

NT labour market brief - July 2021



Key message

In July 2021, the Territory labour market improved, with a rise in employment, a fall in the unemployment rate, and a rise in the participation rate. Increasing job vacancies suggest employment may continue increasing in the short term.

Employment

		Monthly change	Number of persons ('000)
Total employed	NT	Up 2.6%	129 441
	Australia	Up 0.0%	13 156 402
Full-time employed	NT	Up 1.7%	97 485
	Australia	Flat	9 012 576
Part-time employed	NT	Up 5.4%	31 956
	Australia	Up 0.2%	4 143 826

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

In July 2021:

- there were 129 441 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 3261 persons (2.6%) from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment increased by 1618 to 97 485 persons, and part-time employment increased by 1643 to 31 956 persons.
- national employment increased by 2167 to 13 156 402 persons.
- national full-time employment decreased by 4226 to 9 012 576 persons, and part-time employment increased by 6393 to 4 143 826 persons.
- the Territory underemployment rate increased by 0.8 ppt to 5.8%, compared to 8.3% nationally.
- The Territory's underutilisation rate increased by 0.6 ppt to 10.4%, compared to 12.9% nationally.
- Territory monthly hours increased 1.4% from July 2020.

Unemployment rate

		Monthly change	Rate
Unemployment rate	NT	Down 0.2 ppt	4.6%
	Australia	Down 0.3 ppt	4.6%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In July 2021, the Territory's unemployment rate decreased to 4.6% from the previous month's revised figure of 4.8%.
- The Territory had the fifth lowest unemployment rate in Australia after the Australian Capital Territory (4.3%), Victoria (4.5%), New South Wales (4.5%), and Tasmania (4.5%). The unemployment rate in other jurisdictions were: Western Australia (4.6%), South Australia (4.7%), and Queensland (5.2%).
- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased to 4.6% from the previous month's revised figure of 4.9%.

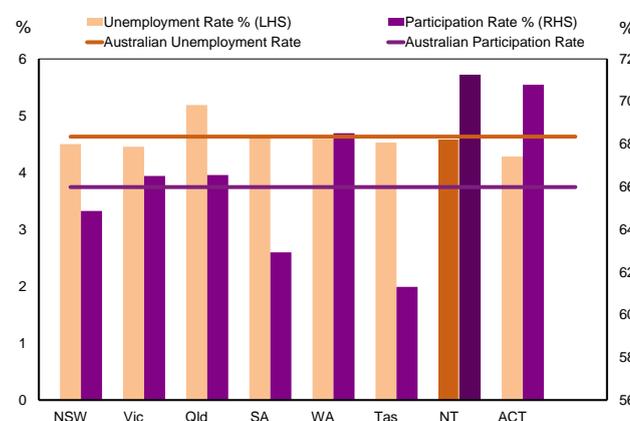
Participation rate

		Monthly change	Rate
Participation rate	NT	Up 1.5 ppt	71.2%
	Australia	Down 0.2 ppt	66.0%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In July 2021, the Territory's labour force participation rate increased by 1.5 percentage points to 71.2% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory had the highest participation rate followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.8%), and then followed by Western Australia (68.5%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate decreased by 0.2 ppt to 66.0% from the previous month's revised figure.

Chart 1: Unemployment and participation rates



Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

Labour force

		Monthly change	Number of persons ('000)
Labour force	NT	Up 2.4%	135 665
	Australia	Down 0.3%	13 795 646
Civilian population ¹	NT	Up 0.2%	190 442
	Australia	Up 0.1%	20 905 937

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In July 2021, the Territory's labour force was 135 665 persons, an increase of 2.4% from last month's revised figure.
- Nationally, the labour force decreased by 0.3% to 13 795 646 persons.

Apprentices and trainees (estimates)²

	Year to date change	Year to date to July 2020	Year to date to July 2021
Commencements	Up 28.9%	1185	1528
Completions	Up 33.5%	364	486

Source: Northern Territory Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade

- In July 2021, there were 1528 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 28.9% (343) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In July 2021, there were 486 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, an increase of 33.5% (122) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 July 2021, there were 3865 apprentices and trainees in training.

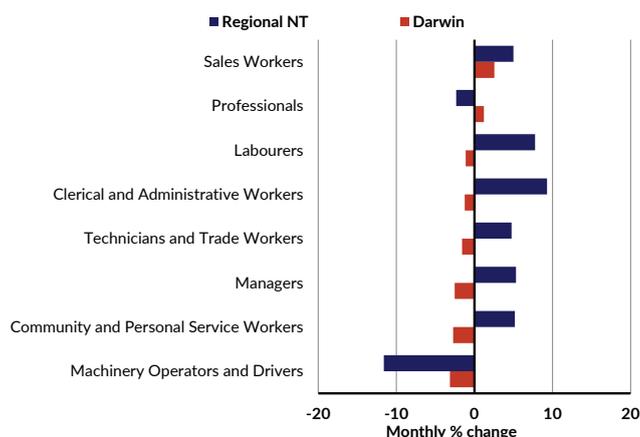
Internet job vacancies (June 2021)³

Occupation	Monthly change	No. of vacancies
Clerical and administrative workers	Up 2.6%	259
Labourers	Up 0.9%	219
Community and personal service workers	Up 0.8%	292
Sales workers	Up 0.7%	172
Professionals	Up 0.5%	672
Managers	Up 0.5%	305
Technicians and trade workers	Up 0.4%	483
Machinery operators and drivers	Down 3.1%	185
Total	Up 0.2%	2692

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In June 2021, total internet job vacancies increased by 0.2% (trend) to 2692 in the Territory.
- In June 2021, internet job vacancies reported increases in all categories, except for Machinery operators and drivers, which decreased 3.1%.
- Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest increase (2.6%), followed by Labourers (0.9%), and then Community and personal service workers (0.8%).
- In regional NT, all occupation groups also recorded increases, except for Machinery operators and drivers and Professionals, which decreased to 11.6% and 2.3% respectively.
- Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest increase at 9.3%, followed by Labourers at 7.8%, and then followed by Managers at 5.3%.
- In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded decreases, except for Sales workers and Professionals, which increased 2.6% and 1.2% respectively.
- Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest decrease at 3.1%, followed by Community and personal service workers at 2.7%, and then followed by Managers at 2.5%.

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies⁴



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://industry.nt.gov.au/economic-data-and-statistics/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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