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<i>Author:</i> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (Cat. No. CAN 46)	
<i>Date of release:</i> 26 October 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.

NT Crime and Justice Statistics - June quarter 2009

Northern Territory Department of Justice, <http://www.nt.gov.au/justice/>

About this publication

Each quarter, the Northern Territory Department of Justice releases a report on crime and justice statistics. This is the 28th edition of the report and covers the period June 2007 to June 2009.

NT Summary

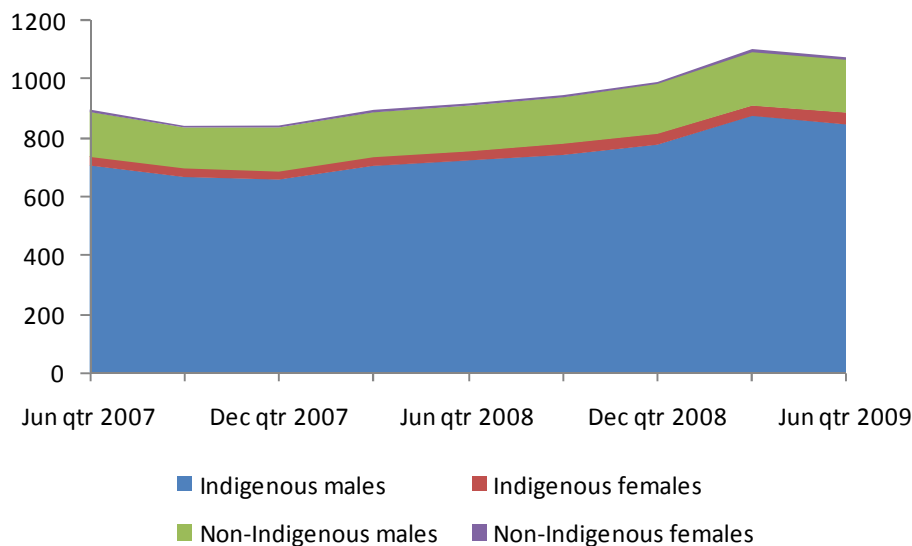
In 2008-09, there were 27 702 recorded offences in the Territory, comprising 21 228 'property offences' and 6474 'offences against the person'. The most common type of offences was property damage, other theft and assault.

In the June quarter 2009, the daily average number of prisoners in the Territory was 1078, a decrease from the previous quarter (1105) but higher than the same time last year (919). Indigenous males accounted for about 82 per cent of the daily average prison number.

In the Territory:

- in the June quarter 2009, there were 6642 offences, a decrease of 7.2 per cent from the previous quarter. The decrease in the quarter was due to a fall in both the number of 'property offences' (decrease of 5.0 per cent) and 'offences against the person' (decrease of 13.8 per cent);
- 90.0 per cent of 'offences against the person' were assault. The number of assaults recorded in the June quarter 2009 (1375) was lower than the previous quarter (1599), but up from the same time last year (1195);
- the majority of offences occurred in Darwin (40.5 per cent) followed by Alice Springs (19.6 per cent) and Northern Territory balance (17.2 per cent);
- the daily average number of prisoners in the Territory in the June quarter 2009 was 1078, a decrease of 2 per cent from the previous quarter but an increase of 17 per cent from the same period last year;
- Indigenous prisoners accounted for a significant proportion of the daily average prison population (82 per cent); and
- the daily average number of juvenile detainees in the June quarter 2009 was 32 of which 91 per cent were Indigenous.

Chart 1: Quarterly daily average number of adults held in prison, Northern Territory



Source: Northern Territory Department of Justice

Aged care packages in the community 2007-08

AIHW, Cat. No. AGE 60, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This annual report presents statistics on three types of community care packages Community Aged Care Packages (CACPs), Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) and EACH Dementia. These community care packages are designed to provide support in the home environment.

CACP is targeted at people with low-care needs, EACH packages are designed for people with high-care needs and EACH Dementia is for people with behavioural or psychological issues associated with dementia.

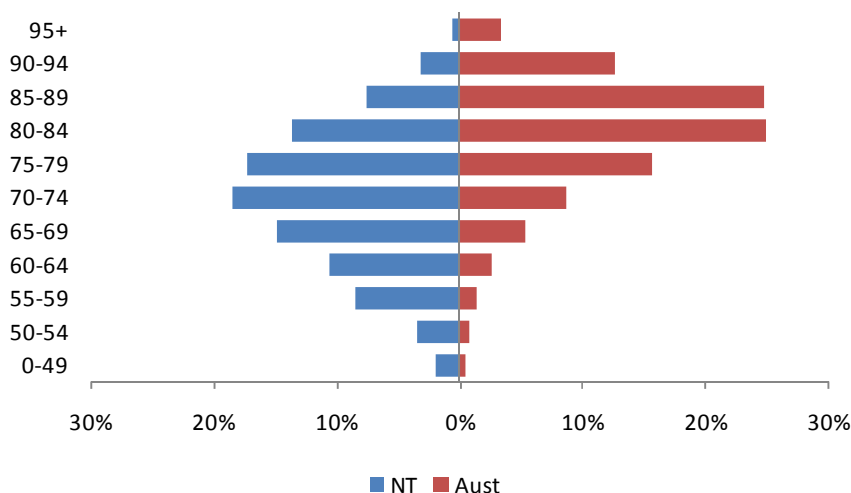
NT Summary

At 30 June 2008, there were 557 people receiving CACP assistance, 66 people receiving assistance from EACH package and 20 people from an EACH Dementia package. In 2007-08, the number of people receiving assistance through EACH and EACH Dementia programs increased, although the numbers were still small, while the number of people in a CACP program decreased by 2.1 per cent since 2006-07.

At 30 June 2008 in the Territory:

- there were 673 operational CACPs, of which the largest proportion was located in very remote areas (45.0 per cent);
- the majority of CACP outlets were operated by local government organisations (44.4 per cent) followed by community based organisations (29.6 per cent);
- the main recipients of CACPs were Indigenous, accounting for 61 per cent of Territory recipients;
- CACP recipients had a median age that was 11 years younger than the national median age of recipients. In the Territory, 39.3 per cent of CACP recipients were aged between 0-69 years compared with 10.3 per cent nationally;
- there were 11 EACH and EACH Dementia outlets in the Territory, which were operated by either religious organisations, charitable organisations or private organisations; and
- 82.3 per cent of EACH and EACH Dementia packages were located in the Greater Darwin area.

Chart 2: Age profile of CACP recipients, at 30 June 2008.



Source: AIHW Cat. No. AGE 60

Medical labour force 2007

AIHW, Cat. No. HWL 45, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This report provides information on the medical labour force by demographic and employment characteristics derived from the 2007 AIHW Medical Labour Force Survey.

Nationally, the response rate to the 2007 survey was 69.9 per cent. In the Territory, the response rate was 27.1 per cent, the lowest of all jurisdictions. Consequently, care should be taken in interpreting the results published for the Territory.

NT Summary

In 2007, there were 1020 registered medical practitioners in the Territory, of which 898 or 88.0 per cent were employed in medicine in the Territory. On a population share basis, the Territory had the highest number of full-time equivalent (FTE) medical practitioners.

In 2007:

- 88 per cent of medical practitioners in the Territory were employed in medicine, compared to the 87.1 per cent nationally;
- 2.4 per cent of employed medical practitioners in the Territory identified themselves as being Indigenous, higher than the national proportion of 0.3 per cent;
- 45 per cent of medical practitioners employed in the Territory were female, the highest of all jurisdictions and higher than the national proportion (34 per cent);
- the average age of a medical practitioner in the Territory was 43.0 years compared with 45.9 years nationally;
- the FTE* rate in the Territory was 401 per 100 000 population, higher than the national FTE rate of 305; and
- the average hours worked by employed medical practitioners in the Territory was 43.2 hours a week, similar to the national level (43.1 hours per week).

Table 1: Selected features of employed medical practitioners, 2007

	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Number	898	67 208
FTE rate	401	305
Average hours	43.2	43.1
Average age (years)	43.0	45.9

*FTE (Full-time equivalent) rate is calculated by multiplying the number of number of medical practitioners by the average number of hours worked, then dividing the number of hours by the standard full-time 45 hour working week.

Source: AIHW, Cat. No. HWL 45

Nursing and midwifery labour force 2007

AIHW, Cat. No. HWL 44, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This report provides information on the nursing and midwifery labour force by demographic and employment characteristics derived from the 2007 AIHW Nursing and Midwifery Labour Force Survey.

Nationally, the response rate to the 2007 survey was 49.6 per cent. In the Territory, the response rate was 28.7 per cent, the lowest of all jurisdictions. As a result, care should be taken in interpreting the results published for the Territory.

NT Summary

In 2007, the Territory FTE rate of 1556 nurses per 100 000 population was the highest of the jurisdictions. The largest proportion of nurses, worked in emergency and critical care. Territory nurses, on average were younger than their national counterparts and worked longer hours.

In 2007 in the Territory:

- there were 2976 nurses employed, of which 88.8 per cent were registered nurses. Nationally, 80.6 per cent of employed nurses were registered nurses;
- the average age of nurses employed was 42.6 years, the youngest average age of all jurisdictions and lower than the national average age of 43.7 years;
- the FTE* rate of 1556 per 100 000 population, was higher than the national FTE rate of 1189 per 100 000 population;
- the average hours worked by employed nurses was 39.3 hours a week, the highest of the jurisdictions and above the national average of 33.3 hours worked per week;
- the largest proportion of nurses worked in emergency and critical care (24.5 per cent), followed by midwifery (15.3 per cent), medicine (12.4 per cent) and community health (11.4 per cent); and
- the proportion of nurses who identified themselves as being Indigenous (1.6 per cent) was the highest of all jurisdictions and twice the national proportion (0.8 per cent).

Table 2: Selected features of employed nurses 2007

	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Number	2976	263331
FTE rate	1556	1189
Average hours per week	39.3	33.3
Average age (years)	42.6	43.7

*FTE (Full-time equivalent) rate is calculated by multiplying the number of number of medical practitioners by the average number of hours worked, then dividing the number of hours by the standard full-time 45 hour working week.

Source: AIHW, Cat. No. HWL 44

Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia, 2007-08

AIHW, Cat. No. HSE 73, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This is the eighth report in the series of annual publications on the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Services (AODTS) National Minimum Data Set since 2002. This report presents national, state and territory data on publicly funded alcohol and other drug treatment services, clients, drugs of concern and types of treatment received.

NT Summary

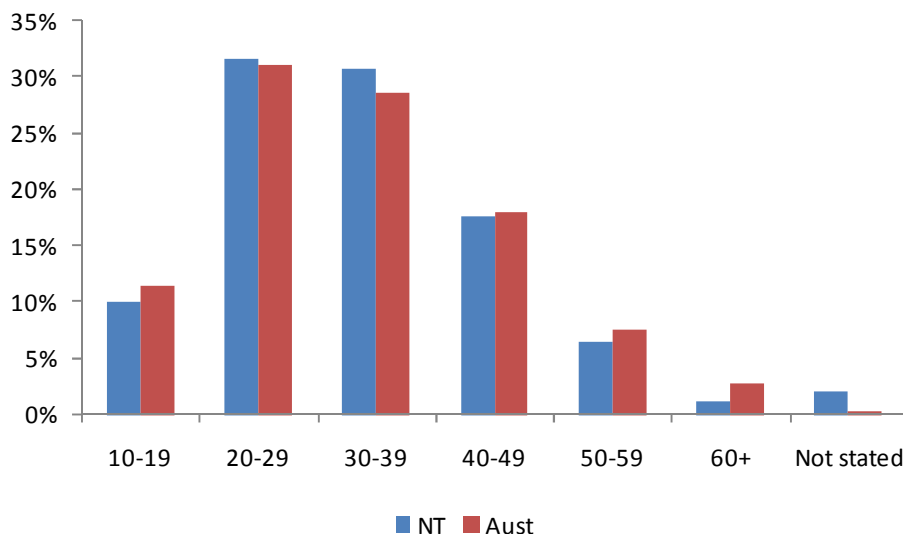
In 2007-08, there were 3712 episodes of treatment in the Territory. Persons seeking treatment in the Territory were generally seeking treatment for their own drug use, were disproportionately Indigenous and were predominantly aged between 20-39 years.

The main drugs of concern for which treatment was sought in the Territory were alcohol, cannabis and amphetamines.

In 2007-08 in the Territory:

- there were 20 AODTS, 17 of which were operated by the non-government sector with funding support from governments. Over half (55 per cent) of AODTS providers in the Territory were located in remote or very remote areas;
- Indigenous clients accounted for 62.6 per cent of persons seeking treatment or 2322 episodes;
- 62.4 per cent of clients were aged between 20-39 years. Juveniles (persons aged between 10-19 years) accounted for 10.1 per cent of total treatment episodes;
- the most common drugs of concern for clients seeking treatment for their own substance use were alcohol (73 per cent) and cannabis (10 per cent). Nationally, treatment for alcohol accounted for 44.5 per cent of treatment episodes while 21.6 per cent of treatment related to cannabis; and
- the most common treatment provided to clients (33 per cent) was assessment only, followed by counselling (21 per cent) and detoxification withdrawal management (15 per cent).

Chart 3: Age profile of treatment clients, 2007-08



Source: AIHW, Cat. No. HSE 73

Breast cancer in Australia, 2009

AIHW, Cat. No. CAN 46, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This report, commissioned by the National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre, provides a comprehensive overview of national statistics on breast cancer in Australia. Breast cancer statistics in this publication are available by region, Indigenous status, socioeconomic status and country of birth.

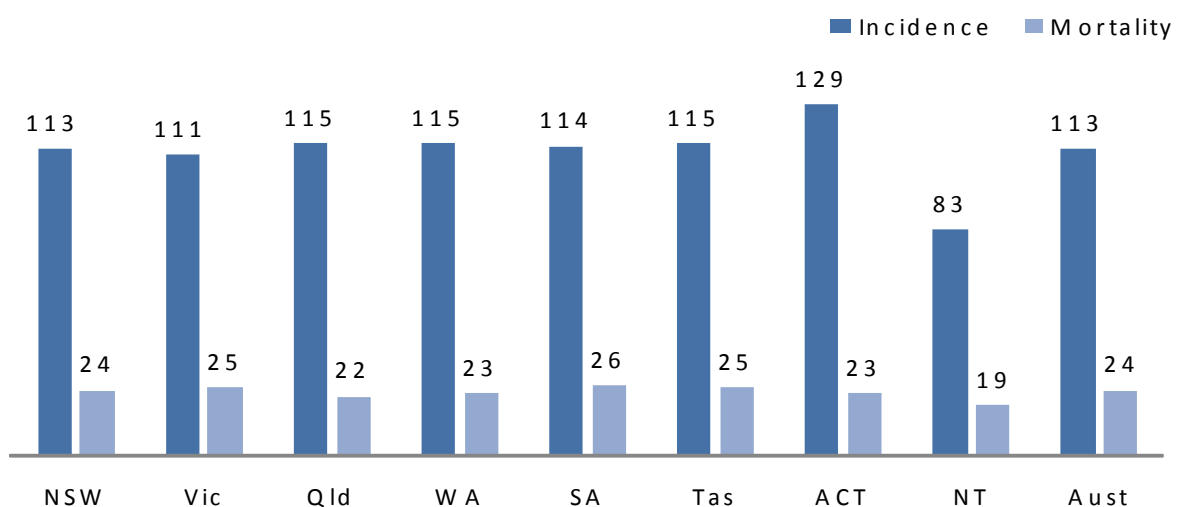
NT Summary

Between 2002 to 2006 the incidence of breast cancer in the Territory was the lowest of the jurisdictions with fewer new cases diagnosed and fewer deaths relating to breast cancer. This is despite the fact that women in the Territory were less likely to have had a screening mammogram through the BreastScreen Australia program.

In the Territory for the period 2002-2006:

- the incidence rate for new cases of breast cancer for women was significantly lower (83 cases per 100 000) than the national rate (113 new cases per 100 000 women), this difference may be related to a number of factors including lower rates of mammographic screening in very remote regions and the higher proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women;
- the age standardised mortality rate (19 deaths per 100 000 females) was the lowest of the jurisdictions and below the national rate of 24 deaths from breast cancer per 100 000 women;
- crude survival estimates for breast cancer across four jurisdictions (Northern Territory, Queensland, Western Australian and South Australia), suggest the 5-year crude survival for Indigenous women who were diagnosed with breast cancer was (65 per cent), significantly lower than non-Indigenous survival rate of 82 per cent; and
- in 2005-06 women aged 50 to 69 years had the lowest participation rate in the BreastScreen Australia program (41 per cent), below the national participation rate of 57 per cent, while women aged 40 years and over, were significantly less likely than other women to have participated in the program (24 per cent).

Chart 4: Incidence and mortality rates from breast cancer¹, state and territory, females, 2002-06



¹ Standardised to the Australian population as at 30 June 2001 and expressed per 100 000 females.

Source: AIHW, Cat. No. CAN 46