

Population

September quarter 2025 | Economic brief

Estimated resident population

	NT	Aust
Year-ended change	↑1.4%	↑1.6%
Estimated resident population	265 457	27.7M

The Territory's estimated resident population increased by 0.3% (901 persons) to 265,457 in the September quarter 2025, to be 1.4% higher over the year (Chart 1).

Net interstate migration (-548 persons) detracted from growth while net overseas migration (+994 persons) and natural increase (+455 persons) contributed to population growth in the September quarter 2025.

Nationally, population increased by 0.4% in the September quarter 2025, to be 1.6% higher over the year.

Population changes over the year ranged from an increase of 0.3% in Tasmania to an increase of 2.2% in Western Australia (Chart 2).

Natural increase

The Territory recorded a natural increase of 455 persons, comprising 837 births and 382 deaths in the September quarter 2025. Natural increase contributed 1,949 persons to the Territory population over the year to the September quarter 2025 (Chart 3).

Net interstate migration

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has updated its methodology for estimating interstate migration, with revisions made to interstate migration estimates from September quarter 2021 onwards. The revisions have resulted in an overall improvement to the Territory's net interstate migration outcomes since September quarter 2021.

Net interstate migration detracted 548 persons from the Territory population in the September quarter 2025, an improvement from the net loss of 557 persons in the September quarter 2024. There were 3,485 departures from, and 2,937 arrivals to the Territory in the September quarter 2025.

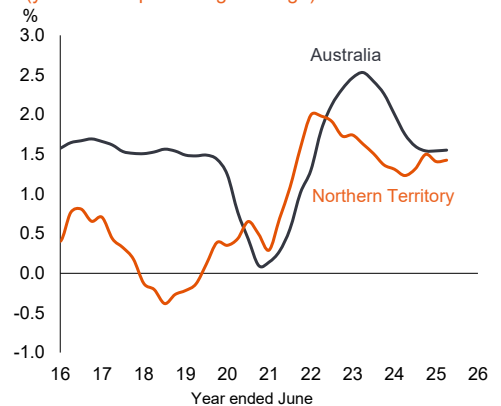
Net interstate migration detracted 2,096 persons from the Territory population over the year to the September quarter 2025.

Net overseas migration

Net overseas migration contributed 994 persons to the Territory population in the September quarter 2025 and 3,877 persons over the year (Chart 3).

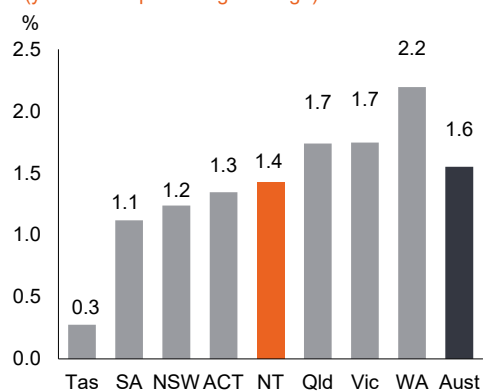
Nationally, net overseas migration contributed 87,821 persons to the population in the September quarter 2025, and 310,991 over the year.

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



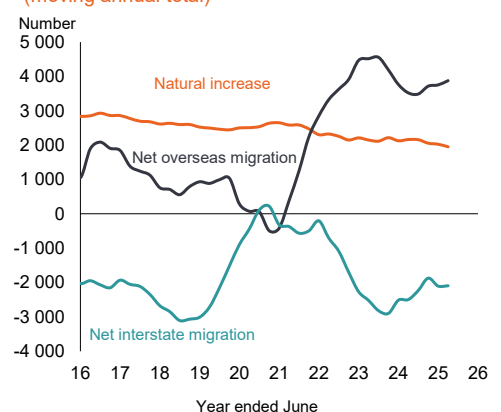
Source: ABS, National, states and territory population

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



Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Chart 3: Territory population components (moving annual total)



Source: ABS, National, state and territory population

Table 1: Estimated resident population and components

	Period				Change		
	Sep qtr 2024	Jun qtr 2025	Sep qtr 2025	Year to date	Quarterly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory							
Original							
Population growth	843	694	901	3 730			
Natural increase	530	486	455	1 949	-6.4%	-14.2%	-9.8%
– births	881	910	837	3 387	-8.0%	-5.0%	-3.2%
– deaths	351	424	382	1 438	-9.9%	8.8%	7.6%
Net interstate migration	- 557	- 586	- 548	- 2 096	6.5%	1.6%	16.1%
– arrivals	3 056	3 094	2 937	13 836	-5.1%	-3.9%	-4.6%
– departures	3 613	3 680	3 485	15 932	-5.3%	-3.5%	-6.3%
Net overseas migration	870	794	994	3 877	25.2%	14.3%	10.1%
– arrivals	1 432	1 230	1 536	5 836	24.9%	7.3%	5.9%
– departures	562	436	542	1 959	24.3%	-3.6%	-1.5%
Total population	261 727	264 556	265 457	n/a	0.3%	1.4%	n/a
Australia							
Original							
Population growth	106 863	82 211	111 090	423 595			
Natural increase	25 221	32 069	23 269	112 604	-27.4%	-7.7%	7.9%
– births	76 796	77 607	75 537	299 018	-2.7%	-1.6%	1.9%
– deaths	51 575	45 538	52 268	186 414	14.8%	1.3%	-1.4%
Net migration	81 642	50 142	87 821	310 991	75.1%	7.6%	-14.9%
Total population	27 301 149	27 613 654	27 724 744	n/a	0.4%	1.6%	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

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6718 | E: economics.dtf@nt.gov.au | W: nteconomy.nt.gov.au