

Social Indicators May 2021

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Table of contents	Page
Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia: Key findings, 2019-20 This annual publication provides statistics on the number of drug treatment agencies and the number of drug treatment services provided, identified by state or territory, Indigenous status, principal drug of concern, reason for cessation and delivery settings. Author: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Date of release: 14 April 2021	2
Northern Territory Crime Statistics, February, 2021 This monthly publication provides statistics on criminal offences in the Northern Territory, extracted from the police records system. Author: Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services (NTPFES) Date of release: 16 April 2021	3
Preschool Education, Australia, 2020 This annual publication provides information on children enrolled and attending preschool programs across Australia in 2020. Author: Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Date of release: 23 April 2021	4
Migration, Australia, 2019-20 This annual publication provides information arrivals and departures of migrants to and from Australia, identified by visa type and country of birth. Author: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Date of release: 23 April 2021	5
Acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease in Australia, 2015-2019 This report presents data collated from the acute rheumatic fever (ARF) and rheumatic heart disease (RHD) registers in Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory. The registers include demographic and clinical information about people with ARF and RHD. Author: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Date of release: 29 April 2021	6

Disclaimer

Caution is advised when using monthly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

More information:

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Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia: Key Findings, 2019-20

The following is a summary of information on all drug treatment services provided in the Northern Territory during the period 2019-20, unless otherwise stated:

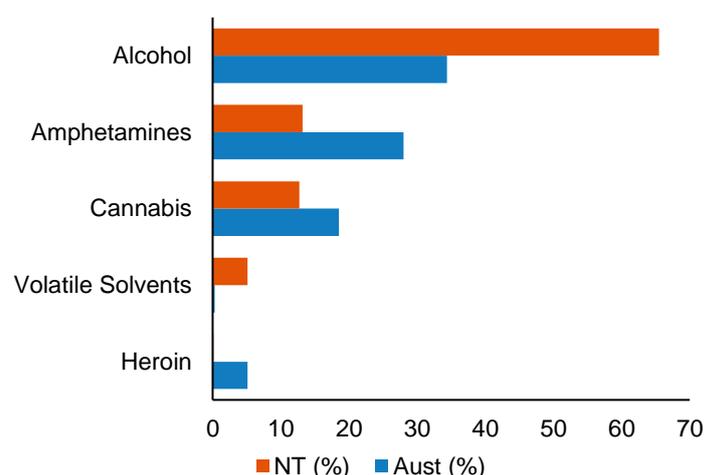
- There were a total of 8565 closed treatment episodes, an increase of 17.9 per cent compared to 2018-19. This compares to an increase of 8.0 per cent nationally and was the second-largest increase of the jurisdictions after Victoria, which saw an increase of 33.5 per cent (Table 1).
- Of the closed treatment episodes, 6472 or 75.6 per cent of clients were Indigenous. This was above the national level of 16.7 per cent and was the highest rate of all jurisdictions.
- Of the closed treatment episodes for a clients' own drug use, the most common principal drugs of concern were alcohol (65.5 per cent), amphetamines (13.2 per cent), cannabis (12.7 per cent) and volatile solvents (5.1 per cent). Nationally, the most common principal drugs of concern were alcohol (34.4 per cent), amphetamines (28.0 per cent), cannabis (18.5 per cent) and heroin (5.1 per cent) (Figure 1).
- Of the closed treatment episodes, 1133 or 13.2 per cent of completions were unplanned by treatment providers and did not end in a referral. The proportion of unplanned completions has fallen by 4.8 percentage points since 2018-19. Nationally, unplanned completions comprised 20.0 per cent of the total, with a 0.7 percentage point decrease over the same period.
- The most common delivery setting was outreach (33.2 per cent), followed by residential treatment facilities (32.7 per cent) and non-residential treatment facilities (21.5 per cent). Nationally, the most common delivery settings were non-residential treatment facilities (64.4 per cent), outreach (13.2 per cent) and residential treatment facilities (12.0 per cent).
- Of the total number of treatment agencies, 12 or 48.0 per cent were located in outer regional areas, 8 or 32.0 per cent were located in remote areas, and 5 or 20.0 per cent were located in very remote areas. Nationally, only 17.4 per cent of treatment agencies were located in areas with these classifications (Table 2).
- Non-Government agencies comprised 80.0 per cent of total treatment agencies with Government treatment agencies making up the balance. This compares to 67.0 per cent for non-government agencies nationally.

Table 1: Total number of closed treatment episodes by jurisdiction, 2019-20^{1,2}

	2018-19	2019-20	Annual change
	No.	No.	%
NSW	52 563	51 451	-2.1
Vic	64 546	86 142	33.5
Qld	47 831	46 454	-2.9
WA	25 236	25 090	-0.6
SA	11 934	9 690	-18.8
Tas	3 856	3 715	-3.7
ACT	6 700	6 438	-3.9
NT	7 267	8 565	17.9
Australia	219 933	237 545	8.0

- 1 A closed treatment episode is a period of contact between a client and a service provider which has ended, whether receiving treatment for own or other's drug use.
- 2 Alcohol and other drug treatment services provided includes, but is not limited to, counselling, withdrawal management, rehabilitation, case management, education and assessment.

Figure 1: Principal drug of concern in closed treatment episodes, 2019-20 (percentage of total)^{3,4}



- 3 Amphetamines include methamphetamines (e.g. ice).
- 4 Volatile solvents include vaporised liquid (e.g. aerosol fumes).

Table 2: Remoteness of government and non-government treatment agencies, 2019-20^{5,6}

	NT		Australia	
	No.	%	No.	%
Government				
Outer regional	2	8.0	40	3.2
Remote	1	4.0	13	1.0
Very remote	2	8.0	17	1.4
Total	5	20.0	70	5.6
Non-Government				
Outer regional	10	40.0	112	8.9
Remote	7	28.0	24	1.9
Very remote	3	12.0	13	1.0
Total	20	80.0	149	11.8
Sector-wide total	25	100.0	1258	17.4

- 5 Remoteness is classified by Australian Statistical Geography Standard, Remoteness Structure, 2016.
- 6 The balance of Australian treatment agencies were located in Major cities and Inner Regional areas. The Territory does not have areas with this classification.

Source data in Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia: Key findings, 2019-20: Department of Treasury and Finance, AIHW

The following is a summary of information on offence counts in the Northern Territory in the February quarter 2021 compared to the February quarter 2020, unless otherwise stated:

- Recorded offences against property decreased by 704, or 11.1 per cent, to 5633. This decrease was driven by decreases in all offences against property, with the largest decrease in the number of offences being theft (-224) (Table 3).
- Commercial break-ins decreased by 11.4 per cent to 575 with the decline driven by decreases in Katherine (45.6 per cent or 26 break-ins), Darwin (29.7 per cent or 30 break-ins), and NT Balance (23.8 per cent or 71 break-ins). This was partially offset by increases in Alice Springs, Nhulunbuy and Palmerston (Table 3).
- House break-ins decreased by 17.3 per cent to 732, partially offset by increases in Tennant Creek (33), Alice Springs (15) and Nhulunbuy (9) (Table 4).
- The number of acts intended to cause injury increased by 13.3 per cent to 2115 offences. This was primarily due to increases in Palmerston (131), Darwin (96) and NT Balance (46).
- Of the total number of acts intended to cause injury, 2108 were assaults. Of these assaults, 66.5 per cent involved domestic violence, 50.9 per cent involved alcohol and 38.0 per cent involved both domestic violence and alcohol.
- For the twelve months ending February 2021, the highest rate of assault was recorded in Tennant Creek, with an offence rate of 11 158 per 100 000 population, of which 79.1 per cent involved alcohol. The second highest offence rate for assault was recorded in Alice Springs, with an offence rate of 6649 per 100 000 population, of which 50.1 per cent involved alcohol (Figure 2).
- In the same period, the lowest rate of assault was recorded in Palmerston, with an offence rate of 2017 per 100 000 population, of which, 53.8 per cent involved alcohol. The second lowest offence rate for assault was recorded in Nhulunbuy, with an offence rate of 2093 per 100 000 population, of which 72.5 per cent involved alcohol.
- The Northern Territory crime statistics are prepared by the Department of Attorney-General and Justice using data recorded by the Northern Territory Police.

Table 3: Selected recorded offences against property and persons, February quarter, 2020 and 2021^{7,8,9}

	Feb qtr 2020 No.	Feb qtr 2021 No.	Annual change %
Offences against property			
House break-ins	885	732	-17.3
Commercial break-ins	649	575	-11.4
Motor vehicle theft and related offences	449	392	-12.7
Theft	2 120	1 896	-10.6
Property damage	2 234	2 038	-8.8
Total	6 337	5 633	-11.1
Offences against persons			
Homicide and related offences	4	4	0.0
Acts intended to cause injury	1 866	2 115	13.3
Sexual assault and related offences	109	106	-2.8
Other	167	151	-9.6
Total	2 146	2 376	10.7

⁷ Break-ins include actual and attempted break-ins.

⁸ Other includes other dangerous or negligent acts endangering persons, abduction, harassment and other offences, robbery, extortion and related offences.

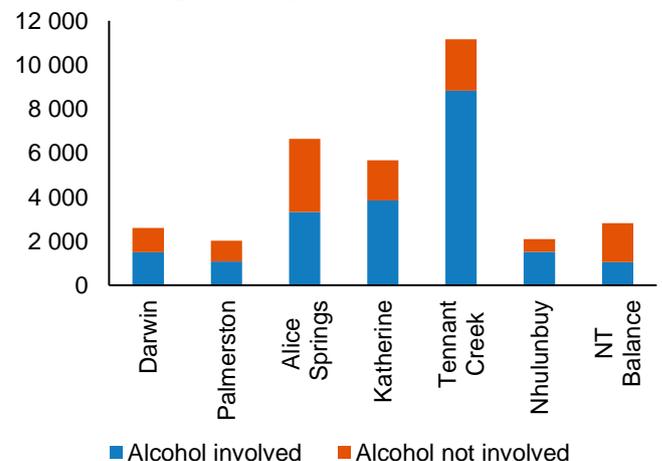
⁹ Acts intended to cause injury includes assault and related offences.

Table 4: Recorded house break-ins by region, February quarter, 2020 and 2021¹⁰

	Feb qtr 2020 No.	Feb qtr 2021 No.	Annual change %
Darwin	262	124	-52.7
Palmerston	116	88	-24.1
Alice Springs	203	218	7.4
Katherine	50	36	-28.0
Tennant Creek	49	82	67.3
Nhulunbuy	7	16	128.6
NT Balance	198	168	-15.2
Total	885	732	-17.3

¹⁰ NT Balance is the area of the Northern Territory that lies outside of the six urban centres of Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy.

Figure 2: Rate of assault per 100 000 population, divided by rate of alcohol involvement, for the 12 months ending February 2021¹¹



¹¹ 'Alcohol not involved' includes assaults where alcohol involvement is unknown.

Source data in Northern Territory Crime Statistics, February 2020: Department of Treasury and Finance, NTPFES

The following is a summary of information on preschool programs in the Northern Territory in 2020, unless otherwise stated:

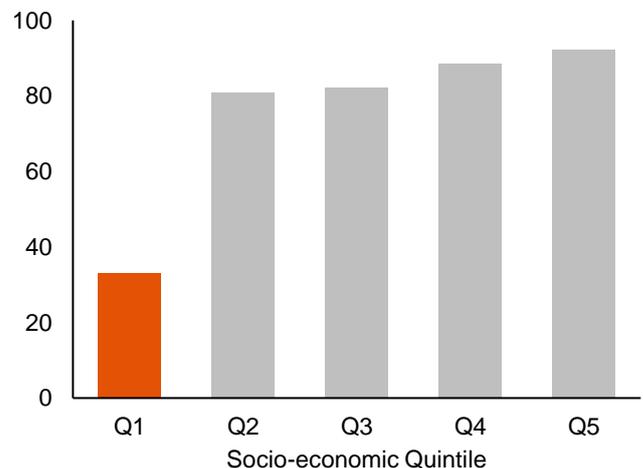
- In 2020, there were 3568 children enrolled in a preschool program. Of these, 1270 or 35.6 per cent were Aboriginal, the highest proportion across Australia. Nationally, Aboriginal enrolments accounted for 5.9 per cent of total enrolments.
- Of the total number of preschool enrolments, 2075 were located in inner/outer regional areas, with Aboriginal children accounting for 16.6 per cent of these enrolments. There were 1493 enrolments in remote/very remote areas, of which 61.9 per cent were Aboriginal children.
- Of the 3478 children enrolled in 600 hours or more of preschool programs annually, only 73.5 per cent of children attended for the full time period. This was the second lowest attendance rate of the jurisdictions and compares to the national attendance rate of 86.1 per cent (excluding Victoria) (Figure 3).
- The Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage ranks the relative disadvantage of areas in Australia in five increments. For example, Quintile 1 (Q1) represents the proportion experiencing the highest level of disadvantage. Of the total children enrolled in 600 hours or more of preschool annually, 861 or 24.8 per cent were in Q1, the second highest of the jurisdictions after Tasmania (31.6 per cent).
- Of the children enrolled for 600 hours or more annually in Q1, only 33.2 per cent attended. This compares with 80.8 per cent of children in Q2, 82.3 per cent in Q3, 88.6 per cent in Q4 and 92.3 per cent in Q5 (Figure 4).
- The attendance rate of Aboriginal children enrolled in a preschool program for 600 hours or more annually was 75.0 per cent in inner/outer regional areas compared to 28.7 per cent in remote/very remote areas. Nationally (excluding Victoria), Aboriginal child attendance was 78.3 per cent in inner/outer regional areas and 49.4 per cent in remote/very remote areas (Figure 5).
- Of the total preschool service providers, 46 or 20.0 per cent delivered a preschool program without a qualified early childhood teacher. This was the highest proportion of the jurisdictions and well above the national rate of 0.6 per cent (excluding Victoria).

Figure 3: Attendance of children enrolled in 600 hours or more of preschool annually, 2020 (per cent)¹²



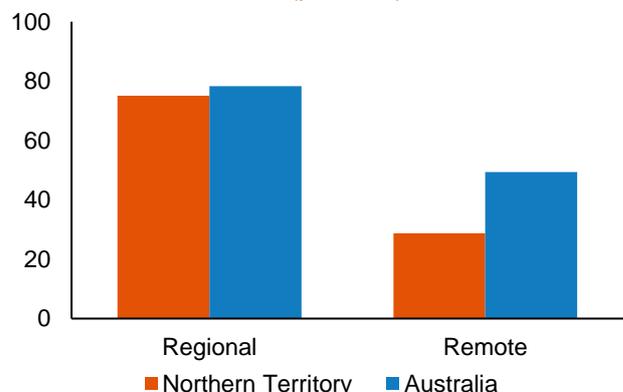
¹² Attendance data has not been collected for Victoria due to complications arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Australian attendance totals and averages exclude Victoria.

Figure 4: Attendance of Territory children enrolled in 600 hours or more of preschool annually, by socio-economic status, 2020 (per cent)¹³



¹³ Socio-economic status is measured by the ABS Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage. Populations are classified by the area of residence.

Figure 5: Attendance of Aboriginal children enrolled in 600 hours or more of preschool annually, by remoteness area, 2020 (per cent)^{14,15,16}



¹⁴ Victoria is excluded from Australian attendance rates.

¹⁵ Remoteness is classified by Australian Statistical Geography Standard, Remoteness Structure, 2016.

¹⁶ 'Regional' classification includes 'inner' and 'outer' regional areas. 'Remote' classification includes 'remote' and 'very remote' areas.

Source data in Preschool Education, Australia 2020: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

Social Indicators May 2021

Migration, Australia 2019-20

The following is a summary of information on net overseas migration (NOM) to the Northern Territory in 2019-20, unless otherwise stated:

- The Territory experienced a NOM increase of 170 people. This was the smallest NOM increase in the past fifteen years, and compares to a NOM increase of 930 people in 2018-19 (Table 5).
- The NOM increase was driven by a net increase in arrivals on temporary visas (+1080) and permanent visas (+280), partially offset by a net decrease in arrivals of Australian Citizens (-90), New Zealand Citizens (-70) and 'other' (visa unknown and permanent residents) (-1020).
- Australia recorded a NOM increase of 194 430 people. This was driven by net increases in all major groupings with the exception of 'other'.
- The most common permanent visa types for arrivals in the Territory were skilled (61.8 per cent), family (21.8 per cent) and special eligibility (10.9 per cent). Nationally, skilled visas made up a smaller proportion of permanent visa arrivals (38.5 per cent), whereas family (28.6 per cent) and special eligibility (18.1 per cent) made up a larger proportion (Figure 6).
- The most common temporary visa types for arrivals in the Territory were visitor (43.2 per cent), working holiday (19.2 per cent) and other (14.1 per cent). Nationally the most common temporary visa types for arrivals were visitor (37.0 per cent), higher education (24.9 per cent) and working holiday (13.4 per cent).
- The largest Territory NOM increases were recorded for people born in India (330), Philippines (190) and Nepal (150). Nationally, the largest NOM increases were recorded for people born in India, Australia and Philippines (Table 5).
- The largest Territory NOM decreases were recorded for people born in the United States (-400), Australia (-150) and New Zealand (-70). In contrast, the largest NOM decreases nationally were recorded for people born in China, South Korea and Taiwan.
- Those born in India recorded the largest Territory NOM increases in 2017-18 and 2019-20, with those born in Philippines holding the rank in 2016-17 and 2018-19. Nationally, those born in India have recorded the largest NOM increases for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20, overtaking China which previously held the rank in 2016-17.

Table 5: NOM by major groupings and visa type, 2019-20^{17,18,19,20}

	Arrivals No.	Departures No.	NOM No.
Northern Territory			
Temporary Visa	2 340	1 260	1 080
Permanent Visa	550	270	280
New Zealand Citizen	180	250	-70
Australian Citizen	650	740	-90
Other	360	1 390	-1 020
Total	4 090	3 920	170
Australia			
Temporary Visa	312 460	195 830	116 630
Permanent Visa	71 840	25 260	46 580
New Zealand Citizen	22 430	21 240	1 190
Australian Citizen	99 210	61 140	38 070
Other	3 680	11 730	-8 040
Total	509 630	315 200	194 430

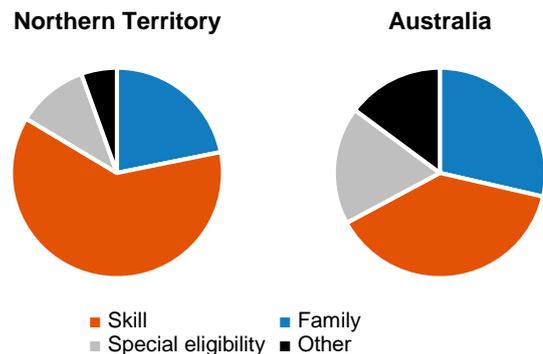
17 'Arrivals' refers to the number of incoming international travellers who stay in Australia for twelve months or more.

18 'Departures' refers to the number of outgoing international travellers who leave Australia for twelve months or more.

19 'Other' grouping includes permanent residents and those whose visa is unknown.

20 Figures may not add due to rounding.

Figure 6: Permanent visa arrivals by type of visa, 2019-20 (share of total)²¹



21 Special eligibility includes humanitarian visas.

Table 6: NOM increases and decreases by country of birth, 2019-20^{22,23,24}

Largest NOM Increases		Largest NOM decreases	
	No.		No.
Northern Territory		Northern Territory	
India	330	United States	-400
Philippines	190	Australia	-150
Nepal	150	New Zealand	-70
Timor-Leste	80	Singapore	-60
Vietnam	70	Canada	-60
Australia		Australia	
India	57 550	China	-15 630
Australia	19 220	South Korea	-4 330
Philippines	15 230	Taiwan	-3 920
Nepal	13 020	Japan	-1 900
United Kingdom	10 720	Singapore	-1 260

22 Estimates are rounded to the nearest ten to confidentialise.

23 United Kingdom includes Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

24 China excludes SARs and Taiwan.

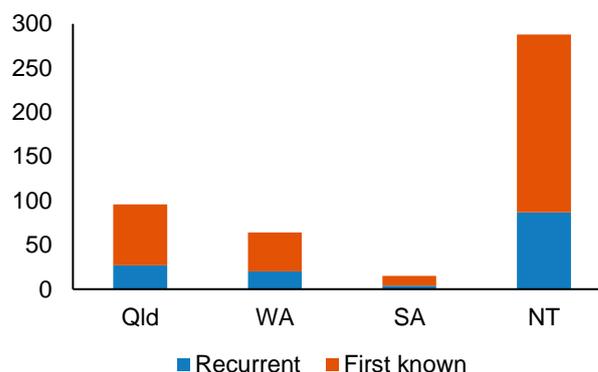
Source data in Migration, Australia 2019-20:
Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS

Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease in Australia, 2015-2019

The following is a summary of information on Acute Rheumatic Fever (ARF) and Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) in the Northern Territory in 2019, unless otherwise stated:

- There were 289 people with a diagnosis of ARF, of which 288 or 99.7 per cent were Indigenous. The Territory recorded the highest rate of ARF diagnosis of the jurisdictions (117 per 100 000), followed by Western Australia at (3 per 100 000).
- Indigenous Australians were diagnosed with ARF at a rate of 389 per 100 000; the highest rate recorded of the jurisdictions and an increase of 60.1 per cent since 2015.
- Of the 288 ARF diagnoses for Indigenous Australians, 30.2 per cent were reoccurrences. This was the second highest rate of recurrence, after Western Australia at 31.3 per cent (Figure 7).
- There were 2308 people with RHD, of which, 2183 or 94.6 per cent were Indigenous. The Territory recorded the highest rates of RHD of the jurisdictions for both the total and Indigenous populations (938 and 2945 per 100 000 respectively), followed by Queensland which had the second highest rates for both the total and Indigenous populations (45 and 627 per 100 000 respectively).
- For the period 2015 to 2019, the Territory recorded 177 deaths with an RHD diagnosis, of which 63.3 per cent were females. The Territory recorded the highest rate of deaths with an RHD diagnosis of the jurisdictions (14 per 100 000), followed by Queensland (1 per 100 000).
- For the period 2015 to 2019, there were 354 Indigenous females diagnosed with RHD, compared to 203 Indigenous males. The age group with the highest rate of new RHD diagnoses was 15-24 for Indigenous females (307 per 100 000) and 5-14 for Indigenous males (243 per 100 000) (Figure 8). These age groups also recorded the highest rate of new RHD diagnosis nationally.
- The Territory regions which recorded the highest rate of Indigenous Australians managed for ARF and/or RHD were rural Darwin (6502 per 100 000) and East Arnhem (5894 per 100 000). All Territory regions recorded a higher rate than the interstate rate (1438 per 100 000) (Table 7).
- Rates 'per 100 000' refer to 'per 100 000 population' of the relevant demographic.

Figure 7: Total ARF diagnoses for Indigenous Australians, divided by recurrence category, 2019^{25,26}



25 All jurisdictional comparisons and totals pertain to Qld, WA, SA and NT only, as these are the only jurisdictions with a Commonwealth funded ARF/AHD control program.

26 First known diagnoses include cases where recurrence status is known.

Figure 8: Rate of RHD diagnoses for Indigenous people per 100 000 population, divided by age bracket and sex of diagnosis, Northern Territory, 2019

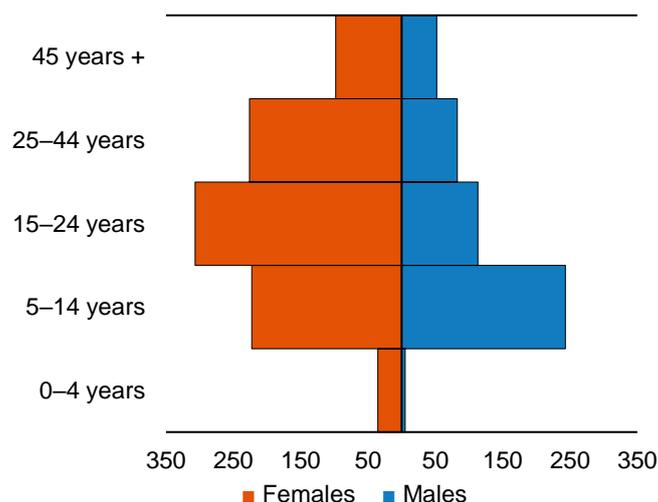


Table 7: Number and rate of Indigenous Australians being managed for ARF and/or RHD, by region, 2019^{27,28}

	Indigenous Australians	
	No.	Rate per 100 000 pop.
Northern Territory		
Alice Springs, Rural	401	3 959
Alice Springs, Urban	346	5 081
Barkly	205	4 719
Darwin, Rural	801	6 502
Darwin, Urban	309	1 696
East Arnhem	666	5 894
Katherine	526	4 781
Total	3 254	4 390
Interstate total	6 530	1 438

27 Interstate total is the total of Qld, WA, SA and NT.

28 Totals include cases where region of management was unable to be assigned.

Source data in Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease in Australia, 2015-2019:
Department of Treasury and Finance, AIHW