

# NT labour market brief – August 2019

## Key message

Labour market conditions in the Territory remain soft. The unemployment rate has remained steady this month, but has increased by 0.8 of a percentage point over the year. Employment levels increased slightly in August 2019, with an increase recorded for both part-time and full-time employment. This is the second consecutive increase in employment levels. The participation rate continues to trend downwards but remains highest of all jurisdictions.

### Employment

		Monthly change	Number of persons ('000)
Total employed	NT	Up 0.3%	129 469
	Australia	Up 0.2%	12 921 053
Full-time employed	NT	Up 0.2%	99 971
	Australia	Up 0.1%	8 828 358
Part-time employed	NT	Up 0.6%	29 498
	Australia	Up 0.4%	4 092 694

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In August 2019, there were 129 469 people employed in the Territory, a marginal increase of 374 persons from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment increased by 207 to 99 971 persons and part-time employment increased by 168 to 29 498 persons.
- Nationally, employment increased by 21 969 to 12 921 053 persons.
- National full-time employment increased by 7240 to 8 828 358 persons and part-time employment increased by 14 729 to 4 092 694 persons.
- Territory employment levels increased in July and August after 13 consecutive negative months.

### Unemployment rate

		Monthly change	Rate
Unemployment rate	NT	Up 0.1ppt	5.1%
	Australia	0.0 ppt	5.3%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In August 2019, the Territory's unemployment rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.1%.
- The Territory's unemployment rate is the fourth lowest of the jurisdictions after Victoria (4.9%), New South Wales (4.5%), and then the Australian Capital Territory (3.5%). South Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.8%.
- Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.3% from the previous month's revised figure.

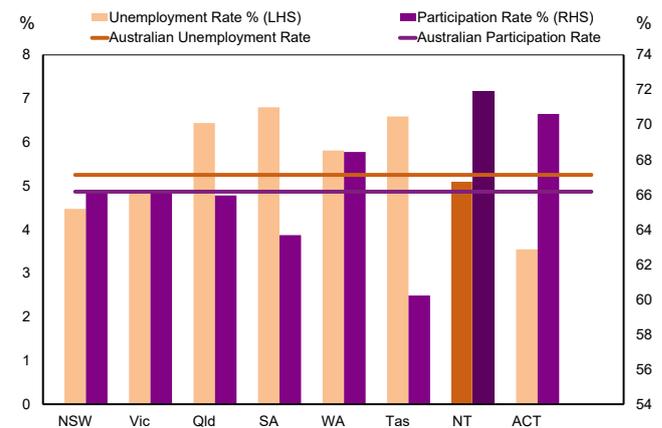
### Participation rate

		Monthly change	Rate
Participation rate	NT	Up 0.1ppt	71.9%
	Australia	Up 0.1 ppt	66.2%

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In August 2019, the Territory's labour force participation rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 71.9% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (70.6%) and then Western Australia (68.4%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 66.2% 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 0.4%	136 281
	Australia	Up 0.2%	13 636 732
Civilian population	NT	0.0%	188 683
	Australia	Up 0.2%	20 625 246

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In August 2019, the Territory's labour force was 136 281 persons, and increase of 0.4% from last month's revised figure.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 0.2% to 13 636 732 persons.

## Apprentices and trainees (estimates)<sup>1</sup>

	Year to date change	Year to date to Jul 2018	Year to date to Jul 2019
Commencements	Up 7.7%	1526	1644
Completions	Down 11.9%	514	453

Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation

- In the year to date to July 2019, there were 1644 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 7.7% (118) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In the year to date to July 2019, there were 453 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 11.9% (61) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 31 July 2019, there were 3637 apprentices and trainees in training.

## Internal job vacancies (July 2019)

Occupation	Monthly change	No. of vacancies
Professionals	Up 3.4%	579
Community and personal service workers	Up 1.7%	195
Technicians and trade workers	Up 1.0%	278
Sales workers	Down 0.7%	117
Managers	Down 1.2%	196
Machinery operators and drivers	Down 1.8%	96
Labourers	Down 2.1%	115
Clerical and administrative workers	Down 4.2%	318
Total	Up 1.1%	1796

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In July 2019, total internet job vacancies increased by 1.1% (trend) to 1796 in the Territory.
- In July 2019, internet job vacancies for Professionals reported the largest monthly increase (3.4%) in the Territory, followed by Community and Personal Service workers (1.7%), then Technicians and Trade workers (1.0%).

### Notes

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 trend terms, except for the apprentice and trainee data, which are in original terms.

Current labour market briefs are available online at: <https://business.nt.gov.au/business-and-economic-data/business/nt-labour-market-information>

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: [www.abs.gov.au/](http://www.abs.gov.au/)

### Enquiries

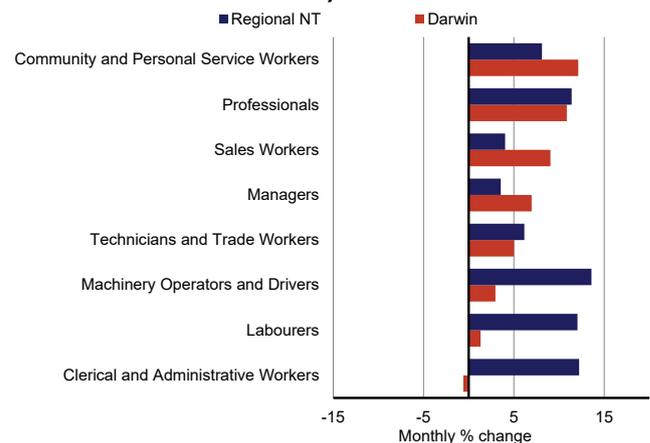
Economic Report, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation, email: [spar.dtbi@nt.gov.au](mailto:spar.dtbi@nt.gov.au)

### Disclaimer

The Northern Territory of Australia gives no warranty of assurance, and makes no representation as to the accuracy of any information or advice contained in this publication, or that it is suitable for your intended use. You should not rely upon information in this publication for the purpose of making any serious business or investment decisions without obtaining independent, professional advice in relation to your particular situation.

- In regional NT, all occupation groups recorded increases in the month.
- In regional NT, the largest recorded increase was Machinery Operators and Drivers reporting the largest increase (13.6%), followed by Clerical and Administrative workers (12.2%), then Labourers (12.0%).
- In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded increases in the month, except for Clerical and administrative workers, which decreased by 0.6%.
- In the Darwin region, the largest increase was Community and Personal Service Workers (12.1%), followed by Professionals (10.9%), then Sales workers (9.0%).

Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies<sup>3</sup>



Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

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.