# Key Message

In January 2018, the Territory had the second lowest unemployment rate (4.6%), and the highest participation rate (76.2%) of the jurisdictions. However, labour market conditions continue to remain soft, with employment marginally increasing by 316 persons.

## Employment



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In January 2018, there were 136 078 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 316 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment increased by 51 to 106 816 persons, and part-time employment increased by 265 persons to 29 262 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 23 007 to 12 446 597 persons.
* National full-time employment increased by 8772 to 8 495 169 persons and part-time employment increased by 14 234 to 3 951 428 persons.

## Unemployment Rate



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In January 2018, the Territory’s unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 4.6%, from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory’s unemployment rate is the second lowest of the jurisdictions behind the Australian Capital Territory (4.0%). Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia all reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.0%.
* 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 January 2018, the Territory’s labour force participation rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 76.2% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (72.9%) and Western Australia (68.4%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate increased marginally to 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 January 2018, the Territory’s labour force increased by 292 to 142 676 persons.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 25 589 to 13 166 788 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)



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

* In the year to date to December 2017, there were 2027 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, a decrease of 10.4% (235) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to date to December 2017, there were 1027 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 4.6% (49) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* As at 31 December 2017, there were 3017 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 (December 2017)



*Source: Australian Government Department of Employment*

* In December 2017, internet job vacancies decreased by 2.3% in the Territory, with all of the occupation groups decreasing except for Sales workers, which increased by 0.2%.
* In December 2017, internet job vacancies for Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest monthly decrease (6.8%), followed by Technicians and trader workers (3.3%), and Labourers (2.6%).
* In regional NT, all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month. Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest decrease (18.6%), followed by Technicians and trade workers (18.0%), and then Managers (16.4%).
* In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded decreases. The largest monthly decrease was reported for Machinery operators and drivers (27.5%), followed by Labourers (20.9%), then Technicians and trade workers (19.3%).

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies**



*Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)*