

Barkly

This region comprises the Local Government Areas of Tennant Creek, Elliot, Ali Curung and Newcastle Waters.

Total Workforce

2,881

(February 2026)

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

(January - December 2024)

525

VET Enrolments

4% decrease since 2023

145

VET Completions

6% decrease since 2023

Top 3 Qualifications by Enrolments

Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care

Certificate III in Agriculture

Certificate II in Rural Operations

Top 3 Occupation Pathways by Enrolments

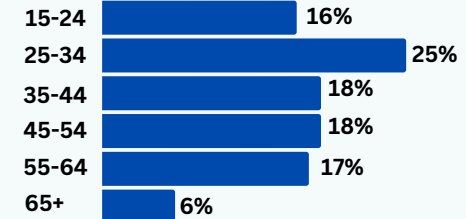
Welfare Support Workers

General Clerks

Child Carers

Workforce

Age (years)



Employment by Gender (June 2021)

Age Breakdown (June 2021)

176

Total Registered Businesses

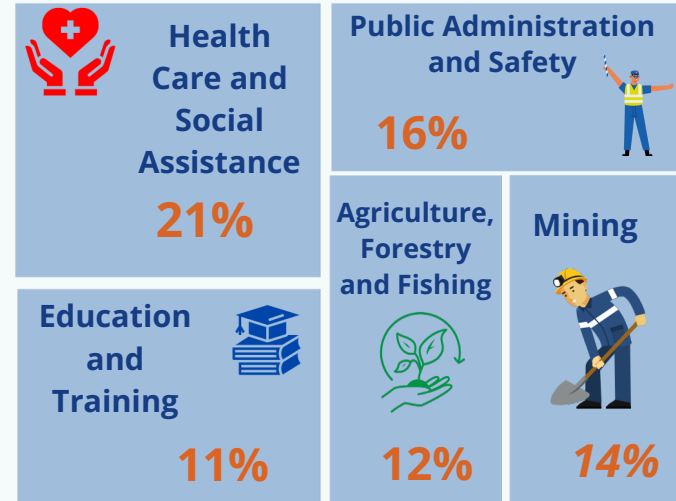
(2025)

8%

Unemployment Rate

(December 2025)

Top 5 Industries by Workforce Count (2023/24)



Resident Population (2021)

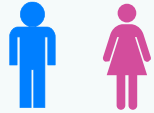
by age, gender and Indigenous status

6,006

Total Resident Population

Age (years)

| | | |
|-------|-----|-----|
| 0-24 | 52% | 48% |
| 25-44 | 49% | 51% |
| 45-64 | 49% | 51% |
| 65+ | 55% | 45% |



69%

Indigenous Population

Barkly's population is expected to be 6,334 in 2031.

Examples of Occupations in Demand for Top 5 Industries (2025)



Barista



Environmental Consultant



General Clerk



Motor Mechanic (General)



Primary School Teacher



Registered Nurse (Community Health)



Security Officer



Storeperson



Workplace Relations Adviser



Workforce Challenges



High employee turnover



Receiving fewer job applicants than expected



Inadequate skilled workforce



High relocation costs



Workforce Solutions



Providing in-house training and upskilling workforce



Leveraging recruitment agencies for workforce support



Recruiting temporary visa holders to fill skill shortages



Providing work visa sponsorship for overseas skilled workers



Rewarding high-performing employees in the workplace with incentives

WHAT DOES ISACNT DO

- Workforce development
- Support training package development
- Promote vocational education and training
- Provide advice and intelligence

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ISACNT

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References: ABS 2021 Census data; ABS ANZSCO 2022; ABS ANZSIC; ISACNT Regional Workforce estimates February 2026; ISACNT Stakeholder Engagements; NT Department of Treasury and Finance- Population projections; NCVET - VocStats 2023 & 2024; NTSOPL 2025; RDA Northern Territory 2023, 2024 & 2025 data; Small Area Labour Market December 2025. [Release date: May 2026]