A Multicultural Northern Territory – Statistics from the 2016 Census (and more!)
Andrew Taylor and Fiona Shalley
Todays discussion

Part I
Background and the NT’s multicultural make-up

Part II
Key statistics, comparisons and trends: 2016 Census and more

Part III
Future trends and challenges
Population research at CDU

Through applied research we strive to understand the causes and consequences of population change with emphasis on the Northern Territory, the north of Australia and other northern and sparsely populated areas.

We are driven to make positive differences to policy, communities and society through our research.
The research partnership with Northern Territory Department of Treasury and Finance

- Significance of population numbers and composition for finances, services, communities and infrastructure
- Territory’s unique population characteristics
- Difficulties estimating and enumerating population numbers and trends
- Difficult to forecast future directions

→ Long term support for an independent Demographic Research Grant to deliver key insights on Territory population changes and futures
Part I
Background and the NT’s multicultural make-up
What is multiculturalism in today’s Australia?

• Half Australians born o/s or have 1+ parent born o/s [birthplace]

• Identify with about 300 ancestries [ancestry]

• Since 1945, 7.5 million people have migrated to Australia [migration]

• 150+ Indigenous languages spoken in Australia (part of our CALD)

• 85 per cent of Australians think it’s been good for Australia [acceptance, integration and tolerance]

• Most common non-English languages are Mandarin, Arabic, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Italian and Greek [language and culture]
We are defined not by race, religion or culture, but by shared values of freedom, democracy, the rule of law and equality of opportunity—a “fair go”.

The glue that holds us together is mutual respect – a deep recognition that each of us is entitled to the same respect, the same dignity, the same opportunities.” (Prime Minister, Pg.2)

A Multicultural Northern Territory – Statistics from the 2016 Census

• A project for the Office of Multicultural Affairs (Territory Families)

• Profile and highlight the importance and changing nature of the Territory’s multicultural community

• Today – snapshot, some context and interesting trends and changes
Multicultural before we existed!

- Indigenous Territorians - our original Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

- Chinese gold minders and railway workers outnumber Australian workers 7:1 in the NT (1800s)

- Afghan cameleers opening up the outback during the late 1800s

- Japanese pearl divers made up 71% of male population of Darwin (1920s)
How multicultural today?

### Proportion of the population born overseas

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater Darwin</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of NT</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2016 Census of Population and Housing Time Series Profile, Catalogue number 2003.0
Critical to our population...

Not just contributing to population size...

Demographic
- Younger, more female, likely to stay
- Many more with partners
- More have children

Economic and Labour force
- Fill skilled occupation priority list jobs
- Lower unemployment/high spouse employment
- Stay with same occupation with same employer

Social and cultural
- Arts, food, markets, festivals, events
- Highly educated and education ‘hungry’
- Can stimulate community regeneration
A growing contribution to our national population

The big national shift in the 1990s

Permanent migrants: migration and humanitarian program visa grants since 1984–85

Visas granted

140,000
120,000
100,000
90,000
80,000
70,000
60,000
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000
0


Family
Skill
Humanitarian Program

The Howard era

Source: Parliament of Australia: https://goo.gl/1JBvj3
Growth in employer sponsored particularly

Skilled migrating to the ‘regions’

In order to encourage skilled migration to the regions where skill shortages are particularly acute, the government has created state and territory specific migration schemes that include the Skilled Independent Regional (Provisional) (SIR) Visa, the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme and the State and Territory Nominated Independent Scheme.

Source: https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/Publications_Archive/archive/Skilledmigration
Reflected in the Territory...

Net overseas migration, Arrivals by visa type

The changing Territory migration landscape

Migrant communities in the NT: Size and growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>5,082</td>
<td>5,322</td>
<td>5,912</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>3,295</td>
<td>3,968</td>
<td>5,584</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>1,871</td>
<td>3,586</td>
<td>6,551</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>1,092</td>
<td>1,917</td>
<td>3,595</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>East Timor</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>1,054</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>1,218</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>999</td>
<td>1,196</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>1,126</td>
<td>222%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1,119</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top 10: 16,368, 20,681, 26,682, 29%
And less likely to leave

NT one year leaving rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Long Term Residents</th>
<th>New Arrivals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent who had left during 2015 to 2016

Source: 2016 Census data extracted using Table Builder
NMC Benefits and challenges

**Potential benefits**

1. Highly educated, skilled and family orientated
2. From education ‘hungry’ nations and regions
3. Are filling areas of skills needs
4. Potential fertility effects
5. Potential tourism effects

**Challenges**

1. Settling in and culture shock – first year is vital
2. Will they stay? It seems yes!
3. Large portion are heavily in demand elsewhere
4. The debate on migration intake and population size
Part II
Key statistics, comparisons and trends: 2016 Census and more
Baseline indicators – population overview

Country of Birth as a proportion of NT population, 2016

Country of Birth of NT population, percentage change from 2011 to 2016

Non Main English Speaking Countries (NMESC) include all countries apart from Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, UK and USA.
Baseline indicators – overseas birthplaces

Main overseas birthplaces, NT 2016

- Philippines
- England
- New Zealand
- India
- Greece
- U.S. of America
- China
- Nepal
- Indonesia
- Timor-Leste
- Ireland
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Germany
- South Africa

% of Population

Fastest growing birthplaces, NT 2016

- Nepal
- Nigeria
- Japan
- Taiwan
- Bangladesh
- South Sudan
- Congo...
- India
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka
- Philippines
- Ireland
- France
- Cambodia
- Fiji

% Change 2011 - 2016

Source: ABS, Census 2016

Growing numbers from Asia and Africa
Baseline indicators – languages and religions

Main languages spoken at home (a), NT 2016

- Greek: 1.4%
- Tagalog: 1.1%
- Mandarin: 1.0%
- Filipino: 0.8%
- Malayalam: 0.6%
- Nepali: 0.5%
- Vietnamese: 0.5%
- Indonesian: 0.5%
- Thai: 0.5%
- Hindi: 0.5%
- German: 0.5%
- Italian: 0.5%
- Cantonese: 0.5%
- Punjabi: 0.5%
- French: 0.5%

(a) excluding English and Australian Aboriginal languages

Source: ABS, Census 2016

Fastest growing religions, NT 2016

- Ethnic Evangelical Churches: 202%
- Syrian Orthodox Church: 189%
- Orthodox Church (total): 187%
- Russian Orthodox Church: 181%
- Coptic Orthodox Church: 172%
- Born Again Christian: 169%
- Seventh-day Adventist: 161%
- Chinese Religions (total): 112%
- Buddhism: 107%
- Pentecostal (total): 91%
- Japanese Religions (total): 68%

% change 2011 - 2016

Source: ABS, Census 2016
Distributions of overseas born within the NT

Born overseas (not Australia)
- 46.88%-58.61%
- 35.16%-46.88%
- 23.44%-35.16%
- 11.72%-23.44%
- 0.00%-11.72%

Source: ABS, Census 2016
### Age structures and population pyramids

Age structure of a population affects demand for many goods & services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand for maternity services</th>
<th>Demand for entry-level housing</th>
<th>Demand for smaller housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demand for childcare</td>
<td>Demand for wedding services</td>
<td>Demand for retirement activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand for school places &amp; teachers</td>
<td>Demand for personal &amp; household goods</td>
<td>Demand for health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand for tertiary education or vocational training</td>
<td>Demand for family homes</td>
<td>Demand for aged care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand for courts &amp; correctional services</td>
<td>Demand for family holidays</td>
<td>Demand for funeral services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pyramids let us picture age-sex structures

China

1. Birth deficit due to the 1959-1961 famine (Great Leap Forward)
2. Decrease in fertility
3. Large birth cohorts reach childbearing age
4. Fertility below replacement level
5. Shortage of girls
The three ‘typical’ pyramid shapes

Some Territory pyramids from the 2016 Census

Source: Author’s calculations from ABS Table Builder, 2016 Census
Australian and overseas born

Source: Author’s calculations from ABS Table Builder, 2016 Census
Long established, new and second wave Territory communities

Established

New

Second wave

Source: Author’s calculations from ABS Table Builder, 2016 Census
Female orientated overseas born Territory communities

Source: Author’s calculations from ABS Table Builder 2016 Census
Local government areas

Source: Author’s calculations from ABS Table Builder, 2016 Census
Part III
Future trends and challenges
The NTs population futures

• Despite slow growth now still increasing in size

• We’ll continue to grow in the long-term

• Need to plan for an increase in our multicultural make-up

• Must involve cultural groups and communities in that planning

Some challenges

• Keeping people in ‘the north’

• Polarised views and misinformation on the national migration debate and population size

• Diminishing Territory budgets (supporting infrastructure and events for communities)
In Summary

• This report re-emphasises the long-standing, vital and growing multicultural nature of the Territory’s population

• There has been a ‘big shift’ in the national overseas born arrivals picture from ‘Euro-centric’ towards ‘Asia-centric’

• Reflects national economic policies with skilled migration inflows changing the Territory’s multicultural make-up

• New migrant(s) and their communities:
  ➢ Mean we still have population growth (thus $$)
  ➢ Contribute greatly to our social capital, economic, workforce and lifestyle endowments
  ➢ Are crucial for building the future population and workforce
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