



**Jon Stanhope** MLA  
**CHIEF MINISTER**

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT    MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES  
MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT    MINISTER FOR LAND AND PROPERTY SERVICES  
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS  
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE  
MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **A RECORD YEAR FOR THE TERRITORY'S HOUSING INDUSTRY**

Strong levels of land release and a streamlining in the building approval process have contributed to a record year for the Territory's housing industry, Chief Minister and Minister for Land and Property Services, Jon Stanhope said today.

Mr Stanhope said latest figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics revealed 4,826 dwellings were approved in the ACT during 2010 – the highest number since self-government.

“A trend growth of 7.4 per cent in the approval of houses and units in December was enough to push the annual figure to its highest level on record, eclipsing the previous records of the early nineties which were set during the establishment of Gungahlin,” Mr Stanhope said.

“The approval of 482 dwellings in December resulted in a record 4,826 dwellings being approved during 2010.

“These are very pleasing figures and demonstrate that the ACT Government's focus on freeing-up the supply side of the market is reaping rewards.”

On a state by state basis, the ACT had the highest level of trend growth of all states and territories at 7.4 per cent. The next highest was New South Wales at 1.6 per cent followed by Western Australia at 0.9 per cent and Victoria and Queensland at 0.2 per cent. The remaining states and territories were in decline.

“In addition to new greenfield land, the figures demonstrate the many infill opportunities that were realised over the year, in particular around town centres and in the city,” Mr Stanhope said. “Overall nearly 60 per cent of approvals occurred in established suburbs with established infrastructure and transport networks.”

Mr Stanhope said more land was released in 2010 than at any time during self-government, a trend set to continue with 17,000 sites to be released over the next four years (2010/11 to 2013/14).

“This record land release target will help to meet the continuing demand for housing, particularly from migrants, and create an inventory of serviced land while also helping to stabilise land and housing prices,” Mr Stanhope said.

**Note: a summary of the top suburbs and districts for dwelling approvals is attached.**

Statement Ends

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## Top Suburbs and Districts for Dwelling Approvals - 2010

<b>North Canberra</b>		<b>845</b>
	City	485
	Braddon	85
	Turner	77
<b>Belconnen</b>		<b>764</b>
	Belconnen Town Centre	307
	Macgregor	167
	Dunlop	116
<b>Woden Valley</b>		<b>102</b>
	Mawson	31
	Curtin	24
	Chifley	15
<b>Weston Creek-Stromlo</b>		<b>117</b>
	Rivett	75
	Chapman	32
	Duffy	6
<b>Tuggeranong</b>		<b>273</b>
	Bonython	70
	Kambah	60
	Conder	55
<b>South Canberra</b>		<b>758</b>
	Barton	301
	Kingston	297
	Deakin	53
<b>Gungahlin-Hall</b>		<b>1,942</b>
	Bonner	474
	Casey	395
	Forde	376