

This brief contains key points extracted from publications that have reported social statistics about the Northern Territory. The summary is not exhaustive and does not interpret information nor in all cases contain qualifiers or contextual information. Readers should check cited publications to assess suitability for the intended use. Care should be taken to ensure that population-based statistics reported for the Northern Territory do not refer to urban areas only. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this document, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omissions.

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Australian Social Trends 2007

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2007. *Australian Social Trends 2007*. ABS cat no. 4102.0 Canberra.

This is the 14th annual edition that presents information on contemporary social issues and areas of public policy concern. The report focuses on major areas of social concern, such as population, family and community, health, education and training, work, economic resources, housing, crime and justice, culture and leisure, and the environment. It draws on a wide range of data, sourced from ABS and other agencies, to give a contemporary picture of Australian society.

Population

- Between 2001 to 2005, the Territory was the only jurisdiction to record a decrease in total fertility rate (TFR), from 2.30 babies per woman to 2.29 (the highest rate nationally) compared with a national increase of 4.5 per cent from 1.73 up to 1.81.
- In 2005, around 64 per cent of the Territory TFR was attributable to births to mothers aged less than 30 years, compared with 48 per cent Australia-wide.

Family and Community

In the Territory at 30 June 2005:

- The crude registered marriage rate of 3.8 per 1000 population was the lowest in Australia and lower than the national rate of 5.4.

In the Territory in 2005:

- The median weekly hours of child care received by children aged under 3 years was 25 hours compared with the national average of 14, (the highest in Australia).
- The median weekly hours of child care received by children aged 3-4 years was 30 hours more than double the national average of 16, (the highest in Australia).

Health

In the Territory in 2005:

- For males, life expectancy at birth was 72.5 years, lower than 78.5 years for all Australian males and lowest in all jurisdictions.
- For females, life expectancy at birth was 78.2 years, lower than 83.3 years for all Australian females and lowest in all jurisdictions.

In the Territory during 2003 to 2005:

- The age-standardised suicide rate of 24 per 100 000 persons was more than double the national rate of 11.
- Motor vehicle accidents rate of 21 per 100 000 population was three times more than the national rate of 7.

Education and Training

In the Territory:

- In 2006, the proportion of people aged 25-64 years with a non-school qualification of 62 per cent was higher than the national proportion of 59 per cent.
- In 2005, the proportion of higher education students who were female was 66 per cent (highest of all jurisdictions) compared to national proportion of 55 per cent.

Work

In the Territory in 2006:

- The proportion of females involved in the labour force with children aged 0-4 years was the highest in Australia with 71 per cent compared with the national proportion of 52 per cent.

Economic Resources

In the Territory during 2003-04:

- The Territory recorded the second highest mean weekly equivalised household income of \$643 for all income groups after Australian Capital Territory and higher than the national average of \$549.

Other Areas of Social Concern

- In 2006, nationally and in the Territory, 70 per cent of households had a computer and 60 per cent were connected to the Internet.

Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey, 2006

Reissued 20 August 2007

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2007. Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey 2006. ABS cat no. 4710.0. Canberra.

The Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey collects information about housing and related infrastructure. This is the third survey in a series, conducted in 1999, 2001 and now 2006. Errors and omissions were detected in some of the CHIN results released on 17 April 2007. The publication was reissued on 20 August 2007 to reflect the following:

- Expenditure data classified by size of Indigenous Housing Organisation (IHO) is being corrected.
- Average income from rent, and average expenditure on repairs and maintenance estimates will be corrected.
- Some of the statistics by both state and detailed community size groupings for the various health facilities were missing for tables 4.11 to 4.12 and table 4.15.
- The previously published estimates for access to public and community transport services inadvertently omitted some responses, which have now been corrected in tables 3.11 and 4.26.
- While detailed data for childcare were correctly presented in tables, some data were missing in table 4.11.
- The number of permanent dwellings managed by IHOs was previously reported as 21 758 now revised to 21 854 permanent dwellings. These revisions do not affect the Territory.

- Some statistics included in commentary have also been corrected in Chapter 3 - A profile of discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities relating to population, sewerage and overflows, flooding and ponding, and education.

Divorces, 2006

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2007, Divorces, 2006. ABS cat no. 3307.0.55.001. Canberra.

This publication provides selected statistics on divorces granted in Australia in 2006. The statistics are compiled by the ABS from information supplied by the Family Court of Australia (FCA).

For divorces granted in the Territory, in 2006:

- The total number decreased by 9 per cent from 470 divorces in 2005 to 426 compared with a national decrease of 2 per cent from 52 399 in 2005 to 51 375.
- The median age at divorce for males and females was 42.9 years and 39.9 years respectively (the youngest in Australia for both sexes), lower than the national average of 43.9 years and 41.1 years respectively.
- The median duration of marriage to separation was 7.9 years and to divorce was 11.5 years, lower than the national of 8.9 years and 12.5 years respectively.

Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia, 2005-06

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2007. General Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia, 2005-06. ABS cat no. 6523.0. Canberra.

The publication presents estimates of the income, net worth and other characteristics of households and persons resident in private dwellings in Australia. Estimates are compiled from the 2005-06 Survey of Income and Housing (SIH) for which the final sample for the Territory was 163 households. Households in very remote areas (as defined by the ABS) in the Territory were excluded from the survey which, based on the large relative size of the very remote population for the Territory, potentially overestimates average incomes for the Territory.

Some comparisons with 2006 Census results are also provided. Differences in timing, definitions and methodologies between the collections are likely contributors to differences in the results.

Key Results for the Territory (SIH):

- The median gross weekly household income (\$1507) was 45 per cent higher than the national average (\$1040).
- The mean disposable weekly household income (\$724) was 12 per cent higher than the national average (\$644).

Key Results for Darwin (including Palmerston and Litchfield Shire) compared with capital city results aggregated at the national level (SIH):

- The median gross weekly household income (\$1548) was 36 per cent higher than the capital city aggregate average (\$1139).
- The mean disposable weekly household income (\$730) was 8 per cent higher than the capital city aggregate average (\$678).

- The principal source of income for most households (80 per cent) was wages and salaries, as it was nationally in capital cities (63 per cent).
- Renters represented 39 per cent of households, compared with 30 per cent nationally in capital cities.
- The average number of employed persons in a household was 1.6, compared with 1.3 nationally in capital cities.

2005-06 Weekly Household Income

	Gross		Disposable	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Northern Territory		\$		\$
All households (a)	1 602	1 507	724	670
Capital city - Darwin (b)	1 675	1 548	730	661
Balance (c)	-	-	-	-
Australia		\$		\$
All households	1 305	1 040	644	563
Capital city	1 410	1 139	678	593
Balance	1 122	898	582	513

Source: ABS Cat. no. 6523.0 - Household Income and Income Distribution, 2005-06

(a) very remote households excluded from survey

(b) Darwin includes Palmerston and Litchfield Shire

(c) estimates for the NT other than Darwin are not considered reliable and therefore not included

From the 2006 Census, the median gross weekly household income for the Territory was \$1192, compared with \$1027 for Australia and following LGAs:

- Darwin \$ 1 286
- Palmerston \$ 1 255
- Litchfield \$ 1 311
- Jabiru \$ 1 767
- Nhulunbuy \$ 2 220
- Katherine \$ 1 128
- Tennant Creek \$ 997
- Alice Springs \$ 1 236

LGA is a Local Government Area as defined by the ABS.

Juvenile Justice in Australia, 2005-06

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2007. *Juvenile Justice in Australia 2005-06*. AIHW cat no. JUV#3. Canberra.

This is the third report of the Juvenile Justice National Minimum Data Set. It presents information about young people under community-based and detention-based supervision during 2005-06 based on data provided from justice agencies and detention centres in each state and territory.

In the Territory during 2005-06:

- Males represented 93 per cent (highest of all jurisdictions) of the 326 young people under juvenile justice supervision, higher than the national proportion of 83 per cent.
- The proportion of Indigenous young people under juvenile justice supervision of 82 per cent was the highest in Australia and higher than the national proportion of 38 per cent.
- The majority of young people under juvenile justice supervision were aged 17 (28 per cent) followed by 16 year olds (23 per cent). The youngest people under supervision, aged 12, accounted for 1.8 per cent.
- Most (91 per cent) of overall sentenced time for young people was spent in community-based supervision, similar to the national proportion of 90 per cent.
- The Indigenous rate of young people under juvenile justice supervision increased to 21.2 from 16.8 in 2002-03, compared with a national decrease (Table 1).

Table 1: Rates of young people aged 10-17 years under juvenile justice supervision, Northern Territory and Australia, 2002-03 to 2005-06

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
	(rate per 1 000 young people)			
Northern Territory				
Indigenous	16.8	21.6	23.0	21.2
Non-Indigenous	3.3	3.9	3.3	3.5
Total	8.9	11.3	11.6	11.2
Australia*				
Indigenous	45.5	45.1	44.3	44.4
Non-Indigenous	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.9
Total	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.0

* Rates for 2002-03 do not include the Australian Capital Territory as data were unavailable.

- Based on average daily numbers, there were 2 per cent fewer young people in supervision than in 2004-05, compared with a 1 per cent national increase (Table 2).

Table 2: Average daily number of young people in supervision, Northern Territory and Australia, 2002-03 to 2005-06

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
	(average daily number)			
Northern Territory				
Community supervision	95	136	160	155
Detention supervision	26	17	19	19
Supervision (total)	121	152	179	175
	(%)			
Change from previous year - supervision (total)				
Northern Territory	n.a.	26%	18%	-2%
Australia*	n.a.	*	-4%	1%

* Numbers for 2002-03 do not include the Australian Capital Territory as data were unavailable.

Labour Force Experience, Australia, February 2007

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. 2007, *Labour Force Experience, Australia, February 2007*. ABS cat no. 6206.0. Canberra.

This publication presents information about the civilian labour force experience of people aged 15 years and over, excluding people living in very remote areas. It contains information about time spent in labour force activities, including episodes of working or looking for work, and time spent out of the labour force. *The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected as a supplement to the ABS monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) and should be used with caution given the volatility of the series over time and high relative standard errors.*

- In the Territory during the year ending February 2007, the number of persons aged 15-69 years in the labour force at some time during the year was similar to 2005, compared with a 1 per cent (408 000) national increase (Table 3).

Table 3: Persons aged 15-69 years in the labour force at some time during the year, Northern Territory and Australia, February 1997 to February 2007

	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007
	(000)					
Northern Territory*						
Persons in the labour force at some time during the year	81.9	95.6	87.5	90.2	90.2	90.5
	(%)					
Change from previous survey year						
Northern Territory*	n.a.	17%	-8%	3%	0%	0%
Australia	n.a.	2%	4%	3%	3%	4%

- refers to mainly urban areas only

National Diabetes Register: Statistical Profile 1999-2005

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2007. *National Diabetes Register: Statistical Profile 1999-2005*. AIHW cat no. CVD 39. Canberra.

This is the third statistical report of the National Diabetes Register (NDR). The NDR records all new cases of people who use insulin to treat their diabetes, whether Type 1 (no insulin produced – mostly arises in children or young adults), Type 2 (insufficient insulin produced – mostly people aged 40 years or over but increasingly younger people, gestational (develops during pregnancy) or other forms. Data originated from ABS, Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages and NDR.

In the Territory between 1999 and 2005:

- The average age-standardised incidence rate of 10.2 new cases per 100 000 persons for Type 1 diabetes among 0-14 year olds, was almost half the national rate of 21.8 and the lowest in Australia.
- The average age-standardised incidence rate of 9.8 new cases per 100 000 for Type 1 diabetes among 15-39 year olds, was lower than the national rate of 12.6 and the lowest in Australia.
- The proportion of NDR registrants located in remote or very remote areas accounted for 58 per cent compared to national proportion of 2.5 per cent.

Population Distribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2007, *Population Distribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006*. ABS cat no. 4705.0. Canberra.

This publication contains information about Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population. The statistics were compiled from the census and administrative data collections for deaths, births and interstate migration. It presents information on the Indigenous preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) at the state/territory level, and the usual residence counts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at the sub-state geographic level. Final estimates will be made available in mid 2008.

- The Territory's preliminary Indigenous ERP at 30 June 2006 is 66 600, up from 56 900 in 2001, an increase of 17 per cent (Table 1).

Table 1: Estimated Resident Population, Indigenous Status – 2001 and 2006

	Indigenous Total		Intercensal Change
	2001 No.	2006 No.	2001-2006 %
New South Wales	134 888	148 178	9.9
Victoria	27 846	30 839	10.7
Queensland	125 910	146 429	16.3
South Australia	25 544	26 044	2.0
Western Australia	65 931	77 928	18.2
Tasmania	17 384	16 900	-2.8
Northern Territory	56 875	66 582	17.1
Australian Capital Territory	3 909	4 043	2.4
Australia	458 820	517 174	12.8

Source: ABS Catalogue 4705.0, 2006

- The Territory's total proportion of Indigenous population has increased from 12.5 per cent (of Australia's total Indigenous population) in 2001 to 12.9 per cent in 2006.
- Indigenous people now make up nearly 32 per cent of the Territory's population, up from 29 per cent in 2001.
- The net undercount rate for the Indigenous population is 19.2 per cent (Table 2).

Table 2: Census undercount, Indigenous people, 2006

	Net undercount	Net undercount rate
	No.	%
New South Wales/ACT	8 666	5.7
Victoria/SA/Tasmania	913.0	1.2
Queensland	18 263	12.5
Western Australia	18 594	24.1
Northern Territory	12 741	19.2
Australia	59 178	11.5

Source: ABS Catalogue 4705.0, 2006

Users should note that census count data are not adjusted for undercount. It is also unknown what parts of the Territory are most affected by undercount, so small area ERP's are subject to error.

Sport and Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2007

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2007. *Sport and Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2007*. ABS cat no. 4156.0. Canberra.

This publication presents a statistical overview of sports and physical recreation in Australia, using the latest information available from a diverse range of ABS surveys and administrative data. It contains information about the number of people who play sports; the most popular sports played; the number of people attending sporting events; the amount people spend on sports and physical recreation; the economic activity of businesses, clubs and associations involved in providing sports and physical recreation goods and services; the people who work in sports and physical recreation occupations or industries; and the levels of support provided by volunteers, sponsorship and government funding. *The results should be used with caution as it is likely that it is not representative of the Territory.*

In the Territory:

- For year ending April 2003, the proportion of children aged 5-14 years who participated in organised sport outside of school hours was 58 per cent*, lower than the national proportion of 62 per cent.
- During 2001-02, the attendance rate of Territorians aged 18 years and over at sports events was 57 per cent*, the highest in Australia and higher than the national rate of 48 per cent.
- In 2001, 39 per cent of 124 indigenous communities with a population of 50 or more had no sporting facilities higher than the national proportion of 33 per cent of 327 indigenous communities.

* refers to mainly urban areas only

Data sources include:

- Population Survey Monitor (PSM)
- Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC)
- Time Use Survey in Australia
- Household Expenditure Survey
- Retail and Wholesale Survey
- General Social Survey (GSS)
- Clubs, Pubs, Taverns and Bars Survey
- Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey (CHINS)
- National Health Survey (NHS)
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey
- Engineering Construction Survey and Building Activity Survey
- Sports and Physical Recreation Services Survey