

# Social Indicators September 2020

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## Disclaimer

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

## More information:

Intergovernmental Relations | Department of Treasury and Finance  
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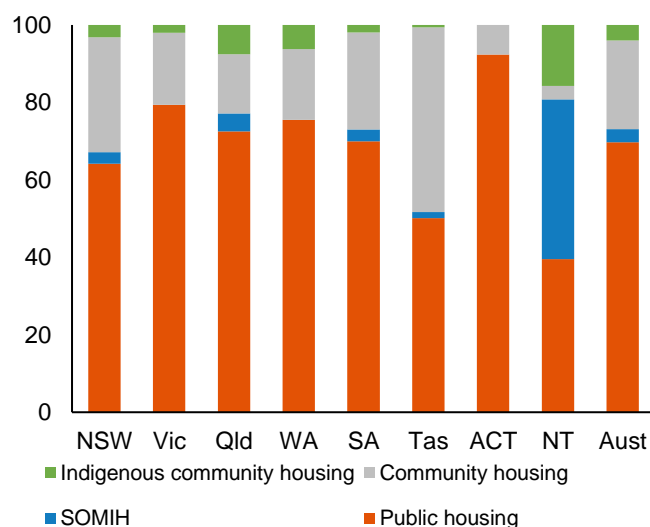
# Social Indicators September 2020

## Housing assistance in Australia 2020

The following is a summary of housing assistance services in the Northern Territory during 2018-19, unless otherwise stated.

- There were 12 526 social housing dwellings in the Territory, an increase of 1.2 per cent or 153 dwellings compared to 2017-18.
- Of these dwellings, 5168 or 41.3 per cent were attributed to the State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (SOMIH) program, while 4954 or 39.5 per cent were attributed to the public housing program. Nationally, SOMIH made up 3.3 per cent of social housing dwellings and public housing made up 69.7 per cent (Figure 1).
- There were 35 255 people living in social housing in the Territory, an increase of 1.9 per cent or 643 people compared to 2017-18. Nationally, people living in social housing decreased by 0.8 per cent or 6777 people.
- The Territory had one of the highest proportions of untenable housing of all jurisdictions, with 2.7 per cent of public housing and 5.6 per cent of SOMIH being untenable.
- The Territory had the highest proportion of overcrowded households in SOMIH and public housing, at 54.0 per cent and 7.4 per cent respectively. Nationally, 24.5 per cent of SOMIH were overcrowded compared with 3.8 per cent of public housing households.
- In 2018-19, 6987 income units received Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA), with a median fortnightly entitlement of \$133.20 in Darwin and \$130.20 in the rest of the Territory.
- Of the capital cities, Darwin had the second lowest median fortnightly CRA entitlement as a proportion of rent (26.6 per cent), with only Sydney ranking lower (25.8 per cent) (Table 1).
- Of the total income units, 1907 or 27.3 per cent identified as Aboriginal, the highest proportion of all jurisdictions. Nationally, 74 942 or 5.8 per cent identified as Aboriginal (Table 2).
- In 2018-19, the Territory government provided additional private rent assistance to 498 households in the form of interest free bond loans, an increase of 20.3 per cent compared to 2017-18.
- Territory government assistance was also provided to 1658 new homeowners in the form of low deposit home loan options and subsidised interest rate loans, such as through the Territory's HomeBuild Access program.

Figure 1: Social housing dwellings by program type, 2018-19 (per cent)<sup>1</sup>



1 Vic, WA and ACT do not have SOMIH programs.

Table 1: Median fortnightly CRA entitlement and rent for income units receiving rent assistance, capital cities, June 2019<sup>2,3</sup>

	Median fortnightly entitlement	Median fortnightly rent	Proportion
	\$	\$	%
Sydney	137.20	532.80	25.8
Melbourne	134.96	491.54	27.5
Brisbane	133.98	500.00	26.8
Perth	136.20	480.00	28.4
Adelaide	137.20	450.00	30.5
Hobart	137.20	440.00	31.2
ACT	129.20	480.00	26.9
Darwin	133.20	500.00	26.6
<b>Australia</b>	<b>137.20</b>	<b>460.00</b>	<b>29.8</b>

2 Income unit is defined as one person or a group of related persons within a household whose command over income is shared, or any person living in a non-private dwelling who is in receipt of personal income.

3 Median fortnightly entitlement is calculated as 14 times the daily rate of Rent Assistance payable for 28 June 2019.

Table 2: Share of all income units by Aboriginal status, 2018-19<sup>4,5</sup>

	Total	Aboriginal	
	No.	No.	%
NSW	408 342	29 455	7.2
Vic	283 465	6 318	2.2
Qld	329 936	23 980	7.3
WA	114 071	6 219	5.5
SA	97 774	3 906	4.0
Tas	34 840	2 845	8.2
ACT	9 933	311	3.1
NT	6 987	1 907	27.3
<b>Australia</b>	<b>1 285 941</b>	<b>74 942</b>	<b>5.8</b>

4 Includes income units where at least one member has self-identified as Aboriginal.

5 Includes other territories and unknown localities and therefore may not match the sum of the jurisdictions.

Source data in Housing assistance in Australia 2020: Department of Treasury and Finance, AIHW

# Social Indicators September 2020

## VET in Schools, 2019

The following summarises Vocational Education and Training (VET) activity undertaken by secondary school students (i.e. high school students) in the Northern Territory during 2019, unless otherwise stated. National results should be interpreted with caution as detailed student characteristics data for Western Australia is not provided.

- There were 2435 school students in VET courses, a decrease of 4.7 per cent compared to 2018. Nationally, there was a 2.2 per cent increase over the same period (Figure 2).
- Since 2015, the number of school students in VET increased by an average rate of 1.0 per cent, the second highest rate of the jurisdictions behind Western Australia (3.2 per cent). Nationally, school students in VET declined by 2.1 per cent over the same period.
- Of the total number of school students in VET, 940 or 38.6 per cent were Aboriginal, the highest proportion of all jurisdictions and above the national average of 5.3 per cent.
- There were 2865 new school student enrolments in VET courses, a decrease of 19.2 per cent compared to 2018. Nationally, new enrolments increased by 2.5 per cent over the same period.
- Of these new enrolments, 23.0 per cent enrolled in VET programs in engineering and related studies, 19.7 per cent in society and culture related studies and 15.5 per cent in management and commerce related studies.
- The most popular education level for new school student enrolments was Certificate II with 1275 or 44.5 per cent of enrolments. Nationally, this was also the most popular education level with 61.0 per cent of program enrolments (Table 3).
- Of the total new enrolments, the majority of students had only completed Year 9 or lower (47.3 per cent), compared to Australia where the majority had completed Year 10 (43.3 per cent) (Figure 3).
- There were 1280 school students that completed VET courses in 2019, a decrease of 9.5 per cent compared to 2018. Nationally, school student VET completions decreased by 4.9 per cent over the same period.
- The completion rate of school students in VET was 44.7 per cent in 2019, the third highest of all the jurisdictions and behind Tasmania (50.5 per cent) and Western Australia (47.7 per cent). Nationally, the completion rate was 34.0 per cent.

Figure 2: Change in school students in VET courses, 2019 (per cent)

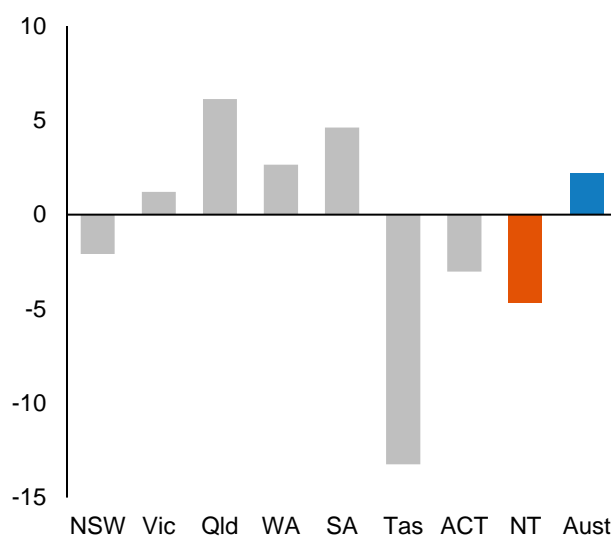


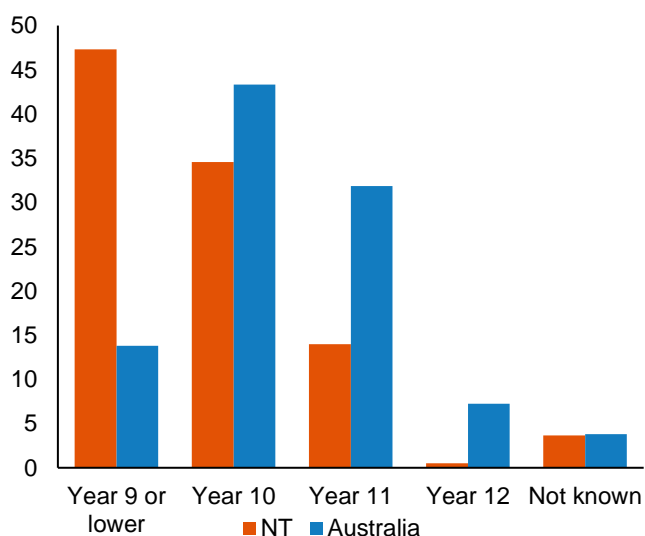
Table 3: New school student enrolment by type of qualification, 2019<sup>6,7</sup>

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Certificate I	935	32.6	38 795	11.1
Certificate II	1 275	44.5	213 425	61.0
Certificate III	600	20.9	90 345	25.8
Certificate IV	50	1.7	4 005	1.1
Other	5	0.2	3 480	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 865</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>350 050</b>	<b>100.0</b>

6 All numbers have been rounded to the nearest five after aggregation and may not add to totals.

7 Other includes diplomas, advanced diplomas and non-Australian Qualification Framework qualifications.

Figure 3: School students enrolling in VET by highest completed school year, 2019 (per cent)



Source data in VET in Schools, 2019:  
Department of Treasury and Finance, NCVER

The following is a summary of the students in government-funded Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses in the Territory during 2019, unless otherwise stated.

- There were 16 435 students in government-funded VET courses, a decrease of 7.7 per cent compared to 2018. Nationally, there was a 3.3 per cent increase over the same period (Figure 4).
- The number of students in government-funded VET courses in the Territory is at the lowest level since 1997, while nationally, student numbers are at a three year high.
- The gender ratio of males to females for VET students was 1.3:1, compared with the national average of 1:1.
- Of the total students in VET, 50.8 per cent were aged between 20 to 39 years of age, greater than the national figure of 49.7 per cent.
- Of the total students in VET, 5880 were Aboriginal, a decrease of 4.9 per cent compared to 2018. Nationally, the number of Aboriginal students increased by 5.5 per cent over the same period (Table 4).
- There were 14 985 new enrolments in government-funded VET courses, a decrease of 6.3 per cent compared to 2018. Nationally, new enrolments increased by 5.1 per cent over the same period.
- Of these new enrolments, 12.5 per cent enrolled in Certificate I courses and 21.3 per cent enrolled in Certificate II courses. The Territory had the highest proportion of enrolments in these levels of qualifications of all jurisdictions and above the national average of 6.1 per cent and 14.4 per cent respectively (Figure 5).
- The most popular fields of education for new enrolments were in engineering and related technologies studies with 24.0 per cent of total enrolments, society and culture studies with 18.3 per cent and management and commerce studies with 17.1 per cent.
- There were 3955 students that completed government-funded VET courses in 2019, a decrease of 18.5 per cent compared to 2018 and the largest decrease of all the jurisdictions.
- The completion rate of government-funded VET courses in the Territory was 26.4 per cent in 2019, the third highest of all the jurisdictions and behind Queensland (34.6 per cent) and Tasmania (26.5 per cent).

Figure 4: Change in students in government-funded VET courses, 2015 to 2019 (per cent)

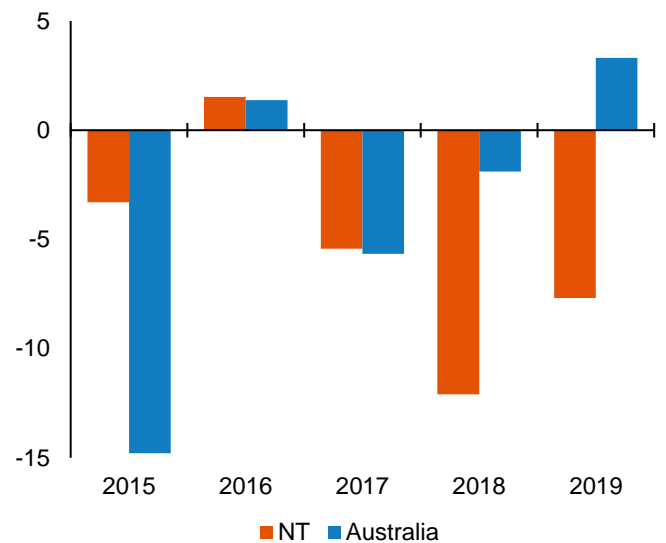
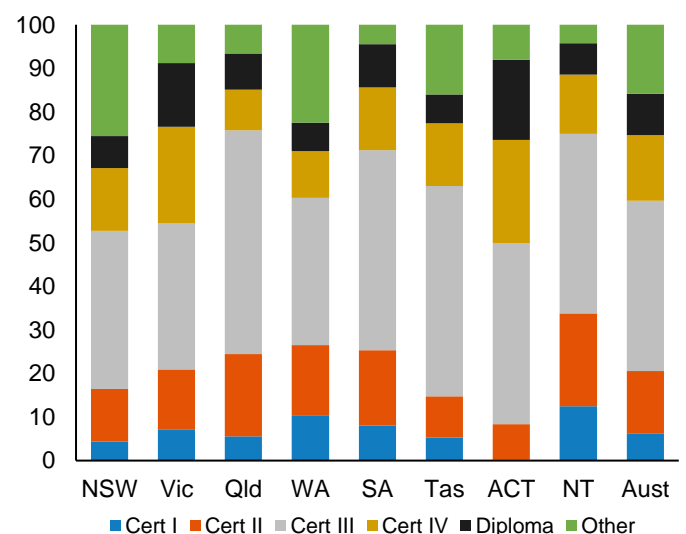


Table 4: Number of Aboriginal students in government-funded VET courses, 2018 to 2019<sup>8</sup>

	Total		Change
	2018	2019	%
NSW	34 390	36 495	6.1
Vic	5 550	6 175	11.3
Qld	16 515	17 515	6.1
WA	10 385	10 795	3.9
SA	3 755	4 115	9.6
Tas	1 510	1 435	-5.0
ACT	720	930	29.2
NT	6 185	5 880	-4.9
<b>Australia</b>	<b>79 015</b>	<b>83 335</b>	<b>5.5</b>

<sup>8</sup> All numbers have been rounded to the nearest five after aggregation and may not add to totals.

Figure 5: New government-funded VET enrolments by type of qualification, 2019 (per cent)<sup>9</sup>



<sup>9</sup> Other includes advanced diplomas, graduate certificates, graduate diplomas and non-Australian Qualification Framework qualifications.

Source data in Government-funded students and courses 2019: Department of Treasury and Finance, NCVER

The following is a summary of information on offence counts in the Northern Territory in the June quarter 2020 compared to the June quarter 2019, unless otherwise stated.

- Recorded offences against property decreased by 1926, or 38.1 per cent, to 3133. This decrease was driven by decreases in all offences related to property (Table 5).
- Commercial break-ins decreased by 55.9 per cent to 248, with decreases across all the regions in the Territory. The largest decreases were in the NT Balance (-145) and Darwin (-44).
- House break-ins decreased by 42.6 per cent to 314, primarily driven by decreases in the NT Balance (-105) and Darwin (-100), partially offset by an increase in Palmerston (19) (Table 6).
- The number of offences against persons increased by 33, or 1.9 per cent, to 1739, primarily driven by an increase in acts intended to cause injury (57) (Table 5).
- The number of acts intended to cause injury increased by 4.0 per cent to 1497 offences. This was primarily due to increases in Palmerston (45), Katherine (28) and Tennant Creek (19), partially offset by decreases in the NT Balance (-39).
- Of the total number of acts intended to cause injury, 1489 were assaults. Of these assaults, 59.4 per cent involved domestic violence, 54.1 per cent involved alcohol and 36.1 per cent involved both domestic violence and alcohol.
- For the year ending June 2020, total recorded offences against property decreased by 8.0 per cent to 20 122 offences, compared to 2018-19. This was primary due to decreases in offences in Nhulunbuy (-40.2 per cent) and Katherine (-27.4 per cent), partly offset by an increase in Tennant Creek (17.9 per cent) (Figure 6).
- For the year ending June 2020, total recorded offences against persons increased by 3.4 per cent to 7849 offences, compared to 2018-19. This was primarily due to increases in offences in Tennant Creek (15.6 per cent) and Alice Springs (12.2 per cent), partly offset by decreases in Nhulunbuy (-19.3 per cent) and Katherine (-6.6 per cent).
- The Northern Territory crime statistics are prepared by the Department of Attorney-General and Justice using data recorded by the Northern Territory Police.

Table 5: Selected recorded offences against property and persons, Northern Territory, June quarter, 2019 and 2020<sup>10,11,12</sup>

	Jun qtr 2019 No.	Jun qtr 2020 No.	Annual change %
<b>Offences against property</b>			
House break-ins	547	314	-42.6
Commercial break-ins	562	248	-55.9
Motor vehicle theft and related offences	420	235	-44.0
Theft	1 788	1 027	-42.6
Property damage	1 742	1 309	-24.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 059</b>	<b>3 133</b>	<b>-38.1</b>
<b>Offences against persons</b>			
Homicide and related offences	2	5	150.0
Acts intended to cause injury	1 440	1 497	4.0
Sexual assault and related offences	97	96	-1.0
Other	167	141	-15.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 706</b>	<b>1 739</b>	<b>1.9</b>

10 Break-ins include actual and attempted break-ins.

11 Other includes other dangerous or negligent acts endangering persons, abduction, harassment and other offences, robbery, extortion and related offences.

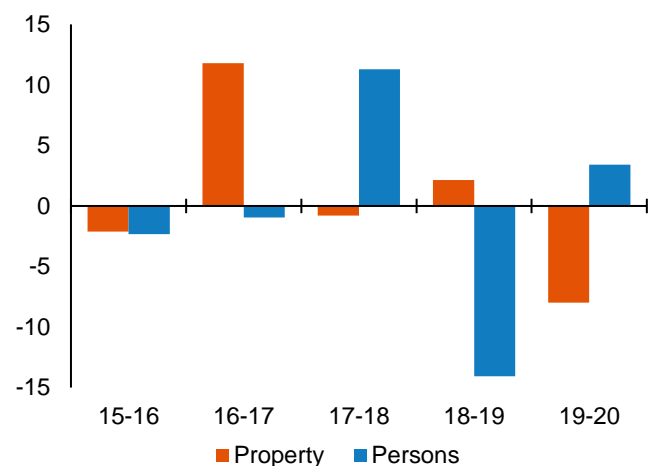
12 Acts intended to cause injury includes assault and related offences.

Table 6: Recorded house break-ins by region, Northern Territory, June quarter, 2019 and 2020<sup>13</sup>

	Jun qtr 2019 No.	Jun qtr 2020 No.	Annual change %
Darwin	196	96	-51.0
Palmerston	53	72	35.8
Alice Springs	97	82	-15.5
Katherine	16	18	12.5
Tennant Creek	34	6	-82.4
Nhulunbuy	9	3	-66.7
NT Balance	142	37	-73.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>-42.6</b>

13 NT Balance is the area of the Northern Territory that lies outside of the six urban centres of Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy.

Figure 6: Change in recorded offences against property and persons, Northern Territory, 2015-16 to 2019-20 (per cent)



Source data in Northern Territory Crime Statistics, June 2020: Department of Treasury and Finance, NTPFES.

The following is a summary of the age and sex characteristics of the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of the Northern Territory as at 30 June 2019, unless otherwise stated.

- Between 30 June 2014 and 30 June 2019, ERP increased by 1.2 per cent, from 242 894 to 245 929, while the national ERP increased by 8.1 per cent. Of the Territory's 2019 ERP, 127 070 or 51.7 per cent were male and 118 859 or 48.3 per cent were female.
- The sex ratio of males to females was 106.9 males for every 100.0 females. This was the highest sex ratio of all jurisdictions and higher than the national average of 98.4.
- The Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) with the highest sex ratio was Litchfield, with 154.4 males to every 100.0 females, followed by Darwin City (110.8) and Barkly (110.1) (Table 7).
- The Territory's ERP had a median age of 33.1 years, the lowest of all jurisdictions, and compares with the national average of 37.4 years (Figure 7).
- East Arnhem had the lowest median age of all Territory SA3s, at 28.6 years, while Litchfield had the highest at 38.8 years (Table 7).
- The age distribution of the Territory population, as shown in Figure 8, was as follows:
  - The total proportion of the population aged 0 to 14 years was 21.5 per cent, above the national average of 18.7 per cent. This population proportion was lowest in Darwin City, at 13.9 per cent, and highest in East Arnhem, at 26.3 per cent.
  - The 15 to 64 years population comprised 70.5 per cent of the total population, above the national average of 65.4 per cent. This population proportion was lowest in the Barkly and Katherine regions, at 68.3 per cent, and highest in Darwin City, at 76.9 per cent.
  - The proportion of the population aged 65 years and over was 8.0 per cent, below the national average of 15.9 per cent. This population proportion was lowest in East Arnhem at 3.5 per cent and highest in Darwin Suburbs at 10.6 per cent.

Table 7: Northern Territory population by sex ratio and median age, SA3, 30 June 2019<sup>14,15</sup>

	Population	Sex ratio	Median age
	No.	No.	Years
Darwin City	27 674	110.8	34.6
Darwin Suburbs	56 154	100.4	35.0
Litchfield	25 172	154.4	38.8
Palmerston	38 255	100.3	30.7
Alice Springs	39 317	97.5	33.3
Barkly	6 091	110.1	29.9
Daly-Tiwi-West Arnhem	17 872	104.5	31.5
East Arnhem	14 525	103.6	28.6
Katherine	20 869	107.8	30.3
<b>Total NT</b>	<b>245 929</b>	<b>106.9</b>	<b>33.1</b>

14 Sex ratio relates to the number of males per 100 females in a population.

15 Litchfield includes Darwin Correctional Centre.

Figure 7: Median age by jurisdiction, 30 June 2019 (years)

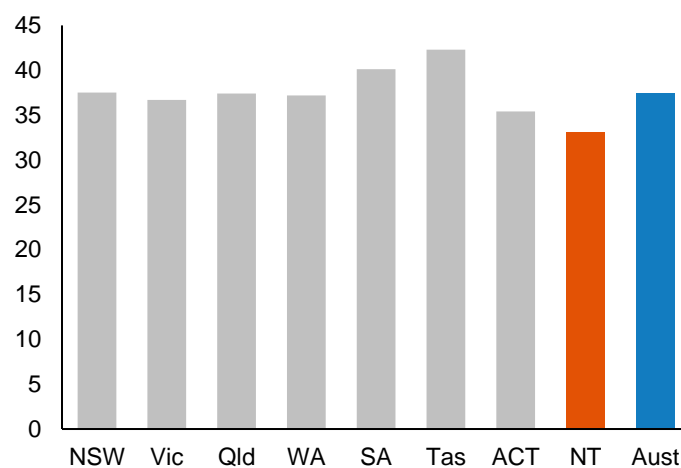
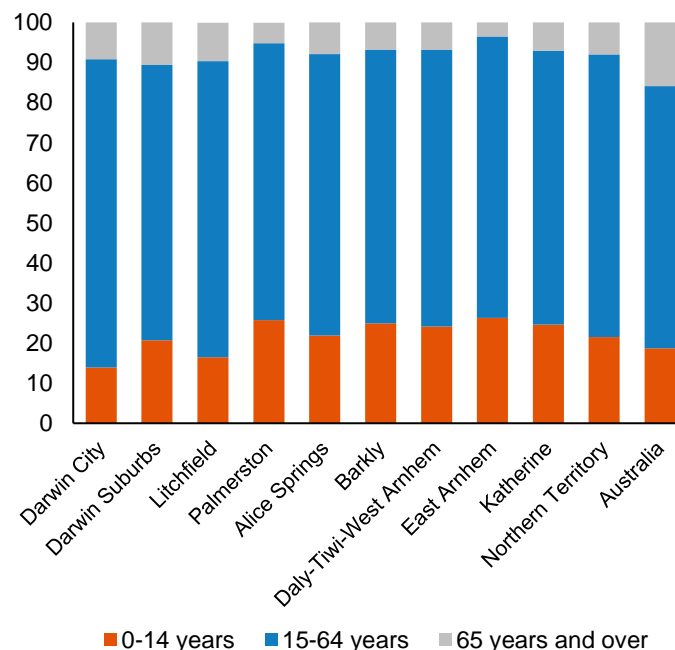


Figure 8: Northern Territory age distribution, SA3, 30 June 2019 (per cent)



Source data in Regional Population by Age and Sex, 2019: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No 3235.0