# Key Message

In February 2018, the Territory had the second lowest unemployment rate (4.4%), and the highest participation rate (76.1%) of the jurisdictions. However, labour market conditions continue to remain soft. Employment levels increased marginally with part-time employment offsetting a fall in full-time employment.

## Employment



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In February 2018, there were 136 035 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 222 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment decreased by 171 to 106 061 persons, and part-time employment increased by 393 persons to 29 974 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 19 330 to 12 480 477 persons.
* National full-time employment increased by 7730 to 8 519 074 persons and part-time employment increased by 11 600 to 3 961 404 persons.

## Unemployment Rate



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In February 2018, the Territory’s unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 4.4%, from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory’s unemployment rate is the second lowest of the jurisdictions behind the Australian Capital Territory (4.1%). South Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.2%.
* 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 February 2018, the Territory’s labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 76.1% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (72.8%) and Western Australia (68.2%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate increased marginally to 65.7% 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 February 2018, the Territory’s labour force increased by 74 to 142 277 persons.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 23 677 to 13 209 970 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)



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

* In the year to date to January 2018, there were 207 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 20.3% (25) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to date to January 2018, there were 42 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 31.1% (19) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* As at 31 January 2018, there were 3087 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 (January 2018)



*Source: Australian Government Department of Employment*

* In January 2018, internet job vacancies increased by 0.7% in the Territory, with all of the occupation groups decreasing except for the Professionals and Community and personal service workers, which increased by 1.7% and 1.2 respectively%.
* In January 2018, internet job vacancies for Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest monthly decrease (1.4%), followed by Labourers (1.1%), and Machinery operators and drivers (0.8%).
* In regional NT, half of the occupation groups recorded decreases in the month. Sales workers reported the largest decrease (22.8%), followed by Machinery operators and drivers (14.6%), and then Managers (7.1%).
* In the Darwin region, half of the occupation groups recorded decreases. The largest monthly decrease was reported for Labourers (19.3%), followed by Machinery operators and drivers (18.8%), then Sales workers (15.4%).

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies**



*Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)*