

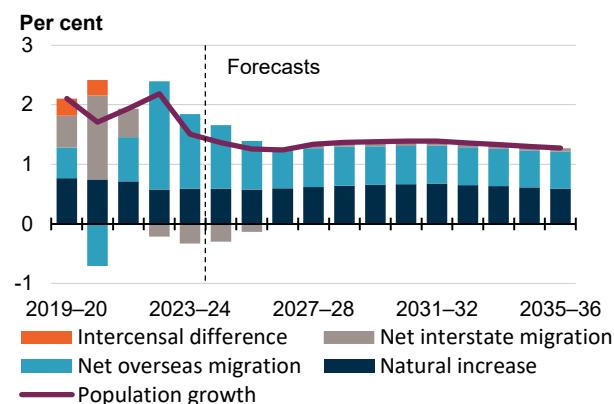


The ACT has a young and highly mobile population¹

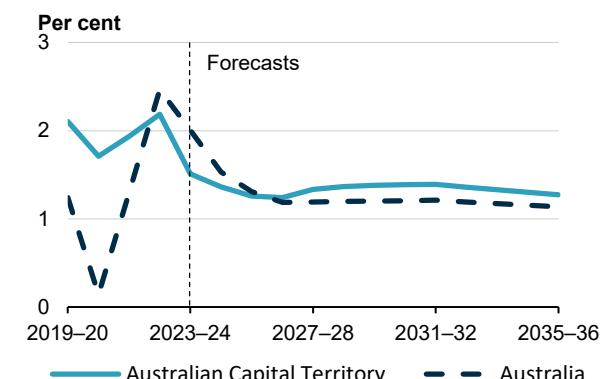
- The ACT has the second youngest population, after the Northern Territory, and is the fourth fastest growing state or territory.
- Over the next decade, net overseas migration and natural increase will positively contribute to population growth in the ACT.
- Internal migration flows into and out of the ACT are significant, reflecting a highly mobile population. Inflows and outflows each equal almost 5 per cent of the ACT population annually.
- The ACT's population remains young as it attracts large numbers of young adults for either education or employment opportunities.
- Although the ACT has the lowest fertility rate of any state or territory, its relatively young population and lower mortality rates mean that it experiences a high rate of natural increase.

Chart 1: Australian Capital Territory population growth

Components of growth in ACT

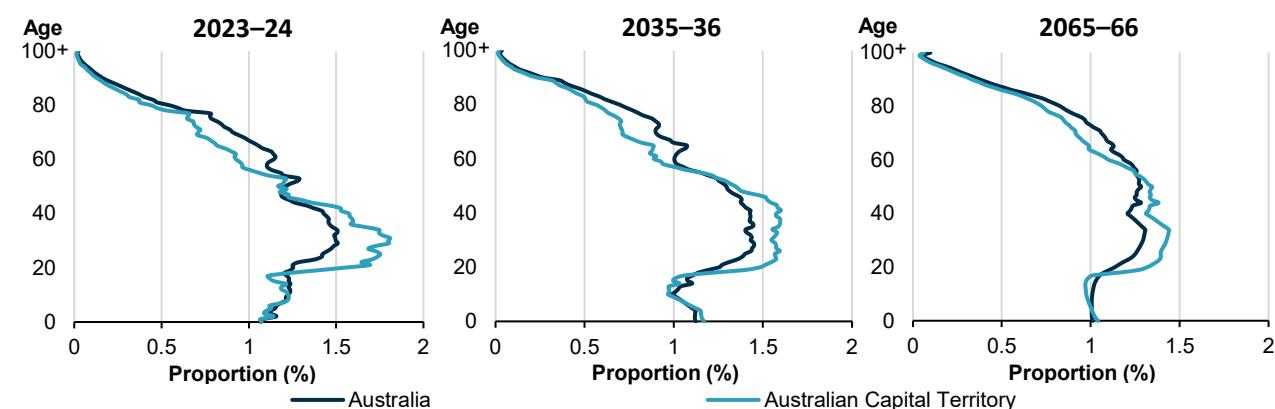


Population growth in ACT and Australia



Source: ABS, *National, state and territory population, March 2025*; and Centre for Population.

Chart 2: Comparing the proportional age structures of Australian Capital Territory and Australia



Source: ABS, *National, state and territory population, March 2025*; and Centre for Population analysis of ABS customised consultancy data.

¹ All insights refer to over the projection period (2024-25 to 2065-66) unless otherwise specified. The main data source for these projections is the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), *National, state and territory population, March 2025*, released in September 2025. After the projections in this statement were prepared, the ABS released the *National, state and territory population, June 2025*.

2025 POPULATION STATEMENT: AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY SNAPSHOT

Table 1: Population projections and key statistics, Australian Capital Territory

Population projections	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27	2027–28	2035–36	2065–66 ²
Population ('000)							
Australian Capital Territory	478	485	491	497	504	561	749
Population growth (per cent)							
Australian Capital Territory	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	0.8
Natural increase ('000)							
Australian Capital Territory	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.3	2.5
Net overseas migration ('000)							
Australian Capital Territory	5.9	5.1	4.0	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.4
Net internal migration ('000)							
Australian Capital Territory	-1.6	-1.4	-0.7	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0
Total fertility rate (children per woman)							
Australian Capital Territory	1.28	1.27	1.26	1.29	1.33	1.49	1.49
Median age (years)							
Australian Capital Territory	35.5	35.7	36.0	36.3	36.6	38.1	41.4
Old-age dependency ratio (%)							
Australian Capital Territory	20.0	20.4	20.8	21.2	21.5	23.5	32.1

Source: ABS, *National, state and territory population, March 2025*; ABS, *Regional population, 2023–24*; and Centre for Population.

² Estimates beyond 2035–36 are experimental.

