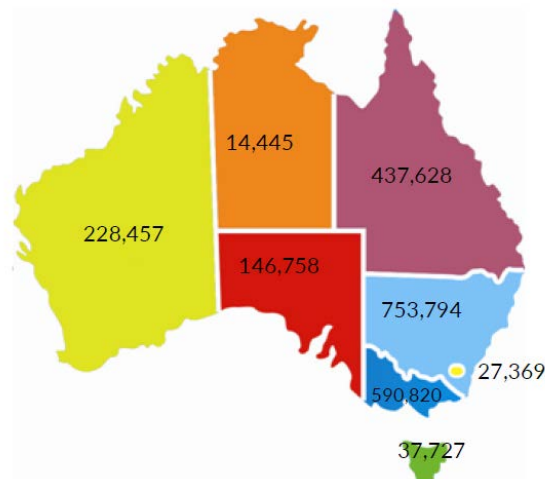


# NT business count – economic quick facts – as at June 2017

Information current as at March 2018

## Business count (actively trading), June 2017

National count: 2,238,299  
Currently not distributed: 1301



Source: ABS Cat No 8165.0

## Northern Territory business count 2017

- The Northern Territory (NT) had 14 445 actively trading businesses at June 2017, comprising 0.65% of total actively trading businesses in Australia.
- The highest number of operating businesses was in New South Wales. This was followed by Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

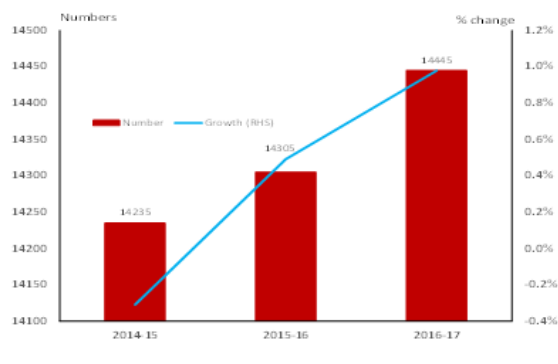
### Business counts

- There were 14 445 actively operating businesses in the NT at June 2017, an increase of 140 business (1.0%) compared with June 2016.
- In June 2017, the NT had 14 445 trading businesses, compared with 14 305 businesses in June 2016 and 14 235 businesses in June 2015.
- There were 2 238 299 actively operating businesses in Australia at June 2017, an increase of 66 755 businesses (3.1%) from June 2016.

### Business entry, exit and survival

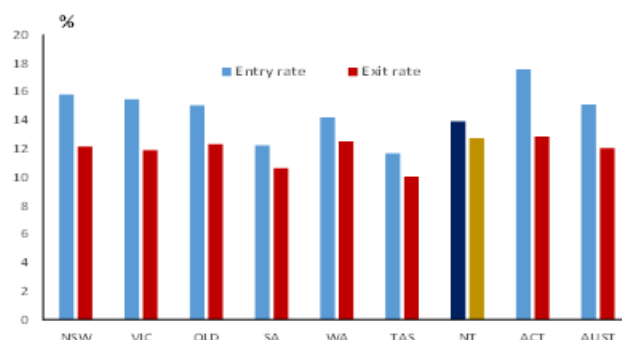
- In 2016-17, the entry rate for businesses in the NT was 13.9%, lower than the national average of 15.1%.
- The highest entry rate was in the ACT (17.6%) followed New South Wales (15.8%) and Victoria (15.5%). Tasmania had the lowest entry rate of 11.7%.
- In 2016-17, the exit rate for NT was 12.7%, lower than the entry rate and resulting in an increase in the number of overall businesses. The NT had the second highest exit rate while Tasmania had the lowest (10.0%). Nationally, the exit rate was 12.0%.
- Of the 14 297 businesses operating in June 2013 in the NT, 85.7% were still operating in June 2014, 75.6% survived to June 2015, 67.9% were still operating in June 2016, and 62.0% survived to June 2017.
- Nationally, 64.1% of the businesses operating in June 2013 survived to June 2017.

## Number and growth of NT businesses



Source: ABS Cat No 8165.0

## Business entry and exit rates, June 2017



Source: ABS Cat No 8165.0

- Of the businesses operating in June 2013, the highest survival rate in June 2017 was recorded in Tasmania (66.7%), followed by South Australia (66.6%). The lowest survival rate was in the ACT (61.0%).
- In June 2014, the Territory had 2 080 business entries and of these 77.4% survived to June 2015, 60.4% survived to June 2016 and 51.1% survived to June 2017. Nationally, the survival rate in June 2017 of business entries in 2013-14 was 54.8%.

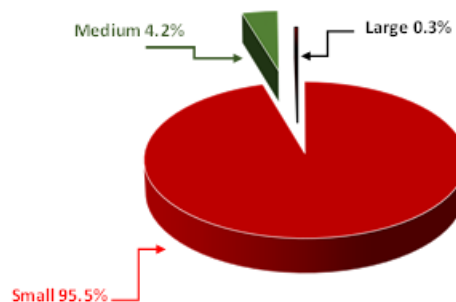
### Business size

- Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) defines business size by level of employment as follows:
  - Small business : 0-19 employees
  - Medium business: 20-199 employees
  - Large business: 200+ employees
- The majority of actively trading businesses in the NT are small. In June 2017, 95.5% were small businesses, 4.2% were medium businesses and 0.3% were large businesses. Nationally, 97.5% of the businesses were small.
- Of the small businesses in the NT, 61% were non employing businesses, 25% had 1-4 employees and 14% had between 5-19 employees.
- The non-employing businesses as a percentage of total number of businesses in the NT accounted for 58.4%.

### Business numbers - industry sector distribution

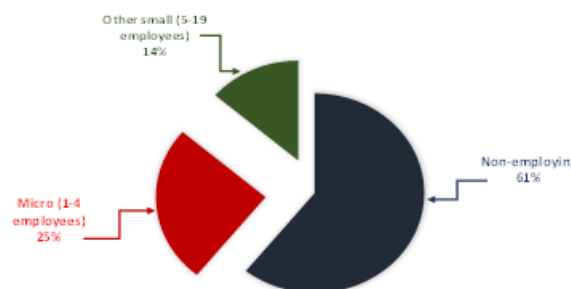
- In June 2017, the ‘Construction’ industry had the highest number of businesses operating in the NT with 20.6% of total businesses. This was followed by ‘Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services’(13.2%); ‘Professional, Scientific and Technical Services’ (9.1%);‘Transport, Postal and Warehousing’ (6.7%); ‘Finance and Insurance Services’ (6.5%) and ‘Agriculture Forestry and Fishing’ (6.2%).
- At the national level, ‘Construction’ industry had the highest number of businesses (16.6%) followed by ‘Professional, Scientific and Technical Services’ (12.1%) and ‘Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services’ (11.0%).

NT business size, June 2017



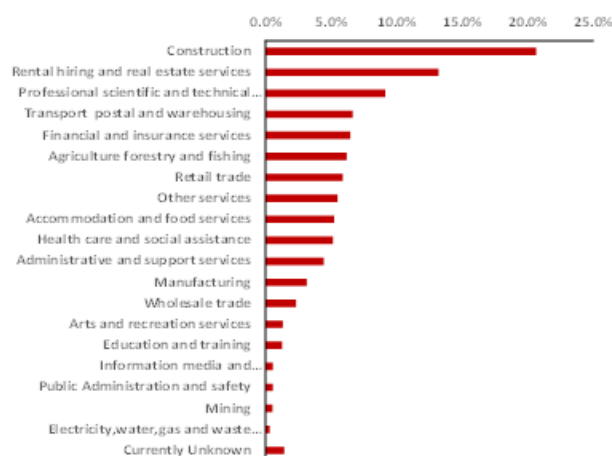
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8165.0

NT small business sub-categories



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8165.0

NT business by industry, June 2017



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8165.0

- The majority of businesses in the NT are in the 'services sector' (all industries except 'Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing'; 'Mining'; 'Manufacturing'; 'Electricity, water, gas and waste services'; and 'Construction'). In June 2017, the 'services sector' had 69.1% of all NT businesses.

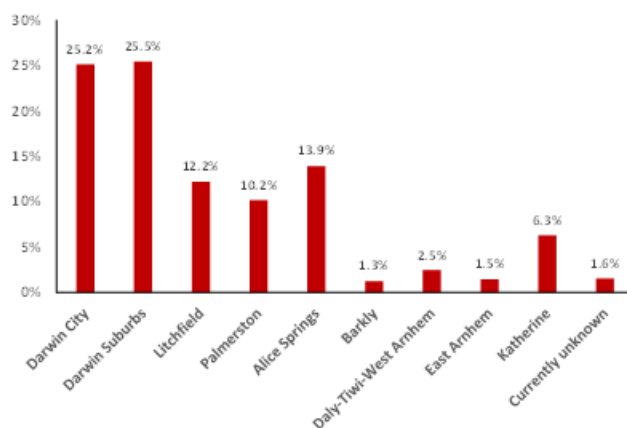
### Regional distribution of business

- The majority of the businesses in the Territory are located in the Greater Darwin region (Darwin City, Darwin Suburbs, Litchfield and Palmerston).
- In June 2017, 73.0% of all businesses in the NT were located in the Greater Darwin region. The Alice Springs region had the second highest number of businesses (13.9%), the Katherine region had 6.3%, Daly-Tiwi-West Arnhem had 2.5%, East Arnhem had 1.5% and the Barkly region had 1.3%. Business locations of about 1.6% of the businesses were 'currently unknown'.

### Annual business turnover

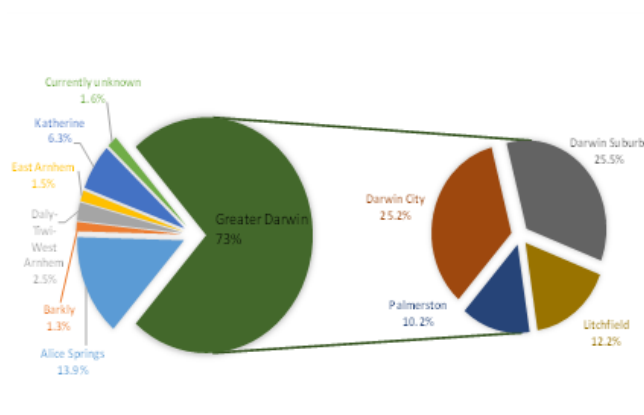
- At June 2017, the NT had 20.7% of businesses operating in the 'zero to <\$50k' turnover range. About 31.6% of the businesses were operating in the '\$50k to < \$200k' range, 37.9% in the '\$200k to <\$2m' range, 6.0% were in '\$2m to <\$5m' range, 2.0% in the '\$5m to <\$10m' range, and 1.7% in the '\$10m or more' range.
- More than half (52.3%) of the NT businesses have an annual turnover of less than \$200k.
- A further breakdown of the NT business count by turnover by employment size range is in Table 1.
- Nationally, around 24.6% of businesses were operating in the turnover range of 'zero to <\$50k', 34.7% in the '\$50k to <\$200k' turnover range, 33.9% in the '\$200k to <\$2m' turnover range, 3.9% in the '\$2m to <\$5m' turnover range; 1.4% in the '\$5m to <\$10m' turn over range and 1.5% in the '\$10m or more' turnover range.

NT business count by region, June 2017



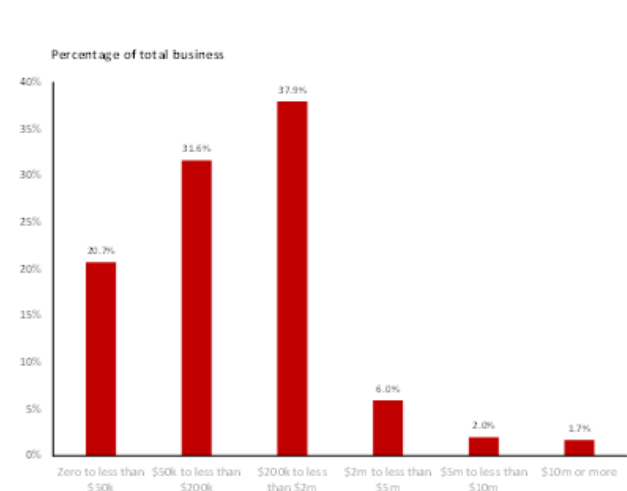
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8165.0

Business Location, June 2017



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8165.0

NT business count by turnover, June 2017



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8165.0 and ABS unpublished data

**Table 1: Business count by turnover and by employment size range, June 2017**

Industry Division (ANZSIC)	Employment Size Ranges					Total
	Non employing	1-4 employees	5-19 employees	20-199 employees	200 or more employees	
Less to less than \$50k	2763	188	17	3	0	2969
\$50k to less than \$200k	3691	860	37	3	0	4596
\$200k to less than \$1m	1691	2009	624	42	0	4365
\$1m to less than \$2m	145	275	559	94	0	1085
\$2m to less than \$5m	75	125	503	191	0	899
\$5m to less than \$10m	28	24	97	149	0	296
\$10m or more	22	5	30	144	31	230
Total	8418	3484	1880	631	31	14443

Source: ABS unpublished data – care should be taken in analysing data due to the effects of the confidentiality process

**Notes:**

ABS business count is derived from Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register (ABSBR) and is populated with information from the Australian Business Register (ABR). Most businesses in Australia are required to have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and register with ABR. Actively trading businesses with a turnover of at least of \$75,000 per annum and \$150 000 for non-profit organisations are required to have an ABN and remit GST. Businesses with <\$75,000 turnover can voluntarily register for ABN and these voluntarily registered businesses are included in the business counts. See appendix 1 for details on the basis for counts of businesses. For further information please refer to ABS Catalogue number 8165.0.

The ABS definition of business exit is 'a business for which the ABN or GST role has been cancelled and/or which has ceased to remit GST for at least five consecutive quarters in respect of that ABN (or 3 consecutive years for annual remitters)'. It should be noted that a business exit event does not necessarily equate to a business 'failure'. There may be other reasons such as sale of business (owner retiring, etc) or change in the business structure e.g. mergers and takeovers.

**Data Source:**

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Catalogue Number 8165.0

**For Further Information:**

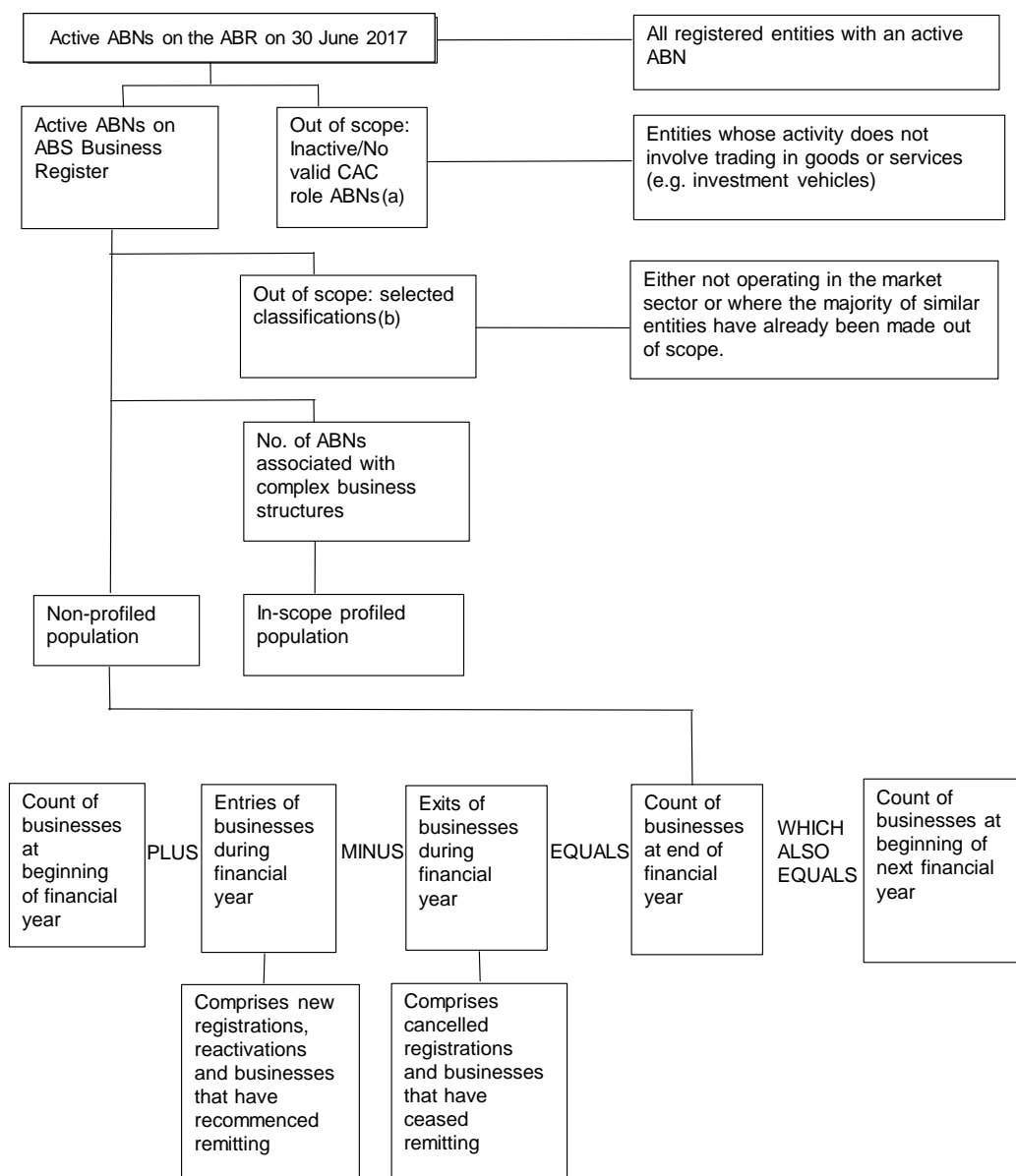
Contact: Strategic Policy and Research  
Department of Trade, Business and Innovation  
Phone: (08) 8999 5139

Information current as at: **13 March 2018**

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## The conceptual and practical basis for counts of Australian business, including entries and exits

Reference period June 2017



(a) The ABS business register is updated monthly and data is extracted as close to 30 June 2017 as possible. Therefore, in addition to out of scope ABNs, minor differences in the timing of the CABBEE frame contribute to the difference between end of year business counts presented in this release and those published by the ABR.

- (b)
- i. No. of active ABNs with no active in-scope roles
  - ii. No. of active ABNs with active in-scope roles other than active ITW and GST roles
  - iii. No. of active ABNs with invalid ANZSIC/SISCA/State – active ITW or GST roles only
  - iv. No. of mutually exclusive active ABNs excluded due to being ITW or GST LTNRs
  - v. Active ABNs with active ITW role only
  - vi. Out of scope TOLO/ANZSIC/SISCA

Source: ABS Cat. No. 8165.0