# Key Message

The labour market conditions in the Territory remain soft. The unemployment rate has remained steady this month, but has decreased by 0.4 percentage points over the year. Employment levels have now fallen for thirteen consecutive months. The participation rate continues to trend downwards but remains highest of all jurisdictions.

## Employment



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In May 2019, there were 129 704 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 125 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment decreased by 550 to 101 177 persons, and part-time employment increased by 425 to 28 528 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 28 353 to 12 856 582 persons.
* National full-time employment increased by 13 875 to 8 799 787 persons and part-time employment increased by 14 478 to 4 056 795 persons.
* Territory employment levels have fallen twelve consecutive months, down about 9178 jobs since May 2018.

## Unemployment Rate



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In May 2019, the Territory’s unemployment rate remained steady at 4.5%.
* The Territory’s unemployment rate is the third lowest of the jurisdictions after New South Wales (4.4%), and then the Australian Capital Territory (3.9%). Tasmania reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.6%.
* Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.1% from the previous month’s revised figure.

## Participation Rate



*Source: ABS**Cat No 6202.0*

* In May 2019, the Territory’s labour force participation rate decreased by 0.6 percentage points to 71.4% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (69.7%) and then Western Australia (68.0%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 65.9% 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 2019, the Territory’s labour force was 135 934 persons, a decrease of 0.1%.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 0.3% to 13 551 742 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)1



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

* In the year to date to April 2019, there were 985 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, a decrease of 6.2% (65) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to date to April 2019, there were 220 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 20.0% (55) compared to the same period in 30 April 2019,
* There were 3558 apprentices and trainees in training.

## Internet Job Vacancies (April 2019)2



*Source: Australian Government Department of Employment*

* In April 2019, total internet job vacancies decreased by 2.1% (trend) in the Territory.
* In April 2019, internet job vacancies for Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest monthly decrease (5.1%) in the Territory, followed by Managers occupation (2.9%), then Labourers (2.2%).
* In regional NT, almost all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month, except for Sales workers, Managers, and Machinery operators and drivers, which increased by 9.7%, 4.4%, and 4.2% respectively.
* In regional NT, the largest decrease in the month was Technicians and trade workers (11.3%), followed by Community and personal service workers (9.7%), and then Labourers (7.9%).
* In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month, except for Labourers, which increased by 4.0%.
* In the Darwin region, the largest decrease was Managers occupation (8.8%), followed by Sales workers (8.7%), then Professionals (6.9%).3

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies**



*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.*