# Key Message

In August 2018, the Territory continues to hold the second lowest unemployment rate and the highest participation rate of all the jurisdictions. Employment levels fell marginally, and falling job vacancies indicate employment may be weak in the short term.

## Employment



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In September 2018, there were 137 245 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 733 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment decreased by 700 to 110 811 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 33 persons to 26 434 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 26 401 to 12 640 791 persons.
* National full-time employment increased by 21 469 to 8 645 769 persons and part-time employment increased by 4931 to 3 995 022 persons.

## Unemployment Rate



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In September 2018, the Territory’s unemployment rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 4.1%, from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory’s unemployment rate is the second lowest of the jurisdictions, after the Australian Capital Territory (3.6%). Queensland reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.1%.
* Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.2% from the previous month’s revised figure.

## Participation Rate



*Source: ABS**Cat No 6202.0*

* In September 2018, the Territory’s labour force participation rate decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 75.3% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.6%) and then Western Australia (68.5%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 65.6% 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 September 2018, the Territory’s labour force was 143 183 persons, a decrease of 676 from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 15 871 to 13 329 264 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)



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

* In the year to date to August 2018, there were 1753 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 16.1% (243) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to date to August 2018, there were 547 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 11.6% (72) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* As at 31 August 2018, there were 3405 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 (August 2018)



*Source: Australian Government Department of Employment*

* In August 2018, internet job vacancies decreased by 1.1% in the Territory, with most occupation groups decreasing except for Clerical and administrative workers, Managers, and Professionals.
* In August 2018, internet job vacancies for Labourers reported the largest monthly decrease (3.8%), followed by Machinery operators and drivers (2.6%), and Technicians and trade workers (1.3%).
* In regional NT, most occupation groups recorded increases in the month, except for Machinery operators and drivers, Technicians and trade workers, Managers, and Professionals. Labourers reported the largest increase (6.2%), followed by Community and personal service workers (1.5%), and then Clerical and administrative workers (0.5%).
* In the Darwin region, the largest monthly decrease was reported for Sales workers (7.1%), followed by Managers (6.5%), then Technicians and trade workers (6.1%).

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies**



*Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)*