

# NT labour market brief - June 2021



## Key message

In June 2021, the Territory labour market softened further, with a fall in employment, a rise in the unemployment rate, and a fall in the participation rate. On a positive note, job vacancies have continued to increase.

### Employment

|                    |           | Monthly change | Number of persons ('000) |
|--------------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Total employed     | NT        | Down 3.9%      | 126 180                  |
|                    | Australia | Up 0.2%        | 13 154 235               |
| Full-time employed | NT        | Down 4.1%      | 95 867                   |
|                    | Australia | Up 0.6%        | 9 016 802                |
| Part-time employed | NT        | Down 3.1%      | 30 313                   |
|                    | Australia | Down 0.5%      | 4 137 433                |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

In June 2021:

- there were 126 180 people employed in the Territory, a decrease of 5106 persons (3.9%) from the previous month's revised figure.
- Territory full-time employment decreased by 4131 to 95 867 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 975 to 30 313 persons.
- national employment increased by 29 086 (0.2%) to 13 154 235 persons.
- national full-time employment increased by 51 611 to 9 016 802 persons, and part-time employment decreased by 22 525 to 4 137 433 persons.
- the Territory underemployment rate increased by 0.5 ppt to 5.0%, compared to 7.9% nationally.
- The Territory's underutilisation rate increased by 0.8 ppt to 9.8%, compared to 12.8% nationally.
- Territory monthly hours decreased 0.6% from June 2020.

### Unemployment rate

|                   |           | Monthly change | Rate |
|-------------------|-----------|----------------|------|
| Unemployment rate | NT        | Up 0.3 ppt     | 4.8% |
|                   | Australia | Down 0.2 ppt   | 4.9% |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In June 2021, the Territory's unemployment rate increased to 4.8% from the previous month's revised figure of 4.5%.
- The Territory had the third lowest unemployment rate in Australia after Victoria (4.4%), followed by Tasmania (4.5%). The unemployment rate in other jurisdictions were: the Australian Capital Territory (4.9%), New South Wales (5.1%), Queensland (5.1%), Western Australia (5.1%), and then South Australia (5.3%)

- Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased to 4.9% from the previous month's revised figure of 5.1%.

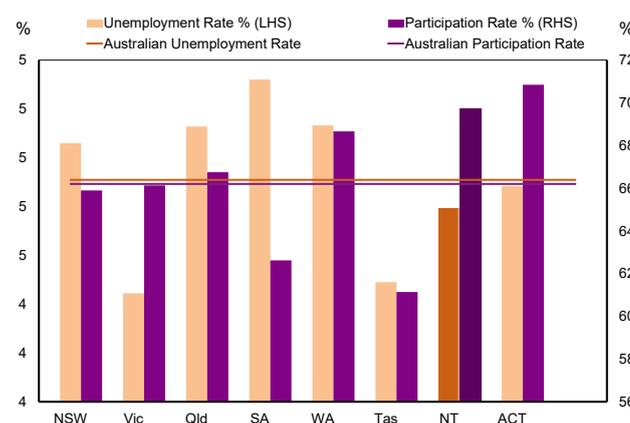
### Participation rate

|                    |           | Monthly change | Rate  |
|--------------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
| Participation rate | NT        | Down 2.7 ppt   | 69.7% |
|                    | Australia | Flat           | 66.2% |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In June 2021, the Territory's labour force participation rate decreased by 2.7 percentage points to 69.7% from the previous month's revised figure.
- The Territory had the second highest participation rate after the Australian Capital Territory (70.8%), and then followed by Western Australia (68.7%).
- Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 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        | Down 3.6%      | 132 531                  |
|                                  | Australia | Up 0.1%        | 13 833 380               |
| Civilian population <sup>1</sup> | NT        | Up 0.1%        | 190 079                  |
|                                  | Australia | Flat           | 20 895 395               |

Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0

- In June 2021, the Territory's labour force was 132 531 persons, a decrease of 3.6% from last month's revised figure.
- Nationally, the labour force increased by 0.1% to 13 833 380 persons.

## Apprentices and trainees (estimates)<sup>2</sup>

|               | Year to date change | Year to date to June 2020 | Year to date to June 2021 |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Commencements | Up 33.5%            | 1044                      | 1394                      |
| Completions   | Up 37.5%            | 293                       | 403                       |

Source: Northern Territory Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade

- In June 2021, there were 1394 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 33.5% (350) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- In June 2021, there were 403 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, an increase of 37.5% (110) compared to the same period in the previous year.
- As at 30 June 2021, there were 3937 apprentices and trainees in training.

## Internet job vacancies (May 2021)<sup>3</sup>

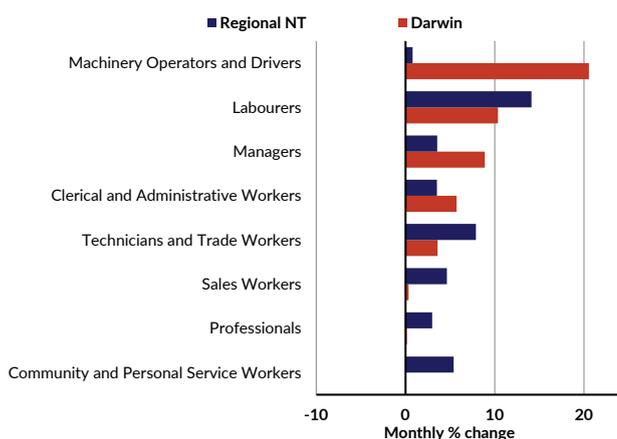
| Occupation                             | Monthly change | No. of vacancies |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Sales workers                          | Up 3.9%        | 179              |
| Labourers                              | Up 3.8%        | 227              |
| Community and personal service workers | Up 3.6%        | 296              |
| Managers                               | Up 3.6%        | 310              |
| Machinery operators and drivers        | Up 3.3%        | 214              |
| Clerical and administrative workers    | Up 2.8%        | 253              |
| Technicians and trade workers          | Up 1.5%        | 475              |
| Professionals                          | Up 1.1%        | 664              |
| Total                                  | Up 2.9%        | 2758             |

Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

- In May 2021, total internet job vacancies increased by 2.9% (trend) to 2758 in the Territory.
- In May 2021, internet job vacancies reported increases in all categories.
- Sales workers reported the largest increase (3.9%), followed by Labourers (3.8%), and then Community and personal service workers (3.6%).
- In regional NT, all occupation groups also recorded increases, except for Machinery operators and drivers and Professionals, which decreased to 11.1% and 0.4% respectively.

- Clerical and administrative workers reported the largest increase at 6.1%, followed by Community and personal service workers at 5.5%, and then followed by Managers at 4.7%.
- In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded increases, except for Professionals, which remained unchanged.
- Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest increase at 10.1%, followed by Sales workers at 9.8%, and then followed by Managers at 9.6%.

## Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies<sup>4</sup>



Source: Australian Government Department of Employment

## Notes

- Original data.
- 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.
- It should be noted that this table provides trend data.
- 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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