

Labour Market

- The Northern Territory labour market continued to strengthen in 2005-06 as buoyant onshore economic conditions prevailed.
- Although there is no quantitative measure of Territory jobs, related indicators point to strong employment growth and a shortage of skilled labour in 2005-06, which is expected to continue into 2006-07.
- Following a decline of 2 per cent in 2004-05, as reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), resident employment is expected to increase by 2.1 per cent in 2005-06.
- Resident employment growth of 2.3 per cent is forecast for 2006-07, supported by construction work on the Darwin Waterfront Development, residential construction and tourism growth.
- ABS-reported resident employment does not include defence personnel or fly in fly out workers and is subject to significant volatility. It is not a good measure of the number of jobs in the Territory, and can sometimes create a contradictory picture of the state of the Territory economy (see chart).

Territory Resident Employment and SFD Growth



Source: Northern Territory Treasury, ABS Cat. Nos. 5206.0, 6202.0