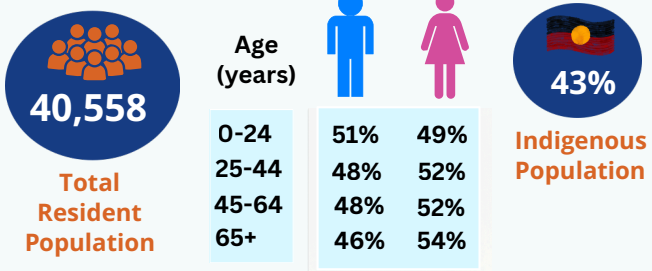


Central Australia

This region comprises the Local Government Areas of Alice Springs, Central Desert, Yulara and MacDonnell.

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

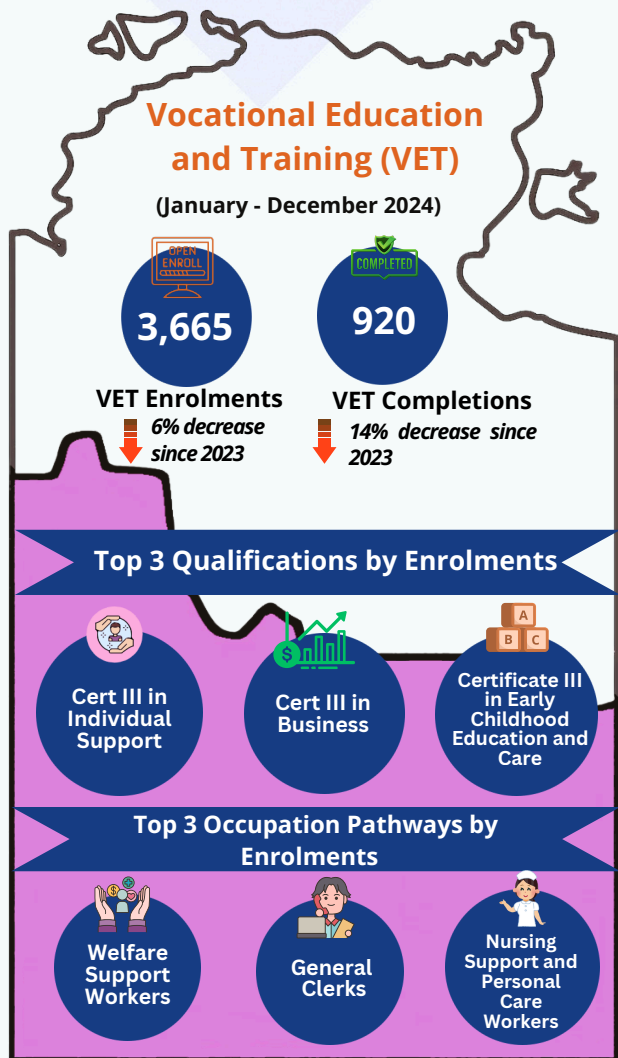


Central Australia's population is expected to be 43,617 in 2031.

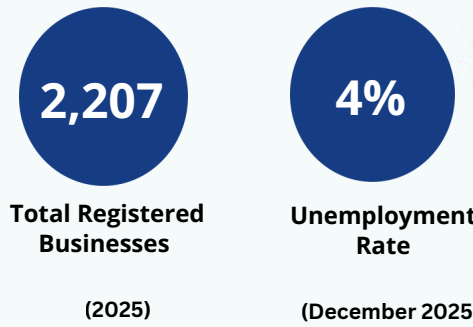
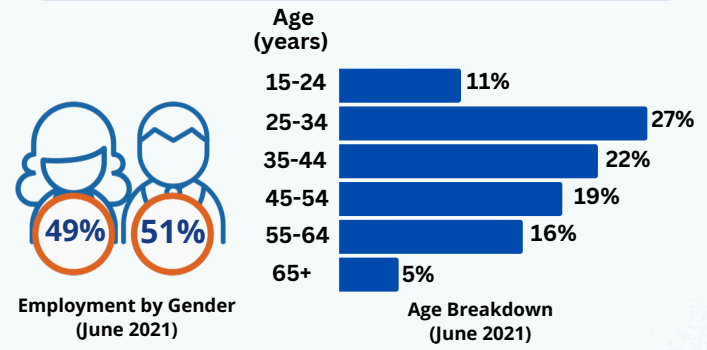
Examples of Occupations in Demand for Top 5 Industries (2025)



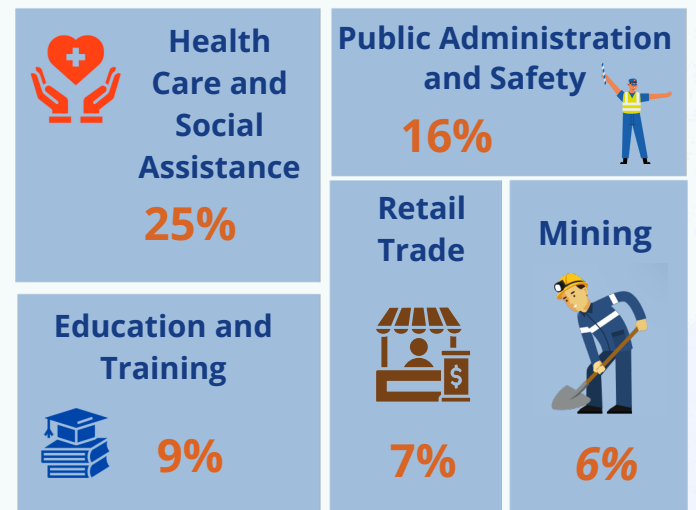
Total Workforce
21,971
(February 2026)



Workforce



Top 5 Industries by Workforce Count (2023/24)





Workforce Challenges



Shortage of locally skilled workforce



High employee turnover



Higher salary expectations



High relocation costs



Workforce Solutions



Providing in-house training for workers



Work visa sponsorship for overseas skilled workers



Recruiting temporary visa holders to fill skill shortages



Leveraging recruitment agencies for workforce support



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; NCVER - VocStats 2023 & 2024; NTSOPL 2025; RDA Northern Territory 2023, 2024 & 2025 data; Small Area Labour Market December 2025. [Release date: May 2026]