Terry Mills
Leader of the Opposition

Latest ABS figures reveal population decline continuing

30 June 2004

The Territory's continuing population decline reinforces the Martin Government's inability to steer the Territory to the levels economic analysts had predicted over the past three years, CLP Leader Terry Mills said.

“Instead of being the growth region analysts had forecast, our population has been in decline and we have had two years of zero growth. And today’s latest Australian Bureau of Statistics figures reveal another 300 people were lost from our population in the year ended June 2003,” Mr Mills said.

“This represents a negative growth rate of 0.2% over this period.

“The ABS population figures confirm what Territorians already know - more people are packing up and leaving the Territory than coming.

“Alarmingly the only addition to the Territory population is because of the birth rate rather than new people choosing to move to the Territory.

“This is symptomatic of how little confidence people have in the way the Martin Government is running the Territory.”

Ends.