# Key Message

In December 2018, the Territory continued to report the highest participation rate of all jurisdictions, although labour market conditions have softened over the past seven months. Unemployment has risen seven consecutive months and employment levels have fallen seven consecutive months. Increased job vacancies would improve employment levels in the short term.

## Employment

This table illustrates the employment status and employment numbers by persons in the Northern Territory and Australia. 
Row one are the headings: monthly change; and number of persons reported in thousands. 
Row two indicates the total employed persons in the Northern Territory increased by 0.1 to 133852 persons.   
Row three indicates the total employed persons in the Australia increased by 0.2 to 12711584 persons.   
Row four indicates the total full-time employed persons in the Northern Territory increased by 0.1 to 106727 persons.   
Row five indicates the total full-time employed persons in Australia increased by 0.1 to 8697562 persons.   
Row six indicates the total part-time employed persons in the Territory increased by 0.5 per cent to 27125 persons.   
Row seven indicates the total part-time employed persons in Australia increased by 0.3 per cent to 4014021 persons.  


*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In December 2018, there were 133 852 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 173 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment increased by 49 to 106 727 persons, and part-time employment increased by 124 persons to 27 125 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 23 069 to 12 711 584 persons.
* National full-time employment increased by 11 831 to 8 697 562 persons and part-time employment increased by 11 238 to 4 014 021 persons.
* Territory employment levels have fallen seven consecutive months, down about 3771 jobs since June 2018.

## Unemployment Rate

This table illustrates the unemployment rate in the Northern Territory and Australia.
Row one are the headings: monthly change; and rate.
Row two indicates the unemployment rate in the Territory increased by 0.1 of a percentage point, to 5.0 percent. 
Row three indicates the unemployment rate in Australia remained unchanged at 5 per cent.


*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In December 2018, the Territory’s unemployment rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.0%, from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory’s unemployment rate is the fourth lowest of the jurisdictions, after the Australian Capital Territory (3.6%), New South Wales (4.3%), and Victoria (4.4%). Western Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.4%.
* Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.0% from the previous month’s revised figure.

## Participation Rate

This table illustrates the participation rate in the Northern Territory and Australia. 
Row one are the headings: monthly change; and rate.  
Row two indicates the participation rate in the Northern Territory remained unchanged at 74.3 per cent.   
Row three indicates the participation rate in Australia remained unchanged at 65.6 per cent.


*Source: ABS**Cat No 6202.0*

* In December 2018, the Territory’s labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 74.3% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (69.4%) and then Western Australia (68.6%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 65.6% from the previous month’s revised figure.

**Chart 1: Unemployment and Participation Rates** This chart indicates the following unemployment rates for each jurisdictions:
New South Wales is 4.3 per cent.
Victoria is 4.4 per cent. 
Queensland is 6.2 per cent. 
South Australia is 5.8 per cent. 
Western Australia is 6.4 per cent. 
Tasmania is 5.8 per cent. 
Northern Territory is 5.0 per cent.
Australian Capital Territory is 3.6 per cent. 
Australia is 5.0 per cent. 

The following participation rates for each jurisdictions are: 
New South Wales is 64.8 per cent.
Victoria is 65.8 per cent. 
Queensland is 65.9 per cent. 
South Australia is 62.6 per cent. 
Western Australia is 68.6 per cent. 
Tasmania is 60.2 per cent. 
Northern Territory is 74.3 per cent.
Australian Capital Territory is 69.4 per cent.
Australia is 65.6 per cent.
*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

## Labour Force

This table illustrates the labour force and civilian population numbers by persons in the Northern Territory and Australia.  
Row one are the headings: monthly change; and number of persons reported in thousands. 
Row two indicates the Northern Territory labour force increased by 0.2 per cent to 140772 persons.  
Row three indicates the Australian labour force increased by 0.1 per cent to 13382489 persons.  
Row four indicates the Northern Territory civilian population decreased by 0.1 per cent to 188851 persons.  
Row five indicates the Australian civilian population increased by 0.1 per cent to 20389353 persons.  


*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In December 2018, the Territory’s labour force was 140 772 persons, an increase of 348 from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 19 895 to 13 382 489 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)1

This table illustrates the apprentice and trainee commencements, in training and completions numbers in the Northern Territory. 
Row one are the headings: year to date change; year to date to November 2017; and year to date to November2018.
Row two indicates the Northern Territory's year to November 2018 commencements increased by 14.9 percent, from 1933 to 2221.
Row three indicates the Northern Territory's year to November 2018 completions decreased by 8.4 percent, from 940 to 861.


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

* In the year to date to November 2018, there were 2221 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 14.9% (288) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to date to November 2018, there were 861 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 8.4% (79) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* As at 30 November 2018, there were 3116 apprentices and trainees in training.

## Internet Job Vacancies (December 2018)2

This table illustrates the Northern Territory's monthly internet job vacancies within eight occupations. 
Row one are the headings: occupation; monthly change; and number of vacancies. 
Row two indicates the Community and personal service workers increased by 2.6 per cent to 183 vacancies.  
Row three indicates the Labourers occupation increased by 2.1 per cent to 138 vacancies.  
Row four indicates the Technicians and trade workers occupation increased by 1.1 per cent to 322 vacancies.  
Row five indicates the Machinery operators and drivers occupation increased by 1.0 per cent to 107 vacancies.  
Row six indicates the Sales workers occupation increased by 0.6 per cent to 119 vacancies.  
Row seven indicates the Managers occupation increased by 0.6 per cent to 237 vacancies.  
Row eight indicates the Clerical and administrative workers occupation increased by 0.6 per cent to 416 vacancies.  
Row nine indicates the Professionals occupation increased by 0.4 per cent to 485 vacancies.  
Row ten indicates the total occupations increased by 1.7 per cent to 1927 vacancies.


*Source: Australian Government Department of Employment*

* In December 2018, internet job vacancies increased by 1.7% (trend) in the Territory, with all occupation groups increasing.
* In December 2018, internet job vacancies for Community and personal service workers reported the largest monthly increase (2.6%), followed by Labourers (2.1%), and Technicians and trade workers (1.1%).
* In regional NT, all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month. Labourers reported the largest decrease (-29.2%), followed by Machinery operators and drivers (-20.7%), and then Sales workers (-16.5%).3
* In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month. Sales workers reported the largest monthly decrease (-14.1%), followed by Machinery operators and   
  drivers (-14.0%), then Labourers (-11.8%). 3

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies**

This chart indicates the following increase and decrease of job vacancies in Darwin and regional NT across all occupations:
Sales workers in Darwin decreased by 14.1 per cent. 
Sales workers in regional NT decreased by 16.5 per cent. 
Community and Personal Service Workers in Darwin decreased by 2.5 per cent. 
Community and Personal Service Workers in regional NT decreased by 13.7 per cent. 
Managers in Darwin decreased by 9.7 per cent. 
Managers in regional NT decreased by 1.1 per cent. 
Professionals in Darwin decreased by 9.4 per cent. 
Professionals in regional NT decreased by 5.4 per cent. 
Technicians and Trade Workers in Darwin decreased by 10.3 per cent. 
Technicians and Trade Workers in regional NT decreased by 13.3 per cent. 
Clerical and Administrative Workers in Darwin decreased by 10.2 per cent. 
Clerical and Administrative Workers in regional NT decreased by 8.4 per cent.
Labourers in Darwin decreased by 11.8 per cent.  
Labourers in regional NT decreased by 29.2 per cent.  
Machinery operators and drivers in Darwin decreased by 14.0 per cent. 
Machinery operators and drivers in regional NT decreased by 20.7 per cent.


*Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)*

1. *Caution should be exercised in the use of this data as training data has a natural lag (up to six months after the commencement date) and are subject to future revisions.*
2. *It should be noted that this table provides trend data.*
3. *It should be noted that Darwin and regional NT data are original data with a three month rolling average.*