

# Mothers and Babies 2014

Northern Territory Midwives' Collection

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## Summary

This report summarises data from the 2014 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 2014. While the NT Midwives' Collection contains information on both NT residents and non-NT residents who gave birth in the NT, the focus of this report is on NT residents who gave birth in the NT. Unless otherwise stated, the following key findings are for NT residents only.

The primary purpose of this 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

- In 2014, there were 3,904 babies born to 3,854 mothers residing in the NT, 33% of whom were Indigenous. In addition, there were 72 babies born in the NT to 71 mothers who were from interstate or overseas. The total number of births in the NT for 2014 was 3,976 babies born to 3,925 mothers.
- Indigenous women in the NT had a total fertility rate (TFR) of 2.0 in 2014, while non-Indigenous women had a rate of 1.9. The TFR for all NT women was 2.0, which was higher than that reported for all Australian women during the same period (1.8 births per woman) (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2015).
- The mean age of Indigenous mothers (24.8 years) was over five years younger than that of non-Indigenous mothers (30 years). Twenty per cent of Indigenous mothers were less than 20 years of age. Non-Indigenous mothers were three times as likely to be in the oldest age group (35 years and over) as Indigenous mothers (21% and 7% respectively).
- A much greater proportion of Indigenous mothers (21%) had three or more previous births compared with non-Indigenous mothers (7%). Similarly, a smaller proportion of Indigenous mothers gave birth to their first baby in 2014 than non-Indigenous mothers (35% and 46% respectively).
- Indigenous mothers were four times as likely to have had insufficient antenatal care (no antenatal visit or less than four visits attended) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (8% and 2% respectively). Eighty-nine per cent of non-Indigenous mothers attended their first antenatal visit during their first trimester of pregnancy, compared with 58% of Indigenous mothers.
- Four per cent of mothers reported drinking alcohol during pregnancy at their first antenatal visit. Indigenous mothers were more likely to report drinking at this stage of pregnancy than non-Indigenous mothers (9% and 2% respectively), and less likely to have ceased drinking by 36 weeks gestation (39% and 79% of mothers who reported drinking at first antenatal visit respectively).
- Indigenous mothers were more than five times as likely to report smoking before 20 weeks of pregnancy when compared with non-Indigenous mothers (46% and 9% respectively). Of those women who reported smoking before the first 20 weeks of pregnancy, non-Indigenous mothers were more likely to have ceased smoking post 20 weeks gestation than Indigenous mothers (36% and 16% respectively).
- Ninety-eight per cent of all NT births occurred in a hospital, while the remaining 2% of births were registered planned homebirths and births that occurred in unintended locations, such as in transit to hospitals or in a community health centre.
- Onset of labour was induced for over a quarter (29%) of all NT mothers.

- The majority of fetal presentations were vertex (95%), while breech accounted for 4% and other presentations less than 1%.
- Fifty-seven per cent of all NT mothers had a normal vaginal delivery, while instrumental deliveries using forceps or ventouse (vacuum suction) accounted for 10% of births and vaginal breech accounted for less than 1% of all births.
- Among NT mothers who gave birth vaginally, 27% had a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree perineal tear, while 2% had a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> degree tear. Sixteen per cent had an episiotomy or a combination of episiotomy and tear.
- A third (33%) of all NT mothers had a caesarean section. Of those mothers, Indigenous mothers were more likely to undergo a caesarean section for emergency reasons (56%) than non-Indigenous mothers (50%).
- The main reason for elective caesarean section births was a previous caesarean section (69%). The main indications for emergency caesarean section births were failure to progress during labour (50%), fetal distress/compromise (non-reassuring fetal status) (43%), and malpresentation (9%).
- The most common medical complication of pregnancy was gestational diabetes mellitus, which affected 13% of all NT mothers and had a higher proportion in Indigenous than non-Indigenous mothers (16% and 12% respectively).
- The most common complication of labour and childbirth for NT mothers was post-partum haemorrhage (a blood loss volume of 500 millilitres or more) (36%). Post-partum haemorrhage was much more prevalent among caesarean than vaginal births (61% and 24% respectively).
- Ten per cent of all NT live births were preterm (less than 37 weeks gestation). The proportion of preterm babies born to Indigenous mothers was more than double that of preterm babies born to non-Indigenous mothers (16% and 7% respectively).
- Eight per cent of all NT live births were low birthweight (less than 2500 grams). The proportion of low birthweight babies born to Indigenous mothers was more than double that of those born to non-Indigenous mothers (14% and 6% respectively).
- A small percentage of all NT full-term (37 weeks and over) singleton live births were low birthweight; 5% of those born to Indigenous mothers and 2% to non-Indigenous mothers.
- By five minutes after birth, just 3% of NT live born babies had an Apgar score below seven; 4% of those born to Indigenous mothers and 2% to non-Indigenous mothers.
- Nineteen per cent of all NT live births received some form of resuscitation, excluding tactile stimulation. Resuscitation was more common among live born Indigenous babies than non-Indigenous babies (22% and 17% respectively).
- There were 50 perinatal deaths comprising 32 fetal deaths (stillbirths) and 18 neonatal deaths. The fetal death rate was similar for the NT Indigenous and non-Indigenous population in 2014 (8.7 and 8.0 deaths per 1000 births respectively). However, the overall Indigenous perinatal death rate was more than double that of the non-Indigenous rate (20.5 and 9.1 deaths per 1000 births respectively).

## Introduction

This report summarises data from the 2014 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 2014. The trend tables (see Appendix B) show changes over time for key demographic and obstetric indicators and birth outcomes over the period 2000–2014.

The primary purpose of this 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 non-NT residents who gave birth in the NT. However, the focus of this report is NT residents who gave birth in the NT. Unless otherwise stated, mothers and babies usually residing interstate or overseas were omitted from the statistical tables.

Information on NT women who gave birth interstate is not collected in the NT Midwives' Collection and is beyond the scope of this report. Perinatal reports compiled annually by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) publish estimated numbers of NT women who gave birth interstate. In their most recent report in 2013, it was estimated that at least 65 NT women gave birth interstate, predominantly in South Australia (34 births) and Queensland (19 births) (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2015). These figures are slightly lower when compared with reports from previous years. Indigenous status was not available for interstate births to NT women.

In this report, unless stated otherwise, maternal Indigenous status was used during the 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 and 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 (Chondur & Guthridge, 2006).

## 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 unintended locations such as 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.

The majority of information about births in the NT is 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 process 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 NT Midwives' Collection website. Births that occurred in community 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 NT Midwives' Collection were downloaded in unit record form from the Midwives' Activity Universe in Business Objects (online reporting and analysis tool) and transferred into a statistical program (Stata 14). The data went through further validation, and corrections were transferred back to the NT Midwives' Collection systems via the NT Perinatal Data Manager.

### NT Infant Death Register

The Health Gains Planning Branch of the NT Department of Health has maintained information on the deaths of children of NT residents that occurred in the NT 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 infant deaths and the NT Midwives' Collection for fetal deaths. The hospital morbidity dataset is also used as another source of data. The register includes both hospital and non-hospital infant deaths, but does not hold information on those NT residents who died interstate.

### Data limitations

Several data items in the NT Midwives' Collection, notably antenatal information including parity, previous caesareans, smoking and alcohol use during pregnancy, infant feeding status, maternal medical conditions and pregnancy complications, as well as indications for caesarean section are incomplete or of low accuracy. This is usually either due to the indirect data collection method or 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 definitive rules as to how 'not stated' data are reported, as a default position 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, the Health Gains Planning Branch commenced using the AIHW default position and 'not stated' data were excluded from the calculation of percentage distributions. This approach differs from reports compiled prior to the 2003 report. In these earlier reports, 'not stated' data were included as a percentage of the total in each table.

The effect of this change in approach is that the proportional distribution for certain data items, particularly alcohol consumption and smoking during pregnancy, is now markedly higher than previously reported. Comparative analyses involving reports published since 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 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 NT Midwives' Collection website is limited to the details at hand. Key antenatal indicators such as visit dates and health behaviours are the 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 NT Midwives' Collection are sometimes different to 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 NT Midwives' Collection and medical coders responsible for data entry in the main hospital data system.

In 2012, data for post-partum blood loss volume for all public hospital admissions was made available for analysis. In 2014, information on blood loss volume for DPH births was also made available. Prior to

2012 (and 2014 for DPH births), data on post-partum haemorrhages (PPH) were collected using the midwives flag entered at the time of birth, which may not accurately represent the proportion of PPH within hospitals. To improve the accuracy and standardisation of the data a new definition of PPH was developed to include all episodes with a post-partum blood loss volume of 500 millilitres or more (including caesarean sections), regardless of whether the PPH flag was used. Comparative analyses involving reports published since 2014 and those published prior to 2014 will need to take this methodological change into account.

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.

In the *Mothers and Babies 2012* report, the Health Gains Planning Branch commenced reporting of gestational age and birthweights of live births only in the hospitals and trends tables, as these are key indicators of population health. As a result, the birthweight and gestational age data may differ slightly from previous reports, where the gestational age and birthweight of both stillborn and live born babies were included.

The denominator population used to calculate fertility rates is the 2014 NT Estimated Resident Population based on the 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census of Population and Housing (see Appendix C).

Because the NT population is small, when data are disaggregated by Indigenous status, region, or place of birth, 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 2014 there were only five births at Tennant Creek Hospital and as a result a hospital profile has not been presented in Appendix A.

A further issue with data disaggregated by region for the Indigenous population is difficulties that some individuals may have identifying one usual place of residence (Morphy, 2007). This is particularly true for pregnant women who have to travel to and stay in an urban area from 38 weeks gestation to be close to a hospital when they are ready to give birth (Congress Alukura, 2008). The location they are staying in could thus be recorded as their current place of residence and not the usual residence they have travelled from. An audit of NT hospital demographic data in 2011 found 91% congruence between hospital records of patients' recorded health district of residence and the health district people identified as their usual place of residence when asked in an interview (Foley, Zhao, & Condon, 2012).

## Mothers and babies of the Northern Territory

### Mothers

#### Place of residence

In 2014, a total of 3,925 mothers gave birth to 3,976 babies in the NT, of which 3,944 were live births. Among all babies born in the NT, 98% were born to mothers who were resident in the NT at the time of the birth. There were 71 mothers from interstate or overseas who gave birth to 72 babies (2% of all babies born in the NT in 2014).

Indigenous mothers comprised 33% of all NT mothers in 2014. This figure is slightly higher than the proportion of the NT female population of child-bearing age (i.e. 15-49 years) who are Indigenous. In 2014, Indigenous women comprised 31% of all NT women of child-bearing age (Appendix C).

Most NT non-Indigenous mothers were living in urban areas (97%), which include the 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 (62%).

#### Country of birth

Seventy-six per cent of NT women who gave birth in 2014 were born in Australia. Of the 24% of NT mothers who were born overseas, the largest proportions were born in India (3%) and the Philippines (3%). Other locations contributing relatively large proportions of mothers born overseas were the United Kingdom, New Zealand (both 2%), Nepal, Indonesia, and Vietnam (all 1%). In regard to country groups (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016), the largest proportion of non-Australian born mothers came from South-East Asia (6%), followed by Southern and Central Asia (5%) and North-West Europe (4%).

#### Fertility rate

The total fertility rate (TFR) for the NT was 2.0 live births per woman (of child-bearing age) in 2014, slightly below the national replacement rate of 2.1 births per woman and higher than the TFR of 1.8 births per woman for the whole of Australia in the same period (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2015). Indigenous NT women had a fertility rate of 2.0 in 2014, while non-Indigenous women had a slightly lower rate of 1.9 live births per woman.

Higher TFRs for Indigenous women compared with non-Indigenous women were seen in both urban (2.2 and 2.0 respectively) and rural/remote areas (1.9 and 1.0 respectively) and in all health districts with the exception of Darwin Urban and East Arnhem. Katherine district had the highest TFR for all NT women (2.3) in 2014, while East Arnhem, Alice Springs Urban, and Alice Springs Rural were among the lowest (1.5, 1.7, and 1.8 respectively). The highest district-specific TFRs for Indigenous and non-Indigenous women were in Barkly (2.4) and Katherine (2.2) respectively.

The age-specific fertility rates show differences in the age of child-bearing between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations in the NT. The fertility rate of the youngest age group (less than 20 years of age) was over five times as high for Indigenous women compared with non-Indigenous women (75.2 and 12.9 births per 1,000 women respectively). Conversely, the fertility rate of the 35 years and older age group was much higher for non-Indigenous than Indigenous women (29.3 and 12.7 respectively).

#### Maternal age

The mean age of Indigenous mothers was 24.8 years, which was over five years younger than the mean age of 30 years for non-Indigenous mothers. This difference was due to the age profile of NT mothers (see Figure 1). Over fifty per cent (53%) of Indigenous mothers were aged less than 25 years, compared with 16% of non-Indigenous mothers. In contrast, over half of non-Indigenous mothers were aged 30 years or older (54%), while that age group comprised only 22% of all Indigenous mothers. A fifth (20%)

of Indigenous mothers were less than 20 years of age at the time of giving birth, ten times as high as the proportion of non-Indigenous mothers (2%). A further difference was seen among mothers aged less than 18 years, with 9% of all Indigenous mothers being in this age group, compared with less than 1% of non-Indigenous mothers. In contrast, non-Indigenous mothers were three times as likely to be aged 35 years and over as Indigenous mothers (21% and 7% 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 the Alice Springs Rural district were more likely to give birth below the age of 20 (27%) compared with Indigenous mothers in other health districts where the proportion of young mothers (aged less than 20 years) ranged between 13% and 25%. Across the NT the proportion of young Indigenous mothers was lower in urban areas (15%) than in rural/remote areas (23%) while there was little difference in these figures in regard to non-Indigenous mothers.

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 giving birth (20.3 and 28.5 years respectively). The vast majority of non-Indigenous first-time mothers were aged 25 years or older (78%), whereas half (51%) of first-time Indigenous mothers were less than 20 years of age, and almost a quarter of first-time Indigenous mothers were below 18 years of age (24%).

## Parity

The majority of NT mothers in 2014 had given birth at least once before. Nearly half (46%) of NT mothers had one or two previous births and 12% had three or more previous births. Forty-three per cent of women gave birth to their first child in 2014. First-time mothers were proportionally higher among non-Indigenous mothers (46%) than Indigenous mothers (35%). Similarly, Indigenous women were three times as likely as non-Indigenous to have had three or more previous births (21% and 7% respectively).

## Antenatal care

The majority of mothers had information on antenatal visits recorded. In less than 1% of records the date of first visit or frequency of visits was not recorded. The World Health Organization (WHO) classifies less than four antenatal visits during the whole pregnancy to be insufficient (World Health Organization, 2006). Among mothers for whom information was collected, Indigenous mothers in the NT were more likely to have had insufficient antenatal care documented (no antenatal visit or attended less than four visits) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (8% and 2% respectively). Indigenous mothers living in urban areas were slightly more likely to have had insufficient antenatal care compared with their counterparts in rural and remote areas (10% and 7% respectively). The highest proportion of Indigenous mothers receiving insufficient antenatal care was evident in the Barkly and Darwin Urban districts (both 11%), while contrastingly only 4% of Indigenous mothers in Darwin Rural had four antenatal visits or fewer.

It is important for maternal and fetal health for women to have their first antenatal visit within the first trimester of pregnancy (World Health Organization, 2006). In this report, first trimester is defined as a 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 2012 (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2013) and differs from NT perinatal reports published prior to 2012. 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 had a record of the time of their first visit, 89% of non-Indigenous mothers attended their first visit during the first trimester of pregnancy. This

proportion was much less for Indigenous mothers (58%). The proportion of Indigenous women attending a first antenatal visit in the first trimester was higher in urban areas than in rural/remote (65% and 53% 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 2014, 4% of alcohol consumption data were missing at the first visit and 16% at 36 weeks gestation. Missing data for alcohol consumption was more prevalent among the antenatal records of Indigenous mothers than non-Indigenous mothers. For these reasons, only self-reported alcohol consumption at the first antenatal visit is presented in this report. The prevalence of alcohol consumption reported below was calculated after removing missing data.

At first antenatal visit, 4% of all NT mothers reported drinking alcohol during their pregnancy. The prevalence of alcohol consumption was higher for Indigenous mothers (9% at the first visit) than for non-Indigenous mothers (2% at the first visit). Of those mothers who reported drinking alcohol during pregnancy at their first antenatal visit, Indigenous mothers were less likely to have ceased drinking by 36 weeks gestation (39% and 79% respectively).

### **Smoking status during pregnancy**

Smoking status during pregnancy is self-reported, and is recorded as having smoked before 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 only 1% for the first 20 weeks of gestation, however was 9% for post 20 weeks gestation. The vast majority of missing smoking data for post 20 weeks gestation was from the records of mothers who reported not smoking before 20 weeks gestation (85% of missing data). The estimated average daily quantity of cigarettes smoked is also collected post 20 weeks gestation. The prevalence of smoking during pregnancy reported below was calculated after removing records with missing data.

Twenty-one per cent of NT mothers reported smoking before 20 weeks of pregnancy. Indigenous mothers were over five times as likely as non-Indigenous mothers to report smoking during this early stage (46% and 9% respectively). Half (50%) of Indigenous mothers aged 20-34 reported smoking before 20 weeks, while non-Indigenous mothers aged under 20 (23%) were more much likely to smoke than those aged 20-34 and over 35 (9% and 5% respectively). Of those NT mothers who reported smoking early in pregnancy, non-Indigenous mothers were over twice as likely to have ceased smoking post 20 weeks gestation as non-Indigenous mothers (36% and 16% respectively).

Among Indigenous mothers, those living in Alice Springs Rural district had notably lower smoking rates than other districts, with 28% of mothers smoking before 20 weeks gestation, compared with 56% in Darwin Rural; which had the highest proportion of Indigenous women reporting smoking during the initial stages of pregnancy. This pattern of lower smoking rates in Central Australia is consistent with data from previous years and may be related to the local practice of chewing tobacco (pituri) in the region (Ratsch, Steadman, & Bogossian, 2010). In contrast to this, smoking figures were higher in the coastal regions, such as East Arnhem (55% of Indigenous mothers reported smoking early in pregnancy in 2014), where smoking has been a part of traditional practices for hundreds of years (Winstanley, van der Sterren, & Knoche, 2011).

### **Birth facility**

Nearly all NT births occurred in a hospital (98%) in 2014. The majority of hospital births took place at one of the five public hospitals in the NT (83%) and the rest were at DPH, the only private hospital in the NT. Almost all mothers who gave birth at DPH were non-Indigenous (98%).

A small proportion of mothers (1%) had a registered planned homebirth, while the remaining 1% of births were non-hospital births in unintended locations, such as births at a community health centre, births that occurred in transit to hospitals, and unplanned births in the home. Community health centres were the most common place for non-hospital births for Indigenous mothers (2% of all births by NT Indigenous mothers). Darwin Rural and Katherine health districts had the largest proportion of non-hospital births for Indigenous mothers (6% and 5% respectively), with the proportion in the remainder of health districts ranging between 1% and 4%.

### **Onset of labour and induction of labour**

Spontaneous (both augmented and not augmented) onset of labour occurred for 54% of all mothers; over a quarter of mothers (29%) had induced labour and 18% had no labour. Non-Indigenous mothers were slightly less likely to have spontaneous onset of labour than Indigenous mothers (52% and 57% respectively), while there were similar proportions of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers having no labour in 2014 (17% and 18% respectively).

### **Presentation and method of birth**

The majority of birth presentations for NT mothers were vertex (95%) while breech accounted for 4% and other presentations less than 1%.

Of all NT mothers giving birth in 2014, 57% had a normal vaginal delivery. Indigenous mothers were slightly more likely to have a normal vaginal delivery than non-Indigenous mothers (59% and 56% respectively). A third (33%) of births were performed by caesarean section, and the same proportion of caesarean births was evident for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers. Among all hospitals in the NT, DPH had the highest proportion of caesarean section births (43%) and the lowest proportion of normal vaginal births (45%). Instrumental deliveries using forceps or ventouse (vacuum suction) in childbirth accounted for 10% of births, while vaginal breech accounted for less than 1% of all births.

Among mothers who had a caesarean section, Indigenous mothers were more likely to undergo the procedure for emergency reasons (55%) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (50%). The primary reason for elective caesarean section births among all NT mothers was previous caesarean section (69%), while non-Indigenous mothers were more likely to have malpresentation as the primary reason than non-Indigenous mothers (15% and 10% respectively). The main reasons for emergency caesarean section included: failure to progress during labour (50%), fetal distress/compromise (non-reassuring fetal status) (43%) and malpresentation (9%). Indigenous mothers were more likely to have an emergency caesarean section because of fetal distress/compromise than non-Indigenous mothers (47% and 41% respectively), whereas failure to progress was a more common indicator for emergency caesareans among non-Indigenous mothers than Indigenous mothers (53% and 44% respectively).

### **Analgesia and anaesthesia for childbirth**

The vast majority of mothers who had spontaneous or induced onset of labour used some form of analgesia (82%). Analgesia use was only slightly higher among non-Indigenous mothers than Indigenous mothers (82% and 80% respectively). Non-Indigenous mothers were more likely to have an epidural as an analgesic than Indigenous mothers (26% and 18% respectively).

Anaesthesia was applied in nearly all operative (births using forceps or ventouse and via caesarean section) births (97%). Non-Indigenous women were more likely than Indigenous women to have epidural/caudal anaesthesia (24% and 17% respectively). By contrast, there was higher use of spinal anaesthesia among Indigenous women compared with non-Indigenous women (63% and 58% respectively). General, local, pudendal, and a combination of spinal and epidural anaesthesia were administered to similar proportions of Indigenous and non-Indigenous women having operative births.

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

This report presents information on a selection of pregnancy and labour/childbirth complications. Eighteen per cent all NT mothers experienced at least one of the listed pregnancy complications in 2014, while over half (58%) experienced a complication of labour/childbirth. Indigenous mothers were more likely to have a pregnancy and/or labour complication than non-Indigenous mothers (24% and 61% compared with 15% and 56% respectively).

In terms of specific pregnancy complications, Indigenous mothers had higher proportions of gestational diabetes mellitus and pre-existing diabetes mellitus (16% and 5% respectively) compared with non-Indigenous mothers (12% and less than 1%), and were also slightly more likely to have pre-eclampsia (5% and 3% respectively).

Post-partum haemorrhage (PPH) (cases recorded as having a blood loss volume of 500 millilitres or more) was the most common childbirth complication for all NT mothers (36%). Sixty-one per cent of NT mothers who had a caesarean birth had an estimated blood loss amount of 500 millilitres or more, while the proportion was 24% for vaginal births. Indigenous mothers were more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to have had a blood loss volume of 500 millilitres or more during a vaginal birth (30% and 21% respectively), however it was the opposite for caesarean section births (53% and 65% respectively).

## **Perineal status**

Thirty per cent of all mothers who gave birth vaginally had an intact perineum after childbirth, while 27% had a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree perineal tear. A small proportion (2%) had a third or fourth degree tear. Episiotomy was performed on 16% of women who had vaginal births. Indigenous mothers were more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to have an intact perineum (39% and 26% respectively) following vaginal birth.

## **Postnatal hospital stay**

The majority of mothers who gave birth in hospital stayed in hospital for one day or more following the birth (94%). Most hospital stays were for less than one week and only 4% of women stayed for eight or more days. The average length of stay for all NT mothers was 3.3 days. Indigenous mothers were more likely than non-Indigenous mothers to have a hospital stay of one day or more (97% and 92% respectively) and more likely to stay for eight or more days (8% and 2% respectively). The overall average length of stay for all birth methods was longer among Indigenous mothers compared with non-Indigenous mothers (3.9 days and 3.1 days respectively). The longest average postnatal hospital stay for all mothers was following emergency caesarean births (4.9 days), while the shortest was after normal vaginal births (2.5 days).

## Babies

### Birth status

In 2014, a total of 3,976 babies were born in the NT. Of these, 72 were born to mothers who were not NT residents. Of the 3,904 babies born to NT mothers, 32 were fetal deaths and 3,872 were live births. The proportion of fetal deaths was similar for births by Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers (both less than 1%). Three-quarters of fetal deaths (75%) had an extremely low birthweight of less than 1000 grams. Similarly, 75% of fetal deaths were also very preterm, being born before 28 weeks gestation.

### Plurality

There were 50 twin births to NT mothers in 2014 and no other multiple births. The proportion of multiple births was similar among Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers (1.1% and 1.4% of all births respectively).

### Gestational age and birthweight

Altogether there were 383 (10%) preterm live births (gestational age less than 37 weeks). Proportionally there were over twice as many preterm live born babies born to Indigenous mothers (16%) than to non-Indigenous mothers (7%). Three-quarters (75%) of the 24 live born babies in the very preterm category (less than 28 weeks gestation) were born to Indigenous mothers.

Of all live born babies, 9% were low birthweight (less than 2500 grams). Babies born to Indigenous mothers were more than twice as likely to have a low birthweight as babies born to non-Indigenous mothers (14% and 6% respectively). This difference was also seen in very low birthweight babies (less than 1500 grams), with 3% of the live born babies born to Indigenous mothers in this category compared with less than 1% of babies born to non-Indigenous mothers. In all health districts, Indigenous mothers were more likely to have low birthweight or preterm babies than non-Indigenous mothers. The health districts with the highest proportion of low birthweight babies born to Indigenous mothers were East Arnhem (20%), Darwin Rural (17%), and Darwin Urban (15%). Contrastingly, Indigenous mothers in Alice Springs Urban were much less likely to have a low birthweight live born baby (5%); with a proportion 6% lower than any other district. However, it should be noted that pregnant women in Central Australia who look like birthing before 30 weeks gestation, or who have a cardiac condition that warrants further investigation or intervention, are often transferred interstate to give birth (when the birth is not imminent).

Among full term (37 weeks and over) singleton live born babies, 5% of those born to Indigenous mothers were of low birthweight compared with 2% born to non-Indigenous mothers.

### Apgar scores

An Apgar score is a clinical indicator of the condition of the baby at birth. Five physical signs (heart rate, breathing, colour, muscle tone, and reflex irritability) are each assigned a score of 0, 1, or 2, with the highest total Apgar score being 10. A score of 7-10 indicates a healthy baby (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2015). By five minutes after birth 97% of all NT live born babies had an Apgar score above seven, and for Indigenous and non-Indigenous babies the proportions were 96% and 98% respectively.

### Resuscitation of live born babies

Nineteen per cent of babies born alive received some form of resuscitation, excluding tactile stimulation. Resuscitation was more prevalent among Indigenous compared with non-Indigenous live born babies (22% and 17% respectively). The most common methods of resuscitation were intermittent positive pressure ventilation (IPPV) (6%), suction (4%), and facial oxygen only (3%). Methods such as intubation, external cardiac massage (ECM) and ventilation were uncommon (all less than 1%), while other non-listed methods including continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) contributed 5% in total.

## **Infant feeding**

Information regarding infant feeding status is captured upon the discharge of the mother as an inpatient. The information included in this report includes babies who have been admitted to the special care unit and discharged with their mother, however babies are excluded from the data if they remain as a paediatric inpatient following the mother's separation date or are born prematurely. This data item does not meet the data specifications for the WHO Baby-friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI), in that all babies admitted to the special care unit for more than 24 hours are not excluded (Australian College of Midwives, 2016). Infant feeding data was included in the annual Mothers and Babies report for the first time in 2014, however any results should be interpreted with caution as the proportion of missing data was sizeable for this item (10% in 2014) as data collection was only made mandatory from April 2014 onwards. The information reported below was calculated after removing records with missing data.

The percentage of singleton live born babies fully breastfed at the time of the mother's discharge from hospital was 88%, while 9% were being breastfed at the mother's discharge but received at least one artificial formula feed during the admission, and 2% were receiving artificial formula upon discharge following breastfeeding being initiated. Two per cent of babies had artificial formula only. Proportions were similar among Indigenous and non-Indigenous babies.

## **Perinatal mortality**

Perinatal mortality includes fetal deaths and neonatal deaths. A neonatal death is the death of a live born baby within 28 days of birth. In 2014 there were 50 perinatal deaths in the NT, comprising 32 fetal deaths and 18 neonatal deaths. The rate of fetal deaths was comparable for Indigenous and non-Indigenous mothers, at 8.7 and 8 deaths per 1000 births respectively. However, of the 18 neonatal deaths, 15 were Indigenous and three non-Indigenous. The overall Indigenous perinatal death rate was over double that of the non-Indigenous rate (20.5 and 9.1 deaths per 1000 births respectively).

Indigenous fetal, neonatal, and perinatal death rates throughout the NT were lower in 2014 than those seen in previous years, while non-Indigenous rates remained stable. However, due to the small numbers involved, these results are likely influenced by random fluctuation. These rates do not include the perinatal deaths of babies born outside the NT.

# Statistical tables

## Mothers

**Table 1. Summary statistics, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

		Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>		<b>2597</b>		<b>3854</b>	
	<b>Maternal age</b>						
	<20	256	20.4	53	2.0	309	8.0
	20-34	914	72.7	2005	77.2	2919	75.7
	35+	87	6.9	539	20.8	626	16.2
	<b>Place of birth</b>						
	Hospital	1214	96.6	2562	98.7	3776	98.0
	Non-hospital	43	3.4	35	1.3	78	2.0
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>						
	Spontaneous (Not augmented)	441	35.1	901	34.7	1342	34.8
	Spontaneous (Augmented)	269	21.4	454	17.5	723	18.8
	Induced	337	26.8	765	29.5	1102	28.6
	No labour	210	16.7	477	18.4	687	17.8
	<b>Method of birth</b>						
	Normal vaginal	741	58.9	1447	55.7	2188	56.8
	Vaginal breech	9	0.7	5	0.2	14	0.4
	Forceps	32	2.5	108	4.2	140	3.6
	Ventouse	66	5.3	161	6.2	227	5.9
	Caesarean section	409	32.5	876	33.7	1285	33.3
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>441</b>		<b>1199</b>		<b>1640</b>	
	<b>Maternal age</b>						
	<20	223	50.6	45	3.8	268	16.3
	20-34	213	48.3	999	83.3	1212	73.9
	35+	5	1.1	155	12.9	160	9.8
<b>TOTAL FERTILITY RATE</b>		<b>2.00</b>		<b>1.90</b>		<b>2.00</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 2014.

**Table 2. Total births in the NT, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, 2014**

District	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Mothers	Babies	Mothers	Babies	Mothers	Babies
Darwin Urban	224	227	2005	2036	2229	2263
Darwin Rural	250	253	39	39	289	292
Katherine	221	223	158	159	379	382
East Arnhem	148	151	68	69	216	220
Barkly	105	106	21	21	126	127
Alice Springs Urban	120	121	286	289	406	410
Alice Springs Rural	189	190	20	20	209	210
<b>NT total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>2633</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>3904</b>
Non NT	58	59	13	13	71	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>1315</b>	<b>1330</b>	<b>2610</b>	<b>2646</b>	<b>3925</b>	<b>3976</b>

**Table 3. Area of usual residence, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Area	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Urban area	480	38.2	2505	96.5	2985	77.5
Rural/remote area	777	61.8	92	3.5	869	22.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 4. District and area of usual residence, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

District	Area	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Darwin Urban		224	17.8	2005	77.2	2229	57.8
Darwin Rural		250	19.9	39	1.5	289	7.5
Katherine	Urban	66	5.3	142	5.5	208	5.4
	Rural/remote	155	12.3	16	0.6	171	4.4
East Arnhem	Urban	6	0.5	51	2.0	57	1.5
	Rural/remote	142	11.3	17	0.7	159	4.1
Barkly	Urban	64	5.1	21	0.8	85	2.2
	Rural/remote	41	3.3	0	0.0	41	1.1
Alice Springs Urban		120	9.5	286	11.0	406	10.5
Alice Springs Rural		189	15.0	20	0.8	209	5.4
<b>Total</b>		<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 5. Maternal country of birth group, NT mothers, 2014**

Country group <sup>(a)</sup> (and major countries of birth)	Number	%
<b>Oceania &amp; Antarctica</b>	3012	78.3
<i>Australia</i>	2907	75.6
<i>New Zealand</i>	77	2.0
<b>North-West Europe</b>	138	3.6
<i>United Kingdom</i>	81	2.1
<i>Ireland</i>	28	0.7
<b>Southern &amp; Eastern Europe</b>	33	0.9
<b>North Africa &amp; The Middle East</b>	41	1.1
<b>South-East Asia</b>	240	6.2
<i>Philippines</i>	108	2.8
<i>Indonesia</i>	33	0.9
<i>Vietnam</i>	32	0.8
<b>North-East Asia</b>	56	1.5
<b>Southern &amp; Central Asia</b>	198	5.1
<i>India</i>	112	2.9
<i>Nepal</i>	42	1.1
<b>Americas</b>	45	1.2
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	84	2.2
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>3847</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3854</b>	

(a) Australian Bureau of Statistics. Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS). Canberra: ABS, 1990 (Catalogue No1269.0).

**Table 6. Total fertility rate, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, NT mothers, 2014**

District	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
Darwin Urban	1.9	2.0	2.0
Darwin Rural	2.1	1.5	2.1
Katherine	2.3	2.2	2.3
East Arnhem	1.4	1.5	1.5
Barkly	2.4	1.4	2.2
Alice Springs Urban	2.2	1.5	1.7
Alice Springs Rural	2.0	0.9	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.0</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 2014.

**Table 7. Total fertility rate, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2014**

Remoteness	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
Urban area	2.2	2.0	2.0
Rural/remote area	1.9	1.0	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.0</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 2014.

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

**Table 8. Age-specific fertility rates and total fertility rate, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Indigenous status	Age specific fertility rate (births per 1000 women)			Total fertility rate
	<20 years	20-34 years	35+ years	
Indigenous	75.2	97.4	12.7	2.0
Non-Indigenous	12.9	97.1	29.3	1.9
<b>All NT</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>97.2</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>2.0</b>

Notes:

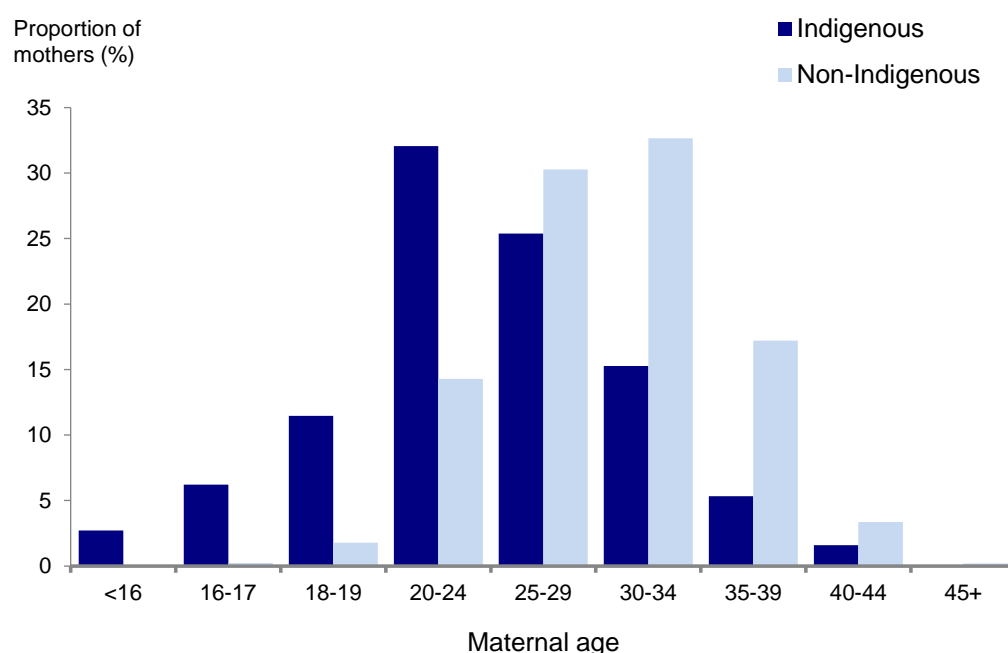
(1) Age-specific fertility rate is the number of births per 1000 women in each age group. The rate for the &lt;20 age group is calculated using the female population aged 15-19 years; the rate for the 35+ group is calculated using the female population aged 35-49 years.

(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 2014.

**Table 9. Maternal age, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Maternal age (years)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<16	34	2.7	1	0.0	35	0.9
16-17	78	6.2	6	0.2	84	2.2
18-19	144	11.5	46	1.8	190	4.9
20-24	403	32.1	371	14.3	774	20.1
25-29	319	25.4	786	30.3	1105	28.7
30-34	192	15.3	848	32.7	1040	27.0
35-39	67	5.3	447	17.2	514	13.3
40-44	20	1.6	87	3.4	107	2.8
45+	0	0.0	5	0.2	5	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>24.8</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>28.3</b>	

**Figure 1. Distribution of maternal age, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**



**Table 10. Maternal age, by Indigenous status and district of usual residence, NT mothers, 2014**

District	Maternal age (years)			Total
	<20	20-34	35+	
	%	%	%	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	12.9	74.6	12.5	224
Darwin Rural	22.0	73.2	4.8	250
Katherine	24.9	69.7	5.4	221
East Arnhem	15.5	77.0	7.4	148
Barkly	24.8	69.5	5.7	105
Alice Springs Urban	15.0	79.2	5.8	120
Alice Springs Rural	26.5	67.7	5.8	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>72.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>1257</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	2.1	76.8	21.1	2005
Darwin Rural	0.0	79.5	20.5	39
Katherine	2.5	81.6	15.8	158
East Arnhem	0.0	73.5	26.5	68
Barkly	4.8	81.0	14.3	21
Alice Springs Urban	1.7	79.0	19.2	286
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	65.0	35.0	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>77.2</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>2597</b>
<b>All NT</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>75.7</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>3854</b>

**Table 11. Maternal age, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2014**

Area	Maternal age (years)			Total
	<20	20-34	35+	
	%	%	%	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	15.4	75.4	9.2	<b>480</b>
Rural/remote area	23.4	71.0	5.5	<b>777</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>72.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>1257</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	2.1	77.3	20.6	<b>2505</b>
Rural/remote area	0.0	75.0	25.0	<b>92</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>77.2</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>2597</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 12. Maternal parity, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Parity	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	441	35.1	1199	46.2	1640	42.6
1-2	549	43.7	1219	46.9	1768	45.9
3+	267	21.2	179	6.9	446	11.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 13. Maternal age, by Indigenous status, NT first-time mothers, 2014**

Maternal age (years)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<16	34	7.7	1	0.1	35	2.1
16-17	70	15.9	6	0.5	76	4.6
18-19	119	27.0	38	3.2	157	9.6
20-24	158	35.8	222	18.5	380	23.2
25-29	42	9.5	447	37.3	489	29.8
30-34	13	2.9	330	27.5	343	20.9
35+	5	1.1	155	12.9	160	9.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1199</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1640</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>20.3</b>		<b>28.5</b>		<b>26.3</b>	

**Table 14. Antenatal visits, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Number of antenatal visits	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	14	1.1	4	0.2	18	0.5
1-3	83	6.7	41	1.6	124	3.2
4-7	379	30.5	528	20.4	907	23.7
8+	765	61.6	2013	77.8	2778	72.6
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2586</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3827</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	16		11		27	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>		<b>2597</b>		<b>3854</b>	

**Table 15. Antenatal visits, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2014**

District	Number of antenatal visits				Total stated Number	Not stated Number	Total Number
	0	1 - 3	4 - 7	8+			
	%	%	%	%			
Darwin Urban	1.4	9.5	37.1	52.0	221	3	224
Darwin Rural	0.8	3.2	16.5	79.5	249	1	250
Katherine	0.0	5.7	28.9	65.4	211	10	221
East Arnhem	0.7	6.2	22.6	70.5	146	2	148
Barkly	5.7	5.7	38.1	50.5	105	0	105
Alice Springs Urban	0.8	8.3	36.7	54.2	120	0	120
Alice Springs Rural	0.5	9.0	41.3	49.2	189	0	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1257</b>

**Table 16. Antenatal visits, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2014**

	Number of antenatal visits				Total stated Number	Not stated Number	Total Number
	0	1 - 3	4 - 7	8+			
	%	%	%	%			
<b>Indigenous</b>							
Urban area	1.9	8.0	34.6	55.5	474	6	480
Rural/remote area	0.7	5.9	28.0	65.4	767	10	777
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1257</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>							
Urban area	0.2	1.6	20.3	78.0	2494	11	2505
Rural/remote area	0.0	2.2	23.9	73.9	92	0	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>2586</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2597</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 17. Gestation at first antenatal visit, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Gestation at first antenatal visit	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
First trimester	715	57.5	2314	89.3	3029	79.0
Second trimester	420	33.8	245	9.5	665	17.3
Third trimester	108	8.7	32	1.2	140	3.7
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2591</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3834</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	14		6		20	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>		<b>2597</b>		<b>3854</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) Not stated includes mothers with zero antenatal visits recorded and/or mothers with no date of first antenatal visit recorded.

**Table 18. Gestation at first antenatal visit, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2014**

District	Gestation at first antenatal visit			Total stated	Not stated	Total
	First trimester	Second trimester	Third trimester			
	%	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Darwin Urban	75.1	20.4	4.5	221	3	224
Darwin Rural	55.6	37.9	6.5	248	2	250
Katherine	53.8	36.2	10.0	221	0	221
East Arnhem	45.3	48.0	6.8	148	0	148
Barkly	46.5	37.4	16.2	99	6	105
Alice Springs Urban	58.8	26.9	14.3	119	1	120
Alice Springs Rural	58.3	32.6	9.1	187	2	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1257</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) Not stated includes mothers with zero antenatal visits recorded and/or mothers with no date of first antenatal visit recorded.

**Table 19. Gestation at first antenatal visit, by Indigenous status and area of usual residence, NT mothers, 2014**

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	65.0	25.7	9.3	471	9	480
Rural/remote area	53.0	38.7	8.3	772	5	777
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1257</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
Urban area	89.4	9.3	1.3	2499	6	2505
Rural/remote area	85.9	14.1	0.0	92	0	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2591</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2597</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 of Darwin and Alice Springs plus the major townships of Katherine, Tennant Creek, and Nhulunbuy; rural/remote area covers the rest of the NT.

(3) Not stated includes mothers with zero antenatal visits recorded and/or mothers with no date of first antenatal visit recorded.

**Table 20. Self-reported alcohol consumption at first antenatal visit, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Alcohol consumption	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Alcohol	103	8.9	39	1.5	142	3.9
No alcohol	1057	91.1	2487	98.5	3544	96.1
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1160</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2526</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3686</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	97		71		168	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>		<b>2597</b>		<b>3854</b>	

**Table 21. Self-reported smoking status before 20 weeks gestation, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Smoking status	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Smoking	572	46.4	226	8.7	798	20.9
Non-smoking	660	53.6	2364	91.3	3024	79.1
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1232</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2590</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3822</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	25		7		32	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>		<b>2597</b>		<b>3854</b>	

**Table 22. Self-reported average number of cigarettes smoked per day post 20 weeks gestation, NT mothers who reported smoking before 20 weeks gestation, 2014**

Number of cigarettes per day	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
None (ceased smoking)	83	15.7	78	35.6	161	21.5
<10	253	47.7	76	34.7	329	43.9
10+	194	36.6	65	29.7	259	34.6
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	42		7		49	
<b>Total</b>	<b>572</b>		<b>226</b>		<b>798</b>	

Notes:

(1) The '<10' category includes mothers who reported smoking less than one daily cigarette post 20 weeks gestation.

**Table 23. Self-reported smoking status before 20 weeks gestation, by maternal age and Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Age	Smoking status		Total stated	Not stated	Total
	Smoking	Non-smoking			
	%	%	Number	Number	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>					
<20	34.5	65.5	<b>249</b>	7	<b>256</b>
20-34	49.9	50.1	<b>899</b>	15	<b>914</b>
35+	44.0	56.0	<b>84</b>	3	<b>87</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>1232</b>	25	<b>1257</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>					
<20	22.6	77.4	<b>53</b>	0	<b>53</b>
20-34	9.3	90.7	<b>2001</b>	4	<b>2005</b>
35+	5.2	94.8	<b>536</b>	3	<b>539</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>91.3</b>	<b>2590</b>	7	<b>2597</b>

**Table 24. Self-reported smoking status before 20 weeks gestation, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2014**

District	Smoking	Non-smoking	Total stated	Not stated	Total
	%	%	Number	Number	Number
Darwin Urban	48.6	51.4	220	4	224
Darwin Rural	55.7	44.3	246	4	250
Katherine	53.0	47.0	215	6	221
East Arnhem	54.5	45.5	143	5	148
Barkly	40.2	59.8	102	3	105
Alice Springs Urban	35.8	64.2	120	0	120
Alice Springs Rural	28.0	72.0	186	3	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>1232</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1257</b>

**Table 25. Actual place of birth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Actual place of birth	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
RDH	573	45.6	1329	51.2	1902	49.4
RDH Birth Centre	6	0.5	116	4.5	122	3.2
DPH	11	0.9	629	24.2	640	16.6
GDH	86	6.8	51	2.0	137	3.6
KH	137	10.9	129	5.0	266	6.9
TCH	5	0.4	0	0.0	5	0.1
ASH	396	31.5	308	11.9	704	18.3
Planned homes	0	0.0	27	1.0	27	0.7
Others <sup>(a)</sup>	17	1.4	8	0.3	25	0.6
Health centres	26	2.1	0	0.0	26	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) 'Others' include births that occurred in transit to hospitals and in unintended locations, including unplanned births in the home.

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), and Alice Springs Hospital (ASH).

**Table 26. Actual place of birth, by district of usual residence, NT Indigenous mothers, 2014**

District	Actual place of birth			Total
	Hospital	Health centres	Others <sup>(a)</sup>	Number
	%	%	%	
Darwin Urban	98.7	0.4	0.9	224
Darwin Rural	94.4	4.0	1.6	250
Katherine	95.5	2.7	1.8	221
East Arnhem	95.9	2.0	2.0	148
Barkly	99.0	0.0	1.0	105
Alice Springs Urban	99.2	0.0	0.8	120
Alice Springs Rural	95.8	3.2	1.1	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>96.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1257</b>

(a) 'Others' includes births that occurred in transit to hospitals and in unintended locations, including unplanned births in the home

**Table 27. Type of labour onset, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Type of labour onset	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Spontaneous (Not augmented)	441	35.1	901	34.7	1342	34.8
Spontaneous (Augmented)	269	21.4	454	17.5	723	18.8
Induced	337	26.8	765	29.5	1102	28.6
No labour	210	16.7	477	18.4	687	17.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 28. Method of induction, by Indigenous status, NT mothers with induced onset of labour, 2014**

Method of induction	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
ARM	236	70.0	519	67.8	755	68.5
Oxytocics	261	77.4	553	72.3	814	73.9
Prostaglandins	150	44.5	334	43.7	484	43.9
Other methods	13	3.9	25	3.3	38	3.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1102</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

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

(2) ARM stands for artificial rupture of membranes.

**Table 29. Birth presentation, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Presentation at birth	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Vertex	1192	94.8	2469	95.1	3661	95.0
Breech	59	4.7	100	3.9	159	4.1
Face	0	0.0	5	0.2	5	0.1
Brow	0	0.0	8	0.3	8	0.2
Other	6	0.5	15	0.6	21	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 30. Method of birth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Method of birth	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Normal vaginal	741	58.9	1447	55.7	2188	56.8
Vaginal breech	9	0.7	5	0.2	14	0.4
Forceps	32	2.5	108	4.2	140	3.6
Ventouse	66	5.3	161	6.2	227	5.9
Caesarean - elective	182	14.5	438	16.9	620	16.1
Caesarean - emergency	227	18.1	438	16.9	665	17.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 31. Method of birth, by type of labour onset, NT mothers, 2014**

Type of labour onset	Method of birth				Total
	Normal vaginal	Assisted Vaginal <sup>(a)</sup>	Caesarean-elective	Caesarean-emergency	Number
	%	%	%	%	
Spontaneous (Not augmented)	80.0	7.8	4.2	8.0	1342
Spontaneous (Augmented)	62.8	18.0	0.0	19.2	723
Induced	59.9	13.2	0.0	26.9	1102
No labour	0.0	0.0	82.1	17.9	687
<b>Total</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>3854</b>

(a) Assisted vaginal births include forceps, ventouse, and vaginal breech births (which may or may not have been assisted).

**Table 32. Method of birth, by gestational age and Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Gestational age (weeks)	Method of birth					Total
	Normal vaginal	Vaginal breech	Instrumental vaginal <sup>(a)</sup>	Caesarean-elective	Caesarean-emergency	Number
	%	%	%	%	%	
<b>Indigenous</b>						
<37	59.0	4.6	2.1	9.7	24.6	195
37+	58.9	0.0	8.9	15.3	16.9	1062
<b>Total</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>1257</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
<37	44.6	2.2	9.2	12.0	32.1	184
37+	56.6	0.0	10.4	17.2	15.7	2413
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>2597</b>

(a) Instrumental vaginal births include forceps and ventouse births.

**Table 33. Method of birth, by hospital, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2014**

Hospital	Method of birth				Total
	Normal vaginal	Assisted Vaginal <sup>(a)</sup>	Caesarean-elective	Caesarean-emergency	Number
	%	%	%	%	
RDH	56.0	10.0	14.8	19.2	2024
DPH	44.7	12.2	27.8	15.3	640
GDH	69.3	10.9	10.9	8.8	137
KH	63.9	7.9	13.9	14.3	266
ASH	60.1	8.8	12.9	18.2	704
<b>All hospitals</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>3776</b>

(a) Assisted vaginal births include forceps, ventouse, and vaginal breech births (which may or may not have been assisted).

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), and Alice Springs Hospital (ASH).

(2) There were 5 births at TCH in 2014 and these are only included in the count of all hospitals.

**Table 34. Indications for caesarean section, by Indigenous status, NT mothers giving birth via caesarean section, 2014**

Indication for caesarean section	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b><i>Elective caesarean</i></b>						
Previous caesarean	135	75.4	286	66.4	421	69.0
Malpresentation	17	9.5	64	14.8	81	13.3
Other	32	17.9	98	22.7	130	21.3
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	3		7		10	
<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>		<b>438</b>		<b>620</b>	
<b><i>Emergency caesarean</i></b>						
Failure to progress	100	44.2	231	53.2	331	50.2
Fetal distress/compromise	105	46.5	176	40.6	281	42.6
Malpresentation	29	12.8	32	7.4	61	9.2
Ante-partum haemorrhage	10	4.4	17	3.9	27	4.1
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	3	0.7	3	0.5
Other	39	17.3	76	17.5	115	17.4
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	1		4		5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>227</b>		<b>438</b>		<b>665</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/compromise, malpresentation, ante-partum haemorrhage, and cord prolapse are not included in the count of 'Other' indications for emergency caesareans.

**Table 35. Method of analgesia, by Indigenous status, NT mothers with spontaneous or induced onset of labour, 2014**

Analgesia: highest rank of method used	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Nitrous oxide	380	36.9	688	33.5	1068	34.6
Narcotics	182	17.7	304	14.8	486	15.8
Epidural	183	17.8	531	25.8	714	23.2
Other	77	7.5	171	8.3	248	8.0
None	207	20.1	361	17.6	568	18.4
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1029</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2055</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3084</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	18		65		83	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1047</b>		<b>2120</b>		<b>3167</b>	

**Table 36. Method of anaesthesia, by Indigenous status, NT mothers having operative birth, 2014**

Anaesthesia: highest rank of method used	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Local	35	7.0	65	5.7	100	6.1
Pudendal	12	2.4	25	2.2	37	2.3
Epidural/Caudal	85	17.0	267	23.6	352	21.6
Spinal	317	63.3	656	58.0	973	59.6
Spinal and Epidural	2	0.4	15	1.3	17	1.0
General	39	7.8	60	5.3	99	6.1
Other	2	0.4	9	0.8	11	0.7
None	9	1.8	34	3.0	43	2.6
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1131</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1632</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	6		14		20	
<b>Total</b>	<b>507</b>		<b>1145</b>		<b>1652</b>	

Notes:

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

**Table 37. Complications of pregnancy and childbirth, by Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

Type of complication	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Pregnancy</b>						
Gestational diabetes mellitus <sup>(a)</sup>	202	16.1	316	12.2	518	13.4
Pre-existing diabetes mellitus	56	4.5	13	0.5	69	1.8
Pre-eclampsia <sup>(a)</sup>	61	4.9	76	2.9	137	3.6
<b>Any pregnancy complication</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>18.1</b>
<b>Labour/childbirth</b>						
Cord prolapse <sup>(a)</sup>	1	0.1	4	0.2	5	0.1
Fetal distress/compromise	173	13.8	319	12.3	492	12.8
Manual removal of placenta <sup>(a)</sup>	47	3.7	37	1.4	84	2.2
Meconium stained liquor	170	13.5	299	11.5	469	12.2
Obstructed labour	73	5.8	141	5.4	214	5.6
Post-partum haemorrhage <sup>(b)</sup>	466	37.1	936	36.0	1402	36.4
Other	182	14.5	297	11.4	479	12.4
<b>Any labour/childbirth complication</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>1453</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>2218</b>	<b>57.6</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>1257</b>		<b>2597</b>		<b>3854</b>	

(a) Indicates validated data items.

(b) Includes cases recorded as having a blood loss volume of 500mL or more.

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.

**Table 38. Estimated blood loss volume during birth, by method of birth and Indigenous status, NT mothers, 2014**

	Blood loss	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Vaginal births	None-499mL	597	70.4	1358	78.9	1955	76.1
	500-999mL	146	17.2	253	14.7	399	15.5
	1000mL +	105	12.4	110	6.4	215	8.4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1721</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2569</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Caesarean births	None-499mL	194	47.4	303	34.6	497	38.7
	500-999mL	170	41.6	499	57.0	669	52.1
	1000mL +	45	11.0	74	8.4	119	9.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1285</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 39. Blood transfusions, by estimated blood loss volume and method of birth, NT mothers with a blood loss volume of at least 500 millilitres (PPH), 2014**

		Blood loss					
		500-999mL		1000mL +		All	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Vaginal births	Transfused	14	3.5	63	29.3	77	12.5
	Not transfused	385	96.5	152	70.7	537	87.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Caesarean births	Transfused	7	1.0	24	20.2	31	3.9
	Not transfused	662	99.0	95	79.8	757	96.1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Notes:

(1) The blood transfusion/PPH data item does not differentiate between the primary sources of anaemia, which may include antenatal anaemia or intrapartum haemorrhage.

**Table 40. State of the perineum, by Indigenous status, NT mothers having vaginal birth, 2014**

State of the perineum	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Intact	317	39.0	440	26.2	757	30.4
1 <sup>st</sup> degree tear/graze <sup>(a)</sup>	212	26.1	410	24.4	622	24.9
2 <sup>nd</sup> degree tear	164	20.2	497	29.5	661	26.5
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> degree tear	16	2.0	36	2.1	52	2.1
Episiotomy	95	11.7	282	16.8	377	15.1
Combined episiotomy & tear	8	1.0	17	1.0	25	1.0
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1682</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2494</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	36		39		75	
<b>Total</b>	<b>848</b>		<b>1721</b>		<b>2569</b>	

**Table 41. Length of postnatal hospital stay, by Indigenous status, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2014**

Length of postnatal stay (days)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0	35	2.9	209	8.2	244	6.5
1-3	634	52.2	1338	52.2	1972	52.2
4-7	452	37.2	959	37.4	1411	37.4
8 & more	93	7.7	56	2.2	149	3.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1214</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2562</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3776</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 42. Average length of postnatal hospital stay, by Indigenous status and method of birth, NT mothers giving birth in hospital, 2014**

Method of birth	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All NT
	Average length (days) of postnatal stay		
Normal vaginal	3.0	2.3	2.5
Assisted vaginal <sup>(a)</sup>	3.9	3.4	3.6
Caesarean - elective	4.6	4.2	4.3
Caesarean - emergency	6.0	4.4	4.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>

(a) Assisted vaginal births include forceps, ventouse, and vaginal breech births (which may or may not have been assisted).

## Babies

**Table 43. Summary statistics, by maternal Indigenous status, NT births, 2014**

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Birth status</b>						
Live births	1260	99.1	2612	99.2	3872	99.2
Stillbirths	11	0.9	21	0.8	32	0.8
<b>Baby's sex</b>						
Males	663	52.2	1336	50.8	1999	51.2
Females	606	47.8	1296	49.2	1902	48.8
<b>Plurality</b>						
Singletons	1243	97.8	2561	97.3	3804	97.4
Multiples	28	2.2	72	2.7	100	2.6
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500	46	3.6	34	1.3	80	2.0
1500 - 2499	140	11.0	137	5.2	277	7.1
2500 - 3999	1006	79.2	2172	82.5	3178	81.4
4000+	79	6.2	290	11.0	369	9.5
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28	25	2.0	23	0.9	48	1.2
28-36	180	14.2	183	7.0	363	9.3
37+	1066	83.9	2427	92.2	3493	89.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1271</b>		<b>2633</b>		<b>3904</b>	

Notes:

(1) The sex of three babies was unknown, and therefore the total may differ from the sum of the components in that section of the table.

**Table 44. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and birth status, NT births, 2014**

Gestational age (weeks)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Stillbirths</b>						
<28	7	63.6	17	81.0	24	75.0
28 - 36	2	18.2	2	9.5	4	12.5
37+	2	18.2	2	9.5	4	12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Live births</b>						
<28	18	1.4	6	0.2	24	0.6
28 - 36	178	14.1	181	6.9	359	9.3
37+	1064	84.4	2425	92.8	3489	90.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1260</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2612</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3872</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>All births</b>						
<28	25	2.0	23	0.9	48	1.2
28 - 36	180	14.2	183	7.0	363	9.3
37+	1066	83.9	2427	92.2	3493	89.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2633</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3904</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 45. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and birth status, NT births, 2014**

Birthweight (g)	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Stillbirths</b>						
<1000	7	63.6	17	81.0	24	75.0
1000 - 1499	1	9.1	1	4.8	2	6.3
1500 - 2499	1	9.1	1	4.8	2	6.3
2500+	2	18.2	2	9.5	4	12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<i>Mean birthweight (g)</i>	<i>1056</i>		<i>681</i>		<i>810</i>	
<b>Live births</b>						
<1000	18	1.4	7	0.3	25	0.6
1000 - 1499	20	1.6	9	0.3	29	0.7
1500 - 2499	139	11.0	136	5.2	275	7.1
2500+	1083	86.0	2460	94.2	3543	91.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1260</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2612</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3872</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<i>Mean birthweight (g)</i>	<i>3102</i>		<i>3351</i>		<i>3270</i>	
<b>All births</b>						
<1000	25	2.0	24	0.9	49	1.3
1000 - 1499	21	1.7	10	0.4	31	0.8
1500 - 2499	140	11.0	137	5.2	277	7.1
2500+	1085	85.4	2462	93.5	3547	90.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1271</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2633</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3904</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<i>Mean birthweight (g)</i>	<i>3084</i>		<i>3330</i>		<i>3250</i>	

**Table 46. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and district of mother's usual residence, NT live births, 2014**

District	Gestational age (weeks)			Total
	<28	28-36	37+	
	%	%	%	Number
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	1.3	14.7	84.0	<b>225</b>
Darwin Rural	2.4	14.6	83.0	<b>253</b>
Katherine	0.5	15.8	83.8	<b>222</b>
East Arnhem	2.7	18.7	78.7	<b>150</b>
Barkly	1.9	9.6	88.5	<b>104</b>
Alice Springs Urban	0.0	9.2	90.8	<b>120</b>
Alice Springs Rural	1.1	12.9	86.0	<b>186</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>1260</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Darwin Urban	0.1	7.8	92.0	<b>2022</b>
Darwin Rural	0.0	2.6	97.4	<b>39</b>
Katherine	0.0	4.5	95.5	<b>157</b>
East Arnhem	1.5	10.3	88.2	<b>68</b>
Barkly	0.0	4.8	95.2	<b>21</b>
Alice Springs Urban	0.7	2.1	97.2	<b>285</b>
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	5.0	95.0	<b>20</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>92.8</b>	<b>2612</b>

**Table 47. Gestational age, by maternal Indigenous status and area of mother's usual residence, NT live births, 2014**

Area	Gestational age (weeks)			Total
	<28	28-36	37+	Number
	%	%	%	
<b>Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	0.8	13.5	85.6	<b>480</b>
Rural/remote area	1.8	14.5	83.7	<b>780</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>1260</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>				
Urban area	0.2	7.1	92.7	<b>2520</b>
Rural/remote area	0.0	3.3	96.7	<b>92</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>92.8</b>	<b>2612</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 48. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and district of mother's usual residence, NT live births, 2014**

District	Birthweight (g)				Total	Mean
	<1500	1500-2499	2500-3999	4000+	Number	birthweight
	%	%	%	%		(g)
<b>Indigenous</b>						
Darwin Urban	2.7	12.4	76.4	8.4	<b>225</b>	3145
Darwin Rural	4.7	11.9	81.0	2.4	<b>253</b>	2979
Katherine	3.2	11.3	78.8	6.8	<b>222</b>	3127
East Arnhem	4.0	16.0	76.7	3.3	<b>150</b>	2925
Barkly	2.9	8.7	82.7	5.8	<b>104</b>	3130
Alice Springs Urban	0.0	5.0	80.8	14.2	<b>120</b>	3375
Alice Springs Rural	2.2	9.1	82.8	5.9	<b>186</b>	3140
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>1260</b>	3102
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
Darwin Urban	0.6	5.4	83.5	10.5	<b>2022</b>	3330
Darwin Rural	0.0	5.1	82.1	12.8	<b>39</b>	3489
Katherine	0.0	5.7	82.8	11.5	<b>157</b>	3427
East Arnhem	2.9	5.9	76.5	14.7	<b>68</b>	3358
Barkly	0.0	4.8	85.7	9.5	<b>21</b>	3435
Alice Springs Urban	0.7	3.9	81.1	14.4	<b>285</b>	3432
Alice Springs Rural	0.0	0.0	90.0	10.0	<b>20</b>	3418
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>2612</b>	3351

**Table 49. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and area of mother's usual residence, NT live births, 2014**

Area	Birthweight (g)				Total	Mean
	<1500	1500-2499	2500-3999	4000+	Number	birthweight (g)
	%	%	%	%		
<b>Indigenous</b>						
Urban area	2.3	10.2	79.4	8.1	480	3182
Rural/remote area	3.5	11.5	79.9	5.1	780	3053
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>1260</b>	<b>3102</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
Urban area	0.6	5.2	83.2	11.0	2520	3348
Rural/remote area	0.0	6.5	80.4	13.0	92	3449
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>2612</b>	<b>3351</b>

Notes:

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

**Table 50. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status and gestational age, NT singleton live births, 2014**

Gestational age (weeks)	Birthweight (g)				Total	Mean
	<1500	1500-2499	2500-3999	4000+	Number	birthweight (g)
	%	%	%	%		
<b>Indigenous</b>						
<28	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15	569
28 - 36	11.1	46.9	40.7	1.2	162	2333
37+	0.0	4.7	88.0	7.3	1056	3284
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>1233</b>	<b>3126</b>
<b>Non-Indigenous</b>						
<28	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5	695
28 - 36	3.5	41.3	54.5	0.7	143	2501
37+	0.0	1.8	86.1	12.1	2397	3438
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>84.2</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>2545</b>	<b>3380</b>

**Table 51. Birthweight, by maternal Indigenous status, NT Indigenous singleton live births (using Indigenous status of baby), 2014**

Birthweight (g)	Indigenous mothers		Non-Indigenous mothers		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<1500	33	2.7	0	0.0	33	2.4
1500-2499	126	10.2	5	3.8	131	9.6
2500+	1071	87.1	125	96.2	1196	87.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1230</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1360</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 52. Apgar score at 5 minutes, by maternal Indigenous status, NT live births, 2014**

Apgar score at 5 minutes	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0 - 3	17	1.4	12	0.5	29	0.8
4 - 6	36	2.9	38	1.5	74	1.9
7 - 10	1203	95.8	2559	98.1	3762	97.3
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2609</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3865</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	4		3		7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1260</b>		<b>2612</b>		<b>3872</b>	

**Table 53. Methods of resuscitation, by maternal Indigenous status, NT live births, 2014**

Resuscitation: highest rank of method used	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Suction	39	3.1	106	4.1	145	3.7
Oxygen therapy	51	4.1	59	2.3	110	2.8
IPPV	108	8.6	138	5.3	246	6.4
Endotracheal intubation	11	0.9	5	0.2	16	0.4
ECM & ventilation	5	0.4	8	0.3	13	0.3
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	69	5.5	128	4.9	197	5.1
None	975	77.5	2168	83.0	3143	81.2
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>1258</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2612</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3870</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	2		0		2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1260</b>		<b>2612</b>		<b>3872</b>	

(a) 'Other' includes CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure).

Notes:

(1) Resuscitation methods exclude tactile stimulation.

(2) IPPV stands for intermittent positive pressure ventilation.

(3) ECM stands for external cardiac massage.

**Table 54. Infant feeding status on discharge of mother, by maternal Indigenous status, NT full-term singleton hospital live births discharged with the mother, 2014**

Infant feeding status	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Breastfeeding only	773	90.1	1801	86.5	2574	87.6
Breastfeeding at discharge but $\geq 1$ AF feed	58	6.8	211	10.1	269	9.1
Breastfeeding initiated but AF at discharge	14	1.6	33	1.6	47	1.6
Artificial formula (AF) only	13	1.5	37	1.8	50	1.7
<b>Total stated</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2082</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2940</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Not stated	131		204		335	
<b>Total</b>	<b>989</b>		<b>2286</b>		<b>3275</b>	

Notes:

(1) The collection of infant feeding information was only made mandatory from April 2014 onwards. The vast majority of 'Not stated' data (99%) in the above table was from prior to this.

**Table 55. Numbers and rates of stillbirths (fetal deaths), neonatal deaths, and perinatal deaths, by Indigenous status, 2014**

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All NT	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Stillbirths	11	8.7	21	8.0	32	8.2
Neonatal deaths	15	11.9	3	1.1	18	4.6
<b>Perinatal deaths</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>12.8</b>

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.

## Appendix A. Hospital profiles

The profile table of each hospital includes all births that occurred in that hospital in 2014, including births by mothers who were non-NT residents. Non-hospital births are summarised in Table A6.

Table A1. Summary statistics, Royal Darwin Hospital, 2014

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>588</b>		<b>1456</b>		<b>2044</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	108	18.4	41	2.8	149	7.3
20-34 years	425	72.3	1156	79.4	1581	77.3
35+ years	55	9.4	259	17.8	314	15.4
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous (Not augmented)	189	32.1	461	31.7	650	31.8
Spontaneous (Augmented)	108	18.4	266	18.3	374	18.3
Induced labour	174	29.6	489	33.6	663	32.4
No labour	117	19.9	240	16.5	357	17.5
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Normal vaginal	323	54.9	820	56.3	1143	55.9
Vaginal breech	2	0.3	1	0.1	3	0.1
Forceps	22	3.7	67	4.6	89	4.4
Ventouse	29	4.9	84	5.8	113	5.5
Elective caesarean	95	16.2	208	14.3	303	14.8
Emergency caesarean	117	19.9	276	19.0	393	19.2
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	1	0.1	1	0.0
Fetal distress/compromise	92	15.6	253	17.4	345	16.9
Diabetes in pregnancy <sup>(a)</sup>	144	24.5	223	15.3	367	18.0
Manual removal of placenta	14	2.4	15	1.0	29	1.4
Meconium stained liquor	68	11.6	195	13.4	263	12.9
Obstructed labour	32	5.4	91	6.3	123	6.0
Post-partum haemorrhage	203	34.5	447	30.7	650	31.8
Pre-eclampsia	28	4.8	50	3.4	78	3.8
Others	92	15.6	209	14.4	301	14.7
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>65.9</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>376</b>		<b>972</b>		<b>1348</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	130	36.0	209	22.3	339	26.1
1 <sup>st</sup> degree tear/graze	88	24.4	205	21.8	293	22.5
2 <sup>nd</sup> degree tear	72	19.9	295	31.4	367	28.2
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> degree tear	7	1.9	19	2.0	26	2.0
Episiotomy	57	15.8	206	21.9	263	20.2
Combined episiotomy & tear	7	1.9	5	0.5	12	0.9
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>599</b>		<b>1480</b>		<b>2079</b>	
Stillbirths	4	0.7	9	0.6	13	0.6
<b>LIVE BORN BABIES</b>	<b>595</b>		<b>1471</b>		<b>2066</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	12	2.0	4	0.3	16	0.8
28-36 weeks	108	18.2	110	7.5	218	10.6
37+ weeks	475	79.8	1357	92.3	1832	88.7
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	25	4.2	14	1.0	39	1.9
1500-2499g	80	13.4	94	6.4	174	8.4
2500g+	490	82.4	1363	92.7	1853	89.7

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

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in RDH and the attached Birth Centre in 2014. An additional 31 births occurred before arrival and are reported in the Appendix A6 table for non-hospital births.

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

Table A2. Summary statistics, Darwin Private Hospital, 2014

		All	
		Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>		<b>643</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>			
	<20 years	4	0.6
	20-34 years	457	71.1
	35+ years	182	28.3
<b>Onset of labour</b>			
	Spontaneous (Not augmented)	187	29.1
	Spontaneous (Augmented)	96	14.9
	Induced labour	177	27.5
	No labour	183	28.5
<b>Method of birth</b>			
	Normal vaginal	287	44.6
	Vaginal breech	2	0.3
	Forceps	32	5.0
	Ventouse	44	6.8
	Elective caesarean	178	27.7
	Emergency caesarean	100	15.6
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>			
	Cord prolapse	1	0.2
	Fetal distress/compromise	25	3.9
	Diabetes in pregnancy <sup>(a)</sup>	50	7.8
	Manual removal of placenta	1	0.2
	Meconium stained liquor	39	6.1
	Obstructed labour	21	3.3
	Post-partum haemorrhage	314	48.8
	Pre-eclampsia	13	2.0
	Others	41	6.4
	<b>Any complication</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>58.9</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>		<b>365</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>			
	Intact	115	31.9
	1 <sup>st</sup> degree tear/graze	109	30.2
	2 <sup>nd</sup> degree tear	77	21.3
	3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> degree tear	3	0.8
	Episiotomy	46	12.7
	Combined episiotomy & tear	11	3.0
<b>BABIES</b>		<b>653</b>	
	Stillbirths	6	0.9
<b>LIVEBORN BABIES</b>		<b>647</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>			
	<28 weeks	0	0.0
	28-36 weeks	56	8.7
	37+ weeks	591	91.3
<b>Birthweight</b>			
	<1500g	0	0.0
	1500-2499g	24	3.7
	2500g+	623	96.3

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

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in DPH.

(2) There were 13 Indigenous mothers who gave birth at DPH in 2014. Separate data is not presented for these cases.

(3) Not stated category is not presented, and therefore the total may differ from the sum of the components.

Table A3. Summary statistics, Gove District Hospital, 2014

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>86</b>		<b>51</b>		<b>137</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	14	16.3	0	0.0	14	10.2
20-34 years	69	80.2	39	76.5	108	78.8
35+ years	3	3.5	12	23.5	15	10.9
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous (Not augmented)	34	39.5	30	58.8	64	46.7
Spontaneous (Augmented)	22	25.6	4	7.8	26	19.0
Induced labour	21	24.4	10	19.6	31	22.6
No labour	9	10.5	7	13.7	16	11.7
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Normal vaginal	59	68.6	36	70.6	95	69.3
Vaginal breech	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Forceps	0	0.0	1	2.0	1	0.7
Ventouse	12	14.0	2	3.9	14	10.2
Elective caesarean	9	10.5	6	11.8	15	10.9
Emergency caesarean	6	7.0	6	11.8	12	8.8
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fetal distress/compromise	11	12.8	4	7.8	15	10.9
Diabetes in pregnancy <sup>(a)</sup>	8	9.3	9	17.6	17	12.4
Manual removal of placenta	2	2.3	1	2.0	3	2.2
Meconium stained liquor	16	18.6	6	11.8	22	16.1
Obstructed labour	3	3.5	4	7.8	7	5.1
Post-partum haemorrhage	23	26.7	16	31.4	39	28.5
Pre-eclampsia	8	9.3	0	0.0	8	5.8
Others	17	19.8	8	15.7	25	18.2
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>58.8</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>63.5</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>71</b>		<b>39</b>		<b>110</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	25	40.3	17	43.6	42	41.6
1 <sup>st</sup> degree tear/graze	15	24.2	9	23.1	24	23.8
2 <sup>nd</sup> degree tear	15	24.2	9	23.1	24	23.8
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> degree tear	1	1.6	2	5.1	3	3.0
Episiotomy	6	9.7	2	5.1	8	7.9
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>86</b>		<b>51</b>		<b>137</b>	
Stillbirths	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>LIVE BORN BABIES</b>	<b>86</b>		<b>51</b>		<b>137</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	1	1.2	0	0.0	1	0.7
28-36 weeks	4	4.7	5	9.8	9	6.6
37+ weeks	81	94.2	46	90.2	127	92.7
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	1	1.2	0	0.0	1	0.7
1500-2499g	8	9.3	3	5.9	11	8.0
2500g+	77	89.5	48	94.1	125	91.2

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

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in GDH in 2014. An additional four births occurred before arrival and are reported in the Appendix A6 table for non-hospital births.

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

Table A4. Summary statistics, Katherine Hospital, 2014

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>138</b>		<b>129</b>		<b>267</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	35	25.4	3	2.3	38	14.2
20-34 years	98	71.0	107	82.9	205	76.8
35+ years	5	3.6	19	14.7	24	9.0
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous (Not augmented)	57	41.3	66	51.2	123	46.1
Spontaneous (Augmented)	36	26.1	18	14.0	54	20.2
Induced labour	29	21.0	24	18.6	53	19.9
No labour	16	11.6	21	16.3	37	13.9
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Normal vaginal	84	60.9	86	66.7	170	63.7
Vaginal breech	2	1.4	1	0.8	3	1.1
Forceps	3	2.2	1	0.8	4	1.5
Ventouse	8	5.8	7	5.4	15	5.6
Elective caesarean	18	13.0	19	14.7	37	13.9
Emergency caesarean	23	16.7	15	11.6	38	14.2
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fetal distress/compromise	20	14.5	11	8.5	31	11.6
Diabetes in pregnancy <sup>(a)</sup>	20	14.5	10	7.8	30	11.2
Manual removal of placenta	3	2.2	1	0.8	4	1.5
Meconium stained liquor	16	11.6	10	7.8	26	9.7
Obstructed labour	9	6.5	4	3.1	13	4.9
Post-partum haemorrhage	57	41.3	48	37.2	105	39.3
Pre-eclampsia	1	0.7	1	0.8	2	0.7
Others	15	10.9	10	7.8	25	9.4
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>58.4</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>97</b>		<b>95</b>		<b>192</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	36	37.1	32	34.4	68	35.8
1 <sup>st</sup> degree tear/graze	33	34.0	20	21.5	53	27.9
2 <sup>nd</sup> degree tear	19	19.6	31	33.3	50	26.3
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> degree tear	2	2.1	4	4.3	6	3.2
Episiotomy	7	7.2	6	6.5	13	6.8
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>138</b>		<b>129</b>		<b>267</b>	
Stillbirths	1	0.7	2	1.6	3	1.1
<b>LIVE BORN BABIES</b>	<b>137</b>		<b>127</b>		<b>264</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	1	0.7	0	0.0	1	0.4
28-36 weeks	9	6.6	3	2.4	12	4.5
37+ weeks	127	92.7	124	97.6	251	95.1
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	3	2.2	0	0.0	3	1.1
1500-2499g	7	5.1	5	3.9	12	4.5
2500g+	127	92.7	122	96.1	249	94.3

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

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in KH in 2014. An additional five births occurred before arrival and are reported in the Appendix A6 table for non-hospital births.

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

Table A5. Summary statistics, Alice Springs Hospital, 2014

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>442</b>		<b>309</b>		<b>751</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	92	20.8	6	1.9	98	13.0
20-34 years	324	73.3	247	79.9	571	76.0
35+ years	26	5.9	56	18.1	82	10.9
<b>Onset of labour</b>						
Spontaneous (Not augmented)	129	29.2	131	42.4	260	34.6
Spontaneous (Augmented)	111	25.1	71	23.0	182	24.2
Induced labour	127	28.7	75	24.3	202	26.9
No labour	75	17.0	32	10.4	107	14.2
<b>Method of birth</b>						
Normal vaginal	249	56.3	197	63.8	446	59.4
Vaginal breech	6	1.4	1	0.3	7	0.9
Forceps	9	2.0	7	2.3	16	2.1
Ventouse	19	4.3	25	8.1	44	5.9
Elective caesarean	67	15.2	32	10.4	99	13.2
Emergency caesarean	92	20.8	47	15.2	139	18.5
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	1	0.2	2	0.6	3	0.4
Fetal distress/compromise	56	12.7	27	8.7	83	11.1
Diabetes in pregnancy <sup>(a)</sup>	91	20.6	37	12.0	128	17.0
Manual removal of placenta	15	3.4	7	2.3	22	2.9
Meconium stained liquor	74	16.7	48	15.5	122	16.2
Obstructed labour	34	7.7	22	7.1	56	7.5
Post-partum haemorrhage	184	41.6	109	35.3	293	39.0
Pre-eclampsia	27	6.1	12	3.9	39	5.2
Others	56	12.7	32	10.4	88	11.7
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>66.2</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>283</b>		<b>230</b>		<b>513</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	113	41.1	57	24.9	170	33.7
1 <sup>st</sup> degree tear/graze	69	25.1	63	27.5	132	26.2
2 <sup>nd</sup> degree tear	58	21.1	78	34.1	136	27.0
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> degree tear	6	2.2	8	3.5	14	2.8
Episiotomy	28	10.2	22	9.6	50	9.9
Combined episiotomy & tear	1	0.4	1	0.4	2	0.4
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>445</b>		<b>312</b>		<b>757</b>	
Stillbirths	5	1.1	4	1.3	9	1.2
<b>LIVE BORN BABIES</b>	<b>440</b>		<b>308</b>		<b>748</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	4	0.9	2	0.6	6	0.8
28-36 weeks	45	10.2	9	2.9	54	7.2
37+ weeks	391	88.9	297	96.4	688	92.0
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	6	1.4	2	0.6	8	1.1
1500-2499g	33	7.5	12	3.9	45	6.0
2500g+	401	91.1	294	95.5	695	92.9

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

Notes:

(1) This table includes all births that occurred in ASH in 2014. An additional 10 births occurred before arrival and are reported in the Appendix A6 table for non-hospital births.

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

Table A6. Summary statistics, non-hospital births, 2014

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>MOTHERS</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>35</b>		<b>78</b>	
<b>Maternal age</b>						
<20 years	10	23.3	0	0.0	10	12.8
20-34 years	31	72.1	20	57.1	51	65.4
35+ years	2	4.7	15	42.9	17	21.8
<b>Actual place of giving birth</b>						
Health centres	26	60.5	0	0.0	26	33.3
Planned homes	0	0.0	27	77.1	27	34.6
Other	17	39.5	8	22.9	25	32.1
<b>Pregnancy and/or childbirth complications</b>						
Cord prolapse	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fetal distress/compromise	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Diabetes in pregnancy	8	18.6	2	5.7	10	12.8
Manual removal of placenta	4	9.3	0	0.0	4	5.1
Meconium stained liquor	3	7.0	3	8.6	6	7.7
Obstructed labour	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Post-partum haemorrhage	9	20.9	5	14.3	14	17.9
Pre-eclampsia	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Others	11	25.6	2	5.7	13	16.7
<b>Any complication</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>62.8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>46.2</b>
<b>MOTHERS HAVING VAGINAL BIRTH</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>35</b>		<b>78</b>	
<b>Perineum status</b>						
Intact	23	59.0	14	40.0	37	50.0
1 <sup>st</sup> degree tear/graze	9	23.1	11	31.4	20	27.0
2 <sup>nd</sup> degree tear	4	10.3	9	25.7	13	17.6
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> degree tear	1	2.6	1	2.9	2	2.7
Episiotomy	2	5.1	0	0.0	2	2.7
Combined episiotomy & tear	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>35</b>		<b>78</b>	
Stillbirths	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
<b>LIVEBORN BABIES</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>35</b>		<b>78</b>	
<b>Gestational age</b>						
<28 weeks	2	4.7	0	0.0	2	2.6
28-36 weeks	18	41.9	1	2.9	19	24.4
37+ weeks	23	53.5	34	97.1	57	73.1
<b>Birthweight</b>						
<1500g	5	11.6	0	0.0	5	6.4
1500-2499g	15	34.9	1	2.9	16	20.5
2500g+	23	53.5	34	97.1	57	73.1

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

Notes:

(1) This table comprises all births that occurred out of hospital in 2014, including planned home births, and births in unintended locations such as in health centres or in transit to hospital.

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

## **Appendix B. Trends of perinatal indicators, by Indigenous status, NT, 2000–2014**

The following trends tables summarise key indicators over time by Indigenous status. Numbers are provided in tables B1, B3 and B5. Proportions are provided in tables B2, B4 and B6.

Table B1. Trends in numbers for selected measures, NT Indigenous mothers and babies, 2000-2014

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	<b>Total fertility rate</b>	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0
		<b>Number</b>														
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1236</b>	<b>1430</b>	<b>1332</b>	<b>1334</b>	<b>1270</b>	<b>1320</b>	<b>1401</b>	<b>1412</b>	<b>1356</b>	<b>1425</b>	<b>1355</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>1348</b>	<b>1232</b>	<b>1257</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	407	430	401	382	360	338	360	335	305	316	314	272	301	247	256
	20-34	772	929	851	875	822	905	951	974	944	990	932	972	940	893	914
	35+	57	71	80	77	88	77	90	103	107	119	109	105	107	92	87
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	1195	1364	1279	1264	1209	1249	1330	1350	1299	1370	1283	1297	1292	1178	1214
	Non-hospital	41	66	53	70	61	71	71	62	57	55	72	52	56	54	43
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	930	1041	976	940	926	948	973	975	950	1008	897	872	866	737	710
	Induced	202	240	208	243	194	212	275	264	233	251	270	300	302	323	337
	No labour	104	149	148	151	150	160	153	173	173	166	188	177	180	172	210
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Normal vaginal	901	1028	951	918	868	905	959	962	939	970	903	864	885	805	741
	Vaginal breech	9	7	5	16	17	12	16	14	14	16	10	6	6	11	9
	Forceps	17	25	22	23	12	19	13	16	20	28	11	22	18	31	32
	Ventouse	40	53	28	42	53	49	56	41	39	49	68	57	61	53	66
	Caesarean section	269	317	326	335	320	335	357	379	344	362	363	400	378	332	409
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>413</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>454</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>441</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	319	299	263	261	245	245	255	245	229	230	242	218	246	206	223
	20-34	121	165	143	151	128	159	162	157	169	194	192	195	202	201	213
	35+	1	7	7	4	0	2	2	5	4	8	5	5	6	6	5
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1245</b>	<b>1442</b>	<b>1348</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>1277</b>	<b>1331</b>	<b>1417</b>	<b>1428</b>	<b>1367</b>	<b>1443</b>	<b>1376</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>1363</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>1271</b>
	Stillbirths	14	14	15	19	13	18	23	22	16	28	17	16	12	24	11
<b>LIVE BORN BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1231</b>	<b>1428</b>	<b>1333</b>	<b>1323</b>	<b>1264</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>1394</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>1351</b>	<b>1415</b>	<b>1359</b>	<b>1352</b>	<b>1351</b>	<b>1219</b>	<b>1260</b>
	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	1227	1418	1316	1326	1263	1310	1385	1396	1345	1407	1334	1330	1333	1221	1243
	Multiple	18	24	32	16	14	21	32	32	22	36	42	38	30	22	28
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	23	25	25	31	34	37	43	39	26	36	38	37	33	42	38
	1500-2499	139	153	147	160	140	149	151	140	157	157	152	177	151	134	139
	2500+	1069	1250	1161	1132	1090	1127	1200	1227	1168	1222	1169	1138	1167	1043	1083
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	14	11	13	19	18	22	14	14	14	12	15	21	16	21	18
	28-36	151	172	193	186	178	171	194	191	173	179	179	200	184	177	178
	37+	1066	1244	1126	1118	1068	1120	1186	1199	1164	1223	1165	1131	1151	1021	1064

Notes: (1) 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.  
(2) Figures in trend table may differ slightly to those in previous reports due to the ongoing data validation process.

Table B2. Trends in proportions for selected measures, NT Indigenous mothers and babies, 2000-2014

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
		Percent														
ALL MOTHERS	Maternal age															
	<20	32.9	30.1	30.1	28.6	28.3	25.6	25.7	23.7	22.5	22.2	23.2	20.2	22.3	20.0	20.4
	20-34	62.5	65.0	63.9	65.6	64.7	68.6	67.9	69.0	69.6	69.5	68.8	72.1	69.7	72.5	72.7
	35+	4.6	5.0	6.0	5.8	6.9	5.8	6.4	7.3	7.9	8.4	8.0	7.8	7.9	7.5	6.9
	Place of birth															
	Hospital	96.7	95.4	96.0	94.8	95.2	94.6	94.9	95.6	95.8	96.1	94.7	96.1	95.8	95.6	96.6
	Non-hospital	3.3	4.6	4.0	5.2	4.8	5.4	5.1	4.4	4.2	3.9	5.3	3.9	4.2	4.4	3.4
	Type of labour onset															
	Spontaneous	75.2	72.8	73.3	70.5	72.9	71.8	69.5	69.1	70.1	70.7	66.2	64.6	64.2	59.8	56.5
	Induced	16.3	16.8	15.6	18.2	15.3	16.1	19.6	18.7	17.2	17.6	19.9	22.2	22.4	26.2	26.8
	No labour	8.4	10.4	11.1	11.3	11.8	12.1	10.9	12.3	12.8	11.6	13.9	13.1	13.4	14.0	16.7
	Method of birth															
	Normal vaginal	72.9	71.9	71.4	68.8	68.3	68.6	68.5	68.1	69.2	68.1	66.6	64.0	65.7	65.3	58.9
	Vaginal breech	0.7	0.5	0.4	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.7
Forceps	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.1	1.5	2.0	0.8	1.6	1.3	2.5	2.5	
Ventouse	3.2	3.7	2.1	3.1	4.2	3.7	4.0	2.9	2.9	3.4	5.0	4.2	4.5	4.3	5.3	
Caesarean section	21.8	22.2	24.5	25.1	25.2	25.4	25.5	26.8	25.4	25.4	26.8	29.7	28.0	26.9	32.5	
FIRST-TIME MOTHERS	Maternal age															
	<20	72.3	63.5	63.7	62.7	65.7	60.3	60.9	60.2	57.0	53.2	55.1	52.2	54.2	49.9	50.6
	20-34	27.4	35.0	34.6	36.3	34.3	39.2	38.7	38.6	42.0	44.9	43.7	46.7	44.5	48.7	48.3
	35+	0.2	1.5	1.7	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.0	1.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.1
BABIES																
	Stillbirths	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.9	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.9	0.9
LIVE BORN BABIES	Plurality															
	Singleton	98.6	98.3	97.6	98.8	98.9	98.4	97.7	97.8	98.4	97.5	96.9	97.2	97.8	98.2	97.8
	Multiple	1.4	1.7	2.4	1.2	1.1	1.6	2.3	2.2	1.6	2.5	3.1	2.8	2.2	1.8	2.2
	Birthweight (g)															
	<1500	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.3	2.7	2.8	3.1	2.8	1.9	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.4	3.4	3.0
	1500-2499	11.3	10.7	11.0	12.1	11.1	11.3	10.8	10.0	11.6	11.1	11.2	13.1	11.2	11.0	11.0
	2500+	86.8	87.5	87.1	85.6	86.2	85.8	86.1	87.3	86.5	86.4	86.0	84.2	86.4	85.6	86.0
	Gestational age (weeks)															
	<28	1.1	0.8	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.7	1.4
	28-36	12.3	12.1	14.5	14.1	14.1	13.0	13.9	13.6	12.8	12.7	13.2	14.8	13.6	14.5	14.1
	37+	86.6	87.2	84.5	84.5	84.5	85.3	85.1	85.4	86.2	86.5	85.7	83.7	85.2	83.8	84.4

Notes: (1) 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.  
(2) Figures in trend table may differ slightly to those in previous reports due to the ongoing data validation process.

Table B3. Trends in numbers for selected measures, NT non-Indigenous mothers and babies, 2000-2014

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Total fertility rate</b>		1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9
		<b>Number</b>														
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2197</b>	<b>2212</b>	<b>2233</b>	<b>2195</b>	<b>2065</b>	<b>2229</b>	<b>2183</b>	<b>2243</b>	<b>2373</b>	<b>2342</b>	<b>2375</b>	<b>2440</b>	<b>2555</b>	<b>2687</b>	<b>2597</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	118	121	119	123	96	121	109	91	94	81	76	74	79	60	53
	20-34	1728	1756	1726	1682	1578	1671	1631	1650	1800	1766	1779	1852	1968	2101	2005
	35+	351	335	388	390	391	437	442	502	479	495	520	514	508	526	539
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	2187	2180	2206	2165	2038	2213	2138	2195	2332	2290	2330	2385	2512	2632	2562
	Non-hospital	10	32	27	30	27	16	45	48	41	52	45	55	43	55	35
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	1445	1383	1379	1302	1224	1273	1277	1362	1471	1396	1424	1398	1501	1467	1355
	Induced	496	528	525	544	487	535	511	481	512	550	562	608	612	703	765
	No labour	256	301	329	349	354	421	395	400	390	396	389	434	442	517	477
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Normal vaginal	1548	1476	1496	1335	1224	1306	1289	1325	1438	1393	1399	1379	1479	1528	1447
	Vaginal breech	6	15	3	10	9	12	13	14	9	8	10	7	12	2	5
	Forceps	98	98	83	48	48	55	48	55	82	81	87	96	95	135	108
	Ventouse	78	85	73	158	153	153	161	141	157	143	161	146	159	147	161
	Caesarean section	465	538	578	644	631	703	672	708	687	717	718	812	810	875	876
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>1001</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>1076</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1049</b>	<b>1094</b>	<b>1121</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>1199</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	98	100	104	103	80	106	98	75	78	67	68	67	70	53	45
	20-34	736	796	734	727	656	764	718	760	852	822	829	875	911	1027	999
	35+	97	105	103	114	122	139	119	151	146	119	152	152	140	160	155
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2228</b>	<b>2241</b>	<b>2261</b>	<b>2231</b>	<b>2094</b>	<b>2265</b>	<b>2219</b>	<b>2268</b>	<b>2399</b>	<b>2377</b>	<b>2407</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>2587</b>	<b>2716</b>	<b>2633</b>
	Stillbirths	16	12	14	20	9	23	17	9	10	14	14	11	11	20	21
<b>LIVE BORN BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2212</b>	<b>2229</b>	<b>2247</b>	<b>2211</b>	<b>2085</b>	<b>2242</b>	<b>2202</b>	<b>2259</b>	<b>2389</b>	<b>2363</b>	<b>2393</b>	<b>2463</b>	<b>2576</b>	<b>2696</b>	<b>2612</b>
	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	2166	2183	2205	2159	2036	2193	2147	2219	2347	2308	2343	2406	2523	2658	2561
	Multiple	62	58	56	72	58	72	72	49	52	69	64	68	64	58	72
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	16	23	20	15	23	25	19	19	20	15	27	28	17	19	16
	1500-2499	124	111	98	137	109	126	132	88	91	132	112	121	121	118	136
	2500+	2069	2095	2129	2059	1953	2089	2051	2152	2278	2216	2254	2314	2438	2558	2460
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	5	9	9	4	8	6	6	6	7	7	11	10	6	11	6
	28-36	166	163	150	165	142	170	172	141	141	143	168	166	159	161	181
	37+	2041	2057	2087	2042	1935	2066	2024	2112	2241	2213	2214	2287	2411	2524	2425

Notes: (1) 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.  
(2) Figures in trend table may differ slightly to those in previous reports due to the ongoing data validation process.

Table B4. Trends in proportions for selected measures, NT non-Indigenous mothers and babies, 2000-2014

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
		Percent														
ALL MOTHERS	Maternal age															
	<20	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.6	4.6	5.4	5.0	4.1	4.0	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.1	2.2	2.0
	20-34	78.7	79.4	77.3	76.6	76.4	75.0	74.7	73.6	75.9	75.4	74.9	75.9	77.0	78.2	77.2
	35+	16.0	15.1	17.4	17.8	18.9	19.6	20.3	22.4	20.2	21.1	21.9	21.1	19.9	19.6	20.8
	Place of birth															
	Hospital	99.5	98.6	98.8	98.6	98.7	99.3	97.9	97.9	98.3	97.8	98.1	97.7	98.3	98.0	98.7
	Non-hospital	0.5	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.7	2.1	2.1	1.7	2.2	1.9	2.3	1.7	2.0	1.3
	Type of labour onset															
	Spontaneous	65.8	62.5	61.8	59.3	59.3	57.1	58.5	60.7	62.0	59.6	60.0	57.3	58.7	54.6	52.2
	Induced	22.6	23.9	23.5	24.8	23.6	24.0	23.4	21.4	21.6	23.5	23.7	24.9	24.0	26.2	29.5
	No labour	11.7	13.6	14.7	15.9	17.1	18.9	18.1	17.8	16.4	16.9	16.4	17.8	17.3	19.2	18.4
	Method of birth															
	Normal vaginal	70.5	66.7	67.0	60.8	59.3	58.6	59.0	59.1	60.6	59.5	58.9	56.5	57.9	56.9	55.7
FIRST-TIME MOTHERS	Vaginal breech	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.2
	Forceps	4.5	4.4	3.7	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.7	5.0	4.2
	Ventouse	3.6	3.8	3.3	7.2	7.4	6.9	7.4	6.3	6.6	6.1	6.8	6.0	6.2	5.5	6.2
	Caesarean section	21.2	24.3	25.9	29.3	30.6	31.5	30.8	31.6	29.0	30.6	30.2	33.3	31.7	32.6	33.7
BABIES	Maternal age															
	<20	10.5	10.0	11.1	10.9	9.3	10.5	10.5	7.6	7.2	6.6	6.5	6.1	6.2	4.3	3.8
	20-34	79.1	79.5	78.0	77.0	76.5	75.7	76.8	77.1	79.2	81.5	79.0	80.0	81.3	82.8	83.3
BABIES	35+	10.4	10.5	10.9	12.1	14.2	13.8	12.7	15.3	13.6	11.8	14.5	13.9	12.5	12.9	12.9
LIVE BORN BABIES	Stillbirths	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.8
	Plurality															
	Singleton	97.2	97.4	97.5	96.8	97.2	96.8	96.8	97.8	97.8	97.1	97.3	97.3	97.5	97.9	97.3
	Multiple	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.2	2.2	2.2	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.1	2.7
	Birthweight (g)															
	<1500	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.6
	1500-2499	5.6	5.0	4.4	6.2	5.2	5.6	6.0	3.9	3.8	5.6	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.4	5.2
	2500+	93.7	94.0	94.7	93.1	93.7	93.3	93.1	95.3	95.4	93.8	94.2	94.0	94.6	94.9	94.2
	Gestational age (weeks)															
	<28	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2
	28-36	7.5	7.3	6.7	7.5	6.8	7.6	7.8	6.2	5.9	6.1	7.0	6.7	6.2	6.0	6.9
	37+	92.3	92.3	92.9	92.4	92.8	92.1	91.9	93.5	93.8	93.7	92.5	92.9	93.6	93.6	92.8

Notes: (1) 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.  
 (2) Figures in trend table may differ slightly to those in previous reports due to the ongoing data validation process.

Table B5. Trends in numbers for selected measures, all NT mothers and babies, 2000-2014

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total fertility rate		2.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0
		Number														
<b>ALL MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3433</b>	<b>3642</b>	<b>3565</b>	<b>3529</b>	<b>3335</b>	<b>3549</b>	<b>3584</b>	<b>3655</b>	<b>3730</b>	<b>3771</b>	<b>3737</b>	<b>3792</b>	<b>3905</b>	<b>3925</b>	<b>3854</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	525	551	520	505	456	459	469	426	399	397	390	346	380	307	309
	20-34	2500	2685	2577	2557	2400	2576	2582	2624	2744	2759	2716	2827	2909	2998	2919
	35+	408	406	468	467	479	514	532	605	587	615	631	619	616	620	626
	<b>Place of birth</b>															
	Hospital	3382	3544	3485	3429	3247	3462	3468	3545	3632	3664	3619	3685	3806	3816	3776
	Non-hospital	51	98	80	100	88	87	116	110	98	107	118	107	99	109	78
	<b>Type of labour onset</b>															
	Spontaneous	2375	2424	2355	2242	2150	2221	2250	2337	2421	2404	2323	2270	2367	2204	2065
	Induced	698	768	733	787	681	747	786	745	745	803	834	910	915	1028	1102
	No labour	360	450	477	500	504	581	548	573	564	564	580	612	623	693	687
	<b>Method of birth</b>															
	Normal vaginal	2449	2504	2447	2253	2092	2211	2248	2287	2377	2364	2305	2245	2365	2333	2188
	Vaginal breech	15	22	8	26	26	24	29	28	23	24	20	13	18	13	14
	Forceps	115	123	105	71	60	74	61	71	102	109	98	118	113	167	140
	Ventouse	118	138	101	200	206	202	217	182	196	193	229	203	220	200	227
	Caesarean section	734	855	904	979	951	1038	1029	1087	1032	1081	1085	1213	1189	1212	1285
<b>FIRST-TIME MOTHERS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1372</b>	<b>1472</b>	<b>1354</b>	<b>1360</b>	<b>1231</b>	<b>1415</b>	<b>1355</b>	<b>1393</b>	<b>1478</b>	<b>1442</b>	<b>1490</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>1576</b>	<b>1657</b>	<b>1640</b>
	<b>Maternal age</b>															
	<20	417	399	367	364	325	351	353	320	307	297	310	285	316	259	268
	20-34	857	961	877	878	784	923	880	917	1021	1018	1023	1070	1113	1231	1212
	35+	98	112	110	118	122	141	121	156	150	127	157	157	147	167	160
<b>BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3473</b>	<b>3683</b>	<b>3609</b>	<b>3573</b>	<b>3371</b>	<b>3596</b>	<b>3636</b>	<b>3696</b>	<b>3767</b>	<b>3824</b>	<b>3790</b>	<b>3845</b>	<b>3952</b>	<b>3966</b>	<b>3904</b>
	Stillbirths	30	26	29	39	22	41	40	31	26	42	31	27	24	44	32
<b>LIVE BORN BABIES</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3443</b>	<b>3657</b>	<b>3580</b>	<b>3534</b>	<b>3349</b>	<b>3555</b>	<b>3596</b>	<b>3665</b>	<b>3741</b>	<b>3782</b>	<b>3759</b>	<b>3818</b>	<b>3928</b>	<b>3922</b>	<b>3872</b>
	<b>Plurality</b>															
	Singleton	3393	3601	3521	3485	3299	3503	3532	3615	3693	3719	3684	3739	3858	3884	3804
	Multiple	80	82	88	88	72	93	104	81	74	105	106	106	94	82	100
	<b>Birthweight (g)</b>															
	<1500	39	48	45	46	57	62	62	58	46	51	65	65	50	61	54
	1500-2499	263	264	245	297	249	275	283	228	248	289	264	298	272	252	275
	2500+	3138	3345	3290	3191	3043	3216	3251	3379	3447	3442	3429	3455	3606	3608	3543
	<b>Gestational age (weeks)</b>															
	<28	19	20	22	23	26	28	20	20	21	19	26	31	22	32	24
	28-36	317	335	343	351	320	341	366	332	314	322	347	366	343	338	359
	37+	3107	3301	3213	3160	3003	3186	3210	3311	3406	3440	3385	3421	3563	3552	3489

Notes: (1) 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.  
(2) Figures in trend table may differ slightly to those in previous reports due to the ongoing data validation process.

Table B6. Trends in proportions for selected measures, all NT mothers and babies, 2000-2014

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
		Percent														
ALL MOTHERS	Maternal age															
	<20	15.3	15.1	14.6	14.3	13.7	12.9	13.1	11.7	10.7	10.5	10.4	9.1	9.7	7.8	8.0
	20-34	72.8	73.7	72.3	72.5	72.0	72.6	72.1	71.8	73.6	73.2	72.7	74.6	74.5	76.4	75.7
	35+	11.9	11.1	13.1	13.2	14.4	14.5	14.8	16.6	15.7	16.3	16.9	16.3	15.8	15.8	16.2
	Place of birth															
	Hospital	98.5	97.3	97.8	97.2	97.4	97.5	96.8	97.0	97.4	97.2	96.8	97.2	97.5	97.2	98.0
	Non-hospital	1.5	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.8	3.2	2.8	2.5	2.8	2.0
	Type of labour onset															
	Spontaneous	69.2	66.6	66.1	63.5	64.5	62.6	62.8	63.9	64.9	63.7	62.2	59.9	60.6	56.2	53.6
	Induced	20.3	21.1	20.6	22.3	20.4	21.0	21.9	20.4	20.0	21.3	22.3	24.0	23.4	26.2	28.6
	No labour	10.5	12.4	13.4	14.2	15.1	16.4	15.3	15.7	15.1	15.0	15.5	16.1	16.0	17.7	17.8
	Method of birth															
	Normal vaginal	71.4	68.8	68.6	63.8	62.7	62.3	62.7	62.6	63.7	62.7	61.7	59.2	60.6	59.4	56.8
FIRST-TIME MOTHERS	Vaginal breech	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4
	Forceps	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.0	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.7	2.9	2.6	3.1	2.9	4.3	3.6
	Ventouse	3.4	3.8	2.8	5.7	6.2	5.7	6.1	5.0	5.3	5.1	6.1	5.4	5.6	5.1	5.9
	Caesarean section	21.4	23.5	25.4	27.7	28.5	29.2	28.7	29.7	27.7	28.7	29.0	32.0	30.4	30.9	33.3
BABIES	Maternal age															
	<20	30.4	27.1	27.1	26.8	26.4	24.8	26.1	23.0	20.8	20.6	20.8	18.8	20.1	15.6	16.3
	20-34	62.5	65.3	64.8	64.6	63.7	65.2	65.0	65.8	69.1	70.6	68.7	70.8	70.6	74.3	73.9
BABIES	35+	7.1	7.6	8.1	8.7	9.9	10.0	8.9	11.2	10.1	8.8	10.5	10.4	9.3	10.1	9.8
	Stillbirths	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.8
LIVE BORN BABIES	Plurality															
	Singleton	97.7	97.8	97.6	97.5	97.9	97.4	97.1	97.8	98.0	97.3	97.2	97.2	97.6	97.9	97.4
	Multiple	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.9	2.2	2.0	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.1	2.6
	Birthweight (g)															
	<1500	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.4
	1500-2499	7.6	7.2	6.8	8.4	7.4	7.7	7.9	6.2	6.6	7.6	7.0	7.8	6.9	6.4	7.1
	2500+	91.2	91.5	91.9	90.3	90.9	90.5	90.4	92.2	92.1	91.0	91.2	90.5	91.8	92.0	91.5
	Gestational age (weeks)															
	<28	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.6
	28-36	9.2	9.2	9.6	9.9	9.6	9.6	10.2	9.1	8.4	8.5	9.2	9.6	8.7	8.6	9.3
	37+	90.2	90.3	89.8	89.4	89.7	89.6	89.3	90.4	91.0	91.0	90.1	89.6	90.7	90.6	90.1

Notes: (1) 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.  
(2) Figures in trend table may differ slightly to those in previous reports due to the ongoing data validation process.

## Appendix C. Northern Territory Estimated Resident Population

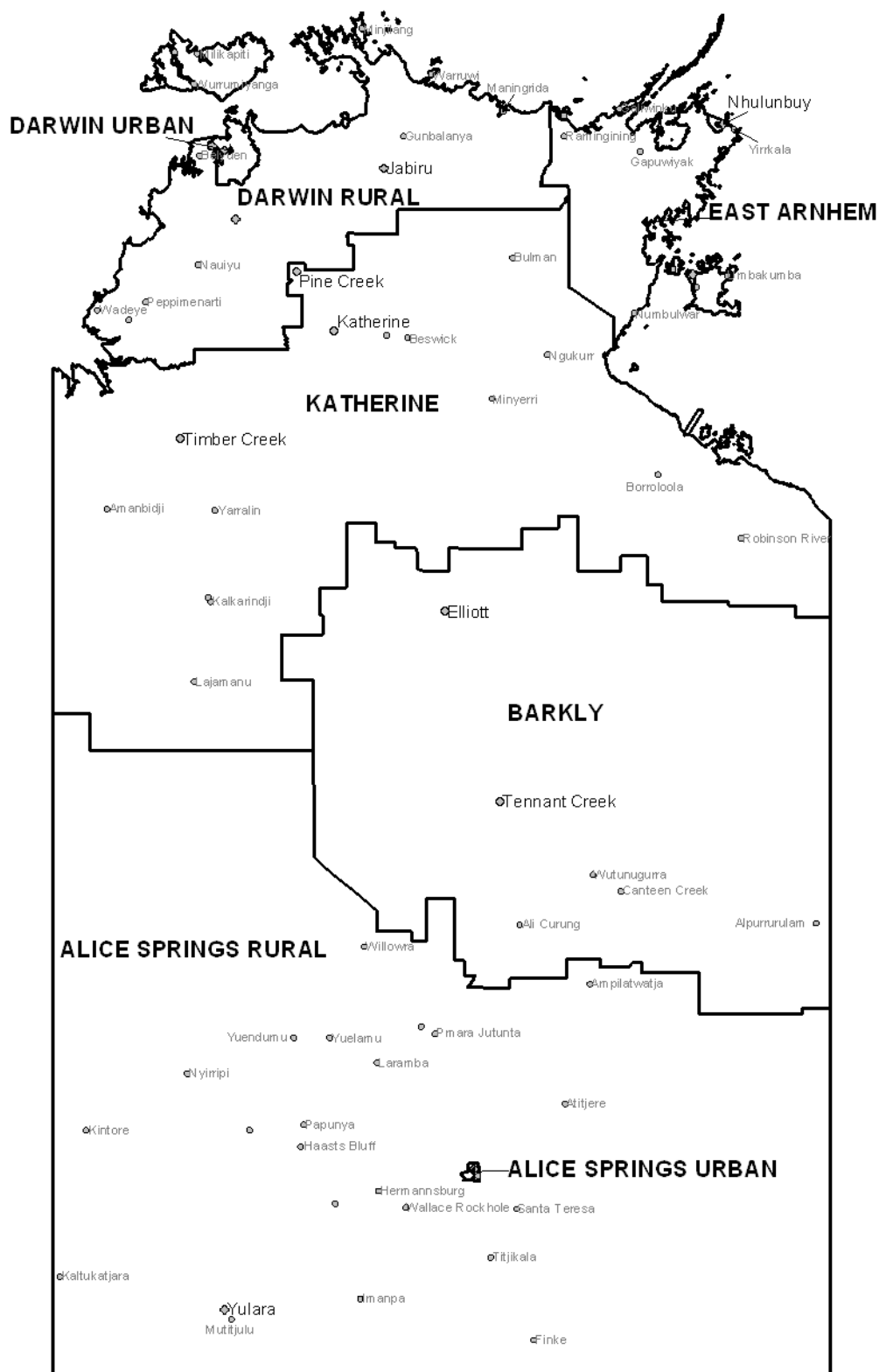
**Table C1. Northern Territory Estimated Resident Population, by Indigenous status, age group, and sex, 2014**

Age (years)	Male			Female			Person
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total	Total
0 - 4	3760	6054	9814	3466	5858	9324	19138
5 - 9	4002	5244	9246	3688	4996	8684	17930
10 - 14	3930	4753	8683	3636	4660	8296	16979
15 - 19	3596	5301	8897	3392	4193	7585	16482
20 - 24	3508	7182	10690	3377	5382	8759	19449
25 - 29	3262	9640	12902	3236	7785	11021	23923
30 - 34	2785	9122	11907	2801	7560	10361	22268
35 - 39	2378	7362	9740	2425	6484	8909	18649
40 - 44	2333	7437	9770	2449	6397	8846	18616
45 - 49	1967	6404	8371	2079	5704	7783	16154
50 - 54	1574	6533	8107	1607	5774	7381	15488
55 - 59	1277	5757	7034	1341	5093	6434	13468
60 - 64	856	4843	5699	913	3878	4791	10490
65 - 69	537	3649	4186	619	2561	3180	7366
70 - 74	313	2064	2377	361	1591	1952	4329
75 +	317	1842	2159	466	1725	2191	4350
<b>Total</b>	<b>36395</b>	<b>93187</b>	<b>129582</b>	<b>35856</b>	<b>79641</b>	<b>115497</b>	<b>245079</b>

Department of Health, 2016, 'Northern Territory Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Indigenous Status and Health Districts (1971-2014)', prepared by Health Gains Planning, file updated on 24 April 2015, using ABS Estimated Resident Population.

## Appendix D. Map of Northern Territory Health Districts

Figure D2. Map of Northern Territory Health Districts



## Glossary

This section provides definitions for a selection of key perinatal terms.

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

**Antenatal:** The period covering conception up to the time of birth.

**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 spontaneous labour to assist the progress of labour.

**Birth status:** status of the baby immediately after birth.

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

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

**Born before arrival:** the term used to describe deliveries which occur before arrival at the health service or before the arrival of the midwife for planned homebirths.

**Breech presentation:** a fetal presentation in which the buttocks are at the opening of the womb.

**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 carried out as a planned procedure before the onset of labour or following the onset of spontaneous labour, when the decision was made before labour. It does not include caesarean section after failed trial of scar.
- Emergency caesarean section: a caesarean section required because of an emergency situation (e.g. obstructed labour, fetal distress/compromise). It is best described as 'when the caesarean section is performed having not been considered necessary previously'.

**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):** a child of at least 20 weeks' gestation or with a birthweight of at least 400 grams at birth that exhibits no sign of respiration or heartbeat, or other sign of life, at birth.

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

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

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

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

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

**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 laceration (tear):** a graze, laceration, rupture, or tear of the perineal skin during delivery. Perineal lacerations can be classified as either

- 1<sup>st</sup> degree: considered to be slight or that involves fourchette, labia, vagina, or vulva;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> degree: also involving pelvic floor, perineal muscles, or vaginal muscles;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> degree: also involving anal floor, rectovaginal septum, or sphincter; or
- 4<sup>th</sup> degree: also involving anal mucosa or rectal mucosa.

**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 onset of labour:** onset of labour without intervention.

**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.

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

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

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