

**Dominic Perrottet** Treasurer **Stuart Ayres** Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## NSW UNEMPLOYMENT REMAINS AT NEAR RECORD LEVELS

New South Wales' unemployment rate remains the lowest of any state, with full-time workers surging back into the job market.

Labour force data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics today shows the NSW unemployment rate remained at a near record low of 4.3 per cent, with 15,200 full-time jobs added in March.

In the past 12 months to March 2019 NSW's employment growth rose to 3.3 per cent, up from 3.2 percent last month, with the participation rate at a near record high of 65.1 per cent.

The NSW youth unemployment rate of 10 per cent is the lowest in more than a decade.

NSW remains well below the national unemployment rate of 5 per cent and is significantly lower than Queensland, 6.1 per cent, Western Australia, 6 per cent, and South Australia, 5.9 per cent.

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said the strength of the NSW economy on the back of the Government's record \$89.7 infrastructure program was helping drive job creation.

"NSW is the jobs hub of Australia and this has only been made possible thanks to the Government's vision and exceptional economic management," Mr Perrottet said.

"We have Australia's most diverse economy, and one of the great strengths is our ability to innovate and help new businesses develop both for today but also for the next generation."

"We are making critical investments in employment precincts throughout the state including Western Sydney Airport Aerospace and Defence Industries, Randwick Health and Education and Parkes Special Activation precincts helping create thousands of jobs well into the future."

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said three quarters of all youth employment growth in Australia has been in NSW since 2011 with 86,200 jobs added for NSW youth, compared to 14,500 throughout the rest of Australia.

"These results show that the NSW Government's vision and economic management is delivering jobs and opportunities for the people of this state," Mr Ayres said.

"Even in challenging areas such as youth unemployment, we are leading the nation."

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