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<i>Author:</i> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (Cat. No. CAN 48)	
<i>Date of release:</i> 24 February 2010	

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.

Schools, Preliminary, 2009

ABS, Cat. No. 4220.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au>

About this publication

This report is a summary of state, territory and national data for the broad categories of schools, students and staff at the 2009 school census date of the 7 August 2009. More detailed data, will be published in *Schools, Australia* (cat. no. 4221.0) in March 2010. The statistics in this release are preliminary and are subject to change. Improvements have been made to the student enrolment data collection process for government schools in the Northern Territory, enabling better identification of duplicate student records, which have been removed. This change will affect comparisons with previous years, of all data showing numbers of students or drawing on these numbers, for the Territory and Australia.

Summary

In 2009 in the Territory, there were 38 632 full-time equivalent students, of which 15 216 were Indigenous students. The Territory had the lowest student to teacher full-time equivalent ratios of all jurisdictions, for both primary (12.8) and secondary schools (10.5). However, the Territory had the lowest apparent retention rates for Year 7/8 to Year 12 of 54.8 per cent. The apparent retention rate is the number of students in a designated Year level expressed as a percentage of the respective cohort group in a base year.

In 2009, in the Territory:

- there were a total of 188 schools in the Territory, of which 152 were government schools, 15 were Catholic schools and 21 were independent schools;
- of the 152 government schools, 41 per cent were primary schools only, 10 per cent were secondary schools only, 46 per cent were combined schools and 3 per cent were special schools;
- there were 38 632 full-time equivalent (FTE) students reported in all schools, this is a decrease of 1.5 per cent from 39 217 FTE students in 2008;
- Indigenous students accounted for 39.5 per cent (15 216) of all full-time students. The number of Indigenous students decreased from 15 893 full time Indigenous students reported in 2008;
- the FTE student to teacher ratio was 12.8 for primary schools and 10.5 for secondary schools the lowest FTE student to teacher ratio of all jurisdictions and lower than the respective national ratio's of 15.8 and 12.0, and
- the apparent retention rate of full-time students in year 7/8 to year 12 was 54.8 per cent, the lowest apparent retention of all jurisdictions and lower than the national retention rate of 75.9 per cent.

Table 1: Number of students by Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Status in the Territory, by Government, Non-Government Schools, 2008 and 2009.

	2008		2009	
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Government				
<i>Primary</i>	8 699	9 761	8 447	9 726
<i>Secondary</i>	4 206	6 509	3 873	6 445
Non-Government				
<i>Primary</i>	1 290	3 605	1 315	3 741
<i>Secondary</i>	1 698	3 289	1 581	3 361

Source: ABS Cat. No. 4222.0

Adoptions Australia, 2008-09

AIHW, Cat. No. CWS 36, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

Adoption is one of a range of options used to provide care for children who cannot live with their birth families. This report presents the latest data on adoption of Australian and overseas children, while highlighting important trends in adoptions over the last few decades.

Summary

In the Territory in 2008-09, there were a total of nine adoptions, equating to an adoption rate of 4.1 adoptions per 100 000 people. Since 1970-71 adoptions have been decreasing nationally, there were 441 in 2008-09 compared to 9798 in 1970-71. Of the 441 adoptions, 269 were from overseas.

In 2008-09, in the Territory;

- there were nine adoptions, a rate of 4.1 adoptions per 100 000 people. The national rate was 2.0 adoptions per 100 000 people;
- similar to the national trend, adoptions in the Territory have been decreasing. There were nine adoptions in 2008-09, compared with 68 adoptions in 1970-71;
- of the nine adoptions, only one adoption was an Australian child;
- of the eight overseas adoptions, Taiwan (3) and South Korea (3) were the most common countries of origin for adoptions, with one adoption each was from Thailand and Ethiopia. Nationally, the 269 overseas adoptions, 23 per cent were from China; and
- there were 49 identifying information applications lodged, 39 (80 per cent) by the adopted person, 7 (14 per cent) by the birth mother and 3 (6 per cent) by an 'other' birth relative. An identifying information application is an application requesting information relating to an adoption.

Table 2: Number and Rate of adoptions, by state and territory, 2008-09

	Number of Adoptions	Adoptions per 100 000 population
NSW	155	2.2
Vic	71	1.3
Qld	92	2.1
WA	43	2.0
SA	35	2.2
Tas	23	4.6
ACT	13	3.7
NT	9	4.1
Aust	441	2.0

Source: AIHW Cat. No. CWS 36

Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2008 Annual Report on drug use among police detainees

AIC, <http://www.aic.gov.au>

About this publication

Since its inception in 1991, the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program has been the only nationwide survey of drug use by alleged offenders in Australia conducted on a routine basis. The program operates in nine sites across Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, Victoria and the Northern Territory and provides policy makers and law enforcement authorities with timely and critical information on drugs and crime. This report outlines key trends in drug use by detainees during 2008.

Summary

The sample size in Darwin was 290 adult detainees, of which 253 (87 per cent) were male. In Alice Springs, the sample size of adult detainees was 194 of which 161 (83 per cent) were male. In 2008, cannabis was the most commonly used drug for adult detainees in Darwin and Alice Springs. Adult detainees reporting drug use were typically male with lower levels of educational attainment, and were more likely to be receiving government welfare or benefits as their main source of income.

In 2008, of the sample size in Darwin:

- 70 per cent of male adult detainees tested positive for any drug, while 53 per cent of female detainees tested positive for any drug;
- cannabis was the most commonly used drug, with 65 per cent of males testing positive to cannabis use, and 53 per cent (all female detainees) tested positive.
- 9 per cent of male detainees, and 13 per cent of female detainees tested positive to multiple drugs;
- cocaine was the least commonly used drug, with no adult detainees testing positive to cocaine use;
- 72 per cent of male detainees charged with a violent offence tested positive for cannabis use and 71 per cent of males charged with aggravated assault tested positive for cannabis use;
- of adult male detainees, 55 per cent completed Year 10 or less only, 17 per cent had completed Years 11 or 12, 16 per cent completed TAFE, 10 per cent did not complete University or TAFE and 2 per cent completed university;
- of adult female detainees, 68 per cent completed Year 10 or less; 14 per cent had completed Years 11 or 12, 8 per cent did not complete University or TAFE, 8 per cent completed TAFE and 3 per cent completed University;
- 28 per cent of males and 14 per cent of females listed full-time jobs as their main source of income in the past 30 days, while 65 per cent of males and 86 per cent of females reported welfare or government benefits as their main source of income.

In 2008, of the sample size in Alice Springs:

- of all adult detainees that tested positive for any drug, 29 per cent were male and 11 per cent were female, this is much lower than in Darwin;
- similar to Darwin, cannabis was the most commonly used drug;
- 24 per cent of male detainees tested positive, and 6 per cent of female detainees tested positive for the cannabis use;

- no detainees were reported to test positive for cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine or multiple drugs;
- of the 55 male detainees charged with a violent offence 27 per cent tested positive to cannabis use, while for those charged with aggravated assault, 28 per cent tested positive to cannabis use;
- 88 per cent of male detainees and 91 per cent of female detainees reported their highest level of educational attainment as Year 10 or less; and
- 11 per cent of male detainees and 6 per cent of female detainees listed a full-time job as their source of income in the past 30 days, while 82 per cent of male detainees and 94 per cent of female detainees received welfare or government benefits as their main source of income in the past 30 days.

Table 3: Percentage of sample size that tested positive to any drug use, by age, sex and location, 2008

	Age					Total
	18-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36+	
Darwin - Male						
<i>Sample Size</i>	28%	53%	38%	38%	96%	253
<i>% any drug use</i>	75%	80%	78%	73%	60%	
Darwin - Female						
<i>Sample Size</i>	6%	4%	5%	5%	17%	37
<i>% any drug use</i>	75%	100%	0%	50%	50%	
Alice Springs - Male						
<i>Sample Size</i>	18%	25%	27%	32%	59%	161
<i>% any drug use</i>	29%	58%	25%	20%	24%	
Alice Springs - Female						
<i>Sample Size</i>	5%	2%	5%	6%	15%	33
<i>% any drug use</i>	0%	0%	20%	25%	0%	

Source: Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC)

Ovarian Cancer in Australia: an overview 2010

AIHW, Cat. No. CAN 48, <http://www.aihw.gov.au>

About this publication

This report provides a comprehensive overview of national statistics on ovarian cancer using a range of data sources, with the latest available data and trends over time. This report brings together the most up-to-date statistical information available on epidemiology, public health and health services impact on ovarian cancer in Australia. Throughout this report the term “ovarian cancer” refers to invasive ovarian cancers; borderline tumours are not included.

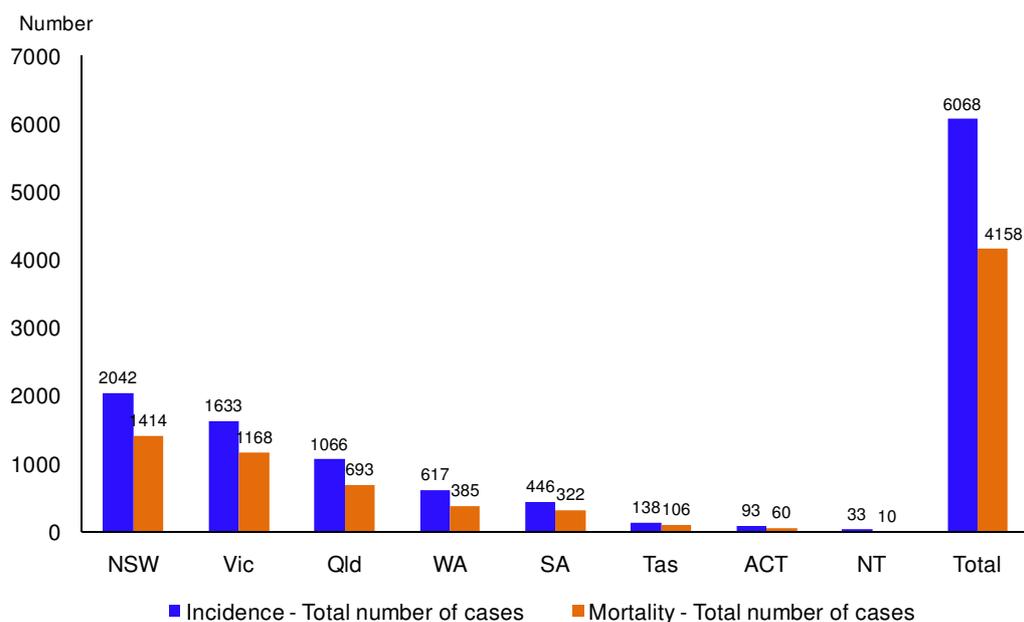
Summary

From 2002-2006 in the Territory, there was a total of 33 cases of ovarian cancer reported. Nationally, there were 6068 cases reported during the period. The Territory had the lowest age standardised incidence rate and mortality rates for ovarian cancer with 9.1 cases per 100 000 females and 3.2 deaths per 100 000 females respectively, the lowest of all jurisdictions.

In 2002-2006, in the Territory:

- the total number of cases for ovarian cancer was 33, the lowest of all jurisdictions and only accounting for 0.54 per cent of the total number of cases reported over the period;
- the lowest age standardised incidence rate (9.1 cases per 100 000 females) of all jurisdictions for ovarian cancer cases was reported. Nationally, the age standardised incidence rate of ovarian cancer was 11.1 cases per 100 000 females;
- of the 33 cases of ovarian cancer reported, there were a total of ten deaths during the survey period. Nationally, of the 6068 cases of ovarian cancer, a total of 4158 deaths were reported; and
- the age standardised mortality rate for ovarian cancer was 3.2 deaths per 100 000 females, the lowest of all jurisdictions and lower than the national rate of 7.3 deaths per 100 000 females.

Chart 1: Total number of cases for incidence and mortality, 2006



Source: AIHW Cat. No. CAN 48