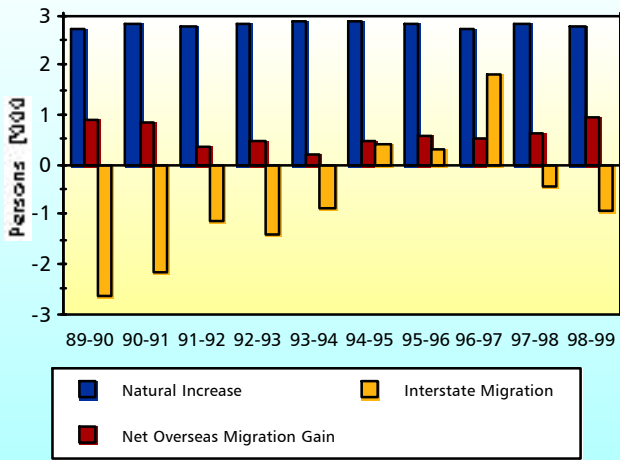


# Northern Territory

## Population Size and Change

**Fig. 6-74: Components of Population Change, NT**



Source Data: ABS Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0)

At the 1996 Census, approximately 1.0 per cent of Australia's population and 0.7 per cent of Australia's overseas-born population lived in the Northern Territory. At that time the overseas-born represented 23.3 per cent of Australia's total population and 16.8 per cent of the population of the Northern Territory.

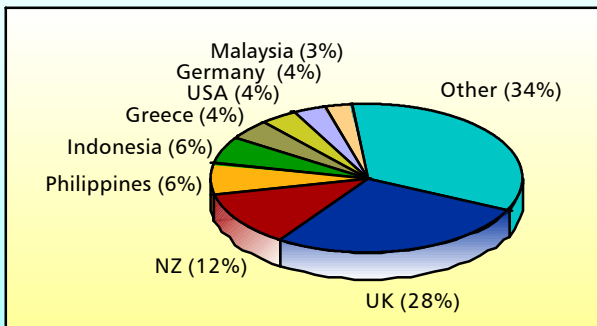
In 1998-99, the population of the Northern Territory increased by 2,790 people, giving the Territory a 1.5 per cent growth rate in those 12 months. The Territory gained 2,749 people through natural increase and 955 people through net overseas migration. It is estimated that the Territory lost 917 people through interstate migration.

Population growth in the Territory has fluctuated over the past few years. In 1998-99, net interstate migration was at its lowest level in six years.

Northern Territory residents departing interstate moved mainly to Queensland (29.7 per cent of departures in 1998-99) and South Australia (20.0 per cent). Interstate arrivals came mainly from Queensland (26.9 per cent) and South Australia (19.0 per cent).

**Fig. 6-75: Overseas-born Population by Major Countries of Birth, NT**

1996 Census



Source Data: ABS 1996 Census of Population and Housing

## Country of Birth of Settler Arrivals

At the 1996 Census, settler arrivals from the United Kingdom accounted for more than a quarter of the Territory's overseas-born population. New Zealand, the Philippines and Indonesia were the next largest birthplace groups.

Settler arrivals to the Northern Territory totalled 471 persons in 1999-2000. There has been some change in the relative importance of source countries in recent years. The proportion of settlers from the United Kingdom fell from 18.4 per cent in 1997-98 to 13.0 per cent in 1999-2000.

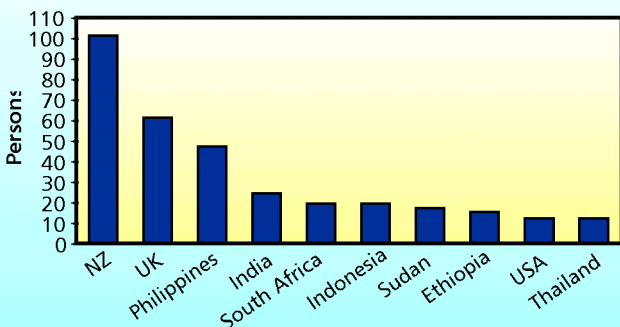
The proportion of settler arrivals from Asia has also declined from 64.3 per cent in 1991-92 to 33.1 per cent in 1999-2000.

In 1999-2000, the top six countries of origin of settler arrivals in the Northern Territory were New Zealand (101 persons) the United Kingdom (61 persons), the Philippines (47 persons), India (24 persons), South Africa (19 persons) and Indonesia (19 persons). This compares with the top source countries for Australia which were New Zealand, the United Kingdom, the PRC, South Africa and India.

There were more female settler arrivals (52.2 per cent) than male. The distribution of females and males across most source countries was relatively even, except for Indonesia (3 males and 16 females).

**Fig. 6-76: Top Ten Source Countries, NT**

1999-00



## Settler Arrivals to the Northern Territory by Migration Stream

The number of settler arrivals in the Northern Territory by migration stream has changed considerably over the past decade. In comparison with 1988–89, there were fewer settlers in all the streams in 1999–2000 except Humanitarian and New Zealand citizens.

Of the 471 arrivals in the Northern Territory in 1999–2000, Skill Stream settler arrivals were the largest stream, accounting for 33.1 per cent. Family settlers represented 29.1 per cent of the Territory's migrant intake, New Zealand migrants 26.1 per cent and Humanitarian entrants 9.8 per cent.

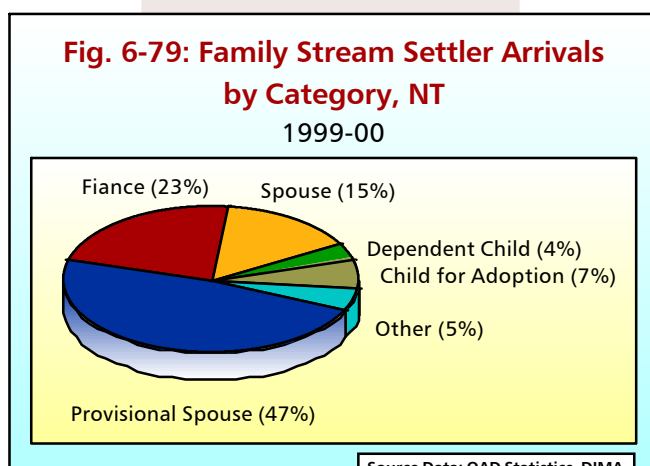
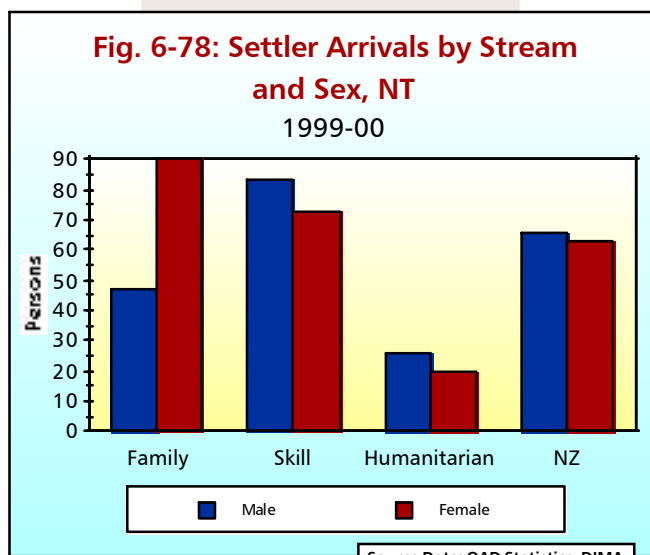
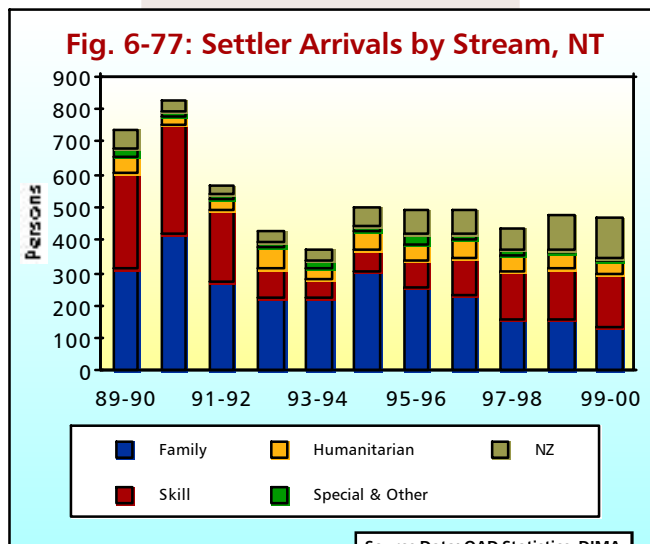
Over half of the Northern Territory settler arrivals were female (52.2 per cent), greater than the Australian proportion (50.9 per cent). Females represented a majority of the entrants in the Family stream (65.7 per cent). They were a minority in the Humanitarian Stream (43.5 per cent) and the Skill Stream (46.8 per cent).

## Family Stream Settler Arrivals

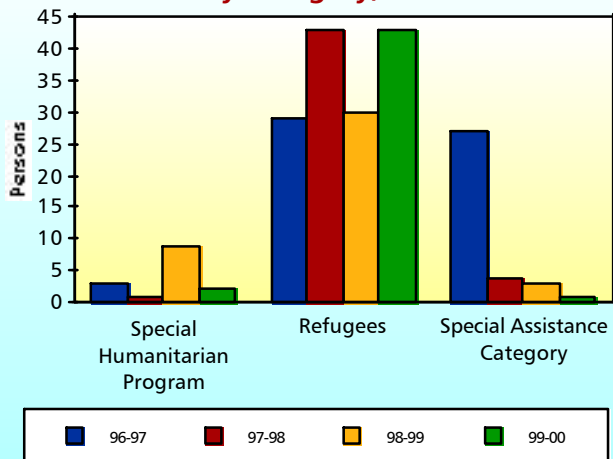
In 1999–2000, the Northern Territory received 137 Family settler arrivals, a decrease of 14.9 per cent over the number received in 1988–99.

High proportions of Family settlers who arrived in the Territory came from the Philippines (21.2 per cent), Indonesia (12.4 per cent), Thailand and the United Kingdom (both 8.8 per cent).

Nearly two thirds of Family settlers who arrived in the Territory in 1999–2000 entered either as Spouse (20 persons) or Spouse Provisional (65 persons). Over 20 per cent of Family entrants were Fiances (31 persons).

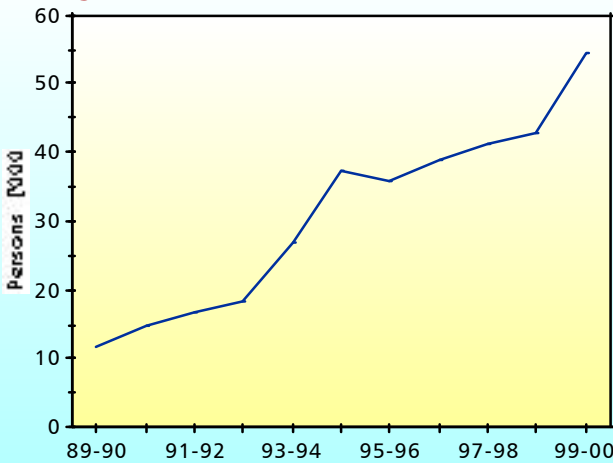


**Fig. 6-80: Humanitarian Settler Arrivals by Category, NT**



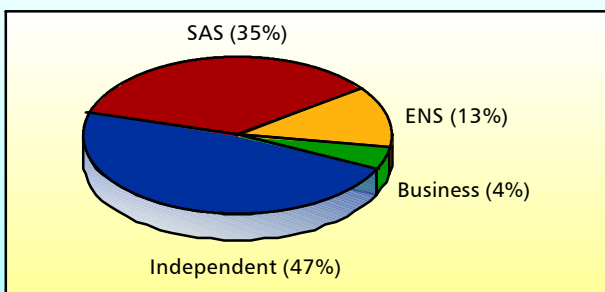
Source Data: OAD Statistics, DIMA

**Fig. 6-81: Overseas Visitor Arrivals, NT**



Source Data: OAD Statistics, DIMA

**Fig. 6-82: Skill Stream Settler Arrivals by Category, NT 1999-00**



Source Data: OAD Statistics, DIMA

## Humanitarian Settler Arrivals

In 1999–2000, the Northern Territory received 46 Humanitarian Program settler arrivals, four more people than in 1998–99. Of the 1999–2000 Humanitarian Program arrivals, 43.5 per cent were female.

Of all Humanitarian arrivals, 43 people (93.5 per cent) were accepted as Refugees, two were Special Humanitarian Program entrants, and one was a Special Assistance Category arrival.

Females comprised 46.5 of the Refugees to the Territory.

Refugees to the Northern Territory came mainly from Sudan and Ethiopia (both 15 persons).

## Overseas Visitor Arrivals

In 1999–2000, the Northern Territory attracted 54,457 visitors or 1.6 per cent of visitors who nominated a main State of stay. The Northern Territory share remained fairly steady in the late 1980s and early 1990s, at just below one per cent, but has seen a slight rise to the year 2000.

The total number of overseas visitor arrivals to the Territory increased by 26.8 per cent in 1999–2000 from the previous year.

## Skill Stream Settler Arrivals

The Northern Territory received 156 Skill Stream settlers in 1999–2000, an increase of one person compared with 1998–99. The largest number of 1999–2000 Skill Stream settlers entered under the Independent category (74 persons). Skill-Australian Sponsored entrants accounted for 55 people, Employer Nomination Scheme entrants for 20 people and Business settlers for a further seven people.

The United Kingdom was the biggest source country of Skill Stream settler arrivals to the Territory (25.6 per cent). The Philippines contributed a further 11.5 per cent of Skill Stream settler arrivals.

Skill Stream settler arrivals from the United Kingdom entered mainly as Independent settler arrivals (67.5 per cent). Those from the Philippines arrived predominantly as Skill-Australian Linked arrivals.

## Occupation of Settler Arrivals

In 1999–2000, the top occupations represented among settler arrivals for the Northern Territory were accountants (10 persons), computer professionals (9 persons) and elementary clerical, sales and service workers (9 persons).

By comparison, the top three occupations represented among settler arrivals for Australia as a whole in 1999–2000 were general managers (1,943 persons), computer professionals (1,778 persons) and accountants (1,694 persons).

## Labour Market Profile

Of the total settler arrivals in the Northern Territory in 1999–2000, 43.5 per cent were not in the labour force prior to migration, but were retired, students or performed home duties.

Most persons who were in the labour force prior to migration were skilled (66.8 per cent). A further 15.6 per cent were semi-skilled, 6.9 per cent unskilled and 10.7 per cent were not in employment.

Persons born overseas make up 17.3 per cent of the Territory's labour force, which is below the Australian proportion of 24.5 per cent.

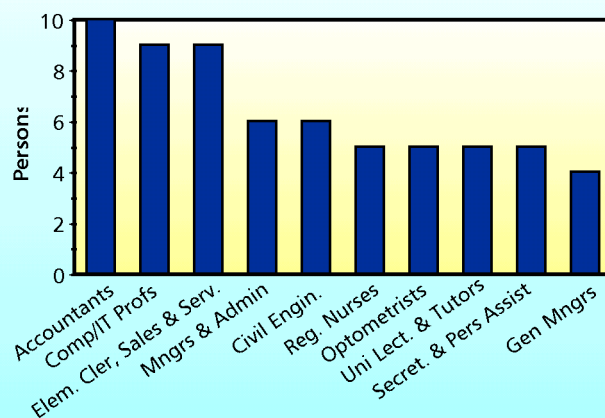
## Unemployment Rates

Migrants from the main English speaking countries (MESC) accounted for 8.1 per cent of the Territory's employed persons and 5.1 per cent of the unemployed. Migrants from non-English speaking countries (NESC) accounted for 9.3 per cent of the Territory's employed and 7.7 per cent of the unemployed.

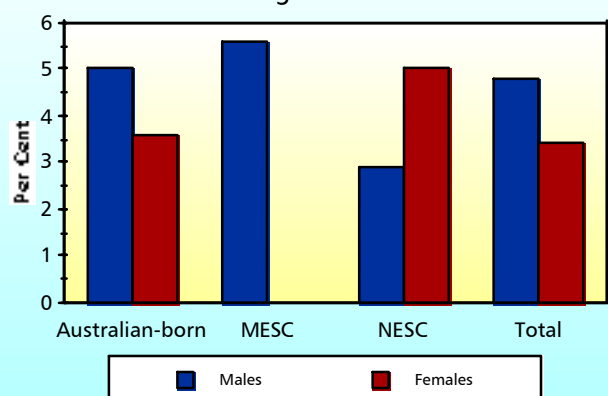
In August 2000, the Northern Territory had an unemployment rate of 4.2 per cent, compared with the Australian rate of 6.2 per cent. Australian-born persons had an unemployment rate of 4.4 per cent, NESC migrants 3.7 per cent and MESC migrants 3.3 per cent.

Australian-born and MESC-born females had a lower unemployment rate than their male counterparts.

**Fig. 6-83: Top Ten Occupations of Arrivals, NT 1999-00**



**Fig. 6-84: Unemployment Rates by Sex and Birthplace Group, NT August 2000**



Source Data: ABS Labour Force, unpublished statistics