

Population

Estimated resident population

	NT	Aust
Year-ended change	↑1.5%	↑1.4%
Estimated resident population	268 899	27.9M

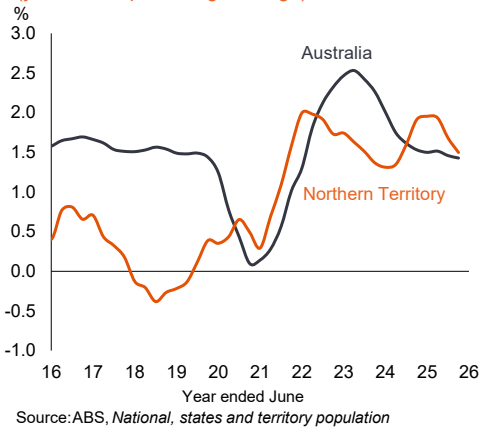
The Territory’s estimated resident population increased by 0.4% (1,196 persons) to 268,899 in the March quarter 2026, and increased by 1.5% in year-ended terms (Chart 1).

Net overseas migration (+1,035 persons) and natural increase (+617 persons) contributed to population growth in the March quarter 2026, while net interstate migration (-456 persons) detracted from growth.

Nationally, population increased by 0.5% in the March quarter 2026, and increased by 1.4% in year-ended terms.

Population changes in year-ended terms ranged from an increase of 0.6% in Tasmania to an increase of 2.1% in Western Australia (Chart 2).

Chart 1: Population growth (year-ended percentage change)



Natural increase

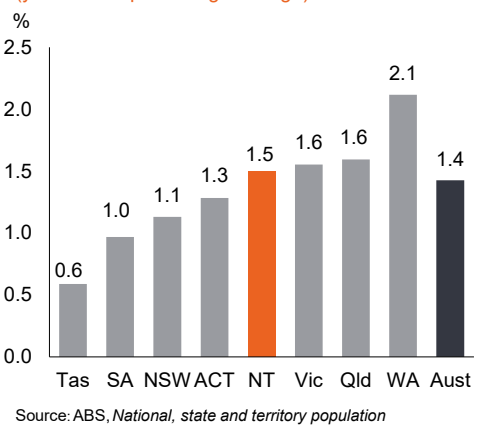
The Territory recorded a natural increase of 617 persons, comprising 867 births and 250 deaths in the March quarter 2026. Natural increase contributed 1,969 persons to the Territory population over the year to March quarter 2026 (Chart 3).

Net interstate migration

Net interstate migration detracted 456 persons from the Territory population in the March quarter 2026, compared to net loss of 95 persons in the March quarter 2025. There were 4,397 departures from, and 3,941 arrivals to the Territory in the March quarter 2026.

Net interstate migration detracted 1,589 persons from the Territory population over the year to March quarter 2026.

Chart 2: Population growth (year-ended percentage change)



Net overseas migration

Net overseas migration contributed 1,035 persons to the Territory population in the March quarter 2026 and 3,585 persons over the year to March quarter 2026 (Chart 3).

Nationally, net overseas migration contributed 101,005 persons to the population in the March quarter 2026, and 292,137 over the year to March quarter 2026.

Chart 3: Territory population components (moving annual total)

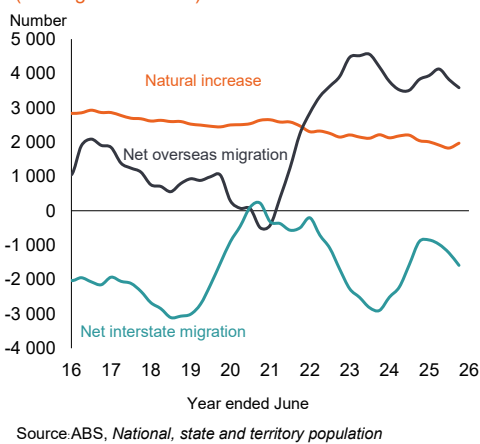


Table 1: Estimated resident population and components

	Period				Change		
	Mar qtr 2025	Dec qtr 2025	Mar qtr 2026	Year to date	Quarterly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory							
Original							
Population growth	1 651	615	1 196	3 965			
Natural increase	475	417	617	1 969	48.0%	29.9%	-3.6%
– births	846	736	867	3 317	17.8%	2.5%	-2.3%
– deaths	371	319	250	1 348	-21.6%	-32.6%	-0.3%
Net interstate migration	- 95	- 420	- 456	- 1 589	-8.6%	-380.0%	-76.8%
– arrivals	3 909	3 937	3 941	14 290	0.1%	0.8%	-6.9%
– departures	4 004	4 357	4 397	15 879	0.9%	9.8%	-2.2%
Net overseas migration	1 271	618	1 035	3 585	67.5%	-18.6%	-6.2%
– arrivals	1 692	1 232	1 544	5 694	25.3%	-8.7%	-3.0%
– departures	421	614	509	2 109	-17.1%	20.9%	3.0%
Total population	264 934	267 703	268 899	n/a	0.4%	1.5%	n/a
Australia							
Original							
Population growth	137 297	78 157	130 887	392 728			
Natural increase	29 559	22 025	29 882	100 591	35.7%	1.1%	-4.6%
– births	72 374	68 541	75 227	292 493	9.8%	3.9%	0.3%
– deaths	42 815	46 516	45 345	191 902	-2.5%	5.9%	3.1%
Net overseas migration	107 738	56 132	101 005	292 137	79.9%	-6.2%	-5.6%
Total population	27 528 422	27 790 263	27 921 150	n/a	0.5%	1.4%	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, National, state and territory population

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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