

NT labour market brief - June 2020



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.

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%.

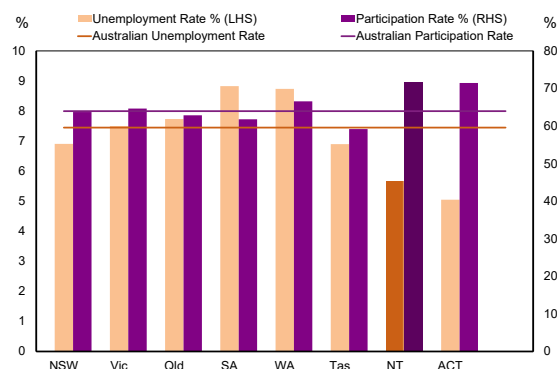
Participation rate

		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



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 population ¹	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.

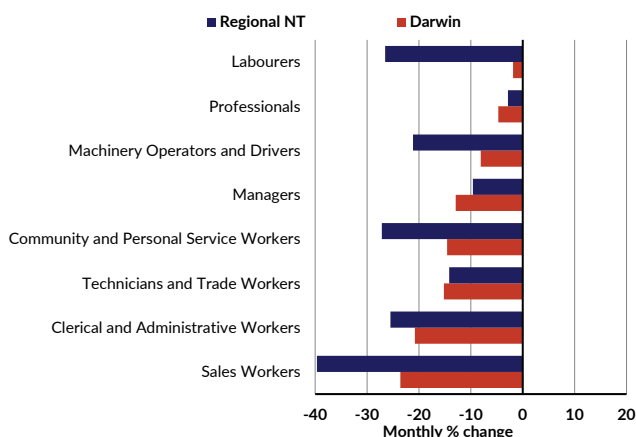
Internet job vacancies (May 2020)³

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



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

Economic Reform, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation, email: economicinnovation.dtbi@nt.gov.au

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