

ACT unemployment rate decreased to 3.6 per cent in April 2017

ACT (Trend¹)

The unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 3.6 per cent in April 2017. This remains the second lowest unemployment rate of all jurisdictions. Through the year² to April 2017, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.3 percentage points.

In April 2017, employment decreased by 100 persons to 215,300 persons. Through the year to April 2017, employment increased by 3,200 persons (1.5 per cent).

The participation rate in April 2017 decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 69.8 per cent (from a downwardly revised participation rate in March 2017). This remains the second highest participation rate of all jurisdictions. Through the year to April 2017, the participation rate also decreased by 0.1 percentage points.

National (Seasonally Adjusted)

The unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 5.7 per cent in April 2017. Through the year to April 2017, the unemployment rate was unchanged.

In April 2017, employment increased by 37,400 persons (0.3 per cent) to 12,099,300 persons. Through the year to April 2017, employment increased by 192,000 persons (1.6 per cent).

The participation rate was unchanged at 64.8 per cent in April 2017. Through the year to April 2017, the participation rate was also unchanged.

Total Employment, ACT and Australia, April 2017

	Level	Change	
		Monthly	tty ²
<u>ACT- Trend</u>			
Unemployment rate (%)	3.6	-0.1 ppts ³	-0.3 ppts
Unemployed persons ('000)	8.1	-0.1	-0.5
Employed persons ('000)	215.3	-0.1	3.2
Employment growth (%)		-0.1	1.5
Participation rate (%)	69.8	-0.1 ppts	-0.1 ppts
<u>Australia - Seasonally Adjusted</u>			
Unemployment rate (%)	5.7	-0.2 ppts	0.0 ppts
Unemployed persons ('000)	732.3	-19.1	9.7
Employed persons ('000)	12,099.3	37.4	192.0
Employment growth (%)		0.3	1.6
Participation rate (%)	64.8	0.0 ppts	0.0 ppts

Source: ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

¹ Monthly removals of the effect of systematic calendar related patterns and the irregular (non-seasonal) influences across the entire series 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.

² Through the year (tty) is the percentage change from the same period in the previous year.

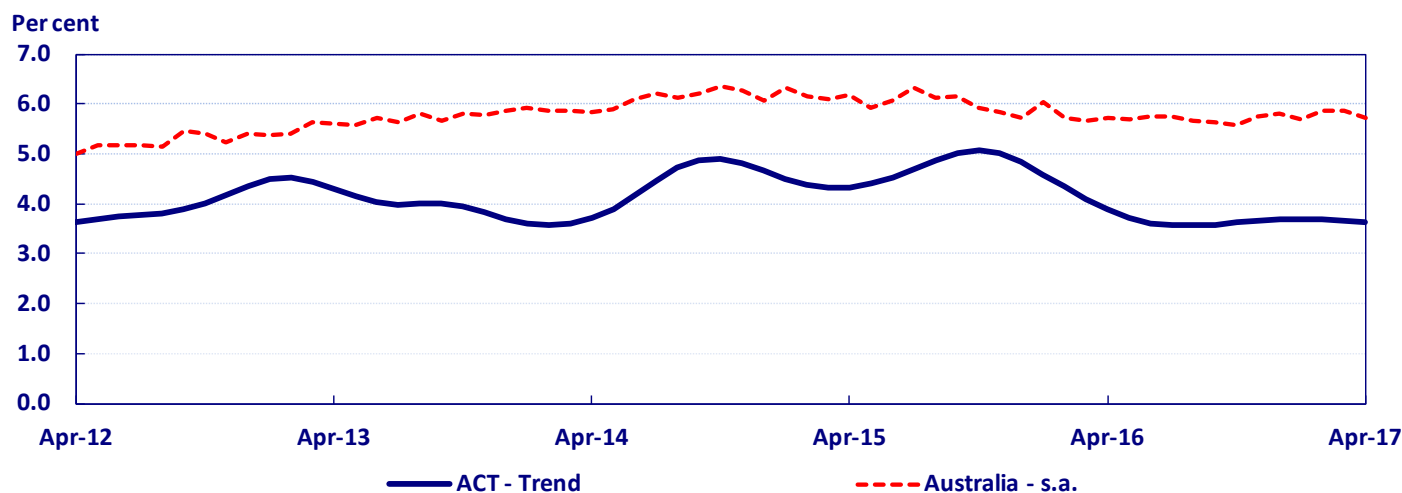
³ Percentage points (ppts).

Commentary

The slight drop in the unemployment rate in the ACT in April was as a result of a small fall in the number of unemployed people looking for work. The 3,200 jobs created in the ACT over the twelve months to April 2017 were driven by an increase in part time jobs (up 4,700 jobs), partially offset by a decrease in full time jobs (down 1,500 jobs). This may reflect employer hiring preferences and/or the entry of secondary household income earners into the labour market, who may desire non full time employment.

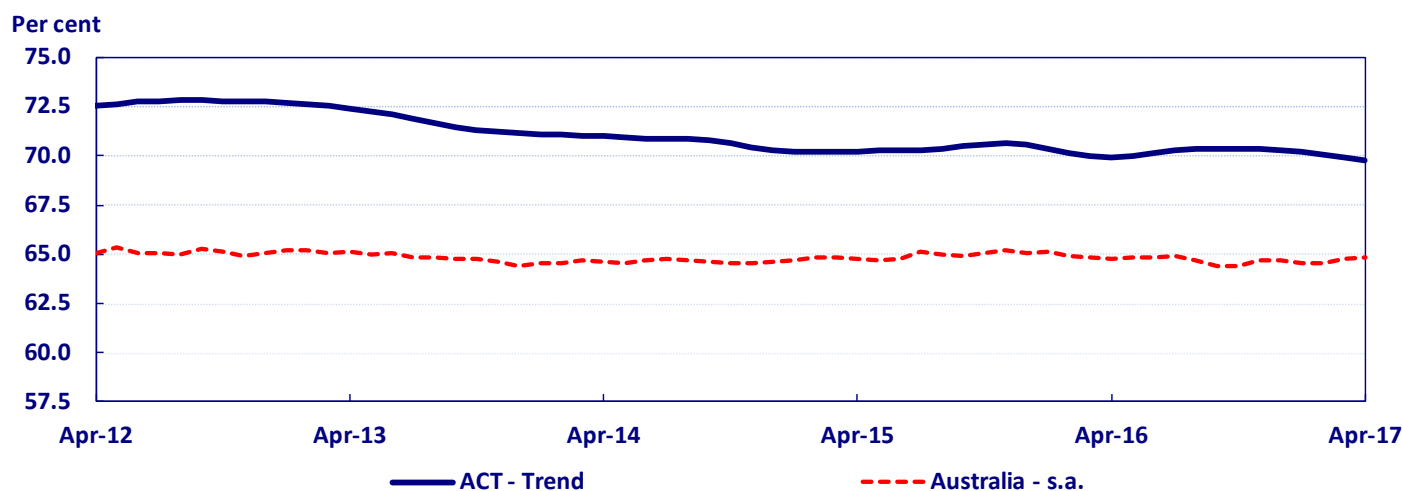
The youth³ unemployment rate in the ACT decreased by 1.9 percentage points to 10.9 per cent in April 2017 and increased by 2.2 percentage points over the past 12 months. This remains below the national average of 12.8 per cent⁴.

Unemployment Rate, ACT and Australia



Source: ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

Participation Rate, ACT and Australia

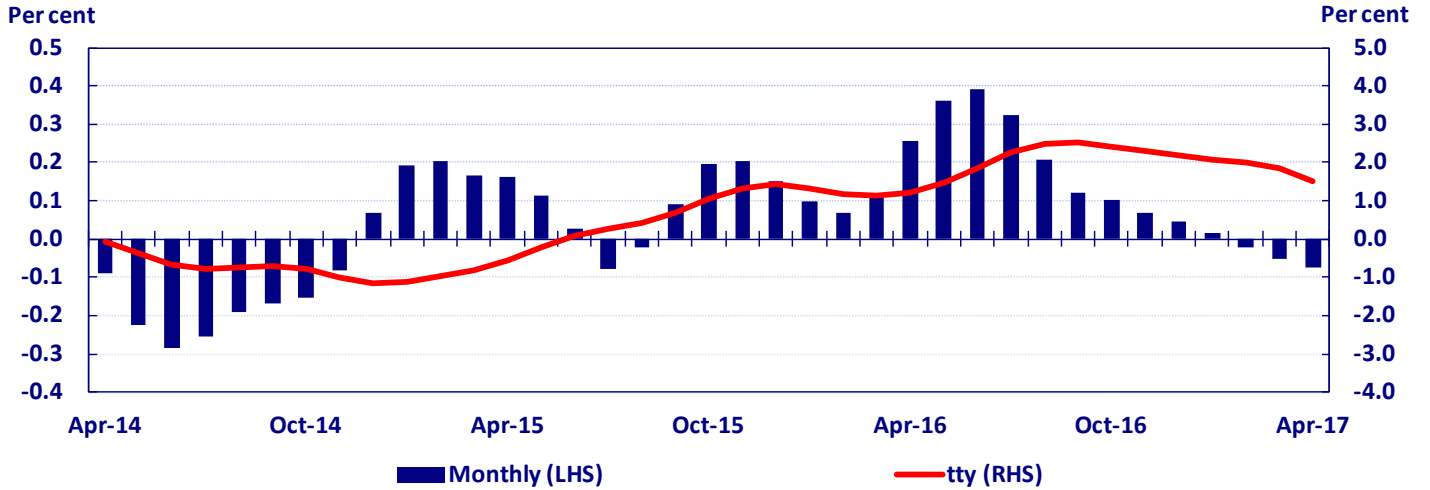


Source: ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

³ Youth employment is defined as the employment for those aged 15-24 years; Data for states/territories is in original terms only and should be used with caution due to its volatility.

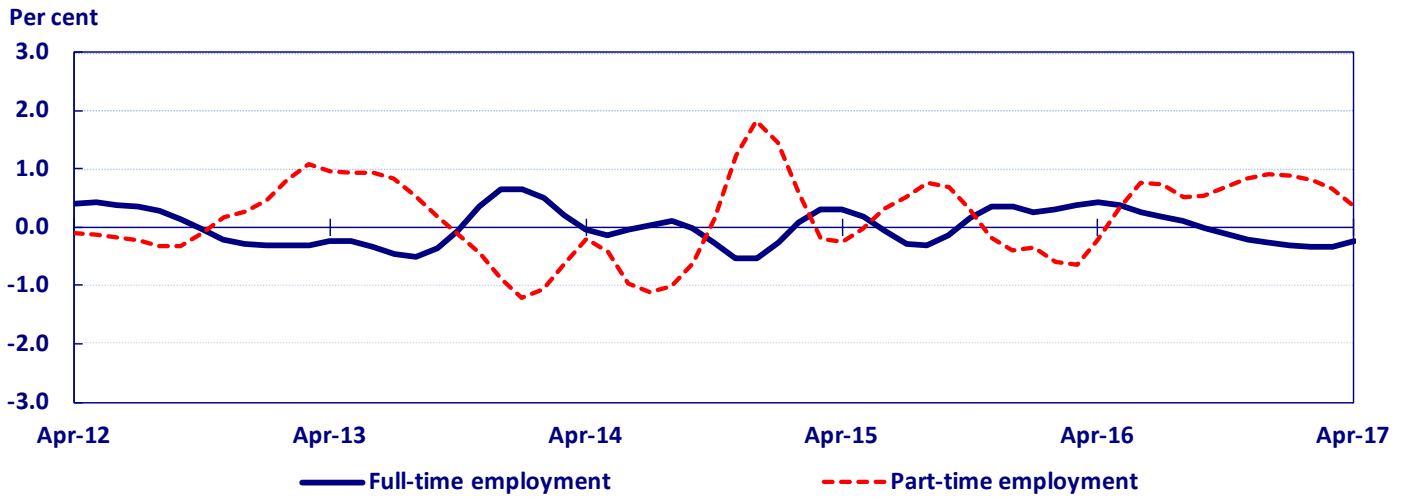
⁴ Youth unemployment rate for Australia is in seasonally adjusted terms.

Employment Growth, ACT, Trend, Monthly Data



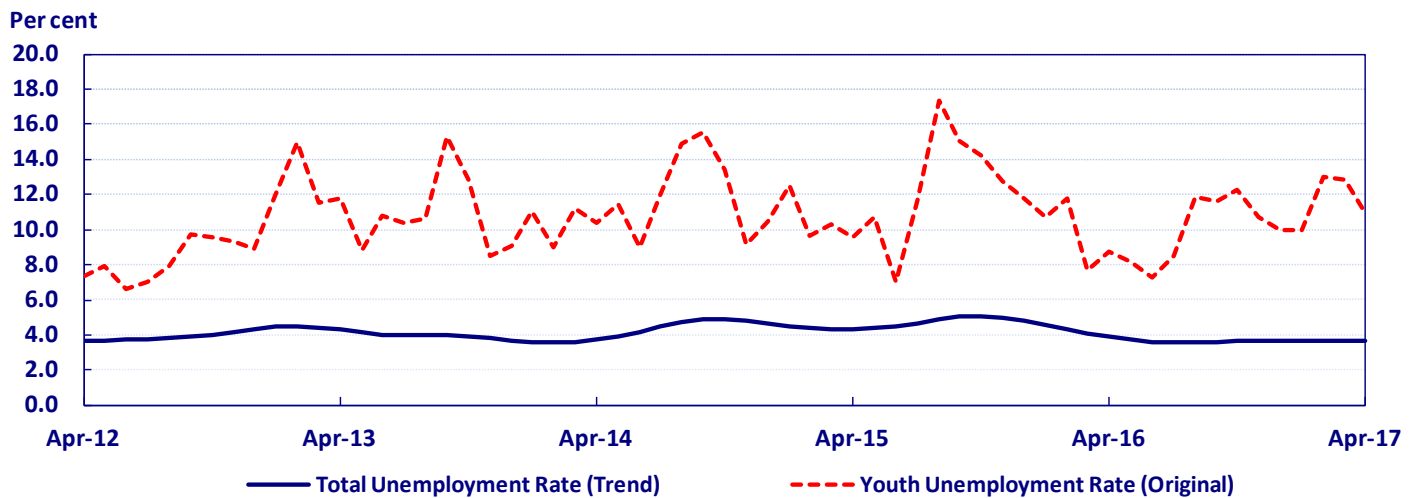
Source: ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

Full-time & Part-time Employment Growth, ACT, Trend, Monthly Data



Source: ABS Cat. No. 6202.0

ACT Unemployment Rates



Source: ABS Cat. No. 6202.0