



*Who migrates interstate to and from the Northern Territory? Insights from Census and survey data*

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Despite much research attention on the patterns and processes of internal migration in Australia over the last few decades, the nature of migration flows to and from the Northern Territory remains largely unexplored. This is unfortunate given that interstate in- and out-migration rates are far higher for the Territory than for any other jurisdiction, and thus have the potential to effect major changes to population composition within a fairly short time span. This paper therefore makes an initial attempt at filling this research gap by examining the characteristics of migrants moving interstate to and from the Territory. It uses specially commissioned tables from the 2001 Census as well as data from a random Computer Assisted Telephone Interview survey of 1500 Territory households undertaken in September 2006. Results demonstrate the unique nature of migration flows into and out of the Territory, and their relationship to its 'frontier' economic structure.