (5.1%).
* In the Darwin region, the largest monthly increase was reported for Community and personal service workers (4.1%), followed by both Labourers (4.0%), and Sales workers (4.0).

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies**



*Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)*