

Northern Territory State of the Region November 2025


(Delivered by .id in partnership with RDA NT)

Presented by

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RDA Northern Territory | economic profile



community profile

social atlas

population forecast

economic profile

housing monitor

community views

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RDA Northern Territory

The RDA Northern Territory's Gross Regional Product is estimated at \$35.44 billion, which represents 100% of the state's GSP (Gross State Product).

The RDA Northern Territory's economic profile presents economic information that enables you to describe the area's role within the broader economy, explore options for economic development and promote the area's strengths. The information presented here is derived from official sources of information (Australian Bureau of Statistics) as well as Australia's leading economic modellers (NIEIR). The latest data from each series is always presented in this site.

Economy.id industry structure and industry sector profiles use a National Accounts regional econometric model developed by National Economics (NIEIR).

Please note: NIEIR have revised value added estimates for several agricultural categories in the State of the Regions 2023/2024 dataset. These changes have now been published, and your economy.id website has been updated with the revised data..

Key Statistics

GRP

\$35.44 billion

NIEIR 2024

Population

255,069

ABS ERP 2024

Local jobs

134,947

NIEIR 2024

Largest industry (by employment)

Health Care and Social Assistance

NIEIR 2024

Local businesses

16,243

ABS 2024

Employed Residents

138,000

NIEIR 2024

State of the region – What we will cover today.



Understand the macro
federal influences on your
local area



Explore the data: local
population, demographics,
housing, economic,
community sentiment.



Show some community
views, insights & trends.

About .id (informed decisions)

A trusted independent partner in 360 place-based decision-making



How RDA NT access the Toolkit

Unlock the complete picture of your LGA

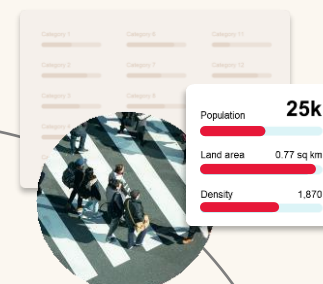
Community Views

Community's views and needs in policy and advocacy



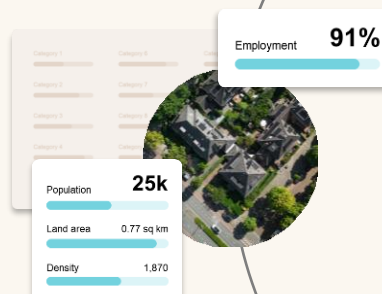
Community Profile

Curated online community profile that provides deep demographic insights



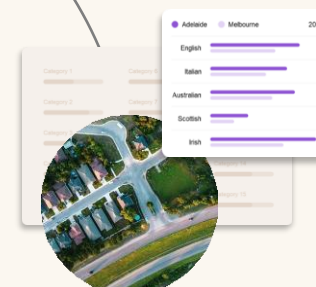
Housing Monitor

Plan, deliver and monitor the supply of affordable and appropriate housing



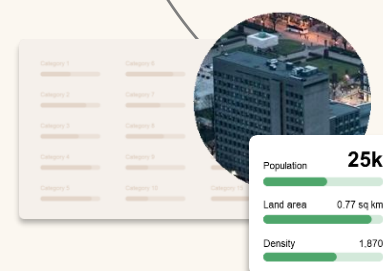
Social Atlas

Powerful thematic maps to show where resources are best allocated



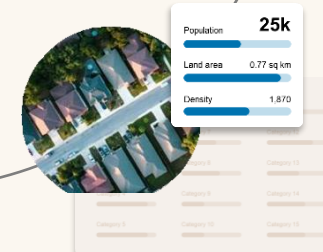
Economic Profile

Comprehensive local economic profile and impact modelling tools

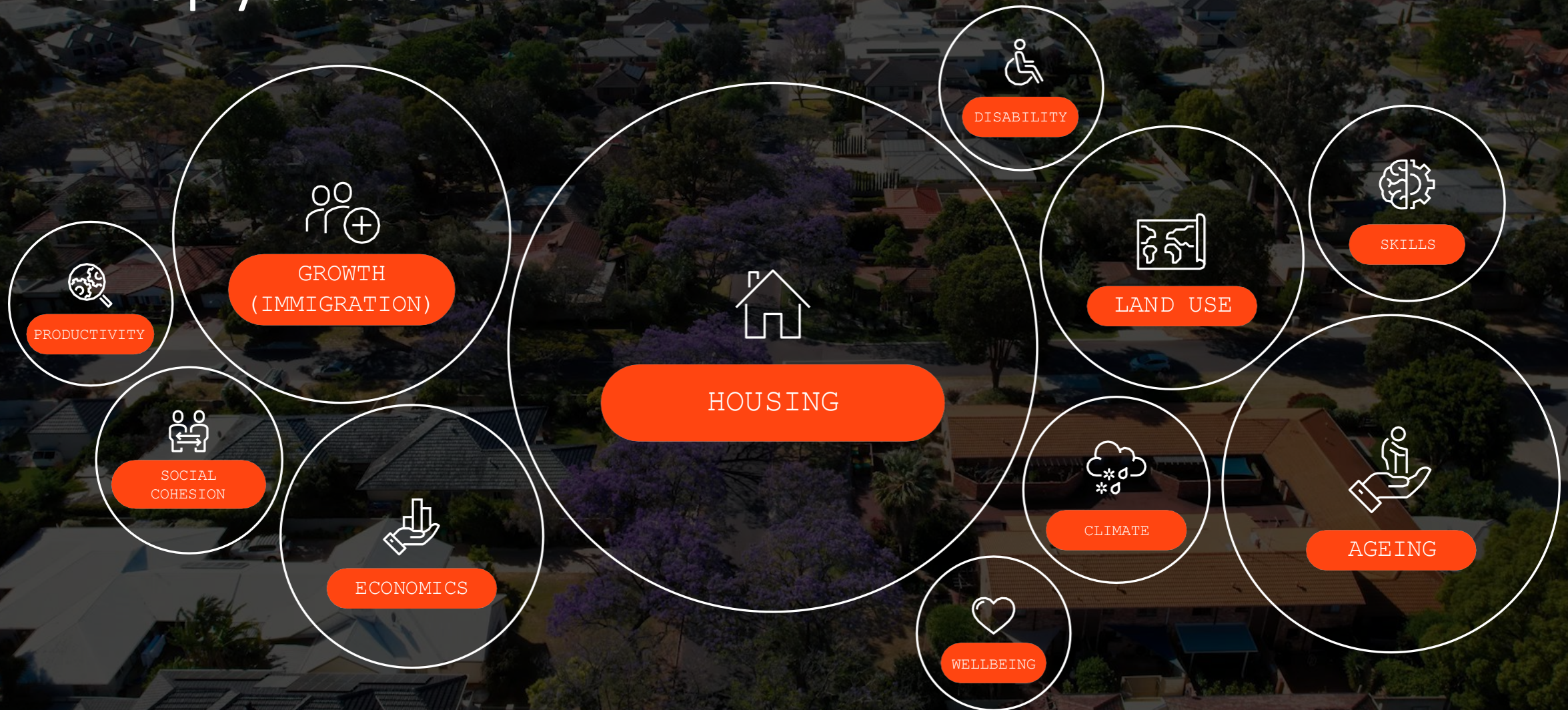


Population Forecast

Plan for the future with a single-scenario forecast of population and housing



Every decision happens in a place. We help you see it.



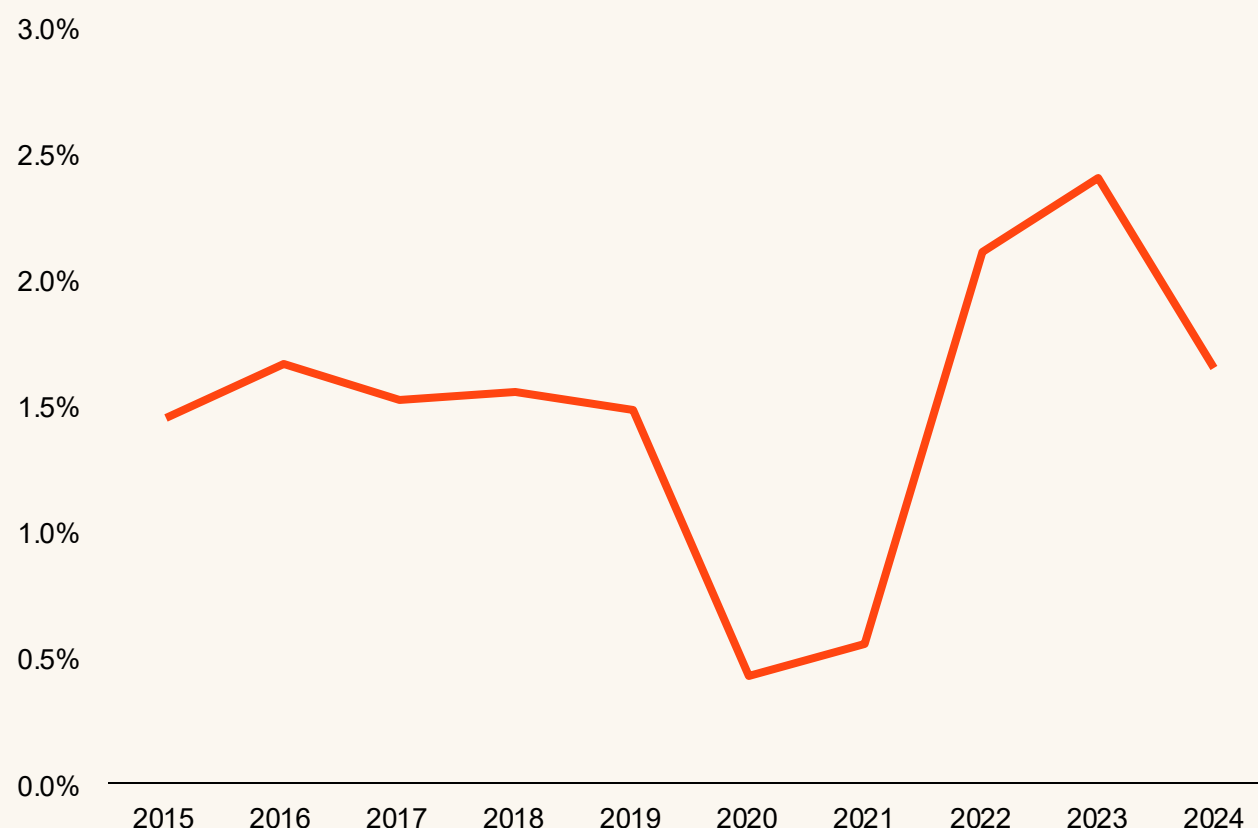
LATEST INSIGHTS

National Trends



Population growth still very strong in 2024, but down from the peak in 2023

Annual Population Growth, Australia



Dec 2024 Estimate



54th in the world

27,400,000

People living in Australia

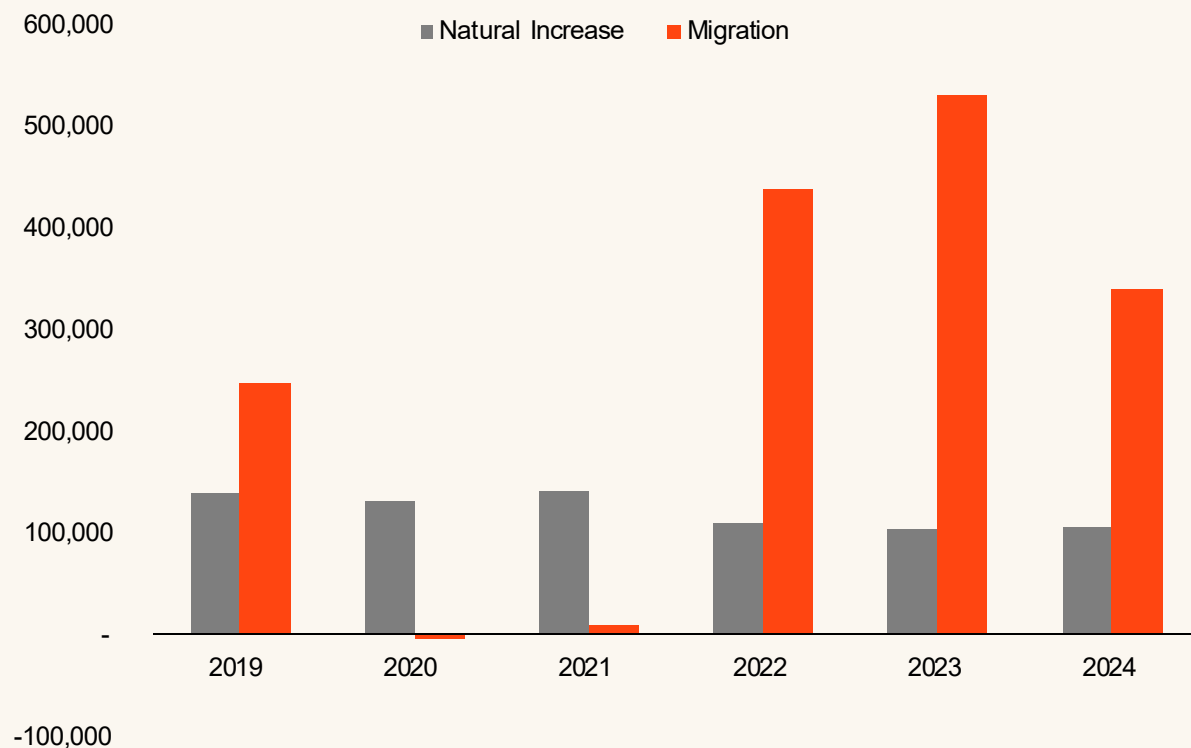
1.7% (+446,000)

Above the year before



International migration still above pre-covid and the main driver of population increases

Components of Population Growth, Australia



Population drivers – Change in last decade



-6%
Births



+22%
Deaths



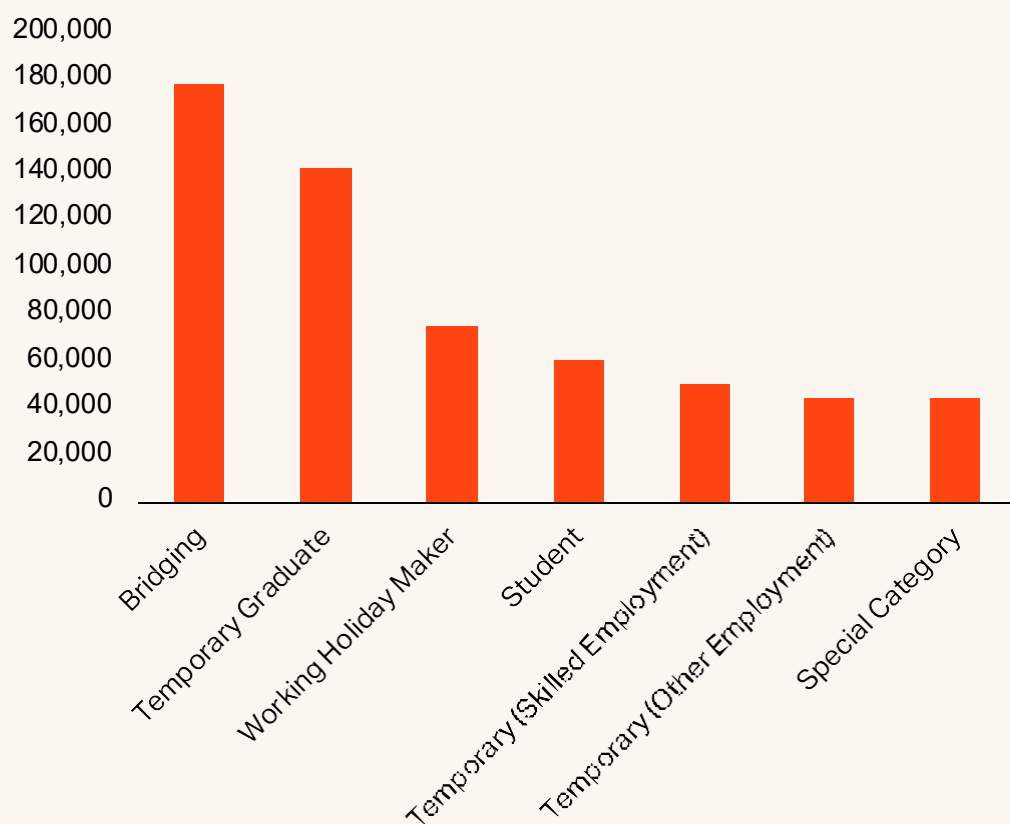
+34%
Arrivals



-14%
Departures

VISA changes in recent years have led to a surge in numbers from different countries

Change in Visa Numbers Compared to 2019



Top Countries, Change in Source of Residents on Visa, 2019 to 2025

Bridging - India + 45,593; Nepal +18,205

Temporary Graduate - India + 49,600; Nepal +23,949

Working Holiday - UK + 27,349; Ireland +13,090

Student - India + 20,091; Philippines +19,210

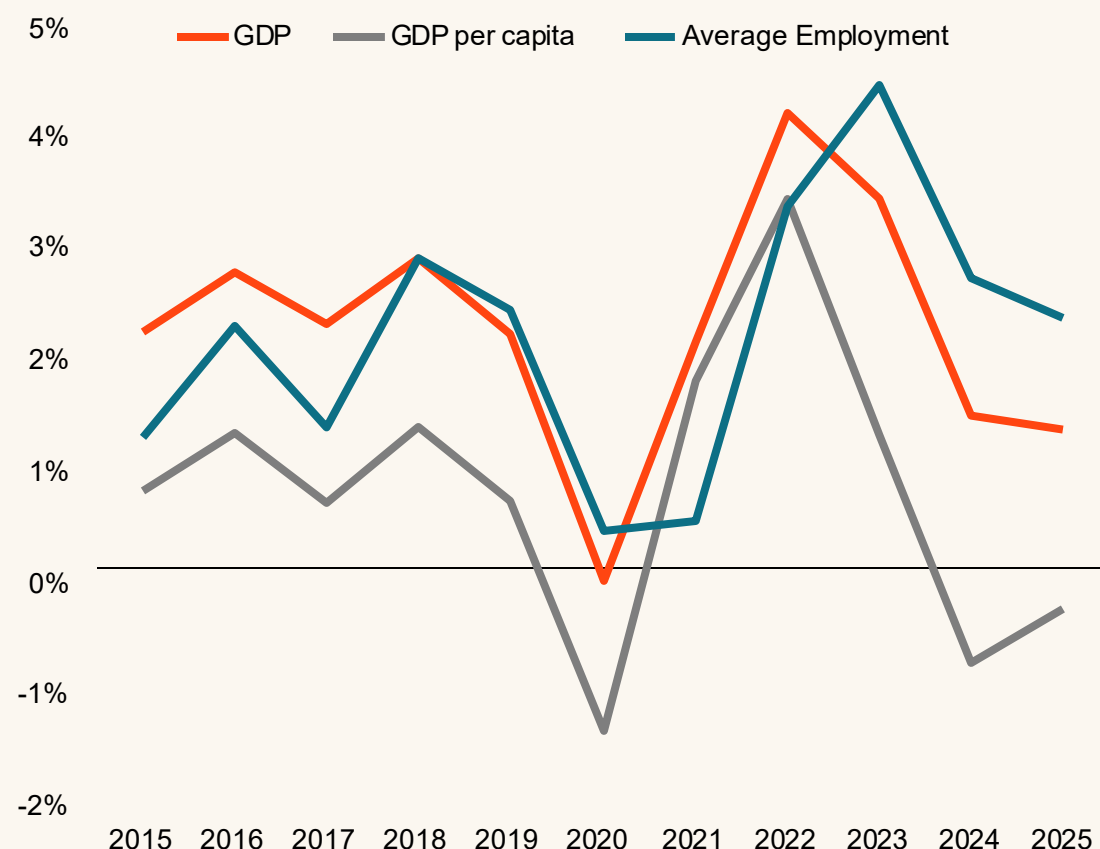
Temporary (Skilled) - Philippines +20,777; Sri Lanka +6,376

Temporary (Other) - India + 5,297; Fiji +5,466

Special - New Zealand +44,608

Main economic indicators have started to flatten out in 2024/25

Annual Growth, Australia



Source: ABS National Accounts; Labour Force, Australia



1.3%

Change
in GDP

2024/25 4 QTR SUM



2.7%

Change
in Employed

2024/25 AVERAGE



4.2%

Unemployment

JULY 2025



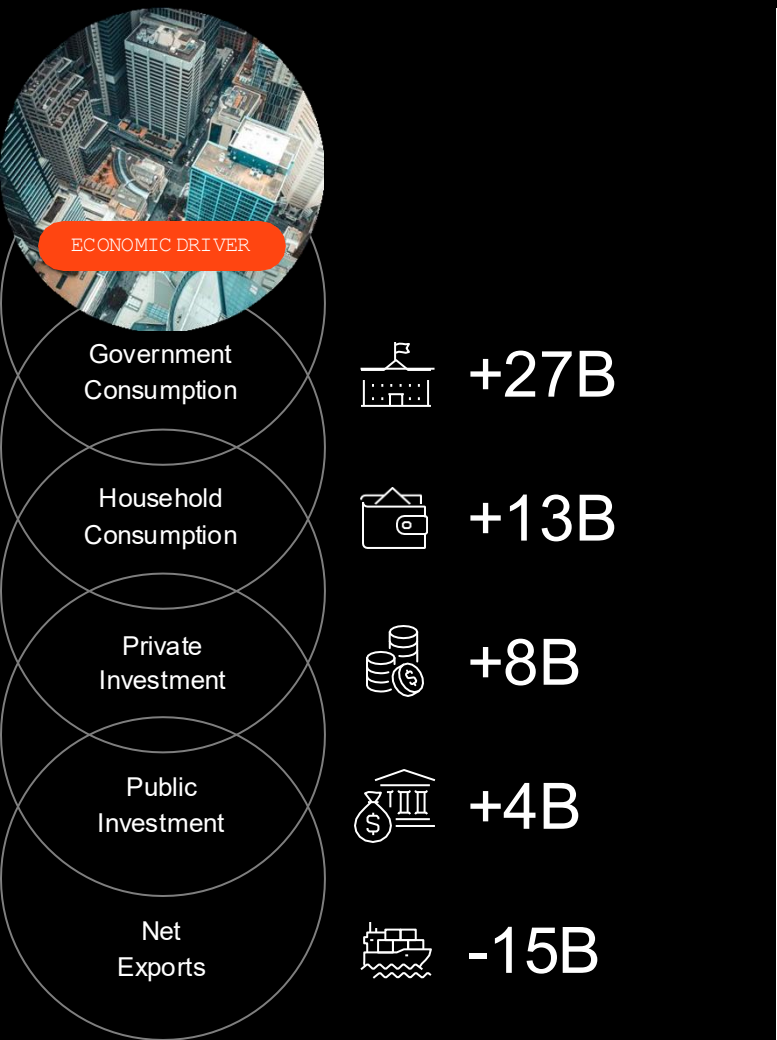
2.1%

Inflation
CPI change

JUNE 2025

Quarterly growth in GDP per capita was 0.2% in June
as population growth continues to ease

Public sector main driver of growth in 2024/25



Banking data suggests a pick-up in household spending

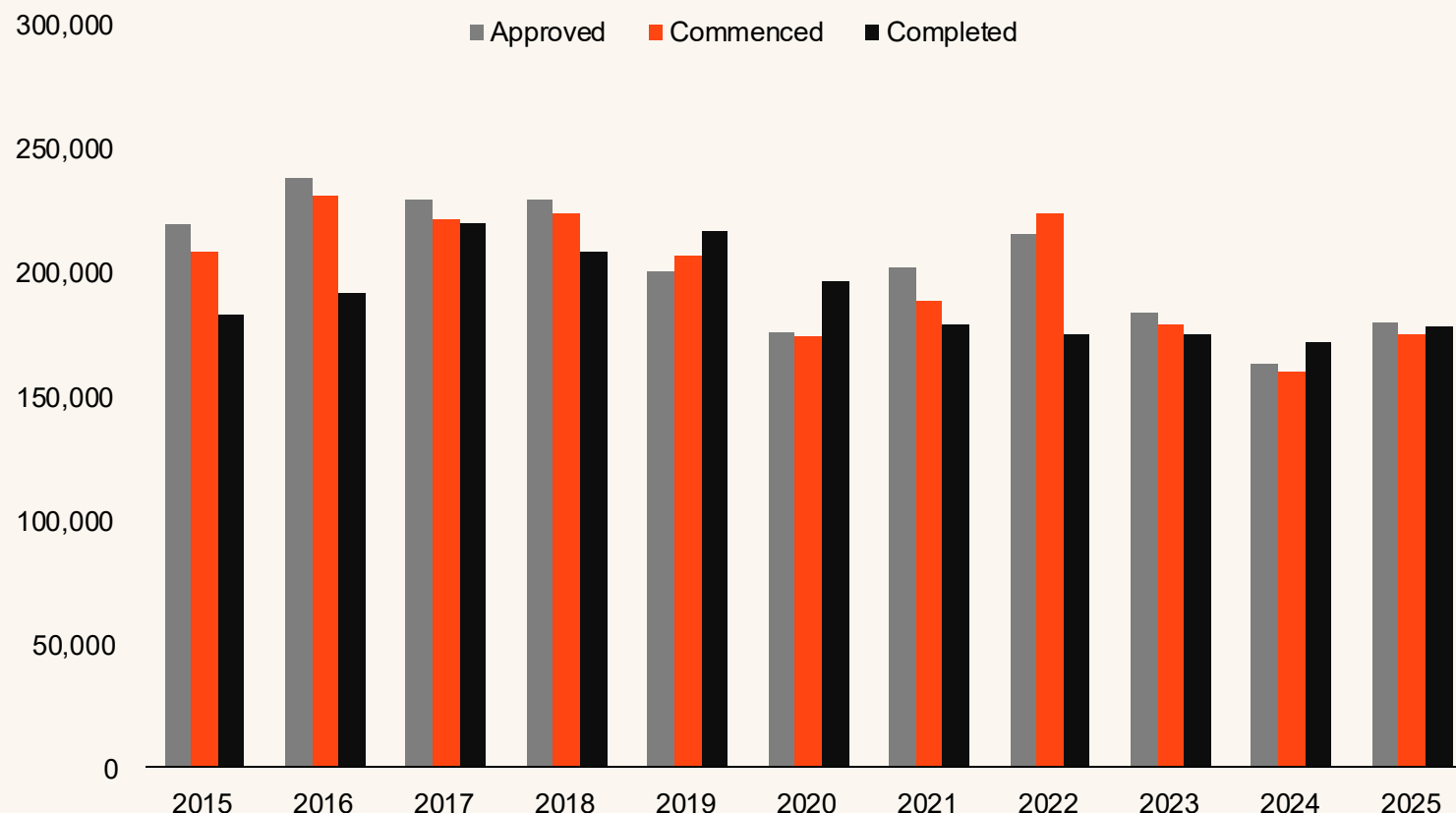
- Key sporting events drove recreation and hospitality spending in July, but they have consistently grown over the year
- 3 interest rate cuts, lower inflation, and tax cuts are flowing through to boost spending
- Mortgage owners are increasing spending the fastest
- Outright homeowners are starting to record the slowest growth in spending
- Renters went from slow growth to faster growth in the last 3 months



Spending Category	Monthly Change Sadj	Yearly Change Org
Recreation	▲ 1.8%	▲ 10.3%
Hospitality	▲ 1.5%	▲ 10.0%
Motor Vehicle	▲ 1.4%	▲ 6.4%
Insurance	▲ 1.2%	▲ 6.8%
Health	▲ 1.1%	▲ 9.6%
Household Goods	▲ 0.4%	▲ 6.5%
Communications and Digital	▲ 0.4%	▲ 10.9%
Household Services	▲ 0.4%	▲ 6.0%
Food & beverage goods	▲ 0.3%	▲ 4.1%
Transport	▲ 0.3%	▼ -1.0%
Education	▬ 0.0%	▼ -2.8%
Utilities	▼ -0.5%	▲ 5.6%

Dwelling approvals and commencements have picked up; completion uplift still slow.

Number of Dwelling Units, Annual to March 2025, Australia



Annual change



10%

Dwellings approved



9%

Dwellings commenced



4%

Dwellings completed

LATEST INSIGHTS

Northern Territory Data Insights



Northern Territory – Headline Indicators

(June 2024)

In the Northern Territory, Mining is the most productive industry, generating \$10.2 billion in 2023/24.



\$35B

2024 Gross Regional Product
(Darwin \$12B)



263,400

Resident Population
(March 2025)




134,947

Local Jobs




16,243

Local Businesses



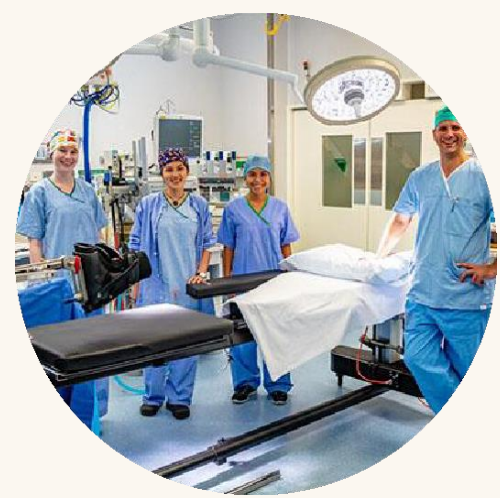
1.6%

(CPI) Darwin July 2025



138,000

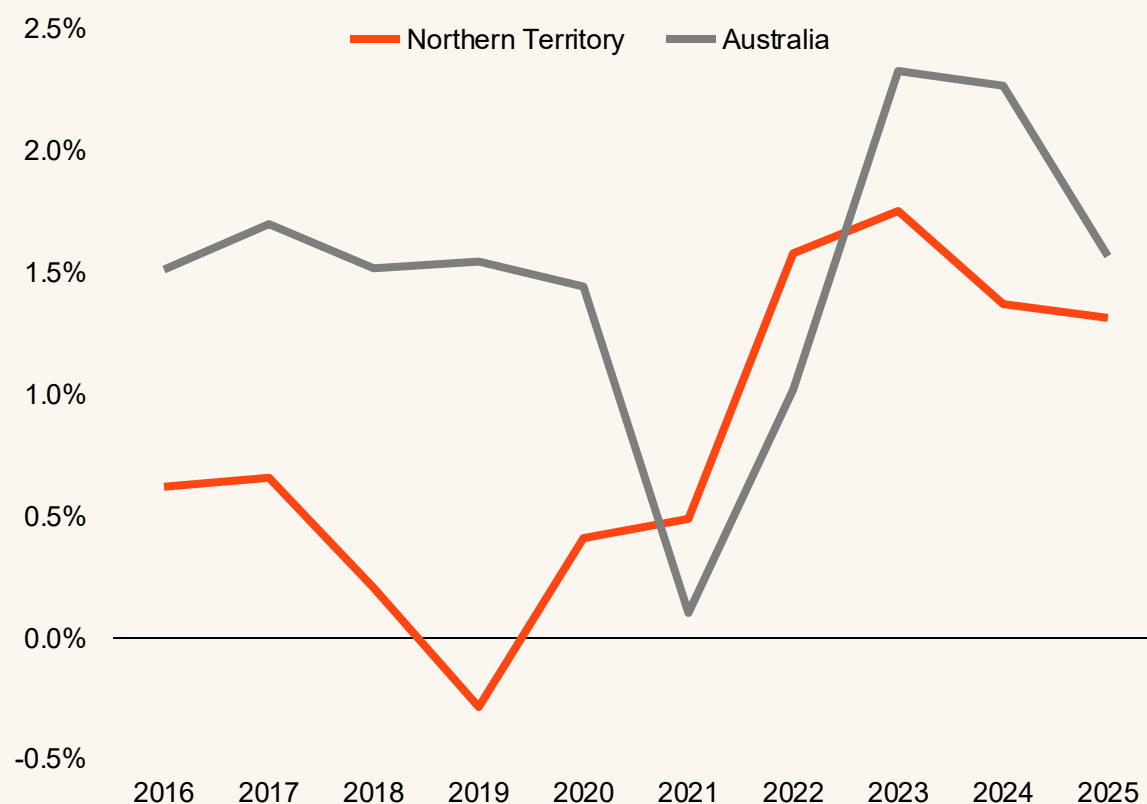
Employed Residents



In the Northern Territory, Health Care and Social Assistance is the largest employer, generating 22,215 local jobs in 2023/24.

NT population growth is up 1.3% in past year.

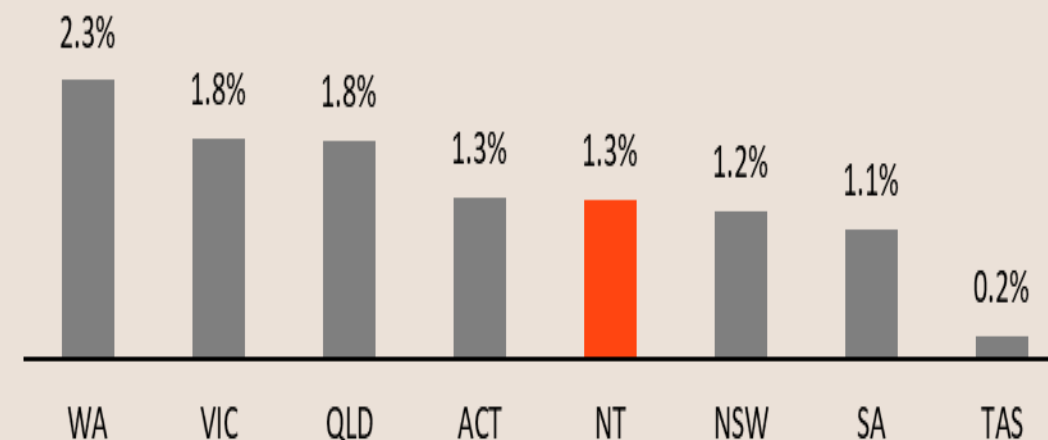
Annual % Change



March 2025 (estimate)

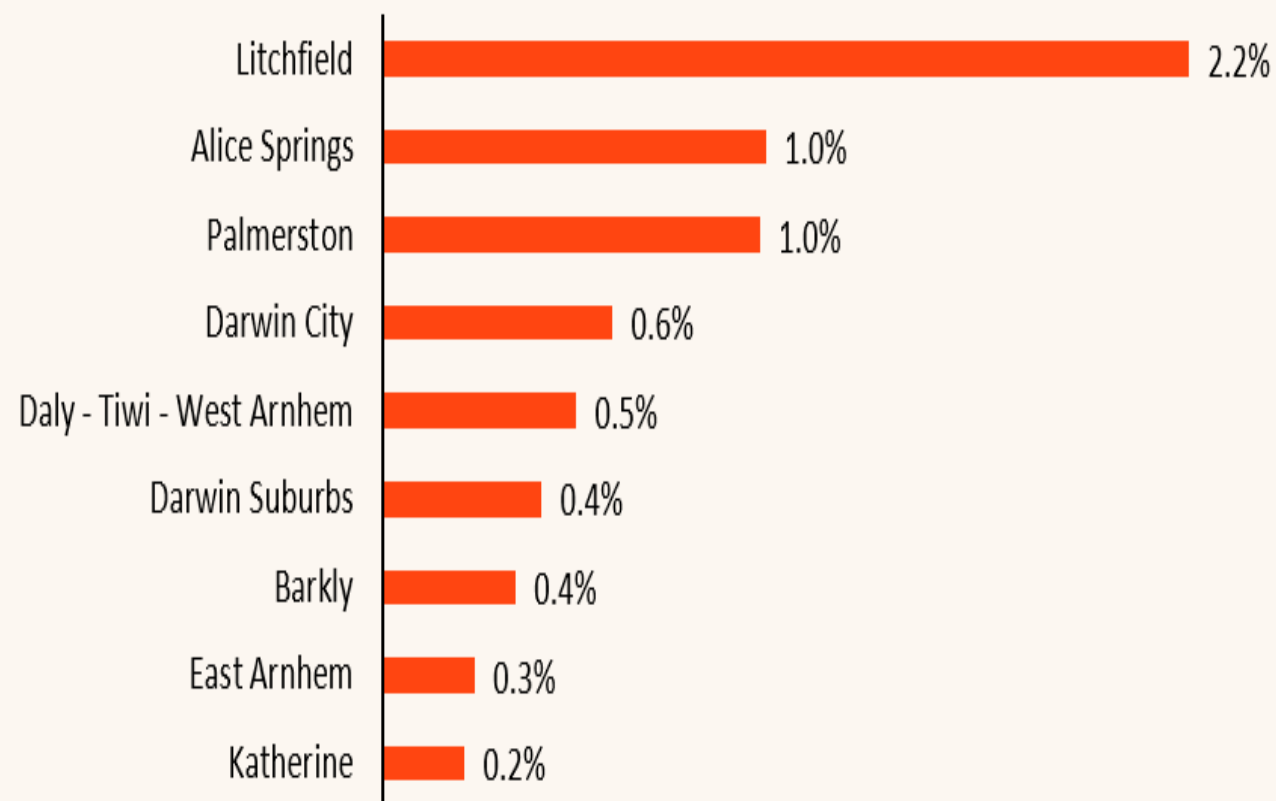
263,400

People living in Northern Territory



Moderate population growth areas across the Territory

Annual % Change, Regions, 2023/24



Source: ABS National, state and territory population

Greater Darwin

152,489

0.9% growth

Rest of NT

102,580

0.6% growth

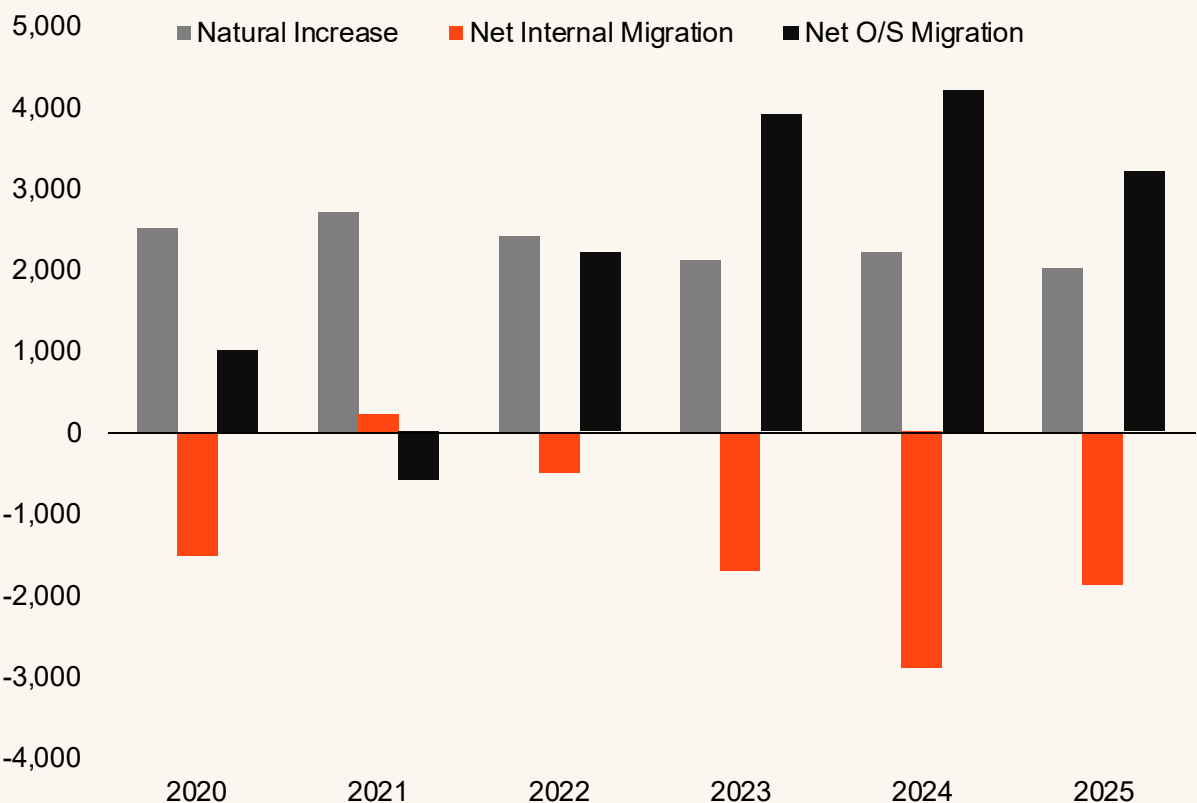
June 2024 Estimate

Gympie Region - State of the Regions Briefing

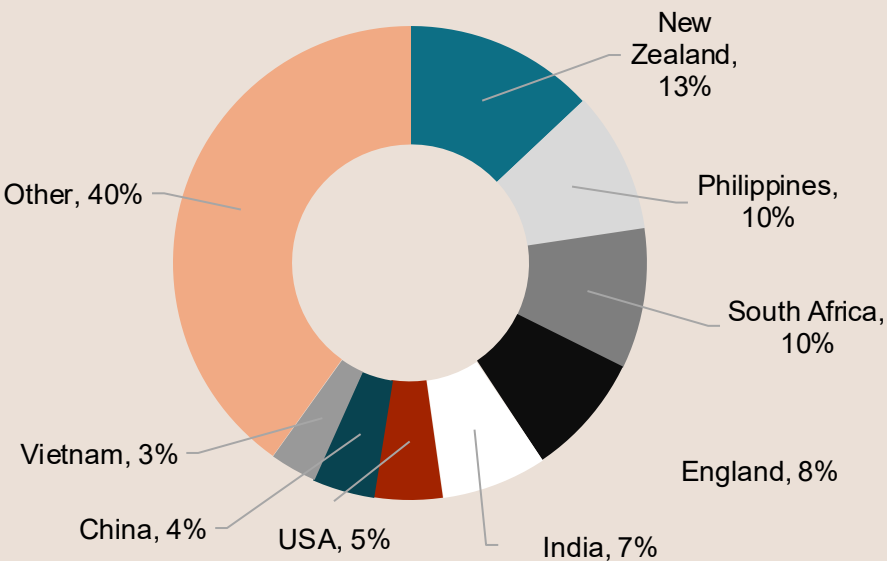
18

Net Overseas migration biggest contributor to NT growth over the last three years.

Components of Change, Northern Territory



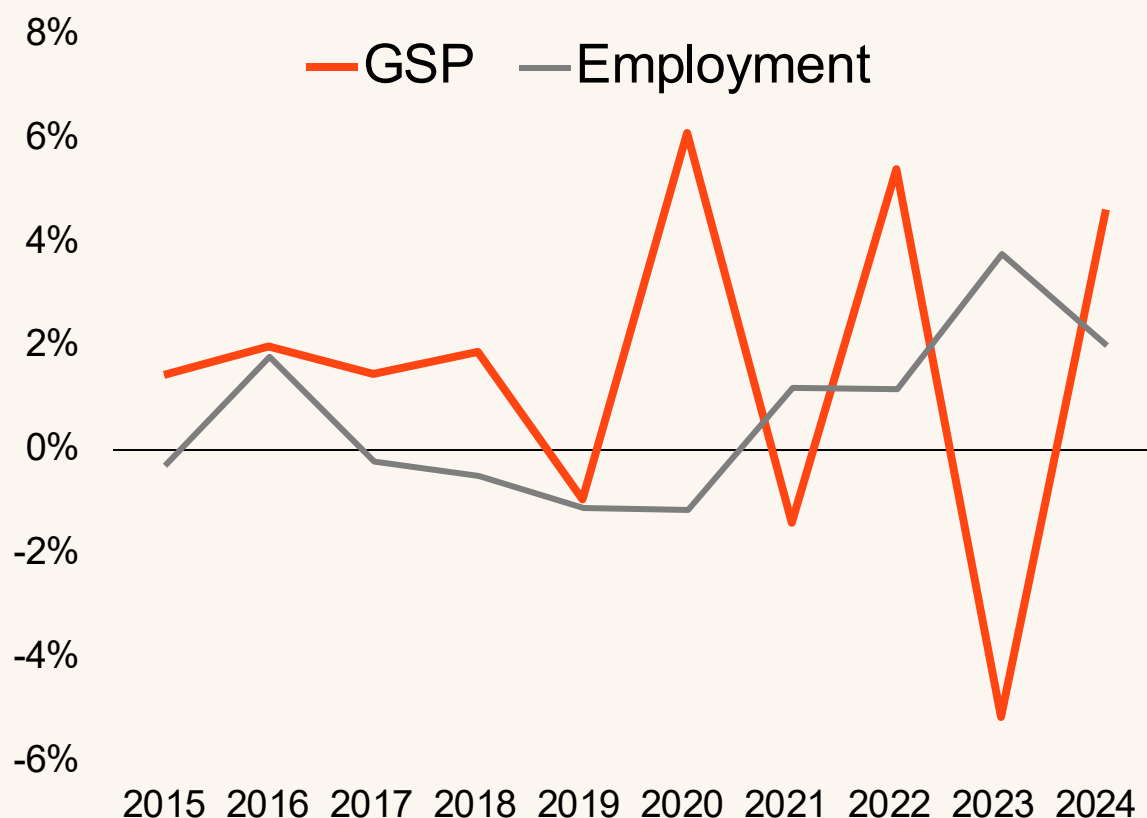
Top Sources of Overseas In-Migration (non-Australian), 2016 to 2021



Source: ABS National, state and territory population

NT economic growth strong in 23/24.

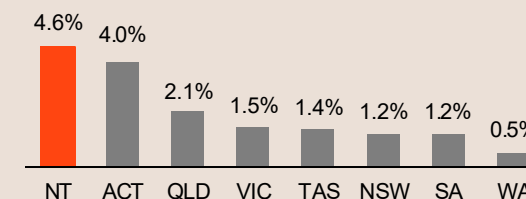
Annual % Change



Financial Year 2023/24



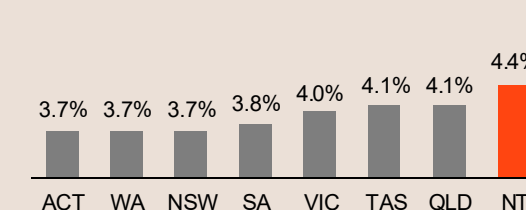
4.6%
Change in GSP



2.0%
Change
in Employed



4.4%
Average
Unemployment



The NT economy has been driven by Healthcare and Mining over the past five years. Technical Services and Manufacturing value add are down.



Top Employers

Healthcare &
Social Assistance
(22K)

Public Admin &
Safety (22K)

Education &
Training
(13K)

Construction
(11K)

Retail Trade
(9K)



+659M / 31%

Healthcare & Social Assistance



Other Key Industry drivers, last five years



Mining

+\$2.3B / 29%



Admin & Support Services

+\$125M / 25%



Agriculture, Forestry,
Fishing

+\$269M / 25%



Information Media &
Telecoms

+23M / 23%

Region Specialisation and Competitiveness

Location Quotient

Darwin: Fin. Services 1.6

Katherine: Forestry 7.9, Agric 2.9

Alice Springs: Health 1.7

Barkly: Agric. 7.5, Mining 3.0

Litchfield: Aqua 5.5, Const. 1.5

Palmerston: Retail 2.0

>1.2 = significant specialisation 'key strength'

>2.0 = major specialisation 'industry driver'

Regional Competitive Effect

Darwin: Professional Services 930

Ctrl Desert: Mining 332

Victoria Daly: Construction 144

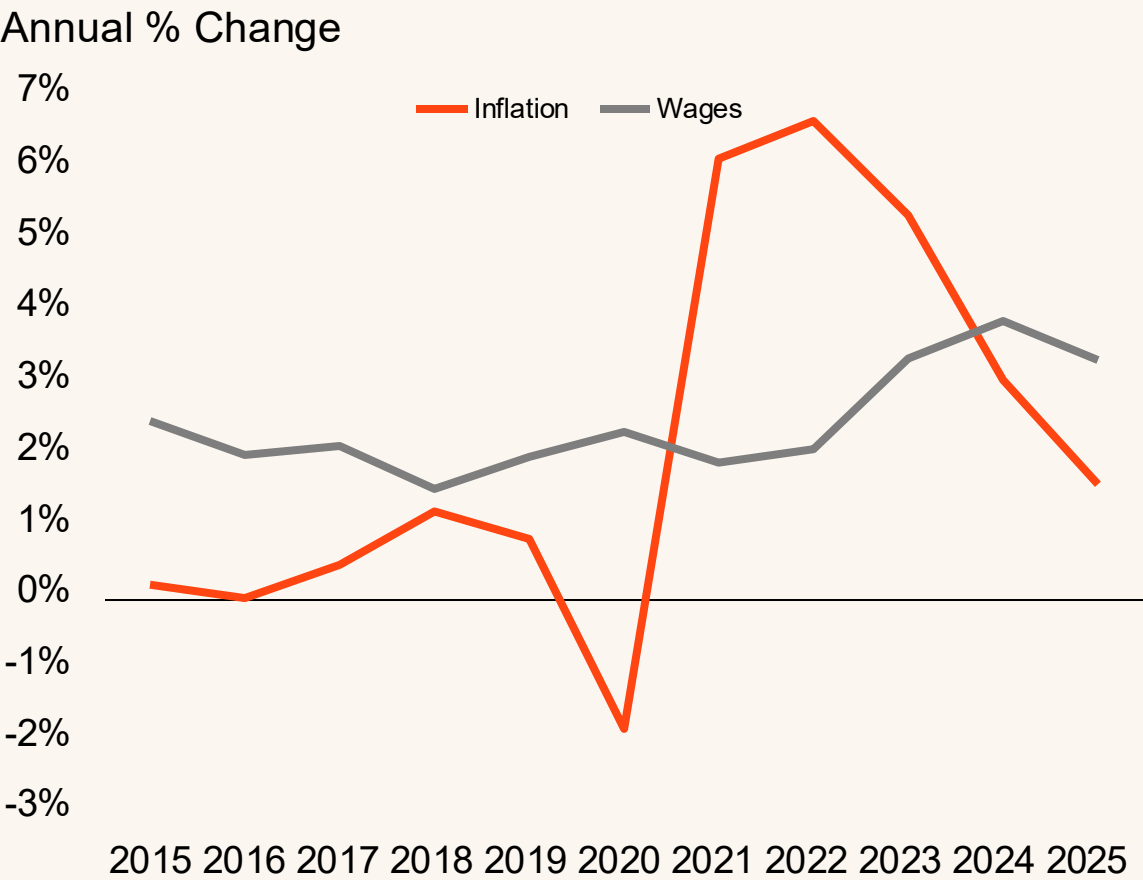
West Arnhem: Building Const. 53

Big Rivers: Arts & Rec. 143

Palmerston: Education 317

The amount of growth or decline in a specific industry. Quantifies the level of advantage or disadvantage an industry has in the local area.

Wage growth surpassed inflation in 2023/24, but slowed in 2024/25 (3.8% / 3.3%)



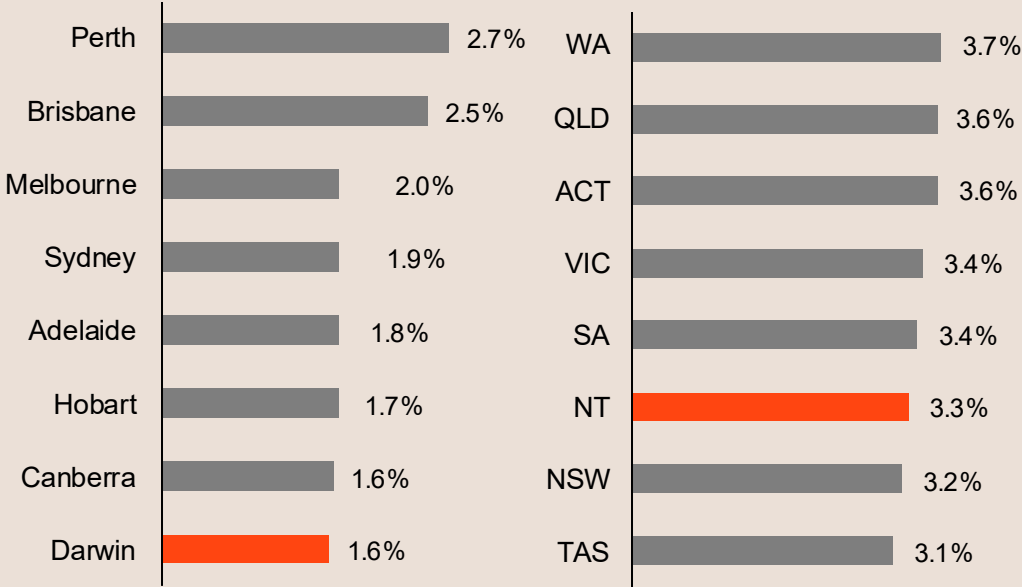
Financial Year 2024/25



1.6%
Change in Prices

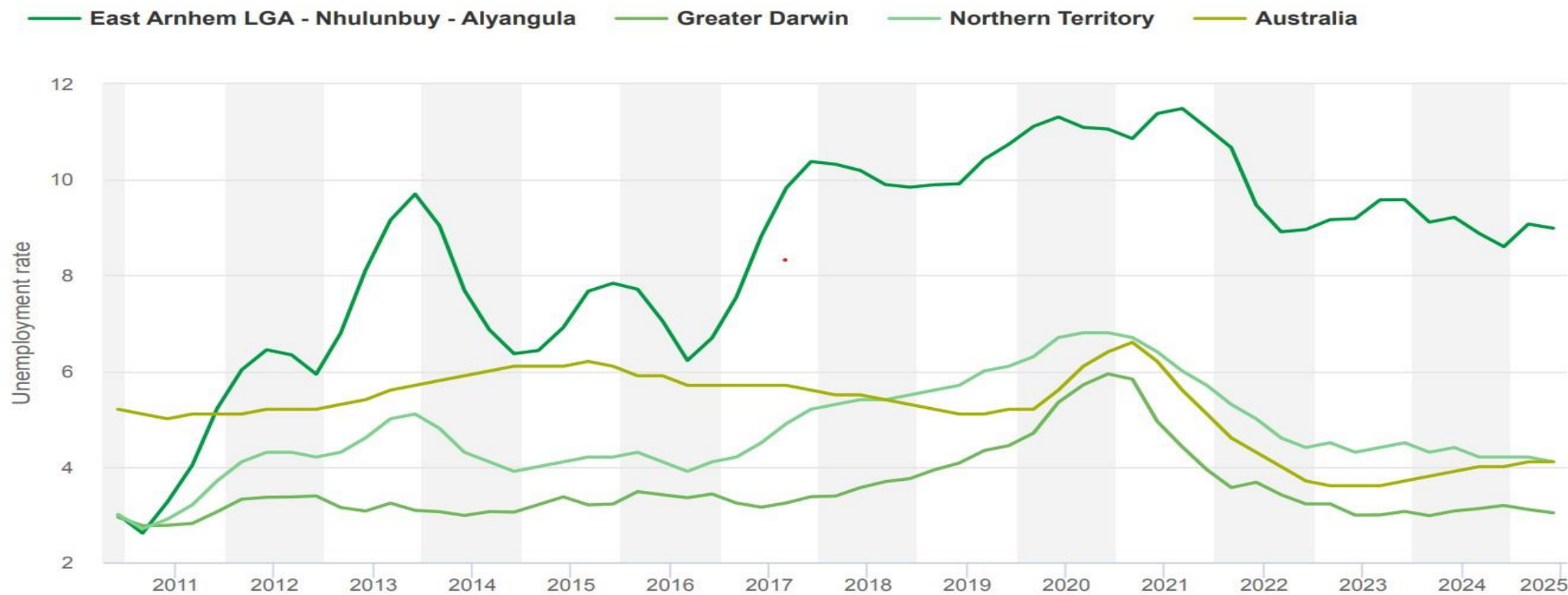


3.3%
Change in Wages



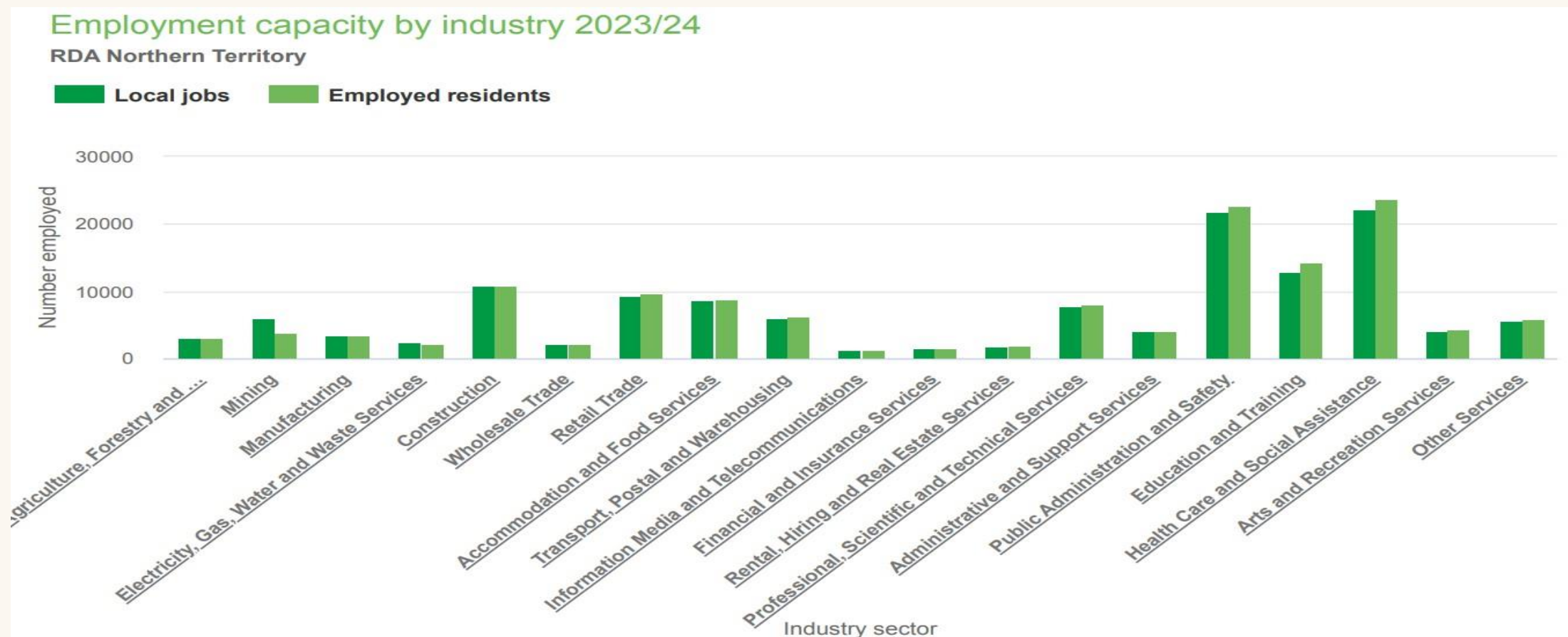
Unemployment Rate

Quarterly unemployment rate



In the 2025 June quarter, the unemployment rate in Australia 4.1%, Northern Territory 3.8%, Greater Darwin 3%, Katherine 2.4%, Alice Springs 1.7%, Roper Gulf 15%, West Daly 20%.

Employment Capacity

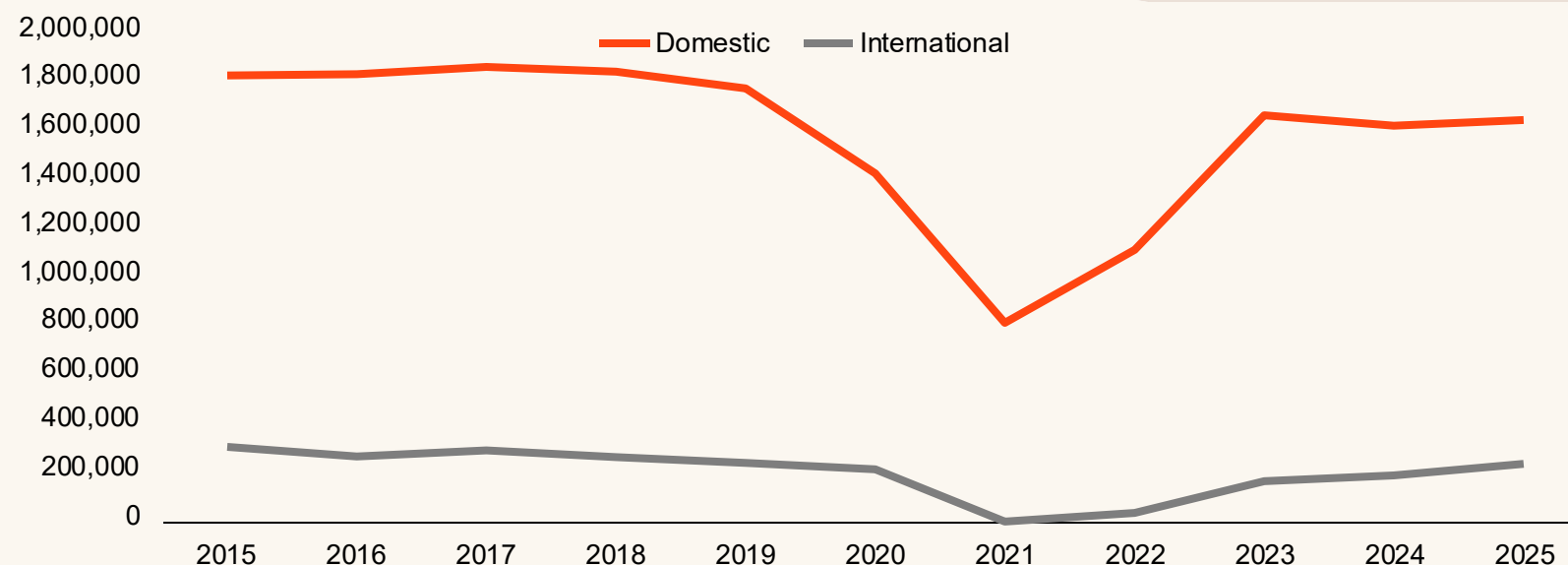


The jobs to resident's ratio for Northern Territory in 2023/24 was 0.98, meaning that there were less jobs than resident workers. Mining had the highest ratio (1.55), while the lowest ratio was found in Education and Training (0.91).

Total domestic & international passenger numbers remain below pre-covid levels.



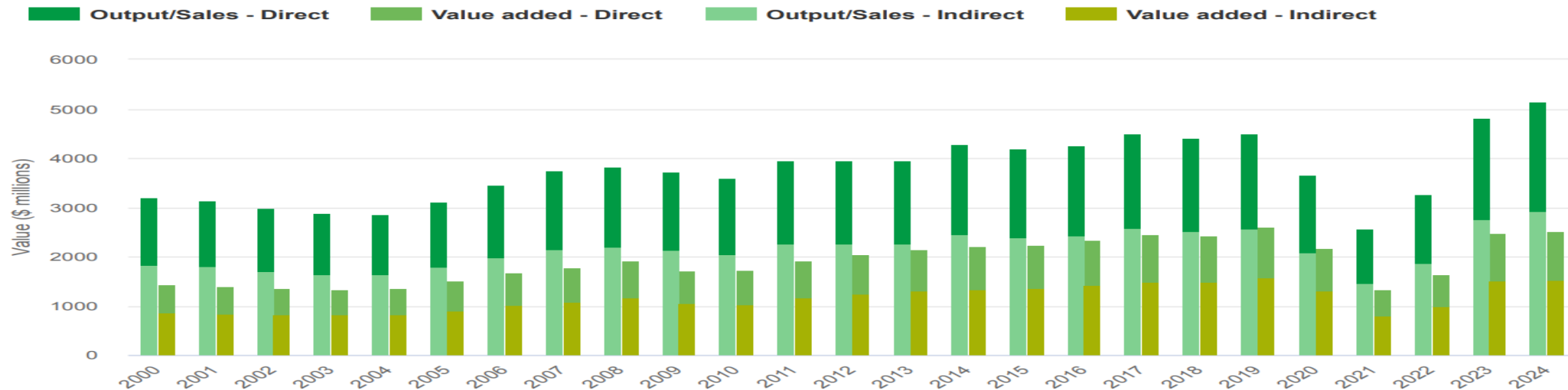
NT Airports, Total Passengers, Thousands, Annual



The tourism industry is now surpassing pre-covid levels.

Value of tourism

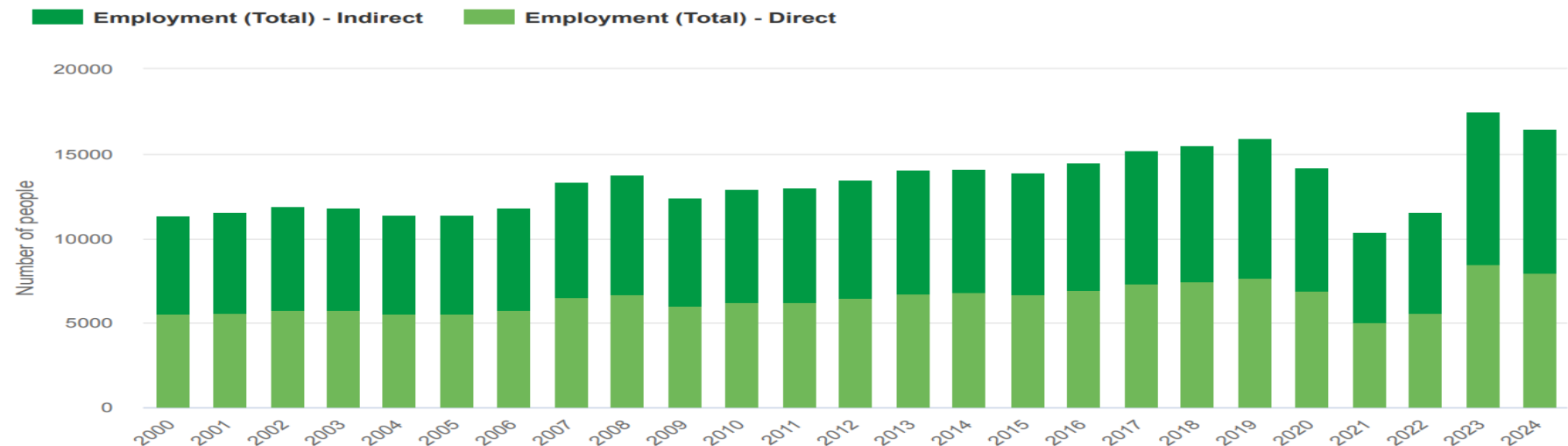
RDA Northern Territory



\$5.1B Industry
\$2.5B Value Add
16,515 Jobs

Tourism employment

RDA Northern Territory



Dwellings approvals have picked up in 2025, but completions numbers not growing.

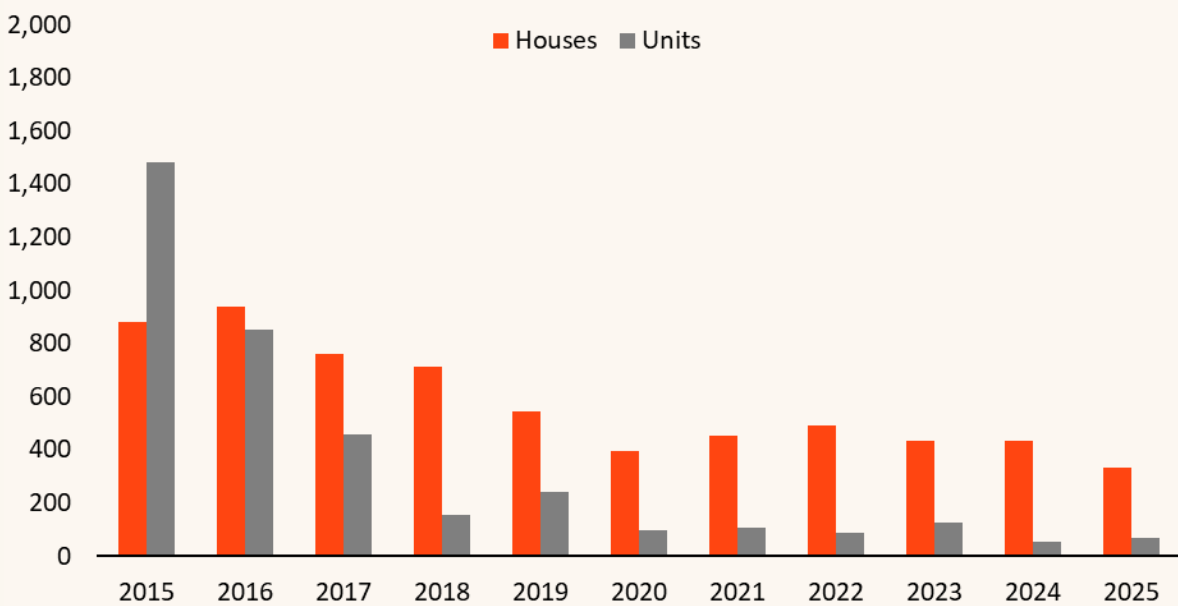
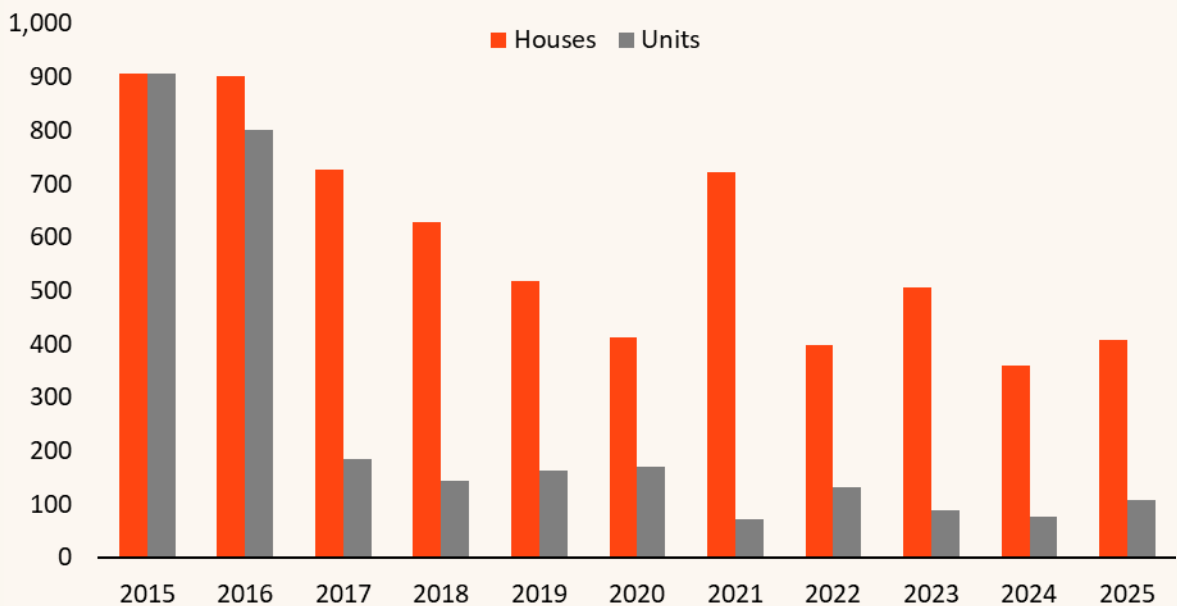
+18.3%

Dwellings approved, Annual, NT



-16.7%

Dwellings completed, Annual, NT



Source: ABS Building Activity; Total Value of Dwellings

Median house prices grew faster in areas outside Darwin (Dec23 to Dec24)

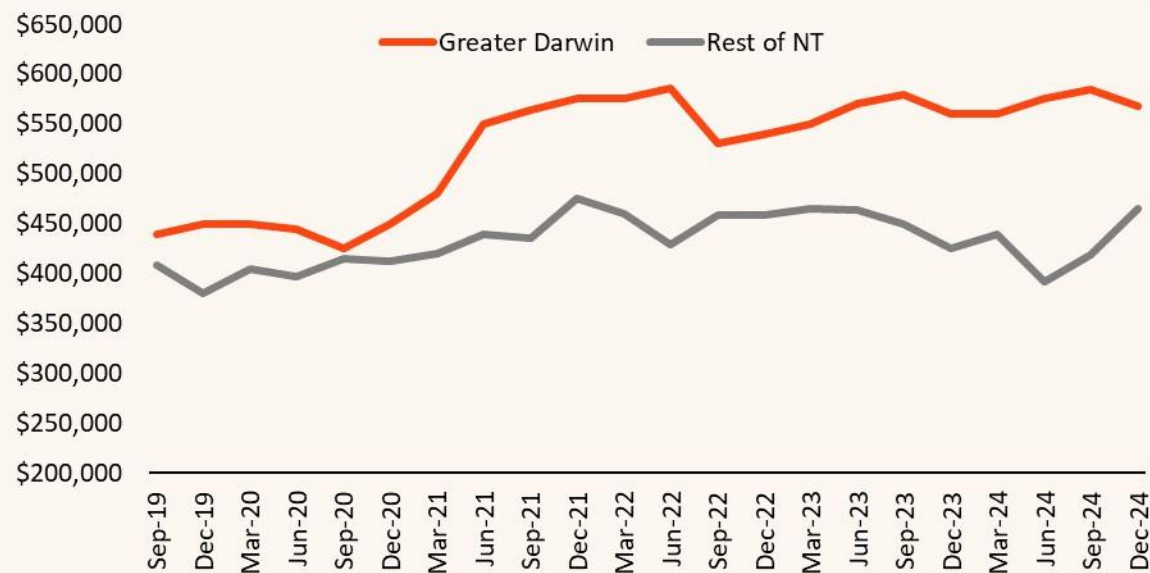
568K (+2%) **465K (+9%)**
Greater Darwin Rest of NT



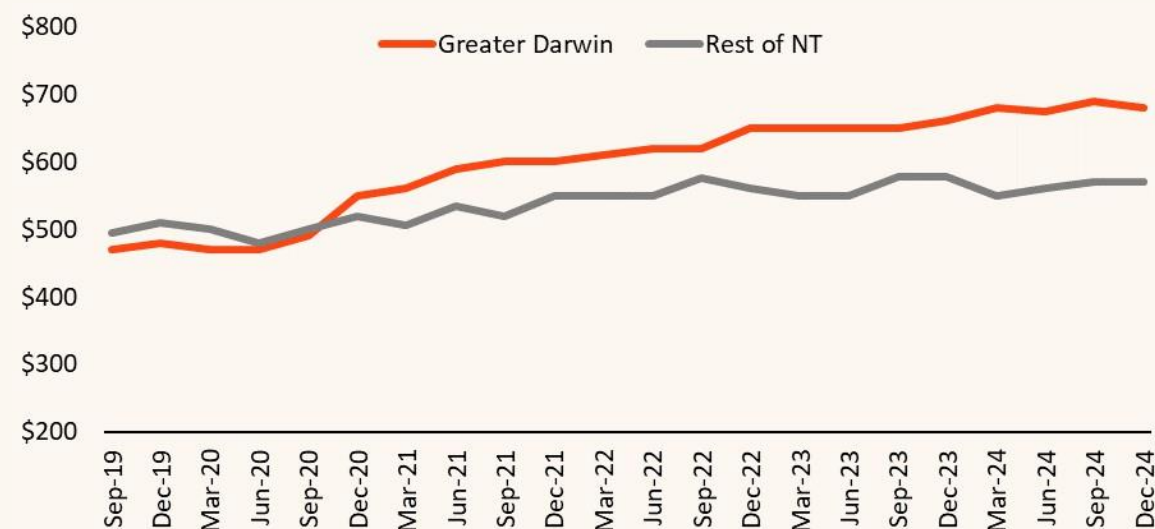
\$680 (+3%) **\$570 (-1%)**
Greater Darwin Rest of NT



Median House Price, Quarterly



Median Weekly House Rent, Quarterly



Community Views, Insights And Place Intelligence



About 'Living in Australia'



Understands views across Regions, Typologies, Demography & Life-Stage



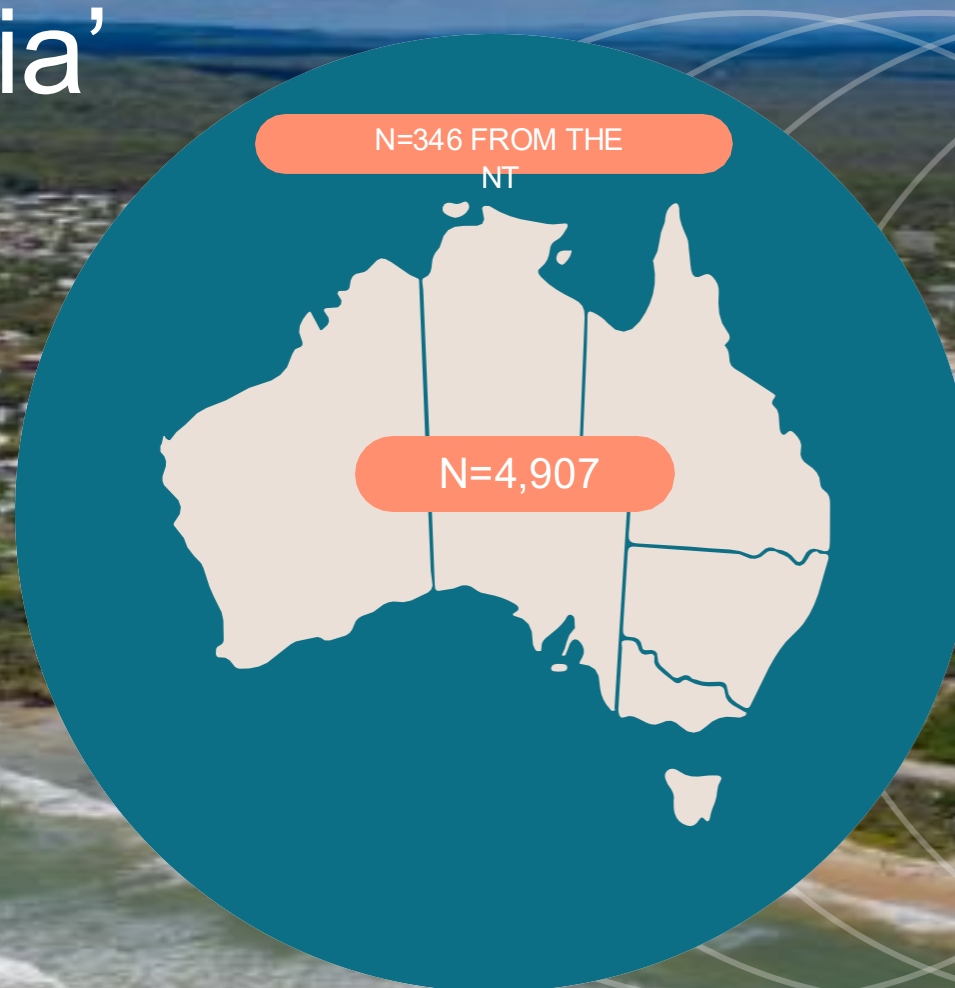
Used as spatial benchmarking for Community Views clients.



Annually updated and expanded to ensure contemporary context.



Insights and data made publicly available without fee.



How do we understand liveability?

A resident-centric approach informed by 16 critical attributes



A lack of road congestion



A prosperous economy



High quality education opportunities



High quality health services



A strong sense of community



Access to the natural environment



Making your way to and from services with ease



Opportunity for all



Affordable decent housing



Cultural facilities such as museums, galleries, festivals



Reliable and efficient public transport



Shopping, leisure and dining experiences



Feeling safe



Good job prospects

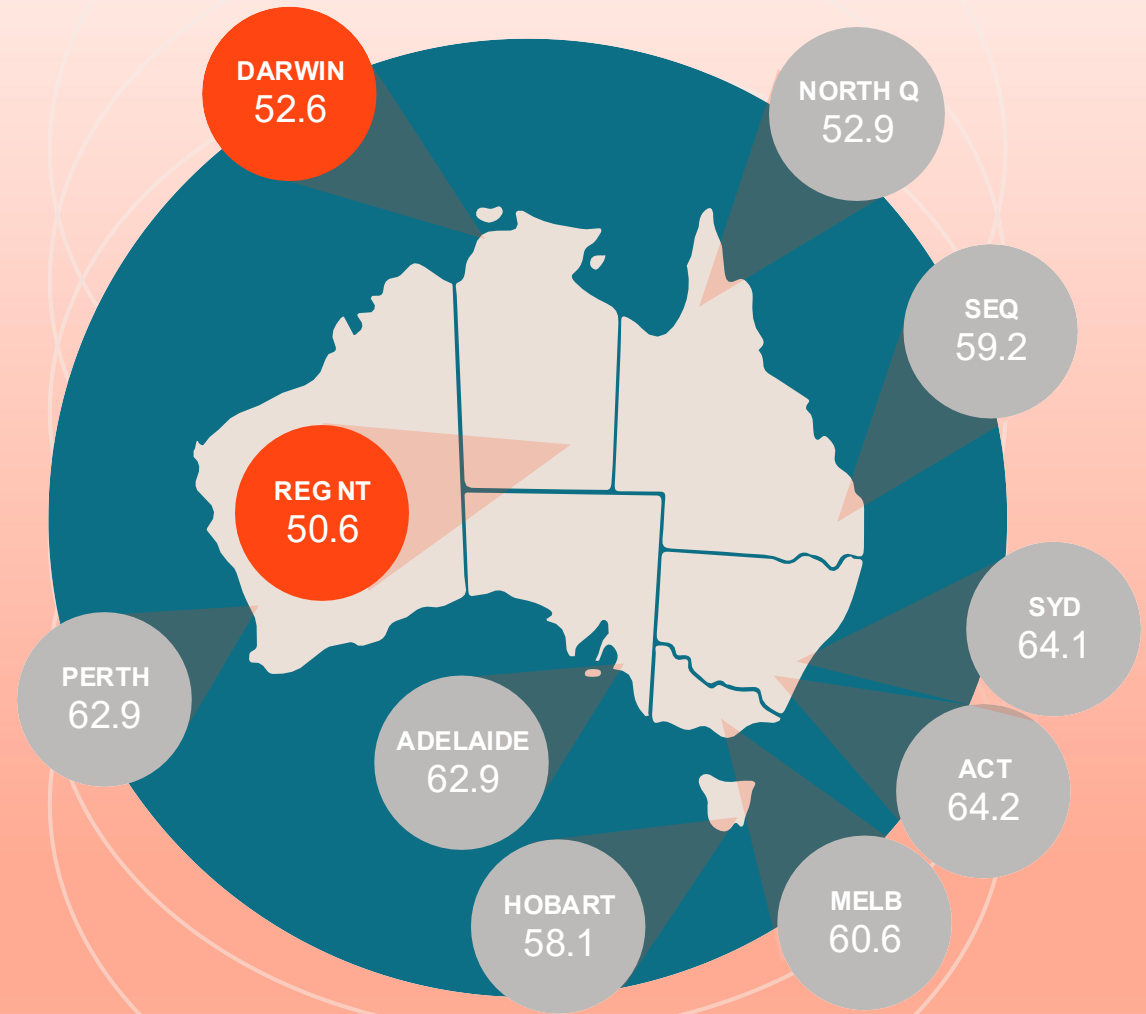


Social cohesion



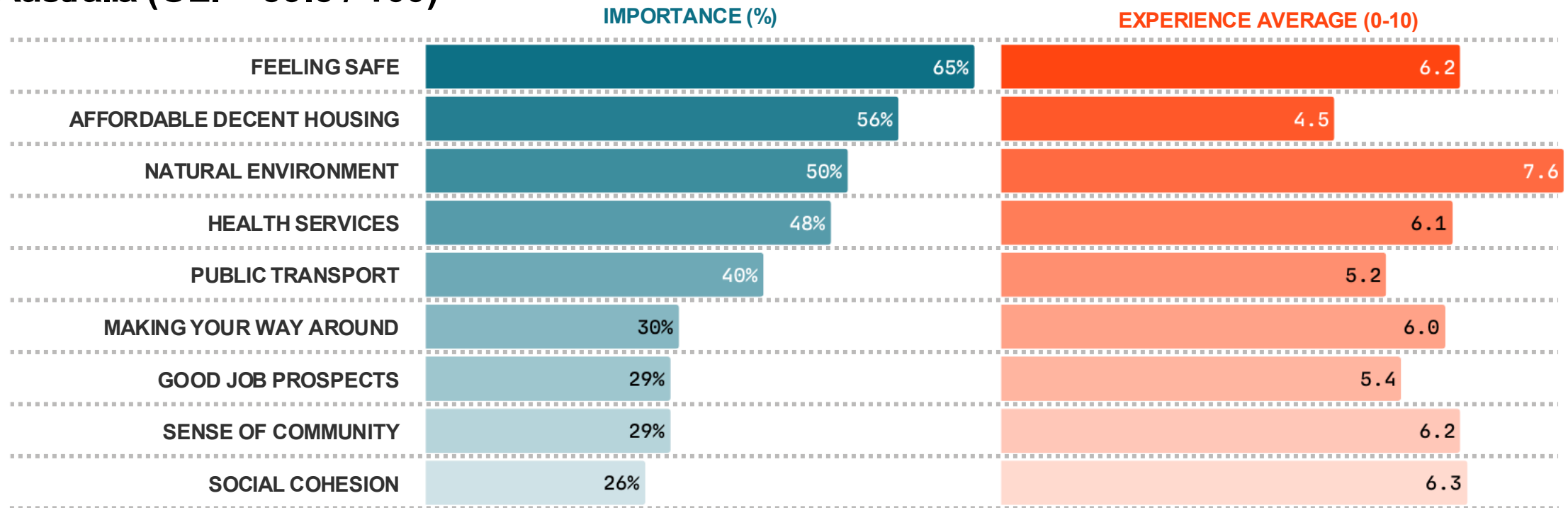
Sports and recreation

How is liveability experienced across Australia?



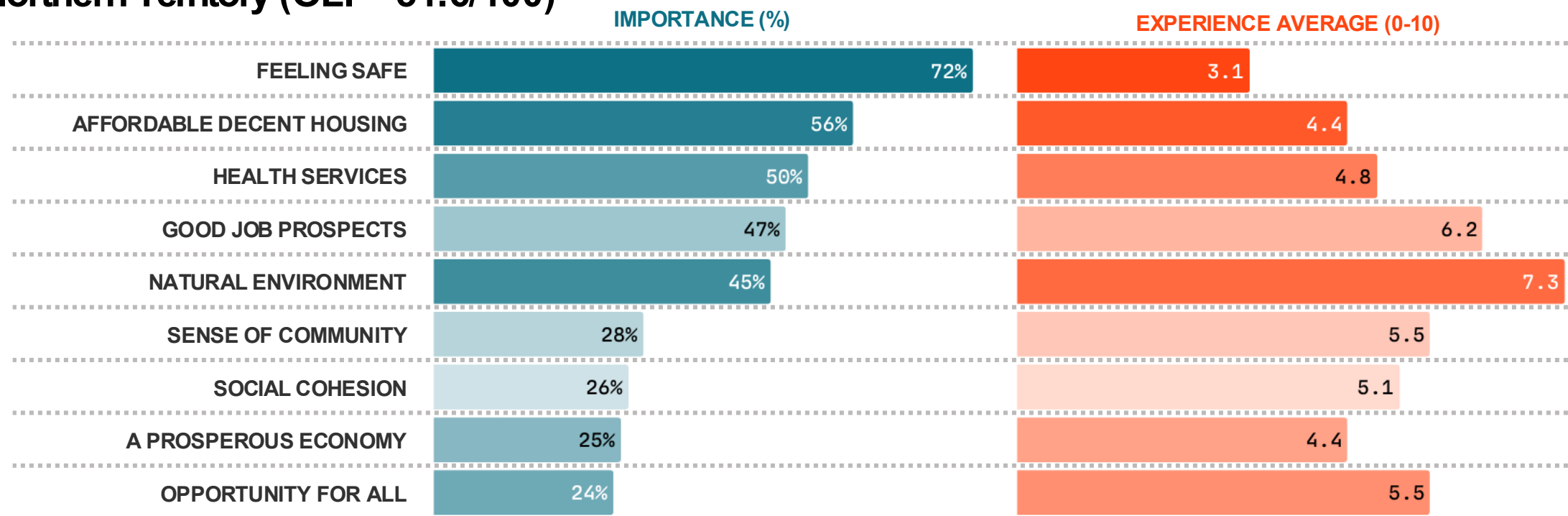
What makes somewhere a good place to live?

Australia (OLI = 59.5 / 100)



What makes somewhere a good place to live?

Northern Territory (OLI = 51.6/100)



What do residents think could be done to improve quality of life in the local area?

Overall, the comments reflect a community seeking safety, affordability, and improved public services, with a strong emphasis on accountability and support for vulnerable populations.

"Community housing. Stop people sleeping rough. Police existing alcohol laws. Manage welfare "Basics Card"

35-59+ YO | MALE | DARWIN

"Stop the segregation in this community so we can flourish! There is increased anger and resentment among many of our youth who use this to justify their acts of violence"

60+ YO | FEMALE | REGIONAL NT

Public safety: Many residents express a desire for stronger law enforcement and harsher punishments for offenders, including repeat offenders, to address the rising crime rates. Specific suggestions include mandatory sentencing, a three-strike rule for minors, and increased police presence. There is a strong sentiment that the current justice system fails to hold criminals accountable, contributing to a lack of safety in the community.

Cost of living: residents noted the high expenses for essentials such as housing, groceries, and utilities. Suggestions to alleviate these burdens include lowering rent, reducing power costs, and introducing more affordable housing options. The need for economic balance and job opportunities is also emphasized, with some residents advocating for less reliance on government handouts and more incentives for employment.

Public services, particularly healthcare and education: are also areas of concern. Residents call for better access to healthcare services, improved education options, and more funding for social issues like poverty and substance abuse. There is a call for equal access to these services, regardless of race or location, and for investment in infrastructure to support these needs.

Pride and amenity: there is a desire for community improvement through initiatives such as cleaning up litter, addressing homelessness, and providing more recreational and cultural events. Some residents also express the need for better public transport and infrastructure development, including regional and remote areas, to improve overall quality of life.

Trend: Australia's changing causes of death

As Australians live longer, we are seeing changes in our leading causes of death. Diseases associated with old age are taking over from previous leading causes such as heart disease.

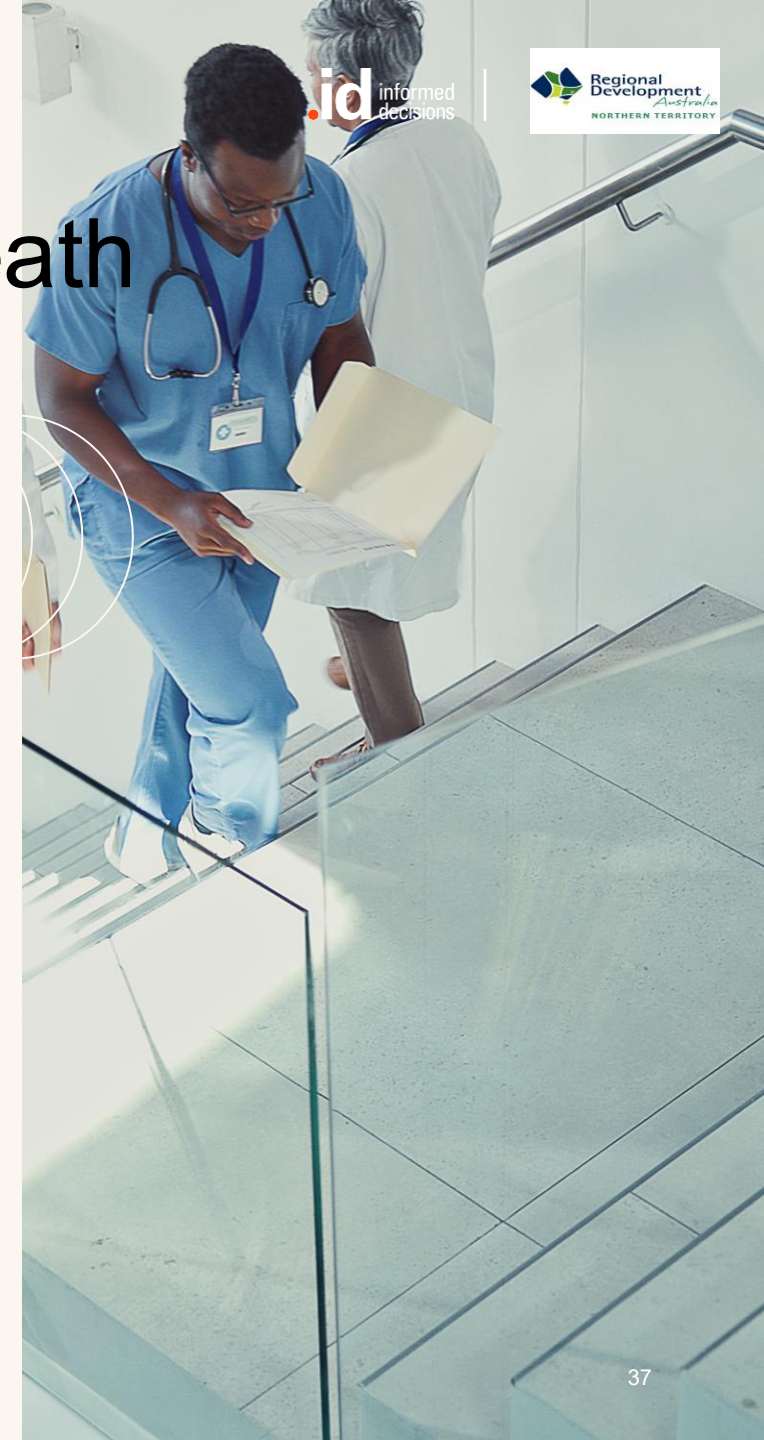
Notably, the death rate is at an all time low; life expectancy at birth is close to a record high of 81 for men and 85 for women. Long term this is continuing to increase, and our population forecasts now factor this in. (Expect to see large increases in the 85+ population in most areas as a greater share of population reach these age groups, and the baby boomers enter their senior years.)



For many years, heart disease and cancer have been our leading causes of death in Australia. Just recently, Dementia (and Alzheimer's) has risen up the causes list, and likely will become our leading cause of death soon – perhaps as early as next year.



The only cause of death in the list with a significantly younger median age is "Intentional self-harm" (suicide), with a median age of 45.5.



Trend: The demand for healthcare and social assistance doesn't look like slowing soon!

30% Of all national employment growth in the next decade is expected in Healthcare and Social Assistance

40% Of all employment growth in the next 3 years is expected in Healthcare and Social Assistance

1 in 5 Workers in most regions will be employed in this industry

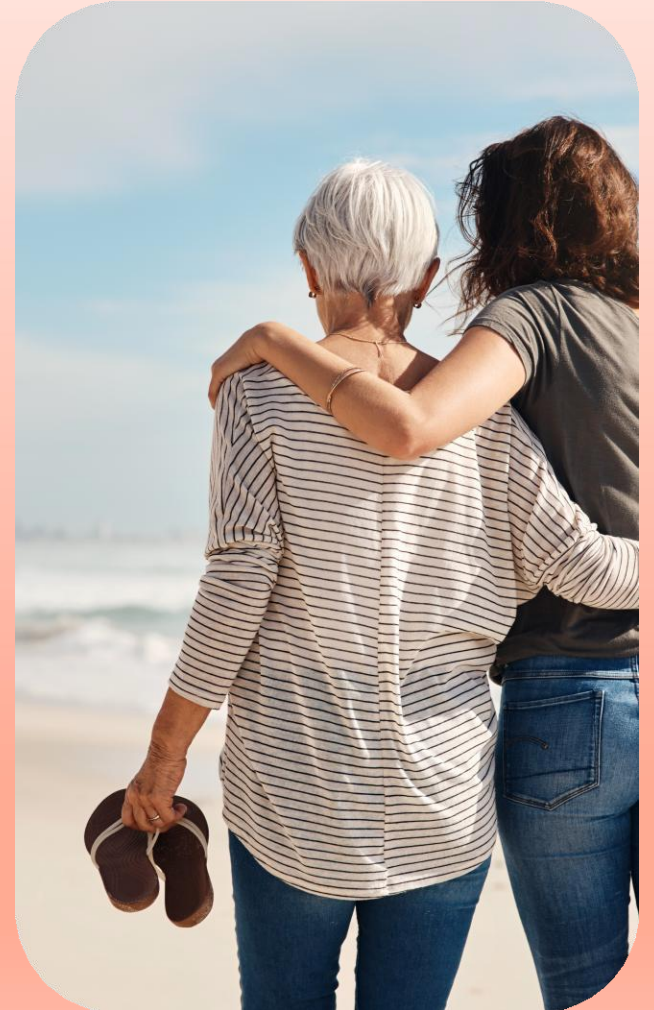
1 in 3 Workers in this industry were born overseas in 2021

78% Workers in this industry were female in 2021



Trend: The 'silver economy' does generate alternative economic opportunities

- Age specific tourism advice embracing more active escapes
- Age-specific fitness and wellness programs
- Home and shop modifications for age/disability needs
- Mobility aids and “age-tech”
- Post-retirement financial advice
- Silver beauty” cosmetics and skincare
- Pet services and insurance

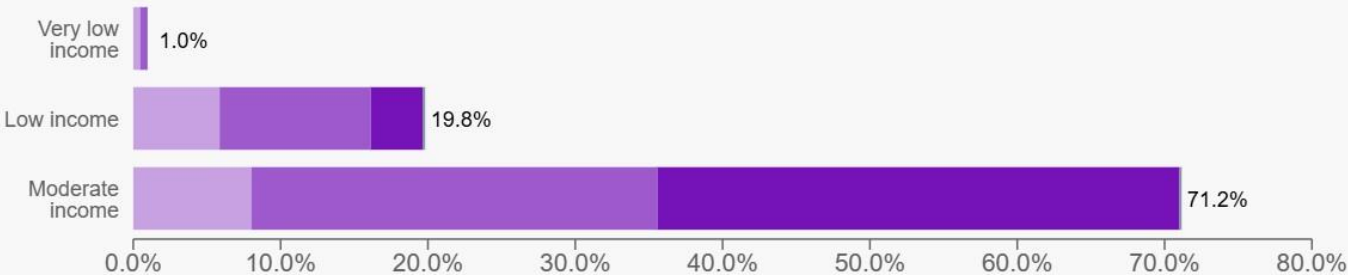


Trend: ‘Affordable Housing’

How much affordable housing is available to rent in FNQROC?

Affordable rental listings of All dwelling sizes for the 12 months to Jun 2025 for Average all households

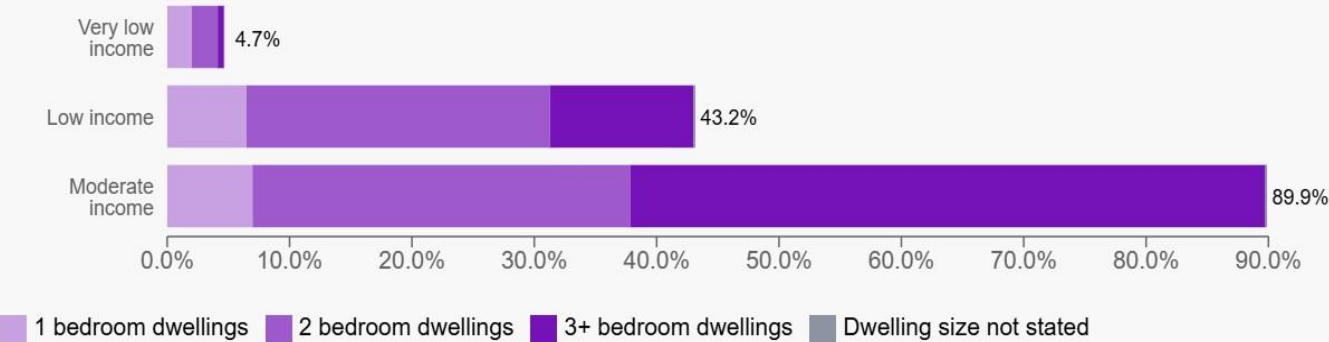
Percent	Number	Change
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How much affordable housing is available to rent in FNQROC?

Affordable rental listings of All dwelling sizes for the 12 months to Jun 2020 for Average all households

Percent	Number	Change
---------	--------	--------



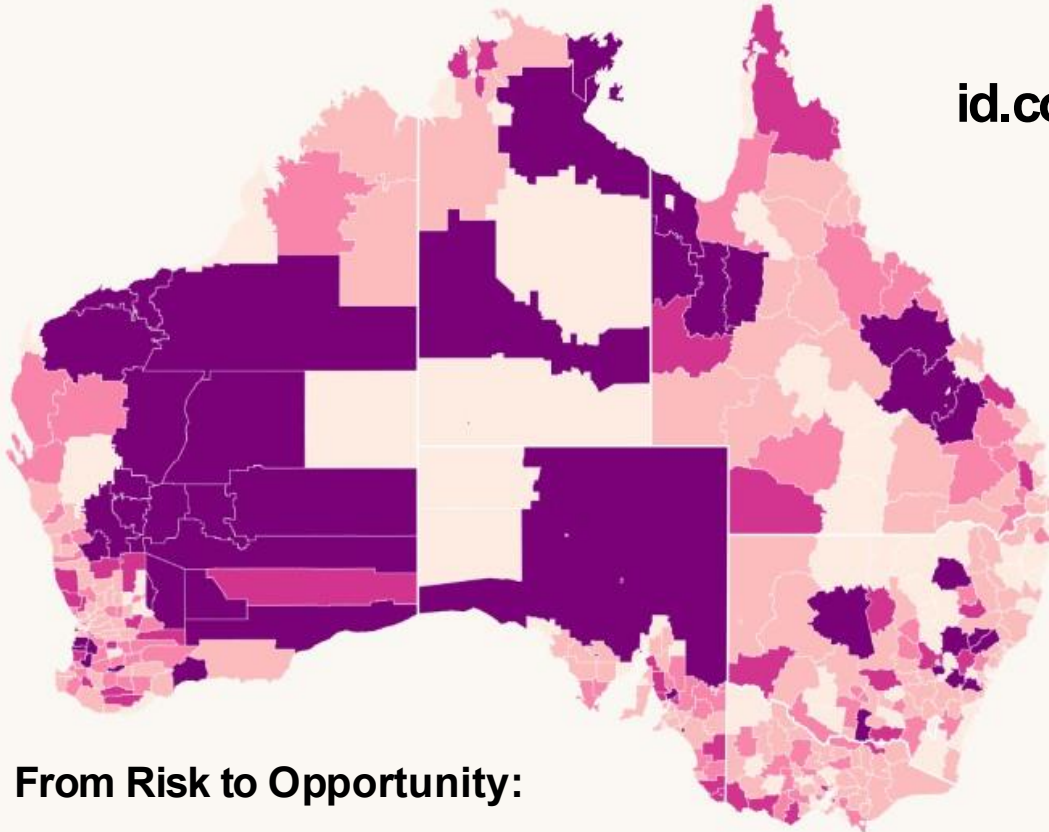
In Far North Queensland ROC for example, in the 12 months to June 2020 a low-income household could afford 43% of rental listings but only 20% in June 2025.

Spatial Intelligence: Unlocking the Power of Place

Regional Exposure to Australia's Net Zero Policies

Index of local exposure to national carbon reduction policies (100 = National Average)

< 90 90-110 110-130 130-160 ≥ 160



**From Risk to Opportunity:
Understanding your region's place in
Australia's Net Zero transition.**

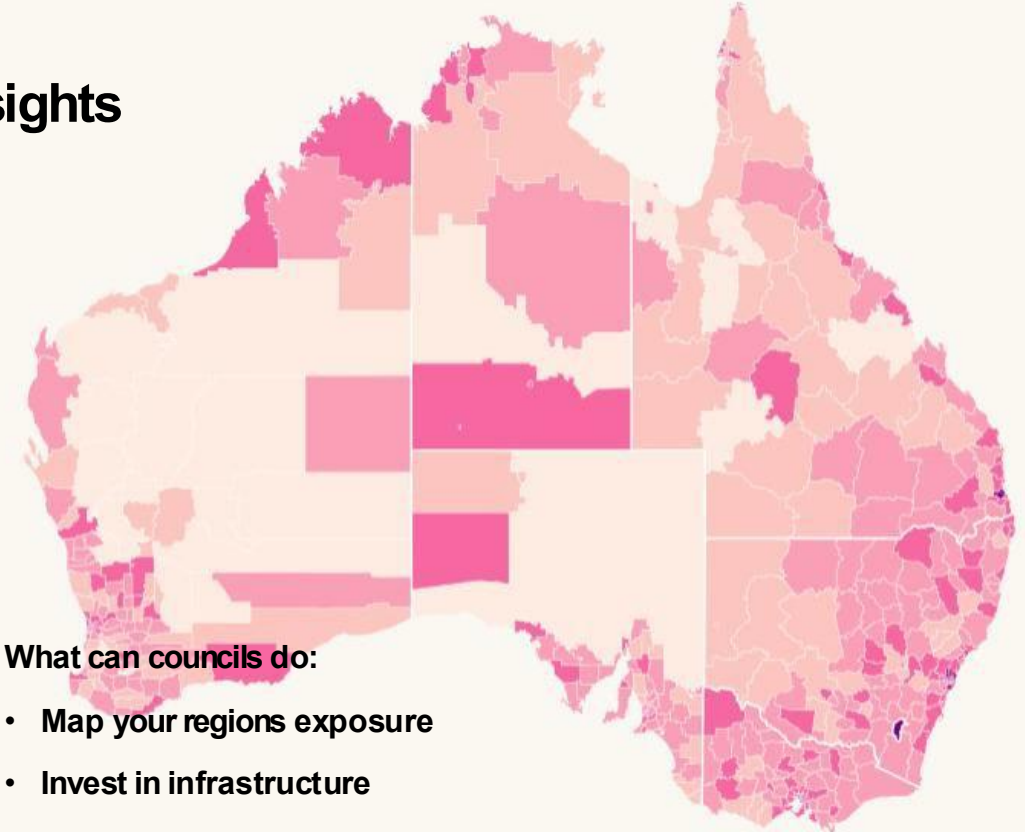
Source: ABS Census 2021; DCCCEW, 2025; CSIRO, 2025; Modelled and presented by .id • Map data: PSMA Australia Limited • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

id.com.au/insights

AI Exposure by Region

% jobs exposed to AI Automation

< 30.0% 30.0%-32.5% 32.5%-35.0% 35.0%-37.5% 37.5%-40.0% ≥ 40.0%



What can councils do:

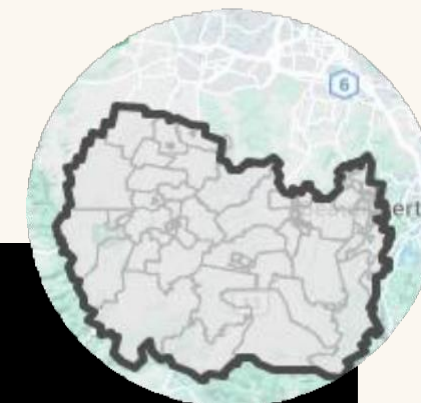
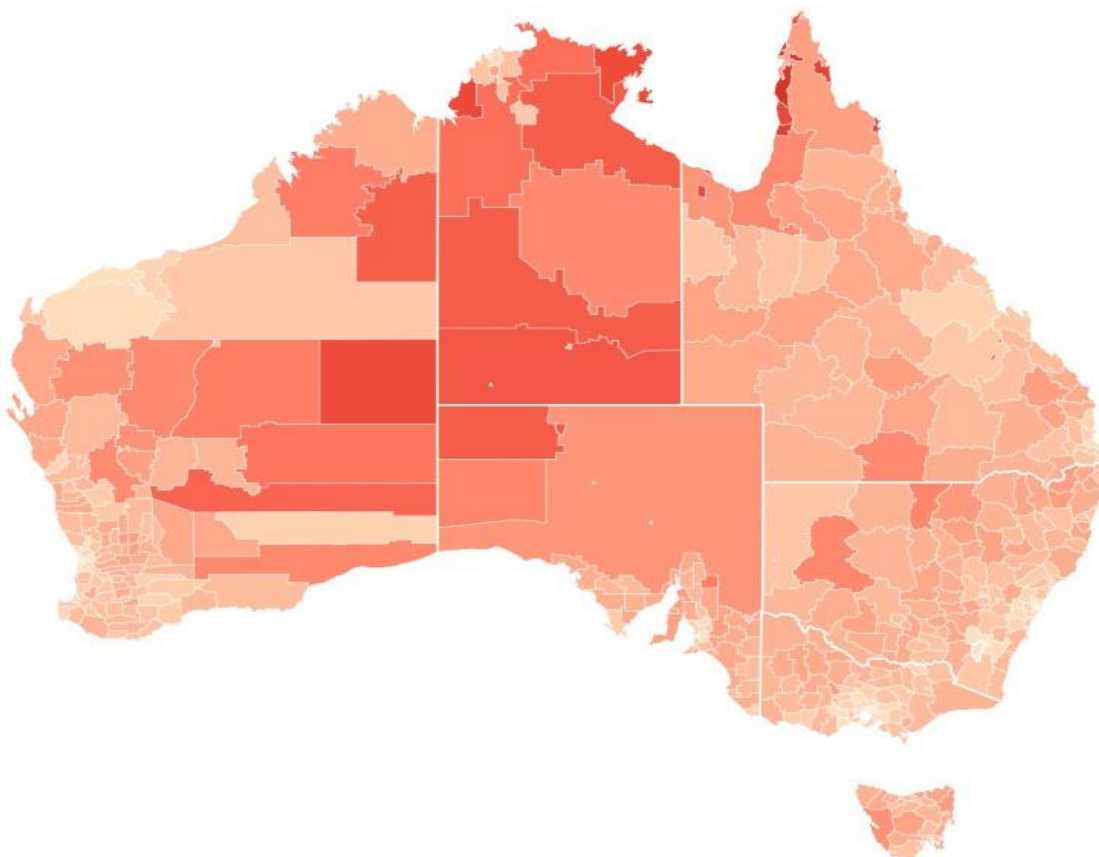
- Map your regions exposure
- Invest in infrastructure
- Support workforce resilience
- Enable SME adoption
- Embed trust and governance

Source: ABS Census 2021; Jobs and Skills Australia, 2025; Presented by .id • Map data: PSMA Australia Limited • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Social Atlas Locating hidden disadvantage

Age structure, households, diversity, income, wellbeing, work, education, housing, transport.

Proportion of disadvantaged households by LGA



.id's Social Atlas shows Socio-Economic indexes for Areas (SEIFA) at the SA1 level. It is a very good way of seeing the spatial distribution of the SEIFA characteristics, and in many cases, it shows up disadvantaged pockets within otherwise advantaged areas.

Consulting Services

Our 360° view of place

We integrate diverse data sources at the hyperlocal level to see the full picture

Our expert-led services support clients to develop internal expertise, co-design solutions, and innovate with confidence. Trusted by over 300 local governments, we bring strategic insight and clarity to your most important decisions.

- Plan for strategic growth
- Inform housing decisions
- Build the case for investment
- Represent your community's views





.id Economic Consulting Reports that could assist NT Regions right now!

Economic Resilience Report

In-depth analysis to support Economic Development Strategy and Planning.

Performance and benchmarking – measure your economy against national and regional standards.

Drivers of change – identify what's shaping growth and priority industries.

Workforce and land use – analyse skills, land use, and infrastructure needs to guide strategic decisions.

Case studies and insights – draw on lessons from 100+ councils.

How it helps councils – stronger advocacy, clearer investment cases, and focused economic strategies.

Community Insights Report

A robust evidence base to support Community Strategic Planning.

Comprehensive profile – demographics, socio-economic factors, health & environment from the most reliable datasets.

Comparative and trend analysis – benchmark against regional and state indicators.

Priority themes and challenges – identify strengths and pressure points shaping your community's future.

Planning implications – practical insights linked to council frameworks.

How it helps councils – saves time, supports compliance, engagement-ready, future-focused.

Grant Applications & Advocacy

Independent evidence and analysis to strengthen Funding and Advocacy.

Business case support – cost-benefit analysis for grant applications and proposals.

Impact assessments – demonstrate the value of investment through economic and community impact analysis.

Scenario modelling – evaluate risks, returns, and feasibility.

Policy alignment – Meeting State and Federal guidelines.

How it helps councils – higher success rates, stronger policy influence, and streamlined grant processes..

Demographic insights, tips and news from the experts at .id



POPULATION

The top 50 largest cities and towns in Australia (2025 update)



COMMUNITY VIEWS

Understanding community views on climate change and its local impact



DEMOGRAPHICS

Population growth and decline (by LGA) in 2024



DEMOGRAPHICS

Australia's changing causes of death



HOUSING

Australia's rental affordability hits record low: Get a closer look using housing.id and views.id



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We provide the data to help you invest in the right place, at the right time.



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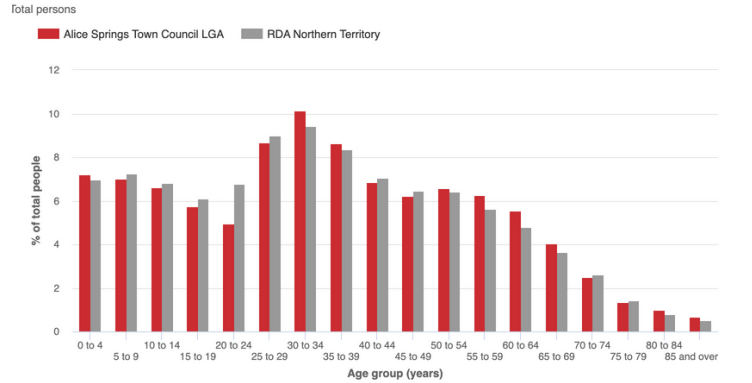
greg@id.com.au or info@id.com.au



0400 779 911 or 03 9417 2205



Age structure - five year age groups, 2021



Upcoming .id Sessions

Economic & Community Local Data Resources Training

Alice Springs – Wednesday 19 November
9:30am – 11:30am (in-person)

Online – Tuesday 2 December
9:00am – 10:30am (ACST)

State of the Region

Online - Monday 1 December
11:00am - 12:00pm (ACST)