



**GARY HIGGINS**  
**OPPOSITION LEADER**

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**CommSec State of the States report**

The *CommSec State of the States* report reinforces the perilous state of the Territory economy.

The Northern Territory trails all other states and territories except Western Australia to be in seventh position (of eight).

Leader of the Opposition, Gary Higgins, said that the latest CommSec data reinforces what is already well known to Territorians, to business and industry.

“The report specifically mentions weak population growth and falling employment.

“This report is the latest in a series of bad news for the Territory economy under Labor.

“The so-called record infrastructure spend has not been felt on the ground, there is no new major projects and there no private investment coming into the Territory.

“The Territory budget must drive private investment and create jobs, which will in turn keep Territorians in the Territory and grow our population as well.

“The recent lifting of the onshore gas moratorium provided a much needed boost of confidence, which must now be complemented by action at a policy level by government with a regulation framework.

“The Labor government has been too slow to act, rather than talking about how hard the government is working, the Labor government needs to walk the talk, our economic situation is dire and this latest CommSec report simply reinforces it,” said Mr Higgins.

**ENDS**

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