# Key Message

In January 2019, the Territory continued to report the highest participation rate of all jurisdictions, although labour market conditions have softened over the past seven months. Unemployment has risen seven consecutive months and employment levels have fallen seven consecutive months. Increased job vacancies would improve employment levels in the short term.

## Employment



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In January 2019, there were 134 889 people employed in the Territory, an increase of 594 persons from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Territory full-time employment increased by 193 to 106 707 persons, and part-time employment increased by 400 persons to 28 183 persons.
* Nationally, employment increased by 24 928 to 12 747 717 persons.
* National full-time employment increased by 16 789 to 8 737 397 persons and part-time employment increased by 8140 to 4 010 320 persons.
* Territory employment levels have fallen seven consecutive months, down about 1766 jobs since July 2018.

## Unemployment Rate



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In January 2019, the Territory’s unemployment rate increased by 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.0%, from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory’s unemployment rate is the fourth lowest of the jurisdictions after Victoria (4.5%), followed by New South Wales (4.1%), and then the Australian Capital Territory (3.5%). Western Australia reported the highest unemployment rate of 6.6%.
* Nationally, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.1% from the previous month’s revised figure.

## Participation Rate



*Source: ABS**Cat No 6202.0*

* In January 2019, the Territory’s labour force participation rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 74.8% from the previous month’s revised figure.
* The Territory had the highest participation rate, followed by the Australian Capital Territory (69.6%) and then Western Australia (68.5%).
* Nationally, the labour force participation rate remained unchanged at 65.7% from the previous month’s revised figure.

**Chart 1: Unemployment and Participation Rates** *Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

## Labour Force



*Source: ABS Cat No 6202.0*

* In January 2019, the Territory’s labour force was 141 833 persons, an increase of 723 from the previous month’s revised figure.
* Nationally, the labour force increased by 26 769 to 13 427 769 persons.

## Apprentices and Trainees (estimate)1



*Source: Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Innovation*

* In the year to date to December 2018, there were 2380 apprentice and trainee commencements in the Territory, an increase of 16.7% (341) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* In the year to date to December 2018, there were 1001 apprentice and trainee completions in the Territory, a decrease of 6.2% (66) compared to the same period in the previous year.
* As at 31 December 2018, there were 3239 apprentices and trainees in training.

## Internet Job Vacancies (January 2019)2



*Source: Australian Government Department of Employment*

* In January 2019, internet job vacancies increased by 0.9% (trend) in the Territory, with all occupation groups increasing, except for Managers and Clerical and administrative workers.
* In January 2019, internet job vacancies for Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest monthly increase (2.4%) in the Territory, followed by Community and personal service workers (2.2%), and then Professionals (2.1%).
* In regional NT, almost half of the occupation groups recorded decreases in the month. Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest decrease (-16.9%), followed by Managers (-13.4%), and then Clerical and administrative workers (-16.9%).3 Labourers and Professionals remained unchanged.
* In the Darwin region, all occupation groups recorded decreases in the month, except for Community and personal service workers, which remained unchanged. Machinery operators and drivers reported the largest monthly decrease
(-13.4%), followed by Labourers (-9.1%), then Sales workers (-4.1%). 3

**Chart 2: Northern Territory Job Vacancies**



*Source: Department of Employment (Australian Government)*

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.*