

EMPLOYMENT UNCHANGED IN NOVEMBER 2012

Main Features

In November 2012, the number of ACT residents in employment was unchanged at 208,900 in trend terms. (Note: the October 2012 number of employed persons was revised up to 208,900.)

The trend number of unemployed persons in the ACT increased by 100 to 8,900 in November 2012. In trend terms, in November 2012, the ACT's participation rate declined to 72.4%, while the unemployment rate increased to 4.1%. (Note: the October 2012 unemployment rate was revised down to 4% and the October 2012 participation rate was revised up to 72.5%).

Nationally, trend employment increased by 5,800 persons in November 2012. The trend participation rate and unemployment rate were unchanged at 65.1% and 5.3%, respectively. (Note: the October 2012 unemployment rate was revised down to 5.3%).

Commentary

The number of ACT residents employed was unchanged in November 2012, in trend terms. Full-time employment decreased by 100 persons, while part-time employment increased by 100 persons. (Note: estimates are rounded.)

Year-on-year to November 2012, ACT employment grew by 1.5%, in original terms. Nationally, year-on-year employment growth was 0.9%.

Nationally, in seasonally adjusted terms, employment increased by 13,900 persons in November 2012, which was above market expectations. The unemployment rate decreased from 5.4% in October 2012 to 5.2% in November. The participation rate, in seasonally adjusted terms, declined to 65.1% in November 2012.

States/Territory Comparison

In trend terms, the Northern Territory (up 0.3%) recorded the strongest growth in employment in November 2012, followed by Western Australia (up 0.2%), South Australia and Queensland (both up 0.1%). New South Wales, Tasmania and the ACT recorded flat growth in November 2012, while Victoria (down 0.1%) was the only jurisdiction to record a decline in employment in November 2012.

Year-on-year to November 2012, Tasmania (down 1.6%) and South Australia (down 0.1%) recorded a decline in employment. Western Australia (up 4.5%) and the Northern Territory (up 3.1%) recorded the strongest growth, followed by the ACT (up 1.5%), New South Wales and Queensland (both up 0.6%) and Victoria (up 0.4%).

In October 2012, the Northern Territory (3.8%) recorded the lowest unemployment rate, followed by the ACT (4.1%) and Western Australia (4.3%). The highest unemployment rate was recorded by Tasmania (6.8%), followed by Queensland (6.2%), South Australia and Victoria (both 5.5%).

Data Discrepancy

Ongoing monthly revisions of seasonal factors result in revisions of trend estimates on a monthly basis. Estimates are rounded and discrepancies may occur between the sums of component items and totals.

New Sample Size and Revisions

Starting from July 2008, releases were based on the new sample size which has been reduced by 24%. Given that, the ABS continues to encourage users to focus on trend estimates as the increased volatility, carried by a smaller sample size and seen in the original and seasonally adjusted estimates, will be dampened through the 'trending' process. It is likely the quality of monthly data, especially for a small jurisdiction like the ACT, has been greatly reduced. However, the ABS started to reinstate the sample size in the September 2009 estimates and the full sample size was implemented for the December 2009 estimates.

Labour Force estimates from July 2008 to October 2012 have been revised in the November 2012 publication to align the labour force population benchmarks with the latest available information on population growth. These estimates use the 2006 Census base for the population benchmarks.

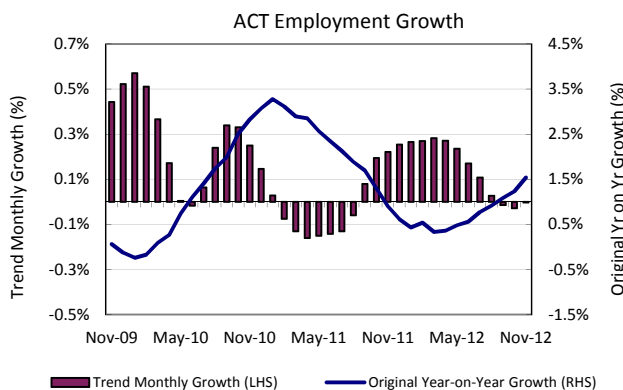
Total Employment ACT & Australia — All Series

November 2012

	Persons ('000)	Change	
		Monthly	Annual (a)
Original			
ACT	208.7	0.0%	1.5%
Australia	11,531.1	-0.2%	0.9%
Trend			
ACT	208.9	0.0%	1.5%
Australia	11,535.2	0.1%	0.9%

Source: ABS Cat. no. 6202.0

(a) Year-on-year growth.



Source: ABS Cat. no. 6202.0

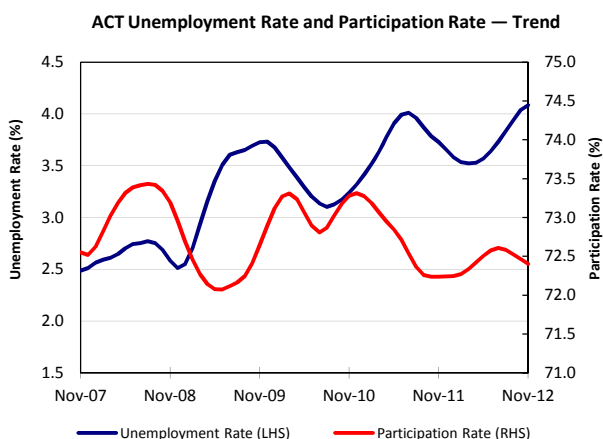
Employment Growth and Unemployment Rate

— State/Territory Comparisons

November 2012

State/Territory	Employment growth		Unemployment
	Monthly(a)	Annual (b)	Rate (a)
New South Wales	0.0%	0.6%	5.1%
Victoria	-0.1%	0.4%	5.5%
Queensland	0.1%	0.6%	6.2%
South Australia	0.1%	-0.1%	5.5%
Western Australia	0.2%	4.5%	4.3%
Tasmania	0.0%	-1.6%	6.8%
Northern Territory	0.3%	3.1%	3.8%
ACT	0.0%	1.5%	4.1%
Australia	0.1%	0.9%	5.3%

Source: ABS Cat. no. 6202.0 (a) Trend (b) Year-on-year growth, Original



Source: ABS Cat. no. 6202.0