



Northern  
Territory  
Government

Northern Territory Midwives' Collection  
**Mothers and Babies 2011**



# Mothers and Babies 2011

Northern Territory Midwives' Collection

Fintan Thompson

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## Summary

This report summarises data from the 2011 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 2011. While the NT Midwives' Collection contains information on both NT residents and interstate residents who gave birth in the NT, the focus of this report is NT residents who gave birth in the NT. Unless otherwise stated, the following key findings are for NT residents.

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 2011, there were 3,845 babies born to 3,792 NT mothers, 36% of whom were Indigenous. In addition there were 84 interstate mothers who gave birth to 84 babies in the NT. The total number of births in the NT for this year was 3,929 babies born to 3,876 mothers.
- Indigenous women had a higher total fertility rate (TFR) than that reported for all Australian women during the same period (2.21 and 1.89 births per woman respectively). The TFR of non-Indigenous women (1.90) was comparable with the national rate.
- The mean age of Indigenous mothers (24.8 years) was five years younger than that of non-Indigenous mothers (29.8 years). A fifth of Indigenous mothers (20%) were less than 20 years of age.
- Non-Indigenous mothers were almost three times more likely to be in the oldest age group (35 years and over) than Indigenous mothers (21% and 8% respectively).
- A greater proportion of Indigenous mothers (26%) had three or more previous births compared with non-Indigenous mothers (8%). Similarly, a smaller proportion of Indigenous than non-Indigenous mothers (31% and 45% respectively) gave birth to their first baby.
- Indigenous mothers were more likely to have insufficient antenatal care (no antenatal visit or attended less than four visits) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (13% and 1% respectively).
- Eighty-two per cent of non-Indigenous mothers attended their first antenatal visit during their first trimester of pregnancy compared with 50% of Indigenous mothers.
- Indigenous mothers were four times more likely to report smoking during the first 20 weeks of pregnancy compared with non-Indigenous mothers (51% and 12% respectively).
- Onset of labour was induced for a quarter (24%) of all NT mothers.

- The majority of presentations were vertex (95%) while breech accounted for 4% and other presentations 1%.
- Fifty-nine per cent of all NT mothers had a spontaneous vaginal delivery and 9% had an assisted vaginal delivery. Of the assisted vaginal deliveries, the majority (8%) were instrumental deliveries using forceps or ventouse (vacuum suction) and the remainder were vaginal breech (less than 1%).
- Among those who gave birth vaginally, 38% had an intact perineum, while 48% had some degree of perineal laceration. The remainder had an episiotomy (13%) or a combination of episiotomy and tear (1%).
- Almost a third (32%) of all NT mothers had a caesarean section. Indigenous mothers were more likely to undergo a caesarean section for emergency reasons (69%) than non-Indigenous mothers (50%).
- The main reason for elective caesarean section births was a previous caesarean section (69%). The main reasons for emergency caesarean section births were failure to progress during labour (47%) and fetal distress (non-reassuring fetal status) (37%). Indigenous mothers were more likely to have an emergency caesarean section because of fetal distress than non-Indigenous mothers (43% and 33% respectively).
- Over half of all NT mothers (57%) stayed in hospital for three days or less following birth.
- Ten per cent of all NT live births were preterm (less than 37 weeks). The proportion of preterm babies born to Indigenous mothers was double that of preterm babies born to non-Indigenous mothers (16% and 7% respectively).
- Ten per cent of all NT live births were low in birthweight (less than 2500 grams). The proportion of low birthweight babies born to Indigenous mothers was more than double that of low birthweight babies born to non-Indigenous mothers (16% and 6% respectively).
- A small percentage of all NT full term (37 weeks and over) singleton live births were of low birthweight; 6% of those born to Indigenous mothers and 1% to non-Indigenous mothers.
- By five minutes after birth, 2% per cent of NT liveborn babies had an Apgar score below seven.
- Twenty-two per cent of all NT live births received some form of resuscitation, excluding tactile stimulation. Resuscitation rates were higher among Indigenous compared with non-Indigenous liveborn babies (27% and 20% respectively).
- There were 53 perinatal deaths comprising 27 fetal deaths (stillbirths) and 26 neonatal deaths. The overall Indigenous perinatal death rate was over two times that of the non-Indigenous rate (23.4 and 8.5 deaths per 1000 births respectively).

# Introduction

This report summarises data from the 2011 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 2011. The trend tables show changes over time for key demographic and obstetric indicators and birth outcomes over the period 1997–2011.

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.

## Information presented in this report

The NT Midwives' Collection contains information on both NT residents and interstate residents who gave birth in the NT. However, the focus of this report is NT residents who gave birth in the NT. Unless specified, mothers usually residing 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 2011 report published estimated numbers of NT women who gave birth interstate. It was estimated, in 2011, that up to 65 NT women gave birth interstate, predominantly in South Australia (31 births) and Queensland (20 births) with the balance spread between all remaining Australian jurisdictions, with the exception of Tasmania.<sup>1</sup> Indigenous status was not available for interstate births to NT women.

In this report the maternal Indigenous status was used during analysis of both mother and baby information. For information on labour and childbirth in the Mothers' section of this report, 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.<sup>2</sup>

## 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 public and private hospitals, planned home births, births in community health centres, and other non-hospital births. All live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths) of at least 20 weeks gestation or with a birthweight of at least 400 grams are included.



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 2011 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 onto 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 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 neonatal deaths and the NT Midwives' Collection for fetal deaths. The hospital morbidity dataset is also used as another source of data.

## 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 indications 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 the *Mothers and Babies* 2003 report,<sup>3</sup> the Health Gains Planning Branch commenced using the AIHW default position and 'not stated' data were excluded from calculation of percentage distributions. This approach differs from reports compiled prior to the 2003 report. In these reports, 'not stated' data were included as a percentage of the total in each table.

The effect of our change in approach is that the proportional distribution for certain data items, particularly alcohol consumption and/or smoking during pregnancy, is now markedly higher than previously reported. Comparative analyses involving reports published from 2003 and those published prior to 2003 will need to take this methodological change into account.

The data used in this report are limited to the health information available at the time of data entry. In instances where an antenatal record is incomplete or missing, the midwife entering information into the Birthing Suite Module of CareSys or the internet site of the NT Midwives' Collection is limited to the details at hand. Key antenatal indicators such as visit dates and health behaviours are most likely to be affected as this information is only recorded on antenatal records.

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 and babies have left the birthing suite.

The denominator population used to calculate fertility rates is the 2011 NT Estimated Resident Population based on the 2011 ABS Census of Population and Housing.

Because the NT population is small, when data are disaggregated by Indigenous status or region 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. When there is a risk of attributes about an individual being disclosed due to a small number of cases, relevant cells or tables are suppressed. In 2011 there were a total of four births at Tennant Creek Hospital and as a result a hospital profile has not been presented in Appendix 1.

A further issue with data disaggregated by region for the Indigenous population is difficulties individuals have identifying one usual place of residence.<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>5</sup> 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 91% 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.<sup>6</sup>

# Mothers and babies of the Northern Territory

## Mothers

### Place of residence

In 2011, a total of 3,876 mothers gave birth to 3,929 babies in the NT, of which 3,901 were live births. Among all babies born in the NT, most were born to mothers who were resident in the NT. There were 84 mothers from interstate who gave birth to 84 babies (2% of all babies born in the NT).

Indigenous mothers comprised 36% of all NT mothers in 2011. This is higher than the share of the NT female population of child-bearing age (i.e. 15-49 years) made up of Indigenous women. In 2011, Indigenous women comprised 31% of all NT women of child-bearing age (Appendix 3).

Most NT non-Indigenous mothers were living in urban areas (96%), 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 2.08 live births per woman in 2011, which is below the replacement rate of 2.1 births per woman and was higher than the 1.89 births per woman for the whole of Australia in the same period.<sup>7</sup> Non-Indigenous NT women had a lower TFR than Indigenous women (1.90 and 2.21 births per woman respectively).

This pattern of higher TFRs for Indigenous women compared with non-Indigenous women was seen in both urban and rural-remote areas and in all districts with the exception of Darwin Urban and East Arnhem. Katherine and Barkley districts had the highest TFR for all NT women, whilst Alice Springs Rural had the lowest (2.7 and 1.8 respectively).

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 with non-Indigenous women of the same age (81.6 and 17.8 births per 1,000 women respectively). Conversely, the fertility rate of the 35 and older age group was higher for non-Indigenous mothers compared with Indigenous mothers (28.2 and 15.9 respectively), despite a lower overall fertility rate.

### Maternal age

The mean age of Indigenous mothers was 24.8 years, which was five years younger than the mean age of 29.8 years for non-Indigenous mothers. This difference was due to the age profile of mothers. Fifty-four per cent of Indigenous mothers were aged less than 25 years, whereas just over half of non-Indigenous mothers were 30 years or older. A fifth (20%) of Indigenous mothers were less than 20 years of age at the time of giving birth, almost seven times higher than the 3% of non-Indigenous mothers. A more

marked difference was seen among mothers aged less than 18 years with 9% of all Indigenous mothers being in this age group, compared with only 0.7% of non-Indigenous mothers. In contrast, non-Indigenous mothers were almost three times more likely to be in the oldest age group (35 years and over) than Indigenous mothers (21% and 8% respectively). This pattern of markedly earlier childbearing among Indigenous mothers was seen in all health districts and in both urban and rural-remote areas.

Indigenous mothers in Barkly were more likely to have their children below age 20 (30%) compared with Indigenous mothers in other health districts where the proportion of young mothers (less than 20 years) was between 11% and 26%. Across the NT the proportion of young Indigenous mothers was lower in urban areas (16%) than in rural-remote areas (23%).

## 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 14% had three or more previous births. Forty per cent of women gave birth to their first child. First-time mothers were proportionally higher among non-Indigenous mothers (45%) than Indigenous mothers (31%). Similarly, proportionally more Indigenous women than non-Indigenous had three or more previous births (26% and 8% 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 (20 and 28 years respectively). The majority of non-Indigenous first-time mothers were aged 25 years or older (72%), whereas just over half (52%) of first-time Indigenous mothers were less than 20 years of age, and many were aged below 18 years of age (26%).

## Antenatal care

The vast majority of mothers had information on antenatal visits recorded. In just over 2% of records the date of first visit or frequency of visits were not recorded. The World Health Organisation classifies less than four antenatal visits during the whole pregnancy to be insufficient.<sup>8</sup> Among mothers for whom information was collected, Indigenous mothers in the NT were more likely to have insufficient antenatal care documented (no antenatal visit or attended less than four visits) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (13% and 1% respectively). Indigenous mothers living in urban areas were slightly more likely to have insufficient antenatal care compared with their counterparts in rural and remote areas (15% and 12% respectively).

It is important for maternal and fetal health for women to have their first antenatal visit within the first trimester of pregnancy.<sup>9</sup> In this report, first trimester is defined as gestational age less than fourteen weeks from conception. This definition is consistent with the National Indigenous Reform Agreement definition endorsed onto Australia's online repository for metadata standards (METeOR) in June 2013<sup>10</sup> and differs from NT perinatal reports published prior to 2013. In these reports, first trimester was defined as less than thirteen weeks.

In this report gestational age at the first antenatal visit was derived from three sources to determine the lowest valid gestational age. These sources were the date of the first antenatal visit, the date of the first ultrasound or the recorded gestational age at the time of the first ultrasound.

Compared with non-Indigenous mothers, Indigenous mothers were more likely to attend their first antenatal visit 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, 82% of non-Indigenous mothers attended their first visit during the first trimester of pregnancy. This proportion was much less for Indigenous mothers (50%). The proportion of Indigenous women attending a first antenatal visit in the first trimester was higher in urban areas than in rural-remote (56% and 46% respectively). Among non-Indigenous women, the proportion attending an antenatal visit in the first trimester was slightly higher in urban areas compared with remote (82% and 79% respectively).

### **Alcohol consumption during pregnancy**

Self-reported alcohol consumption during pregnancy is collected at the first antenatal visit and again at around 36 weeks gestation. Although the collection of this indicator has improved in recent years the proportion of missing data remains sizeable. In this report 8% of alcohol consumption data were missing at the first visit and 18% at 36 weeks. Missing data for alcohol consumption was more prevalent among the antenatal records of Indigenous mothers than non-Indigenous mothers. The prevalence of alcohol consumption reported below was calculated after removing missing data.

At first antenatal visit, 6% of all NT mothers reported drinking alcohol during pregnancy. The prevalence of alcohol consumption was higher in Indigenous mothers (13% at the first visit and 7% at 36 weeks gestation) than non-Indigenous mothers (3% and 1%, respectively).

### **Smoking status during pregnancy**

Smoking status during pregnancy is self-reported as having smoked during the first 20 weeks gestation and after 20 weeks gestation. These variables were introduced into the NT Midwives' Collection to ensure consistency with the method of collecting smoking information in the National Minimum Dataset. Using this method, the proportion of data with missing smoking status was 2% for the first 20 weeks of gestation and 10% for post 20 weeks gestation. Similar to alcohol consumption, the missing data for smoking status was more prevalent among the antenatal records of Indigenous mothers than non-Indigenous mothers. The prevalence of smoking during pregnancy reported below was calculated by removing missing data from the denominator.

Twenty-five per cent of NT mothers reported smoking during the first 20 weeks of pregnancy, a rate much higher than alcohol consumption. Indigenous mothers were four times more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to report smoking during the first 20 weeks (51% and 12% respectively). By post 20 weeks gestation, smoking prevalence dropped slightly for all mothers, although Indigenous mothers were still almost five times more likely to report smoking compared with non-Indigenous mothers (48% and 10% respectively). For Indigenous mothers, smoking prevalence during the first 20 weeks was comparable between urban and rural-remote areas (50% and 51% respectively). Among non-Indigenous mothers, those residing in rural-remote areas were twice as likely to report smoking during the first 20 weeks compared with their urban counterparts (21% and 11% respectively).

Among Indigenous mothers, those mothers living in Alice Springs Rural district had notably lower smoking rates than other districts (although smoking levels were still high with almost one quarter of mothers smoking during the first 20 weeks). This pattern of lower smoking in Alice Springs Rural is consistent with data from previous years and may be related to the local practice of chewing tobacco (pituri) in the region.<sup>11</sup>

## Birth facility

Nearly all NT births occurred in a hospital (97%). The majority of hospital births took place at one of the five public hospitals (81%) and the rest were in DPH, the only private hospital in the NT. Almost all mothers who gave birth in DPH were non-Indigenous (98%).

A small proportion of mothers (1%) had a planned homebirth and all were non-Indigenous. Four per cent of Indigenous mothers and less than 1% of non-Indigenous mothers had an unplanned non-hospital birth. Unplanned non-hospital births include births that occurred in either health centres, in transit to hospitals or in unintended locations, including unplanned births in the home. Health centres were the most common place for non-hospital births for Indigenous mothers. Darwin Rural health district had the largest proportion (7%) of non-hospital births, most of which occurred in health centres.

## Onset of labour and induction of labour

Spontaneous onset of labour occurred for 60% of all mothers; a quarter of mothers (24%) had induced labour and 16% had no labour. Non-Indigenous mothers were less likely to have spontaneous onset of labour than Indigenous mothers (57% and 65% respectively) but slightly more likely to have induction to initiate the labour or have no labour. Indigenous mothers were more likely to be administered prostaglandins for induction of labour than non-Indigenous mothers (44% and 38% respectively).

## Presentation and method of birth

Of all NT mothers giving birth in 2011, 59% had a spontaneous vaginal delivery (SVD). Indigenous mothers were more likely to have a SVD than non-Indigenous mothers (64% and 57% respectively). Almost a third (32%) of births were performed by caesarean section. Non-Indigenous mothers were more likely to have a caesarean section than Indigenous mothers (33% and 30% respectively). Among all hospitals in the NT, DPH had the highest proportion of caesarean section births (47%) and the lowest proportion of spontaneous vaginal births (42%).

Instrumental deliveries using forceps or ventouse (vacuum suction) in childbirth accounted for 8% of births and were more common among non-Indigenous mothers (10%) than Indigenous mothers (6%). Vaginal breech accounted for less than 1% of all births.

The majority of presentations were vertex (95%) while breech accounted for 4% and other presentations 1%. Caesarean section was the most common birth method for breech presentations, except for very preterm births (less than 28 weeks) which were mostly delivered vaginally.

Among mothers who had a caesarean section, Indigenous mothers were much more likely to undergo the procedure for emergency reasons (69%) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (50%). The primary reason for elective caesarean section births was previous caesarean section (69%). The main reasons for emergency caesarean section included: failure to progress during labour (47%), fetal distress (non-reassuring fetal status) (37%) and malpresentation (9%). Indigenous mothers were more likely to have an emergency caesarean section because of fetal distress than non-Indigenous mothers (43% and 33% respectively), whereas failure to progress was a more common indicator for emergency caesareans among non-Indigenous mothers compared with Indigenous mothers (51% and 41% 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 (78%). Analgesia use was slightly higher among non-Indigenous mothers than Indigenous mothers (80% and 76% respectively).

Anaesthesia was applied in the vast majority of operative births, including births using forceps or ventouse or via caesarean section. Non-Indigenous women were more likely than Indigenous women to have an epidural or caudal anaesthesia (24% and 17% respectively). By contrast, there was higher use of spinal anaesthesia among Indigenous women than non-Indigenous women (64% and 59% respectively). General anaesthesia was administered for 10% of Indigenous women having operative births and 6% of non-Indigenous women.

## **Complications due to pregnancy and/or childbirth**

This report presents information on a selection of pregnancy and/or childbirth complications. Half of all NT mothers (51%) experienced one of these complications. Indigenous mothers were more likely to have a complication than non-Indigenous mothers (59% and 47% respectively). Post-partum haemorrhage was the most common complication for Indigenous mothers (17%) and fetal distress for non-Indigenous mothers (13%). Indigenous mothers had higher rates of gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus (9% and 4% respectively) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (6% and less than one per cent respectively). Pre-eclampsia was higher among Indigenous mothers compared with non-Indigenous mothers (6% and 2% respectively).

## **Perineal status**

Thirty-eight per cent of all mothers who gave birth vaginally had an intact perineum after childbirth, while 48% had some degree of perineal laceration. A small proportion (3%) had a third or fourth degree tear. Episiotomy was performed on 13% of women. Indigenous mothers were more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to have an intact perineum (47% and 33% respectively).

## **Postnatal hospital stay**

The majority of mothers who gave birth in hospital also stayed in hospital following the birth for one day or more (93%). Most stays were for less than one week and only 4% of women stayed for eight or more days. The average length of stay was 3.4 days.

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 section was 1.5 days longer for Indigenous mothers compared with non-Indigenous mothers. The overall average length of stay for all birth methods was only slightly longer among Indigenous mothers compared with non-Indigenous mothers (3.9 days and 3.2 days respectively).

## Babies

### Birth status

In 2011, a total of 3,929 babies were born in the NT. Of these, 84 were born to mothers who were not NT residents. Of the 3,845 babies born to NT mothers, 27 were fetal deaths and 3,818 were live births. The proportion Indigenous fetal deaths (1.2%) was three times that of non-Indigenous fetal deaths (0.4%). Most fetal deaths (70%) had extremely low birthweight of less than 1000 grams. Similarly, two thirds (67%) were very preterm, being born before 28 weeks gestation.

### Plurality

There were 53 twin births in 2011. Multiple births were comparable among Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers (1.4% respectively).

### Preterm and low birthweight liveborn babies

Altogether there were 397 (10%) preterm live births (gestational age less than 37 weeks). Proportionally there were twice as many preterm babies born to Indigenous mothers (16%) than to non-Indigenous mothers (7%). Twenty one of the 31 babies in the very preterm category (less than 28 weeks gestation) were born to Indigenous mothers.

Of all liveborn babies, 10% were low birthweight (less than 2500 grams). Babies of Indigenous mothers (16%) were more than twice as likely to have a low birthweight as babies of non-Indigenous mothers (6%). 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 with 1% of babies born to non-Indigenous mothers. In each district, Indigenous mothers were more likely to have low birthweight babies than non-Indigenous mothers.

Among full term (37 weeks and over) singleton liveborn babies, 6% of those born to Indigenous mothers were of low birthweight compared with 1% born to non-Indigenous mothers. For those born preterm (28-36 weeks gestation) the proportion of babies at least 2500 grams in weight was comparable between Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers (42% and 43% respectively).

### Apgar scores

An Apgar score is a clinical indicator of the condition of the baby at birth. Five physical signs are each assigned a score of 0, 1 or 2, and the highest total Apgar score is 10. A score of 7-10 indicates a healthy baby.<sup>1</sup> By five minutes after birth 2% of all NT liveborn babies had an Apgar score below seven, and for Indigenous and non-Indigenous babies the proportions were 3.3% and 1.5% respectively.

### Resuscitation of liveborn babies

Twenty-two per cent of babies born alive received some form of resuscitation, excluding tactile stimulation. Resuscitation rates were higher among Indigenous compared with non-Indigenous liveborn babies (27% and 20% respectively). The most common methods of resuscitation were intermittent positive pressure ventilation (IPPV) (9%), suction only (6%) and facial oxygen only (5%). Methods such as intubation or external cardiac massage and ventilation (1%) were uncommon.



## **Perinatal mortality**

Perinatal mortality includes fetal deaths (stillbirths) and neonatal deaths. Neonatal mortality refers to a death of a liveborn baby within 28 days of birth. In 2011 there were 53 perinatal deaths in the NT comprising 27 fetal deaths and 26 neonatal deaths. There were a higher number of fetal deaths to Indigenous mothers compared with non-Indigenous mothers (16 and 11 respectively). For the 26 neonatal deaths, 16 were Indigenous and 10 non-Indigenous. The overall Indigenous perinatal death rate was over two times that of the non-Indigenous rate (23.4 and 8.5 deaths per 1000 births respectively).

# Statistical tables

## Mothers

Table 1. Total births in the NT, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, 2011

District	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Mothers	Babies	Mothers	Babies	Mothers	Babies
Darwin Urban	218	220	1775	1804	1995	2026
Darwin Rural	270	276	55	56	325	332
Katherine	274	279	144	146	418	425
East Arnhem	174	176	82	82	257	259
Barkly	117	118	30	30	147	148
Alice Springs Urban	118	120	337	339	455	459
Alice Springs Rural	178	179	17	17	195	196
<b>NT total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>3845</b>
Non NT	63	63	21	21	84	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>1412</b>	<b>1431</b>	<b>2461</b>	<b>2495</b>	<b>3876</b>	<b>3929</b>

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown. These mothers and their babies were only included in the count of All.

Table 2. Summary statistics, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011

		Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>ALL</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>						
	<20	272	20.2	74	3.0	346	9.1
	20-34	972	72.1	1852	75.9	2827	74.6
	35+	105	7.8	514	21.1	619	16.3
	<b>Place of birth</b>						
	Hospital	1297	96.1	2385	97.7	3685	97.2
	Non-hospital	52	3.9	55	2.3	107	2.8
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>						
	Spontaneous	872	64.6	1398	57.3	2270	59.9
	Induced	300	22.2	608	24.9	910	24.0
	No labour	177	13.1	434	17.8	612	16.1
	<b>Method of birth</b>						
	Spontaneous vaginal	864	64.0	1379	56.5	2245	59.2
	Vaginal breech	6	0.4	7	0.3	13	0.3
	Forceps	22	1.6	96	3.9	118	3.1
	Ventouse	57	4.2	146	6.0	203	5.4
	Caesarean section	400	29.7	812	33.3	1213	32.0
<b>FIRST-TIME</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>418</b>		<b>1094</b>		<b>1512</b>	
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>						
	<20	218	52.2	67	6.1	285	18.8
	20-34	195	46.7	875	80.0	1070	70.8
	35+	5	1.2	152	13.9	157	10.4
<b>TOTAL FERTILITY RATE</b>		<b>2.21</b>		<b>1.90</b>		<b>2.08</b>	

Notes:

(1) The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

(2) Total fertility rate is the average number of births per woman over her life time if she experienced the age-specific rates seen in 2011.

**Table 3. Area of usual residence, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

Area	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Urban area	486	36.0	2336	95.7	2825	74.5
Rural/remote area	863	64.0	104	4.3	967	25.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

(1) 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.

(2) The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 4. District and area of usual residence, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

District	Area	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Darwin Urban		218	16.2	1775	72.7	1995	52.6
Darwin Rural		270	20.0	55	2.3	325	8.6
Katherine	Urban	86	6.4	125	5.1	211	5.6
	Rural/remote	188	13.9	19	0.8	207	5.5
East Arnhem	Urban	4	0.3	72	3.0	77	2.0
	Rural/remote	170	12.6	10	0.4	180	4.7
Barkly	Urban	60	4.4	27	1.1	87	2.3
	Rural/remote	57	4.2	3	0.1	60	1.6
Alice Springs Urban		118	8.7	337	13.8	455	12.0
Alice Springs Rural		178	13.2	17	0.7	195	5.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>1349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 5. Total fertility rate, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, NT mothers, 2011**

District	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
Darwin Urban	1.8	1.9	1.9
Darwin Rural	2.4	2.3	2.5
Katherine	3.0	2.1	2.7
East Arnhem	1.7	1.9	1.9
Barkly	2.8	2.0	2.7
Alice Springs Urban	2.3	1.9	2.1
Alice Springs Rural	2.0	0.7	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>

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 2011.

**Table 6. Total fertility rate, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2011**

Remoteness	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
Urban area	2.3	1.9	2.0
Rural/remote area	2.2	1.4	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>

Notes:

(1) Total fertility rate is the average number of births per woman over her life time if she experienced the age-specific rates seen in 2011.

(2) 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, 2011**

Indigenous status	Age specific fertility rate (births per 1000)			Total fertility rate
	<20 years	20-34 years	35+ years	
Indigenous	81.6	108.7	15.9	2.2
Non-Indigenous	17.8	95.2	28.2	1.9
<b>All NT</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>2.1</b>

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, 2011**

Maternal age (years)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<16	34	2.5	3	0.1	37	1.0
16-17	85	6.3	15	0.6	100	2.6
18-19	153	11.3	56	2.3	209	5.5
20-24	450	33.4	370	15.2	820	21.6
25-29	338	25.1	725	29.7	1066	28.1
30-34	184	13.6	757	31.0	941	24.8
35-44	105	7.8	513	21.0	618	16.3
45+	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>24.8</b>		<b>29.8</b>		<b>28.0</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 9. Maternal age, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, NT mothers, 2011**

District	Maternal age (years)			Total
	<20 %	20-34 %	35+ %	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	11.0	79.8	9.2	218
Darwin Rural	17.8	73.7	8.5	270
Katherine	19.7	71.9	8.4	274
East Arnhem	24.1	71.3	4.6	174
Barkly	29.9	65.8	4.3	117
Alice Springs Urban	18.6	70.3	11.0	118
Alice Springs Rural	26.4	66.3	7.3	178
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>1349</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	3.4	75.5	21.1	1775
Darwin Rural	1.8	76.4	21.8	55
Katherine	4.9	81.3	13.9	144
East Arnhem	1.2	75.6	23.2	82
Barkly	0.0	80.0	20.0	30
Alice Springs Urban	1.5	75.1	23.4	337
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	82.4	17.6	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>2440</b>
<b>All NT</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>74.5</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>3792</b>

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 10. Maternal age, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2011**

Area	Maternal age (years)			Total
	<20 %	20-34 %	35+ %	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	15.6	76.1	8.2	486
Rural/remote area	22.7	69.8	7.5	863
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>1349</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	3.0	75.8	21.1	2336
Rural/remote area	2.9	77.9	19.2	104
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>2440</b>

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, 2011

Parity	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	418	31.0	1094	44.8	1512	39.9
1-2	576	42.7	1161	47.6	1739	45.9
3+	355	26.3	185	7.6	541	14.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

(1) Parity is the number of previous births a woman has had of at least 20 weeks duration.

(2) The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

Table 12. Maternal age, by Indigenous status, NT first-time mothers, 2011

Maternal age (years)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<16	34	8.1	3	0.3	37	2.4
16-17	76	18.2	14	1.3	90	6.0
18-19	108	25.8	50	4.6	158	10.4
20-24	141	33.7	234	21.4	375	24.8
25-29	40	9.6	344	31.4	384	25.4
30-34	14	3.3	297	27.1	311	20.6
35+	5	1.2	152	13.9	157	10.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1094</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<i>Mean age (years)</i>	<b>20.3</b>		<b>28.2</b>		<b>26.0</b>	

Table 13. Antenatal visits, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011

Number of antenatal visits	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	35	2.7	2	0.1	37	1.0
1 - 3	136	10.6	32	1.3	168	4.5
4 - 7	444	34.6	445	18.4	890	24.0
8 & more	667	52.0	1945	80.2	2614	70.5
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1282</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2424</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3709</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	67		16		83	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 14. Antenatal visits, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2011**

District	Number of antenatal visits				Total stated	Not stated	Total
	0	1 - 3	4 - 7	8+			
	%	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Darwin Urban	3.9	11.7	44.2	40.3	206	12	218
Darwin Rural	1.5	4.5	31.8	62.1	264	6	270
Katherine	1.6	8.9	25.5	64.0	247	27	274
East Arnhem	3.7	11.7	25.2	59.5	163	11	174
Barkly	4.3	11.3	43.5	40.9	115	2	117
Alice Springs Urban	2.6	13.0	37.4	47.0	115	3	118
Alice Springs Rural	2.9	18.0	41.9	37.2	172	6	178
<b>Total</b>	2.7	10.6	34.6	52.0	1282	67	1349

**Table 15. Antenatal visits, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2011**

Area	Number of antenatal visits				Total stated	Not stated	Total
	0	1 - 3	4 - 7	8+			
	%	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>							
Urban area	3.3	12.0	37.4	47.3	457	29	486
Rural/remote area	2.4	9.8	33.1	54.7	825	38	863
<b>Total</b>	2.7	10.6	34.6	52.0	1282	67	1349
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>							
Urban area	0.1	1.3	17.9	80.7	2320	16	2336
Rural/remote area	0.0	1.9	27.9	70.2	104	0	104
<b>Total</b>	0.1	1.3	18.4	80.2	2424	16	2440

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, 2011**

Gestation at first antenatal visit	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
First trimester	654	50.0	1986	81.9	2643	70.7
Second trimester	490	37.5	397	16.4	887	23.7
Third trimester	164	12.5	42	1.7	206	5.5
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1308</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2425</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3736</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	41		15		56	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	

Notes:

- (1) First trimester is less than 14 weeks gestation; second trimester is 14-26 weeks gestation; third trimester is 27 weeks or more gestation.  
 (2) The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 17. Gestation at first antenatal visit, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers with at least one visit, 2011**

District	Gestation at first antenatal visit			Total stated	Not stated	Total
	First trimester	Second trimester	Third trimester			
	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Darwin Urban	55.6	35.3	9.2	207	11	218
Darwin Rural	45.5	43.9	10.6	264	6	270
Katherine	58.4	31.6	10.0	269	5	274
East Arnhem	39.5	46.1	14.4	167	7	174
Barkly	38.9	40.7	20.4	113	4	117
Alice Springs Urban	62.1	26.7	11.2	116	2	118
Alice Springs Rural	46.5	36.0	17.4	172	6	178
<b>Total</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>1308</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1349</b>

Note: First trimester is less than 14 weeks gestation; second trimester is 14-26 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, 2011**

Area	Gestation at first antenatal visit			Total stated	Not stated	Total
	First trimester	Second trimester	Third trimester			
	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>						
Urban area	56.4	31.3	12.3	470	16	486
Rural/remote area	46.4	40.9	12.6	838	25	863
<b>Total</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>1308</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1349</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
Urban area	82.0	16.2	1.7	2322	14	2336
Rural/remote area	78.6	19.4	1.9	103	1	104
<b>Total</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2425</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2440</b>

Notes:

(1) First trimester is less than 14 weeks gestation; second trimester is 14-26 weeks gestation; third trimester is 27 weeks or more gestation.

(2) 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, 2011**

	Alcohol consumption	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>At first visit</b>	Alcohol	148	12.5	73	3.2	221	6.3
	No alcohol	1034	87.5	2226	96.8	3262	93.7
	<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2299</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3483</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	Not stated	167		141		309	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	
<b>At 36 Weeks</b>	Alcohol	73	7.1	31	1.5	104	3.3
	No alcohol	962	92.9	2042	98.5	3006	96.7
	<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1035</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3110</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	Not stated	314		367		682	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 20. Self-reported smoking status, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

	Smoking status	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>First 20 weeks</b>	Smoking	656	50.6	278	11.6	934	25.3
	Non-smoking	640	49.4	2122	88.4	2764	74.7
	<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1296</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2400</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3698</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	Not stated	53		40		94	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	
<b>After 20 weeks</b>	Smoking	570	47.7	213	9.6	783	22.9
	Non-smoking	625	52.3	2012	90.4	2639	77.1
	<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1195</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2225</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3422</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	Not stated	154		215		370	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

Table 21. Self-reported smoking status, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2011

Area	Smoking %	Non-smoking %	Total stated Number	Not stated Number	Total Number
<b>Smoking during first 20 weeks</b>					
<b>Indigenous</b>					
Urban area	50.1	49.9	<b>467</b>	19	<b>486</b>
Rural/remote area	50.9	49.1	<b>829</b>	34	<b>863</b>
<b>Total</b>	50.6	49.4	<b>1296</b>	53	<b>1349</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>					
Urban area	11.2	88.8	<b>2298</b>	38	<b>2336</b>
Rural/remote area	20.6	79.4	<b>102</b>	2	<b>104</b>
<b>Total</b>	11.6	88.4	<b>2400</b>	40	<b>2440</b>
<b>Smoking after 20 weeks</b>					
<b>Indigenous</b>					
Urban area	45.2	54.8	<b>425</b>	61	<b>486</b>
Rural/remote area	49.1	50.9	<b>770</b>	93	<b>863</b>
<b>Total</b>	47.7	52.3	<b>1195</b>	154	<b>1349</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>					
Urban area	9.4	90.6	<b>2131</b>	205	<b>2336</b>
Rural/remote area	12.8	87.2	<b>94</b>	10	<b>104</b>
<b>Total</b>	9.6	90.4	<b>2225</b>	215	<b>2440</b>

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, 2011**

District	Smoking	Non-smoking	Total stated	Not stated	Total
	%	%	Number	Number	Number
<b>Smoking during first 20 weeks</b>					
Darwin Urban	47.1	52.9	<b>208</b>	10	<b>218</b>
Darwin Rural	60.0	40.0	<b>260</b>	10	<b>270</b>
Katherine	57.2	42.8	<b>264</b>	10	<b>274</b>
East Arnhem	61.8	38.2	<b>165</b>	9	<b>174</b>
Barkly	43.2	56.8	<b>111</b>	6	<b>117</b>
Alice Springs Urban	50.4	49.6	<b>115</b>	3	<b>118</b>
Alice Springs Rural	24.9	75.1	<b>173</b>	5	<b>178</b>
<b>Total</b>	50.6	49.4	<b>1296</b>	53	<b>1349</b>
<b>Smoking after 20 weeks</b>					
Darwin Urban	43.4	56.6	<b>182</b>	36	<b>218</b>
Darwin Rural	58.0	42.0	<b>243</b>	27	<b>270</b>
Katherine	53.6	46.4	<b>248</b>	26	<b>274</b>
East Arnhem	59.0	41.0	<b>156</b>	18	<b>174</b>
Barkly	40.2	59.8	<b>102</b>	15	<b>117</b>
Alice Springs Urban	44.9	55.1	<b>107</b>	11	<b>118</b>
Alice Springs Rural	22.9	77.1	<b>157</b>	21	<b>178</b>
<b>Total</b>	47.7	52.3	<b>1195</b>	154	<b>1349</b>

**Table 23. Actual place of giving birth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

Actual place of giving birth	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
RDH	602	44.6	1019	41.8	1621	42.7
RDH Birth Centre	14	1.0	103	4.2	117	3.1
DPH	8	0.6	704	28.9	715	18.9
GDH	94	7.0	75	3.1	169	4.5
KH	170	12.6	126	5.2	296	7.8
TCH	4	0.3	0	0.0	4	0.1
ASH	405	30.0	358	14.7	763	20.1
Health centres	35	2.6	1	0.0	36	0.9
Planned homes	0	0.0	40	1.6	40	1.1
Others*	17	1.3	14	0.6	31	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

(1) 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).

(2) The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

\* Others include births that occurred in transit to hospitals and in unintended locations, including unplanned births in the home.

**Table 24. Actual place of giving birth, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2011**

District	Actual place of giving birth			Total
	Hospital	Health centres	Others*	Number
	%	%	%	
Darwin Urban	98.2	0.5	1.4	<b>218</b>
Darwin Rural	93.3	5.9	0.7	<b>270</b>
Katherine	96.0	2.2	1.8	<b>274</b>
East Arnhem	94.3	2.9	2.9	<b>174</b>
Barkly	99.1	0.0	0.9	<b>117</b>
Alice Springs Urban	99.2	0.8	0.0	<b>118</b>
Alice Springs Rural	96.1	3.4	0.6	<b>178</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1349</b>

\* Others include births that occurred in transit to hospitals and in unintended locations, including unplanned births in the home.

**Table 25. Type of labour onset, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

Type of labour onset	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Spontaneous	872	64.6	1398	57.3	2270	59.9
Induced	300	22.2	608	24.9	910	24.0
No labour	177	13.1	434	17.8	612	16.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 26. Method of induction, by Indigenous status, NT mothers with induced onset of labour, 2011**

Method of induction	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
ARM	201	67.0	450	74.0	653	71.8
Oxytocics	234	78.0	457	75.2	693	76.2
Prostaglandins	131	43.7	234	38.5	365	40.1
Other methods	13	4.3	11	1.8	24	2.6
Not stated	0	0.0	1	0.2	1	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>		<b>608</b>		<b>910</b>	

Notes:

(1) Multiple methods may be applied to one mother.

(2) ARM stands for artificial rupture of membranes.

(3) The Indigenous status of two mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 27. Birth presentation, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

Presentation at birth	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Vertex	1265	94.3	2331	95.7	3598	95.1
Breech	59	4.4	86	3.5	145	3.8
Face	2	0.1	3	0.1	5	0.1
Brow	5	0.4	3	0.1	8	0.2
Other	11	0.8	14	0.6	26	0.7
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2437</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3782</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	7		3		10	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 28. Method of birth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

Method of birth	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Spontaneous vaginal	864	64.0	1379	56.5	2245	59.2
Vaginal breech	6	0.4	7	0.3	13	0.3
Forceps	22	1.6	96	3.9	118	3.1
Ventouse	57	4.2	146	6.0	203	5.4
Caesarean - elective	123	9.1	408	16.7	532	14.0
Caesarean - emergency	277	20.5	404	16.6	681	18.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 29. Method of birth, by type of labour onset, NT mothers, 2011**

Type of labour onset	Method of birth				Total Number
	Spontaneous vaginal	Assisted vaginal	Caesarean-elective	Caesarean-emergency	
	%	%	%	%	
Spontaneous	74.4	9.3	1.8	14.5	<b>2270</b>
Induced	61.1	13.4	0.0	25.5	<b>910</b>
No labour	0.0	0.0	80.4	19.6	<b>612</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>3792</b>

\* Assisted vaginal births include vaginal breech, forceps and ventouse.

**Table 30. Method of birth, by gestational age, NT mothers with breech presentation, 2011**

Gestational age (weeks)	Method of birth								Total Number
	Spontaneous vaginal		Vaginal breech		Caesarean-elective		Caesarean-emergency		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
<28	6	37.5	5	31.3	0	0.0	5	31.3	16
28-36	1	2.9	4	11.4	5	14.3	25	71.4	35
37+	0	0.0	4	4.3	67	71.3	23	24.5	94
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>145</b>

Table 31. Method of birth, by hospital, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2011

Hospital	Method of birth						Total
	Spontaneous vaginal	Vaginal breech	Forceps	Ventouse	Caesarean elective	Caesarean emergency	Number
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
RDH	58.5	0.5	3.2	6.5	12.3	19.1	1738
DPH	41.8	0.0	6.6	4.8	29.7	17.2	715
GDH	73.4	0.0	0.6	3.6	8.9	13.6	169
KH	65.2	0.0	1.7	4.4	6.4	22.3	296
TCH	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4
ASH	65.9	0.4	1.3	4.8	9.6	18.0	763
<b>All hospitals</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>3685</b>

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 32. Indications for caesarean section, by Indigenous status, NT mothers giving birth via caesarean section, 2011

Indications for caesarean section	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Elective caesarean</b>						
Previous caesarean <sup>1</sup>	90	73.2	275	67.6	365	68.7
Malpresentation <sup>1</sup>	18	14.6	44	10.8	62	11.7
Other <sup>2</sup>	18	14.6	93	22.9	112	21.1
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	0		1		1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>		<b>408</b>		<b>532</b>	
<b>Emergency caesarean</b>						
Failure to progress <sup>1</sup>	104	40.6	200	50.6	304	46.7
Fetal distress <sup>1</sup>	110	43.0	132	33.4	242	37.2
Malpresentation <sup>1</sup>	28	10.9	30	7.6	58	8.9
Ante-partum haemorrhage <sup>1</sup>	13	5.1	16	4.1	29	4.5
Cord prolapse <sup>1</sup>	3	1.2	3	0.8	6	0.9
Other <sup>3</sup>	39	15.2	57	14.4	96	14.7
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	21		9		30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>277</b>		<b>404</b>		<b>681</b>	

Notes:

(1) Multiple indications may be present in one mother.

(2) Previous caesarean and malpresentation are not included in the count of Other Indications for elective caesareans.

(3) Failure to progress, fetal distress, malpresentation, ante-partum haemorrhage and cord prolapse are not included in the count of Other Indications for emergency caesareans.

(4) The Indigenous status of one mother who had an elective caesarean was unknown. This mother was only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 33. Method of analgesia, by Indigenous status, NT mothers with spontaneous or induced onset of labour, 2011**

Analgesia: highest rank of method used	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Nitrous oxide	426	37.3	638	32.2	1066	34.1
Narcotics	217	19.0	313	15.8	530	17.0
Epidural/Caudal	146	12.8	458	23.1	604	19.3
Spinal and epidural	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.0
Other	77	6.7	173	8.7	250	8.0
None	276	24.2	398	20.1	674	21.6
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1142</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3125</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	30		25		55	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1172</b>		<b>2006</b>		<b>3180</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of two mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 34. Method of anaesthesia, by Indigenous status, NT mothers having operative birth, 2011**

Anaesthesia: highest rank of method used	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Local	27	5.7	50	4.8	77	5.0
Pudendal	7	1.5	18	1.7	25	1.6
Epidural/Caudal	80	16.8	250	23.8	330	21.6
Spinal	307	64.4	614	58.5	922	60.4
Spinal and Epidural	0	0.0	14	1.3	14	0.9
General	47	9.9	60	5.7	107	7.0
Other	0	0.0	3	0.3	3	0.2
None	9	1.9	40	3.8	49	3.2
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1049</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1527</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	2		5		7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>479</b>		<b>1054</b>		<b>1534</b>	

Notes:

(1) Operative birth methods include forceps, ventouse and caesarean section.

(2) The Indigenous status of one mother was unknown and this mother was only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 35. Complications due to pregnancy and/or childbirth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2011**

Type of complication	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Pregnancy</b>						
Gestational diabetes mellitus*	118	8.7	147	6.0	265	7.0
Pre-existing diabetes mellitus*	53	3.9	10	0.4	63	1.7
Pre-eclampsia*	80	5.9	55	2.3	135	3.6
<b>Labour/childbirth</b>						
Cord prolapse*	4	0.3	3	0.1	7	0.2
Fetal distress	212	15.7	308	12.6	520	13.7
Manual removal of placenta*	34	2.5	22	0.9	56	1.5
Meconium stained liquor	194	14.4	299	12.3	493	13.0
Obstructed labour	129	9.6	260	10.7	389	10.3
Post-partum haemorrhage*	236	17.5	279	11.4	515	13.6
Other	175	13.0	240	9.8	415	10.9
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>1137</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>1936</b>	<b>51.1</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>1349</b>		<b>2440</b>		<b>3792</b>	

Notes:

(1) Mothers may have more than one complication.

(2) Pre-eclampsia includes hypertension in pregnancy.

(3) Other complications include ante-partum haemorrhage as well as other unclassified complications.

(4) The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

\* indicates validated data items

**Table 36. State of the perineum, by Indigenous status, NT mothers having vaginal birth, 2011**

State of the perineum	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Intact	443	47.1	530	33.0	975	38.3
1st degree tear	182	19.4	361	22.5	543	21.3
2nd degree tear	202	21.5	396	24.6	598	23.5
3rd-4th degree tear	23	2.4	53	3.3	76	3.0
Episiotomy	83	8.8	244	15.2	327	12.8
Combined episiotomy & tear	7	0.7	23	1.4	30	1.2
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1607</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2549</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	9		21		30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>949</b>		<b>1628</b>		<b>2579</b>	

Notes:

(1) Vaginal birth methods include spontaneous vaginal, vaginal breech, forceps and ventouse.

(2) The Indigenous status of two mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 37. Length of postnatal hospital stay, by Indigenous status, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2011**

Length of postnatal stay (days)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	47	3.6	223	9.4	270	7.3
1 - 3	686	52.9	1129	47.3	1815	49.3
4 - 7	467	36.0	971	40.7	1441	39.1
8 & more	97	7.5	62	2.6	159	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1297</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2385</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3685</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: The Indigenous status of three mothers was unknown and these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.



**Table 38. Average length of postnatal hospital stay, by Indigenous status and method of birth, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2011**

Method of birth	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
	Average length (days) of postnatal stay		
Spontaneous vaginal	3.0	2.3	2.6
Assisted vaginal	4.0	3.4	3.6
Caesarean - elective	4.4	4.5	4.5
Caesarean - emergency	6.2	4.7	5.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>

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, 2011

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>BIRTHS TO NT RESIDENTS</b>						
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	1352	98.8	2463	99.6	3818	99.3
Stillborn	16	1.2	11	0.4	27	0.7
<b>Baby's sex</b>						
Male	709	51.8	1285	51.9	1995	51.9
Female	659	48.2	1189	48.1	1850	48.1
<b>Plurality</b>						
Singleton	1330	97.2	2406	97.3	3739	97.2
Multiple	38	2.8	68	2.7	106	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1368</b>		<b>2474</b>		<b>3845</b>	
<b>BIRTHS TO NON-NT RESIDENTS</b>						
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	62	98.4	21	100.0	83	98.8
Stillborn	1	1.6	0	0.0	1	1.2
<b>Baby's sex</b>						
Male	28	44.4	8	38.1	36	42.9
Female	35	55.6	13	61.9	48	57.1
<b>Plurality</b>						
Singleton	63	100.0	21	100.0	84	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>		<b>21</b>		<b>84</b>	
<b>ALL BIRTHS</b>						
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	1414	98.8	2484	99.6	3901	99.3
Stillborn	17	1.2	11	0.4	28	0.7
<b>Baby's sex</b>						
Male	737	51.5	1293	51.8	2031	51.7
Female	694	48.5	1202	48.2	1898	48.3
<b>Plurality</b>						
Singleton	1393	97.3	2427	97.3	3823	97.3
Multiple	38	2.7	68	2.7	106	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1431</b>		<b>2495</b>		<b>3929</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of the mothers of three babies was unknown. The babies of these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 40. Area of mother's usual residence, by maternal Indigenous status, NT babies, 2011**

Area	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Urban area	492	36.0	2369	95.8	2864	74.5
Rural/remote area	876	64.0	105	4.2	981	25.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3845</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

(1) 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.

(2) The Indigenous status of the mothers of three babies was unknown. The babies of these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 41. District and area of mother's usual residence, by maternal Indigenous status, NT babies, 2011**

District	Area	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Darwin Urban		220	16.1	1804	72.9	2026	52.7
Darwin Rural		276	20.2	56	2.3	332	8.6
Katherine	Urban	88	6.4	127	5.1	215	5.6
	Rural/remote	191	14.0	19	0.8	210	5.5
East Arnhem	Urban	4	0.3	72	2.9	77	2.0
	Rural/remote	172	12.6	10	0.4	182	4.7
Barkly	Urban	60	4.4	27	1.1	87	2.3
	Rural/remote	58	4.2	3	0.1	61	1.6
Alice Springs Urban		120	8.8	339	13.7	459	11.9
Alice Springs Rural		179	13.1	17	0.7	196	5.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>1368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3845</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

(1) 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.

(2) The Indigenous status of the mothers of three babies was unknown. The babies of these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

Table 42. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and birth status, NT babies, 2011

Gestational age (weeks)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Fetal deaths</b>						
<28	10	62.5	8	72.7	18	66.7
28 - 36	3	18.8	1	9.1	4	14.8
37 - 41	2	12.5	2	18.2	4	14.8
42+	1	6.3	0	0.0	1	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Live births</b>						
<28	21	1.6	10	0.4	31	0.8
28 - 36	200	14.8	166	6.7	366	9.6
37 - 41	1124	83.1	2265	92.0	3392	88.8
42+	7	0.5	22	0.9	29	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1352</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2463</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3818</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>All births</b>						
<28	31	2.3	18	0.7	49	1.3
28 - 36	203	14.8	167	6.8	370	9.6
37 - 41	1126	82.3	2267	91.6	3396	88.3
42+	8	0.6	22	0.9	30	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3845</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: The Indigenous status of the mothers of three babies was unknown. The babies of these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

Table 43. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and birth status, NT babies, 2011

Birthweight (g)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Fetal deaths</b>						
<1000	11	68.8	8	72.7	19	70.4
1000 - 1499	1	6.3	0	0.0	1	3.7
1500 - 2499	1	6.3	1	9.1	2	7.4
2500+	3	18.8	2	18.2	5	18.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Mean birthweight (g)</b>	<b>1297</b>		<b>1043</b>		<b>1193</b>	
<b>Live births</b>						
<1000	17	1.3	10	0.4	27	0.7
1000 - 1499	20	1.5	18	0.7	38	1.0
1500 - 2499	177	13.1	121	4.9	298	7.8
2500+	1138	84.2	2314	94.0	3455	90.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1352</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2463</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3818</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Mean birthweight (g)</b>	<b>3086</b>		<b>3381</b>		<b>3277</b>	
<b>All births</b>						
<1000	28	2.0	18	0.7	46	1.2
1000 - 1499	21	1.5	18	0.7	39	1.0
1500 - 2499	178	13.0	122	4.9	300	7.8
2500+	1141	83.4	2316	93.6	3460	90.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3845</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Mean birthweight (g)</b>	<b>3065</b>		<b>3371</b>		<b>3262</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of the mothers of three babies was unknown. The babies of these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 44. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and district of mother's usual residence, NT live births, 2011**

District	Gestational age (weeks)			Total
	<37	37-41	42+	Number
	%	%	%	
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	10.6	88.9	0.5	<b>216</b>
Darwin Rural	20.8	78.8	0.4	<b>274</b>
Katherine	14.7	84.2	1.1	<b>278</b>
East Arnhem	24.1	75.9	0.0	<b>174</b>
Barkly	12.9	86.2	0.9	<b>116</b>
Alice Springs Urban	15.4	83.8	0.9	<b>117</b>
Alice Springs Rural	14.1	85.9	0.0	<b>177</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1352</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	7.6	91.4	0.9	<b>1797</b>
Darwin Rural	7.1	92.9	0.0	<b>56</b>
Katherine	5.5	94.5	0.0	<b>146</b>
East Arnhem	3.7	95.1	1.2	<b>82</b>
Barkly	10.0	90.0	0.0	<b>30</b>
Alice Springs Urban	6.0	92.8	1.2	<b>335</b>
Alice Springs Rural	5.9	94.1	0.0	<b>17</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2463</b>

**Table 45. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and area of mother's usual residence, NT live births, 2011**

Area	Gestational age (weeks)			Total
	<37	37-41	42+	Number
	%	%	%	
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	13.0	86.4	0.6	<b>484</b>
Rural/remote area	18.2	81.3	0.5	<b>868</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1352</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	7.2	91.9	0.9	<b>2358</b>
Rural/remote area	6.7	93.3	0.0	<b>105</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2463</b>

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 live births, 2011**

District	Birthweight (g)				Total Number	Mean birthweight (g)
	<1500 %	1500-2499 %	2500-3999 %	4000+ %		
<b>Indigenous</b>						
Darwin Urban	1.9	11.1	76.4	10.6	216	3202
Darwin Rural	4.7	17.2	73.4	4.7	274	2958
Katherine	2.5	11.9	76.3	9.4	278	3120
East Arnhem	5.7	16.1	74.1	4.0	174	2900
Barkly	0.9	6.9	87.1	5.2	116	3143
Alice Springs Urban	1.7	13.7	66.7	17.9	117	3188
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	11.9	79.1	9.0	177	3169
<b>Total</b>	2.7	13.1	75.9	8.3	1352	3086
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
Darwin Urban	1.1	5.4	81.2	12.4	1797	3367
Darwin Rural	1.8	3.6	83.9	10.7	56	3322
Katherine	0.0	5.5	84.9	9.6	146	3393
East Arnhem	1.2	1.2	78.0	19.5	82	3565
Barkly	0.0	0.0	86.7	13.3	30	3398
Alice Springs Urban	2.1	3.6	82.1	12.2	335	3413
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	5.9	82.4	11.8	17	3440
<b>Total</b>	1.1	4.9	81.6	12.4	2463	3381

**Table 47. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and area of mother's usual residence, NT live births, 2011**

Area	Birthweight (g)				Total Number	Mean birthweight (g)
	<1500 %	1500-2499 %	2500-3999 %	4000+ %		
<b>Indigenous</b>						
Urban area	1.7	11.4	75.6	11.4	484	3173
Rural/remote area	3.3	14.1	76.0	6.6	868	3038
<b>Total</b>	2.7	13.1	75.9	8.3	1352	3086
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
Urban area	1.1	4.9	81.6	12.3	2358	3382
Rural/remote area	1.9	4.8	80.0	13.3	105	3348
<b>Total</b>	1.1	4.9	81.6	12.4	2463	3381

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 live births, 2011

Gestational age (weeks)	Birthweight (g)				Total Number	Mean birthweight (g)
	<1500 %	1500-2499 %	2500-3999 %	4000+ %		
<b>Indigenous</b>						
<28	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19	705
28 - 36	5.6	52.2	41.0	1.1	178	2392
37 - 41	0.0	5.8	84.4	9.8	1110	3269
42+	0.0	0.0	85.7	14.3	7	3584
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>3115</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
<28	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8	806
28 - 36	11.3	46.0	40.3	2.4	124	2388
37 - 41	0.0	1.4	85.5	13.1	2241	3473
42+	0.0	0.0	59.1	40.9	22	3886
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>2395</b>	<b>3412</b>

Table 49. Apgar scores at 5 minutes, by maternal Indigenous status, NT live births, 2011

Apgar score at 5 minutes	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0 - 3	15	1.1	2	0.1	17	0.4
4 - 6	28	2.1	34	1.4	63	1.7
7 - 10	1302	96.8	2425	98.5	3729	97.9
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1345</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2461</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3809</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	7		2		9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1352</b>		<b>2463</b>		<b>3818</b>	

Note: The Indigenous status of the mothers of three babies was unknown. The babies of these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 50. Methods of resuscitation, by maternal Indigenous status, NT live births, 2011**

Resuscitation: highest rank of method used	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Suction	78	5.8	142	5.8	220	5.8
Oxygen therapy	106	7.8	98	4.0	204	5.3
IPPV	134	9.9	200	8.1	335	8.8
Endotracheal intubation	23	1.7	20	0.8	43	1.1
ECM & ventilation	12	0.9	1	0.0	13	0.3
Other	6	0.4	37	1.5	43	1.1
None	993	73.4	1964	79.8	2959	77.5
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1352</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2462</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3817</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	0		1		1	
<b>Total of live births</b>	<b>1352</b>		<b>2463</b>		<b>3818</b>	

Notes:

(1) Resuscitation methods exclude tactile stimulation.

(2) IPPV stands for intermittent positive pressure ventilation.

(3) ECM stands for external cardiac massage.

(4) Other resuscitation includes stimulation methods such as intramuscular treatment, continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP).

(5) The Indigenous status of the mothers of three babies was unknown. The babies of these mothers were only included in the count of All NT.

**Table 51. Numbers and rates of fetal deaths, neonatal deaths and perinatal deaths, by Indigenous status, NT babies, 2011**

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Fetal deaths	16	11.7	11	4.4	27	7.0
Neonatal deaths	16	11.8	10	4.1	26	6.8
Perinatal deaths	32	23.4	21	8.5	53	13.8

Notes:

(1) Rate of fetal deaths or perinatal deaths is the number of deaths per 1000 total births; rate of neonatal deaths is the number of deaths per 1000 live births.

(2) Fetal deaths 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.





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# Appendices

## Appendix 1. Hospital profiles

The profile table of each hospital includes all births that occurred in that hospital in 2011, among mothers who were either NT residents or from interstate.

Royal Darwin Hospital

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>628</b>		<b>1132</b>		<b>1760</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	101	16.1	62	5.5	163	9.3
20-34 years	474	75.5	888	78.4	1362	77.4
35+ years	53	8.4	182	16.1	235	13.4
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous onset	374	59.6	686	60.6	1060	60.2
Induced labour	138	22.0	287	25.4	425	24.1
No labour	116	18.5	159	14.0	275	15.6
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	358	57.0	675	59.6	1033	58.7
Vaginal breech birth	5	0.8	3	0.3	8	0.5
Forceps birth	12	1.9	43	3.8	55	3.1
Ventouse birth	30	4.8	84	7.4	114	6.5
Elective caesarean	78	12.4	136	12.0	214	12.2
Emergency caesarean	145	23.1	191	16.9	336	19.1
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	4	0.6	1	0.1	5	0.3
Fetal distress	111	17.7	181	16.0	292	16.6
Diabetes in pregnancy	89	14.2	90	8.0	179	10.2
Manual removal of placenta	15	2.4	10	0.9	25	1.4
Meconium stained liquor	84	13.4	200	17.7	284	16.1
Obstructed labour	51	8.1	139	12.3	190	10.8
Post-partum haemorrhage	89	14.2	152	13.4	241	13.7
Pre-eclampsia	31	4.9	31	2.7	62	3.5
Others	79	12.6	130	11.5	209	11.9
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>54.5</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>405</b>		<b>805</b>		<b>1210</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	185	46.1	241	30.4	426	35.6
1st degree tear	67	16.7	144	18.1	211	17.7
2nd degree tear	80	20.0	228	28.7	308	25.8
3rd-4th degree tear	10	2.5	38	4.8	48	4.0
Episiotomy	55	13.7	136	17.1	191	16.0
Combined episiotomy & tear	4	1.0	7	0.9	11	0.9
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>641</b>		<b>1148</b>		<b>1789</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	17	2.7	10	0.9	27	1.5
28-36 weeks	123	19.2	79	6.9	202	11.3
37+ weeks	501	78.2	1059	92.2	1560	87.2
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	34	5.3	21	1.8	55	3.1
1500-2499g	106	16.5	70	6.1	176	9.8
2500+g	501	78.2	1057	92.1	1558	87.1
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	633	98.8	1144	99.7	1777	99.3
Stillborn	8	1.2	4	0.3	12	0.7

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in RDH and the attached Birth Centre in 2011. An additional 41 births occurred before arrival and are reported in the Appendix 1 table for non-hospital births.

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

(3) Diabetes in pregnancy includes gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus.

## Darwin Private Hospital

	All	
	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>717</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>		
<20 years	2	0.3
20-34 years	506	70.6
35+ years	209	29.1
<b>Onset of labour</b>		
Spontaneous onset	319	44.5
Induced labour	200	27.9
No labour	198	27.6
<b>Method of birth</b>		
Spontaneous vaginal birth	300	41.8
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0
Forceps birth	47	6.6
Ventouse birth	34	4.7
Elective caesarean	213	29.7
Emergency caesarean	123	17.2
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>		
Cord prolapse	0	0.0
Fetal distress	65	9.1
Diabetes in pregnancy	32	4.5
Manual removal of placenta	3	0.4
Meconium stained liquor	24	3.3
Obstructed labour	56	7.8
Post-partum haemorrhage	53	7.4
Pre-eclampsia	10	1.4
Others	53	7.4
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>34.4</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>381</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>		
Intact	123	32.8
1st degree tear	102	27.2
2nd degree tear	56	14.9
3rd-4th degree tear	3	0.8
Episiotomy	75	20.0
Combined episiotomy & tear	16	4.3
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>734</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>		
<28 weeks	2	0.3
28-36 weeks	61	8.3
37+ weeks	671	91.4
<b>Birthweight</b>		
<1500g	4	0.5
1500-2499g	36	4.9
2500+g	694	94.6
<b>Birth status</b>		
Liveborn	731	99.6
Stillborn	3	0.4

## Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in DPH. An additional 3 births occurred before arrival at hospital and are reported in the Appendix 1 table for non-hospital births.

(2) There were 8 Indigenous mothers and the Indigenous status of 3 mothers was unknown. Separate data is not presented for these cases.

(3) Diabetes in pregnancy includes gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus.

Gove District Hospital

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>94</b>		<b>75</b>		<b>169</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	27	28.7	1	1.3	28	16.6
20-34 years	64	68.1	57	76.0	121	71.6
35+ years	3	3.2	17	22.7	20	11.8
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous onset	70	74.5	49	65.3	119	70.4
Induced labour	19	20.2	14	18.7	33	19.5
No labour	5	5.3	12	16.0	17	10.1
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	69	73.4	55	73.3	124	73.4
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Forceps birth	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.6
Ventouse birth	5	5.3	1	1.3	6	3.6
Elective caesarean	4	4.3	11	14.7	15	8.9
Emergency caesarean	15	16.0	8	10.7	23	13.6
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fetal distress	5	5.3	4	5.3	9	5.3
Diabetes in pregnancy	9	9.6	5	6.7	14	8.3
Manual removal of placenta	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.6
Meconium stained liquor	17	18.1	6	8.0	23	13.6
Obstructed labour	11	11.7	5	6.7	16	9.5
Post-partum haemorrhage	13	13.8	8	10.7	21	12.4
Pre-eclampsia	5	5.3	2	2.7	7	4.1
Others	10	10.6	3	4.0	13	7.7
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>45.0</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>75</b>		<b>56</b>		<b>131</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	25	33.3	15	27.3	40	30.8
1st degree tear	22	29.3	22	40.0	44	33.8
2nd degree tear	21	28.0	16	29.1	37	28.5
3rd-4th degree tear	3	4.0	1	1.8	4	3.1
Episiotomy	4	5.3	1	1.8	5	3.8
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>94</b>		<b>75</b>		<b>169</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.6
28-36 weeks	5	5.3	2	2.7	7	4.1
37+ weeks	88	93.6	73	97.3	161	95.3
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.6
1500-2499g	6	6.4	1	1.3	7	4.1
2500+g	87	92.6	74	98.7	161	95.3
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	94	100.0	75	100.0	169	100.0
Stillborn	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in GDH in 2011. An additional 5 births occurred before arrival at hospital and are reported in the Appendix 1 table for non-hospital births.

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

(3) Diabetes in pregnancy includes gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus.

## Katherine Hospital

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>171</b>		<b>128</b>		<b>299</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	41	24.0	5	3.9	46	15.4
20-34 years	120	70.2	107	83.6	227	75.9
35+ years	10	5.8	16	12.5	26	8.7
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous onset	128	74.9	87	68.0	215	71.9
Induced labour	30	17.5	24	18.8	54	18.1
No labour	13	7.6	17	13.3	30	10.0
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	118	69.0	78	60.9	196	65.6
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Forceps birth	3	1.8	2	1.6	5	1.7
Ventouse birth	5	2.9	8	6.3	13	4.3
Elective caesarean	7	4.1	12	9.4	19	6.4
Emergency caesarean	38	22.2	28	21.9	66	22.1
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	2	1.6	2	0.7
Fetal distress	25	14.6	16	12.5	41	13.7
Diabetes in pregnancy	10	5.8	9	7.0	19	6.4
Manual removal of placenta	4	2.3	1	0.8	5	1.7
Meconium stained liquor	20	11.7	15	11.7	35	11.7
Obstructed labour	20	11.7	20	15.6	40	13.4
Post-partum haemorrhage	34	19.9	15	11.7	49	16.4
Pre-eclampsia	9	5.3	0	0.0	9	3.0
Others	20	11.7	13	10.2	33	11.0
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>49.8</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>126</b>		<b>88</b>		<b>214</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	58	47.5	27	30.7	85	40.5
1st degree tear	31	25.4	21	23.9	52	24.8
2nd degree tear	28	23.0	29	33.0	57	27.1
3rd-4th degree tear	2	1.6	4	4.5	6	2.9
Episiotomy	3	2.5	7	8.0	10	4.8
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>172</b>		<b>128</b>		<b>300</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	1	0.6	0	0.0	1	0.3
28-36 weeks	13	7.6	4	3.1	17	5.7
37+ weeks	158	91.9	124	96.9	282	94.0
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	1	0.6	0	0.0	1	0.3
1500-2499g	13	7.6	3	2.3	16	5.3
2500+g	158	91.9	125	97.7	283	94.3
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	172	100.0	128	100.0	300	100.0
Stillborn	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

## Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in KH in 2011. An additional 4 births occurred before arrival at hospital and are reported in the Appendix 1 table for non-hospital births.

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

(3) Diabetes in pregnancy includes gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus.

Alice Springs Hospital

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>453</b>		<b>365</b>		<b>818</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	111	24.5	5	1.4	116	14.2
20-34 years	312	68.9	274	75.1	586	71.6
35+ years	30	6.6	86	23.6	116	14.2
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous onset	283	62.5	218	59.7	501	61.2
Induced labour	122	26.9	93	25.5	215	26.3
No labour	48	10.6	54	14.8	102	12.5
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	299	66.0	240	65.8	539	65.9
Vaginal breech birth	1	0.2	2	0.5	3	0.4
Forceps birth	7	1.5	4	1.1	11	1.3
Ventouse birth	20	4.4	19	5.2	39	4.8
Elective caesarean	35	7.7	42	11.5	77	9.4
Emergency caesarean	91	20.1	58	15.9	149	18.2
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fetal distress	77	17.0	45	12.3	122	14.9
Diabetes in pregnancy	65	14.3	24	6.6	89	10.9
Manual removal of placenta	10	2.2	4	1.1	14	1.7
Meconium stained liquor	72	15.9	52	14.2	124	15.2
Obstructed labour	51	11.3	41	11.2	92	11.2
Post-partum haemorrhage	99	21.9	50	13.7	149	18.2
Pre-eclampsia	36	7.9	13	3.6	49	6.0
Others	62	13.7	38	10.4	100	12.2
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>64.9</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>57.9</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>327</b>		<b>265</b>		<b>592</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	154	47.2	106	40.5	260	44.2
1st degree tear	67	20.6	63	24.0	130	22.1
2nd degree tear	72	22.1	59	22.5	131	22.3
3rd-4th degree tear	8	2.5	7	2.7	15	2.6
Episiotomy	23	7.1	26	9.9	49	8.3
Combined episiotomy & tear	2	0.6	1	0.4	3	0.5
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>457</b>		<b>367</b>		<b>824</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	4	0.9	5	1.4	9	1.1
28-36 weeks	58	12.7	23	6.3	81	9.8
37+ weeks	395	86.4	339	92.4	734	89.1
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	5	1.1	10	2.7	15	1.8
1500-2499g	47	10.3	14	3.8	61	7.4
2500+g	405	88.6	343	93.5	748	90.8
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	452	98.9	363	98.9	815	98.9
Stillborn	5	1.1	4	1.1	9	1.1

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in ASH in 2011. An additional 12 births occurred before arrival at hospital and are reported in the Appendix 1 table for non-hospital births.

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

(3) Diabetes in pregnancy includes gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus.

**Non-hospital**

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>54</b>		<b>55</b>		<b>109</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	5	9.3	0	0.0	5	4.6
20-34 years	43	79.6	43	78.2	86	78.9
35+ years	6	11.1	12	21.8	18	16.5
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous onset	54	100.0	55	100.0	109	100.0
Induced labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
No labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Spontaneous vaginal birth	54	100.0	53	96.4	107	98.2
Vaginal breech birth	0	0.0	2	3.6	2	1.8
<b>Actual place of giving birth</b>						
Health centres	36	66.7	1	1.8	37	33.9
Planned homes	0	0.0	40	72.7	40	36.7
Other	18	33.3	14	25.5	32	29.4
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fetal distress	1	1.9	0	0.0	1	0.9
Diabetes in pregnancy	6	11.1	0	0.0	6	5.5
Manual removal of placenta	1	1.9	2	3.6	3	2.8
Meconium stained liquor	5	9.3	4	7.3	9	8.3
Obstructed labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Post-partum haemorrhage	10	18.5	5	9.1	15	13.8
Pre-eclampsia	3	5.6	0	0.0	3	2.8
Others	14	25.9	4	7.3	18	16.5
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39.4</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>54</b>		<b>55</b>		<b>109</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	37	69.8	31	56.4	68	63.0
1st degree tear	5	9.4	13	23.6	18	16.7
2nd degree tear	9	17.0	10	18.2	19	17.6
3rd-4th degree tear	0	0.0	1	1.8	1	0.9
Episiotomy	2	3.8	0	0.0	2	1.9
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>54</b>		<b>55</b>		<b>109</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	8	14.8	1	1.8	9	8.3
28-36 weeks	15	27.8	1	1.8	16	14.7
37+ weeks	31	57.4	53	96.4	84	77.1
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	10	18.5	1	1.8	11	10.1
1500-2499g	11	20.4	1	1.8	12	11.0
2500+g	33	61.1	53	96.4	86	78.9
<b>Birth status</b>						
Liveborn	50	92.6	55	100.0	105	96.3
Stillborn	4	7.4	0	0.0	4	3.7

## Notes:

(1) This table comprises all births that occurred out of hospital in 2011, including planned home births, births in health centres and other locations such as in transit to hospital or unintended places.

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

(3) Diabetes in pregnancy includes gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus.





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## **Appendix 2. Trends of perinatal indicators, by Indigenous status, NT, 1997–2011**

The following trends tables summarise key indicators over time by Indigenous status. Numbers are provided in tables A.1, B.1 and C.1. Proportions are provided in tables A.2, B.2 and C.2.

Table A.1. Trends in numbers for selected measures, NT Indigenous mothers and babies, 1997-2011

		1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total fertility rate</b>		2.2	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2
		<b>Number</b>														
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>1206</b>	<b>1261</b>	<b>1236</b>	<b>1430</b>	<b>1332</b>	<b>1334</b>	<b>1270</b>	<b>1320</b>	<b>1400</b>	<b>1412</b>	<b>1356</b>	<b>1425</b>	<b>1355</b>	<b>1349</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	355	362	374	407	430	401	382	360	338	360	335	305	316	314	272
	20-34	745	780	819	772	929	851	875	822	905	950	974	944	990	932	972
	35+	50	62	68	57	71	80	77	88	77	90	103	107	119	109	105
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	1071	1131	1188	1195	1365	1279	1264	1209	1249	1330	1350	1299	1370	1283	1297
	Non-hospital	81	75	73	41	65	53	70	61	71	70	62	57	55	72	52
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	863	883	919	930	1041	976	940	926	948	972	975	950	1008	897	872
	Induced	149	166	193	202	240	208	243	194	212	275	264	233	251	270	300
	No labour	113	128	127	104	149	148	151	150	160	153	173	173	166	188	177
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Spontaneous vaginal	816	839	933	901	1028	951	918	868	905	959	962	939	970	903	864
	Vaginal breech	13	12	8	9	7	5	16	17	12	15	14	14	16	10	6
	Forceps	30	30	22	17	25	22	23	12	19	13	16	20	28	11	22
	Ventouse	17	19	25	40	53	28	42	53	49	56	41	39	49	68	57
	Caesarean section	252	280	252	269	317	326	335	320	335	357	379	344	362	363	400
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>418</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	247	250	267	317	298	262	261	245	245	255	245	229	230	242	218
	20-34	148	135	152	120	165	143	151	128	159	162	157	169	194	192	195
	35+	4	6	6	1	7	7	4	0	2	2	5	4	8	5	5
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1160</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>1278</b>	<b>1245</b>	<b>1442</b>	<b>1348</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>1277</b>	<b>1331</b>	<b>1416</b>	<b>1428</b>	<b>1367</b>	<b>1443</b>	<b>1376</b>	<b>1368</b>
	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	1144	1197	1244	1227	1418	1316	1326	1263	1310	1384	1396	1345	1407	1334	1330
	Multiple	16	18	34	18	24	32	16	14	21	32	32	22	36	42	38
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	38	35	41	32	32	33	42	41	49	57	54	36	55	50	49
	1500-2499	149	120	138	140	154	152	162	141	150	154	143	160	159	153	178
	2500+	944	1031	1076	1073	1256	1163	1137	1095	1132	1205	1230	1171	1228	1173	1141
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	24	24	27	21	18	20	29	25	31	19	24	22	26	25	31
	28-36	152		163	156	174	199	190	180	176	207	201	179	186	182	203
	37+	947	1013	1067	1068	1249	1128	1123	1072	1124	1190	1201	1166	1230	1169	1134
	<b>Birth status</b>															
	Liveborn	1141	1198	1253	1231	1428	1333	1323	1264	1313	1393	1406	1351	1415	1359	1352
	Stillborn	19	17	25	14	14	15	19	13	18	23	22	16	28	17	16

Table A.2. Trends in proportions for selected measures, NT Indigenous mothers and babies, 1997-2011

		1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
		Percent														
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	30.9	30.1	29.7	32.9	30.1	30.1	28.6	28.3	25.6	25.7	23.7	22.5	22.2	23.2	20.2
	20-34	64.8	64.8	64.9	62.5	65.0	63.9	65.6	64.7	68.6	67.9	69.0	69.6	69.5	68.8	72.1
	35+	4.3	5.1	5.4	4.6	5.0	6.0	5.8	6.9	5.8	6.4	7.3	7.9	8.4	8.0	7.8
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	93.0	93.8	94.2	96.7	95.5	96.0	94.8	95.2	94.6	95.0	95.6	95.8	96.1	94.7	96.1
	Non-hospital	7.0	6.2	5.8	3.3	4.5	4.0	5.2	4.8	5.4	5.0	4.4	4.2	3.9	5.3	3.9
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	76.7	75.0	74.2	75.2	72.8	73.3	70.5	72.9	71.8	69.4	69.1	70.1	70.7	66.2	64.6
	Induced	13.2	14.1	15.6	16.3	16.8	15.6	18.2	15.3	16.1	19.6	18.7	17.2	17.6	19.9	22.2
	No labour	10.0	10.9	10.3	8.4	10.4	11.1	11.3	11.8	12.1	10.9	12.3	12.8	11.6	13.9	13.1
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Spontaneous vaginal	72.3	71.1	75.2	72.9	71.9	71.4	68.8	68.3	68.6	68.5	68.1	69.2	68.1	66.6	64.0
Vaginal breech	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.4	
Forceps	2.7	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.1	1.5	2.0	0.8	1.6	
Ventouse	1.5	1.6	2.0	3.2	3.7	2.1	3.1	4.2	3.7	4.0	2.9	2.9	3.4	5.0	4.2	
Caesarean section	22.3	23.7	20.3	21.8	22.2	24.5	25.1	25.2	25.4	25.5	26.8	25.4	25.4	26.8	29.7	
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	61.9	63.9	62.8	72.4	63.4	63.6	62.7	65.7	60.3	60.9	60.2	57.0	53.2	55.1	52.2
	20-34	37.1	34.5	35.8	27.4	35.1	34.7	36.3	34.3	39.2	38.7	38.6	42.0	44.9	43.7	46.7
	35+	1.0	1.5	1.4	0.2	1.5	1.7	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.0	1.9	1.1	1.2
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	98.6	98.5	97.3	98.6	98.3	97.6	98.8	98.9	98.4	97.7	97.8	98.4	97.5	96.9	97.2
	Multiple	1.4	1.5	2.7	1.4	1.7	2.4	1.2	1.1	1.6	2.3	2.2	1.6	2.5	3.1	2.8
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	3.4	3.0	3.3	2.6	2.2	2.4	3.1	3.2	3.7	4.0	3.8	2.6	3.8	3.6	3.6
	1500-2499	13.2	10.1	11.0	11.2	10.7	11.3	12.1	11.0	11.3	10.9	10.0	11.7	11.0	11.1	13.0
	2500+	83.5	86.9	85.7	86.2	87.1	86.3	84.8	85.7	85.0	85.1	86.2	85.7	85.2	85.2	83.4
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	2.1	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.5	2.2	2.0	2.3	1.3	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.8	2.3
	28-36	13.5	0.0	13.0	12.5	12.1	14.8	14.2	14.1	13.2	14.6	14.1	13.1	12.9	13.2	14.8
	37+	84.3	97.7	84.9	85.8	86.7	83.7	83.7	83.9	84.4	84.0	84.2	85.3	85.3	85.0	82.9
<b>Birth status</b>																
Liveborn	98.4	98.6	98.0	98.9	99.0	98.9	98.6	99.0	98.6	98.4	98.5	98.8	98.1	98.8	98.8	
Stillborn	1.6	1.4	2.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.9	1.2	1.2	

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.1. Trends in numbers for selected measures, NT non-Indigenous mothers and babies, 1997-2011

		1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total fertility rate</b>		1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
		<b>Number</b>														
<b>ALL</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2306</b>	<b>2230</b>	<b>2219</b>	<b>2197</b>	<b>2212</b>	<b>2233</b>	<b>2195</b>	<b>2065</b>	<b>2229</b>	<b>2187</b>	<b>2243</b>	<b>2373</b>	<b>2342</b>	<b>2375</b>	<b>2440</b>
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	146	109	128	118	121	119	123	96	121	109	91	94	81	76	74
	20-34	1817	1783	1751	1727	1756	1726	1682	1578	1671	1633	1650	1800	1766	1779	1852
	35+	336	338	340	352	335	388	390	391	437	444	502	479	495	520	514
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	2258	2195	2186	2187	2180	2206	2165	2038	2213	2142	2195	2332	2290	2330	2385
	Non-hospital	48	35	33	10	32	27	30	27	16	45	48	41	52	45	55
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	1556	1441	1483	1445	1383	1379	1302	1224	1273	1278	1362	1471	1396	1424	1398
	Induced	483	531	464	496	528	525	544	487	535	513	481	512	550	562	608
	No labour	251	253	259	256	301	329	349	354	421	396	400	390	396	389	434
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Spontaneous vaginal	1703	1568	1566	1548	1476	1496	1335	1224	1306	1291	1325	1438	1393	1399	1379
	Vaginal breech	11	15	10	6	15	3	10	9	12	13	14	9	8	10	7
	Forceps	109	133	114	98	98	83	48	48	55	48	55	82	81	87	96
	Ventouse	30	24	39	78	85	73	158	153	153	162	141	157	143	161	146
	Caesarean section	450	486	478	465	538	578	644	631	703	673	708	687	717	718	812
<b>FIRST-TIME</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>1041</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>1076</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1049</b>	<b>1094</b>
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	116	98	104	97	100	104	103	80	106	98	75	78	67	68	67
	20-34	747	781	829	731	795	736	727	656	764	719	760	852	822	829	875
	35+	78	89	108	96	104	103	113	122	139	120	151	146	119	152	152
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2333</b>	<b>2261</b>	<b>2249</b>	<b>2228</b>	<b>2241</b>	<b>2261</b>	<b>2231</b>	<b>2094</b>	<b>2265</b>	<b>2223</b>	<b>2268</b>	<b>2399</b>	<b>2377</b>	<b>2407</b>	<b>2474</b>
	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	2279	2199	2189	2166	2183	2205	2159	2036	2193	2151	2219	2347	2308	2343	2406
	Multiple	54	62	60	62	58	56	72	58	72	72	49	52	69	64	68
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	22	29	41	26	32	28	28	30	39	29	23	27	24	38	36
	1500-2499	135	150	130	127	113	99	140	110	131	135	92	93	135	114	122
	2500+	2154	2076	2066	2072	2096	2134	2063	1954	2093	2058	2152	2278	2217	2255	2316
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	12	15	23	14	17	17	16	13	16	16	10	14	14	19	18
	28-36	170		174	169	165	151	168	144	180	175	144	144	148	173	167
	37+	2136	2053	2041	2045	2059	2092	2047	1937	2069	2032	2114	2241	2215	2215	2289
	<b>Birth status</b>															
	Liveborn	2320	2251	2227	2212	2229	2247	2211	2085	2242	2206	2259	2389	2363	2393	2463
	Stillborn	13	10	22	16	12	14	20	9	23	17	9	10	14	14	11

Table B.2. Trends in proportions for selected measures, NT non-Indigenous mothers and babies, 1997-2011

		1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
		Percent														
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	6.4	4.9	5.8	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.6	4.6	5.4	5.0	4.1	4.0	3.5	3.2	3.0
	20-34	79.0	80.0	78.9	78.6	79.4	77.3	76.6	76.4	75.0	74.7	73.6	75.9	75.4	74.9	75.9
	35+	14.6	15.2	15.3	16.0	15.1	17.4	17.8	18.9	19.6	20.3	22.4	20.2	21.1	21.9	21.1
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	97.9	98.4	98.5	99.5	98.6	98.8	98.6	98.7	99.3	97.9	97.9	98.3	97.8	98.1	97.7
	Non-hospital	2.1	1.6	1.5	0.5	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.7	2.1	2.1	1.7	2.2	1.9	2.3
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	67.9	64.8	67.2	65.8	62.5	61.8	59.3	59.3	57.1	58.4	60.7	62.0	59.6	60.0	57.3
	Induced	21.1	23.9	21.0	22.6	23.9	23.5	24.8	23.6	24.0	23.5	21.4	21.6	23.5	23.7	24.9
	No labour	11.0	11.4	11.7	11.7	13.6	14.7	15.9	17.1	18.9	18.1	17.8	16.4	16.9	16.4	17.8
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Spontaneous vaginal	73.9	70.4	71.0	70.5	66.7	67.0	60.8	59.3	58.6	59.0	59.1	60.6	59.5	58.9	56.5
Vaginal breech	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	
Forceps	4.7	6.0	5.2	4.5	4.4	3.7	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.9	
Ventouse	1.3	1.1	1.8	3.6	3.8	3.3	7.2	7.4	6.9	7.4	6.3	6.6	6.1	6.8	6.0	
Caesarean section	19.5	21.8	21.7	21.2	24.3	25.9	29.3	30.6	31.5	30.8	31.6	29.0	30.6	30.2	33.3	
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	12.3	10.1	10.0	10.5	10.0	11.0	10.9	9.3	10.5	10.5	7.6	7.2	6.6	6.5	6.1
	20-34	79.4	80.7	79.6	79.1	79.6	78.0	77.1	76.5	75.7	76.7	77.1	79.2	81.5	79.0	80.0
	35+	8.3	9.2	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.9	12.0	14.2	13.8	12.8	15.3	13.6	11.8	14.5	13.9
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	97.7	97.3	97.3	97.2	97.4	97.5	96.8	97.2	96.8	96.8	97.8	97.8	97.1	97.3	97.3
	Multiple	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.2	2.2	2.2	2.9	2.7	2.7
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	1.0	1.3	1.8	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.6	1.5
	1500-2499	5.8	6.7	5.8	5.7	5.0	4.4	6.3	5.3	5.8	6.1	4.1	3.9	5.7	4.7	4.9
	2500+	93.2	92.1	92.4	93.1	93.5	94.4	92.5	93.3	92.5	92.6	94.9	95.0	93.3	93.7	93.6
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7
	28-36	7.3	0.0	7.8	7.6	7.4	6.7	7.5	6.9	7.9	7.9	6.3	6.0	6.2	7.2	6.8
	37+	92.1	99.3	91.2	91.8	91.9	92.6	91.8	92.5	91.3	91.4	93.2	93.4	93.2	92.0	92.5
<b>Birth status</b>																
Liveborn	99.4	99.6	99.0	99.3	99.5	99.4	99.1	99.6	99.0	99.2	99.6	99.6	99.4	99.4	99.6	
Stillborn	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	

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.1. Trends in numbers for selected measures, all NT mothers and babies, 1997-2011

		1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total fertility rate</b>		2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1
		<b>Number</b>														
<b>ALL</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3458</b>	<b>3436</b>	<b>3480</b>	<b>3433</b>	<b>3642</b>	<b>3565</b>	<b>3529</b>	<b>3335</b>	<b>3549</b>	<b>3587</b>	<b>3655</b>	<b>3730</b>	<b>3771</b>	<b>3737</b>	<b>3792</b>
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	501	471	502	525	551	520	505	456	459	469	426	399	397	390	346
	20-34	2562	2563	2570	2499	2685	2577	2557	2400	2576	2583	2624	2744	2759	2716	2827
	35+	386	400	408	409	406	468	467	479	514	534	605	587	615	631	619
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	3329	3326	3374	3382	3545	3485	3429	3247	3462	3472	3545	3632	3664	3619	3685
	Non-hospital	129	110	106	51	97	80	100	88	87	115	110	98	107	118	107
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	2419	2324	2402	2375	2424	2355	2242	2150	2221	2250	2337	2421	2404	2323	2270
	Induced	632	697	657	698	768	733	787	681	747	788	745	745	803	834	910
	No labour	364	381	386	360	450	477	500	504	581	549	573	564	564	580	612
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Spontaneous vaginal	2519	2407	2499	2449	2504	2447	2253	2092	2211	2250	2287	2377	2364	2305	2245
	Vaginal breech	24	27	18	15	22	8	26	26	24	28	28	23	24	20	13
	Forceps	139	163	136	115	123	105	71	60	74	61	71	102	109	98	118
	Ventouse	47	43	64	118	138	101	200	206	202	218	182	196	193	229	203
	Caesarean section	702	766	730	734	855	904	979	951	1038	1030	1087	1032	1081	1085	1213
<b>FIRST-TIME</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>1360</b>	<b>1466</b>	<b>1362</b>	<b>1469</b>	<b>1355</b>	<b>1359</b>	<b>1231</b>	<b>1415</b>	<b>1357</b>	<b>1393</b>	<b>1478</b>	<b>1442</b>	<b>1490</b>	<b>1512</b>
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	363	348	371	414	398	366	364	325	351	353	320	307	297	310	285
	20-34	895	916	981	851	960	879	878	784	923	881	917	1021	1018	1023	1070
	35+	82	95	114	97	111	110	117	122	141	122	156	150	127	157	157
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3493</b>	<b>3476</b>	<b>3527</b>	<b>3473</b>	<b>3683</b>	<b>3609</b>	<b>3573</b>	<b>3371</b>	<b>3596</b>	<b>3639</b>	<b>3696</b>	<b>3767</b>	<b>3824</b>	<b>3790</b>	<b>3845</b>
	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	3423	3396	3433	3393	3601	3521	3485	3299	3503	3535	3615	3693	3719	3684	3739
	Multiple	70	80	94	80	82	88	88	72	93	104	81	74	105	106	106
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	60	64	82	58	64	61	70	71	88	86	77	63	79	88	85
	1500-2499	284	270	268	267	267	251	302	251	281	289	235	253	294	267	300
	2500+	3098	3107	3142	3145	3352	3297	3200	3049	3225	3263	3382	3450	3449	3434	3460
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	36	39	50	35	35	37	45	38	47	35	34	36	40	44	49
	28-36	322		337	325	339	350	358	324	356	382	345	323	334	355	370
	37+	3083	3066	3108	3113	3308	3220	3170	3009	3193	3222	3315	3408	3449	3390	3426
	<b>Birth status</b>															
	Liveborn	3461	3449	3480	3443	3657	3580	3534	3349	3555	3599	3665	3741	3782	3759	3818
	Stillborn	32	27	47	30	26	29	39	22	41	40	31	26	42	31	27

Table C.2. Trends in proportions for selected measures, all NT mothers and babies, 1997-2011

		1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
		Percent														
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	14.5	13.7	14.4	15.3	15.1	14.6	14.3	13.7	12.9	13.1	11.7	10.7	10.5	10.4	9.1
	20-34	74.3	74.6	73.9	72.8	73.7	72.3	72.5	72.0	72.6	72.0	71.8	73.6	73.2	72.7	74.6
	35+	11.2	11.6	11.7	11.9	11.1	13.1	13.2	14.4	14.5	14.9	16.6	15.7	16.3	16.9	16.3
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	96.3	96.8	97.0	98.5	97.3	97.8	97.2	97.4	97.5	96.8	97.0	97.4	97.2	96.8	97.2
	Non-hospital	3.7	3.2	3.0	1.5	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.8	3.2	2.8
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	70.8	68.3	69.7	69.2	66.6	66.1	63.5	64.5	62.6	62.7	63.9	64.9	63.7	62.2	59.9
	Induced	18.5	20.5	19.1	20.3	21.1	20.6	22.3	20.4	21.0	22.0	20.4	20.0	21.3	22.3	24.0
	No labour	10.7	11.2	11.2	10.5	12.4	13.4	14.2	15.1	16.4	15.3	15.7	15.1	15.0	15.5	16.1
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Spontaneous vaginal	73.4	70.7	72.5	71.4	68.8	68.6	63.8	62.7	62.3	62.7	62.6	63.7	62.7	61.7	59.2
Vaginal breech	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	
Forceps	4.1	4.8	3.9	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.0	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.7	2.9	2.6	3.1	
Ventouse	1.4	1.3	1.9	3.4	3.8	2.8	5.7	6.2	5.7	6.1	5.0	5.3	5.1	6.1	5.4	
Caesarean section	20.5	22.5	21.2	21.4	23.5	25.4	27.7	28.5	29.2	28.7	29.7	27.7	28.7	29.0	32.0	
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	27.1	25.6	25.3	30.4	27.1	27.0	26.8	26.4	24.8	26.0	23.0	20.8	20.6	20.8	18.8
	20-34	66.8	67.4	66.9	62.5	65.4	64.9	64.6	63.7	65.2	65.0	65.8	69.1	70.6	68.7	70.8
	35+	6.1	7.0	7.8	7.1	7.6	8.1	8.6	9.9	10.0	9.0	11.2	10.1	8.8	10.5	10.4
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	98.0	97.7	97.3	97.7	97.8	97.6	97.5	97.9	97.4	97.1	97.8	98.0	97.3	97.2	97.2
	Multiple	2.0	2.3	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.9	2.2	2.0	2.7	2.8	2.8
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	1.7	1.9	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.1	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.2
	1500-2499	8.3	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.2	7.0	8.5	7.4	7.8	7.9	6.4	6.7	7.7	7.0	7.8
	2500+	90.0	90.3	90.0	90.6	91.0	91.4	89.6	90.4	89.7	89.7	91.6	91.6	90.2	90.6	90.0
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.3
	28-36	9.4	0.0	9.6	9.4	9.2	9.7	10.0	9.6	9.9	10.5	9.3	8.6	8.7	9.4	9.6
	37+	89.6	98.7	88.9	89.6	89.8	89.3	88.7	89.3	88.8	88.5	89.7	90.5	90.2	89.5	89.1
<b>Birth status</b>																
Liveborn	99.1	99.2	98.7	99.1	99.3	99.2	98.9	99.3	98.9	98.9	99.2	99.3	98.9	99.2	99.3	
Stillborn	0.9	0.8	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.7	

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, 2011

Age (years)	Male			Female			Person
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total	Total
0 - 4	3868	5741	9609	3545	5338	8883	18492
5 - 9	4056	4937	8993	3781	4801	8582	17575
10 - 14	3761	4887	8648	3508	4411	7919	16567
15 - 19	3529	5086	8615	3321	4160	7481	16096
20 - 24	3369	7132	10501	3332	5546	8878	19379
25 - 29	3083	8430	11513	3091	7325	10416	21929
30 - 34	2483	7358	9841	2554	6756	9310	19151
35 - 39	2386	7064	9450	2461	6352	8813	18263
40 - 44	2152	6954	9106	2378	6204	8582	17688
45 - 49	1721	6627	8348	1757	5900	7657	16005
50 - 54	1447	6329	7776	1526	5674	7200	14976
55 - 59	1051	5660	6711	1076	4826	5902	12613
60 - 64	669	4781	5450	799	3468	4267	9717
65 - 69	393	2832	3225	458	2069	2527	5752
70 - 74	237	1727	1964	334	1191	1525	3489
75 +	275	1458	1733	448	1419	1867	3600
<b>Total</b>	<b>34480</b>	<b>87003</b>	<b>121483</b>	<b>34369</b>	<b>75440</b>	<b>109809</b>	<b>231292</b>

Source: Department of Health, 2011, 'Northern Territory Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Indigenous Status and Health Districts (1971-2011)', prepared by Health Gains Planning, file updated October 2013, using ABS Estimated Resident Population.

## Glossary

This section provides definitions for a selection of key perinatal terms. For a more comprehensive glossary please see Australia's Mothers and Babies 2011.<sup>1</sup>

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

**Apgar score:** numerical score used to indicate the baby's condition at one minute and five minutes after birth. A score of 0, 1 or 2 is 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 liveborn) 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/Caudal:** Analgesia or anaesthesia produced by injection of a local anaesthetic into the epidural space of the spinal cord or caudal canal.

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

**Fetal death (Stillbirth):** 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.

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

**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.

**Live birth:** 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 postnatal hospital stay:** number of days between date of baby's birth and separation date of the mother (from the hospital where birth occurred). The interval is calculated by subtracting the date of baby's birth from the date of separation.

**Neonatal death:** death of a liveborn baby within 28 days of birth.

**Neonatal death rate:** the neonatal deaths in a year per 1000 live births in that same year.

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

**Perinatal death:** a fetal or neonatal death.

**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. It 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.

**Pudendal:** local anaesthetic to block the pudendal nerves.

**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.

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

**Total fertility rate:** a hypothetical measure of the number of live births 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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# Northern Territory Midwives' Collection Mothers and Babies 2011

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