

East Arnhem

This region comprises the Local Government Areas of Nhulunbuy, Groote Eylandt and Milingimbi.

Total Workforce

3,856

(February 2026)

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

(January - December 2024)

1,620

VET Enrolments

↑ 1% increase since 2023

400

VET Completions

↑ 19% increase since 2023

Top 3 Qualifications by Enrolments

Certificate II in Horticulture

Certificate II in Community Services

Certificate II in Conservation and Ecosystem Management

Top 3 Occupation Pathways by Enrolments

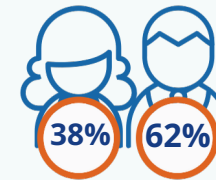
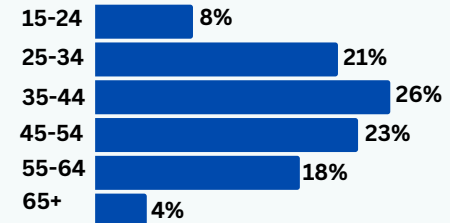
Welfare Support Workers

Sales Assistant (General)

Other Forestry and Garden Workers

Workforce

Age (years)



Employment by Gender (June 2021)

Age Breakdown (June 2021)

277

Total Registered Businesses

(2024)

9%

Unemployment Rate

(December 2025)

Top 5 Industries by Workforce Count (2023/24)

Mining



30%

Health Care and Social Assistance

16%

Public Administration and Safety



10%

Retail Trade



5%

Education and Training



13%

Resident Population (2021)

by age, gender and Indigenous status

14,507

Total Resident Population

Age (years)

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



70%

Indigenous Population



East Arnhem's population is expected to be 14,672 in 2031.

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



Baker



Bulldozer Operator



Child Care Centre Manager



Child Care Worker



Civil Engineering Draftsperson



Electrician (General)



General Clerk



Receptionist (General)



Secondary School Teacher



Workforce Challenges



High Employee turnover



Inadequate skilled workforce



Training time for certain occupations is lengthy



High relocation costs



Workforce Solutions



Providing in-house training and upskilling workforce



Providing work visa sponsorship for overseas skilled workers



Using employee attraction and retention strategies



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