

Northern Territory Midwives' Collection

Mothers and Babies





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Mothers and Babies 2006

Kara Tew Xiaohua Zhang

DEPARTMENT OF **HEALTH AND FAMILIES**

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to the many people who have assisted in the production of this report, including:

- Perinatal Data Manager in the Acute Care Information Branch
- Hospital and community midwives, Indigenous Health Workers, obstetricians and paediatricians
- Members of the Perinatal Information Management Group
- Medical records staff of all public hospitals in the Northern Territory
- Staff of Darwin Private Hospital
- Staff of Alukura in Alice Springs
- Darwin and Alice Springs Home Birth Groups
- Northern Territory Registrar General
- Staff from the Data Warehouse and Acute Care Information Services Branches, Department of Health and Families

Health Gains Planning Branch

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Suggested citation

Tew K, Zhang X, Northern Territory Midwives' Collection. Mothers and Babies 2006. Department of Health and Families: Darwin, 2010.

ISBN 978 0 9805326 8 5

Printed by the Government Printer of the Northern Territory, 2010

An electronic version is available at:

http://www.health.nt.gov.au/Publications/Health Gains Planning Publications/index.aspx

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Summary

This report summarises data from the 2006 Northern Territory (NT) Midwives' Collection. It includes population characteristics of mothers, maternal health status, antenatal information, conditions and procedures used in labour and childbirth as well as birth outcomes of all births that occurred in 2006. While the NT Midwives' Collection contains information on both NT resident and interstate residents who gave birth in the NT, the focus of this report is NT residents who gave birth in the NT.

The primary purpose of the report is to inform, and encourage professional discussion regarding the health of women and their babies. This report will assist policy makers and health planners to provide better services to the community. In addition, this report aims to provide feedback to midwives, Aboriginal Health Workers, community health nurses and medical practitioners involved with maternal and child health.

Key findings

- During 2006, there were 3639 babies born to 3587 NT mothers, 39% of whom were Indigenous. In addition there were 103 babies born to 102 interstate mothers in the NT. The sum total of births in the NT for this year was 3742 babies born to 3689 mothers.
- Women in the NT, particularly Indigenous women, had a higher total fertility rate than the national average.
- The mean age of Indigenous mothers who gave birth in 2006 was more than five years younger than that of non-Indigenous mothers. Twenty six per cent of Indigenous mothers were less than 20 years of age.
- Indigenous mothers were more likely to give birth to their third or more baby than non-Indigenous mothers.
- Indigenous mothers were more likely to attend no antenatal visits or attend an inadequate number, and were also less likely to attend the first antenatal session within the first trimester of pregnancy.
- Slightly over half of Indigenous mothers reported smoking during pregnancy, which was more than 2.5 times the proportion of non-Indigenous mothers.
- For a sizeable proportion (22%) of all mothers, onset of labour was induced. The most commonly used induction methods were artificial rupture of membranes among non-Indigenous mothers (66%) and oxytocics among Indigenous mothers (54%). Prostaglandins was a less frequently used method of induction for both Indigenous (43%) and non-Indigenous women (41%).
- Sixty three per cent of mothers had a spontaneous vaginal birth, 8% had assisted birth using forceps or vacuum extraction. Among the mothers who gave birth vaginally, 8% had an episiotomy and 45% had an intact perineum.
- Caesarean sections were performed for 29% of mothers. Proportionally more Indigenous mothers had emergency caesareans than non-Indigenous mothers. Failure to progress was the main indication for emergency caesarean sections.

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- Over half of mothers (53%) stayed in hospital for three days or less.
- Eleven per cent of livebirths to NT mothers were preterm and 10% were low in birthweight. Proportionally there were twice as many preterm babies born to Indigenous mothers than non-Indigenous mothers, and this was also true for low birthweight babies.
- Thirty-seven percent of the babies born alive received some form of resuscitation.
- There were 58 perinatal deaths in 2006, including 40 stillbirths and 18 neonatal deaths. The perinatal death rate of Indigenous babies was more than three times that of non-Indigenous babies.

Introduction

This report summarises data from the 2006 Northern Territory (NT) Midwives' Collection. It includes population characteristics of mothers, maternal health status, antenatal information, conditions and procedures used in labour and childbirth as well as birth outcomes for all births that occurred in 2006. The trend tables show changes over time for key demographic and obstetric indicators and birth outcomes over the period 1992-2006.

The primary purpose of the report is to inform, and encourage professional discussion regarding the health of women and their babies. Annual reporting is primarily to the Perinatal Information Management Group (PIMG), which makes the data available for health service planning and delivery. This report will assist policy makers and health planners to provide better services to the community. In addition, this report aims to provide feedback to midwives, Aboriginal Health Workers, community health nurses and medical practitioners involved with maternal and child health.

Information presented in this report

The NT Midwives' Collection contains information on both NT resident and interstate residents who gave birth in the NT. However, the focus of this report is NT residents who gave birth in the NT in 2006. Unless specified, mothers usually resident interstate and births to them were omitted from the statistical tables.

Information on Territory women who gave birth interstate is not collected in the NT Midwives' Collection and is beyond the scope of this report. Australia's Mothers and Babies 2006 report published estimated numbers of NT women who gave birth interstate. It was estimated that up to 53 NT women gave birth interstate, predominantly in South Australia (20 births), Queensland (14 births) and Western Australia (10 births) with the rest being spread amongst New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory. Indigenous status was not available for interstate births to NT women.

For information on labour and childbirth in the Mothers' section, the data of the first birth were used for mothers with multiple births in one pregnancy.

A brief description of the results is presented in the next chapter followed by a comprehensive presentation of the data in a series of tables. Most tables are presented with information for all women as well as separately by Indigenous status and, in some, place of mother's usual residence (for NT mothers). Place of mother's usual residence is classified into health service districts, and into urban/rural-remote areas. The urban area includes Darwin Urban and Alice Springs Urban districts and the towns of Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; the rural-remote area covers the balance of the NT.2

Data sources

Northern Territory Midwives' Collection

The NT Midwives' Collection is a population-based census of all births that occurred in the NT, including births in both public and private hospitals, planned home births, births in community health centres, and other non-hospital births. All livebirths and stillbirths of at least 20 weeks gestation or with a birthweight of at least 400 grams are included.

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The NT Midwives' Collection contains information about population characteristics of the mother, antenatal care, maternal health, the pregnancy, labour and childbirth, and perinatal health.

In 2006 the majority of information about the births was captured directly in electronic format. In the public sector, midwives enter data shortly after the birth of a baby via the Birthing Suite Module of CareSys, the Hospital Information System. This normally covers births that occurred in public hospitals and births before arrival (BBAs). Births in Darwin Private Hospital (DPH) and planned home births are entered via the internet site of the NT Midwives' Collection. Births that occurred in health centres, which did not involve being admitted to hospital, are submitted in paper form and then entered by the perinatal data manager to the intranet site.

In producing this report, data from the Midwives' Collection were downloaded in unit record form from Business Objects and transferred into a statistical program. The data went through further validation and corrections were transferred back to the Midwives' Collection systems.

NT Perinatal Death Register

The Health Gains Planning Branch of the Department of Health and Families has maintained information on deaths of babies up to one year of age since 1986. The primary sources for the register are the monthly death list from the NT Births, Deaths and Marriage Registry for early neonatal deaths and the NT Midwives' Collection for stillbirths. Other sources of data include searches in the hospital morbidity dataset and the Australian Bureau of Statistics' death dataset.

Data limitations

Several data items in the Midwives' Collection, notably antenatal information including parity, previous caesareans, smoking and alcohol use during pregnancy, maternal medical conditions and pregnancy complications as well as indicators for caesarean section are incomplete or low in accuracy. This is primarily due to the indirect data collection method and the lack of a validating process.

The treatment of 'not stated' data requires careful consideration depending upon the cause of the missing data. For example data may be missing due to refusal of clients to answer a question or may simply be missing completely at random (MCAR). While there are no hard and fast rules as to how 'not stated' data are reported, as a default position the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) recommends that 'not stated' are shown in tables as numbers and excluded from the calculation of percentage distributions. This methodology assumes that the 'stated' and the 'not stated' share the same distribution (unpublished guidelines, AIHW, 2008).

In this report we have chosen to adhere to the AIHW default position because 'not stated' data in the NT Midwives Collection are more likely due to random and accidental data entry errors i.e. MCAR rather than deliberate omission on the part of the mothers. This approach differs from previous NT Mothers and Babies reports in which 'not stated' data were included in the proportional distribution for each table.

The effect of our change in approach is that the proportional distribution for certain data items, particularly smoking and/or alcohol consumption during pregnancy, is now markedly higher than previously reported, and comparative analyses involving this report and former reports will need to take this methodological change into account.

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For some medical conditions, procedures and complications related to labour and childbirth, the data in the Midwives' Collection are sometimes different from the information recorded in the main hospital data system. This is due to the different data coding and entry methods with midwives responsible for data in the Midwives' Collection and medical coders responsible for data entry to the main hospital data system.

Information such as mother's post-partum complications and baby's further health outcomes are not collected in the NT Midwives' Collection because they are recorded only after mothers have left the birthing suite.

The denominator population used to calculate fertility rates is the 2006 NT Estimated Resident Population based on the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

Because the NT population is small, when data are disaggregated by Indigenous status or regions the numbers being reported can be very small. When small numbers are used, seemingly large differences can be seen when percentage rates are calculated, even if the difference is only one or two births. A further issue with data disaggregated by region for the Indigenous population is difficulties individuals have identifying one usual place of residence.³ This is particularly true for pregnant women who have to travel to and stay in town from 36 weeks' gestation to be close to a hospital when they give birth.⁴ The place they are staying in town could thus be recorded as their usual place of residence and not the community they have travelled from. A recent audit of NT hospital demographic data found 88 percent congruence between hospital records of patients' usual health district of residence and the health district people identified as their usual place of residence when asked in an interview.⁵

Mothers and babies of the Northern **Territory**

Mothers

Place of residence

In 2006, 3689 mothers gave birth to 3742 babies in the NT. Among these babies, most were born to mothers who were resident in the NT. Only 102 mothers from interstate were recorded as giving birth in the NT. Indigenous mothers comprised 39% of all NT mothers in 2006. This is higher than the 28% share of the NT female population of child-bearing age made up of Indigenous women (Appendix 3).

Most NT non-Indigenous mothers were living in urban areas (94%), which include Darwin Urban and Alice Springs Urban districts and the towns of Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy. In contrast, Indigenous mothers were predominantly from rural and remote areas (64%).

Fertility rate

The total fertility rate (TFR) for the NT was 2.1 livebirths per woman in 2006, which meets the replacement rate of 2.1 births per woman and was higher than the 1.8 births per woman for the whole of Australia in the same period. Non-Indigenous women had a lower TFR than Indigenous women (1.9 and 2.4 births per woman respectively). This pattern of higher TFRs for Indigenous women compared to non-Indigenous women was seen in both urban and rural-remote areas and in all districts, except for Darwin Rural where the TFRs of the two populations were similar. Katherine was the district with the highest TFR, whilst Alice Springs Urban had the lowest rate.

The age-specific fertility rates show differences in the age of child-bearing between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations. The fertility rate in the youngest age group (less than 20 years of age) was over four times higher for Indigenous women compared to non-Indigenous women of the same age. Conversely, the fertility rate of the 35 and older age group was slightly higher for non-Indigenous mothers, despite a lower overall fertility rate.

Maternal age

The mean age of Indigenous mothers was 24.2 years, which was five years less than the mean age of 29.4 years for non-Indigenous mothers. This difference was due to the age profile of mothers. The majority of Indigenous mothers were aged less than 25 years whereas most non-Indigenous mothers were 25 years or older. A high proportion (26%) of Indigenous mothers were less than 20 years of age at the time of giving birth, over five times higher than the 5% of non-Indigenous mothers. A more marked difference was seen among mothers aged less than 18 years with 13% of all Indigenous mothers being in this age group, compared to only 1.5% of non-Indigenous mothers. In contrast, non-Indigenous mothers were three times more likely to be in the oldest age group (35 years and over) than Indigenous mothers (20% and 6% respectively). This pattern of markedly earlier childbearing among Indigenous mothers was seen in all health districts, and did not differ between urban and rural-remote areas.

Indigenous mothers in Darwin Urban and Alice Springs Urban districts stand out as being less likely than Indigenous mothers in other districts to have their children below age 20 (16% and 14% compared to between 27% and 37% elsewhere). For both Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers, young motherhood was more likely in rural-remote areas. Regardless of place of usual residence Indigenous mothers were more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to have children at these young ages.

Parity

Among those women with parity recorded, the majority had given birth at least once before. Nearly half (46%) had one or two previous births and 16% had three or more previous births. Thirty-eight per cent of women gave birth to their first child. First-time mothers were proportionally higher among non-Indigenous mothers (43%) than Indigenous mothers (30%). In contrast, more Indigenous women than non-Indigenous women had three or more previous births (26% and 10% respectively).

The difference in maternal age between Indigenous and non-Indigenous women was more pronounced among first-time mothers for whom there was an eight year difference in the mean age of birth (19.4 and 27.7 years respectively). The majority of non-Indigenous first-time mothers were aged 25 years or older (68%), whereas first-time Indigenous mothers were mostly less than 20 years of age (61%), and many were aged below 18 years of age (38%).

Antenatal care

In total, there was only a small proportion of mothers for whom information on antenatal visits was missing. Specifically, only 1% of records showed an unknown frequency of visits and similarly 1% of records showed an unknown time of the first visit.

The World Health Organisation classifies less than four antenatal visits during the whole pregnancy to be insufficient. Among mothers for whom information was collected, Indigenous mothers in the NT were much more likely to have no antenatal visit, or attend less than four compared to non-Indigenous mothers (17% and 2% respectively). Non-Indigenous mothers living in urban areas were less likely to have inadequate antenatal visits than those from rural-remote areas (4% and 7% respectively). However, the opposite was true for Indigenous women with a higher proportion of mothers in urban areas having inadequate antenatal visits compared to in rural-remote areas (19% and 16% respectively).

It is also regarded as important for maternal and fetal health to have the first antenatal visit within the first trimester period of pregnancy (less than thirteen weeks from conception). Gestational age at the first antenatal was derived from the date of the first antenatal visit, or the date of the first ultrasound or the recorded gestational age at the time of the first ultrasound. The lowest valid gestational age from the three sources was selected because the first antenatal visit will normally occur before referral for an ultrasound.

Compared to non-Indigenous mothers, Indigenous mothers were more likely to attend their first antenatal visits later in the pregnancy. Among those mothers who attended at least one antenatal visit and had a record of the time of their first visit, almost three quarters (70%) of non-Indigenous mothers attended their first visit in the first trimester of pregnancy. This proportion was much less for Indigenous mothers (44%). The proportion of Indigenous women attending a first antenatal visit in the first trimester was higher in urban areas than in rural-remote (50% and 40% respectively). Among non-Indigenous women, there was only a slight difference between urban and rural-remote areas (70% and 66% respectively).

Smoking status and alcohol consumption during pregnancy

Self-reported smoking status and alcohol consumption during pregnancy were collected at the first antenatal visit and around 36 weeks' gestation. The quality of these data has improved in recent years. In 2006, there was 12% of data missing at the first visit and 18% at 36 weeks for alcohol consumption, and 9% and 16% respectively for smoking status. The problem of missing data was more severe for Indigenous mothers than for non-Indigenous mothers. The prevalence of alcohol drinking and smoking reported below were calculated after removing missing data, therefore these prevalence rates are higher than the figures published in Australia's Mothers and Babies 2006, where missing data were included in the denominator. Both methods contain bias due to missing data and caution should be used when interpreting the information. Despite data quality issues, this information provides an indication of the levels of these harmful behaviours during pregnancy at broad population levels.

Alcohol drinking during pregnancy was much less prevalent than smoking. The prevalence of alcohol drinking was higher in Indigenous mothers (14% at the first visit and 8% at 36 weeks' gestation) than non-Indigenous mothers (8% and 4%, respectively).

Indigenous mothers were more than twice as likely as non-Indigenous mothers to report smoking during pregnancy. At the first antenatal visit, the smoking rate was 52% for Indigenous mothers and 21% for non-Indigenous mothers. By 36 weeks' gestation the smoking rates dropped for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers (48% and 16% respectively). Among both Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers, there was little difference in smoking prevalence rates between urban and rural-remote areas, although rural-remote women had slightly higher prevalence levels reported. Among Indigenous mothers, Alice Spring Rural district presented notably lower smoking rates than other districts (although smoking levels were still high with over one guarter of mothers smoking at their first antenatal visit). This pattern of lower smoking in Alice Springs Rural is consistent with data from previous years.

Birth facility

Nearly all NT births occurred in hospitals (97%), mostly public hospitals (79%). Almost all mothers who gave birth in Darwin Private Hospital, the only private hospital in the NT, were non-Indigenous mothers (99%). A small proportion of mothers (less than 1%), had a planned homebirth. All but one of the planned homebirths were to non-Indigenous mothers. Unplanned non-hospital births, including those that happened in health centres, in transit and other places, occurred for 5% of Indigenous mothers but for less than 1% of non-Indigenous mothers. Health centres were the most common place for out-of-hospital births, in particular for Indigenous mothers living in ruralremote areas.

Onset of labour and induction of labour

Spontaneous onset of labour occurred for 63% of all mothers. Just over one in five mothers (22%) had induced labour and a further 15% had no labour. Non-Indigenous mothers were less likely to have spontaneous onset of labour compared to Indigenous mothers (58% and 69% respectively) and therefore were more likely to have needed induction to initiate the labour or have no labour.

Artificial rupture of membranes (ARM), oxytocics and prostaglandins were the more common induction methods. Artificial rupture of membranes was the most common induction method among non-Indigenous mothers (66%), while for Indigenous mothers oxytocics was the most common method (54%). The proportion of mothers having

prostaglandins was similar for Indigenous and non-Indigenous women (43% and 41% respectively).

Presentation and method of birth

Of all NT mothers giving birth in 2006, 63% had spontaneous vaginal deliveries (SVD). The proportions for Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers were 69% and 59% respectively. Caesarean sections were performed for over a quarter of all mothers, with 14% being elective and 15% emergency. Non-Indigenous mothers were more likely to have a caesarean than Indigenous mothers (31% and 26% respectively), and more than twice as likely to have an elective caesarean (17% and 8% respectively). The use of forceps or ventouse (vacuum suction) in childbirth was 8%, and was higher for non-Indigenous mothers (10%) than Indigenous mothers (5%). Vaginal breech accounted for less than 1% of all births.

Vertex presentation was seen in the majority of mothers (94%) and breech presentation was seen among 5% of mothers. All other presentations accounted for 1% of mothers. Caesarean section was the most common birth method for breech presentations, except for very preterm births which were mostly delivered vaginally.

Among all hospitals in the NT, DPH had the highest proportion of caesarean sections (42%) and the lowest proportion of spontaneous vaginal births (44%).

The main reason for elective caesarean sections was previous caesarean (58%) and for emergency caesareans; failure to progress during labour (44%) and fetal distress (33%). Non-Indigenous mothers were more likely than Indigenous mothers to undergo an emergency caesarean due to failure to progress (49% and 38% respectively).

Analgesia for labour and anaesthesia for childbirth

The majority of mothers who had spontaneous or induced onset of labour used some form of analgesia (75%), and analgesia use was slightly higher among non-Indigenous mothers than Indigenous mothers (77% and 72% respectively). Anaesthesia was applied in the vast majority of operative births. Non-Indigenous women were more than twice as likely as Indigenous women to have an epidural or caudal anaesthesia (25% and 12% respectively). By contrast, there was higher use of spinal anaesthesia among Indigenous women than non-Indigenous women (65% and 53% respectively).

Labour complications and perineal status

A complication of labour and birth occurred for 41% of all mothers, with a greater proportion for Indigenous than non-Indigenous mothers (48% and 37% respectively). Post-partum haemorrhage was the most common complication for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers. Fetal distress and meconium stained liquor were also relatively common complications.

Just under half (45%) of all women who gave birth vaginally had an intact perineum after childbirth. Forty six per cent of women had some degree of perineal laceration, with 2% having a third or fourth degree tear. Episiotomy was performed on 8% of women. Indigenous mothers were more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to have an intact perineum (51% and 42% respectively).

Postnatal hospital stay

The majority of mothers who gave birth in hospital also stayed in hospital following the birth. Most stays were for less than one week and only 6% of women stayed for eight

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or more days. The average length of stay was 3.7 days. Not surprisingly, mothers who had a caesarean had longer stays than mothers who had vaginal births.

Indigenous mothers were more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to have a hospital stay and more likely to stay for eight or more days. The mean length of stay for emergency caesarean was 1.5 days longer for Indigenous mothers compared to non-Indigenous mothers. The overall average length of stay for all birth methods was only slightly longer among Indigenous mothers compared to non-Indigenous mothers.

Babies

Birth status

In 2006, 3742 babies were born in the NT. Of these, 103 were born to mothers who were not NT residents. Of the 3639 babies born to NT mothers during 2006, 40 were stillbirths and 3599 were livebirths. The proportion of stillbirths among Indigenous mothers was twice that of non-Indigenous mothers. A large proportion of stillbirths had extremely low birthweight of less than 1000 grams (46%) and many were very preterm, being born before 28 weeks' gestation (40%).

Plurality

There were 52 twin births and no higher order multiple births in 2006. Multiple births were less common among Indigenous mothers than non-Indigenous mothers (1.1% and 1.6% of all births respectively).

Preterm and low birthweight livebirths

Altogether there were 385 (11%) livebirths born preterm (gestational age less than 37 weeks). Proportionally there were almost twice as many preterm babies born to Indigenous mothers (15%) than to non-Indigenous mothers (8%). Thirteen of the 19 babies in the very preterm category (less than 28 weeks' gestation) were born to Indigenous mothers.

Of livebirths, the proportion of low birthweight babies less than 2500 grams was 10% for the NT. Babies of Indigenous mothers (14%) were twice as likely to have a low birthweight than babies of non-Indigenous mothers (7%). The difference was also seen in very low birthweight babies (less than 1500 grams), with 3% of babies born to Indigenous mothers in this category compared to 1% of babies born to non-Indigenous mothers. Indigenous mothers who resided in Darwin Rural and East Arnhem had the highest percentage of low birthweight babies (17% and 16% respectively). In each district, Indigenous mothers were more likely to have low birthweight babies than non-Indigenous mothers.

Among singleton livebirths, the proportion of low birthweight among full term babies was 6% of those born to Indigenous mothers and 2% of those born to non-Indigenous mothers. For those born preterm (28-36 weeks' gestation) there were proportionally more babies of at least 2500 grams among non-Indigenous mothers compared to Indigenous mothers (48% and 40% respectively).

Apgar scores

An Apgar score is a clinical indicator of the condition of the baby at the time of birth. Five physical signs are assigned a score between 0 and 2, and the highest score is 10. A score of 7-10 indicates a healthy baby. By five minutes after birth there was only 2%

of babies with an Apgar score below seven and there were only slight differences between Indigenous and non-Indigenous babies (3% and 1% respectively).

Resuscitation of livebirths

A large proportion of the babies born alive received some form of resuscitation (37%), excluding tactile stimulation. Resuscitation rates were slightly higher for babies born to Indigenous (40%) than for those born to non-Indigenous mothers (34%). The most common methods of resuscitation were suction (15%) or facial oxygen (12%). Methods such as intubation and intermittent positive pressure ventilation (IPPV) or cardiac massage and ventilation (1%), were uncommon.

Neonatal and perinatal mortality

Neonatal mortality refers to a death of a live-born baby within 28 days of birth. Perinatal mortality includes stillbirths and neonatal deaths.

In 2006 there were 58 perinatal deaths in the NT, including 40 stillbirths and 18 neonatal deaths. The stillbirth rate for Indigenous babies was higher than the rate for non-Indigenous babies (16 and 8 stillbirths per 1000 births respectively). The Indigenous neonatal death rate was significantly higher than the non-Indigenous death rate (11 and 1 per 1000 livebirths respectively) with only two non-Indigenous neonatal deaths. This led to an overall Indigenous perinatal death rate over three times that of the non-Indigenous rate (28 and 9 deaths per 1000 births respectively).

Statistical tables

Mothers

Table 1. Total births in the NT, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, 2006

District	Indige	Indigenous		genous	All NT	births
	Mothers	Babies	Mothers	Babies	Mothers	Babies
Darwin Urban	260	264	1567	1595	1827	1859
Darwin Rural	270	271	56	57	326	328
Katherine	237	241	167	169	404	410
East Arnhem	214	217	71	72	285	289
Barkly	86	86	21	22	107	108
Alice Springs Urban	121	123	282	285	403	408
Alice Springs Rural	212	214	23	23	235	237
NT total	1400	1416	2187	2223	3587	3639
Interstate	69	70	33	33	102	103
Total	1469	1486	2220	2256	3689	3742

Table 2. Summary statistics, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

		Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	enous	All N	T
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
ALL	Total	1400		2187		3587	
MOTHERS	Maternal age						
	<20	360	25.7	109	5.1	469	13.2
	20-34	950	67.9	1612	74.8	2562	72.1
	35+	89	6.4	434	20.1	523	14.7
	Place of birth						
	Hospital	1330	95.0	2142	97.9	3472	96.8
	Non-hospital	70	5.0	45	2.1	115	3.2
	Type of labour onset						
	Spontaneous	972	69.4	1278	58.4	2250	62.7
	Induced	275	19.6	513	23.5	788	22.0
	No labour	153	10.9	396	18.1	549	15.3
	Method of birth						
	Spontaneous vaginal	959	68.5	1291	59.0	2250	62.7
	Vaginal breech	15	1.1	13	0.6	28	8.0
	Forceps	13	0.9	48	2.2	61	1.7
	Ventouse	56	4.0	162	7.4	218	6.1
	Caesarean section	357	25.5	673	30.8	1030	28.7
FIRST-TIME	Total	419		938		1357	
MOTHERS	Maternal age						
	<20	254	60.6	98	10.5	352	26.1
	20-34	163	38.9	713	76.6	876	64.9
	35+	2	0.5	120	12.9	122	9.0
TOTAL FERTI	LITY RATE	2.4		1.9		2.1	

Table 3. Area of usual residence, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Area	Indiger	nous	Non-Indigenous		All N	IT
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Urban area	501	35.8	2066	94.5	2567	71.6
Rural/remote area	899	64.2	121	5.5	1020	28.4
Total	1400	100.0	2187	100.0	3587	100.0

Note: Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 4. District and area of usual residence, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

District	Area	Indigenous		Non-Indig	genous	All N	IT
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Darwin Urban		260	18.6	1567	71.7	1827	50.9
Darwin Rural		270	19.3	56	2.6	326	9.1
Katherine	Urban	64	4.6	146	6.7	210	5.9
	Rural/remote	173	12.4	21	1.0	194	5.4
East Arnhem	Urban	9	0.6	52	2.4	61	1.7
	Rural/remote	205	14.6	19	0.9	224	6.2
Barkly	Urban	47	3.4	19	0.9	66	1.8
	Rural/remote	39	2.8	2	0.1	41	1.1
Alice Springs							
Urban		121	8.6	282	12.9	403	11.2
Alice Springs Rural		212	15.1	23	1.1	235	6.6
Total		1400	100.0	2187	100.0	3587	100.0

Table 5. Total fertility rate, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, NT mothers, 2006

District	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
Darwin Urban	2.5	1.9	2.0
Darwin Rural	2.5	2.4	2.5
Katherine	2.7	2.5	2.7
East Arnhem	2.2	1.5	2.1
Barkly	2.4	1.4	2.1
Alice Springs Urban	2.3	1.6	1.8
Alice Springs Rural	2.1	0.9	1.9
Total	2.4	1.9	2.1

Note: Total fertility rate is the average number of births per woman over her life time if she experienced the age-specific rates seen in 2006.

Table 6. Total fertility rate, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2006

Remoteness	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
Urban area	2.6	1.9	2.0
Rural/remote area	2.3	1.5	2.2
Total	2.4	1.9	2.1

Notes:

Total fertility rate is the average number of births per woman over her life time if she experienced the age-specific rates seen in 2006. Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 7. Age-specific fertility rates and total fertility rate, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Indigenous status	Age-specific f	Age-specific fertility rate (births per 1000)						
	<20 years	20-34 years	35+ years	•				
Indigenous	110.4	112.0	14.9	2.4				
Non-Indigenous	26.4	92.3	24.7	1.9				
All NT	62.7	98.7	22.3	2.1				

Note: Age-specific fertility rate is the number of births per 1000 women in each age group. The rate for the <20 age group is calculated using the female population aged 15-19 years; the rate for the 35+ group is calculated using the female population aged 35-49 years.

Table 8. Maternal age, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Maternal age	Indiger	nous	Non-Indig	enous	All N	IT
(years)	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<16	51	3.6	5	0.2	56	1.6
16-17	128	9.1	29	1.3	157	4.4
18-19	181	12.9	75	3.5	256	7.2
20-24	448	32.0	351	16.3	799	22.5
25-29	296	21.2	583	27.1	879	24.7
30-34	206	14.7	678	31.5	884	24.9
35-44	89	6.4	431	20.0	520	14.6
45+	0	0.0	3	0.1	3	0.1
Total stated	1399	100.0	2155	100.0	3554	100.0
Not stated	1_		32		33	
Total	1400		2187		3587	
Mean age (years)	24.2		29.5		27.4	

Table 9. Maternal age, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, NT mothers, 2006

	Materi	nal age (yea	ars)	Total	Not	Total
District	<20	20-34	35+	stated	stated	
	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Indigenous						
Darwin Urban	15.8	74.5	9.7	259	1	260
Darwin Rural	28.5	65.6	5.9	270	0	270
Katherine	29.1	63.7	7.2	237	0	237
East Arnhem	27.1	70.6	2.3	214	0	214
Barkly	37.2	55.8	7.0	86	0	86
Alice Springs Urban	14.0	81.8	4.1	121	0	121
Alice Springs Rural	31.1	61.8	7.1	212	0	212
Total	25.7	67.9	6.4	1399	1	1400
Non-Indigenous						
Darwin Urban	4.8	74.5	20.7	1546	21	1567
Darwin Rural	16.1	69.6	14.3	<i>56</i>	0	56
Katherine	4.2	77.8	18.0	167	0	167
East Arnhem	2.9	75.7	21.4	70	11	71
Barkly	23.8	66.7	9.5	21	0	21
Alice Springs Urban	4.4	75.4	20.2	272	10	282
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	82.6	17.4	23	0	23
Total	5.1	74.8	20.1	2155	32	2187
All NT	13.2	72.1	14.7	3554	33	3587

Table 10. Maternal age, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2006

	Materi	nal age (ye	ars)	Total	Not	Total
Area	<20	20-34	35+	stated	stated	
	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Indigenous						
Urban area	17.2	75.0	7.8	500	1	501
Rural/remote area	30.5	64.0	5.6	899	0	899
Total	25.7	67.9	6.4	1399	1	1400
Non-Indigenous						
Urban area	4.9	74.6	20.5	2035	31	2066
Rural/remote area	8.3	77.5	14.2	120	111	121
Total	5.1	74.8	20.1	2155	32	2187

Note: Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 11. Maternal parity, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Parity	Indigen	ous	Non-Indigenous		All N	Т
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	419	29.9	938	42.9	1357	37.8
1-2	613	43.8	1037	47.4	1650	46.0
3+	368	26.3	212	9.7	580	16.2
Total	1400	100.0	2187	100.0	3587	100.0

Note: Parity is the number of previous births a woman has had of at least 20 weeks duration.

Table 12. Maternal age, by Indigenous status, NT first-time mothers, 2006

Maternal age	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	enous	All N	IT
(years)	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<16	49	11.7	5	0.5	54	4.0
16-17	110	26.3	25	2.7	135	10.0
18-19	95	22.7	68	7.3	163	12.1
20-24	118	28.2	200	21.5	318	23.6
25-29	35	8.4	254	27.3	289	21.4
30-34	10	2.4	259	27.8	269	19.9
35-44	2	0.5	119	12.8	121	9.0
45+	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.1
Total stated	419	100.0	931	100.0	1350	100.0
Not stated	0		7		7	
All ages	419		938		1357	
Mean age (years)	19.4		27.7		25.2	

Table 13. Antenatal visits, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Number of	Indigen	Indigenous Non-Indigenous		enous	All NT	
antenatal visits	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	34	2.5	4	0.2	38	1.1
1 - 3	195	14.3	75	3.4	270	7.6
4 - 7	391	28.7	369	16.9	760	21.5
8 & more	743	54.5	1732	79.4	2475	69.9
Total stated	1363	100.0	2180	100.0	3543	100.0
Not stated	37		7		44	
Total	1400		2187		3587	

Table 14. Antenatal visits, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2006

	Nur	nber of a	ntenatal	visits	Total	Not	Total
District	0	1 - 3	4 - 7	8+	stated	stated	
	%	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Darwin Urban	2.0	20.1	32.5	45.4	249	11	260
Darwin Rural	1.1	9.9	23.2	65.8	263	7	270
Katherine	2.6	8.7	23.8	64.9	231	6	237
East Arnhem	2.4	7.3	25.9	64.4	205	9	214
Barkly	2.4	17.6	34.1	45.9	<i>85</i>	1	86
Alice Springs Urban	1.7	17.4	31.4	49.6	121	0	121
Alice Springs Rural	5.3	23.0	35.4	36.4	209	3	212
Total	2.5	14.3	28.7	54.5	1363	37	1400

Table 15. Antenatal visits, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2006

	Nur	nber of a	ntenatal	visits	Total	Not	Total
Area	0	1 - 3	4 - 7	8+	stated	stated	
	%	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Indigenous							
Urban area	2.1	16.8	32.0	49.1	487	14	501
Rural/remote area	2.7	12.9	26.8	57.5	876	23	899
Total	2.5	14.3	28.7	54.5	1363	37	1400
Non-Indigenous							
Urban area	0.2	3.3	16.9	79.7	2060	6	2066
Rural/remote area	0.0	6.7	17.5	75.8	120	1	121
Total	0.2	3.4	16.9	79.4	2180	7	2187

Note: Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 16. Gestation at first antenatal visit, by Indigenous status, NT mothers with at least one visit, 2006

Gestation	Indigen	nous	Non-Indigenous		All N	All NT		
at first antenatal visit	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%		
First trimester	579	44.0	1518	70.2	2097	60.3		
Second trimester	566	43.0	615	28.4	1181	33.9		
Third trimester	171	13.0	30	1.4	201	5.8		
Total stated	1316	100.0	2163	100.0	3479	100.0		
Not stated	13		13		26			
Total	1329		2176		3505			

Note: First trimester is less than 13 weeks gestation; second trimester is 13-26 weeks gestation; third trimester is 27 weeks or more gestation.

Table 17. Gestation at first antenatal visit, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers with at least one visit, 2006

	Gestation	at first ante	natal visit	Total	Not	Total
District	First	Second	Third	stated	stated	
	trimester	trimester	trimester			
	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Darwin Urban	52.1	38.6	9.3	236	8	244
Darwin Rural	43.8	45.3	10.9	258	2	260
Katherine	47.5	40.4	12.1	223	2	225
East Arnhem	39.0	46.0	15.0	200	0	200
Barkly	31.3	44.6	24.1	<i>83</i>	0	83
Alice Springs						
Urban	51.7	39.0	9.3	118	1	119
Alice Springs Rural	36.4	47.0	16.7	198	0	198
Total	44.0	43.0	13.0	1316	13	1329

Note: First trimester is less than 13 weeks gestation; second trimester is 13-26 weeks gestation; third trimester is 27 weeks or more gestation.

Table 18. Gestation at first antenatal visit, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers with at least one visit, 2006

	Gestation	at first ante	natal visit	Total	Not	Total
	First	Second	Third	stated	stated	
Area	trimester	trimester	trimester			
	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Indigenous						
Urban area	50.0	40.6	9.4	468	9	477
Rural/remote area	40.7	44.3	15.0	848	4	852
Total	44.0	43.0	13.0	1316	13	1329
Non-Indigenous						
Urban area	70.4	28.2	1.4	2043	13	2056
Rural/remote area	65.8	32.5	1.7	120	0	120
Total	70.2	28.4	1.4	2163	13	2176

Notes:

First trimester is less than 13 weeks gestation; second trimester is 13-26 weeks gestation; third trimester is 27 weeks or more gestation.

Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 19. Self-reported alcohol consumption, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

	Alcohol	Indigenous		Non-Indig	enous	All N	IT
	consumption	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
	Alcohol	163	14.4	165	8.1	328	10.4
At first visit	No alcohol	970	85.6	1862	91.9	2832	89.6
	Total stated	1133	100.0	2027	100.0	3160	100.0
	Not stated	267		160		427	
	Total	1400		2187		3587	
	Alcohol	89	8.4	71	3.8	160	5.4
At 36 Weeks	No alcohol	965	91.6	1816	96.2	2781	94.6
	Total stated	1054	100.0	1887	100.0	2941	100.0
	Not stated	346		300		646	
	Total	1400		2187		3587	

Table 20. Self-reported smoking status, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

	Smoking	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	enous	All N	Т
	status	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
	Smoking	618	52.3	433	20.7	1051	32.1
At first visit	Non-smoking	564	47.7	1663	79.3	2227	67.9
	Total stated	1182	100.0	2096	100.0	3278	100.0
	Not stated	218		91		309	
	Total	1400		2187		3587	
	Smoking	518	47.8	316	16.3	834	27.6
At 36 Weeks	Non-smoking	566	52.2	1620	83.7	2186	72.4
	Total stated	1084	100.0	1936	100.0	3020	100.0
	Not stated	316		251		567	
	Total	1400		2187		3587	

Table 21. Self-reported smoking status, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2006

Area	Smoking	Non- smoking	Total stated	Not stated	Total
Alea	%	%	Number	Number	Number
	<u>::</u>	Smo	st visit		
Indigenous					
Urban area	55.9	44.1	449	52	501
Rural/remote area	50.1	49.9	733	166	899
Total	52.3	47.7	1182	218	1400
Non-Indigenous					
Urban area	20.8	79.2	1982	84	2066
Rural/remote area	18.4	81.6	114	7	121
Total	20.7	79.3	2096	91	2187
		Smo	oking status at 36	weeks	
Indigenous					
Urban area	50.0	50.0	408	93	501
Rural/remote area	46.4	53.6	676	223	899
Total	47.8	52.2	1084	316	1400
Non-Indigenous					_
Urban area	16.3	83.7	1831	235	2066
Rural/remote area	16.2	83.8	105	16	121
Total	16.3	83.7	1936	251	2187

Note: Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 22. Self-reported smoking status, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers,

	Smoking	Non-smoking	Total stated	Not stated	Total
District	%	%	Number	Number	Number
		Smo	king status at first v	isit	
Darwin Urban	55.6	44.4	232	28	260
Darwin Rural	57.0	43.0	214	56	270
Katherine	54.5	45.5	213	24	237
East Arnhem	65.7	34.3	175	39	214
Barkly	48.5	51.5	66	20	86
Alice Springs Urban	51.4	48.6	111	10	121
Alice Springs Rural	27.5	72.5	171	41	212
Total	52.3	47.7	1182	218	1400
		Smol	king status at 36 we	eks	
Darwin Urban	50.2	49.8	207	53	260
Darwin Rural	49.5	50.5	186	84	270
Katherine	51.0	49.0	204	33	237
East Arnhem	64.7	35.3	167	47	214
Barkly	41.7	58.3	60	26	86
Alice Springs Urban	45.5	54.5	101	20	121
Alice Springs Rural	24.5	75.5	159	53	212
Total	47.8	52.2	1084	316	1400

Table 23. Actual place of giving birth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Actual place of	Indiger	nous	Non-Indig	jenous	All N	Т
giving birth	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
RDH	598	42.7	1012	46.3	1610	44.9
DPH	9	0.6	626	28.6	635	17.7
GDH	140	10.0	53	2.4	193	5.4
KH	180	12.9	148	6.8	328	9.1
TCH	7	0.5	1	0.0	8	0.2
ASH	396	28.3	302	13.8	698	19.5
Health centres	41	2.9	1	0.0	42	1.2
Planned homes	1	0.1	33	1.5	34	0.9
Other	28	2.0	11	0.5	39	1.1
Total	1400	100.0	2187	100.0	3587	100.0

Note: Hospital names are as follows: Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH), Darwin Private Hospital (DPH), Gove District Hospital (GDH), Katherine Hospital (KH), Tennant Creek Hospital (TCH), Alice Springs Hospital (ASH).

Table 24. Actual place of giving birth, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2006

	Actua	al place of giving b	irth	Total
District	Hospital	Health centres	Others*	
	%	%	%	Number
Darwin Urban	97.7	0.0	2.3	260
Darwin Rural	91.1	6.3	2.6	270
Katherine	94.9	3.4	1.7	237
East Arnhem	93.0	3.7	3.3	214
Barkly	98.8	1.2	0.0	86
Alice Springs Urban	99.2	0.0	8.0	121
Alice Springs Rural	94.8	3.3	1.9	212
Total	95.0	2.9	2.1	1400

Note: *Others include other and in transit births.

Table 25. Type of labour onset, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Type of	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All N	IT
labour onset	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Spontaneous	972	69.4	1278	58.4	2250	62.7
Induced	275	19.6	513	23.5	788	22.0
No labour	153	10.9	396	18.1	549	15.3
Total	1400	100.0	2187	100.0	3587	100.0

Table 26. Methods of induction, by Indigenous status, NT mothers with induced onset of labour,

Method of	Indigeno	ous	Non-Indigenous		All NT		
induction	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
ARM	140	50.9	337	65.7	477	60.5	
Oxytocics	148	53.8	336	65.5	484	61.4	
Prostaglandins	117	42.5	211	41.1	328	41.6	
Other methods	10	3.6	10	1.9	20	2.5	
Not stated	0		0		0		
Total	275		513		788		

Note: Multiple methods may be applied to one mother. ARM stands for artificial rupture of membranes.

Table 27. Birth presentation, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Presentation	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	digenous All NT		Т
at birth	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Vertex	1330	95.1	2052	93.8	3382	94.3
Breech	62	4.4	107	4.9	169	4.7
Face	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0
Brow	1	0.1	9	0.4	10	0.3
Other	6	0.4	18	8.0	24	0.7
Total stated	1399	100.0	2187	100.0	3586	100.0
Not stated	1		0		1	
Total	1400		2187		3587	

Table 28. Method of birth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2006

Method of birth	Indiger	nous	Non-Indigenous All		All N	NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Spontaneous vaginal	959	68.5	1291	59.0	2250	62.7	
Vaginal breech	15	1.1	13	0.6	28	8.0	
Forceps	13	0.9	48	2.2	61	1.7	
Ventouse	56	4.0	162	7.4	218	6.1	
Elective caesarean	110	7.9	373	17.1	483	13.5	
Emergency caesarean	247	17.6	300	13.7	547	15.2	
Total	1400	100.0	2187	100.0	3587	100.0	

Table 29. Method of birth, by type of labour onset, NT mothers, 2006

		Method	of birth		Total
Type of	Spontaneous	Assisted	Elective	Emergency	
labour onset	vaginal	vaginal	caesarean	caesarean	
_	%	%	%	%	Number
Spontaneous	76.8	9.6	0.9	12.7	2250
Induced	66.4	11.4	0.0	22.2	788
No labour	0.0	0.0	84.2	15.8	549
Total	62.7	8.6	13.5	15.2	3587

Note: Assisted vaginal births include vaginal breech, forceps and ventouse.

Table 30. Method of birth, by gestational age, NT mothers with breech presentation, 2006

		G		Total				
Method of birth	< 2	< 28 28 - 36 37 +		+				
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Spontaneous vaginal	0	0.0	1	2.9	1	0.9	2	1.2
Vaginal breech	13	81.3	8	22.9	6	5.1	27	16.0
Forceps	0	0.0	1	2.9	0	0.0	1	0.6
Elective caesarean	0	0.0	6	17.1	71	60.7	77	45.6
Emergency caesarean	3	18.8	20	57.1	39	33.3	62	36.7
Total	16	100.0	35	100.0	117	100.0	169	100.0

Table 31. Method of birth, by hospital, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2006

			Metho	d of birth			Total
	Spontaneous	Vaginal	Forceps	Ventouse	Elective	Emergency	
Hospital	vaginal	breech			caesarean	caesarean	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	Number
RDH	61.3	1.2	1.0	6.8	12.1	17.5	1610
DPH	44.3	0.0	3.6	10.6	30.1	11.5	635
GDH	82.4	0.0	0.0	4.1	5.7	7.8	193
KH	68.9	0.0	0.3	4.9	8.2	17.7	328
TCH	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8
ASH	68.5	0.7	3.0	2.3	8.5	17.0	698
All							
hospitals	61.6	0.7	1.8	6.3	13.9	15.8	3472

Notes: Hospital names are as follows: Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH), Darwin Private Hospital (DPH), Gove District Hospital (GDH), Katherine Hospital (KH), Tennant Creek Hospital (TCH), Alice Springs Hospital (ASH).

Table 32. Indications for caesarean section, by Indigenous status, NT mothers giving birth via caesarean section, 2006

Type of indication	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	enous	All N	Т
Type of indication	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Elective caesarean						
Previous caesarean [†]	73	68.2	195	54.5	268	57.6
Malpresentation [†]	12	11.2	70	19.6	82	17.6
Other*	22	20.6	100	27.9	122	26.2
Total stated	107		358		465	
Not stated	3		15		18	
Total	110		373		483	
Emergency caesarean						
Failure to progress [†]	84	38.0	137	48.8	221	44.0
Fetal distress [†]	87	39.4	80	28.5	167	33.3
Malpresentation [†]	28	12.7	42	14.9	70	13.9
Ante-partum haemorrhage [†]	10	4.5	6	2.1	16	3.2
Cord prolapse [†]	2	0.9	1	0.4	3	0.6
Other**	36	16.3	38	13.5	74	14.7
Total stated	221		281		502	
Not stated	26		19		45	
Total	247		300		547	

[†] Mothers may have more than one indication for caesarean section.

 $^{^{\}star}$ Other indications for elective caesarean sections exclude previous caesarean and malpresentation.

^{**} Other indications for emergency caesarean sections exclude failure to progress, fetal distress, malpresentation, ante-partum haemorrhage and cord prolapse.

Table 33. Method of analgesia, by Indigenous status, NT mothers with spontaneous or induced onset of labour, 2006

Analgesia:	Indige	nous	Non-Indiç	genous	All N	IT
highest rank of method used	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
None	330	27.7	383	22.7	713	24.8
Nitrous oxide	511	42.9	633	37.5	1144	39.7
Narcotics	144	12.1	144	8.5	288	10.0
Epidural/Caudal	82	6.9	324	19.2	406	14.1
Spinal	4	0.3	11	0.7	15	0.5
Other	120	10.1	194	11.5	314	10.9
Total stated	1191	100.0	1689	100.0	2880	100.0
Not stated	56		102		158	
Total	1247		1791		3038	

Table 34. Method of anaesthesia, by Indigenous status, NT mothers having operative birth, 2006

Anaesthesia:	Indiger	nous	Non-Indig	jenous	All N	IT
highest rank of method used	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
None	17	4.0	66	7.6	83	6.4
Local	25	6.0	36	4.1	61	4.7
Pudendal	5	1.2	15	1.7	20	1.5
Epidural/Caudal	51	12.1	221	25.4	272	21.1
Spinal	275	65.5	463	53.2	738	57.2
General	45	10.7	61	7.0	106	8.2
Other	2	0.5	9	1.0	11	0.9
Total stated	420	100.0	871	100.0	1291	100.0
Not stated	6		12		18	
Total	426		883		1309	

Note: Operative birth methods include forceps, ventouse and caesarean section.

Table 35. Complications due to pregnancy and/or childbirth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers,

Type of complication	Indiger	nous	Non-Indig	jenous	All N	IT
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Pregnancy						
Pre-eclampsia*	79	5.6	67	3.1	146	4.1
Childbirth						
Cord prolapse [†]	4	0.3	4	0.2	8	0.2
Fetal distress	153	10.9	195	8.9	348	9.7
Manual removal of placenta [†]	46	3.3	32	1.5	78	2.2
Meconium stained liquor	185	13.2	212	9.7	397	11.1
Obstructed labour	67	4.8	112	5.1	179	5.0
Post-partum haemorrhage [†]	243	17.4	227	10.4	470	13.1
Other**	157	11.2	195	8.9	352	9.8
Any complication	678	48.4	804	36.8	1482	41.3
Total births	1400	100.0	2187	100.0	3587	100.0

Table 36. State of the perineum, by Indigenous status, NT mothers having vaginal birth, 2006

State of the perineum	Indiger	Indigenous		jenous	All N	All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Intact	524	50.5	631	41.9	1155	45.4	
1st degree tear	254	24.5	373	24.8	627	24.6	
2nd degree tear	172	16.6	306	20.3	478	18.8	
3rd-4th degree tear	21	2.0	36	2.4	57	2.2	
Episiotomy	62	6.0	151	10.0	213	8.4	
Combined episiotomy & tear	4	0.4	10	0.7	14	0.6	
Total stated	1037	100.0	1507	100.0	2544	100.0	
Not stated	6		7		13		
Total	1043		1514		2557		

Note: Vaginal birth methods include spontaneous vaginal, vaginal breech, forceps and ventouse.

Table 37. Length of postnatal hospital stay, by Indigenous status, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2006

Length of	Indiger	nous	Non-Indigenous		All N	IT
postnatal stay (days)	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	46	3.5	142	6.6	188	5.4
1 - 3	625	47.0	1019	47.6	1644	47.4
4 - 7	526	39.5	890	41.5	1416	40.8
8 & more	133	10.0	91	4.2	224	6.5
Total	1330	100.0	2142	100.0	3472	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Mothers may have more than one complication.

[†] Validated data items.

^{*} Pre-eclampsia includes hypertension in pregnancy.

^{**} Other complications include ante-partum haemorrhage as well as other unclassified complications.

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Table 38. Average length of postnatal hospital stay, by Indigenous status and method of birth, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2006

Method of birth	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
	Average len	gth (days) of postna	atal stay
Spontaneous vaginal	3.4	2.7	3.0
Assisted	3.5	3.6	3.6
Elective caesarean	4.9	4.8	4.9
Emergency caesarean	6.3	4.9	5.6
Total	4.1	3.5	3.7

Note: Assisted vaginal birth methods include vaginal breech, forceps and ventouse.

Babies

Table 39. Summary statistics, by maternal Indigenous status, all babies born in the NT, 2006

	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	genous	All N	Γ
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
BIRTHS TO NT RESIDENTS						
Birth status						
Livebirths	1393	98.4	2206	99.2	3599	98.9
Stillbirths	23	1.6	17	8.0	40	1.1
Baby's sex						
Males	714	50.4	1133	51.0	1847	50.8
Females	701	49.5	1081	48.6	1782	49.0
Indeterminate	1	0.1	9	0.4	10	0.3
Plurality						
Singletons	1384	97.7	2151	96.8	3535	97.1
Multiples	32	2.3	72	3.2	104	2.9
Total	1416		2223		3639	
BIRTHS TO NON-NT RESIDENTS						
Birth status						
Livebirths	69	98.6	33	100.0	102	99.0
Stillbirths	1	1.4	0	0.0	1	1.0
Baby's sex						
Males	31	44.3	21	63.6	52	50.5
Females	39	55.7	12	36.4	51	49.5
Plurality						
Singletons	68	97.1	33	100.0	101	98.1
Multiples	2	2.9	0	0.0	2	1.9
Total	70		33		103	
ALL BIRTHS						
Birth status						
Livebirths	1462	98.4	2239	99.2	3701	98.9
Stillbirths	24	1.6	17	0.8	41	1.1
Baby's sex						
Males	745	50.1	1154	51.2	1899	50.7
Females	740	49.8	1093	48.4	1833	49.0
Indeterminate	1	0.1	9	0.4	10	0.3
Plurality						
Singletons	1452	97.7	2184	96.8	3636	97.2
Multiples	34	2.3	72	3.2	106	2.8
Total	1486		2256		3742	

Table 40. Area of mother's usual residence, by maternal Indigenous status, NT babies, 2006

Area	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	enous	All N	T
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Urban area	509	35.9	2100	94.5	2609	71.7
Rural/remote area	907	64.1	123	5.5	1030	28.3
Total	1416	100.0	2223	100.0	3639	100.0

Note: Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 41. District and area of mother's usual residence, by maternal Indigenous status, NT babies, 2006

District	Area	Indigenous		Non-Indig	enous	All N	IT
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Darwin Urban		264	18.6	1595	71.7	1859	51.1
Darwin Rural		271	19.1	57	2.6	328	9.0
Katherine	Urban	66	4.7	147	6.6	213	5.9
	Rural/remote	175	12.4	22	1.0	197	5.4
East Arnhem	Urban	9	0.6	53	2.4	62	1.7
	Rural/remote	208	14.7	19	0.9	227	6.2
Barkly	Urban	47	3.3	20	0.9	67	1.8
	Rural/remote	39	2.8	2	0.1	41	1.1
Alice Springs Urban		123	8.7	285	12.8	408	11.2
Alice Springs Rural		214	15.1	23	1.0	237	6.5
Total		1416	100.0	2223	100.0	3639	100.0

Note: Urban areas include Darwin Urban and Alice Springs Urban districts and towns of Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural and remote areas are the rest of the NT except for urban areas.

Table 42. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and birth status, NT babies, 2006

Gestational age	Indige	nous	Non-Indi	genous	All N	IT
(weeks)	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Stillbirths						
<28	6	26.1	10	58.8	16	40.0
28 - 36	13	56.5	3	17.6	16	40.0
37 - 41	4	17.4	4	23.5	8	20.0
42+	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	23	100.0	17	100.0	40	100.0
Livebirths						
<28	13	0.9	6	0.3	19	0.5
28 - 36	194	13.9	172	7.8	366	10.2
37 - 41	1172	84.1	2013	91.3	3185	88.5
42+	14	1.0	15	0.7	29	0.8
Total	1393	100.0	2206	100.0	3599	100.0
All births						
<28	19	1.3	16	0.7	35	1.0
28 - 36	207	14.6	175	7.9	382	10.5
37 - 41	1176	83.1	2017	90.7	3193	87.7
42+	14	1.0	15	0.7	29	0.8
Total	1416	100.0	2223	100.0	3639	100.0

Table 43. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and birth status, NT babies, 2006

Birthweight	Indiger	nous	Non-Indig	jenous	All N	IT
(g)	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Stillbirths						
<1000	8	34.8	10	62.5	18	46.2
1000 - 1499	7	30.4	0	0.0	7	17.9
1500 - 2499	3	13.0	3	18.8	6	15.4
2500+	5	21.7	3	18.8	8	20.5
Total stated	23	100.0	16	100.0	39	100.0
Not stated	0		1		1	
Total	23		17		40	
Mean birthweight (g)	1503		1200		1374	
Livebirths						
<1000	11	8.0	3	0.1	14	0.4
1000 - 1499	31	2.2	16	0.7	47	1.3
1500 - 2499	151	10.8	132	6.0	283	7.9
2500+	1200	86.1	2055	93.2	3255	90.4
Total	1393	100.0	2206	100.0	3599	100.0
Mean birthweight (g)	3099		3374		3267	
All births						
<1000	19	1.3	13	0.6	32	0.9
1000 - 1499	38	2.7	16	0.7	54	1.5
1500 - 2499	154	10.9	135	6.1	289	7.9
2500+	1205	85.1	2058	92.6	3263	89.7
Total stated	1416	100.0	2222	100.0	3638	100.0
Not stated	0		1		1	
Total	1416		2223		3639	
Mean birthweight (g)	3073		3357		3246	

Table 44. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and district of mother's usual residence, NT livebirths, 2006

	Gestatio	Total		
District	<37	37-41	42+	
-	%	%	%	Number
Indigenous				
Darwin Urban	13.4	85.4	1.1	261
Darwin Rural	19.2	80.8	0.0	266
Katherine	13.4	84.1	2.5	239
East Arnhem	17.8	82.2	0.0	213
Barkly	9.4	90.6	0.0	85
Alice Springs Urban	11.7	88.3	0.0	120
Alice Springs Rural	13.9	83.7	2.4	209
Total	14.9	84.1	1.0	1393
Non-Indigenous				
Darwin Urban	8.1	91.2	0.7	1581
Darwin Rural	8.8	91.2	0.0	57
Katherine	10.2	89.2	0.6	167
East Arnhem	6.9	90.3	2.8	72
Barkly	9.1	90.9	0.0	22
Alice Springs Urban	7.4	92.3	0.4	284
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	100.0	0.0	23
Total	8.1	91.3	0.7	2206

Table 45. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and area of mother's usual residence, NT livebirths, 2006

	Gestatio	Tota		
Area	<37	37-41	42+	
	%	%	%	Number
Indigenous				
Urban area	13.7	85.5	8.0	502
Rural/remote area	15.5	83.4	1.1	891
Total	14.9	84.1	1.0	1393
Non-Indigenous				
Urban area	8.2	91.2	0.6	2083
Rural/remote area	6.5	91.9	1.6	123
Total	8.1	91.3	0.7	2206

Note: Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 46. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and district of mother's usual residence, NT livebirths, 2006

		Birthwe	eight (g)		Total	Mean
District	<1500	1500-2499	2500-3999	4000+		birthweight
	%	%	%	%	Number	(g)
Indigenous						
Darwin Urban	2.3	10.3	79.7	7.7	261	3185
Darwin Rural	4.5	12.8	77.8	4.9	266	3016
Katherine	3.3	9.2	81.2	6.3	239	3088
East Arnhem	4.7	11.3	80.3	3.8	213	2982
Barkly	1.2	9.4	84.7	4.7	85	3095
Alice Springs Urban	0.0	8.3	78.3	13.3	120	3322
Alice Springs Rural	2.4	12.4	79.4	5.7	209	3100
Total	3.0	10.8	79.8	6.3	1393	3099
Non-Indigenous						
Darwin Urban	1.1	6.1	81.4	11.4	1581	3358
Darwin Rural	0.0	5.3	86.0	8.8	57	3258
Katherine	1.2	6.0	79.6	13.2	167	3362
East Arnhem	0.0	5.6	76.4	18.1	72	3494
Barkly	0.0	9.1	86.4	4.5	22	3328
Alice Springs Urban	0.0	6.0	79.6	14.4	284	3454
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	0.0	87.0	13.0	23	3508
Total	0.9	6.0	81.1	12.1	2206	3374

Table 47. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and area of mother's usual residence, NT livebirths, 2006

		Birthwe	eight (g)		Total	Mean	
Area	<1500	1500-2499	2500-3999	4000+		birthweight	
	%	%	%	%	Number	(g)	
Indigenous							
Urban area	2.4	10.4	78.3	9.0	502	3181	
Rural/remote area	3.4	11.1	80.7	4.8	891	3052	
Total	3.0	10.8	79.8	6.3	1393	3099	
Non-Indigenous							
Urban area	0.9	6.0	80.8	12.2	2083	3378	
Rural/remote area	0.0	5.7	85.4	8.9	123	3307	
Total	0.9	6.0	81.1	12.1	2206	3374	

Note: Urban area covers the two urban districts: Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships: Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

Table 48. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and gestational age, NT singleton livebirths, 2006

		Birthwe	eight (g)		Total	Mean
Gestational age	<1500	1500-2499	2500-3999	4000+		birthweight
(weeks)	%	%	%	%	Number	(g)
Indigenous						
<28	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13	743
28 - 36	14.8	44.9	39.2	1.1	176	2317
37 - 41	0.1	5.4	87.2	7.3	1158	3253
42+	0.0	0.0	85.7	14.3	14	3514
Total	2.9	10.4	80.2	6.5	1361	3111
Non-Indigenous						
<28	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6	918
28 - 36	7.0	45.3	46.9	8.0	128	2467
37 - 41	0.0	1.8	85.2	13.0	1985	3476
42+	0.0	0.0	60.0	40.0	15	3828
Total	0.7	4.4	82.5	12.5	2134	3410

Table 49. Apgar scores at 5 minutes, by maternal Indigenous status, NT livebirths, 2006

Apgar score	Indiger	Indigenous		genous	All N	IT
at 5 minutes	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0 - 3	11	8.0	2	0.1	13	0.4
4 - 6	31	2.2	26	1.2	57	1.6
7 - 10	1348	97.0	2177	98.7	3525	98.1
Total stated	1390	100.0	2205	100.0	3595	100.0
Not stated	3		1		4	
Total	1393		2206		3599	

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Table 50. Methods of resuscitation, by maternal Indigenous status, NT livebirths, 2006

Resuscitation:	Indigen	ious	Non-Indig	enous	All N	IT
highest rank of method used	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
None	823	59.7	1336	65.7	2159	63.3
Suction	198	14.4	330	16.2	528	15.5
Oxygen therapy	214	15.5	203	10.0	417	12.2
IPPR through bag & mask	116	8.4	142	7.0	258	7.6
Endotracheal intubation & IPPV	15	1.1	9	0.4	24	0.7
ECM & ventilation	11	8.0	8	0.4	19	0.6
Other	1	0.1	6	0.3	7	0.2
Total stated	1378	100.0	2034	100.0	3412	100.0
Not stated	15		172		187	
Total of livebirths	1393		2206		3599	

Note: Resuscitation methods exclude tactile stimulation. IPPR stands for intermittent positive pressure resuscitation; IPPV stands for intermittent positive pressure ventilation; ECM stands for external cardiac massage.

Table 51. Numbers and rates of stillbirth, neonatal death and perinatal death, by Indigenous status, NT babies, 2006

	Indigen	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous All NT		T
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Stillbirths	23	16.2	17	7.6	40	11.0
Neonatal deaths	16	11.5	2	0.9	18	5.0
Perinatal deaths	39	27.5	19	8.5	58	15.9

Rate of stillbirths or perinatal deaths is the number of deaths per 1000 total births; rate of neonatal deaths is the number of deaths per 1000 livebirths.

Stillbirths are by maternal Indigenous status and neonatal deaths are by Indigenous status of the babies. Perinatal deaths are therefore a mix of maternal and baby's Indigenous status.

Appendices

Appendix 1. Hospital profiles

The profile table of each hospital includes all births that occurred in that hospital in 2006, of mothers who were either NT residents or from interstate.

Royal Darwin Hospital

	Indigen	ous	Non-Indige	enous	All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
MOTHERS	607		1030		1637	
Maternal age						
<20 years	136	22.4	68	6.6	204	12.5
20-34 years	430	70.8	792	76.9	1222	74.6
35+ years	41	6.8	170	16.5	211	12.9
Onset of labour						
Spontaneous onset	416	68.5	658	63.9	1074	65.6
Induced labour	94	15.5	218	21.2	312	19.1
No labour	97	16.0	154	15.0	251	15.3
Method of birth						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	363	59.8	639	62.0	1002	61.2
Vaginal breech birth	10	1.6	11	1.1	21	1.3
Forceps birth	5	8.0	12	1.2	17	1.0
Ventouse birth	34	5.6	77	7.5	111	6.8
Elective caesarean	73	12.0	127	12.3	200	12.2
Emergency caesarean	122	20.1	164	15.9	286	17.5
Labour and childbirth complications						
Cord prolapse	1	0.2	3	0.3	4	0.2
Fetal distress	78	12.9	137	13.3	215	13.1
Manual removal of placenta	12	2.0	11	1.1	23	1.4
Meconium stained liquor	85	14.0	140	13.6	225	13.7
Obstructed labour	29	4.8	58	5.6	87	5.3
Post-partum haemorrhage	96	15.8	136	13.2	232	14.2
Pre-eclampsia	43	7.1	48	4.7	91	5.6
Others	80	13.2	106	10.3	186	11.4
Any complication	297	48.9	464	45.0	761	46.5
MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH	412		739		1151	
Perineum status						
Intact	217	52.7	347	47.0	564	49.0
1st degree tear	77	18.7	137	18.5	214	18.6
2nd degree tear	68	16.5	167	22.6	235	20.4
3rd-4th degree tear	7	1.7	19	2.6	26	2.3
Episiotomy	39	9.5	67	9.1	106	9.2
Combined episiotomy & tear	4	1.0	2	0.3	6	0.5
BABIES	617		1049		1666	
Gestational age						
<28 weeks	12	1.9	12	1.1	24	1.4
28-36 weeks	116	18.8	101	9.6	217	13.0
37+ weeks	489	79.3	936	89.2	1425	85.5
Birthweight						
<1500g	33	5.3	23	2.2	56	3.4
1500-2499g	82	13.3	79	7.5	161	9.7
2500+g	502	81.4	946	90.3	1448	87.0
Birth status						
Livebirths	607	98.4	1038	99.0	1645	98.7
Stillbirths	10	1.6	11	1.0	21	1.3

This table includes all births that occurred in RDH in 2006. An additional 44 births occurred before arrival at hospital. Not stated category is not presented and so the total may differ from the sum of the variable components.

Darwin Private Hospital

	Indiger	nous	Non-Indige	nous	All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
MOTHERS	9		638		647	
Maternal age						
<20 years	1	11.1	13	2.0	14	2.2
20-34 years	5	55.6	452	71.0	457	70.7
35+ years	3	33.3	172	27.0	175	27.1
Onset of labour						
Spontaneous onset	6	66.7	258	40.4	264	40.8
Induced labour	2	22.2	197	30.9	199	30.8
No labour	1	11.1	183	28.7	184	28.4
Method of birth						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	6	66.7	279	43.7	285	44.0
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Forceps birth	0	0.0	24	3.8	24	3.7
Ventouse birth	1	11.1	66	10.3	67	10.4
Elective caesarean	1	11.1	197	30.9	198	30.6
Emergency caesarean	1	11.1	72	11.3	73	11.3
Labour and childbirth complications						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.2
Fetal distress	1	11.1	27	4.2	28	4.3
Manual removal of placenta	0	0.0	6	0.9	6	0.9
Meconium stained liquor	0	0.0	30	4.7	30	4.6
Obstructed labour	0	0.0	22	3.4	22	3.4
Post-partum haemorrhage	0	0.0	36	5.6	36	5.6
Pre-eclampsia	0	0.0	11	1.7	11	1.7
Others	1	11.1	43	6.7	44	6.8
Any complication	2	22.2	151	23.7	153	23.6
MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH	7		369		376	
Perineum status						
Intact	4	57.1	135	37.0	139	37.4
1st degree tear	1	14.3	112	30.7	113	30.4
2nd degree tear	2	28.6	46	12.6	48	12.9
3rd-4th degree tear	0	0.0	2	0.5	2	0.5
Episiotomy	0	0.0	66	18.1	66	17.7
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	4	1.1	4	1.1
BABIES	9		651		660	
Gestational age						
<28 weeks	0	0.0	3	0.5	3	0.5
28-36 weeks	0	0.0	44	6.8	44	6.7
37+ weeks	9	100.0	604	92.8	613	92.9
Birthweight						
<1500g	0	0.0	4	0.6	4	0.6
1500-2499g	0	0.0	33	5.1	33	5.0
2500+g	9	100.0	614	94.3	623	94.4
Birth status						
Livebirths	9	100.0	649	99.7	658	99.7
Stillbirths	0	0.0	2	0.3	2	0.3

Notes:

This table includes all births that occurred in DPH in 2006.

Not stated category is not presented and so the total may differ from the sum of the variable components.

Gove District Hospital

	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	enous	All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
MOTHERS	140		53		193	
Maternal age						
<20 years	41	29.3	2	3.8	43	22.3
20-34 years	95	67.9	41	77.4	136	70.5
35+ years	4	2.9	10	18.9	14	7.3
Onset of labour						
Spontaneous onset	115	82.1	38	71.7	153	79.3
Induced labour	20	14.3	8	15.1	28	14.5
No labour	5	3.6	7	13.2	12	6.2
Method of birth						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	120	85.7	39	73.6	159	82.4
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Forceps birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Ventouse birth	6	4.3	2	3.8	8	4.1
Elective caesarean	4	2.9	7	13.2	11	5.7
Emergency caesarean	10	7.1	5	9.4	15	7.8
Labour and childbirth complications						
Cord prolapse	1	0.7	0	0.0	1	0.5
Fetal distress	4	2.9	2	3.8	6	3.1
Manual removal of placenta	5	3.6	2	3.8	7	3.6
Meconium stained liquor	18	12.9	4	7.5	22	11.4
Obstructed labour	4	2.9	1	1.9	5	2.6
Post-partum haemorrhage	32	22.9	7	13.2	39	20.2
Pre-eclampsia	5	3.6	2	3.8	7	3.6
Others	14	10.0	2	3.8	16	8.3
Any complication	62	44.3	16	30.2	78	40.4
MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH	126		41		167	
Perineum status						
Intact	52	41.3	11	26.8	63	37.7
1st degree tear	34	27.0	16	39.0	50	29.9
2nd degree tear	29	23.0	10	24.4	39	23.4
3rd-4th degree tear	5	4.0	1	2.4	6	3.6
Episiotomy	6	4.8	2	4.9	8	4.8
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	1	2.4	1	0.6
BABIES	140		53		193	
Gestational age						
<28 weeks	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
28-36 weeks	9	6.4	1	1.9	10	5.2
37+ weeks	131	93.6	52	98.1	183	94.8
Birthweight			-			٠٠
<1500g	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
1500-2499g	7	5.0	1	1.9	8	4.1
2500+g	133	95.0	52	98.1	185	95.9
Birth status	.00		02	- 	.00	55.0
Livebirths	138	98.6	53	100.0	191	99.0
Stillbirths	2	1.4	0	0.0	2	1.0

This table includes all births that occurred in GDH in 2006. An additional 14 births occurred before arrival at hospital.

Not stated category is not presented and so the total may differ from the sum of the variable components.

Katherine Hospital

	Indiger	nous	Non-Indige	enous	All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	9
MOTHERS	181		149		330	
Maternal age						
<20 years	61	33.7	7	4.7	68	20.
20-34 years	110	60.8	117	78.5	227	68.
35+ years	10	5.5	25	16.8	35	10.
Onset of labour						
Spontaneous onset	138	76.2	105	70.5	243	73.
Induced labour	35	19.3	21	14.1	56	17.
No labour	8	4.4	23	15.4	31	9.
Method of birth						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	126	69.6	102	68.5	228	69
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
Forceps birth	0	0.0	1	0.7	1	0.
Ventouse birth	8	4.4	8	5.4	16	4.
Elective caesarean	6	3.3	21	14.1	27	8
Emergency caesarean	41	22.7	17	11.4	58	17.
Labour and childbirth complications						
Cord prolapse	1	0.6	0	0.0	1	0
Fetal distress	26	14.4	12	8.1	38	11
Manual removal of placenta	5	2.8	3	2.0	8	2
Meconium stained liquor	28	15.5	16	10.7	44	13
Obstructed labour	17	9.4	10	6.7	27	8
Post-partum haemorrhage	30	16.6	19	12.8	49	14
Pre-eclampsia	8	4.4	3	2.0	11	3
Others	13	7.2	15	10.1	28	8
Any complication	95	52.5	64	43.0	159	48
MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH	134		111		245	
Perineum status						
Intact	74	55.2	42	38.2	116	47
1st degree tear	32	23.9	30	27.3	62	25
2nd degree tear	25	18.7	28	25.5	53	21
3rd-4th degree tear	0	0.0	4	3.6	4	1
Episiotomy	3	2.2	5	4.5	8	3
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	1	0.9	1	0
BABIES	181		149		330	
Gestational age						
<28 weeks	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
28-36 weeks	5	2.8	7	4.7	12	3
37+ weeks	176	97.2	142	95.3	318	96
Birthweight						
<1500g	2	1.1	1	0.7	3	0
1500-2499g	9	5.0	3	2.0	12	3
2500+g	170	93.9	145	97.3	315	95
Birth status						
Livebirths	181	100.0	146	98.0	327	99
Stillbirths	0	0.0	3	2.0	3	0.

Notes:

This table includes all births that occurred in KH in 2006. An additional 10 births occurred before arrival at hospital. Not stated category is not presented and so the total may differ from the sum of the variable components.

Tennant Creek Hospital

	Indige	nous	Non-Indi	genous	All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
MOTHERS	7		1		8	
Maternal age						
<20 years	4	57.1	0	0.0	4	50.0
20-34 years	3	42.9	1	100.0	4	50.0
35+ years	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Onset of labour						
Spontaneous onset	7	100.0	1	100.0	8	100.0
Induced labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
No labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Method of birth						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	7	100.0	1	100.0	8	100.0
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Forceps birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Ventouse birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Elective caesarean	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Emergency caesarean	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Labour and childbirth complications	· ·	0.0	Ü	0.0	o o	0.0
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fetal distress	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	12.5
Manual removal of placenta	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	12.5
Meconium stained liquor	2	28.6	0	0.0	2	25.0
Obstructed labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Post-partum haemorrhage	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Pre-eclampsia	2	28.6	0	0.0	2	25.0
Others	1	14.3	1	100.0	2	25.0
Any complication	4	57.1	1	100.0 100.0	5	62. 5
MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH	7	37.1	1	100.0	8	02.0
Perineum status	,		1		0	
Intact	1	14.3	1	100.0	2	25.0
		57.1			4	50.0
1st degree tear	4		0	0.0		
2nd degree tear	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	12.5
3rd-4th degree tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Episiotomy	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	12.5
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
BABIES	7		1		8	
Gestational age	_				_	
<28 weeks	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
28-36 weeks	3	42.9	0	0.0	3	37.5
37+ weeks	4	57.1	1	100.0	5	62.5
Birthweight						
<1500g	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
1500-2499g	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	12.5
2500+g	6	85.7	1	100.0	7	87.5
Birth status						
Livebirths	6	85.7	1	100.0	7	87.5
Stillbirths	1	14.3	0	0.0	1	12.5

This table includes all births that occurred in TCH in 2006. One additional birth occurred before arrival at hospital. Not stated category is not presented and so the total may differ from the sum of the variable components.

Alice Springs Hospital

	Indigen	ous	Non-Indig	enous	All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
MOTHERS	450		304		754	
Maternal age						
<20 years	118	26.2	18	5.9	136	18.0
20-34 years	306	68.0	227	74.7	533	70.7
35+ years	26	5.8	59	19.4	85	11.3
Onset of labour						
Spontaneous onset	266	59.1	192	63.2	458	60.
Induced labour	135	30.0	74	24.3	209	27.
No labour	49	10.9	38	12.5	87	11.
Method of birth						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	310	68.9	203	66.8	513	68.
Vaginal breech birth	4	0.9	2	0.7	6	0.
Forceps birth	10	2.2	13	4.3	23	3.
Ventouse birth	8	1.8	9	3.0	17	2.
Elective caesarean	32	7.1	32	10.5	64	8.
Emergency caesarean	86	19.1	45	14.8	131	17.
Labour and childbirth complications	00	10.1	40	14.0	101	.,.
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.
Fetal distress	46	10.2	18	5.9	64	8.
Manual removal of placenta	9	2.0	2	0.7	11	1.
Meconium stained liquor	63	14.0	24	7.9	87	11.
Obstructed labour	22	4.9	22	7.9 7.2	44	5.
	84	4.9 18.7	31	10.2	115	15.
Post-partum haemorrhage	23	5.1	4	1.3	27	3.
Pre-eclampsia Others	23 47	10.4			74	
	220	10.4 48.9	27 111	8.9 36.5	331	9. 43.
Any complication MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH		40.9		30.3		43.
	332		227		559	
Perineum status	1.40	45.5	00	00.1	000	40
Intact	148	45.5	88	39.1	236	42.
1st degree tear	109	33.5	62	27.6	171	31.
2nd degree tear	48	14.8	50	22.2	98	17.
3rd-4th degree tear	6	1.8	9	4.0	15	2.
Episiotomy	14	4.3	14	6.2	28	5.
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	2	0.9	2	0.
BABIES	457		308		765	
Gestational age	_					_
<28 weeks	3	0.7	1	0.3	4	0.
28-36 weeks	56	12.3	25	8.1	81	10.
37+ weeks	398	87.1	282	91.6	680	88.
Birthweight						
<1500g	10	2.2	1	0.3	11	1.
1500-2499g	48	10.5	20	6.5	68	8.
2500+g	399	87.3	287	93.2	686	89.
Birth status						
Livebirths	452	98.9	307	99.7	759	99.
Stillbirths	5	1.1	1	0.3	6	0.8

This table includes all births that occurred in ASH in 2006. An additional 16 births occurred before arrival at hospital.

Not stated category is not presented and so the total may differ from the sum of the variable components.

Non-hospital

	Indiger	nous	Non-Indi	genous	All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
MOTHERS	75		45		120	
Maternal age						
<20 years	20	27.0	1	7.1	21	23.9
20-34 years	45	60.8	9	64.3	54	61.4
35+ years	9	12.2	4	28.6	13	14.8
Onset of labour						
Spontaneous onset	75	100.0	45	100.0	120	100.0
Induced labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
No labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Method of birth						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	71	94.7	44	100.0	115	96.6
Vaginal breech birth	4	5.3	0	0.0	4	3.4
Actual place of giving birth						
Health centres	45	60.0	1	2.2	46	38.3
Planned homes	1	1.3	33	73.3	34	28.3
Other	29	38.7	11	24.4	40	33.3
Labour and childbirth complications						
Cord prolapse	1	1.3	0	0.0	1	0.8
Fetal distress	2	2.7	0	0.0	2	1.7
Manual removal of placenta	2	2.7	1	2.2	3	2.5
Meconium stained liquor	4	5.3	1	2.2	5	4.2
Obstructed labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Post-partum haemorrhage	13	17.3	3	6.7	16	13.3
Pre-eclampsia C	2	2.7	0	0.0	2	1.7
Others	17	22.7	2	4.4	19	15.8
Any complication	35	46.7	6	13.3	41	34.2
MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH	75		45		120	
Perineum status						
Intact	55	73.3	16	35.6	71	59.2
1st degree tear	12	16.0	19	42.2	31	25.8
2nd degree tear	4	5.3	9	20.0	13	10.8
3rd-4th degree tear	3	4.0	1	2.2	4	3.3
Episiotomy	1	1.3	0	0.0	1	0.8
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
BABIES	75		45		120	
Gestational age						
<28 weeks	7	9.3	0	0.0	7	5.8
28-36 weeks	29	38.7	2	4.4	31	25.8
37+ weeks	39	52.0	43	95.6	82	68.3
Birthweight						
<1500g	15	20.0	0	0.0	15	12.5
1500-2499g	20	26.7	2	4.4	22	18.3
2500+g	40	53.3	43	95.6	83	69.2
Birth status						
Livebirths	69	92.0	45	100.0	114	95.0
Stillbirths	6	8.0	0	0.0	6	5.0

This table includes all births that occurred out of hospital in 2006.

Not stated category is not presented and so the total may differ from the sum of the variable components.

Appendix 2. Trends of perinatal indicators, by Indigenous status, NT, 1992-2006

Table A. Trend table, NT Indigenous

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	Total fertility rate	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.4
ALL	Total	1194	1176	1161	1184	1147	1152	umber 1206	1261	1236	1430	1332	1334	1270	1320	1400
MOTHERS	Maternal age	1154	1170	1101	1104	1147	1132	1200	1201	1230	1430	1332	1334	1270	1320	1400
WOTTLING	<20	381	339	358	345	318	355	362	374	408	428	395	382	357	337	360
	20-34	759	782	748	796	778	745	780	819	772	926	857	873	821	902	950
	35+	759 54	55	55	43	51	50	62	68	56	71	80	79	87	76	89
	Place of birth	34	33	33	40	31	30	02	00	30	7 1	00	19	01	70	03
	Hospital	1123	1101	1101	1127	1100	1071	1131	1188	1195	1365	1279	1264	1209	1249	1330
	Non-hospital	71	75	60	57	47	81	75	73	41	65	53	70	61	71	70
	Type of labour onset	71	75	00	31	47	01	73	73	41	03	33	70	01	7 1	70
	Spontanous	939	900	899	901	899	863	883	919	930	1041	976	940	926	948	972
	Induced	171	158	152	153	137	149	166	193	202	240	208	243	194	212	275
	No labour	83	112	109	122	109	113	128	127	104	149	148	151	150	160	153
	Method of birth	00	112	109	122	109	113	120	121	104	143	140	131	130	100	133
	Spontanous vaginal	847	836	830	832	850	816	839	933	901	1028	951	918	868	905	959
	Vaginal breech	19	13	13	14	14	13	12	8	901	7	5	16	17	12	15
	Forceps	63	45	36	30	39	30	30	22	17	25	22	23	12	19	13
	Ventouse	23	22	18	9	5	17	19	25	40	53	28	42	53	49	56
	Caesarean section	242	255	264	297	237	252	280	252	269	317	326	335	320	335	357
FIRST-TIME	Total	399	367	390	373	338	401	392	425	438	470	412	416	373	406	419
MOTHERS	Maternal age	333	301	330	3/3	330	701	332	723	430	410	712	410	3/3	400	713
MIO IIILIIO	<20	271	230	237	234	226	247	250	267	317	297	258	260	244	245	254
	20-34	126	137	149	137	108	148	135	152	120	163	146	152	129	159	163
	35+	2	0	4	2	4	4	6	6	1	7	8	4	0	2	2
BABIES	Total	1205	1189	1172	1191	1160	1160	1215	1278	1245	1442	1348	1342	1277	1331	1416
5/15/120	Plurality	.200	1100					0				.0.0				
	Singleton	1184	1163	1150	1177	1134	1144	1197	1244	1227	1418	1316	1326	1263	1310	1384
	Multiples	21	26	22	14	26	16	18	34	18	24	32	16	14	21	32
	Birthweight (g)							10	0.			02		• • •		02
	<1500	47	43	35	20	35	38	35	41	32	32	33	42	41	49	57
	1500-2499	147	113	128	139	138	149	120	138	140	154	152	162	141	150	154
	2500+	1010	1028	1007	1030	985	944	1031	1076	1073	1256	1163	1137	1095	1132	1205
	Gestational age (weeks)		.020			000	0				00			.000		00
	<28	19	19	22	17	19	24	24	27	21	18	20	29	25	31	19
	28-36	170	128	133	132	156	152	144	163	156	174	199	190	180	176	207
	37+	1014	1011	927	1024	977	947	1013	1067	1068	1249	1128	1123	1072	1124	1190
	Birth status	1014		0_,	.02.7	0.,	017	1010	1007	.000	12.10	5			,	
	Livebirths	1182	1162	1151	1172	1146	1141	1198	1253	1231	1428	1333	1323	1264	1313	1393
	Stillbirths	23	27	21	1172	14	19	17	25	14	1420	15	19	13	18	23

Table A. (continued)

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
							P	ercent								
ALL	Maternal age															
MOTHERS	<20	31.9	28.8	30.8	29.1	27.7	30.9	30.1	29.7	33.0	30.0	29.7	28.6	28.2	25.6	25.7
	20-34	63.6	66.5	64.4	67.2	67.8	64.8	64.8	64.9	62.5	65.0	64.3	65.4	64.9	68.6	67.9
	35+	4.5	4.7	4.7	3.6	4.4	4.3	5.1	5.4	4.5	5.0	6.0	5.9	6.9	5.8	6.4
	Place of birth															
	Hospital	94.1	93.6	94.8	95.2	95.9	93.0	93.8	94.2	96.7	95.5	96.0	94.8	95.2	94.6	95.0
	Non-hospital	5.9	6.4	5.2	4.8	4.1	7.0	6.2	5.8	3.3	4.5	4.0	5.2	4.8	5.4	5.0
	Type of labour onset															
	Spontanous	78.7	76.9	77.5	76.6	78.5	76.7	75.0	74.2	75.2	72.8	73.3	70.5	72.9	71.8	69.4
	Induced	14.3	13.5	13.1	13.0	12.0	13.2	14.1	15.6	16.3	16.8	15.6	18.2	15.3	16.1	19.6
	No labour	7.0	9.6	9.4	10.4	9.5	10.0	10.9	10.3	8.4	10.4	11.1	11.3	11.8	12.1	10.9
	Method of birth															
	Spontanous vaginal	70.9	71.4	71.5	70.4	74.2	72.3	71.1	75.2	72.9	71.9	71.4	68.8	68.3	68.6	68.5
	Vaginal breech	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.1
	Forceps	5.3	3.8	3.1	2.5	3.4	2.7	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.9	1.4	0.9
	Ventouse	1.9	1.9	1.6	8.0	0.4	1.5	1.6	2.0	3.2	3.7	2.1	3.1	4.2	3.7	4.0
	Caesarean section	20.3	21.8	22.7	25.1	20.7	22.3	23.7	20.3	21.8	22.2	24.5	25.1	25.2	25.4	25.5
FIRST-TIME	Maternal age															
MOTHERS	<20	67.9	62.7	60.8	62.7	66.9	61.9	63.9	62.8	72.4	63.6	62.6	62.5	65.4	60.3	60.6
	20-34	31.6	37.3	38.2	36.7	32.0	37.1	34.5	35.8	27.4	34.9	35.4	36.5	34.6	39.2	38.9
	35+	0.5	0.0	1.0	0.5	1.2	1.0	1.5	1.4	0.2	1.5	1.9	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.5
BABIES	Plurality															
	Singleton	98.3	97.8	98.1	98.8	97.8	98.6	98.5	97.3	98.6	98.3	97.6	98.8	98.9	98.4	97.7
	Multiples	1.7	2.2	1.9	1.2	2.2	1.4	1.5	2.7	1.4	1.7	2.4	1.2	1.1	1.6	2.3
	Birthweight (g)															
	<1500	3.9	3.6	3.0	1.7	3.0	3.4	3.0	3.3	2.6	2.2	2.4	3.1	3.2	3.7	4.0
	1500-2499	12.2	9.5	10.9	11.7	11.9	13.2	10.1	11.0	11.2	10.7	11.3	12.1	11.0	11.3	10.9
	2500+	83.9	86.8	86.1	86.6	85.1	83.5	86.9	85.7	86.2	87.1	86.3	84.8	85.7	85.0	85.1
	Gestational age (weeks)															
	<28	1.6	1.6	2.0	1.4	1.6	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.5	2.2	2.0	2.3	1.3
	28-36	14.1	11.1	12.3	11.3	13.5	13.5	12.2	13.0	12.5	12.1	14.8	14.2	14.1	13.2	14.6
	37+	84.3	87.3	85.7	87.3	84.8	84.3	85.8	84.9	85.8	86.7	83.7	83.7	83.9	84.4	84.0
	Birth status															
	Livebirths	98.1	97.7	98.2	98.4	98.8	98.4	98.6	98.0	98.9	99.0	98.9	98.6	99.0	98.6	98.4
	Stillbirths	1.9	2.3	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.4	2.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.6

Note: Not stated category is not shown in each breakdown, therefore the sum of listed categories of each breakdown may not add to the total number.

Table B. Trend table, NT non-Indigenous

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	Total fertility rate	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9
			0054	00.40	0040	2000		umber	0040	0407	0040	0000	0405	0005	0000	0407
ALL	Total	2326	2251	2249	2340	2200	2306	2230	2219	2197	2212	2233	2195	2065	2229	2187
MOTHERS	Maternal age	4.40	400	400	444	400	4.40	400	400	440	404	404	405	00	404	400
	<20	142	136	130	141	132	146	109	128	118	121	121	125	96	121	109
	20-34	1906	1868	1846	1909	1769	1817	1783	1751	1726	1750	1721	1680	1573	1666	1612
	35+ Place of birth	278	247	273	290	299	336	338	340	350	334	391	390	386	434	434
		0014	0000	0044	0000	0170	0050	0105	04.00	0107	01.00	0000	0105	0000	0010	01.40
	Hospital	2314	2239	2241	2303	2173	2258	2195	2186	2187	2180	2206	2165	2038	2213	2142
	Non-hospital	12	12	8	37	27	48	35	33	10	32	27	30	27	16	45
	Type of labour onset	4500	4.405	4500	4500	4500	4550		4.400	4.445	1000	4070	4000	1001	4070	4070
	Spontanous	1569	1495	1536	1563	1506	1556	1441	1483	1445	1383	1379	1302	1224	1273	1278
	Induced	550	523	470	537	452	483	531	464	496	528	525	544	487	535	513
	No labour	207	231	239	234	236	251	253	259	256	301	329	349	354	421	396
	Method of birth						.=		.=	. =						
	Spontanous vaginal	1693	1629	1655	1723	1618	1703	1568	1566	1548	1476	1496	1335	1224	1306	1291
	Vaginal breech	15	16	12	14	16	11	15	10	6	15	3	10	9	12	13
	Forceps	175	113	93	127	137	109	133	114	98	98	83	48	48	55	48
	Ventouse	45	36	42	34	24	30	24	39	78	85	73	158	153	153	162
	Caesarean section	397	456	446	442	402	450	486	478	465	538	578	644	631	703	673
FIRST-TIME MOTHERS	Total	1039	949	965	1031	928	948	968	1041	924	999	943	943	858	1009	938
MOTHERS	Maternal age	444	440		440	400	440	00	404	07	400	400	404	00	400	00
	<20	114	119	111	119	102	116	98	104	97	100	106	104	80	106	98
	20-34	857	768	793	846	755	747	781	829	730	796	733	725	656	761	713
DADIEO	35+	68	62	61	66	71	78	89	108	94	102	104	114	122	137	120
BABIES	Total	2356	2274	2283	2381	2225	2333	2261	2249	2228	2241	2261	2231	2094	2265	2223
	Plurality	0000	0000	0045	0004	0475	0070	0400	0400	0400	04.00	0005	0450	0000	0400	0454
	Singleton	2296	2228	2215	2301	2175	2279	2199	2189	2166	2183	2205	2159	2036	2193	2151
	Multiples	60	46	68	80	50	54	62	60	62	58	56	72	58	72	72
	Birthweight (g)	0.4	0.5	07	00	00	00	00	4.4	00	00	-00	00	00	00	00
	<1500	34	25	37	32	26	22	29	41	26	32	28	28	30	39	29
	1500-2499	157	121	112	116	131	135	150	130	127	113	99	140	110	131	135
	2500+	2163	2127	2134	2230	2062	2154	2076	2066	2072	2096	2134	2063	1954	2093	2058
	Gestational age (weeks)	00		00	40		40	45	00				40	40	40	40
	<28	20	11	22	18	14	12	15	23	14	17	17	16	13	16	16
	28-36	149	123	139	141	152	170	187	174	169	165	151	168	144	180	175
	37+	2180	2124	2045	2195	2058	2136	2053	2041	2045	2059	2092	2047	1937	2069	2032
	Birth status	000 1	0050	2005	0005	0016	0000	0054	000-	0016	0000	00.4=	0011	0005	00.46	0000
	Livebirths	2334	2259	2263	2365	2213	2320	2251	2227	2212	2229	2247	2211	2085	2242 23	2206
	Stillbirths	22	15	20	16	12	13	10	22	16	12	14	20	9	23	17

Table B. (continued)

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
							P	ercent								
ALL	Maternal age															
MOTHERS	<20	6.1	6.0	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.4	4.9	5.8	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.7	4.7	5.4	5.1
	20-34	81.9	83.0	82.1	81.6	80.4	79.0	80.0	78.9	78.7	79.4	77.1	76.5	76.5	75.0	74.8
	35+	12.0	11.0	12.1	12.4	13.6	14.6	15.2	15.3	16.0	15.1	17.5	17.8	18.8	19.5	20.1
	Place of birth															
	Hospital	99.5	99.5	99.6	98.4	98.8	97.9	98.4	98.5	99.5	98.6	98.8	98.6	98.7	99.3	97.9
	Non-hospital	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.6	1.2	2.1	1.6	1.5	0.5	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.7	2.1
	Type of labour onset															
	Spontanous	67.5	66.5	68.4	67.0	68.6	67.9	64.8	67.2	65.8	62.5	61.8	59.3	59.3	57.1	58.4
	Induced	23.6	23.3	20.9	23.0	20.6	21.1	23.9	21.0	22.6	23.9	23.5	24.8	23.6	24.0	23.5
	No labour	8.9	10.3	10.6	10.0	10.8	11.0	11.4	11.7	11.7	13.6	14.7	15.9	17.1	18.9	18.1
	Method of birth															
	Spontanous vaginal	72.8	72.4	73.6	73.6	73.6	73.9	70.4	71.0	70.5	66.7	67.0	60.8	59.3	58.6	59.0
	Vaginal breech	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6
	Forceps	7.5	5.0	4.1	5.4	6.2	4.7	6.0	5.2	4.5	4.4	3.7	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.2
	Ventouse	1.9	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.8	3.6	3.8	3.3	7.2	7.4	6.9	7.4
	Caesarean section	17.1	20.3	19.8	18.9	18.3	19.5	21.8	21.7	21.2	24.3	25.9	29.3	30.6	31.5	30.8
FIRST-TIME	Maternal age															
MOTHERS	<20	11.0	12.5	11.5	11.5	11.0	12.3	10.1	10.0	10.5	10.0	11.2	11.0	9.3	10.6	10.5
	20-34	82.5	80.9	82.2	82.1	81.4	79.4	80.7	79.6	79.3	79.8	77.7	76.9	76.5	75.8	76.6
	35+	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	7.7	8.3	9.2	10.4	10.2	10.2	11.0	12.1	14.2	13.6	12.9
BABIES	Plurality															
	Singleton	97.5	98.0	97.0	96.6	97.8	97.7	97.3	97.3	97.2	97.4	97.5	96.8	97.2	96.8	96.8
	Multiples	2.5	2.0	3.0	3.4	2.2	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.2
	Birthweight (g)															
	<1500	1.4	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.8	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.3
	1500-2499	6.7	5.3	4.9	4.9	5.9	5.8	6.7	5.8	5.7	5.0	4.4	6.3	5.3	5.8	6.1
	2500+	91.9	93.6	93.5	93.8	92.9	93.2	92.1	92.4	93.1	93.5	94.4	92.5	93.3	92.5	92.6
	Gestational age (weeks)															
	<28	0.9	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.8	8.0	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
	28-36	6.3	5.4	6.3	6.0	6.8	7.3	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.4	6.7	7.5	6.9	7.9	7.9
	37+	92.8	94.1	92.7	93.2	92.5	92.1	91.0	91.2	91.8	91.9	92.6	91.8	92.5	91.3	91.4
	Birth status															
	Livebirths	99.1	99.3	99.1	99.3	99.5	99.4	99.6	99.0	99.3	99.5	99.4	99.1	99.6	99.0	99.2
	Stillbirths	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.4	1.0	8.0

Note: Not stated category is not shown in each breakdown, therefore the sum of listed categories of each breakdown may not add to the total number.

Table C. Trend table, NT all

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	Total fertility rate	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1
								umber								
ALL	Total	3520	3429	3410	3524	3347	3458	3436	3480	3433	3642	3565	3529	3335	3549	3587
MOTHERS	Maternal age															
	<20	523	475	488	486	450	501	471	502	526	549	516	507	453	458	469
	20-34	2665	2652	2594	2705	2547	2562	2563	2570	2498	2676	2578	2553	2394	2568	2562
	35+	332	302	328	333	350	386	400	408	406	405	471	469	473	510	523
	Place of birth															
	Hospital	3437	3342	3342	3430	3273	3329	3326	3374	3382	3545	3485	3429	3247	3462	3472
	Non-hospital	83	87	68	94	74	129	110	106	51	97	80	100	88	87	115
	Type of labour onset															
	Spontanous	2508	2397	2435	2464	2405	2419	2324	2402	2375	2424	2355	2242	2150	2221	2250
	Induced	721	681	622	690	589	632	697	657	698	768	733	787	681	747	788
	No labour	290	343	348	356	345	364	381	386	360	450	477	500	504	581	549
	Method of birth															
	Spontanous vaginal	2540	2467	2485	2555	2468	2519	2407	2499	2449	2504	2447	2253	2092	2211	2250
	Vaginal breech	34	29	25	28	30	24	27	18	15	22	8	26	26	24	28
	Forceps	238	158	129	157	176	139	163	136	115	123	105	71	60	74	61
	Ventouse	68	58	60	43	29	47	43	64	118	138	101	200	206	202	218
	Caesarean section	639	711	710	739	639	702	766	730	734	855	904	979	951	1038	1030
FIRST-TIME	Total	1438	1318	1355	1404	1266	1349	1360	1466	1362	1469	1355	1359	1231	1415	1357
MOTHERS	Maternal age															
	<20	385	349	348	353	328	363	348	371	414	397	364	364	324	351	352
	20-34	983	907	942	983	863	895	916	981	850	959	879	877	785	920	876
	35+	70	62	65	68	75	82	95	114	95	109	112	118	122	139	122
BABIES	Total	3561	3465	3455	3572	3385	3493	3476	3527	3473	3683	3609	3573	3371	3596	3639
	Plurality															
	Singleton	3480	3393	3365	3478	3309	3423	3396	3433	3393	3601	3521	3485	3299	3503	3535
	Multiples	81	72	90	94	76	70	80	94	80	82	88	88	72	93	104
	Birthweight (g)															
	<1500	81	68	72	52	61	60	64	82	58	64	61	70	71	88	86
	1500-2499	304	234	240	255	269	284	270	268	267	267	251	302	251	281	289
	2500+	3173	3157	3141	3260	3047	3098	3107	3142	3145	3352	3297	3200	3049	3225	3263
	Gestational age (weeks)															
	<28	39	30	44	35	33	36	39	50	35	35	37	45	38	47	35
	28-36	319	251	272	273	308	322	331	337	325	339	350	358	324	356	382
	37+	3194	3137	2972	3219	3035	3083	3066	3108	3113	3308	3220	3170	3009	3193	3222
	Birth status															
	Livebirths	3516	3423	3414	3537	3359	3461	3449	3480	3443	3657	3580	3534	3349	3555	3599
	Stillbirths	45	42	41	35	26	32	27	47	30	26	29	39	22	41	40

Table C. (continued)

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
							P	ercent								
ALL	Maternal age															
MOTHERS	<20	14.9	13.9	14.3	13.8	13.4	14.5	13.7	14.4	15.3	15.1	14.5	14.4	13.6	13.0	13.2
	20-34	75.7	77.3	76.1	76.8	76.1	74.3	74.6	73.9	72.8	73.7	72.3	72.3	72.1	72.6	72.1
	35+	9.4	8.8	9.6	9.4	10.5	11.2	11.6	11.7	11.8	11.2	13.2	13.3	14.2	14.4	14.7
	Place of birth															
	Hospital	97.6	97.5	98.0	97.3	97.8	96.3	96.8	97.0	98.5	97.3	97.8	97.2	97.4	97.5	96.8
	Non-hospital	2.4	2.5	2.0	2.7	2.2	3.7	3.2	3.0	1.5	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.2
	Type of labour onset															
	Spontanous	71.3	70.1	71.5	70.2	72.0	70.8	68.3	69.7	69.2	66.6	66.1	63.5	64.5	62.6	62.7
	Induced	20.5	19.9	18.3	19.7	17.6	18.5	20.5	19.1	20.3	21.1	20.6	22.3	20.4	21.0	22.0
	No labour	8.2	10.0	10.2	10.1	10.3	10.7	11.2	11.2	10.5	12.4	13.4	14.2	15.1	16.4	15.3
	Method of birth															
	Spontanous vaginal	72.2	72.1	72.9	72.5	73.8	73.4	70.7	72.5	71.4	68.8	68.6	63.8	62.7	62.3	62.7
	Vaginal breech	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8
	Forceps	6.8	4.6	3.8	4.5	5.3	4.1	4.8	3.9	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.0	1.8	2.1	1.7
	Ventouse	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.9	3.4	3.8	2.8	5.7	6.2	5.7	6.1
	Caesarean section	18.2	20.8	20.8	21.0	19.1	20.5	22.5	21.2	21.4	23.5	25.4	27.7	28.5	29.2	28.7
FIRST-TIME	Maternal age															
MOTHERS	<20	26.8	26.5	25.7	25.1	25.9	27.1	25.6	25.3	30.5	27.1	26.9	26.8	26.3	24.9	26.1
	20-34	68.4	68.8	69.5	70.0	68.2	66.8	67.4	66.9	62.5	65.5	64.9	64.5	63.8	65.2	64.9
	35+	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.9	6.1	7.0	7.8	7.0	7.4	8.3	8.7	9.9	9.9	9.0
BABIES	Plurality															
	Singleton	97.7	97.9	97.4	97.4	97.8	98.0	97.7	97.3	97.7	97.8	97.6	97.5	97.9	97.4	97.1
	Multiples	2.3	2.1	2.6	2.6	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.9
	Birthweight (g)															
	<1500	2.3	2.0	2.1	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.9	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.4
	1500-2499	8.5	6.8	7.0	7.1	8.0	8.3	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.2	7.0	8.5	7.4	7.8	7.9
	2500+	89.2	91.3	91.0	91.4	90.2	90.0	90.3	90.0	90.6	91.0	91.4	89.6	90.4	89.7	89.7
	Gestational age (weeks)															
	<28	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.0
	28-36	9.0	7.3	8.3	7.7	9.1	9.4	9.6	9.6	9.4	9.2	9.7	10.0	9.6	9.9	10.5
	37+	89.9	91.8	90.4	91.3	89.9	89.6	89.2	88.9	89.6	89.8	89.3	88.7	89.3	88.8	88.5
	Birth status															
	Livebirths	98.7	98.8	98.8	99.0	99.2	99.1	99.2	98.7	99.1	99.3	99.2	98.9	99.3	98.9	98.9
	Stillbirths	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.7	1.1	1.1

Note: Not stated category is not shown in each breakdown, therefore the sum of listed categories of each breakdown may not add to the total number.

Appendix 3. Northern Territory Estimated Resident Population

Table. Northern Territory Estimated Resident Population, by Indigenous status and sex, 2006

Age		Male			Female						
(years)	Indigenous	Non- Indigenous	Total	Indigenous	Non- Indigenous	Total	Total				
0 - 4	3982	5061	9043	3792	4854	8646	17689				
5 - 9	3874	4969	8843	3645	4574	8219	17062				
10 - 14	3673	4986	8659	3466	4650	8116	16775				
15 - 19	3374	4746	8120	3207	4205	7412	15532				
20 - 24	2994	5786	8780	3083	5199	8282	17062				
25 - 29	2546	6321	8867	2763	6099	8862	17729				
30 - 34	2478	6699	9177	2638	6272	8910	18087				
35 - 39	2223	6792	9015	2382	6184	8566	17581				
40 - 44	1854	6745	8599	1911	5879	7790	16389				
45 - 49	1491	6420	7911	1617	5760	7377	15288				
50 - 54	1104	5887	6991	1292	5162	6454	13445				
55 - 59	711	5401	6112	865	4098	4963	11075				
60 - 64	508	3527	4035	673	2466	3139	7174				
65 - 69	311	2178	2489	435	1433	1868	4357				
70 - 74	178	1086	1264	351	756	1107	2371				
75 +	213	1197	1410	370	1231	1601	3011				
Total	31514	77801	109315	32490	68822	101312	210627				

Glossary

Note: for a more comprehensive glossary please see Australia's Mothers and Babies 2006.¹

Age-specific fertility rate: The number of births per individual within a specific age interval during a specified time.

Appar score: numerical score used to indicate the baby's condition at one minute and five minutes after birth. Between 0 and 2 points are given for each of five characteristics; heart rate, breathing, colour, muscle tone and reflex irritability, and the total score is between 0 and 10.

Augmentation of labour: intervention after the onset of labour to assist the progress of labour.

Birth status: status of the baby immediately after birth.

Birthweight: the first weight of a baby (stillborn or live born) obtained after birth, measured to the nearest 5 grams and usually obtained within one hour of birth. Low weight births can be classified at the following levels:

- Low birthweight: less than 2500 grams
- Very low birthweight: less than 1500 grams
- Extremely low birthweight: less than 1000 grams.

Born before arrival: a term used for deliveries which occur before reaching the hospital.

Caesarean section: operative birth by surgical incision through the abdominal wall and uterus. It is often divided into two sub-categories:

- Elective caesarean section: A caesarean section (planned or unplanned) performed before the onset of labour, usually due to health risks to the mother or baby.
- Emergency caesarean section: A caesarean section performed after the onset of labour, whether or not the onset of labour was spontaneous.

Epidural: injection of anaesthetic agent into the epidural space of the spinal cord.

Episiotomy: an incision of the perineum and vagina to enlarge the vulval orifice.

Forceps: assisted birth using a metallic obstetric instrument.

First-time mother: also called primiparous mother, refers to a woman who is giving birth for the first time.

Gestational age: the duration of a pregnancy in completed weeks, calculated from the date of the first day of women's last menstrual period to her baby's date of birth. Each birth can be categorized, according to fetal gestational age, into:

- **Preterm baby:** A baby born before 37 completed weeks of gestation;
- Term baby: A baby born from 37 completed weeks up to 41 completed weeks of gestation; or
- **Post-term baby:** A baby born after 41 completed weeks of gestation.

Induction of labour: intervention to stimulate the onset of labour.

Instrumental birth: includes vaginal birth by forceps or ventouse (vacuum extraction).

Labour: the process by which the products of conception are expelled from the uterus via the birth canal.

Livebirth: the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a baby, irrespective of duration of pregnancy, which after separation shows signs of life.

Maternal age: mother's age in completed years at the birth of her baby.

Mother's length of hospital stay: number of days between admission date (during the admission resulting in a birth) and separation date (from the hospital where birth occurred). The interval is calculated by subtracting the date of admission from the date of separation.

Neonatal death: death of a live born baby within 28 days of birth.

Neonatal death rate: the neonatal deaths in a year per 1000 livebirths in that same year.

Parity: number of previous pregnancies resulting in livebirths or stillbirths, excluding the current pregnancy.

Perinatal death: a fetal or neonatal death of at least 20 weeks gestation or at least 400 grams birthweight.

Perinatal death rate: the sum of fetal deaths (stillbirths) and neonatal deaths in a year per 1000 total births in that same year.

Perineal status: status of the perineum after the birth. May involve surgical suturing of perineal laceration (tear) or episiotomy incision.

Plurality: the number of babies resulting from a pregnancy. According to plurality a pregnancy can be defined as either

- Singleton birth: with one baby; or
- Multiple birth: with more than one baby.

Presentation at birth: presenting part of the fetus at birth.

Resuscitation of baby: active measures taken shortly after birth to assist the baby's ventilation and heartbeat, or to treat depressed respiratory effort and to correct metabolic disturbances.

Spontaneous vaginal: birth without intervention in which the baby's head is the presenting part.

Stillbirth (Fetal death): death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception of 20 or more completed weeks of gestation or of 400 grams or more birthweight. The death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as

beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles.

Stillbirth rate: the number of fetal deaths (stillbirths) in a year per 1000 total births in that same year.

Teenage mother: mother aged less than 20 years at the birth of her baby.

Total fertility rate: a hypothetical measure of the number of livebirths a woman would have if, throughout her reproductive years, she had children at the age-specific rates that were observed in any one year.

Ventouse (Vacuum extraction): assisted birth using a suction cap applied to the baby's head.

Vaginal breech: vaginal birth in which the baby's buttocks or lower limbs are the presenting parts.

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