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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.

The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, October 2010

ABS Cat. No. 4704.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This publication provides a snapshot of the health and welfare of Indigenous people in Australia. It is largely based on the 2008 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey. It includes varied measures of health and welfare including access and proximity to health services, prevalence of drug use, happiness indicators and school attainment. The publication cites several national data collections, including the 2006 Census of Population and Housing and the 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey.

Summary

In 2008:

- 42.7 per cent of mothers of Indigenous children in remote areas consulted a Doctor, General Practitioner or Obstetrician for regular pregnancy check ups compared to 66.3 per cent in non-remote areas, 48.2 per cent consulted a nurse or midwife compared to 40.1 per cent in non-remote areas, and 15.0 per cent consulted an Indigenous health worker compared to 5.5 per cent in non-remote areas.
- 50.1 per cent of remote Indigenous households had a pharmacy or chemist available locally when needed, compared to 87.0 per cent in regional areas and 95.1 per cent in major cities.
- 15.5 per cent of Indigenous people aged 15 years and over had used cannabis in the past twelve months, 3.6 per cent had used amphetamines or speed and 3.0 per cent had used ecstasy or other designer drugs.
- 13.4 per cent of Indigenous home owners/purchasers were living in overcrowded conditions compared to 30.3 per cent of Indigenous renters.
- 78.3 per cent of Indigenous people aged 15 years and over in remote areas were happy all or most of the time compared to 70.5 per cent in non-remote areas.
- Table 1 presents school attainment statistics for Indigenous persons aged 15 years and over from the 2008 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey. It shows that between 2002 and 2008, there was an improvement in both year 12 and years 10/11 attainment and a subsequent reduction in the proportion of Indigenous persons aged 15 and over who failed to complete year 10 or above.

Table 1: Highest year of school completed, Indigenous persons aged 15 years and over, 2002 and 2008*

	2002		2008	
	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
Year 12	47 006	17.9%	66 220	22.1%
Year 10/11	107 866	41.0%	131 385	43.8%
Year 9 and Under	108 086	41.1%	102 085	34.1%
Total	262 958	100.0%	299 689	100.0%

*Excludes persons still attending school

Source: ABS Cat. No. 4704.0

Births, Australia, 2009

ABS, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

Births Australia, 2009 presents data on live births and fertility in Australia. Information on characteristics of children born in 2009 includes: place of usual residence; gender; Indigenous status; age; parental marital status; and parents' country of birth.

Summary

In 2009, in the Territory:

- There were 3819 births, including 1523 (39.9 per cent) which were registered as Indigenous births.
- The fertility rate was 2.092 births per 1000 women, which was the third highest fertility rate of all jurisdictions behind Tasmania (2.176) and Queensland (2.115). The Territory's fertility rate was slightly higher than the national rate of 1.901.
- There was a 5.5 per cent decline in the fertility rate compared to 2008, and a 3.1 per cent decline compared to 1999.
- The fertility rate for Indigenous mothers was 2.322 births per 1000 women, which was the third lowest fertility rate for Indigenous mothers ahead of Tasmania (1.385) and New South Wales (2.078). The Territory's fertility rate for Indigenous mothers was below the national figure of 2.575.
- There was a decline of 4.0 per cent in the fertility rate for Indigenous mothers compared to 2008 and a 7.0 per cent decline compared to 1999.
- Of all Indigenous births, 45.3 per cent of births were to parents who were both Indigenous compared to 31.0 per cent nationally, 46.0 per cent were to parents where only the mother was Indigenous compared to 41.9 per cent nationally and 8.7 per cent were to parents where only the father was Indigenous compared to 27.1 per cent nationally.

Chart 1: Fertility rates per 1000 women, states and territories, 2009



*The fertility rate for Indigenous mothers in the ACT is not available for publication, but is included in Australian total figures.

Source: ABS Cat. No. 3301.0

Deaths, Australia, 2009

ABS, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This publication presents statistics on deaths and mortality for Australia, including data by state and territory and sub-state region. Information on characteristics of the deceased include: place of usual residence; age at death; sex; Indigenous status; and country of birth. Information is also provided on infant deaths, life expectancy and death rates.

Summary

In 2009, in the Territory:

- There were 953 recorded deaths. Of these, 431 or 45.2 per cent were recorded as Indigenous.
- The life expectancy at birth for Indigenous males and females was 61.5 years and 69.2 years respectively, compared to the national average of 67.2 years for men and 72.9 for women. Both Indigenous males and females in the Territory had the lowest life expectancy of all jurisdictions.
- The life expectancy at birth for non-Indigenous males and females was 75.7 years and 81.2 years respectively, compared to the national average of 78.7 years for males and 82.6 years for females. The Territory had the lowest life expectancy for males and females of all jurisdictions.
- The standardised death rate remained the highest of all jurisdictions at 7.9 per 1000 population, compared to 5.7 nationally.
- The infant mortality rate was the highest of all jurisdictions at 7.1 deaths per 1000 live births, compared to 4.3 nationally.
- The infant mortality rate for Indigenous persons was the highest out of all jurisdictions at 12.2 deaths per 1000 live births, compared to the national average of 8.2. The infant mortality rate in the Territory for non-Indigenous Australians was the third highest of all jurisdictions at 3.9 deaths per 1000 live births, below New South Wales (4.1) and Queensland (4.7).

Chart 2: Indigenous and non Indigenous infant mortality rate per 1000 live births, selected states and territories, 2007-2009



Source: ABS Cat. No. 3302.0

The Coding Workforce Shortfall

AIHW, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

The Coding Workforce Shortfall Report provides information on the shortfall in Australia's health and hospital services coding workforce (health information managers (HIMs), clinical coders (CCs) and costing specialists (CSs)). The report is based on a survey which targeted 1170 health establishments in 2008–09 and seeks to project the size of the current workforce, and the size of the workforce required in the future to meet Australia's growing need for health data coders.

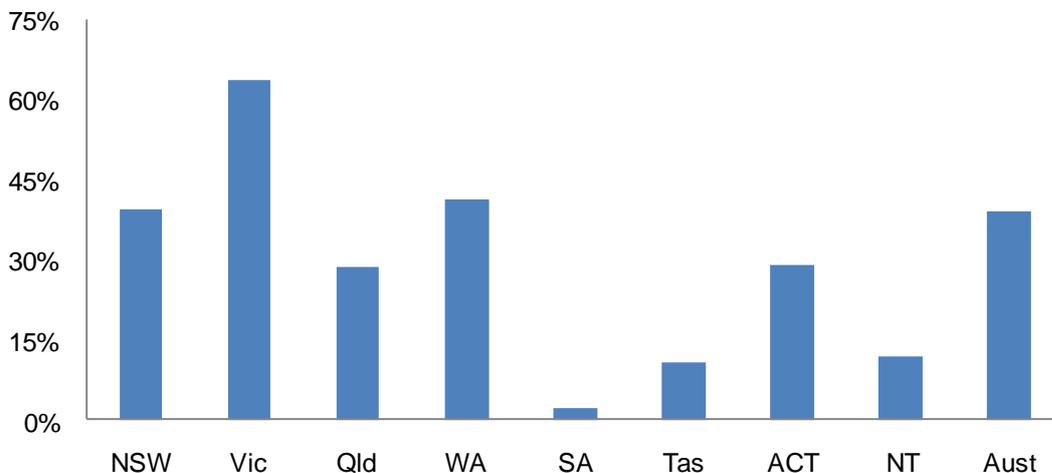
Summary

In 2009 the national number of full time coders required to meet demand in 2009 was 1265, with estimates for future demand ranging from 1757 to 3101, depending on productivity and demand for health services.

In 2009, in the Territory:

- There were 14 CCs and 3 HIMs.
- 88.2 per cent of CCs and HIMs were female. This was the lowest proportion of all jurisdictions, and was below the national average of 92.8 per cent.
- 11.8 per cent of CCs and HIMs had a degree or higher qualification in Health Information Management or similar field, compared to 39.2 per cent nationally.
- 17.6 per cent of CCs and HIMs had less than two years experience in coding work, slightly above the national figure of 15.7 per cent.
- 76.5 per cent of CCs and HIMs were aged 45 years and over, which was above the national average of 51.8 per cent and the highest of all jurisdictions.
- 17.6 per cent of CCs and HIMs were part time workers, which was the lowest of all jurisdictions, below the national average of 50.1 per cent.

Chart 3: Proportion of clinical coders and health information managers holding a degree or higher qualification in Health Information Management or similar field, 2009



Source: AIHW

Corrective Services, Australia, September Quarter 2010

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

About this publication

Corrective Services, Australia is a quarterly publication produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The report provides information on persons in custody and community based corrections. Information in the report includes: prisoner numbers; imprisonment rates, Indigenous prisoners; and number of persons serving community based corrections orders.

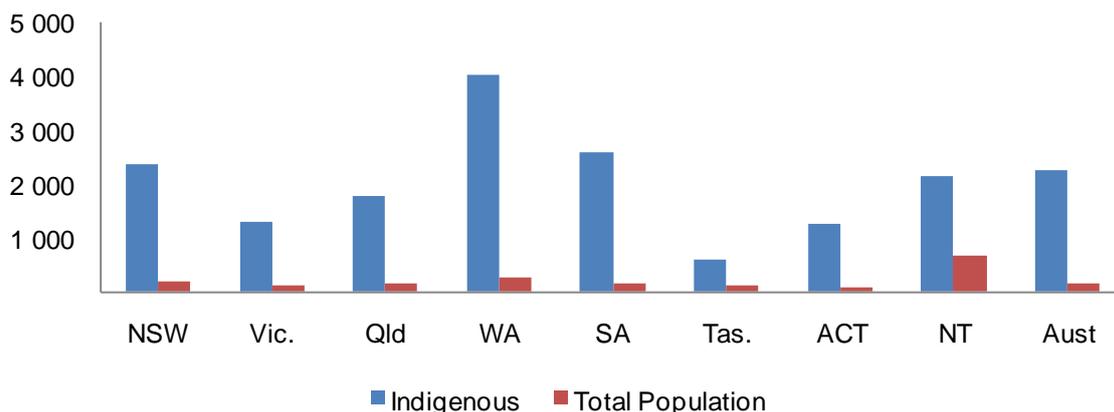
Summary

In the September quarter 2010, the average daily number of persons in full time custody in the Territory was 1100. This represents a 0.8 per cent decrease from the previous quarter and a 6.1 per cent increase from the September quarter 2009.

In the September quarter 2010:

- The imprisonment rate in the Territory was 665 per 100 000 adult population, the highest of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 168 per 100 000 adult population. The higher imprisonment rate in the Territory is primarily due to the high proportion of the Territory's population which is Indigenous.
- The average daily number of Indigenous prisoners in the Territory was 893. This represents about 81.2 per cent of the Territory's prison population. The Territory's Indigenous imprisonment rate for the September quarter 2010 was 2159 per 100 000 adult Indigenous population compared to 2267 per 100 000 adult Indigenous population nationally.
- The male Indigenous imprisonment rate in the Territory was 4293 per 100 000 relevant population, the fourth highest of all jurisdictions and slightly above the national rate of 4244 per 100 000 adult Indigenous male population.
- The female Indigenous imprisonment rate in the Territory was 187 per 100 000 relevant population, the third lowest of all jurisdictions and below the national rate of 376 per 100 000 relevant population.
- There were on average 1176 people in the Territory serving community based corrections orders. This equates to a rate of 710 per 100 000 adult population, the highest of all jurisdictions and above the national rate of 328 per 100 000 adult population.
- 70.9 per cent of persons serving community based corrections order in the Territory were Indigenous, compared with 19.2 per cent nationally, and 78.8 per cent for the same period in the previous year.

Chart 4: Imprisonment rate per 100 000 adult population, March quarter 2010



Source: ABS Cat. No.4512.0