# Key message

In June 2020, labour market conditions remained soft in the Territory due to the impacts of the COVID-19 related lockdown and restrictions. Employment levels have declined further, with a fall in full‑time jobs more than offsetting an increase in part-time jobs. The unemployment rate has decreased in the month, but this was due to a decline in the participation rate as fewer people were actively seeking work. w for best navigational experience.

## Employment

|  |  | Monthly change | Number of persons (‘000) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total employed | NT | Down 2.0% | 126 875 |
|  | Australia | Up 1.7% | 12 328 497 |
| Full-time employed | NT | Down 3.9% | 95 391 |
|  | Australia | Down 0.4% | 8 489 121 |
| Part-time employed | NT | Up 4.5% | 31 485 |
|  | Australia | Up 6.9% | 3 839 376 |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

* In June 2020, there were 126 875 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 2519 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment decreased by 3874 to 95 391 persons, and part-time employment increased by 1355 to 31 485 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 210 830 to   
  12 328 497 persons.
* National full-time employment decreased by 38 137 to 8 489 121 persons and part-time employment increased by 248 967 to 3 839 376 persons.

## Unemployment rate

|  |  | Monthly change | Rate |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Unemployment rate | NT | Down 1.7 ppt | 5.7% |
|  | Australia | Up 0.3 ppt | 7.4% |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

* In June 2020, the Territory’s unemployment rate decreased to 5.7% from the previous month’s revised figure of 7.4%.
* The Territory had the second lowest unemployment rate in Australia, behind the Australian Capital Territory (5.1%). The unemployment rate in other jurisdictions were; New South Wales (6.9%), Victoria (7.5%), Queensland (7.7%), South Australia (8.8%), Western Australia (8.7%), and Tasmania (6.9%).
* Nationally, the unemployment rate increased to 7.4% from   
  the previous month’s revised figure of 7.1%.

## Participation rate

|  |  | Monthly change | Rate |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Participation rate | NT | Down 2.8 ppt | 71.6% |
|  | Australia | Up 1.3 ppt | 64.0% |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

* In June 2020, the Territory’s labour force participation rate decreased by 2.8 percentage points to 71.6% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (71.5%) and then Western Australia (66.6%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate increased by 1.3 percentage points to 64.0% from the previous month’s revised figure.

**Chart 1: Unemployment and participation rates**

This chart indicates the following unemployment rates for each jurisdictions:
Queensland is 7.7 percent 
South Australia is 8.8 percent 
Tasmania is 6.9 percent 
Northern Territory is 5.7 percent 
Western Australia is 8.7 percent 
Victoria is 7.5 percent 
New South Wales is 6.9 percent 
Australian Capital Territory is 5.1 percent 
Australia is 7.4 percent

The following participation rates for each jurisdictions are: 
Northern Territory is 71.6 percent 
Australian Capital Territory is 71.5 percent 
Western Australia is 66.6 percent 
Victoria is 64.7 percent 
Queensland is 62.9 percent 
New South Wales is 63.7 percent 
South Australia is 61.8 percent 
Tasmania is 59.2 percent
Australia is 64.0 percent

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

## Labour force

|  |  | Monthly change | Number of persons (‘000) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Labour force | NT | Down 3.8% | 134 511 |
|  | Australia | Up 2.1% | 13 320 771 |
| Civilian population1 | NT | Flat | 187 813 |
|  | Australia | Up 0.1% | 20 823 200 |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

* In June 2020, the Territory’s labour force was 134 511 persons, a decrease of 3.8% from last month’s revised figure.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 2.1% to   
  13 320 771 persons.

## Apprentices and trainees (estimates)2

|  | Year to date change | Year to date to May 2019 | Year to date to May 2020 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Commencements | Down 36.8% | 1389 | 878 |
| Completions | Down 39.8% | 369 | 222 |

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

* In the year to May 2020, there were 878 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, a decrease of 36.8% (511) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to May 2020, there were 222 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 39.8% (147) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* As at 31 May 2020, there were 3434 apprentices and trainees in training.

## Internet job vacancies (May 2020)3

| Occupation | Monthly change | No. of vacancies |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Clerical and administrative workers | Up 1.2% | 313 |
| Labourers | Down 0.4% | 85 |
| Professionals | Down 2.0% | 427 |
| Machinery operators and drivers | Down 2.3% | 79 |
| Technicians and trade workers | Down 4.5% | 192 |
| Managers | Down 4.7% | 156 |
| Community and personal service workers | Down 5.1% | 117 |
| Sales workers | Down 5.5% | 60 |
| Total | Down 1.9% | 1307 |

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

* In May 2020, total internet job vacancies decreased by 1.9% (trend) to 1307 in the Territory.
* In May 2020, internet job vacancies for Clerical and administrative workers reported the only monthly increase (1.2%) in the Territory.
* Sales workers reported the largest decrease (5.5%), followed closely by Community and personal service workers (5.1%), and then Managers (4.7%).
* In regional NT, all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month. Sales workers reported the largest decrease (39.7%), followed by Community and personal service workers (27.2%), then Technicians and trade workers (26.5%).
* In the Darwin region, all occupation groups also recorded decreases. Sales workers reported the largest decrease (23.6%), followed by Community and personal service workers (20.8%), and then Technicians and trade workers (15.2%).

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies4**

This chart indicates the following increase and decrease of job vacancies in Darwin and regional NT across all occupations:
Sales workers in Darwin decreased to 23.6 per cent. 
Sales workers in regional NT decreased to 39.7 per cent. 
Community and Personal Service Workers in Darwin decreased to 14.6 per cent. 
Community and Personal Service Workers in regional NT decreased 27.2 per cent. 
Managers in Darwin decreased to 12.9 per cent. 
Managers in regional NT decreased to 9.6 per cent. 
Professionals in Darwin decreased to 4.7 per cent. 
Professionals in regional NT decreased to 2.8 per cent. 
Technicians and Trade Workers in Darwin decreased to 15.2 per cent. 
Technicians and Trade Workers in regional NT decreased to 14.2 per cent. 
Clerical and Administrative Workers in Darwin decreased to 20.8 per cent. 
Clerical and Administrative Workers in regional NT decreased to 25.5 per cent.
Labourers in Darwin decreased to 1.9 per cent.  
Labourers in regional NT decreased to 26.5 per cent.  
Machinery operators and drivers in Darwin decreased to 8.1 per cent. 
Machinery operators and drivers in regional NT decreased to 21.2 per cent.

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

**Notes**

1. Original data.
2. 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.
3. It should be noted that this table provides trend data.
4. It should be noted that Darwin and regional NT data are original data with a three month rolling average.

Employment figures refer to Territory residents that are employed and do not capture persons working in the Territory that normally reside outside the Territory.

All data referred to in the brief are in seasonally adjusted terms, except for the apprentice and trainee data, which are in original terms and the regional breakdown of job vacancies.

Current labour market briefs are available online at:

<https://business.nt.gov.au/business-and-economic-data/business/labour-market-briefs>

For information on the data sources used and a glossary of labour market terms please see Labour Market Terms and Information at the above link.

Please note that changes to geographical standards and population re-benchmarking have resulted in revisions to labour market estimates. For further information, please go to:

**Enquiries**

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