

# Population

December quarter 2021 | Economic brief

## Estimated resident population

	NT	Aust
Annual change	↑0.1%	↑0.5%
Estimated resident population	249 345	25.8M

The December quarter 2021 publication includes rebased 30 June 2021 estimated resident population numbers following the release of the 2021 Census data. The Territory's estimated resident population as at 30 June 2021 was rebased from 245,909 to 249,200 (+3,291 persons).

The Territory's estimated resident population decreased by 0.2% (442 persons) to 249,345 persons in the December quarter 2021. Natural increase (+478 persons) and net overseas migration (+113 persons) contributed to growth while net interstate migration (-1,033 persons) detracted from growth. Nationally, population increased by 0.2%.

In annual terms, the Territory's population increased by 0.1%, while nationally, population increased by 0.5% (Chart 1). Annual population change in other jurisdictions ranged from a decrease of 0.1% in Victoria to an increase of 1.4% in Queensland (Chart 2).

## Natural increase

In the December quarter 2021, the Territory recorded a positive natural increase of 478 persons, comprising 853 births and 375 deaths. In 2021, natural increase contributed 2,572 persons to the Territory's population, an increase of 1.0% compared to the previous year.

## Net interstate migration

Net interstate migration is being impacted by the ABS recently making COVID-19 related methodological adjustments to its treatment of Medicare source data.

In the December quarter 2021, net interstate migration detracted 1,033 persons from the population, a worsening on the net loss of 543 persons in the December quarter 2020. There were 4,841 arrivals to, and 5,874 departures from, the Territory in the quarter.

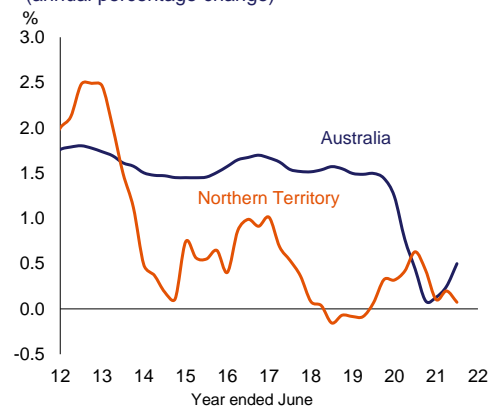
In 2021, net interstate migration detracted 3,420 persons from the population, a 104.9% worsening on the net loss of 1,669 persons in the previous year.

## Net overseas migration

In the December quarter 2021, net overseas migration contributed 113 persons to the population. Nationally, net overseas migration contributed 29,145 persons.

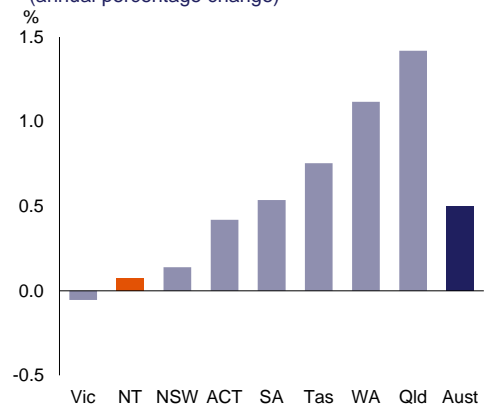
In 2021, net overseas migration in the Territory contributed 741 persons, an improvement compared to the net gain of 61 persons in the previous year (Chart 3). Nationally, net overseas migration detracted 3,598 persons.

Chart 1: Population growth (annual percentage change)



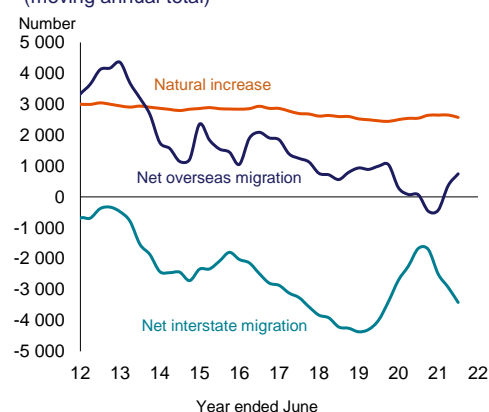
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 3101.0

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		
	Dec qtr 2020	Sep qtr 2021	Dec qtr 2021	Year to date	Quarterly <sup>1</sup>	Annual <sup>2</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>							
<b>Original</b>							
Population growth	- 131	587	- 442	182			
Natural increase	555	643	478	2 572	-25.7%	-13.9%	1.0%
– births	873	935	853	3 785	-8.8%	-2.3%	2.6%
– deaths	318	292	375	1 213	28.4%	17.9%	6.1%
Net interstate migration	- 543	- 637	- 1 033	- 3 420	-62.2%	-90.2%	-104.9%
– arrivals	3 455	5 866	4 841	17 998	-17.5%	40.1%	40.6%
– departures	3 998	6 503	5 874	21 418	-9.7%	46.9%	48.0%
Net overseas migration	- 268	581	113	741	-80.6%	142.2%	1114.8%
– arrivals	384	1 158	1 113	3 047	-3.9%	189.8%	40.2%
– departures	652	577	1 000	2 306	73.3%	53.4%	9.1%
Total population	249 163	249 787	249 345	n/a	-0.2%	0.1%	n/a
<b>Australia</b>							
<b>Original</b>							
Population growth	- 997	15 162	63 364	127 953			
Natural increase	31 865	31 998	34 219	138 539	6.9%	7.4%	5.8%
– births	70 086	79 233	76 381	310 012	-3.6%	9.0%	6.2%
– deaths	38 221	47 235	42 162	171 473	-10.7%	10.3%	6.5%
Net migration	- 29 271	- 16 836	29 145	- 3 598	273.1%	199.6%	27.4%
Total population	25 638 652	25 703 241	25 766 605	n/a	0.2%	0.5%	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 monthly 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.

## More information

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