



Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
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MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIAN RECORD LOW UNEMPLOYMENT AT 2.3%

The ACT unemployment rate fell to a new Australian record low of 2.3 per cent in January 2008, in trend terms – the lowest since record began in February 1978.

According to new figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the ACT trend unemployment rate in January 2008 fell by 0.1 per cent from 2.4 per cent in December 2007 to set the new record trend unemployment rate, while the national trend unemployment rate remained steady at the national record low 4.3 per cent.

Chief Minister and Treasurer Jon Stanhope welcomed the new figures as a sign of the further strength of the ACT economy.

“The strength of the ACT economy, particularly our employment market is hard to dispute,” Mr Stanhope said. “The high demands in the ACT labour force are just one example of this.

“In January 2008, 400 more Canberrans had full-time jobs, bringing the total number of Canberrans working full-time in trend terms to 144,500 – the highest number on record in the Territory.

“The new trend unemployment rate also reflected a fall in the number of unemployed people in the ACT from around 4,500 to 4,400.

“Job advertisements in the ACT also continue at high levels, with year-on-year growth rate of 9.7 per cent in the ANZ job advertisement series to January 2008.”

The ACT also had the second highest trend participation rate at 71.8 per cent in January 2008, just below the Northern Territory (73.9%) and well above the national trend participation rate of 65.2 per cent.

Statement Ends

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