



Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

MEDIA RELEASE

435/07

24 September 2007

4,840 NEW CANBERRANS DURING YEAR

The ACT population grew by 4,840 people or 1.5 per cent, to 338,160 people, in the year to March 2007 – on par with the national average – according to new estimates released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics today.

During the March quarter 2007, the ACT population grew by 1,702 people, up 0.51 per cent, above the national average growth rate of 0.46 per cent.

Chief Minister and Treasurer Jon Stanhope welcomed the new figures which show that of the 1,702 new Canberrans 759 were due to natural increases, 595 from overseas migration and 348 from interstate migration.

“Most pleasing is the net migration to the Territory,” Mr Stanhope said. “That 943 people moved to live and work in Canberra during the quarter suggests that the *Live in Canberra* program is working well.”

“*Live in Canberra* has received positive exposure across the nation in Sydney, Wollongong and the Illawarra; and also overseas in England, Ireland and most recently South Africa. Such positive migration figures show that people are choosing to move to the ACT over other parts of Australia.

“This population growth adds to the strength of the ACT economy – with a record low unemployment rate of 2.8 per cent; higher wages with Canberrans earning \$199.10 more a week on average than other Australians; and the unprecedented building approvals growth currently experienced in the Territory.”

Statement Ends

Media Contact: Penelope Layland 6205 9777 0438 289 714 penelope.layland@act.gov.au