

Population

Estimated resident population

	NT	Aust
Annual change	↑0.7%	↑2.5%
Estimated resident population	252 469	26.8M

The Territory’s estimated resident population decreased by 60 persons to 252,469 in the September quarter 2023. This change was impacted by a significant increase in overseas departures of ‘other visa’ holders (1,030 persons), and coincides with the timing of military exercises in the Territory. Excluding migration by ‘other visa’ holders, the Territory’s quarterly population change would be an increase of around 710 persons.

Net interstate migration (-868 persons) detracted from population growth while natural increase (+529 persons) and net overseas migration (+279 persons) contributed to population growth. Nationally, population increased by 0.6%.

In annual terms, the Territory’s population increased by 0.7%, while nationally, population increased by 2.5% (Chart 1). Annual population change in other jurisdictions ranged from an increase of 0.3% in Tasmania to an increase of 3.3% in Western Australia (Chart 2).

Natural increase

In the September quarter 2023, the Territory recorded a natural increase of 529 persons, comprising 828 births and 299 deaths. In the year to September 2023, natural increase contributed 2,182 persons to the Territory’s population, a decrease of 4.7% compared to the previous year.

Net interstate migration

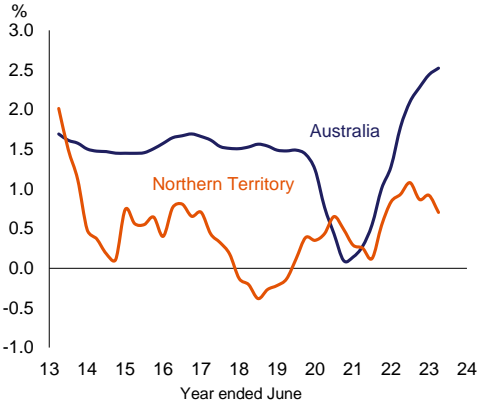
Net interstate migration for the September and December 2021 quarters are impacted by the ABS making COVID-19 related methodological adjustments to its treatment of Medicare source data.

In the September quarter 2023, net interstate migration detracted 868 persons from the population, a worsening on the net loss of 529 persons in the September quarter 2022. There were 3,966 departures from, and 3,098 arrivals to, the Territory in the quarter. In the year to September 2023, net interstate migration detracted 3,606 persons from the population, a worsening of 58.4% on the net loss of 2,276 persons in the previous year.

Net overseas migration

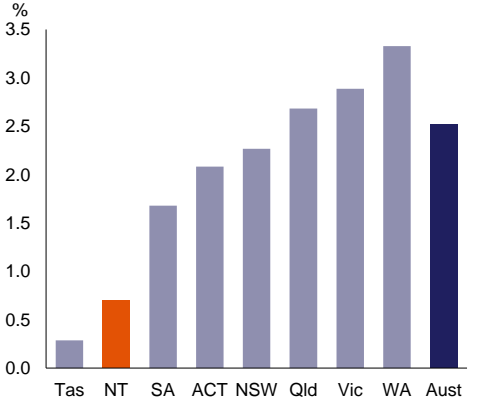
In the September quarter 2023, net overseas migration contributed 279 persons to the population. Nationally, net overseas migration contributed 145,244 persons. In the year to September 2023, net overseas migration in the Territory contributed 3,189 persons to the population, an improvement compared to the net gain of 2,304 persons in the previous year (Chart 3). Nationally, net overseas migration contributed 548,770 persons.

Chart 1: Population growth (annual percentage change)



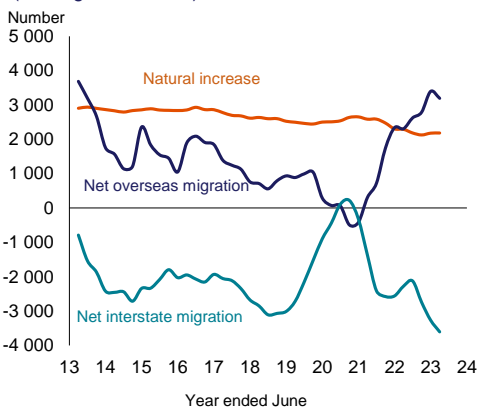
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 3101.0

Chart 2: Population growth (annual percentage change)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 3101.0

Chart 3: Territory population components (moving annual total)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 3101.0



Table 1: Estimated resident population and components

	Period				Change		
	Sep qtr 2022	Jun qtr 2023	Sep qtr 2023	Year to date	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory							
Original							
Population growth	476	840	- 60	1 765			
Natural increase	524	595	529	2 182	-11.1%	1.0%	-4.7%
– births	891	914	828	3 433	-9.4%	-7.1%	-5.0%
– deaths	367	319	299	1 251	-6.3%	-18.5%	-5.6%
Net interstate migration	- 529	- 969	- 868	- 3 606	10.4%	-64.1%	-58.4%
– arrivals	2 874	3 301	3 098	14 342	-6.1%	7.8%	-3.2%
– departures	3 403	4 270	3 966	17 948	-7.1%	16.5%	5.0%
Net overseas migration	481	1 214	279	3 189	-77.0%	-42.0%	38.4%
– arrivals	1 843	1 782	1 833	6 801	2.9%	-0.5%	14.4%
– departures	1 362	568	1 554	3 612	173.6%	14.1%	-0.9%
Total population	250 704	252 529	252 469	n/a	0.0%	0.7%	n/a
Australia							
Original							
Population growth	147 363	148 435	172 679	659 795			
Natural increase	22 468	24 982	27 435	111 025	9.8%	22.1%	-3.9%
– births	75 644	71 136	74 659	294 962	5.0%	-1.3%	-3.6%
– deaths	53 176	46 154	47 224	183 937	2.3%	-11.2%	-3.4%
Net migration	124 895	123 453	145 244	548 770	17.7%	16.3%	60.3%
Total population	26 161 762	26 648 878	26 821 557	n/a	0.6%	2.5%	n/a

n/a: not applicable

1 Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.

2 Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year.

3 Compares the 4 quarters up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 4 quarter period.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS Cat. No. 3101.0

Caution is advised when using data for the Territory, as it is often derived from small samples and can be highly volatile. Although due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

[National, state and territory population | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://abs.gov.au)

More information

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