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<i>Date of release:</i> 30 September 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. The reports are all publicly available online.

Marriages and Divorces, Australia, 2008

ABS, Cat. No. 3310.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This publication provides information on marriages and divorces in Australia in 2008. Marriage statistics are presented at the national and state level by age, previous marital status, country of birth, type of celebrant and living arrangements prior to marriage. Divorce statistics are at the national and state level and is based on the location of the court granting the divorce.

NT Summary

In 2008, there were 955 registered marriages in the Territory, an increase of 23 per cent from the previous year. Territory couples were generally slightly older when they married compared with interstate marriages. The majority of marriages in the Territory occurred between June and August and were performed mainly by civil celebrants. The Territory recorded the lowest divorce rate of the jurisdictions.

In 2008:

- the median age for bridegrooms and brides in the Territory was 34 years and 32 years respectively, the highest of the jurisdictions. Nationally, the median age was 32 years for bridegrooms and 29 years for brides;
- the marriage rate in the Territory was 4.3 per 1000 population, the lowest of the jurisdictions. The national marriage rate was 5.5 per 1000 population;
- the Territory had the highest proportion of marriages performed by civil celebrants (77 per cent). Nationally, 65 per cent of marriages were performed by civil celebrants;
- 84 per cent of couples married in the Territory cohabited before marriage. This was the third highest proportion behind Tasmania (86 per cent) and Queensland (85 per cent) and higher than the national proportion of 78 per cent;
- there were 367 divorces granted in the Territory. The Territory had the lowest crude divorce rate of 1.7 per 1000 population, compared with 2.2 per 1000 population nationally; and
- the median age at divorce in the Territory for males was 46 years and for females, 42 years. Nationally the median age of divorce was 44 years for males and 42 years for females.

Table 1: Marriage and divorce statistics by jurisdictions, 2008

	<i>No. of marriages registered</i>	<i>Crude marriage rate (per 1000 pop.)*</i>	<i>No. divorces granted</i>	<i>Crude divorce rate (per 1000 pop.)*</i>
New South Wales	39 137	5.6	13 914	2.0
Victoria	27 089	5.1	11 623	2.2
Queensland	26 803	6.2	10 615	2.5
Western Australia	12 367	5.7	4 718	2.2
South Australia	8 046	5.0	3 466	2.2
Tasmania	2 685	5.4	1 154	2.3
Australian Capital Territory	1 674	4.8	1 351	n.a.
Northern Territory	955	4.3	367	1.7
Australia	118 756	5.5	47 209	2.2

* Crude marriage and divorce rates compares the number of people who marry or divorce within a year to the total estimated resident population.

Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3310.0

Apprentices and Trainees, March quarter 2009

National Centre of Vocational Education and Research (NCVER), <http://www.ncver.edu.au>

About this publication

This quarterly publication is produced by NCVER on behalf of the Commonwealth, state and territory governments. The report presents statistics on apprentice and trainee activity in Australia for the March quarter 2009. An apprentice or trainee is a person undertaking a contract of training with an employer and a training provider.

NT Summary

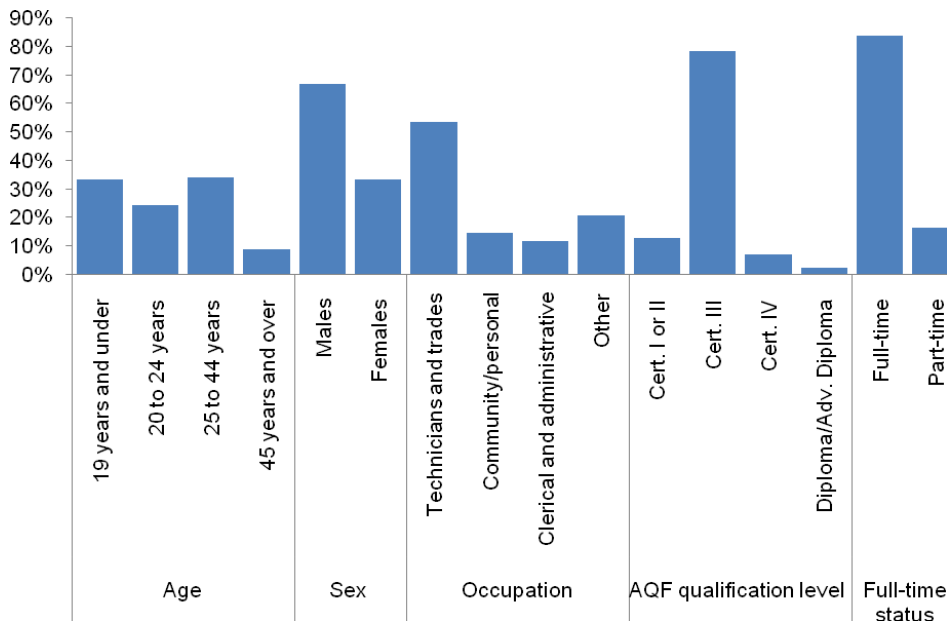
As at 31 March 2009, the number of apprentices and trainees in-training in the Territory was 3680, an increase of 5.7 per cent from March 2008. Nationally, there was a 0.7 per cent fall in the number of apprentices and trainees in-training over this period. The main characteristics of apprentices and trainees in the Territory's are:

- male (68 per cent);
- employed on a full time basis (84 per cent);
- employed as technicians and trade workers (53 per cent); and
- are currently completing Certificate III qualifications (78 per cent).

The number of commencements in the Territory in the year to March 2009 was 2408, a decrease of 3.8 per cent from the previous year. About half of Territory commencements were people aged 19 years and under and were evenly divided between males (52.2 per cent) and females (47.8 per cent). In addition, about 79.4 per cent of commencements in the Territory were newly commencing workers.

In the March 2009 quarter, 211 people in the Territory completed their apprenticeship/traineeship. This figure is below the average number of completions in each quarter reported in the last five years (262). The number of cancellations and withdrawals in the Territory in the March 2009 quarter (363) is consistent with the average for each quarter in the previous five years.

Chart 1: Characteristics of apprentices and trainees in-training in the Northern Territory, March 2009



Source: NCVER

Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2021

ABS, Cat. No. 3238.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This publication contains experimental estimates and projections of the Indigenous population for the period 1986 to 2021. The Indigenous population is disaggregated by sex, age and by states and territories. The projections are based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

The ABS uses the cohort-component method to derive population projections with assumptions made about future demographic trends including fertility, life expectancy and migration. The ABS reports on two population projection series, Series A and B. Indigenous population estimates should be viewed with extreme caution due to the volatility of Indigenous census counts and the data reliability of Indigenous births and deaths.

NT Summary

At June 2006, it was estimated that 64 005 Indigenous people resided in the Territory. This equates to 12.4 per cent of the Indigenous population in Australia. In comparison, the Territory's share of the national population is about one per cent. Indigenous people represent about 30.4 per cent of the Territory's total population. Between 2006 and 2021, the Territory's Indigenous population is projected to grow by 1.7 per cent per annum, the lowest growth rate of all jurisdictions. The low growth rate is due to the age structure of the Territory's Indigenous population, specifically the relatively small cohort of the Territory's Indigenous population moving into peak child-bearing ages during the projection period.

Using ABS' Series B projections:

- the Territory's Indigenous population is expected to grow to 82 339 by 2021. The Territory's share of the total Indigenous population will fall from 12.4 per cent in 2006 to 11.4 in 2021;
- between 2006 and 2021, the Alice Springs region is expected to have the highest average annual growth rate of 2.9 per cent per annum, followed by the Darwin region of 2.6 per cent. The Tennant Creek region is projected to have the lowest annual growth rate of 0.2 per cent;
- the median age of the Territory's Indigenous population is estimated to increase from 22.3 years in 2006 to 25.8 years in 2021. Nationally, the median age will increase from 21 years to 24.1 years over the same period; and
- the proportion of Indigenous people in the Territory aged 55 years and over will increase from 7.2 per cent in 2006 to 11.8 per cent in 2021. This will be offset by a decrease in the proportion of Indigenous children under the age of 15 years from 35.0 per cent to 30.4 per cent by 2021.

Table 2: Northern Territory Indigenous population projections

	<i>As at 30 June 2006</i>	<i>As at 30 June 2021</i>	<i>Average annual growth rate</i>
Northern Territory	64 005	82 339	1.7
<i>Darwin region</i>	13 325	19 523	2.6
<i>Alice Springs region</i>	5 637	8 618	2.9
<i>Katherine region</i>	9 936	12 254	1.4
<i>Tennant Creek region</i>	4 002	4 140	0.2
<i>Jabiru region</i>	10 660	13 251	1.5
<i>Apatula region</i>	10 553	12 188	1.0
<i>Nhulunbuy region</i>	9 912	12 365	1.5
Australia	517 043	721 064	2.2

Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3238.0

National Report on Schooling in Australia 2009: National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Summary Report

Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs,
<http://www.naplan.edu.au>

About this publication

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Summary Report 2009, presents results of testing of students in Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 on reading, writing, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and numeracy. The tests are conducted in May each year. The full report is expected to be released in December 2009.

NT Summary

The proportion of Territory students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 who participated in national assessment program testing in 2009 was markedly higher than in 2008. The average increase in participation rates in the Territory for all years was 13.2 percentage points. The overall results for primary school students (Years 3 and 5) was higher for nine out of the ten indicators compared with 2008 results, while middle school students (Years 7 and 9) improved in eight out of the ten indicators.

The results published in the summary report are not disaggregated by Indigenous status, socio-economic status or remoteness. These factors all impact significantly on student outcomes. Comparisons between the Territory and other jurisdictions at the aggregated level are inappropriate given the Territory's very high proportion of both Indigenous students and students in remote areas, relative to other jurisdictions.

The pending release of the full report of the 2009 national assessment program is likely to include results for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students in each state. This will provide for a more appropriate basis for comparison of results between the Territory and other states.

In 2009, in the Territory:

- of Year 3 students tested, the most significant improvement was in reading with 68.6 per cent of students met the minimum standards, an increase of 5.9 percentage points from 2008;
- 70.6 per cent of Year 3 students were at or above national minimum standards in numeracy, a decrease of 6.4 percentage points from 2008;
- of Year 5 students tested in the Territory, the most significant improvement was in numeracy with 73.7 per cent of students at or above national minimum standards, an increase of 4.6 percentage points compared with 2008 results;
- of Year 7 students tested in numeracy, 75.1 per cent met the minimum standards; and
- of Year 9 students, 69.1 per cent met the minimum standards for reading and 76.4 per cent for numeracy.

Table 3: Percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard, 2009 (%)

<i>Primary School</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>	<i>Middle School</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Year 3			Year 7		
<i>Reading</i>	68.6	93.8	<i>Reading</i>	70.8	93.9
<i>Writing</i>	74.4	95.6	<i>Writing</i>	66.3	92.5
<i>Spelling</i>	62.0	92.2	<i>Spelling</i>	67.9	92.9
<i>Grammar</i>	63.0	92.5	<i>Grammar</i>	65.5	92.0
<i>Numeracy</i>	70.6	94.0	<i>Numeracy</i>	75.1	94.8
Year 5			Year 9		
<i>Reading</i>	65.8	91.7	<i>Reading</i>	69.1	92.2
<i>Writing</i>	66.6	92.8	<i>Writing</i>	63.4	87.7
<i>Spelling</i>	65.5	92.4	<i>Spelling</i>	64.8	89.7
<i>Grammar</i>	63.5	92.0	<i>Grammar</i>	65.7	90.3
<i>Numeracy</i>	73.7	94.2	<i>Numeracy</i>	76.4	94.9

Source: MCEECDYA, National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy 2009

Corrective Services, Australia, June 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 correction statistics are disaggregated by gender, Indigeneity, legal status (sentenced or unsentenced) and by states and territories. 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).

NT Summary

Based on the first day of the month averages for the June quarter 2009, there were 2211 people held in corrective services in the Territory. This comprise of 1085 people in full-time custody and 1126 persons in community-based corrections. The average number of people in corrective services in the June quarter 2009 was 7.4 per cent higher than the June quarter 2008. The Territory's prison population is largely comprised of Indigenous males, who account for about 77 per cent of the average daily number of prisoners in the Territory. On a per capita basis, the Territory continues to have the highest imprisonment rate of all jurisdictions and nearly four times greater than the national rate.

In the June 2009 quarter:

- the imprisonment rate in the Territory was 676.7 per 100 000 adult population, the highest of all jurisdictions. Nationally, the imprisonment rate was 170.5 per 100 000 adult population;
- the Indigenous population in both the Territory and in Australia continues to be overrepresented in full time custody. About 81 per cent of the average daily prison numbers in the Territory are Indigenous, this is despite Indigenous adults comprising of about 18 per cent of the Territory's adult population;
- the imprisonment rate for Indigenous people in the Territory was 2289.7 per 100 000 relevant population, lower than the national rate of 2342.9 per 100 000 Indigenous adults;
- the imprisonment rate for Indigenous males in the Territory was 4447.5 per 100 000 relevant population. The imprisonment rate for Indigenous females in the Territory was 213.8 per 100 000 relevant population; and
- 78 per cent of persons on community-based corrections in the Territory were Indigenous.

Table 4: 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>
June 2008 quarter				
<i>Male</i>	1 080.3	309.6	3 897.8	4 134.6
<i>Female</i>	55.4	22.7	169.5	362.5
<i>Total</i>	590.4	163.9	1 993.8	2 189.8
June 2009 quarter				
<i>Male</i>	1 240.1	320.9	4 447.5	4 425.2
<i>Female</i>	67.3	24.2	213.8	381.3
<i>Total</i>	676.7	170.5	2 289.7	2 342.9

Source: ABS, Cat. No. 4512.0

Injury deaths, Australia, 2004-05

AIHW, Cat. No. INJCAT 127, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This annual publication reports on injury-related deaths recorded in 2004-05 for all jurisdictions. The AIHW report describes the pattern of injury mortality in Australia. The report is based on data compiled by the ABS on all deaths registered in Australia. Community injury is the main subject of this report and includes injuries from: car crashes; sporting and recreation activities; work; and violence.

Community injury is the focus of this report. The report also includes data on injury deaths from complications of surgical and medical care, however data is limited and is not available at the state level.

NT Summary

In 2004-05 there were 176 injury related deaths in the Territory. This is the equivalent to an age-adjusted rate of 97.2 deaths per 100 000 Territorians, the highest rate of all jurisdictions and twice the national rate. The major causes of injury-related deaths in the Territory were suicides and motor vehicle traffic crash.

The Territory's high male to female ratio and its highly dispersed population may have contributed to the high rates of injury-related deaths in the Territory. Nationally, males were 2.1 times more likely to be involved in injury-related deaths and the age-adjusted rates of injury mortality increased with remoteness of the population.

In 2004-05:

- suicide was the main cause of injury-related deaths in the Territory with 54 cases recorded. The age-adjusted standardised rate of suicide in the Territory was the highest of all jurisdictions and 2.17 times higher than the national rate;
- transportation deaths accounted for 52 or nearly 30 per cent of injury-related deaths in the Territory. Deaths from motor vehicle traffic crashes was the major component of transport deaths, with 46 cases recorded in the Territory. The rate of transport deaths in the Territory was 2.68 times higher than the national rate; and
- there were 10 cases of homicide in the Territory. The homicide rate in the Territory was over four times the national rate.

Table 5: Age standardised rate of injury-related deaths by major causes, Northern Territory and Australia, 2004-05

	<i>NT (per 100 000 pop.)</i>	<i>Ratio of NT to Australia</i>
Transportation	23.6	2.68
Accidental falls	16.9	1.28
Accidental poisoning by drugs	5.2	1.41
Accidental poisoning by other substances	4.9	3.26
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	24.9	2.17
Homicide	4.5	4.09
Total community injury deaths*	97.2	2.08

* total community injury deaths does not equal the total for the table.
Source: ABS, Cat. No. 3310.0

Health Expenditure Australia, 2007-08

AIHW, Cat. No. HWE46, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

Health expenditure Australia 2007-08 is the latest release in a series of reports by AIHW on Australia's national health accounts. This publication presents health expenditure data from 1997-98 to 2007-08. It includes information on expenditure on health care in Australia, types of health goods and services funded and sources of funding.

NT Summary

In 2007-08, expenditure on health services in the Territory was \$1.3 billion. This represents a 9.8 per cent growth in real terms from the previous year. Nationally, total health expenditure grew by 6.0 per cent in real terms in 2007-08. The Territory Government was the largest contributor of funding for health services in the Territory.

In 2007-08:

- on a per capita basis, the Territory had the highest level of health expenditure of all jurisdictions. In 2007-08, about \$5981 per person was spent on health services in the Territory, 29.6 per cent higher than the national average of \$4613 per person;
- health services in the Territory was funded by the Territory Government (43.3 per cent), Commonwealth (39.4 per cent) and non-government (17.3 per cent). Nationally, the Commonwealth is the main source of funding for health services contributing 43.2 per cent, followed by the non-government sector (31.3 per cent) and state and territory governments (25.5 per cent);
- the main areas of health expenditure in the Territory were: \$486 million or 36.8 per cent of total expenditure on public hospitals, \$251 million or 19.0 per cent of total expenditure on community and other health services and \$117 million or 8.9 per cent of total expenditure on medical services. Medical services predominantly comprises Medicare payments and patient copayments under the Medicare Benefits Scheme;
- Territory Government funding for public hospital services increased by 6.3 per cent to \$319 million compared to \$300 million in 2006-07;
- the Territory Government provided 65.7 per cent of public hospital services funding, the highest of the jurisdictions and above the national average for government funding of 55.7 per cent; and
- the contribution of private health insurance funding to health expenditure (\$470) per person was the lowest of the jurisdictions and well below the national average contribution of \$834 per person.

Table 6: Total recurrent health expenditure, current prices, 2007-08 (\$M)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
Total health expenditure	33 733	24 529	20 789	10 639	8 307	2 359	1 885	1 322	103 563
Cwlth contribution	15 117	11 011	8 560	4 128	3 526	1 104	808	520	44 774
<i>Share of total</i>	44.8%	44.9%	41.2%	38.8%	42.4%	46.8%	42.9%	39.4%	43.2%
State contribution	8 132	5 383	5 819	2 946	2 310	603	614	573	26 380
<i>Share of total</i>	24.1%	21.9%	28.0%	27.7%	27.8%	25.6%	32.6%	43.3%	25.5%
Non-govt contribution	10 485	8 135	6 410	3 565	2 471	653	463	229	32 411
<i>Share of total</i>	31.1%	33.2%	30.8%	33.5%	29.7%	27.7%	24.6%	17.3%	31.3%

Source: AIHW