

NT Business Count 2025-26

- 1. On 18 August 2026, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released preliminary business count data for 2025-26.
- 2. In 2025-26, the number of businesses operating in the Territory rose by 3.8% or 643 businesses to 17,440 businesses (Table 1), following 2.5% growth in 2024-25.
- 3. Over the past four years (July 2022 to June 2026), the number of Territory businesses has grown on average by 2.6% annually, in line with the national average growth rate.
- 4. In 2025-26 among the jurisdictions, business count growth was highest in Western Australia (4.6% and 12,248 businesses) and lowest in Tasmania (1.9% and 850 businesses). New South Wales registered the largest net increase in the number of businesses at 26,057 and 2.8% growth.
- 5. The Territory's business entry rate jumped to 18.5%, up from 17% a year earlier and above the national rate (16.9%) (Chart 1). Entry rates increased across all jurisdictions, ranging from 13.3% in Tasmania to 18.5% in the NT, the highest nationally.
- 6. The Territory's business exit rate increased to 14.1%, up from 13.7% a year earlier and above the national rate of 13.8% (Chart 2). Across jurisdictions, the ACT recorded the highest exit rate (15%), while Tasmania had the lowest (11.6%).

Table 1: Business Counts for 2025-26

	Jun-26	Annual Change	Change (%)	Entries	Entry rate (%)	Exits	Exit rate (%)
NT	17,440	643	3.8	3,108	18.5	2,372	14.1
AUS	2,814,778	85,130	3.1	460,461	16.9	375,331	13.8

- 7. The Territory had 65.2 businesses per 1,000 people, down from 64 the previous year, below the national average of 101.2 businesses and the lowest rate of all jurisdictions (Chart 2).

Chart 1

Business entry and exit rates

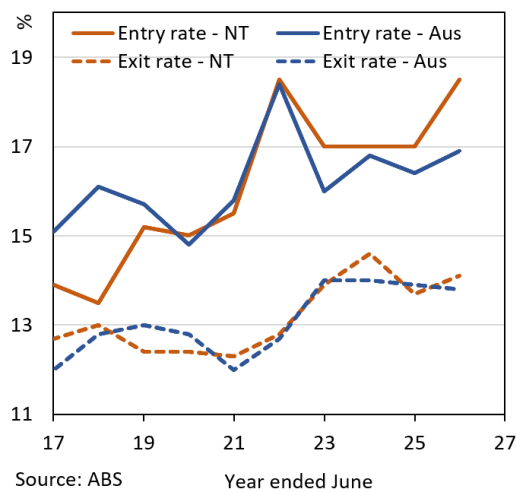
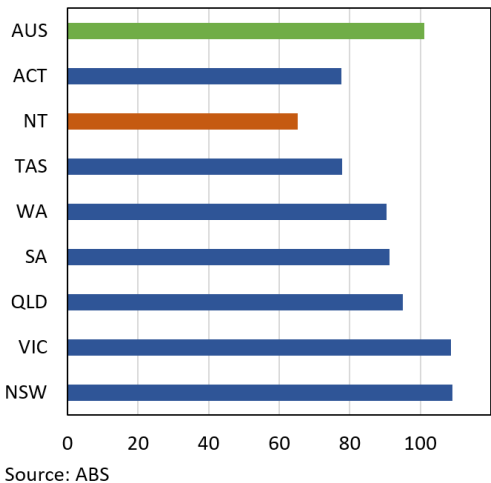


Chart 2

Businesses per 1000 people, 2025-26



8. The Territory's overall business survival rate was 61.8%, closely aligned to the national rate (61.9%) (Chart 3). However, the survival of new Territory businesses (48.1%) was lower than nationally (49.2%) (Chart 4), a decline in the Territory's rate from 49.2% last year, while the national rate improved from 48%.¹

Chart 3
Survival Rates (%)

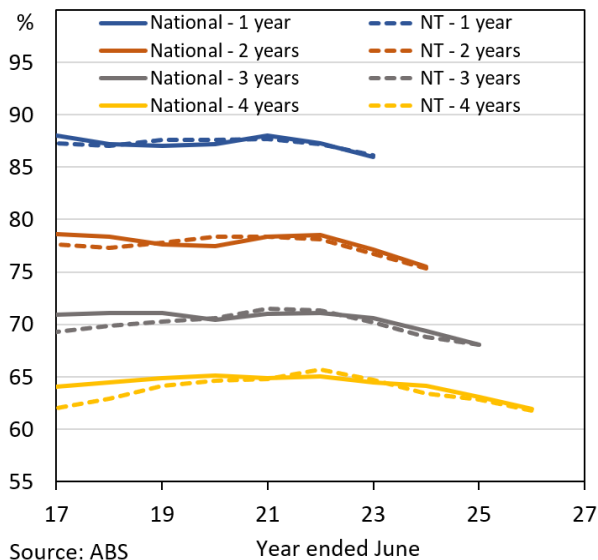
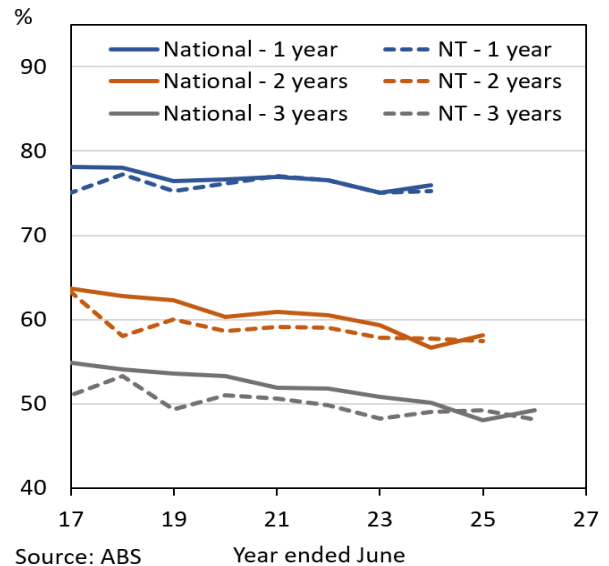


Chart 4
Survival Rates of New Entries (%)



9. The ABS will release detailed data by industry, turnover, employment and location in December 2026.

Analytics and Insights

August 2026

¹ The overall business survival rate measures businesses operating in June 2022 that remained active in June 2026. The new business survival rate measures businesses established in 2022-23 that remained active in June 2026.