The NT has recorded the highest level of job advertisements since the ANZ began producing its job ad series for the Territory in July 1996.

Treasurer Syd Stirling said, according to ANZ’s job advertisement series for October, the Northern Territory also recorded the strongest monthly job ads growth of any jurisdiction of 9.2%.

“This is a good result for this time of year and part of a wider trend which shows the Territory outstripping the rest of the country in terms of job ads growth,” Mr Stirling said.

“In the year to October, the number of Territory job ads rose by more than 44% - well above other States and Territories.

“It is particularly pleasing to see this positive trend not only continuing but strengthening, particularly as we head into the Wet Season.

“Of course, while the increase in job ads is a positive sign for the economy, it also points to the fact that businesses are facing difficulties in getting enough skilled labour.

“This is something the Territory Government will continue to address in conjunction with local business through the continued implementation of the Jobs Plan and efforts to attract more skilled workers to the Territory.”

Mr Stirling said it was timely that the ANZ job ad series was out today, with ABS Labour Force data due out on Thursday.

“No doubt we can expect to see a repeat of the flawed data released by ABS in recent months, which has recorded a high unemployment rate for the Territory,” Mr Stirling.

“ABS jobs figures stand in stark contrast to other economic data, like the ANZ job ad series, which all point to solid employment and economic growth in the Territory.

“Last month, the ABS admitted that there were serious flaws in the way it calculates its employment data for the Northern Territory. We expect to see its October data again reflect that inaccuracy.”