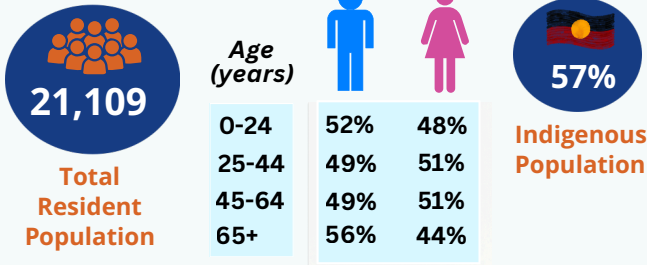


Big Rivers

This region comprises the Local Government Areas of Katherine, Victoria Daly and Roper Gulf.

Workforce

Resident Population (2021) by age, gender and Indigenous status



Big Rivers's population is expected to be 22,555 in 2031.

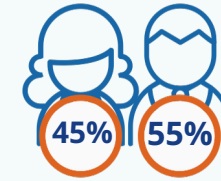
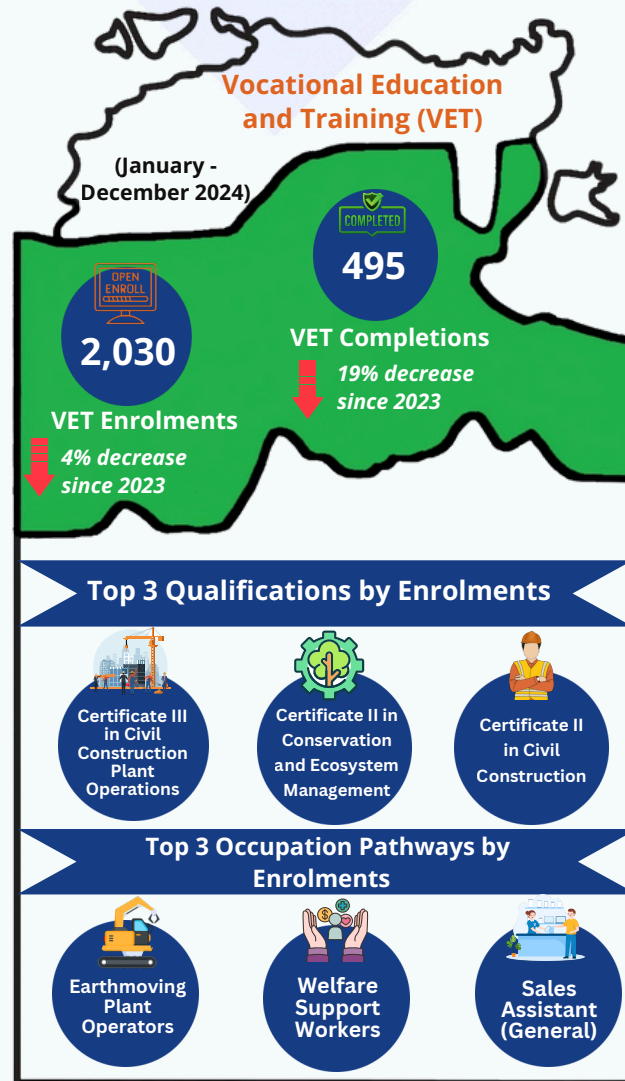
Examples of Occupations in Demand for Top 5 Industries (2025)



Total Workforce

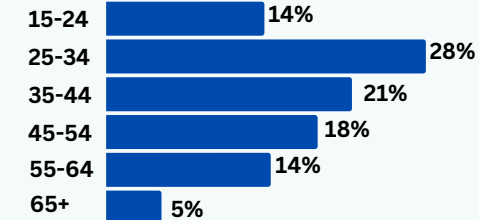
10,083

(February 2026)



Employment by Gender (June 2021)

Age (years)



Age Breakdown (June 2021)

1,075

Total Registered Businesses

(2025)

6%

Unemployment Rate

(December 2025)

Top 5 Industries by Workforce Count (2023/24)





Workforce Challenges



High employee turnover



Inadequate skilled workforce



Receiving fewer job applicants than expected



Training time for certain occupations is lengthy



Workforce Solutions



Providing in-house training and upskilling workforce



Leveraging recruitment agencies for workforce support



Providing work visa sponsorship for overseas skilled workers



Focusing on word-of-mouth job advertising as it appears to be effective in this region



Incentivising high performance workers at the workplace

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]