



1998

Australian Capital Territory at a Glance



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In 1911, an area of 2,368 square kilometres was transferred to the Commonwealth of Australia by the State of New South Wales to become the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). The city of Canberra, Australia's national capital, is located in the northern part of this area, 300 km south-west of Sydney and 650 km north-east of Melbourne by road. On 11 May 1989 self-government for the Territory was proclaimed.

The ACT is the smallest of Australia's six States and two Territories but has the highest population density. It is the only State or Territory that has no sea borders.

CLIMATE OF THE ACT

(Lat. 35 19'S, Long. 149 11'E, Height above MSL 571 metres)

The weather in the ACT in 1997 was drier than normal with well above average daily maximum temperatures and a record average daily hours of sunshine. The year reflected typical weather patterns associated with the development of an El Nino event across the Pacific Ocean during the year.

	During 1997	Annual average
Annual rainfall	427.0mm	631.0mm
Days of rain	81	107
Thunderstorms	11	23
Average daily temperature	13.7°C	12.9°C
Days temperature exceeded 30°C	46	29
Days of frost	102	100
Days of fog	32	45
Hours of sunshine per day	8.3	7.5
Extremes	<i>During 1997</i>	<i>Long term</i>
Air temperature — hottest	38.9°C (26 Nov)	42.2°C (1.2.68)
— coldest	-7.4°C (2 Aug)	-10.0°C (11.7.71)
Rainfall — highest month	118.2mm (June)	312.0 (Mar 1950)
— lowest month	0.6mm (April)	0.0mm (multiple)
Wind — highest gust	82km/h (29 Nov)	128 km/h (24.11.57)

ACT IN COMPARISON TO AUSTRALIA

	Unit	Period	ACT	Australia
Area	'000 sq km	—	2.4	7682.3
Demography				
Estimated resident population	'000	Jun 97	309.8	18 532.2
Annual population growth rate	%	1996–97	0.5	1.2
Permanent settlers	no.	1996–97	833	85 752
Rates per 1 000 mean population				
Births	no.	1996	14.3	13.9
Deaths	no.	1996	4.2	7.0
Marriages	no.	1996	5.4	5.8
Divorces	no.	1996	5.2	2.9
Economy				
Gross State/Domestic Product				
Current prices	\$m	1996–97	10 845	517 401
Average 1989–90 prices	\$m	1996–97	8 813	451 561

Gross State/Domestic Product per capita

Current prices	\$	1996–97	35 150	28 083
Average 1989–90 prices	\$	1996–97	28 562	24 508
Consumer Price Index	% change	1996–97	0.7	1.3

Labour force

Labour force	'000	1996–97	168.5	9 184.7
Employed persons	'000	1996–97	155.1	8 388.5
Unemployed persons	'000	1996–97	13.4	796.2
Unemployment rate	%	1996–97	8.0	8.7
Participation rate	%	1996–97	72.0	63.5
Average weekly earnings				
All males — total earnings	\$	Feb 98	822.8	715.6
All females — total earnings	\$	Feb 98	611.1	470.1

TIME SERIES FOR THE ACT**AGRICULTURE**

	Unit	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96
Number of establishments	no.	95	93	103
Area of crops	ha	353	322	386
Total area of establishments	ha	51 755	48 063	49 665
Livestock				
Cattle and calves	no.	13 368	12 780	13 689
Cattle and calves slaughtered	no.	3 750	3 131	3 513
Sheep and lambs	no.	97 239	77 741	72 670
Sheep and lambs slaughtered	no.	24 433	23 270	31 761
Poultry	no.	200 960	209 875	210 500
Wool production — shorn wool	tonne	421	440	430
Gross value of production				
Crops (incl. pasture and grasses)	\$'000	3 592	3 900	5 459
Livestock slaughterings	\$'000	2 394	2 700	2 336
Livestock products (incl. wool and milk)	\$'000	6 548	6 500	6 853

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

1994–95 1995–96 1996–97

Construction activity

Residential building	\$m	343.5	287.4	257.9
Non-residential building	\$m	291.4	332.8	378.0
Engineering construction	\$m	157.9	145.2	121.3
<i>Total</i>	\$m	792.8	765.4	757.2

New residential building approvals

Houses	no.	1 533	1 208	1 224
Other residential	no.	1 184	857	727
<i>Total</i>	no.	2 717	2 065	1 957

Moving annual median house prices

1995 1996 1997

Established house	\$'000	158.3	151.6	152.0
Established unit/townhouse	\$'000	129.5	122.1	120.7

CRIME

1994–95 1995–96 1996–97

Offences reported or becoming known to police

Offences against the person	no.	1 753	2 152	2 368
Burglary, fraud and theft	no.	22 289	25 213	23 873
Property damage	no.	6 215	7 279	7 880
Offences against good order	no.	1 393	2 715	4 653
All other offences	no.	947	1 278	3 327
<i>Total</i>	no.	32 597	38 637	42 011

DEMOGRAPHY		1995	1996	1997
Estimated resident population at 30 June	'000	304.8	308.3	309.8
By statistical subdivision at 30 June				
North Canberra	'000	38.5	38.8	38.9
Belconnen	'000	87.0	85.7	85.2
Woden Valley	'000	33.1	33.0	32.8
Weston-Creek–Stromlo	'000	25.2	24.9	24.7
Tuggeranong	'000	88.7	90.1	90.1
South Canberra	'000	22.1	22.7	23.1
Gungahlin-Hall	'000	9.2	12.7	14.7
Remainder of ACT	'000	0.4	0.3	0.3
Vital events registered		1994	1995	1996
Births	no.	4 461	4 415	4 396
Deaths	no.	1 222	1 114	1 300
Marriages	no.	1 661	1 753	1 654
Divorces(a)	no.	2 071	1 787	1 610
Rates per 1 000 mean population				
Births	no.	14.8	14.5	14.3
Deaths	no.	4.1	3.7	4.2
Marriages	no.	5.5	5.8	5.4
Divorces(a)	no.	6.9	5.9	5.2
(a) includes some divorces from persons resident outside the ACT				
EDUCATION		1996	1997	1998
Institutions				
Pre-schools	no.	84	86	84
Government schools	no.	98	98	93
Non-government schools	no.	42	42	42
Higher education	no.	4	4	4
VET	no.	3	3	3
Students				
Pre-schools	no.	4 374	4 122	4 091
Government primary and secondary	no.	39 940	40 031	39 454
Non-government primary and secondary	no.	21 444	21 708	21 809
Higher education	no.	20 559	20 668	n.a.
VET	no.	20 938	18 700	n.a.
FOREIGN TRADE		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Imports	\$m	12 143	9 597	11 958
Exports	\$m	17 763	15 593	8 954
LABOUR FORCE		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Labour force — trend	'000	166.5	170.4	168.5
Employed persons	'000	154.5	157.6	155.1
Male	'000	82.9	84.4	93.1
Female	'000	71.6	73.2	72.1
Unemployed persons	'000	12.0	12.8	13.4
Males	'000	7.0	7.2	7.5
Female	'000	5.0	5.6	5.9
Unemployment rate	%	7.2	7.6	8.0
Male	%	7.7	7.9	8.3
Female	%	6.6	7.1	7.6
Participation rate	%	72.6	73.7	72.0
Male	%	80.8	80.8	78.8
Female	%	65.7	66.8	65.4

Employment by industry		Feb 1996	Feb 1997	Feb 19 98
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	0.8	0.4	0.7
Mining	'000	0.0	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	'000	5.7	4.9	4.6
Electricity, gas and water supply	'000	0.7	0.8	0.5
Construction	'000	7.4	9.6	10.8
Wholesale trade	'000	5.5	4.3	4.7
Retail trade	'000	20.4	19.9	21.6
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	8.5	7.7	8.0
Transport and storage	'000	5.8	4.4	4.8
Communication services	'000	2.9	2.4	2.2
Finance and insurance	'000	4.1	3.2	3.3
Property and business services	'000	19.9	18.7	20.7
Government administration and defence	'000	39.8	39.9	38.3
Education	'000	13.1	14.1	12.3
Health and community services	'000	10.3	12.1	11.9
Cultural and recreational services	'000	5.2	4.4	6.5
Personal and other services	'000	5.7	7.1	6.8
Average weekly earnings		Feb 1996	Feb 1997	Feb 1998
All males — total earnings	\$	759.7	777.3	822.8
All females — total earnings	\$	525.9	576.5	611.1
<i>All employees — total earnings</i>	\$	639.7	679.3	719.0
Industrial disputes		1995	1996	1997
Working days lost	'000	1.2	21.0	2.1
Workings days lost per 1 000 employees	no.	9	148	74
MANUFACTURING		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Persons employed	'000	4.2	3.9	4.0
Wages and salaries paid	\$m	128	122	124
Turnover	\$m	554	534	602
PRICES		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Consumer price index (Canberra) — percentage change				
All groups	%	3.3	4.5	0.7
Food	%	3.3	3.4	2.5
Tobacco and alcohol	%	5.6	10.9	2.8
Clothing	%	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Housing	%	6.1	6.2	-5.8
Household equipment and operation	%	1.5	3.0	1.6
Transport	%	2.7	6.4	2.0
Health and personal care	%	4.6	4.5	5.2
Recreation and education	%	2.0	1.1	1.6
Average retail prices (cents)		Jun 1995	Jun 1996	Jun 1997
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	109	106	112
Bread, white loaf, supermarket sales	750	185	185	193
Rump steak	1kg	1 186	1 097	1 043
Coffee	150g jar	568	571	638
Beer, full strength, public bar	285ml	159	167	175
Petrol, unleaded	1 litre	73.0	76.5	77.4

PRIVATE FINANCE		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Bank deposits at 30 June	\$m	4 197	4 442	5 120
Lending commitments				
Housing finance for owner occupatoin	\$m	1 025.0	1 006.2	1 034.6
Personal	\$m	497.9	604.6	697.3
Commercial	\$m	1 009.4	1 173.9	1 235.3
Lease	\$m	96.8	85.8	88.6
PUBLIC FINANCE		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Revenues				
Taxes, fees and fines	\$m	540	548	611
Grants	\$m	572	546	557
Other	\$m	97	102	94
Outlays				
Current	\$m	1 084	1 128	1 218
Capital	\$m	97	102	94
Deficit adjusted for net advances	\$m	15	15	31
RETAIL TRADE		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Turnover				
Food retailing	\$m	836.4	917.3	948.3
Department stores	\$m	281.8	289.0	283.6
Clothing and soft good retailing	\$m	150.1	176.9	180.2
Household goods retailing	\$m	212.4	199.5	276.2
Recreational goods retailing	\$m	135.6	142.3	138.6
Other household goods retailing	\$m	174.6	179.1	238.7
Hospitality and service industries	\$m	344.5	346.2	378.2
Total	\$m	2 135.4	2 250.3	2 444.2
STATE ACCOUNTS		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Gross State Product				
At current prices	\$m	9 896	10 329	10 845
At average 1989-90 prices	\$m	8 553	8 762	8 813
TOURISM		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Visitor arrivals				
Domestiic	'000	1 347.8	1 481.1	1 303.0
International	'000	259.5	258.4	277.0
Hotels, motels and guest houses				
Establishments at 30 June	no.	44	45	47
Guest rooms at 30 June	no.	3 593	3 666	3 828
Bed spaces at 30 June	no.	10 504	10 853	11 481
Room occupancy rates	%	65.4	62.7	58.3
Takngs	\$'000	73 356	76 435	76 436
TRANSPORT		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
New motor vehicle registrations				
Passenger vehicles	no.	10 582	11 054	10 375
Light commercial vehicles	no.	1 221	957	1 063
Trucks	no.	161	82	67
<i>Total motor vehicles</i>	no.	12 006	12 133	11 554
Motor cycles	no.	350	341	452
Motor vehicles on register		1993	1995	1996
Passenger vehicles	'000	150.0	156.6	161.8
Light commercial vehicles	'000	16.7	17.5	17.2
Trucks	'000	4.0	3.8	3.4
<i>Total motor vehicles</i>	'000	171.7	178.8	183.5
Motor cycles	'000	4.8	5.0	5.4

WELFARE SERVICES		1995	1996	1997
Pensioners at 30 June				
Age (incl wives'/carers' pension)	no.	12 250	12 347	13 706
Invalid (incl. wives'/carers' pension)	no.	4 781	4 998	5 390
Sole parent	no.	4 586	4 812	5 011
Basic Family Payment	no.	52 388	52 345	52 053
Job Search Newstart	no.	9 687	10 074	10 373

For more information

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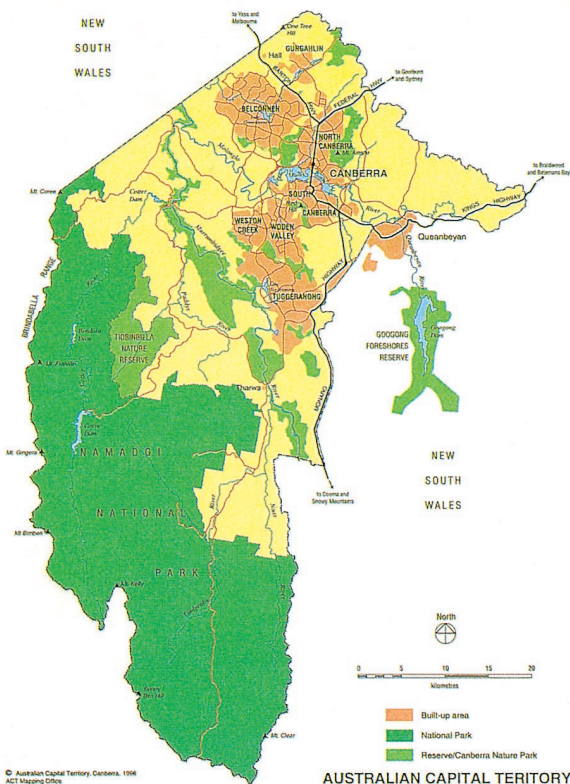
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