

# Population

March quarter 2024 | Economic brief

## Estimated resident population

	NT	Aust
Year-ended change	↑0.8%	↑2.3%
Estimated resident population	254 263	27.1M

The Territory's estimated resident population increased by 0.2% (448 persons) to 254,263 in the March quarter 2024, to be 0.8% higher over the year (Chart 1).

Net interstate migration (-1,061 persons) detracted from growth, while net overseas migration (+826 persons) and natural increase (+683 persons) contributed to population growth in the March quarter 2024.

Nationally, population increased by 0.6% in the March quarter 2024 to be 2.3% higher over the year.

Population changes over the year ranged from an increase of 0.4% in Tasmania to an increase of 3.1% in Western Australia (Chart 2).

## Natural increase

The Territory recorded a natural increase of 683 persons, comprising 948 births and 265 deaths in the March quarter 2024. Natural increase contributed 2,182 persons to the Territory population in the year to March 2024 (Chart 3).

## Net interstate migration

Net interstate migration detracted 1,061 persons from the Territory population in the March quarter 2024, an increase from the net loss of 931 persons in the March quarter 2023. There were 4,476 departures from, and 3,415 arrivals to the Territory in the March quarter 2024.

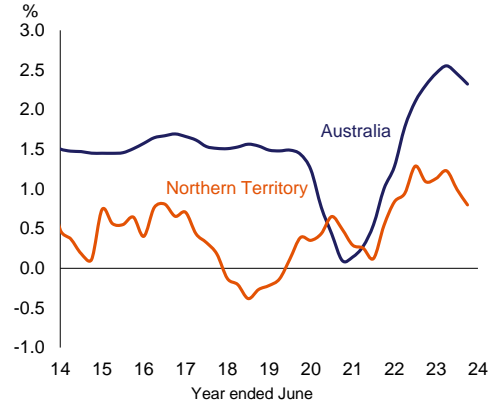
Net interstate migration detracted 4,087 persons from the Territory population in the year to March 2024, an increase from the net loss of 2,745 persons in the year to March 2023.

## Net overseas migration

Net overseas migration contributed 826 persons to the population in the March quarter 2024, and 3,920 persons over the year (Chart 3). This represents an improvement compared to the net gain of 3,321 persons in year to March 2023.

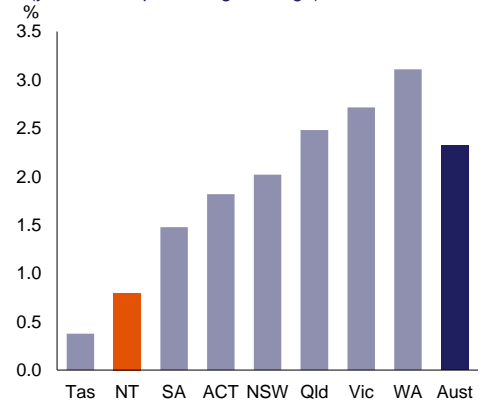
Nationally, net overseas migration contributed 133,802 persons to the population in the March quarter 2024, and 509,754 persons over the year.

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



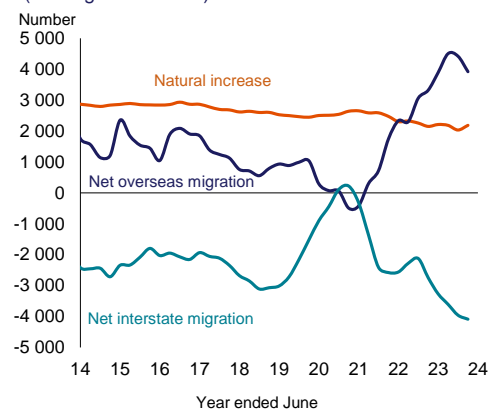
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 3101.0

Chart 2: Population growth (year-ended 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		
	Mar qtr 2023	Dec qtr 2023	Mar qtr 2024	Year to date	Quarterly <sup>1</sup>	Year-ended <sup>2</sup>	Year-average <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>							
Original							
Population growth	928	- 1	448	2 015			
Natural increase	532	365	683	2 182	87.1%	28.4%	1.6%
– births	815	733	948	3 412	29.3%	16.3%	-1.0%
– deaths	283	368	265	1 230	-28.0%	-6.4%	-5.3%
Net interstate migration	- 931	- 1 189	- 1 061	- 4 087	10.8%	-14.0%	-48.9%
– arrivals	3 647	3 690	3 415	13 504	-7.5%	-6.4%	-5.8%
– departures	4 578	4 879	4 476	17 591	-8.3%	-2.2%	2.9%
Net overseas migration	1 327	823	826	3 920	0.4%	-37.8%	18.0%
– arrivals	1 777	1 291	1 271	5 715	-1.5%	-28.5%	-11.4%
– departures	450	468	445	1 795	-4.9%	-1.1%	-42.6%
Total population	252 248	253 815	254 263	n/a	0.2%	0.8%	n/a
<b>Australia</b>							
Original							
Population growth	194 017	128 241	164 635	615 254			
Natural increase	28 517	22 096	30 833	105 500	39.5%	8.1%	0.0%
– births	71 275	66 334	75 969	289 671	14.5%	6.6%	-1.7%
– deaths	42 758	44 238	45 136	184 171	2.0%	5.6%	-2.6%
Net migration	165 500	106 145	133 802	509 754	26.1%	-19.2%	3.6%
Total population	26 507 157	26 957 776	27 122 411	n/a	0.6%	2.3%	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

Term	Definition
Estimated resident population	The official Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) population measure that represents the number of persons who reside in a defined locality for more than six months of the year and for a period of at least 12 out of 16 consecutive months.
Natural increase	The number of births minus the number of deaths.
Net interstate migration	The number of people arriving minus the number of people departing over a state or territory boundary that involves a change in place of usual residence.
Net overseas migration	The difference between the number of incoming travellers who stay in Australia for 12 months or more and are added to the population, and the number of outgoing travellers who leave Australia for 12 months or more and are subtracted from the population.
Quarterly change	Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year.
Year-average change	Compares the 4 quarters up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 4-quarter period.

The Department of Treasury and Finance have updated the terminology used in the economic brief publications when referencing growth. The table below provides a comparison of the updated terminology with the prior terminology. This is a terminology update only and does not impact the definition or growth calculation.

Updated terminology	Prior terminology
Year-ended change	Annual change
Year-average change	Year-on-year change

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 \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

## More information

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