



# Australian Capital Territory at a Glance

2006



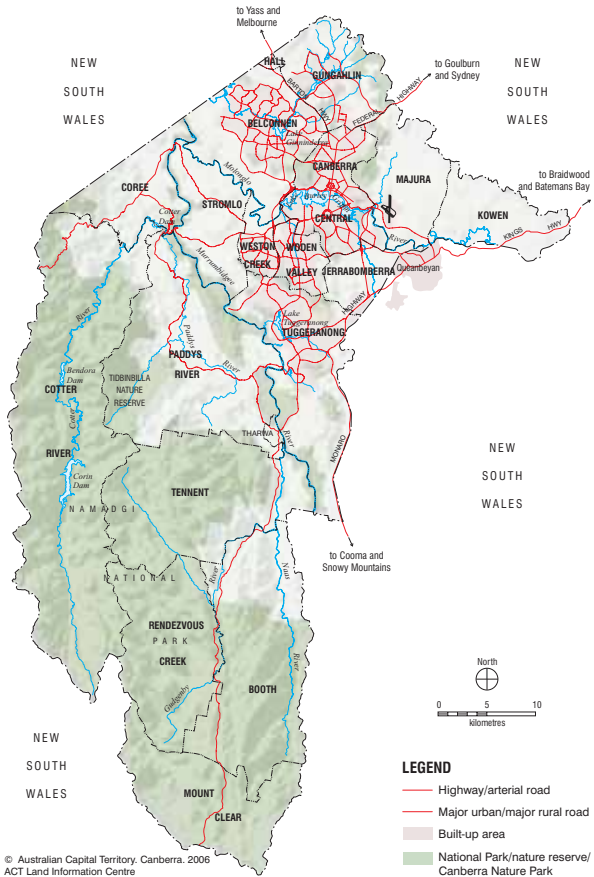
*ACT at a Glance* is a supporting document to the annual publication *ACT in Focus* (cat. no. 1307.8). *ACT at a Glance* provides a snapshot of data about the Australian Capital Territory, whilst *ACT in Focus* presents a broader range of information, which includes tables, graphs and commentary.

Unless otherwise stated, the data in *ACT at a Glance* are available from the ABS Website <[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)> or can be provided on request. Both *ACT in Focus* and *ACT at a Glance* are available from the ABS Website, or for more information please contact Glenn West on 02 6252 8901 or <[glenn.west@abs.gov.au](mailto:glenn.west@abs.gov.au)>.

In 1911, an area of approximately 2,360 km<sup>2</sup> 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 and is the only State or Territory without a sea border.

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



CLIMATE OF THE ACT

(Latitude 35° 19'S, Longitude 149° 12'E, Height above Mean Sea Level 578.4 metres).

The ACT's climate is essentially continental, with hot summers and cold winters. During 2005, the ACT's weather was wetter and warmer than average, with less fog and one less thunderstorm compared with long-term averages.

	During 2005	Long-term average
Annual rainfall	648.6 mm	625.2 mm
Days of rain	109	105
Thunderstorms	22	23
Average day time maximum temperature	21.0 °C	19.6 °C
Days temperature was 30°C or higher	48	30
Days of frost	82	99
Days of fog	18	44
Average hours of sunshine per day	8.2	7.6
<b>Extremes</b>	<b>During 2005</b>	<b>Recorded extremes</b>
Air temperature — hottest	39.4 °C (14 Jan)	42.2 °C (1.2.68)
Air temperature — coldest	-4.7 °C (2 Jun)	-10.0 °C (11.7.71)
Rainfall — highest month	100.6 mm (Sep)	312.2 mm (Mar 1950)
Rainfall — lowest month	0.8 mm (May)	0.0 mm (multiple)
Source: Bureau of Meteorology, Canberra Airport Regional Office, Data available on request.		

ACT IN COMPARISON TO AUSTRALIA

	Unit	Period	ACT	Australia
Area	'000 km <sup>2</sup>		2.4	7 692.0

DEMOGRAPHY

Estimated resident population	'000	Jun 2005	325.2	20 328.6
Annual population growth rate	%	2004-05	0.3	1.2
Births (per 1,000 of the population)	crude rate	2004	12.9	12.7
Deaths (per 1,000 of the population)	standardised rate	2004	5.6	6.3
Marriages (per 1,000 of the population)	crude rate	2004	5.3	5.5

ECONOMY

Gross State Product

Current prices	\$m	2004-05	18 306	891 524
Chain volume measures	\$m	2004-05	17 829	857 765
Percentage change from previous year	%	2004-05	3	2.3

Final consumption expenditure (chain volume)

General government	\$m	2004-05	15 296	162 993
Household	\$m	2004-05	9 970	522 551
Consumer price index(a)	% change	2004-05	2.3	2.4

(a) The CPI data refers to Canberra instead of the ACT, and the Australian data is the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

LABOUR FORCE (trend)

Total labour force	'000	Mar 2006	187.7	10 614.1
Employed people	'000	Mar 2006	181.7	10 067.7
Unemployed people	'000	Mar 2006	6.0	546.4
Unemployment rate	%	Mar 2006	3.2	5.1
Participation rate	%	Mar 2006	72.1	64.4

TRANSPORT

New motor vehicle sales (original)	'000	2004-05	14 739	981 791
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**ACT IN COMPARISON TO AUSTRALIA (continued)**

	Unit	Period	ACT	Australia
<b>AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (trend)</b>				
All males – full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	Nov 2005	1 275.6	1 088.3
All females – full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	Nov 2005	1 077.1	922.6

**ACT HISTORICAL DATA****AGRICULTURE (at 30 Jun)**

	Unit	2003	2004	2005
Number of establishments	no.	91	88	86
Total area of establishments	ha	50 000	50 000	48 000
<b>Livestock</b>				
Cattle and calves	no.	np	8 000	9 000
Sheep and lambs	no.	98 000	95 000	87 000
Chickens	no.	220 000	220 000	220 000
<b>Gross value of production</b>				
Crops (incl. pasture and grasses)	\$m	3.4	4.6	p 4.6
Livestock slaughterings	\$m	5.7	5.1	p 5.5
Livestock products (incl. wool and milk)	\$m	9.9	9.6	p 8.3
Total agriculture	\$m	19.0	19.2	p 18.3

**BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION (original)**

		2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
<b>Building commencements</b>				
Residential building	\$m	629.8	697.4	631.9
Non-residential building	\$m	374.4	315.1	495.1
Engineering construction	\$m	223.5	267.4	234.8
Total	\$m	1 227.7	1 279.9	1 361.8
<b>New residential building approvals</b>				
Houses	no.	1 889	1 373	985
Other residential	no.	1 281	1 763	1 294
Total	no.	3 170	3 136	2 279
<b>Moving annual median house prices (at Sep qtr)</b>				
Established house	\$'000	289.0	353.4	354.6
Established other dwelling	\$'000	247.0	281.0	289.0

Source: Real Estate Institute of Australia, Market Facts, Data available on request.

**CRIME**

		2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
<b>Offences reported or becoming known to police</b>				
Offences against the person	no.	3 350	2 707	2 399
Robbery and extortion	no.	210	268	238
Burglary, fraud and other theft	no.	25 632	24 379	20 144
Property damage and environment offences	no.	8 070	7 942	7 394
Offences against good order	no.	3 781	3 546	3 128
All other offences not elsewhere classified	no.	5 718	5 154	5 417
Total	no.	46 761	43 996	38 720

Source: ACT Policing Annual Reports, 2002–03, 2003–04 and 2004–2005.

**RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER (Chain volume measures)**

		2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
Food retailing	\$m	1 412.9	1 420.0	1 479.4
Department stores	\$m	344.0	350.7	346.3
Clothing and soft good retailing	\$m	207.4	212.5	230.4
Household good retailing	\$m	577.7	682.6	710.7
Recreational good retailing	\$m	184.3	181.0	178.6
Other retailing	\$m	308.4	317.2	297.5
Hospitality and service industries	\$m	567.0	527.7	471.6
Total(a)	\$m	3 595.8	3 691.7	3 714.4

(a) As chain volume measures are not additive, columns may not sum to totals.

## DEMOGRAPHY

		2003	2004	2005
Estimated resident population (at 30 Jun)	'000	r 323.4	r 324.1	p 325.2
<b>Statistical subdivisions (ERP at 30 Jun)</b>				
North Canberra	'000	r 40.1	r 40.8	p 41.7
Belconnen	'000	r 86.2	r 85.6	p 85.4
Woden Valley	'000	r 32.3	r 31.8	p 31.6
Weston Creek-Stromlo	'000	r 22.9	r 22.5	p 22.6
Tuggeranong	'000	r 90.4	r 89.8	p 89.1
South Canberra	'000	r 23.5	r 23.5	p 24.1
Gungahlin–Hall	'000	r 27.6	r 29.6	p 30.4
Remainder of ACT	'000	r 0.4	r 0.4	p 0.4
<b>Vital events registered</b>				
		2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
Births	no.	4 014	4 160	4 272
Deaths	no.	1 404	1 468	1 355
Total Fertility Rate (births per woman)	rate	1.554	1.628	1.685
Deaths (per 1,000 persons)	standardised rate	5.93	5.94	5.27
		2002	2003	2004
Births (per 1,000 persons)	crude rate	12.8	12.8	12.9
Marriages registered	no.	1 583	1 558	1 719
Marriages (per 1,000 persons)	crude rate	4.9	4.8	5.3
Divorces granted(a)	no.	1 577	1 652	1 595

(a) Not representative of the ACT due to the number of divorces granted where usual residence was another state or territory.

## EDUCATION

<b>Establishments (Feb)</b>		2004	2005	2006
Government Preschools	no.	80	82	82
Schools(a)				
Government	no.	92	96	95
Non-government	no.	42	44	44
Higher education	no.	4	4	4
<b>Student enrolments (Feb)</b>				
Government Preschools	no.	3 461	3 370	3 369
Schools(a)				
Government	no.	36 020	35 721	35 463
Non-government	no.	24 145	24 554	24 679
Higher education enrolments	no.		27 349	28 840

(a) Excludes Special Schools.

Source: ACT Department of Education, Government Preschool Census Bulletin, Government Schools Census Bulletin, Non-government Schools Census Bulletin, 2004, 2005 and 2006; Department of Education, Science and Training, Selected Higher Education Statistics, 2003 and 2004; and Australian Catholic University, unpublished data.

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX(a)

<b>% change from previous period</b>		2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
Food	% change	3.4	3.4	1.8
Tobacco and alcohol	% change	2.5	3.8	3.3
Clothing and footwear	% change	1.6	–1.2	–2.2
Housing	% change	4.4	7.3	3.1
Household contents and services	% change	1.1	0.2	0.6
Health	% change	7.0	7.6	5.3
Transportation	% change	2.0	0.3	2.6
Communication	% change	3.1	1.4	0.9
Recreation	% change	3.5	–1.9	1.3
Education	% change	3.6	4.9	6.1

(a) The CPI data refers to Canberra instead of the ACT.

**LABOUR FORCE (Mar trend series)**

		2004	2005	2006
Employed people	'000	129.2	134.6	136.0
Males	'000	76.2	79.4	80.0
Females	'000	53.1	55.2	56.0
Unemployed people	'000	6.8	6.2	6.0
Males	'000	3.8	3.5	3.2
Females	'000	3.0	2.7	2.8
Unemployment rate (Persons)	%	3.7	3.3	3.2
Males	%	4.0	3.6	3.2
Females	%	3.4	3.0	3.2
Participation rate (Persons)	%	71.8	72.8	72.1
Males	%	77.7	77.7	77.8
Females	%	66.2	68.1	66.6
<b>Employment by Industry (Feb qtr)</b>		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	0.4	1.0	1.4
Mining	'000	—	0.1	—
Manufacturing	'000	5.5	5.2	4.5
Electricity, gas and water supply	'000	1.1	0.8	1.2
Construction	'000	10.2	11.2	11.1
Wholesale trade	'000	2.2	2.9	4.3
Retail trade	'000	21.5	23.0	20.7
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	9.0	8.7	6.6
Transport and storage	'000	5.2	4.5	4.2
Communication services	'000	1.9	2.7	2.8
Finance and insurance	'000	2.7	3.9	4.0
Property and business services	'000	24.6	26.1	26.7
Government administration and defence	'000	46.4	44.6	46.1
Education	'000	15.5	13.6	16.1
Health and community services	'000	14.5	19.1	15.8
Cultural and recreational services	'000	6.9	7.2	6.0
Personal and other services	'000	7.2	6.9	7.7
<b>Average weekly earnings (Nov trend series)</b>		<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Male – full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	1 141.80	1 202.30	1 275.60
Female – full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	964.80	1 012.90	1 077.10
Persons – full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	1 065.30	1 116.10	1 191.20
<b>Wage and Salary Earners (Feb qtr trend series)</b>		<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Commonwealth Government	'000	58.4	60.3	63.1
Territory Government	'000	18.4	19.1	18.3
Total	'000	76.8	79.4	81.4

**MEDICARE SERVICES**

<b>Average number of services (per person)</b>		2002–03	2003–04	2004–05
Males	no.	7	7	9
Females	no.	11	11	11
Persons	no.	9	9	9
<b>Average value of benefits (per person)</b>				
Males	\$	263	273	309
Females	\$	402	413	479
Persons	\$	333	344	395

Source: Department of Health and Ageing, Medicare Statistics, Dec qtrs 2003, 2004 and 2005.

LENDING ACTIVITY

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	1 787	1 813	1 632
Personal finance commitments	\$m	430	454	448

GOVERNMENT FINANCE

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
<b>Revenue</b>				
Taxation	\$m	684	753	712
Current grants and subsidies	\$m	982	1 033	1 076
Other	\$m	694	577	603
<b>Total</b>	\$m	2 360	2 363	2 391
<b>Expenses</b>				
Operating	\$m	1 736	1 971	2 076
Other	\$m	613	594	608
<b>Total</b>	\$m	2 348	2 566	2 682
<b>Net operating balance</b>	\$m	12	-203	-291

GROSS STATE PRODUCT

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
At current prices	\$m	16 091	17 309	18 306

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION (Dec qtr)

<b>Hotels, motels, guest houses and serviced apartments</b>		2003	2004	2005
Establishments	no.	58	56	58
Room occupancy rates	%	66	67	69
Takings from accommodation	\$m	140.3	140.7	152.4

TRANSPORT

<b>New motor vehicle sales (original)</b>		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Passenger vehicles	no.	10 420	10 490	10 340
Other vehicles	no.	4 040	4 364	4 399
Total	no.	14 460	14 854	14 739

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

<b>ACT</b> — Australian Capital Territory	<b>np</b> — not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise stated
<b>Dec</b> — December	
<b>ERP</b> — estimated resident population	<b>Nov</b> — November
<b>Feb</b> — February	<b>p</b> — preliminary
<b>ha</b> — hectares	<b>qtr</b> — quarter
<b>incl.</b> — including	<b>r</b> — revised
<b>Jan</b> — January	<b>Sep</b> — September
<b>Jun</b> — June	<b>°C</b> — degrees Celsius
<b>km</b> — kilometres	<b>'000</b> — thousand
<b>km<sup>2</sup></b> — square kilometres	<b>\$'000</b> — dollars thousand
<b>Mar</b> — March	<b>\$m</b> — dollars million
<b>mm</b> — millimetres	<b>%</b> — percent
<b>no.</b> — number	<b>—</b> — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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