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<i>Author:</i> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (Cat. No. JUV 5)	
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<i>Date of release:</i> 26 November 2009	

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.

Juvenile Justice in Australia, 2007-08

AIHW, Cat. No. JUV 5, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This is the fifth report of the Juvenile Justice National Minimum Data Set. It presents information about young people under community-based and detention-based supervision during 2007-08. The data was sourced from justice agencies and detention centres in each state and territory except New South Wales, where data was unavailable.

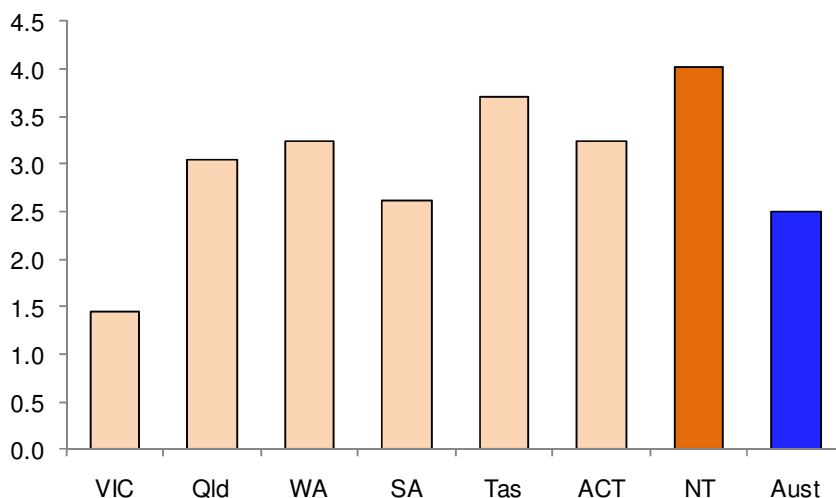
Summary

In 2007-08, the daily average number of young people in the Territory under the juvenile justice system was 109, the majority of which were under community based supervision. Indigenous people in the Territory are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system. Young Indigenous people in the Territory are eight times more likely to be under supervision compared with their non-Indigenous counterparts. Of juveniles in detention about 83 per cent were Indigenous males.

In 2007-08:

- the majority of young people under juvenile justice supervision in the Territory were aged 17 years (42 per cent), followed by 16 year olds (26 per cent) and 15 year olds (17 per cent);
- about 71 per cent of sentence time for young people under juvenile justice supervision was spent under community-based supervision, compared to the national proportion of 90 per cent;
- the daily average number of young people in juvenile detention in the Territory was 35. Of this, about 83 per cent were Indigenous males;
- the proportion of Indigenous young people under juvenile justice supervision (85 per cent) was the highest of the jurisdictions and more than double the national proportion of 37 per cent; and
- the daily average rate of young people aged 10-17 years under supervision in the Territory was 4.02 per 1000 relevant population, the highest of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 2.5 per 1000 relevant population.

Chart 1: Rate of young people aged 10-17 years under supervision per 1000 relevant population, states and territories*, 2007-08



*New South Wales not included, as data were not available for 2007-08

Source: AIHW Cat. No. JUV 5

Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2007-08

ABS, Cat. No. 4130.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This publication presents data from the 2007-08 Survey of Income and Housing (SIH) on housing costs and occupancy and relates the data to different characteristics including tenure, family composition, dwelling structure and primary source of income. Care should be taken when interpreting data for the Territory due to the small sample size and high relative standard errors of the SIH.

Summary

In 2007-08, it was estimated that there were 59 800 households in the Territory. The highest proportion of households were owners with a mortgage (37.5 per cent) followed by private renter households (25.9 per cent). Approximately 84.5 per cent of all households in the Territory had at least one employed person compared with 73.6 per cent nationally. The Territory had the highest median housing costs of all jurisdictions, however, Territory households have higher levels of disposable income.

In 2007-08:

- the median housing costs per week in the Territory was \$220. This was the highest of all jurisdictions and above the national median of \$150;
- the median housing cost per week for owners with a mortgage in the Territory was \$334, which is comparable to the national median of \$335 per week;
- the median housing cost for those renting from private landlords in the Territory was \$289 per week, the second highest of all jurisdictions, behind the Australian Capital Territory (\$320) and higher than the national median of \$250 per week;
- 15.5 per cent of Territory households spent 30 per cent or more of their gross income on housing costs, comparable to the national proportion; and
- 53.4 per cent of Territory households were in the two highest equivalised disposable income* quintiles, behind only the Australian Capital Territory (60.3 per cent) and above the national proportion of 39.6 per cent.

*Equivalised disposable income is calculated by adjusting disposable income by the application of an equivalence scale to reflect the requirement for a larger household to have a higher level of income to achieve the same standard of living as a smaller household.

Chart 2: Proportion of households spending 30 per cent or more of gross income on housing costs.



Source: ABS Cat. No. 4130.0

Public Health Expenditure in Australia, 2007-08

AIHW, Cat. No. HWE 47, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This annual publication reports estimates of recurrent expenditure in 2007-08 on public health activities in Australia funded by the Australian Government (AG) and state and territory governments. Public health activity is reported against the eight core categories; communicable disease control, selected health promotion, organised immunisation, environmental health, food standards and hygiene, screening programs, prevention of hazardous and harmful drug use and public health research.

Summary

In 2007-08, the Territory Government spent \$75.2 million on public health activities in current dollars. The main areas of public health expenditure in the Territory were organised immunisation (\$23.1 million), communicable disease control (\$17.9 million) and selected health promotion (\$10.8 million). On a per capita basis, the Territory Government had the highest level of public health expenditure of all jurisdictions and about 3.7 times greater than the national average. The higher levels of public health expenditure in the Territory reflects the relatively large Indigenous population with generally poorer health outcomes, and the additional costs of providing services across a highly dispersed and remote population.

In 2007-08:

- public health expenditure by the Territory Government increased by 17.2 per cent from \$64.2 million in 2006-07 to \$75.2 million. In comparison, total public health funding by the Commonwealth, state and territory governments increased by 21.5 per cent over the same period.
- about 6.2 per cent of total recurrent health funding in the Territory was on public health activities. This was the highest of all jurisdictions and well above the national proportion of 2.2 per cent;
- on a per capita basis, the Territory Government spent \$373.23 per person on public health activities, the highest of all jurisdictions and above the average expenditure of \$101.61 for state and territory governments.

Table 1: Estimated total government expenditure per person (current dollars) on public health activities, 2007-08

<i>Activity</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>National Average</i>
	\$	\$
Communicable disease control	83.92	12.08
Selected health promotion	53.82	17.25
Organised immunisation	110.75	33.15
Environmental health	25.7	4.49
Food standards and hygiene	5.37	1.82
Screening programs	34.22	13.61
Prevention of hazardous and harmful drug use	44.68	11.97
Public health research	14.77	7.23
Total	373.23	101.61

Source: AIHW Cat. No. HWE 47

Births Australia, 2008

ABS, Cat. No. 3301.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This annual publication presents statistics on births and fertility rates in Australia. The data is provided at the jurisdictional level and by gender, Indigenous status, usual residence of mother and age and birthplace of parents.

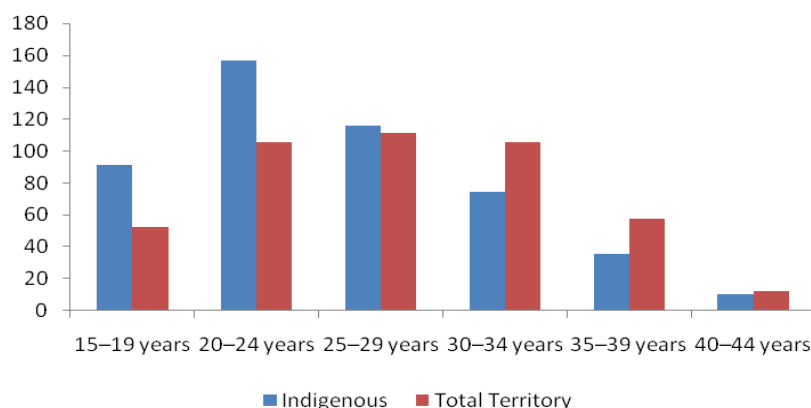
Summary

In 2008, there were 3942 births registered in the Territory, of which 1560 (or 39.6 per cent) were Indigenous births. The Territory had the second highest fertility rate of all jurisdictions with 2.224 babies per woman compared with the national fertility rate of 1.969 babies per woman.

In 2008:

- the median age of mothers in the Territory was 28.1 years, the lowest of all jurisdictions and lower than the national median of 30.7 years. Similarly, the Territory had the youngest fathers with a median age of 31.4 years compared with 33.1 years nationally;
- Territory women aged 25-29 years had the highest age specific fertility rate with 111.1 births per 1000 relevant population, followed by women aged 30-34 years (105.4 per 1000 relevant population). Nationally, women aged 30-34 years had the highest age specific fertility rate with 127.8 births per 1000 relevant population;
- 412 or 10.5 per cent of registered births in the Territory were to teenage mothers, compared with 4.2 per cent nationally;
- in the Territory, the Palmerston-East Arm SSD recorded the highest fertility rate of 2.65 babies per woman, while Central NT (1.98) and Darwin city (1.99) recorded the lowest fertility rates;
- the Indigenous fertility rate in the Territory was 2.42, higher than the total fertility rate for the Territory (2.22), but lower than the national Indigenous fertility rate of 2.52;
- the median age of an Indigenous mother in the Territory was 24.1 years and the median age of the father of an Indigenous infant in the Territory was 27.2 years;
- the age specific fertility rates were higher amongst Indigenous women in the Territory between the ages of 15-29 years compared with their non-Indigenous counterparts but were lower for the 30-44 years age group; and

Chart 3: Northern Territory age specific fertility rates, 2008



Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3301.0

Australia's Welfare 2009

AIHW, Cat. No. AUS 117, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

Australia's Welfare 2009 is the ninth edition of the biennial report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The main areas covered in the report are children, youth and families; ageing and aged care; disability and disability services; carers and informal care; housing and housing assistance; and homelessness.

Summary

The welfare of the Territory's population differs from other Australians. This is mainly due to the Territory's large Indigenous population and the higher needs associated with this population group. Compared to the non-Indigenous population, Indigenous Australian's have poorer education outcomes, are more likely to require assistance with core daily activities because of a disability, are more likely to live in overcrowded housing, and are overrepresented in child protection services, the juvenile justice system and homelessness.

Children, Youth and Families

- The Territory has a younger population than other jurisdictions with 23.8 per cent of its population aged between 0-14 years and 29.4 per cent aged between 0-24 years, compared with national proportion of 19.3 per cent and 33.3 per cent respectively. The relatively high proportion of young people in the Territory is largely due to the younger age profile of the Indigenous population.
- In 2007-08, 2995 children aged 0-17 years in the Territory were the subjects of one or more child protection notifications. This equates to a rate of 48.3 per 1000 children in the Territory, above the national rate of 39.3 per 1000 children.
- Between 2004-05 and 2007-08, the rates of child protection notifications, finalised investigations and substantiations have generally increased in the Territory. Nationally, the rate of child protection notifications and finalised investigations increased, while the rate of substantiations declined over this period.

Ageing and Aged Care

- As at 30 June 2008, there were 11 174 people in the Territory aged 65 years and over. Of this, 1859 or 16.6 per cent were Indigenous.
- The Territory had the lowest proportion of people aged 65 years and over of all jurisdictions (5.1 per cent), compared with 13.2 per cent nationally.
- In 2006, the proportion of people aged 65 years and over that reported a need for assistance with core daily activities was 23.7 per cent in Darwin, 27.8 per cent in the remainder of the Northern Territory and 18.2 per cent nationally.
- In the final quarter of 2007-08, the Territory had the second highest proportion of Home and Community Care clients with functional needs (86 per cent) behind Western Australia (91 per cent).
- In 2007-08, the Territory had the equal lowest average occupancy rate in residential aged care facilities at 92.2 per cent compared with 93.5 per cent nationally.

Disability and Disability Services

- Indigenous people were 2.4 times more likely to need assistance with core daily activities than non-Indigenous people.
- In 2006, 4.4 per cent of all Australians reported a need for assistance with core daily activities. The proportion was higher in the Territory with 4.8 per cent in Darwin and 5.7 per cent in the remainder of the Northern Territory.
- Between 2003-04 and 2007-08, the number of people using Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement funded disability services in the Territory increased by 97 per cent, the second highest increase behind the ACT (176 per cent) and higher than the national growth (31 per cent).
- In 2008, there were 4150 students with a disability attending a government school in the Territory. This equates to 12.7 per cent of all Territory government students, more than double the national proportion of 5.1 per cent.
- In 2008, 4428 or 10.9 per cent of school students (government and non-government) in the Territory were recorded as having a disability, compared with 4.6 per cent nationally.

Homelessness

- On the 2006 Census night, the rate of homelessness in the Territory was 248 per 100 000 population. While the rate of homelessness in the Territory is higher than other jurisdictions, it has decreased from the 2001 Census (288 per 100 000). Nationally, the rate of homelessness in Australia remained unchanged between the 2001 Census and 2006 Census at 53 per 100 000 population.
- In 2007-08, the Territory had the highest rate of clients and accompanying children using the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) (270 per 10 000 population). Nationally, there were 96 SAAP clients and accompanying children per 10 000 population.

Chart 4: Number of SAAP clients and accompanying children per 10 000 population, 2007-08



Source: AIHW Cat. No. AUS 117

Deaths Australia, 2008

ABS, Cat. No. 3302.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This annual publication presents statistics on deaths and mortality in Australia. The data is disaggregated by place of usual residence, age at death, sex and Indigenous status. Caution should be used comparing Indigenous death statistics as fluctuations in mortality rates and deaths are partly attributable to changing levels of Indigenous identification.

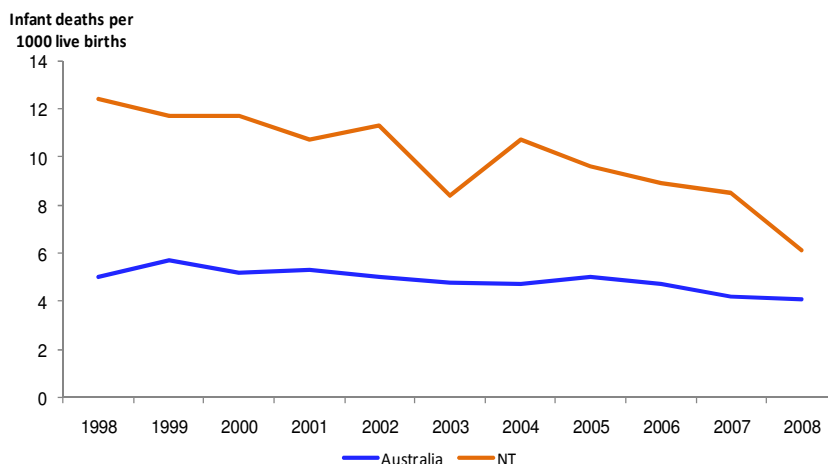
Summary

In 2008, there were 1041 deaths registered in the Territory. Of this, 467 or 44.9 per cent were registered as Indigenous deaths. In 2008, the Territory recorded the highest age standardised death rate and infant mortality rate, however, the Territory's infant mortality rate has decreased by 28 per cent compared with 2007.

In 2008:

- the number of deaths registered in the Territory (1041) increased by 4 per cent from 2007. Males accounted for 59.9 per cent or 624 of registered deaths in the Territory. Nationally, there were 143 946 deaths registered, an increase of 4.4 per cent from 2007;
- Indigenous deaths accounted for 44.9 per cent of total deaths registered in the Territory. This is higher than the Indigenous share of the Territory's population. Nationally, Indigenous deaths accounted for about 1.7 per cent of total registered deaths;
- the age standardised death rate in the Territory was 9.2 deaths per 1000 population, the highest of all jurisdictions and higher than the national rate of 6.0 deaths per 1000 population. The age standardised death rate for males in the Territory was 10.6 per 1000 Territory male population, higher than the female equivalent rate of 7.7 per 1000 relevant population;
- the Territory's infant mortality rate was 6.1 infant deaths per 1000 live births, the highest infant mortality rate of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 4.1 per 1000 live births. Infant mortality rates in the Territory in 2008 fell by 28 per cent compared with 2007 and have been steadily declining since 2004 (Chart 5); and
- in 2006-2008, the Territory's Indigenous infant mortality rate of 13.6 infant deaths per 1000 live births, was the highest of all jurisdictions but 13.4 per cent lower than the rate recorded in 2005-2007.

Chart 5: Infant mortality rates, Australia and Northern Territory, 1998-2008



Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3302.0

Corrective Services, Australia, September Quarter 2009

ABS, Cat. No. 4512.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This quarterly publication presents information on persons in custody and community-based corrections. The corrections statistics are disaggregated by gender, Indigeneity, legal status (sentenced or unsentenced) and by state and territory. The data is based on administrative records held by corrective service agencies in each state and territory. In all jurisdictions, persons are considered adults if aged 18 years and over, except Queensland (17 years and over).

Summary

In the September quarter 2009, the daily average number of persons held in full time custody and community based corrections in the Territory was 1037 and 1167 respectively. The daily average number of persons in full-time custody in the Territory was 9.5 per cent higher than for the same time last year, compared with a national increase of 5.9 per cent over the corresponding period. The Territory's prison population largely comprises Indigenous males, accounting for about 78.6 per cent of the average daily prisoner number. On a per capita basis, the Territory has the highest imprisonment rate of all jurisdictions and nearly four times greater than the national rate.

In the September quarter 2009:

- the imprisonment rate in the Territory was 646.0 per 100 000 adult population, the highest of all jurisdictions. This is largely due to the high proportion of Indigenous persons in the Territory's total population (30.4 per cent), who are largely over represented in full-time custody. Nationally, the imprisonment rate was 170.8 per 100 000 adult population;
- the Indigenous population in both the Territory and in Australia continued to be overrepresented in full-time custody. About 82 per cent of the average daily prison numbers in the Territory were Indigenous, this is despite Indigenous adults comprising about 18 per cent of the Territory's adult population;
- the imprisonment rate for Indigenous people was 2194.1 per 100 000 relevant population, lower than the national rate of 2373.3 per 100 000 Indigenous adults;
- the imprisonment rate for Indigenous males was 4285.9 per 100 000 relevant population. The imprisonment rate for Indigenous females was 181.8 per 100 000 relevant population, compared to the national rates of 4487.5 and 381.6 respectively; and
- 78 per cent of persons on community-based corrections were Indigenous.

Table 2: Imprisonment rates (per 100 000 relevant population), Northern Territory and Australia

	<i>NT Total</i>	<i>Aust. Total</i>	<i>NT Indigenous</i>	<i>Aust. Indigenous</i>
September 2008 quarter				
<i>Male</i>	1 101.4	313.5	3 929.5	4 071.4
<i>Female</i>	64.7	23.0	198.3	352.1
<i>Total</i>	606.0	166.1	1 985.6	2 165.9
September 2009 quarter				
<i>Male</i>	1 186.4	321.3	4 285.9	4 487.5
<i>Female</i>	59.9	24.4	181.8	381.6
<i>Total</i>	646.0	170.8	2 194.1	2 373.3

Source: ABS, Cat. No. 4512.0