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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.

Regional Population Growth, 2008-09

ABS, Cat. No. 3218.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This publication contains estimates of the resident population for each of the states and territories for each of the Statistical Divisions (SD), Local Government Area's (LGA), Statistical Subdivisions (SSD) and Statistical Local Area's (SLA) for the year ended 30 June 2009.

Summary

In 2008-09, in the Territory, over half of the population resided in the Darwin SD with a further quarter residing in the five main regional towns of Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek, Jabiru and Nhulunbuy. The Palmerston SDD recorded the highest annual population growth rate in the Territory at 4.5 per cent, followed by Litchfield 2.8 per cent and Darwin City 2.6 per cent.

In 2008-09, in the Territory

- resident population increased by 5435, representing annual population growth of 2.5 per cent since 2007-08, the third highest of all jurisdictions, behind Western Australia (3.1 per cent) and Queensland (2.7 per cent);
- growth in Darwin city was driven by strong population growth in the Inner-city and Lee Point-Leanyer SLA's, reflecting inner city unit developments and the housing estate development at Lyons; and
- in the past five years the Palmerston SSD had the highest average annual rate of growth (4.8 per cent), followed by Litchfield (3.6 per cent) and East Arnhem (2.9 per cent). These growth rates reflect strong residential construction and land development in the Palmerston-Litchfield region and the continuation of mining operations in Nhulunbuy, Gove and Groote Eylandt.

Table 1: Regional population estimates and growth, 2008-09 and 2004-09

Statistical Subdivision	30 June ERP			
	2008	2009	2008-09 (%)	2004-09 [#] (%)
Darwin City	73 984	75 908	2.6	1.9
Palmerston	28 710	30 005	4.5	4.8
Litchfield	18 333	18 847	2.8	3.6
Finniss	2822	2865	1.5	2.6
Bathurst-Melville	2495	2525	1.2	0.7
Alligator	6665	6806	2.1	2.0
East Arnhem	15 708	16 070	2.3	2.9
Lower Top End	23 402	23 868	2.0	1.6
Barkly	7949	8077	1.6	2.0
Central NT	40 435	40 967	1.3	1.0
Total Territory	220 503	225 938	2.5	2.3

Source: ABS Cat. No. 3218.0

[#] Average annual growth rate

VET in Schools, 2008

National Centre for Vocational Education Research, <http://www.ncver.edu.au>

About this publication

This publication presents information on vocational education and training (VET) undertaken by school students as part of their senior secondary certificate. This is referred to as VET in Schools. The VET in Schools arrangement offers two main options that students can undertake: school-based apprenticeships and traineeships; or VET subjects and courses (the latter are referred to as 'other VET in Schools programs'). In this report, the statistics for VET in Schools students are compared with students aged 15 to 19 years who enrolled in the public VET system, as most VET in Schools students are aged between 15 and 19 years.

Summary

In 2008, in the Territory, there were 2000 VET in Schools students, representing 0.9 per cent of total VET in Schools students across Australia. In the Territory, VET in Schools students comprised 37.3 per cent of school students undertaking a senior secondary certificate. Nationally, there were 220 000 VET in Schools students, representing 41 per cent of school students undertaking a senior secondary certificate. Since 2007, in the Territory, the number of VET in Schools students decreased by 9.1 per cent, while nationally the number of VET in Schools students increased 25.8 per cent.

In the Territory in 2008:

- there were 2000 VET in Schools students, this is a decrease from 2200 (9.1 per cent) VET in Schools students in 2007;
- the majority of VET in Schools students are in Government schools (1700), with a small proportion in Catholic and Independent Schools;
- nationally, as a percentage of school students undertaking a senior secondary certificate 40.3 per cent of VET in Schools students were enrolled in Government schools, 27.8 per cent were enrolled in Catholic schools and 24.7 per cent were enrolled in Independent Schools; and
- in the Territory 37.3 per cent of students undertaking a senior secondary certificate were VET in schools students, compared to 41 per cent nationally.

Table 2: Number of VET in Schools Students, by Jurisdiction, 2008

Jurisdiction	Number of VET in Schools Students
NSW	54 900
Vic	43 400
Qld	78 400
SA	12 500
WA	21 600
Tas	3200
NT	2000
ACT	4000
Australia	220 000

Source: NCVET

NT Crime and Justice Statistics – December quarter 2009

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

About this publication

Each quarter the Northern Territory Department of Justice reports on crime and justice statistics in the Territory. This is the 30th edition of the report and covers the period December quarter 2007 to the December quarter 2009.

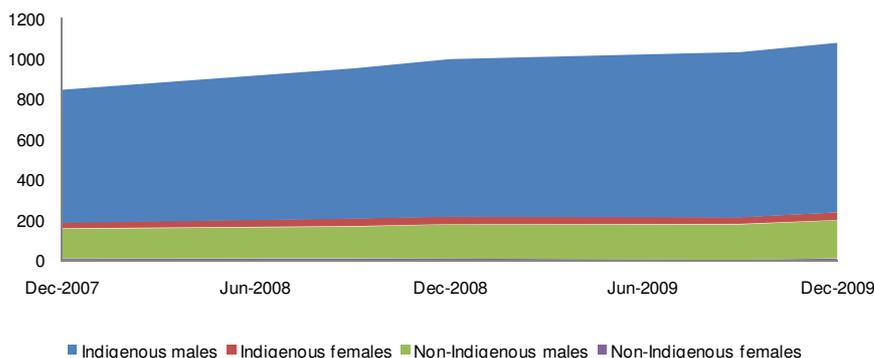
Summary

In the December quarter 2009, there were 7471 offences recorded in the Territory. Of this number 1926 were offences recorded against the person and 5545 were property offences. Assault accounted for 91 per cent of the offences recorded against the person. The daily average number of prisoners was 1074 in the December quarter 2009.

In the Territory during the December quarter 2009:

- the total number of recorded offences against the person was 1926. Assault offences accounted for the highest proportion of offences against the person (91 per cent), followed by sexual assault (5 per cent);
- there were 1762 assault offences recorded, a 20 per cent increase from the previous quarter, and a 9 per cent increase from the December quarter 2008;
- the total number of recorded offences against property was 5545, an increase of 12 per cent from the previous quarter, but a decrease of 1 per cent from the December quarter 2008;
- the majority of offences against property relate to property damage (39 per cent), and other theft (32 per cent), the remaining offences were motor vehicle theft and related offences (11 per cent), break-ins to commercial or other premises (9 per cent), house break-ins (8 per cent) and other property offences (1 per cent);
- the majority of offences occurred in Darwin city (40 per cent), followed by Alice Springs (19.9 per cent) and Northern Territory Balance (18 per cent);
- the daily average number of prisoners in the Territory was 1074, an increase of 4 per cent from the previous quarter and an increase of 8 per cent from the December quarter 2008;
- Indigenous prisoners represented 81 per cent of the total average prison population;
- Indigenous males account for 78 per cent of the total daily prison population (Chart 1); and
- the daily average number of juvenile detainees was 31, 15 per cent lower than the previous quarter, but an increase of 19 per cent from the December quarter 2008.

Chart 1: Daily average number of adults held in prison, Northern Territory, by quarter



Source: Northern Territory Department of Justice

Indigenous perpetrators of violence: prevalence and risk factors for offending

Australian Institute of Criminology, <http://www.aic.gov.au/>

About this publication

This report focuses on Indigenous perpetrators of violence and aims to quantify the prevalence and nature of violent behaviour as well as examine empirical evidence on the relationship between violence and its associated risk factors.

Summary

In 2005-06, in the Territory, 27 or 100 per cent of persons charged with homicide were Indigenous, while nationally 22 per cent of all the 314 persons charged with homicide were Indigenous. Official justice statistics indicate that Indigenous persons are substantially more likely to be charged with a violent offence than a non-Indigenous person.

The key risk factors highlighted in the report include:

- recidivism rates amongst released prisoners with, Indigenous offenders three times more likely to return to prison within two years than non-Indigenous offenders (45 per cent compared to 15 per cent).
- nationally, in 2006, 21 per cent of Indigenous 15 year olds were not participating in school, compared with only 5 per cent of non-Indigenous students;
- Indigenous babies are two to three times more likely to be born with a low birth weight, which is predictive of future problems;
- from 1999 to 2003, just over 2 per cent of Indigenous deaths in the Territory, Queensland and South Australia were due to mental disorders, which was over five times that of non-Indigenous Australians; and
- the suicide rate among Indigenous persons being higher among males than females; in the Territory, between 2001 and 2005, the Indigenous male suicide rate was more than seven times that of Indigenous females (84.9 per 100 000 Indigenous male population, compared with 11.7 per 100 000 for females).

Table 3: Offenders charged with Homicide 2005-06, Indigenous, Non-Indigenous, by jurisdiction

	Homicides committed by Indigenous offenders	Persons Apprehended for Homicide	% Indigenous offenders to all offenders apprehended
NSW	12	111	11%
VIC	0	53	0%
Qld	13	62	21%
SA	2	23	9%
WA	12	29	41%
NT	27	27	100%
Tas	0	2	0%
Australia	66	307	21%

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology