

Regional Statistics

Northern Territory

2000

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Regional Director

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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PREFACE

Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2000 (ABS Cat. no. 1362.7) contains summary statistics for the Northern Territory (NT) Government's six administrative regions. Information is presented in the form of tables and is supplemented by commentary on main economic and social activities within the regions.

Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2000 is the fifth edition of this publication and it represents one of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) strategies to improve the availability and range of statistical data at the regional level.

The publication covers a wide range of information compiled from the 1996 Census and other ABS and non-ABS sources. Chapter 1 presents an overview of the NT and includes information on the land, population and economy of the Territory. Chapters 2–7 contain data and tables at the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level for the six regions and the information presented for each region is cross referenced for easy comparisons.

A feature of this and previous editions of *Regional Statistics, Northern Territory* is the extensive use of data provided through the cooperation of the NT Government and other organisations. Without their co-operation the wide range of statistics presented in this publication would not be available for general use by the community.

This edition of *Regional Statistics, Northern Territory* contains new datasets pertaining to grocery and petrol prices, the racing and gaming industries, liquor purchasing, road traffic accidents and traffic offences.

Robyn Elliott
Regional Director

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

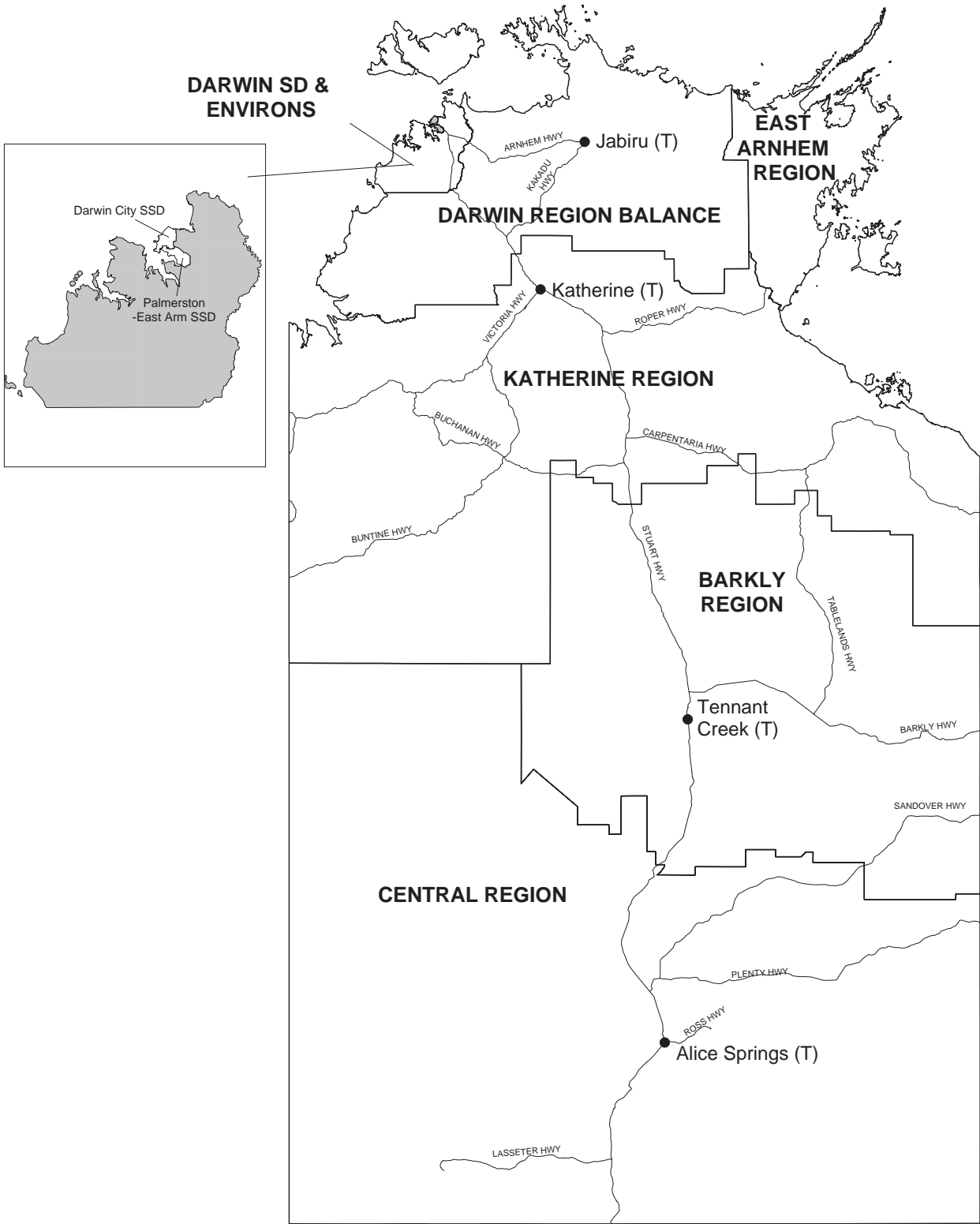
ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CGC	Community Government Council
DEWRSB	Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
ERP	Estimated resident population
GSP	Gross State Product
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HTLV1	Human T-lymphotropic virus type 1
LGA	Local Government Area

SYMBOLS

n.a.	not available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.p.	not published
NT	Northern Territory
NTU	Northern Territory University
p	preliminary figure subject to revision
(S)	Shire
SD	Statistical Division
SLA	Statistical Local Area
SSD	Statistical Subdivision
(T)	Town
-	nil or rounded to zero

REGIONS



CHAPTER 1

OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The Northern Territory (NT) was originally part of the colony of New South Wales, later becoming part of South Australia after the British Government handed it over in 1863. On 1 January 1911, the South Australian Government surrendered the NT to the Commonwealth Government, which took over all the assets and liabilities of the NT. This arrangement continued until 1978 when the Commonwealth Parliament enacted legislation making the NT self-governing from 1 July 1978.

This chapter provides a brief overview of the land, people and economy of the NT, and provides a broad perspective for the more detailed regional data in chapters 2–7.

LAND

The NT has a total area of 1,346,200 square kilometres. It extends approximately 1,610 kilometres from north to south and 934 kilometres from east to west, with approximately 80% lying north of the Tropic of Capricorn. The low-lying coastline is 5,100 kilometres long (plus 2,100 kilometres of coastline around off-lying islands) and consists mostly of unvegetated mudflats, mangrove swamps or rugged cliffs. The NT experiences seasonal flooding of its coastal plains and river systems.

Climate In the tropical north (Top End), the annual seasonal pattern alternates between wet and dry seasons of variable length and intensity, related to the strength of the monsoon. The wet season officially runs from 1 October to 30 April and the dry season from 1 May to 30 September. By contrast the southern half (Centre) of the NT is relatively dry for most of the year and experiences cool winters and hot summers.

About the coast there is little variation in mean monthly temperatures throughout the year. Across the northern half of the NT temperatures are highest early in the wet season, while in the southern half temperatures during summer are hot and often exceed 40 degrees Celsius, January being the hottest month. Throughout the NT the coldest months are June and July.

In the Top End of the NT, relative humidities are highest during the wet season (averaging between 70 and 85% at 9.00 am) and lowest at the height of the dry season (averaging between 50 and 70% at 9.00 am). In contrast, relative humidities in the Centre are generally highest in June and lowest in spring and summer.

During the wet season the northern half of the NT experiences periods of active monsoonal weather, often one or two months apart although this may vary. Active monsoonal periods last for a few days to a week or more and are characterised by cloudy conditions with persistent rain and some heavy showers or storms.

Climate *continued*

The NT experienced an above normal wet season rainfall for 1999–2000. Darwin recorded the highest rainfall (2,225.4mm) for the seven months, while Alice Springs recorded the lowest (656.4mm) for the same period. Whilst Darwin, Gove and Katherine received consistently heavy rainfall for the first four months of 2000, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs experienced heavy rainfall in February and April.

1.1 WET SEASON RAINFALL(a)

	Darwin mm	Gove mm	Katherine mm	Tennant Creek mm	Alice Springs mm
1999					
October	102.2	9.0	122.6	63.4	23.4
November	76.6	190.2	91.2	44.6	11.0
December	250.0	372.6	157.2	80.8	73.0
2000					
January	441.2	129.8	121.4	16.0	29.0
February	667.4	281.6	207.0	354.0	241.6
March	363.6	234.6	300.4	54.6	6.8
April	324.4	419.0	171.0	141.0	271.6
Total	2 225.4	1 636.8	1 170.8	754.4	656.4

(a) 1 October through to 30 April.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology.

Cyclones The tropical cyclone season is from November to April. Darwin has been hit by three major cyclones in the last 100 years. Cyclones caused severe damage in January 1897 and again in March 1937. On Christmas day in 1974 the city of Darwin was devastated by Cyclone Tracy. Wind speed monitoring equipment at Darwin Airport broke when gusts measured about 200 kilometres per hour (km/h) and it was estimated that wind gusts exceeded 240 km/h during the worst of the cyclone. The most recent cyclone to threaten Darwin was Thelma in early December 1998.

Parks In the NT there are over 90 designated parks, reserves, protected and other conservation areas. This does not include the Commonwealth-managed Kakadu or Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Parks. The Uluru Kata-Tjuta Aboriginal Land Trust received title deeds to Uluru National Park on 26 October 1985. As a consequence the traditional owners (the Anagu people) hold inalienable freehold title to the land. Although agreeing to lease the area back to the Commonwealth for 99 years, the traditional owners play a major role in managing the park as a tourist facility while protecting areas of spiritual significance. Uluru Kata-Tjuta and Kakadu National parks are World Heritage listed for their cultural and natural values and are principal destinations for visitors to the NT. In 1998 two new parks were officially opened to the public—the Charles Darwin National Park, consisting of 1,300 hectares of mangroves, waterways and woodlands along the edge of Darwin Harbour; and the Flora River Nature Park, about 122km south of Katherine encompassing 1,874 hectares and 25 kilometres of the Flora River.

Land claims Land is central to the culture and values of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In response to a 1992 decision by the High Court of Australia, the Commonwealth Government introduced the *Native Title Act 1993*. The legislation recognises Aboriginal and Torres Islander peoples' property and cultural rights; the rights of land developers (miners, pastoralists, etc) who need access to land and certainty of title; and the rights of State and Territory Governments who need to manage land resources. Land rights legislation in the Northern Territory is enacted under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*. Land is acquired through a claims process. Claims could be made up until June 1997 on unalienated Crown land only on the basis of 'traditional ownership'. At 30 June 1999 the total area granted or subject to claims was 719,870 km², approximately 53% of the NT.

Mineral Resources The Territory's most significant known metallic and non-metallic mineral resources are:

- bauxite—the third largest bauxite mine in Australia near Gove.
- gold—major operating mines are located in the Pine Creek and Tanami Desert areas.
- manganese—Groote Eylandt is the world's third largest producer of high grade manganese ore.
- zinc, lead and silver—including one of the world's largest known ore bodies at McArthur River.
- deposits of garnet sands and vermiculite.
- diamonds—the Merlin diamond mine started production in February 1999.

The Territory's significant known energy resources are:

- uranium—deposits at Ranger, Jabiluka and Koongarra.
- natural gas—onshore at Palm Valley and Mereenie and large reserves offshore at Greater Sunrise, Evans Shoal, Bayu-Undan (Zone of Cooperation Area A (ZOCA) in the Timor Sea) and Petrel.
- oil—onshore production at Mereenie and offshore production and reserves at Jabiru, Challis, Laminaria/Corallina and Elang/Kakatua in the Timor Sea.

1.2 MINING EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE—DECEMBER QUARTER 1999

Commodity	Northern Territory	Australia
	\$m	\$m
Copper, silver, lead, zinc, nickel and cobalt	n.p.	45.0
Gold	10.0	91.6
Uranium	2.1	3.7
Diamonds	1.6	9.2
Other	n.p.	4.0
<i>Total mineral exploration expenditure</i>	<i>14.8</i>	<i>176.9</i>
Petroleum(a)	18.8	191.1
Total exploration expenditure	33.6	368.0

(a) Includes Ashmore and Cartier Islands.

Source: *Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, December Quarter 1999* (ABS Cat. no. 8412.0).

Agriculture At 31 March 1998 there were 377 establishments involved in commercial agriculture in the Territory, with property holdings totalling 67 million hectares. Of these, 57% were involved in the beef cattle industry, 21% in fruit growing, 5% in plant nurseries and 3% in vegetable growing. In the ten years since 1988 the number of establishments has increased by 23% from 307 to 377.

1.3 ESTABLISHMENTS WITH AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY—31 MARCH 1998

	no.
Plant nurseries	19
Cut flower and flower seed growing	6
Vegetable growing	12
Grape growing	4
Fruit growing n.e.c	79
Beef cattle farming	213
Other farming(a)	12
Grain, crop and plant growing n.e.c(b)	11
<i>Agriculture</i>	<i>356</i>
All other industries	21
Total	377

(a) Includes dairy, poultry, pigs, horse and livestock n.e.c.

(b) Includes grain growing, grain—sheep/beef cattle farming, crop and plant growing n.e.c.

Source: *Agriculture, Australia, 1997–98* (ABS Cat. no. 7113.0).

In the year ending 31 March 1998 there were 8,627 tonnes of fruit and nuts produced in the NT with a gross value of \$21.3 million. Of this amount, 60.3% was banana production and 39.2% was mango production. The grape industry in the NT produced 1,508 tonnes of fruit on 125 hectares of land with a gross value of \$6.7 million for the year ending 31 March 1998.

Field crops and horticultural production

In the 1998–99 season field crops and horticultural production for the NT was valued at \$62 million, a decrease of \$1.5 million from the 1997–98 season. From 1997–98 to 1998–99 the value of field crops and vegetable production increased by 5.7% and 38.5% respectively.

1.4 VALUE OF FIELD CROPS AND HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS

	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99
<i>Commodity</i>	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Field crops	3 252	2 410	6 462	8 147	8 615
Vegetables	3 685	4 011	4 853	7 079	9 805
Fruit	24 416	27 744	30 377	39 927	32 852
Grapes	4 625	6 400	6 100	8 100	10 250
Total	35 978	40 565	47 792	63 253	61 522

Source: NT Office of Resource Development.

At 31 March 1998 there were 222 pastoral holdings in the NT. In the 1997–98 season these establishments reported 1.6 million head of cattle on their holdings, a decrease of 2.6% on 1996–97.

1.5 LIVESTOCK NUMBERS ON HOLDINGS

	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98p
<i>Livestock</i>	no.	no.	no.	no.
Cattle	1 420 874	1 503 072	1 608 846	1 567 237
Domesticated buffalo	10 880	8 850	9 440	11 248
Pigs, goats and horses	12 089	9 724	8 937	8 857

Source: ABS unpublished data, Agriculture Census/Survey, Australia.

Regional Northern Territory

For statistical purposes, the NT is divided into two Statistical Divisions (SDs)—Darwin SD and NT - Balance.

Darwin SD includes the Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs) of Darwin and Palmerston - East Arm. Darwin SSD contains 29 SLAs, and Palmerston - East Arm contains six SLAs, generally equating to suburbs.

NT - Balance SD includes the SSDs of Darwin Rural Areas, Bathurst - Melville, Alligator, Daly, East Arnhem, Lower Top End, Barkly and Central. These eight SSDs contain a further 27 SLAs.

The Territory comprises six broad NT Government Administrative Regions - Darwin SD and Environs, Darwin Region Balance, East Arnhem, Katherine, Barkly and Central.

PEOPLE

The NT accounts for 17.5% of Australia's landmass with just 1% of the country's population.

Estimated residential population

The Estimated Resident Population (ERP) is the official estimate of the resident population of statistical areas within Australia, and is based on the five-yearly Census of Population and Housing, last held in August 1996. At 30 June 1999 the ERP for the Northern Territory was 192,882, an increase of 2,945 people (1.6%) since June 1998. At June 1994 the Territory's population was estimated at 173,375. In 1999, 45.7% resided in Darwin and Palmerston. Alice Springs (13.3%), Katherine (5.2%), Tennant Creek (2.0%), and Nhulunbuy (1.9%) accounted for a further 22.4% of the Territory's population.

1.6 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION FOR SELECTED AREAS

	30 June			Change	
	1994	1998	1999p	1994-99(a)	1998-99
<i>Selected areas</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Darwin City SSD	67 902	69 280	68 463	0.2	-1.2
Palmerston - East Arm SSD	11 110	17 270	19 661	12.1	13.8
Litchfield (S)	12 121	14 906	15 412	4.9	3.4
Nhulunbuy	3 814	3 718	3 652	-0.9	-1.8
Katherine (T)	8 905	9 853	9 933	2.2	0.8
Tennant Creek (T)	3 603	3 861	3 913	1.7	1.3
Alice Springs (T)	24 354	25 515	25 557	1.0	0.2

(a) Average annual rate.

Source: *Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99* (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0).

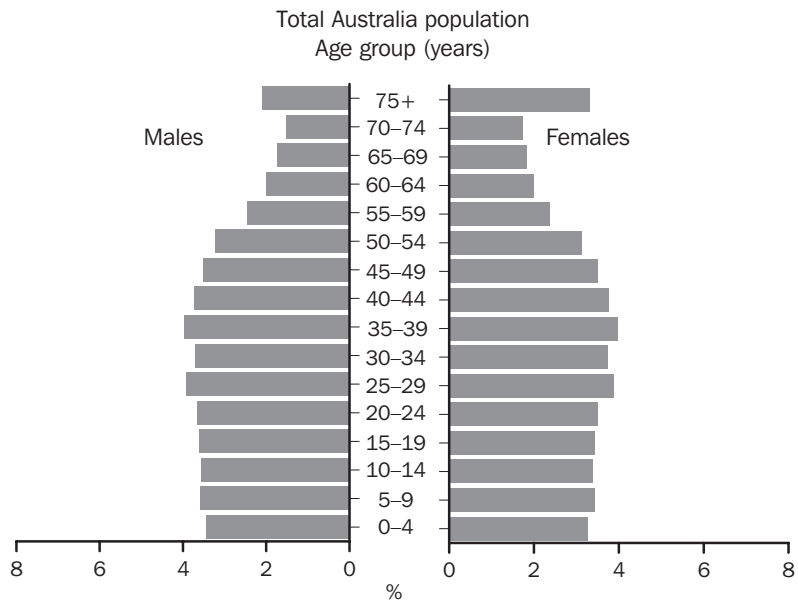
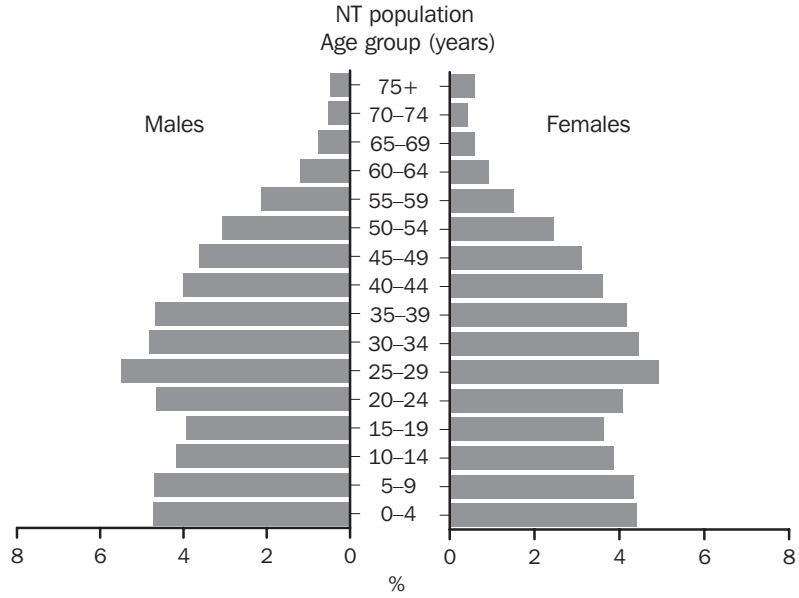
Population density

The Territory is for the most part sparsely populated, with an average of one person for every seven square kilometres. In Darwin City there is an average of 608 persons per square kilometre, whereas in the Tableland area of Barkly Region there is an average of one person for every 139 square kilometres.

Age distribution

The age structure of the NT is substantially different from the age structure for Australia. At 30 June 1999 the NT had 26.2% of its population aged 0-14 years compared to 20.7% for the total population of Australia. In contrast, the NT had the lowest proportion of people aged 65 years and over (3.4% compared to 12.3% nationally).

1.7 NORTHERN TERRITORY AND TOTAL AUSTRALIA ERP—30 JUNE 1999



Birthplace At the time of the 1996 Census there were 27,260 (15.5%) of people in the NT who indicated that they were born overseas. This figure excluded 5,736 people who were visiting the NT from overseas.

Of those people who indicated they were born overseas just under half (12,717 or 46.7%) were from English-speaking countries, mainly the United Kingdom (7,543 or 27.7% of all overseas born) and New Zealand (3,335 or 12.2%). The main non-English speaking countries of origin were the Philippines (1,716 or 6.3% of all overseas born), Indonesia (1,696 or 6.2%), Greece (1,088 or 4.0%) and Germany (955 or 3.5%).

Indigenous population The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) produces 'experimental' estimates of the Indigenous population. The estimates are experimental because data on births, deaths and internal migration are not always readily available. The 1999 estimates used in this chapter are experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

At 30 June 1999 the estimated resident Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the NT was 54,587. Indigenous people comprise 28.3% of the total NT population compared to 2.2% of the total Australian population.

1.8 ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION—AT 30 JUNE 1999(a)

State and Territory	Indigenous population(b)	Total population	Proportion of
			State's or Territory's total population
	'000	'000	%
New South Wales	116.7	6 411.7	1.8
Victoria	23.8	4 712.2	0.5
Queensland	113.1	3 512.4	3.2
South Australia	23.4	1 493.1	1.6
Western Australia	59.4	1 861.0	3.2
Tasmania	16.1	470.3	3.4
Northern Territory	54.6	192.9	28.3
Australian Capital Territory(c)	3.4	310.2	1.1
Australia(d)	410.6	18 966.8	2.2

(a) The ERPs have been rounded to the nearest 100 and as a result discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals.

(b) Experimental projections—see Glossary.

(c) Excludes Jervis Bay Territory.

(d) Includes Other Territories.

Source: *Experimental Projections of the Indigenous Population, 30 June 1996 to 30 June 2006* (ABS Cat. no. 3231.0); *Australian Demographic Statistics, September Quarter 1999* (ABS Cat. no. 3101.0).

Age distribution

The age distribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders is different from that of the total NT population. The 'experimental' estimates of the Indigenous population, at 30 June 1996, showed 38.1% of the Indigenous population were aged 0–14 years, compared to 27.1% of the total NT population. The proportion of Indigenous people aged 65 years and over was 2.7% compared to 3.2% of the total NT population.

1.9 INDIGENOUS ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION—30 JUNE 1996



Source: *Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1991 to 30 June 1996* (ABS Cat. no. 3230.0).

Median age

At 30 June 1996 the median age of the Territory's Indigenous population was 20.6 years, compared to 27.8 years for the total population. The median age for Indigenous males (19.9 years) was considerably younger than for all males (28.2 years). Similarly, the median age for Indigenous females (21.4 years) was younger than for all females (27.4 years).

Labour force At December 1999, the ABS trend estimate of the total NT labour force was 96,400 persons. Employment stood at 91,900 after a period of steady decline throughout 1999, while the number of persons unemployed had risen to 4,500. The Territory's unemployment rate was 4.6%, still the lowest of all States and Territories; while the participation rate was 68.7%, the second highest of all States and Territories. Nationally the unemployment rate was 6.9% and the participation rate was 63.3%.

THE ECONOMY

Mining is the major contributor to the NT economy, although its dominance has diminished in recent years. Tourism also generates much economic activity, mainly through retail and service industry sales, expenditure on transport, and construction of tourism infrastructure. The housing and construction industry is also a major contributor, consistent with relatively high rates of population and economic growth.

THE ECONOMY *continued*

Economic activity at the state/territory level is measured by Gross State Product (GSP). In the NT GSP is subject to considerable year to year volatility, mostly reflecting changes to gross product in the Mining industry. In 1998–99 the Territory's GSP at market prices increased by 8.0% to an estimated \$6,481 million. Australia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 4.8% in 1998–99.

GSP per head In the NT the GSP per head of mean population (at market prices) increased by 6.0% to \$33,773 for 1998–99. This was higher than the national average of \$31,456 per head.

Industry contribution to total factor income There are substantial differences in the structure of industry in the NT when compared with that generally existing across Australia. In 1998–99 the Mining industry contributed 13.8% to NT total factor income compared to 4.2% for Australia. Conversely, the Manufacturing industry contributed only 4.3% to the Territory's factor income compared to 13.4% nationally. The main contributors to total factor income in the NT for 1998–99 were Mining (\$837 million), Property and business services (\$566 million), Government administration and defence (\$511 million), and Construction (\$412 million).

1.10 CONTRIBUTION TO NT GROSS STATE PRODUCT AT FACTOR COST

Industry	Northern Territory				Australia
	Value		Contribution to GSP		Contribution to GSP
	1997–98	1998–98	1997–98	1998–99	1998–99
	\$m	\$m	%	%	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	190	232	3.4	3.8	3.3
Mining and services to mining	874	837	15.7	13.8	4.2
Manufacturing	256	261	4.6	4.3	13.4
Electricity, gas and water supply	98	99	1.8	1.6	2.5
Construction	340	412	6.1	6.8	6.6
Wholesale trade	177	188	3.2	3.1	5.5
Retail trade	322	369	5.8	6.1	6.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	185	197	3.3	3.3	2.3
Transport and storage	318	347	5.7	5.7	5.4
Communication services	189	207	3.4	3.4	3.1
Finance and insurance	173	179	3.1	3.0	6.4
Property and business services	441	566	7.9	9.3	11.0
Government administration and defence	496	511	8.9	8.4	4.0
Education	312	355	5.6	5.9	4.5
Health and community services	350	401	6.3	6.6	6.1
Cultural and recreational services	184	193	3.3	3.2	2.0
Personal and other services	175	191	3.1	3.2	2.4
Other(a)	485	510	8.7	8.4	11.4
Total	5 565	6 055	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Includes ownership of dwellings and general government.

Source: Australian National Accounts State Accounts, 1998–99 (ABS Cat. no. 5220.0).

Employment	<p>The largest employing industry in the NT as at November 1999 was Retail trade (14.6% of all wage and salary earners), followed by Health and community services and Government administration and defence (11.7% and 10.2% respectively). Whilst the mining industry is the largest contributor to GSP it employs only 3.7% of NT wage and salary earners. In November 1999 the proportion of private sector employees was 71.1% compared to 28.9% for the public sector.</p>
Consumer Price Index	<p>The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures quarterly changes in the price of a 'basket' of goods and services which account for a high proportion of expenditure by metropolitan wage and salary earner households. This basket is made up of a range of expenditure items in eight main groups: food; clothing; housing; household equipment and operation; transportation; tobacco and alcohol; health and personal care; and recreation and education. Each of these groups is indexed separately for specific purposes or, as is the usual practice, grouped together as a summary of the changes in prices affecting weekly household expenditure.</p> <p>Between December 1998 and December 1999 the CPI for all groups for Darwin increased by 0.7% compared with a 1.8% increase being recorded nationally over the same period. In Darwin, quarterly price index increases of 0.2% and 0.5% were recorded in the September and December quarters respectively in 1998, while the price index decreased by 0.5% in the March quarter and increased by 0.5% in the June quarter in 1999.</p>
NT government initiatives	<p>In August 1999 the Legislative Assembly Select Committee on Territory Food Prices presented a report in their Inquiry into <i>Food Prices in the Northern Territory</i>. The report recommended a monitoring of grocery prices across the NT and that the results be published on a regular basis. The NT Treasury developed and implemented the Grocery Price Survey that measures the cost of purchasing an average basket of goods at selected supermarkets across the NT. The 'basket' comprises nine sub-groups and thirty three expenditure classes of the Australian Bureau of Statistics Consumer Price Index. The nine sub-groups are: soft drinks, ice cream and confectionary; other foods; household supplies; personal care products; dairy products; cereal products; meat and seafood; fish and other seafood; processed fruit and vegetables.</p> <p>The survey is conducted each quarter in a week chosen at random with no notice given to the supermarkets in the survey. The survey is conducted at ten supermarkets in Darwin, one in Katherine, three in Alice Springs and one in Nhulunbuy. For comparison purposes the survey included four supermarkets in Cairns and two in Mount Isa.</p>

Grocery Price Survey, March 2000

The first Grocery Price Survey findings were released by the NT Treasury in April 2000. For Darwin, the average cost of the total basket of goods and services was \$140.69 compared to \$131.16 in Cairns. The cheapest basket of goods in Darwin was Woolworths, Nightcliff (\$138.16), while the most expensive was recorded at Woolworths, Casuarina (\$143.10).

Of all the outlets in the NT, Woolworths and Bi-Lo in Alice Springs were the cheapest (\$136.58 and \$137.25 respectively), with Nhulunbuy being the most expensive (\$173.83). The average cost of the total basket of goods in Katherine were similar to Darwin (\$140.78 and \$140.69 respectively).

1.11 GROCERY PRICE SURVEY—MARCH QUARTER 2000

<i>Location</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>Ranking</i>
Darwin		
Bi-Lo		
Casuarina	140.23	12
Northlakes	139.96	11
Coles		
Casuarina	141.45	18
Karama	142.93	19
Palmerston	140.83	15
Woolworths		
Casuarina	143.10	20
City	140.46	13
Hibiscus	138.86	10
Nightcliff	138.16	9
Palmerston	140.94	17
Nhulunbuy		
Woolworths	173.83	21
Katherine		
Woolworths	140.78	14
Alice Springs		
Bi-Lo	137.25	8
Coles	140.88	16
Woolworths	136.58	7
Cairns		
Bi-Lo		
Central	129.43	2
Coles		
Central	133.81	4
Franklins		
Stocklands	128.09	1
Woolworths		
Stocklands	133.31	3
Mount Isa		
Coles	136.13	5
Woolworths	136.54	6

Source: NT Treasury.

NT government budget and expenditure

In 1999–2000 the NT government budgeted for a surplus and a projected decline of \$1.5 million in net debt. With the signing of the *Intergovernmental Agreement 1999*, a guaranteed amount of Commonwealth funding was assured. For the financial year 1999–2000, Commonwealth grants were budgeted to rise by approximately 2% (from \$1,495 million to \$1,523 million), with untied grants rising by 3% following the revue of relativities by the Commonwealth Grants Commission.

The 1999–2000 NT budget allocated \$1,744 million for current expenditure and \$231 million for capital expenditure, a total of \$1,975 million. For the NT major initiatives included an upgrade of the Police communications systems, \$16 million on petroleum exploration initiatives, \$10 million for railway assessment and land acquisition, \$9 million in hospital growth funding, and \$3 million for tourism marketing. Increases in current expenditure were also experienced in Health, Education, Housing and community amenities.

Public finance

The year 1999–2000 saw the implementation of accrual accounting into public accounts and budget managements systems for all jurisdictions. As jurisdictions are at different stages in implementing accrual accounting and the need to provide accrual data to the ABS in a format suitable for Government Finance Statistics (GFS) purposes, the data for the years 1998–99 and 1999–2000 are to be regarded as experimental estimates.

In 1998–99 revenue for NT General government was \$1,884 million, an increase of \$88 million from 1997–98. Of this revenue, \$1,331 million (70.6%) was Commonwealth grants. Taxes accounted for \$335 million (17.8%) of the NT total revenue.

1.12 GOVERNMENT REVENUE(a)

	1997–98	1998–99p
<i>Economic transaction</i>	\$m	\$m
Taxes	323	335
Sales of goods and services	87	114
Grants and subsidies	1 309	1 331
Other receipts	76	105
Total	1 796	1 884

(a) See Glossary.

Source: *Government Financial Estimates, Australia, 1999–2000* (ABS Cat.no. 5501.0).

In 1998–99 the total outlays by the NT Government amounted to \$2,619 million, an increase of \$465 million from 1997–98. Education (\$404 million or 15.4%), General public service (\$392 million or 15.0%) and Health (\$360 million or 13.7%) were the major outlays by purpose for the NT Government.

1.13 NT GOVERNMENT OUTLAYS BY PURPOSE

	1997-98p	1998-99p
	\$m	\$m
General public service	213	392
Public order and safety	174	204
Education	355	404
Health	324	360
Social security and welfare	51	40
Housing and community amenities	93	147
Recreation and culture	90	163
Fuel and energy	309	244
Transport, communication and other economic affairs	160	262
Public debt	187	234
Other purposes	128	101
Total	2 154	2 619

Source: ABS unpublished data, Government Financial Estimates.

1.14 REGIONS

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Darwin SD and Environs</i>	<i>Darwin Region Balance</i>	<i>East Arnhem Region</i>	<i>Katherine Region</i>	<i>Barkly Region</i>	<i>Central Region</i>	Total
Area	sq km	10 262	132 012	37 997	336 674	283 648	546 572	1 346 200
Population								
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1999p	no.	105 730	12 420	13 113	17 378	6 844	37 397	192 882
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1998	no.	103 563	12 458	13 020	17 297	6 700	36 899	189 937
Annual growth rate 1998 to 1999	%	2.1	-0.3	0.7	0.5	2.1	1.3	1.6
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1994	no.	92 772	11 467	12 233	15 759	6 302	34 842	173 375
Annual growth rate 1994 to 1999(a)	%	2.6	1.6	1.4	2.0	1.7	1.4	2.2
Age range of population 30 June 1998p(b)								
0-4 years	no.	9 057	1 342	1 437	1 833	704	3 343	17 716
5-14 years	no.	15 737	2 649	2 869	3 492	1 355	6 601	32 703
15-44 years	no.	55 037	6 533	6 668	9 051	3 326	19 578	100 193
45-64 years	no.	20 027	1 590	1 833	2 420	1 093	6 112	33 075
65 years and over	no.	3 734	347	217	507	223	1 276	6 304
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>103 592</i>	<i>12 461</i>	<i>13 024</i>	<i>17 303</i>	<i>6 701</i>	<i>36 910</i>	<i>189 991</i>
Dependency rate	no.	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Median age, Census 1996(c)	no.	29	23	24	25	24	27	27
Births 1998(d)	no.	1 855	276	294	378	126	706	3 635
Deaths 1998(d)	no.	370	79	58	116	39	176	838
Indigenous population, Census 1996(e)(f)								
Age range of population								
0-4 years	no.	1 133	1 050	830	871	452	1 452	5 806
5-14 years	no.	2 202	2 081	1 824	1 825	920	2 790	11 673
15-44 years	no.	4 218	4 083	3 607	3 179	1 633	5 889	22 736
45-64 years	no.	900	820	748	638	356	1 401	4 885
65 years and over	no.	175	206	121	207	120	431	1 266
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>8 628</i>	<i>8 240</i>	<i>7 130</i>	<i>6 720</i>	<i>3 481</i>	<i>11 963</i>	<i>46 366</i>
Dependency rate	no.	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7

For footnotes see end of table.

...continued

1.14 REGIONS—continued

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Darwin SD and Environs</i>	<i>Darwin Region Balance</i>	<i>East Arnhem Region</i>	<i>Katherine Region</i>	<i>Barkly Region</i>	<i>Central Region</i>	Total
Building approvals, 1999(g)								
New dwelling units approved	no.	1 363	65	52	114	34	189	1 817
Value of new residential buildings approved	\$'000	174 390	8 833	8 728	14 259	4 442	23 371	234 023
Proportion of NT value of new dwellings approved	%	74.5	3.8	3.7	6.1	1.9	10.0	100.0
Value of non-residential buildings approved	\$'000	90 888	1 104	576	11 007	221	29 928	133 724
Proportion of NT value of non-residential building approvals	%	68.0	0.8	0.4	8.2	0.2	22.4	100.0
Value of all buildings approved(h)	\$'000	285 386	12 526	11 499	26 334	5 070	57 029	397 845
Proportion of NT value of all buildings approved	%	71.7	3.1	2.9	6.6	1.3	14.3	100.0
Labour force, DEWRSB(i), Dec qtr 1999								
Employed persons	no.	54 816	4 461	4 660	8 482	2 844	18 411	93 674
Unemployed persons	no.	1 783	258	209	403	114	1 070	3 837
Persons in the labour force	no.	56 599	4 719	4 869	8 885	2 958	19 481	97 511
Unemployment rate	%	3.2	5.5	4.3	4.5	3.9	5.5	3.9
Gaming, 30 June 1999								
Licensed gaming venues	no.	32	2	4	6	5	11	60
Gaming machines	no.	309	14	70	54	39	104	590
Liquor, 30 June 1999								
Restricted areas	no.	0	16	8	27	19	32	102

(a) Average annual growth rate.

(b) Based on 1998 ERP preliminary figures.

(c) Median age of usual residence population only.

(d) Data refers to births and deaths registered in the calendar year 1998.

(e) Excludes overseas visitors.

(f) Data have been randomised to ensure confidentiality of information.

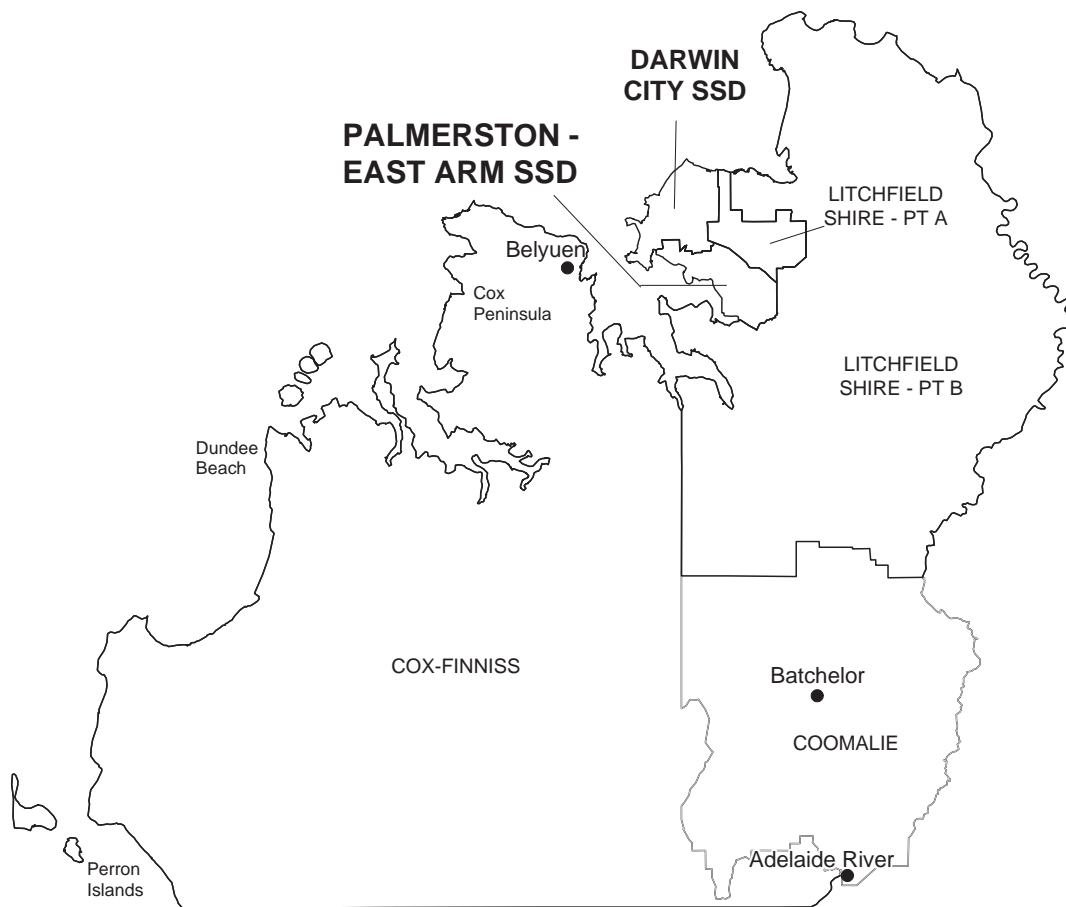
(g) Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component item and totals shown.

(h) Includes alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(i) See Glossary.

Source: ABS, unpublished data, Building Approvals, 1999; ABS unpublished data, Census 1996; Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7); Population by Age and Sex, Northern Territory, 30 June 1998 (ABS Cat. no.3235.7); Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99 (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0); Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 1999 (ABS Cat. no. 1362.7); Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (Cat. no. 96 25208), DEWRSB Canberra, December quarter 1999; NT Department of Industries and Business.

DARWIN STATISTICAL DIVISION AND ENVIRONS



CHAPTER 2

DARWIN STATISTICAL DIVISION AND ENVIRONS

INTRODUCTION

Darwin Statistical Division (SD) and Environs covers an area of 10,262 square kilometres, stretching from the urban areas of Darwin and Palmerston to as far south as Adelaide River township. The region includes the Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs) of Darwin City, Palmerston - East Arm, and Darwin Rural Areas.

POPULATION

Estimated resident population

The estimated resident population of Darwin SD and Environs at 30 June 1999 was 105,730, an increase of 2.1% from 1998. The majority of the population lived in Darwin City SSD (64.8%), with the rest distributed between Palmerston - East Arm SSD and Darwin Rural Areas (18.6% and 16.7% respectively).

In the five-year period to June 1999, Palmerston - East Arm SSD averaged an annual population growth rate of 12.1%. The growth rate of 13.8% between 1998 and 1999 was the highest in the Territory. This was mainly due to high growth rates in the Statistical Local Area (SLA) of Palmerston (T) Balance, which includes the developing suburbs of Bakewell, Rosebery, Marlows Lagoon, Gunn and Durack. The population of Palmerston (T) Balance increased from 3,809 to 5,874 (54.2%) in the 12 months to June 1999. Gray recorded the second highest population increase from 3,443 to 3,633 (5.5%).

2.1 PALMERSTON - EAST ARM STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION

	ERP at 30 June			Change	
	1994	1998	1999p	1994-99(a)	1998-99
<i>Statistical Local Area</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
East Arm	320	186	184	-10.5	-1.1
Driver	2 302	2 853	2 871	4.5	0.6
Gray	2 899	3 443	3 633	4.6	5.5
Moulden	3 146	3 611	3 621	2.9	0.3
Woodroffe	2 193	3 368	3 478	9.7	3.3
Palmerston (T) Balance	250	3 809	5 874	88.0	54.2
Total	11 110	17 270	19 661	12.1	13.8

(a) Average annual growth rate.

Source: *Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99* (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0).

The average annual population growth rate for the Darwin Rural Areas SSD in the five years to June 1999 was 5.1%, with a growth rate of 3.5% from 1998 to 1999. This SSD is dominated by the SLA of Litchfield (S) - Part B, which grew by 320 persons (2.4%) in the 12 months to June 1999. The smaller SLAs of Coomalie, Cox-Finniss and Litchfield (S) - Part A increased by 2.5%, 6.8% and 11.9% respectively.

2.2 DARWIN RURAL AREAS STATISTICAL SUBDIVISION

Statistical Local Area	ERP at 30 June			Change	
	1994	1998	1999p	1994-99(a)	1998-99
	no.	no.	no.	%	%
Coomalie (CGC)	1 074	1 301	1 333	4.4	2.5
Cox-Finiss	565	806	861	8.8	6.8
Litchfield (S) - Part A	785	1 565	1 751	17.4	11.9
Litchfield (S) - Part B	11 336	13 341	13 661	3.8	2.4
Total	13 760	17 013	17 606	5.1	3.5

(a) Average annual growth rate.

Source: *Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99* (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0).

Census counts for Litchfield Shire

Annual population estimates are not available below the SLA level, however counts of small area populations are undertaken every five years during the national Census of Population and Housing. In the five years to the 1996 Census, the Litchfield Shire experienced large increases in counts of both population and dwellings. At the time of the 1996 Census there were 13,858 people counted in the Litchfield Shire, compared to 9,746 counted in 1991. The majority (53.3%) were counted in Howard Springs and Humpty Doo, with a further 15.7% in Virginia/Bees Creek.

2.3 CENSUS COUNTS FOR LITCHFIELD SHIRE

	1991		1996	
	Persons	Dwellings	Persons	Dwellings
	no.	no.	no.	no.
Litchfield (S) - Part A(a)	436	189	1 229	486
Litchfield (S) - Part B				
Howard Springs	2 690	947	3 207	1 076
Humpty Doo	2 225	757	4 178	1 534
Virginia/Bees Creek	1 745	659	2 173	827
McMinns Lagoon	598	204	620	232
Balance south of Arnhem Hwy(b)	}2052	}773	2 271	850
Balance north of Arnhem Hwy(c)	}	}	180	86
<i>Total</i>	9 310	3 340	12 629	4 605
Total Litchfield Shire	9 746	3 529	13 858	5 091

(a) Includes Robertson Barracks and Palms Caravan Park. A minor boundary adjustment in 1996 has included the caravan park in Litchfield (previously in the SLA of East Arm).

(b) Includes Bery Springs, Noonamah and Southport.

(c) Includes Lambells Lagoon, Middle Point and Gunn Point.

Source: *Census of Population and Housing: Counts by Age and Sex for Selected Areas, Northern Territory 1996* (ABS Cat. no. 2018.7).

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES	According to quarterly Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business labour force estimates, at December 1999 there were 56,599 people in the labour force in Darwin SD and Environs, comprising 54,816 employed persons and 1,783 unemployed. Almost three-quarters (74.0%) of employed persons were in Darwin City SSD, with 11.4% in Palmerston - East Arm SSD and 14.6% in Darwin Rural Areas. Unemployment rates were 2.8% for Darwin City SSD, 4.5% for Palmerston - East Arm SSD and 4.1% for Darwin Rural Areas.
INDIGENOUS POPULATION	At the time of the 1996 Census there were 8,628 Indigenous people in Darwin SD and Environs. Of these, 64.3% were in Darwin City SSD, with 17.7% in Palmerston - East Arm and 18.0% in Darwin Rural Areas. In Darwin City SSD, 36.5% of the Indigenous population were aged under 15 years and 2.1% were 65 years and over. A similar age structure occurred in Palmerston - East Arm (45.4% and 1.4% respectively) and Darwin Rural Areas (39.8% and 2.5% respectively).
MINING	All of the Territory's lead concentrate, zinc concentrate, and tin/tantalite concentrate is produced in Darwin SD and Environs. In 1998-99 production figures were 28 kilotonnes of lead concentrate (value \$2.2 million), 50 kilotonnes of zinc concentrate (value \$22.8 million) and 64 tonnes of tin/tantalite concentrate (value \$1.2 million). Together this represented 2.3% of the value of the Northern Territory (NT) metallic mineral production. The value of the 556 kilotonnes of non-metallic minerals produced in the region was \$5.6 million, 17.1% of the total value of NT non-metallic mineral production (refer to tables 4.1 and 4.2).
AGRICULTURE	In 1998-99 Darwin SD and Environs was responsible for 35.0% of the total value of NT field crop production; and in 1998, 63.6% of the value of NT fruit and vegetables (refer to tables 5.1 and 5.2).
HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION	The Northern Territory construction industry comprises residential and non-residential (commercial) building activity, as well as engineering construction. In 1998-99 the construction industry contributed 6.8% to NT Gross State Product and employed 3,200 people, 4.2% of all Territory wage and salary earners.
Building approvals	In 1999 there were a total of 1,363 approvals for new dwelling units in Darwin SD and Environs, with 613 (45.0%) of these in Palmerston - East Arm SSD and 570 (41.8%) in Darwin City SSD. The value of residential building approved in the region was \$174.4 million, of which \$154.1 million was for Palmerston - East Arm and Darwin City SSD combined (\$76.0 million and \$78.1 million respectively). The value of all building approved in Darwin SD and Environs for 1999 was \$285.4 million, 71.7% of the total value of all building approved in the NT.

Public housing Public housing comprises dwellings owned and managed by the NT Department of Housing. At June 1999 there were 7,320 dwellings available to the public, with 6,984 (95.4%) being rented and 336 vacant. Some form of rebated rent applied to more than half of the dwellings being rented. There were a total of 3,090 applications for public housing in the Territory during 1998-99, with a waiting list of 2,773 at 30 June 1999.

More than half of the public dwellings available for rent were in Darwin SD and Environs (4,615 or 63.0%), with 174 dwellings vacant at June 1999. Darwin SD and Environs had the highest proportion of rebated rented dwellings (74.3%), followed by Central Region (64.7%). Half of the rebated rental dwellings in Darwin SD and Environs were rented by the aged/invalid, 25.8% by sole parents and 22.9% by the unemployed.

In all NT regions the demand for public housing far exceeded the number of vacant public housing dwellings. At 30 June 1999 there was a waiting list of 2,171 in Darwin SD and Environs, with the main demand being for one bedroom dwellings (64.4%) or three bedroom dwellings (25.5%). Wait time, relates to the elapsed time from application to allocation. In Darwin SD and Environs, 23.2% of persons on the wait list were allocated a public dwelling within one to two years, 22.4% in less than six months and 14.7% within six to twelve months.

2.4 PUBLIC HOUSING

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Public housing dwellings, 30 June 1999								
Full rent	no.	1 010	102	240	217	97	388	2 054
Rebated rent								
Aged/Invalid	no.	1 761	14	22	196	55	455	2 503
Sole parent	no.	884	8	8	113	29	206	1 248
Unemployed	no.	786	10	12	147	27	197	1 179
Total rebated rent	no.	3 431	32	42	456	111	858	4 930
Vacant dwelling	no.	174	1	5	48	28	80	336
Total	no.	4 615	135	287	721	236	1 326	7 320
Stock numbers								
One bedroom	no.	873	29	52	157	42	265	1 418
Two bedroom	no.	1 023	10	79	199	50	353	1 714
Three bedroom	no.	2 503	86	141	324	137	642	3 833
Four bedrooms or more	no.	216	10	15	41	7	66	355
Total	no.	4 615	135	287	721	236	1 326	7 320
Applications for Public housing, 1998–99	no.	1 622	12	90	610	150	606	3 090
Demand for housing, 30 June 1999(a)								
One bedroom (Pensioner)	no.	248	1	0	10	2	44	305
One bedroom (Non-pensioner)	no.	1 150	0	18	59	2	98	1 327
Two bedroom	no.	204	1	18	47	3	55	328
Three bedroom	no.	554	1	19	43	21	146	784
Four bedroom	no.	15	0	1	4	1	8	29
Total	no.	2 171	3	56	163	29	351	2 773
Wait time								
Under 6 months	no.	486	2	6	113	11	166	784
6–12 months	no.	320	1	8	30	6	106	471
1–2 years	no.	504	0	23	9	6	65	607
2–3 years	no.	259	0	10	8	1	2	280
3–4 years	no.	197	0	9	0	2	4	212
4–5 years	no.	152	0	0	0	3	1	156
5 years or more	no.	253	0	0	3	0	7	263
Total	no.	2 171	3	56	163	29	351	2 773

(a) Expressed as number of people on the waiting list.

Source: NT Department of Housing.

NT government initiatives The Northern Territory 1999–2000 budget allocated monies to capital works for the construction of one and two bedroom units in the Darwin and Palmerston area. The government also introduced a \$23 million Homestart Scheme to assist persons with the purchase of NT housing.

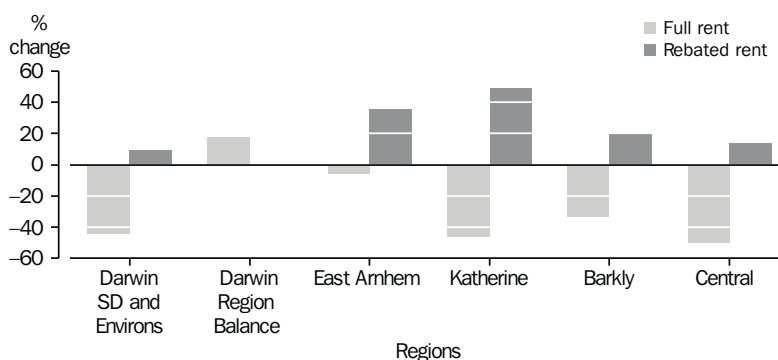
Public housing 2003 strategy

The year 1998–99 saw the commencement of Housing 2003 strategies where all existing tenants were required to meet public housing eligibility criteria and those who were ineligible and chose to continue to rent public housing were required to pay market rent from 25 January 1999. The Housing 2003 measures resulted in approximately 600 public tenants purchasing their homes, reductions in wait times for public housing, the commencement of construction of one and two bedroom units in Darwin and the sale by auction of surplus three bedroom housing to align housing stock to need. Figure 2.5 shows that the majority of purchases were by tenants paying full rent, with public housing stock decreasing accordingly.

In 1998 there were 8,053 public housing dwellings available for rent compared to 7,320 in 1999. Central Region experienced a reduction in full rental properties from 779 to 388 (50.2%) in the year to 1999. In Katherine Region there were 401 public housing dwellings being fully rented in 1998 compared to 217 in 1999 (a decrease of 45.9%).

In NT the number of rebate rented properties increased from 4,324 in 1998 to 4,930 in 1999. Katherine Region rebate rented public housing increased from 307 to 456, East Arnhem Region from 31 to 42 and Barkly Region from 93 to 111.

2.5 FULL AND REBATED RENTAL DWELLINGS—1998–99



Source: NT Department of Housing.

Property market in Darwin and Palmerston

Figures supplied by the Office of the Valuer General show that in Darwin sales of houses have increased in 1998–99, however the average value of sales decreased to \$206,000. Sales of units in Darwin were fairly consistent over the previous five years, with the average value remaining at \$174,000 for the last two years.

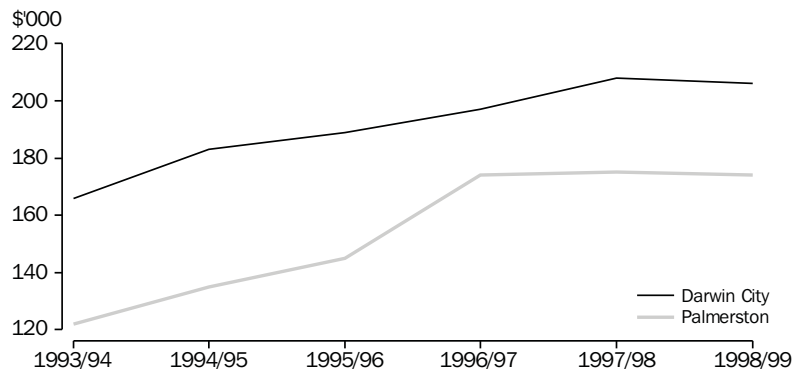
2.6 REAL ESTATE MARKET INDICATORS, HOUSES AND UNITS

Location	Unit	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
HOUSES							
Darwin City							
Sales	no.	1 092	1 001	865	914	869	1 080
Total value	\$'000	181 683	182 997	163 555	180 474	180 705	222 162
Average price	\$'000	166	183	189	197	208	206
Palmerston							
Sales	no.	247	231	247	314	401	448
Total value	\$ '000	30 211	31 100	35 789	52 546	70 210	78 104
Average price	\$ '000	122	135	145	167	175	174
UNITS							
Darwin City							
Sales	no.	927	901	873	784	880	920
Total value	\$'000	105 474	124 471	130 991	127 841	152 811	160 350
Average price	\$'000	114	138	150	163	174	174
Palmerston							
Sales	no.	148	123	124	158	261	211
Total value	\$ '000	13 238	11 701	13 318	18 424	30 641	25 802
Average price	\$ '000	89	95	107	117	117	122

Source: Office of the Valuer-General NT, Annual Report 1998-99.

In Palmerston sales of houses increased significantly in recent years, with average values of sales increasing to 1997-98, but levelling out in 1998-99.

2.7 AVERAGE PRICES—HOUSES

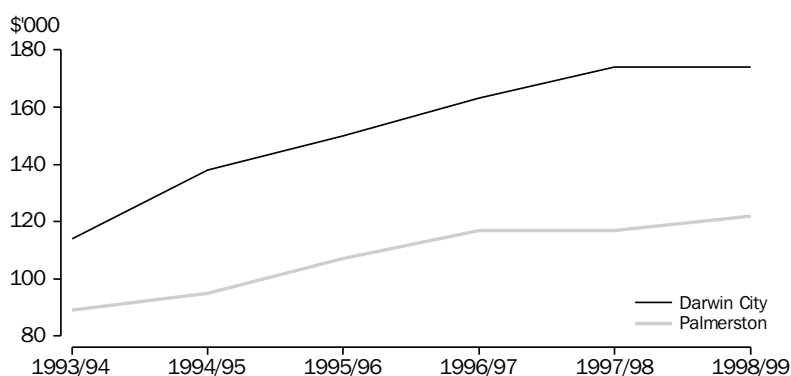


Source: Office of the Valuer-General NT, Annual Report 1998-99.

Property market in Darwin and Palmerston *continued*

Sales of units in Palmerston decreased from 261 in 1997–98 to 211 in 1998–99. However, the average value of sales increased from \$117,000 to \$122,000 for the same period.

2.8 AVERAGE PRICES - UNITS



Source: Office of the Valuer-General NT, Annual Report 1998–99.

TRANSPORT

At 30 June 1999 there were 20,036 kilometres of roads managed by the Department of Transport and Works in the NT, excluding roads managed at the local government level. In Darwin SD and Environs, and Darwin Region Balance combined, 1,230 kilometres (44.8%) of the managed roads were sealed and 1,179 kilometres (43.0%) were gravel, compared to the Central Region where 23.2% of roads were sealed and 18.5% were gravel (refer to table 5.4).

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

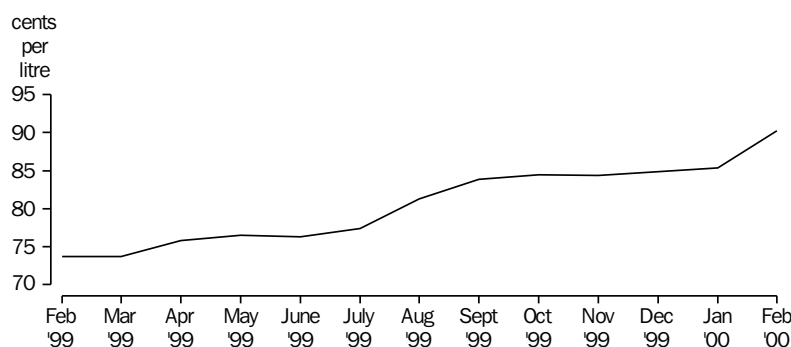
In 1998 there were 2,345 road traffic accidents in the NT with 1,599 (68.2%) recorded in Darwin SD and Environs. The highest types of recorded road accidents in Darwin SD and Environs were angle and rear end collisions (29.1% and 28.8% respectively).

While more than two-thirds of NT road traffic accidents occurred in Darwin SD and Environs, only 58.8% of injuries and 36.2% of fatalities from NT road traffic accidents occurred in the region (refer to tables 5.5 and 5.6).

PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)

The Australian Automobile Association monitors the price of petrol throughout Australia on a monthly basis. In the first half of 1999 the average price of unleaded petrol in Darwin fluctuated from 73.7 cents in February and March to 77.4 cents in July. For the second half of the year the average price of unleaded petrol rose to 84.9 cents in Darwin and peaked at 90.2 cents in February 2000. In the 12 months to February 2000, the average price of unleaded petrol in Darwin, increased by 16.5 cents. By February 2000 Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs had all experienced average petrol prices of 90 cents or above. Tennant Creek and Alice Springs experienced average petrol prices above 90 cents from September and August 1999 respectively (refer to table 5.7).

2.9 AVERAGE PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)—DARWIN



Source: Australian Automobile Association.

TOURISM

In 1998–99 a total of 1.3 million people visited the NT. Of these, 503,000 visited the Top End, with 48.5% from interstate and 23.5% from overseas. The main reason given by visitors for visiting the Top End was holidays/recreation (68%), while 5% came to visit friends or relatives. The average length of stay in the Top End was 6.5 days compared to 3.7 days in the Central Region. Sixty eight percent of visitors to the Top End arrive by air, with 27% electing to self drive. While in the NT, the majority of visitors choose either self drive (54%) or coach (20%).

A total of 396,000 people visited Darwin SD and Environs in 1998–99, 31% of all visitors to the NT. These visitors stayed a total of 2,778,000 nights in the region, approximately 42% of all visitor nights in the NT. Interstate visitors contributed to 67.5% of visitor nights in the region, with the remainder being from overseas visitors (21.0%) and NT visitors (11.5%). Visitors to Darwin SD and Environs spent a total of \$303.3 million in 1998–99, 39.7% of all tourist expenditure in the NT (refer to tables 7.2, 7.3 and 7.5).

EDUCATION

Secondary At August 1999 there were 182 schools operating in the NT. Of these, 151 were government schools and 31 were non-government schools. There were 45 government and 16 non-government schools in Darwin SD and Environs. Students in the region comprised 53.4% of all student enrolments in the Territory, whereas 48% of all NT teachers were in Darwin SD and Environs. This was a ratio of 14.4 students per teacher, compared to the NT average of 12.9 students per teacher. The attendance rate for the region was 88.8% compared to 78.8% for the NT (refer to table 3.1).

Higher education At 31 March 1999, 2,149 students commenced higher education at the Northern Territory University (NTU). Of these, 86.8% recorded their permanent residential address within Darwin SD and Environs. Of the 1,866 students who enrolled at the NTU from Darwin SD and Environs, 91.9% were non-Indigenous and 8.1% were of Indigenous origin (refer to table 3.2).

Vocational education and training In 1998, 16,067 persons registered for some form of education and training provided through the Vocational Education and Training programs in the NT. Over half of the clients in the NT were located in Darwin SD and Environs. Of these 70.9% were non-Indigenous, 19.7% were of Indigenous origin with the Indigenous status of the remaining clients (9.4%) being unknown (refer to table 3.4).

HEALTH

At June 1999 there were 565 beds available in NT public hospitals. In 1998–99 the hospital bed utilisation rate was 76%, with Darwin Region (Darwin SD and Environs, and Darwin Region Balance combined) having the highest bed utilisation rate (96%).

There were 3,257 sexually transmitted diseases notified in the Territory in 1999. The majority of notifications were in the Darwin and Central Regions (33.1% and 31.6% respectively). Of the 1,079 notifications of sexually transmitted diseases in the Darwin Region, 31.2% were for chlamydia and 29.8% were for gonococcal disease. There were 624 notifications of gastrointestinal diseases in Darwin Region in 1999, including 213 reported cases of salmonella. Notifications of Ross River virus in Darwin Region increased from 80 to 114 in 1999. (refer to tables 5.9 and 5.10).

POLICING

Police staff For the year 1999 there were 736 police officers in the NT, with 444 (60.3%) stationed in Darwin SD and Environs, a rate of 42 police officers for every 10,000 persons (refer to table 7.6).

Selected incidents The NT recorded a total of 2,761 incidents of interference with a motor vehicle, with 88.1% of these reported in Darwin SD and Environs.

Approximately 72% of reported incidents of unlawful use of a motor vehicle were in Darwin SD and Environs, as well as 63.7% of thefts from motor vehicles. Over three quarters of all incidents of bicycle theft were reported in Darwin SD and Environs compared to 12.5% in the Central Region. Of the 2,659 assaults and sexual assaults in the Territory, 1,218 (45.8%) were in Darwin SD and Environs (refer to table 7.7).

Protective custodies and apprehensions The NT recorded a total of 12,467 persons taken into protective custody in 1999. Of these, 2,502 (20.1%) were in Darwin SD and Environs, with over three quarters of persons in custody being male. In 1999 there were 10,498 apprehensions in the Northern Territory, with 3,836 (36.5%) made in Darwin SD and Environs. Juvenile apprehensions accounted for 18.2% of the total apprehensions in the region (refer to table 7.8).

Traffic infringement notices and traffic offences In 1998–99 the NT police issued 12,141 traffic infringement notices. Of these, 67.7% were issued in Darwin SD and Environs, the highest for the Territory. The number of traffic infringement notices issued per 10,000 persons in Darwin SD and Environs was 777.5. In 1998–99, 56.3% of all traffic offences in the region were for speeding, with 14.4% for failure to comply with seatbelt laws (refer to table 7.10).

RACING, GAMING AND
LICENSING

Gambling is the (lawful) placement of a wager or bet on the outcome of a future uncertain event. Gambling can be divided into two distinct areas—racing and gaming. In 1998–99, gambling in the NT had a turnover of \$1,197.1 million, of which 69.5% was from the gaming industry. Expenditure, or gross profit, from gambling amounted to \$122.3 million, with 76.4% from the gaming industry.

2.10 GAMBLING, 1998–99

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Racing</i>	<i>Gaming</i>	Total
Turnover	\$m	365.8	831.4	1 197.1
Proportion of market	%	30.6	69.4	100.0
Expenditure (gross profit)	\$m	28.9	93.4	122.3
Proportion of market	%	23.6	76.4	100.0
Per capita expenditure(a)	\$	220.8	713.1	933.9

(a) Based on population aged 18 years and over.

Source: NT Department of Industries and Business. Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7).

Racing At 30 June 1999, the Racing industry in the NT had a turnover of \$365.8 million, with Sports betting contributing 51.5% (\$188.4 million). The Totaliser Agency Board (TAB) recorded the highest expenditure of the market (\$11.5 million or 39.9%), with the On course totalisator contributing 8.6% of the market. In NT for 1998–99, the Racing industry per capita expenditure was \$220.80, with TAB expenditure \$88.10 per capita.

2.11 RACING, 1998–99

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>TAB</i>	<i>On course totalisator</i>	<i>Bookmakers on course</i>	<i>Sports betting</i>	Total
Turnover	\$m	70.2	16.6	90.6	188.4	365.8
Proportion of market	%	19.2	4.5	24.8	51.5	100.0
Expenditure (gross profit)	\$m	11.5	2.5	6.3	8.6	28.9
Proportion of market	%	39.9	8.6	21.9	29.6	100.0
Per capita expenditure(a)	\$	88.1	19.0	48.3	65.4	220.8

(a) Based on population aged 18 years and over.

Source: NT Department of Industries and Business. Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7).

Gaming In 1998–99 the total turnover for the gaming industry in the NT was \$831.4 million. Almost 65% of the total turnover was from the two casinos, MGM Grand in Darwin and Lasetters Casino in Alice Springs. Total expenditure from the two casinos was \$54.4 million in 1998–99, more than twice the expenditure from gaming machines. Per capita expenditure was \$415.72 for Casinos, followed by Gaming machines and Lotto (\$185.57 and \$90.90 respectively).

2.12 GAMING, 1998–99

	Unit	Lotteries	Lotto	Instant lottery	Pools	Casino	Gaming machines	Total
Turnover	\$m	3.3	29.8	3.5	0.0	534.5	260.2	831.4
Proportion of market	%	0.4	3.6	0.4	0.0	64.3	31.3	100.0
Expenditure (gross profit)	\$m	1.3	11.9	1.4	0.0	54.4	24.3	93.4
Proportion of market	%	1.4	12.7	1.5	0.0	58.3	26.0	100.0
Per capita expenditure(a)	\$	9.96	90.90	10.77	0.13	415.72	185.57	713.06

(a) Based on population aged 18 years and over.

Source: NT Department of Industries and Business. Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7).

At 30 June 1999, there were 60 venues with 590 gaming machines in the NT. Over 50% of all licensed gaming premises were in Darwin SD and Environs, with a total of 309 gaming machines. Darwin City SSD had 23 premises with 259 machines, while Palmerston - East Arm had four licensed premises with 28 gaming machines. In 1998–99, Darwin SD and Environs contributed \$14.2 million (58.4%) to total NT gaming expenditure. The per capita expenditure for gaming machines in Darwin SD and Environs was \$191.11 for every person aged 18 years and over.

2.13 GAMING AND RACING, 1998–99

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Gaming								
Premises	no.	32	2	4	6	5	11	60
Machines	no.	309	14	70	54	39	104	590
Expenditure (gross profit)(a)	\$m	14.2	0.5	2.7	2.5	1.4	3.0	24.3
Per capita expenditure(b)	\$	191.11	65.95	335.40	223.85	311.99	120.15	185.57
Proportion of gambling market	%	58.4	2.1	11.1	10.3	5.6	12.5	100.0
Government revenue	\$m	6.7	0.2	1.3	1.2	0.6	1.4	11.4
Racing(c)(d)								
Expenditure (gross profit)	\$m	0.8	0.0	0.0	-	-	0.1	0.9
Per capita expenditure(b)	\$	10.83	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.08	3.21	7.06
Proportion of gambling market	%	86.9	0.0	0.0	3.2	1.1	8.8	100.0
Government revenue	\$m	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2

(a) Excludes Darwin and Alice Springs casinos.

(b) Based on population aged 18 years and over.

(c) Bookmakers on course only.

(d) Excludes TAB, On course totalisator and Sports betting.

Source: NT Department of Industries and Business. Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7).

Liquor In 1998–99 there were 429 liquor outlets throughout the NT. Darwin SD and Environs had 225 (52.4%) of these liquor outlets with no restricted areas. Restricted areas are areas in which the sale, consumption and possession of liquor are generally prohibited in accordance with section 75 of the *Liquor Act*. Over the past five years the per capita liquor purchased in Darwin SD and Environs has remained lower than the average for the NT.

2.14 LIQUOR, 1998–99

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Liquor outlets	no.	225	25	8	49	17	105	429
Distribution of liquor outlets	%	52.4	5.8	1.9	11.4	4.0	24.5	100.0
Restricted areas	no.	0	16	8	27	19	32	102
Pure alcohol litres purchased per capita(a)	litres	15.8	14.4	9.6	19.7	13.8	18.9	16.2
Liquor litres purchased per capita(b)								
1994/95	no.	15.4	14.6	10.3	21.4	18.4	19.5	16.4
1995/96	no.	14.9	14.4	10.1	19.2	15.7	18.3	15.6
1996/97	no.	15.4	14.0	9.6	20.4	13.9	18.9	16.0
1997/98	no.	16.3	13.4	9.9	20.8	13.9	19.8	16.7
1998/99	no.	15.8	14.4	9.6	19.7	13.8	18.9	16.2

(a) Average only.

(b) Based on population aged 15 years and over.

Source: NT Department of Industries and Business.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

In 1997–98 Darwin City Council had the highest total revenue and expenditure of all local government bodies in the NT, with total revenue of \$33.9 million and total expenditure of \$42.6 million.

2.15 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, 1997–98

Darwin SD and Environs	Unit	Revenue			Expenditure		
		Grants	Other	Total	Current	Capital	Total
Municipalities							
Darwin City Council	\$'000	5 484.2	28 390.1	33 874.3	32 956.1	9 596.0	42 552.1
Palmerston Town Council	\$'000	1 783.2	6 404.5	8 187.7	6 811.2	1 104.9	7 916.2
Litchfield Shire Council	\$'000	1 666.9	2 740.4	4 407.4	5 515.6	665.5	6 181.1
Community Government Councils							
Belyuen	\$'000	1 336.0	192.4	1 528.4	1 032.9	365.7	1 398.6
Coomalie	\$'000	1 433.5	359.4	1 792.9	1 816.5	802.1	2 618.6
Cox Peninsula	\$'000	236.6	80.2	316.8	290.9	100.1	391.0

Source: NT Department of Local Government.

2.16 DARWIN STATISTICAL DIVISION AND ENVIRONS

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Darwin City SSD</i>	<i>Palmerston- East Arm SSD</i>	<i>Darwin Rural SSD</i>	Total
Area	sq km	113	95	10 054	10 262
Population					
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1999p	no.	68 463	19 661	17 606	105 730
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1998	no.	69 280	17 270	17 013	103 563
Annual growth rate 1998 to 1999	%	-1.2	13.8	3.5	2.1
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1994	no.	67 902	11 110	13 760	92 772
Annual growth rate 1994 to 1999(a)	%	0.2	12.1	5.1	2.6
Age range of population 30 June 1998p(b)					
0-4 years	no.	5 396	2 127	1 534	9 057
5-14 years	no.	9 921	3 108	2 708	15 737
15-44 years	no.	36 913	9 345	8 779	55 037
45-64 years	no.	14 372	2 212	3 443	20 027
65 years and over	no.	2 699	483	552	3 734
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>69 301</i>	<i>17 275</i>	<i>17 016</i>	103 592
Dependency rate	no.	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
Median age, Census 1996(c)	no.	29	26	32	29
Births 1998(d)	no.	1 118	454	283	1 855
Deaths 1998(d)	no.	259	53	58	370
Indigenous population, Census 1996(e)(f)					
Age range of population					
0-4 years	no.	621	306	206	1 133
5-14 years	no.	1 405	388	409	2 202
15-44 years	no.	2 769	716	733	4 218
45-64 years	no.	639	101	160	900
65 years and over	no.	115	22	38	175
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>5 549</i>	<i>1 529</i>	<i>1 546</i>	8 628
Dependency rate	no.	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.7
Building approvals, 1999(g)					
New dwelling units approved	no.	570	613	180	1 363
Value of new residential buildings approved	\$'000	78 101	76 053	20 236	174 390
Proportion of NT value of new dwellings approved	%	33.4	32.5	8.6	74.5
Value of non-residential buildings approved	\$'000	47 255	14 600	29 032	90 888
Proportion of NT value of non-residential building approvals	%	35.3	10.9	21.7	68.0
Value of all buildings approved(h)	\$'000	138 759	92 171	54 456	285 386
Proportion of NT value of all buildings approved	%	34.9	23.2	13.7	71.7
Labour force, DEWRB(i), Dec qtr 1999					
Employed persons	no.	40 588	6 253	7 975	54 816
Unemployed persons	no.	1 149	294	340	1 783
Persons in the labour force	no.	41 737	6 547	8 315	56 599
Unemployment rate	%	2.8	4.5	4.1	3.2
Gaming, 30 June 1999					
Licensed gaming venues	no.	23	4	5	32
Gaming machines	no.	259	28	22	309
Liquor, 30 June 1999					
Restricted areas	no.	0	0	0	0

(a) Average annual growth rate.

(b) Based on 1998 ERP preliminary figures.

(c) Median age of usual residence population only.

(d) Data refers to births and deaths registered in the calendar year 1998.

(e) Excludes overseas visitors.

(f) Data have been randomised to ensure confidentiality of information.

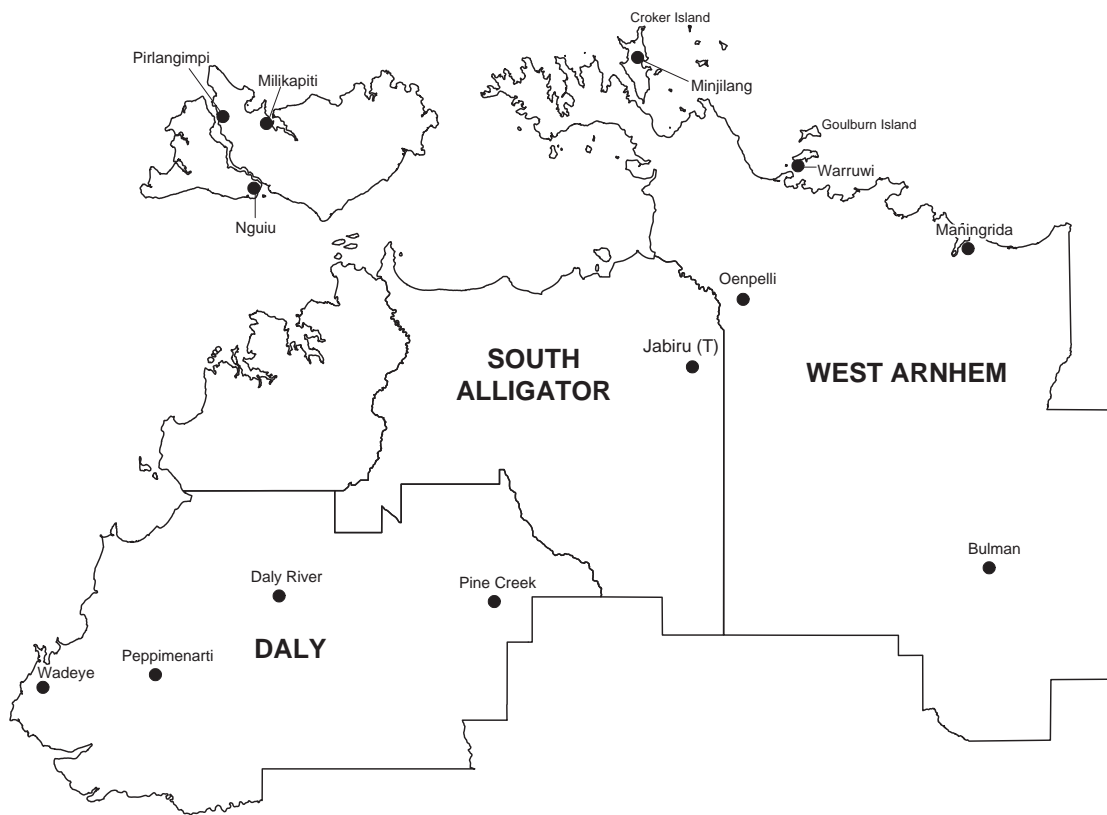
(g) Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component item and totals shown.

(h) Includes alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(i) See Glossary.

Source: ABS, unpublished data, Building Approvals, 1999; ABS unpublished data, Census 1996; Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7); Population by Age and Sex, Northern Territory, 30 June 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3235.7); Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99 (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0); Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 1999 (ABS Cat. no. 1362.7); Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (Cat. no. 96 25208), DEWRB Canberra, December quarter 1999; NT Department of Industries and Business.

DARWIN REGION BALANCE



CHAPTER 3

DARWIN REGION BALANCE

INTRODUCTION

Darwin Region Balance covers an area of 132,012 square kilometres, encompassing the islands of Bathurst - Melville, the town of Jabiru, and the Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) of South Alligator, West Arnhem and Daly as far west as Wadeye.

POPULATION

Estimated resident population Just 6.4% of the Territory's population live in Darwin Region Balance. At 30 June 1999 the estimated resident population of the region was 12,420, a decrease of 0.3% from 1998. West Arnhem SLA recorded a zero annual growth rate for the region in 1999, while all other SLAs in the region recorded a decrease in annual population growth, with Bathurst - Melville SLA and Jabiru (T) recording the lowest (-0.9%). In the five years to 1999 the average annual population growth rate for the region was 1.6%, varying from 2.6% in South Alligator to 0.5% in Jabiru (T).

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

At December 1999 there were 4,719 people aged 15 years and over in the labour force in Darwin Region Balance, consisting of 4,461 employed persons and 258 unemployed. The unemployment rate for the region was 5.5%, varying from 0.8% in Jabiru to 7.9% in West Arnhem.

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

At the time of the 1996 Census the Indigenous population for Darwin Region Balance was 8,240, representing more than two-thirds of the total population for the region. More than one-third (38.0%) of Indigenous people in the region were under the age of 15 years, while just 2.5% were aged 65 years and over. Only 1.3% of the region's Indigenous population lived in Jabiru (T) or South Alligator.

MINING

Mining is a major industry in Darwin Region Balance. In 1998-99 the value of energy minerals produced in the region was \$305.0 million, 86.0% of the Territory's total energy production. Uranium is the main commodity produced in Darwin Region Balance, with all of the Territory's production in the region. In 1998-99 the value of uranium production was \$213.8 million, an increase of \$53.3 million from 1997-98. A total of 667 megalitres of crude oil were produced in the region, with a value of \$91.3 million (87.3% of the Territory's crude oil production in 1998-99).

Gold is the main metallic mineral produced in Darwin Region Balance, with 1998-99 production valued at \$98.3 million, 30.7% of the Territory's gold production. Small amounts of silver and copper concentrate are also produced in the region, with the total value of metallic mineral production of \$98.8 million representing 8.6% of NT's metallic mineral production for the year.

In 1998-99 the value of non-metallic mineral production in the region was \$11.5 million, 34.9% of total production in the Territory (refer tables 4.1 and 4.2).

AGRICULTURE

At 31 March 1998 there were 21 cattle establishments in Darwin Region Balance, with holdings of 90,403 cattle. This represented 5.8% of the Territory's total cattle holdings. The cattle were concentrated in the South Alligator and Daly SLAs.

HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals In 1999 there were a total of 65 approvals for new dwelling units in Darwin Region Balance, with a total value of \$8.8 million. The total value of all building (residential and commercial) approved for the year was \$12.5 million, 3.1% of the NT's value of all buildings approved.

Public housing At 30 June 1999, full rent was being paid for 102 (75.6%) of all public dwellings in Darwin Region Balance. The remaining 32 public dwellings were rented to aged/invalids, sole parents or the unemployed. There were 12 applications for public housing in 1998-99, with a waiting list of 3 at 30 June 1999 (refer to table 2.4).

EDUCATION

Secondary Of the 182 schools operating in the NT in August 1999, 19 were in Darwin Region Balance (15 government and four non-government schools). There were 2,710 students enrolled to attend school in the region (1,851 at government schools and 859 at non-government schools), with 12.1% enrolled to attend preschool, 72.9% to attend primary school, and 5.2% to attend secondary school. One of the reasons for the small proportion of students attending secondary school is the remoteness and location of secondary schools.

There were 243 teaching staff at schools in Darwin Region Balance, a ratio of one teacher every 11.2 students compared to the NT average of one teacher every 12.9 students. The attendance rate was 72.7%.

3.1 EDUCATION—AUGUST 1999

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Schools								
Government	no.	45	15	13	26	13	39	151
Non-government	no.	16	4	1	1	0	9	31
Student enrolment by sector								
Government	no.	17 149	1 851	3 019	3 755	1 295	5 689	32 758
Non-government	no.	4 923	859	37	232	0	2 525	8 576
Student enrolment by level								
Preschool	no.	1 755	328	332	330	134	622	3 501
Primary	no.	12 340	1 976	1 972	2 794	876	5 217	25 175
Secondary	no.	7 139	140	338	666	196	1 627	10 106
Ungraded(a)	no.	507	9	26	56	24	131	753
Secondary aged(a)	no.	331	257	388	141	65	617	1 799
Total	no.	22 072	2 710	3 056	3 987	1 295	8 214	41 334
Teaching staff								
Student /teaching staff ratio	no.	14.4	11.2	10.6	13.4	11.6	11.4	12.9
Enrolments by								
Age 15								
Indigenous	no.	322	98	124	91	39	173	847
Non-Indigenous	no.	1 277	11	52	86	24	279	1 729
Age 16								
Indigenous	no.	221	63	74	50	21	97	526
Non-Indigenous	no.	1 190	1	40	95	14	250	1 590
Age 17								
Indigenous	no.	144	44	59	17	6	56	326
Non-Indigenous	no.	797	0	22	50	15	183	1 067
Attendance rate	%	88.8	72.7	69.4	79.4	68.9	73.5	78.8

(a) See Glossary.

Source: NT Department of Education.

Higher education Of the 2,149 students enrolled at 31 March 1999 to commence higher education at the Northern Territory University (NTU), only eight were from Darwin Region Balance. All eight students were non-Indigenous.

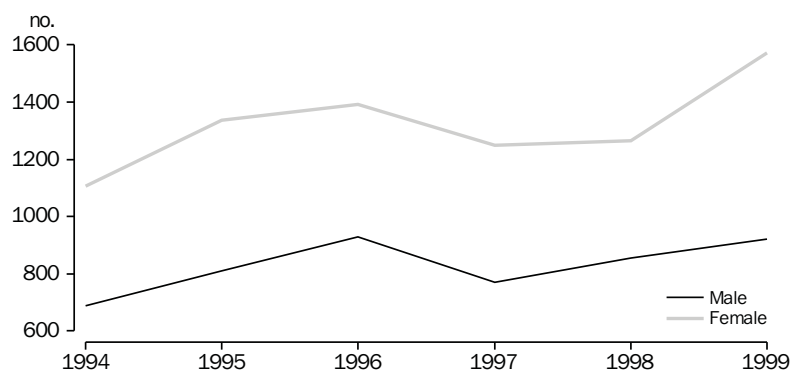
3.2 COMMENCING HIGHER EDUCATION, 1999

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Enrolments								
Indigenous	no.	151	0	0	10	2	15	178
Non-Indigenous	no.	1 715	8	22	87	17	122	1 971
Total	no.	1 866	8	22	97	19	137	2 149
Enrolments								
Male	no.	710	3	11	20	7	37	788
Female	no.	1 156	5	11	77	12	100	1 361
Total	no.	1 866	8	22	97	19	137	2 149

Source: Northern Territory University.

In the five years to 1999, Northern Territory University recorded a higher percentage increase of female student enrolments (24.2%) compared to 7.6% for males.

3.3 HIGHER EDUCATION ENROLMENTS, NT—1994-1999



Source: Northern Territory University.

Vocational education and training

In 1998, 980 clients from Darwin Region Balance registered through the Vocational Education and Training program in the NT. Of these 58.6% were Indigenous, 32.8% were non-Indigenous with the Indigenous status of the remaining clients (8.7%) not known. Darwin Region Balance and Barkly Region recorded higher proportions of Indigenous clients registering for Vocational Education and Training programs than the other regions in the NT (58.6% and 54.4% respectively).

3.4 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING, 1998

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total(b)
Clients by sex								
Male	no.	4 581	558	441	544	132	1 872	8 131
Female	no.	4 065	397	464	478	206	2 298	7 908
Not known	no.	3	25	0	0	0	0	28
Total	no.	8 652	980	905	1 022	338	4 170	16 067
Clients by Indigenous status								
Indigenous	no.	1 704	574	401	414	184	1 546	4 823
Non-Indigenous	no.	6 135	321	469	560	130	1 476	9 091
Not known	no.	813	85	35	48	24	1 148	2 153
Total	no.	8 652	980	905	1 022	338	4 170	16 067
Enrolments by sex								
Male	no.	5 117	592	487	577	160	1 977	8 910
Female	no.	4 302	426	529	508	238	2 652	8 655
Not known	no.	4	27	0	0	0	0	31
Total	no.	9 423	1 045	1 016	1 085	398	4 629	17 596
Enrolments by Indigenous status								
Indigenous	no.	2094	611	460	421	198	1714	5498
Non-Indigenous	no.	6505	357	516	610	167	1543	9698
Not known	no.	824	77	40	54	33	1372	2400
Total	no.	9423	1045	1016	1085	398	4629	17596

(a) See Glossary.

(b) Excludes interstate, overseas and unknown categories.

Source: Northern Territory Education and Training Authority.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS In 1998 there were 86 reported road traffic accidents in Darwin Region Balance. Of these, 32.6% were rollovers and 27.9% were reported without collision. In Darwin Region Balance there were 75 reported road traffic accidents resulting in death or injury. Males represented 65.3% of those killed or injured. The rate of injuries per 1,000 registered vehicles was 58.1, easily the highest of the six regions (refer to tables 5.5 and 5.6).

POLICING

Police Staff In 1999 Darwin Region Balance's police service consisted of 25 police officers supported by seven Aboriginal community officers. For every 10,000 persons in Darwin Region Balance there were 20 police officers (refer to table 7.6).

Selected incidents In 1999, 3.3% of reported incidents of unlawful entry into buildings in the NT were in Darwin Region Balance, compared to 4.3% in the previous year. The proportion of assaults occurring in Darwin Region Balance, decreased from 6.4% in 1998 to 3.6% in 1999. Similarly, the proportion of sexual assaults decreased from 8.5% in 1998 to 5.1% in 1999 (refer to table 7.7).

Protective custodies and apprehensions The number of protective custodies in Darwin Region Balance decreased from 143 in 1998 to 91 in 1999, just 0.7% of all protective custodies in the NT. The number of apprehensions in the region was 6.9% of all apprehensions in the Territory compared to 12.2% in the previous year (refer to table 7.8).

Traffic infringement notices and traffic offences Darwin Region Balance had the second lowest number of recorded traffic infringement notices per 10,000 population issued in the NT in 1998–99. Of the 386 traffic offences committed in Darwin Region Balance, 56.5% were for speeding and 26.4% were for failing to comply with seatbelt regulations (refer to table 7.10).

RACING, GAMING AND LICENSING

Gaming In 1998–99 Darwin Region Balance recorded two venues with 14 gaming machines. Expenditure from the gaming machines was \$500,000, with a per capita expenditure of \$65.95 per 10,000 persons aged 18 years and over. Darwin Region Balance generated \$200,000 in government revenue in 1998–99 (refer to table 2.13).

Liquor Darwin Region Balance had 25 liquor outlets, 5.8% of the total outlets in the NT. In 1998–99, there were 14.4 litres of liquor purchased per capita in Darwin Region Balance compared to 16.2 litres in the NT (refer to table 2.14). In Darwin Region Balance there were 16 restricted areas, with six of these in West Arnhem SLA.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
FINANCE

The Local Government sector for Darwin Region Balance comprises one special town (Jabiru), six Community Government Councils (CGCs) and seven Incorporated Associations. In 1997–98 Jabiru Town Council received \$2.3 million in revenue, with current and capital expenditure totalling \$2.9 million. Nguiu received \$7.2 million in revenue with total expenditure of \$8.3 million, the highest for all CGCs in Northern Territory. Kardu Numida had revenue of \$9.8 million and expenditure of \$9.8 million, the highest of all Incorporated Associations in the Territory.

3.5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, 1997–98

<i>Darwin Region Balance</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Revenue</i>			<i>Expenditure</i>		
		<i>Grants</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
Municipality							
Jabiru Town Council	\$'000	574.4	1 770.3	2 344.7	2 268.4	619.1	2 887.5
Community Government Councils							
Kunbarlanjnja	\$'000	2 081.8	3 348.0	5 429.8	5 815.2	448.8	6 264.0
Milikapiti	\$'000	2 366.0	348.3	2 714.3	3 371.6	172.7	3 544.3
Naiyu Nambiyu	\$'000	4 167.7	1 928.6	6 096.3	4 568.7	781.0	5 349.7
Nguiu	\$'000	4 961.9	2 261.3	7 223.2	7 059.9	1 199.1	8 259.0
Pine Creek	\$'000	525.4	103.3	628.8	573.6	66.3	639.9
Pirlangimpi	\$'000	1 691.6	369.8	2 061.4	2 237.4	498.1	2 735.5
Incorporated Associations							
Gulin Gulin & Weemol	\$'000	969.9	144.0	1 113.9	1 965.6	2 028.3	3 993.8
Kardu Numida	\$'000	6 211.9	3 614.0	9 825.9	7 061.4	2 736.9	9 798.3
Maningrida	\$'000	993.4	714.8	1 708.2	2 327.4	0.0	2 327.4
Minjilang	\$'000	472.9	565.0	1 037.9	1 387.5	184.9	1 572.4
Nganmariyanga	\$'000	1 149.7	459.6	1 609.3	1 022.7	779.0	1 801.7
Peppimenarti	\$'000	1 915.6	70.7	1 986.3	2 055.7	1 047.4	3 103.1
Warruwi	\$'000	1 966.5	472.8	2 439.3	2 100.8	680.5	2 781.3

Source: NT Department of Local Government.

3.6 DARWIN REGION BALANCE

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Bathurst - Melville</i>	<i>Jabiru (T)</i>	<i>South Alligator</i>	<i>West Arnhem</i>	<i>Daly</i>	Total
Area	sq km	5 807	14	28 624	58 789	38 778	132 012
Population							
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1999p	no.	2 208	1 467	789	4 267	3 689	12 420
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1998	no.	2 228	1 480	792	4 267	3 691	12 458
Annual growth rate 1998 to 1999	%	-0.9	-0.9	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.3
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1994	no.	2 006	1 434	693	3 893	3 441	11 467
Annual growth rate 1994 to 1999(a)	%	1.9	0.5	2.6	1.9	1.4	1.6
Age range of population 30 June 1998p(b)							
0-4 years	no.	224	152	71	504	391	1 342
5-14 years	no.	465	229	118	1 013	824	2 649
15-44 years	no.	1 195	841	428	2 163	1 906	6 533
45-64 years	no.	296	221	148	458	467	1 590
65 years and over	no.	49	37	27	130	104	347
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>2 229</i>	<i>1 480</i>	<i>792</i>	<i>4 268</i>	<i>3 692</i>	12 461
Dependency rate	no.	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5
Median age, Census 1996(c)	no.	23	28	27	21	21	23
Births 1998(d)	no.	53	31	12	101	79	276
Deaths 1998(d)	no.	17	3	4	35	20	79
Indigenous population, Census 1996(e)(f)							
Age range of population							
0-4 years	no.	179	15	35	447	374	1 050
5-14 years	no.	380	28	47	931	695	2 081
15-44 years	no.	1 013	59	107	1 770	1 134	4 083
45-64 years	no.	225	3	23	345	224	820
65 years and over	no.	36	3	9	98	60	206
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>1 833</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>221</i>	<i>3 591</i>	<i>2 487</i>	8 240
Dependency rate	no.	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7
Building approvals, 1999(g)							
New dwelling units approved	no.	17	3	7	18	20	65
Value of new residential buildings approved	\$'000	2 514	329	961	2 888	2 141	8 833
Proportion of NT value of new dwellings approved	%	1.1	0.1	0.4	1.2	0.9	3.8
Value of non-residential buildings approved	\$'000	120	200	0	425	359	1 104
Proportion of NT value of non-residential building approvals	%	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.8
Value of all buildings approved	\$'000	2 754	653	1 866	4 217	3 036	12 526
Proportion of NT value of all buildings approved	%	0.7	0.2	0.5	1.1	0.8	3.1
Labour force, DEWRSB(h), Dec qtr 1999							
Employed persons	no.	786	971	534	1 170	1 000	4 461
Unemployed persons	no.	55	8	13	100	82	258
Persons in the labour force	no.	841	979	547	1 270	1 082	4 719
Unemployment rate	%	6.5	0.8	2.4	7.9	7.6	5.5
Gaming, 30 June 1999							
Licensed gaming venues	no.	0	1	0	0	1	2
Gaming machines	no.	0	8	0	0	6	14
Liquor, 30 June 1999							
Restricted areas	no.	3	1	2	6	4	16

(a) Average annual growth rate.

(b) Based on 1998 ERP preliminary figures.

(c) Median age of usual residence population only.

(d) Data refers to births and deaths registered in the calendar year 1998.

(e) Excludes overseas visitors.

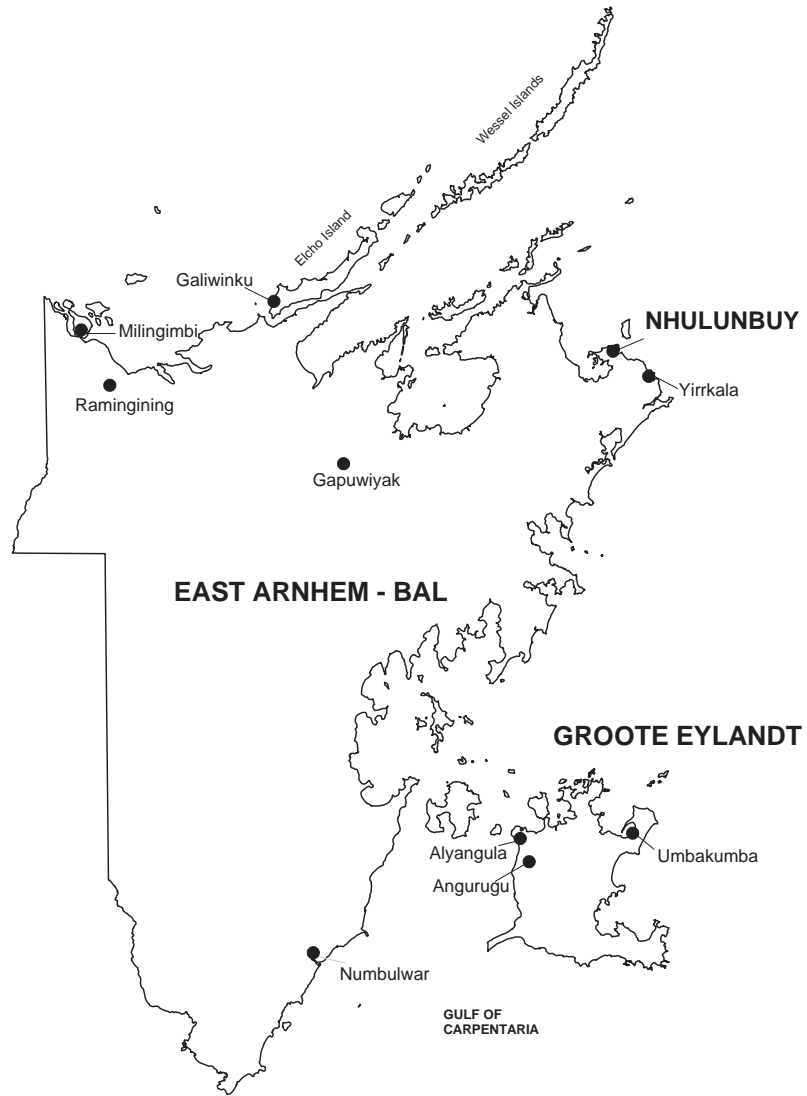
(f) Data have been randomised to ensure confidentiality of information.

(g) Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component item and totals shown.

(h) See Glossary.

Source: ABS, unpublished data, Building Approvals, 1999; ABS unpublished data, Census 1996; Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7); Population by Age and Sex, Northern Territory, 30 June 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3235.7); Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99 (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0); Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 1999 (ABS Cat. no. 1362.7); Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (Cat. no. 96 25208), DEWRSB Canberra, December quarter 1999.

EAST ARNHEM REGION



CHAPTER 4

EAST ARNHEM REGION

INTRODUCTION

East Arnhem Region covers an area of 37,997 square kilometres, bounded by the north-eastern coastline of the Northern Territory (NT). The area stretches from the community of Ramingining in the north to Numbulwar in the south, and includes Nhulunbuy (Gove) and Groote Eylandt.

POPULATION

Estimated resident population

East Arnhem Region comprises 6.8% of the NT's population. The estimated resident population for the region at 30 June 1999 was 13,113, an increase of 0.7% from 1998. Half of the population in East Arnhem Region lived in the Statistical Local Area (SLA) of East Arnhem - Balance, with 27.9% in Nhulunbuy and 21.2% in Groote Eylandt. In the five years to 1999 the average annual population growth rate for the region was 1.4%, varying from an average annual increase of 2.8% in East Arnhem - Balance to an average annual decrease of 0.9% in Nhulunbuy. One-third (33.1%) of the population of East Arnhem Region was aged between 0-14 years, with just 1.7% aged 65 years and over.

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

At December 1999 there were an estimated 4,869 persons in the labour force in East Arnhem Region, comprising 4,660 employed persons and 209 unemployed. The unemployment rate for the region was 4.3%, varying from 7.8% in East Arnhem - Balance to 1.7% in Nhulunbuy.

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

At the time of the 1996 Census the Indigenous population for East Arnhem Region was 7,130. Of these, 78.1% lived in East Arnhem - Balance, 19.9% in Groote Eylandt and just 2.0% in Nhulunbuy. More than one-third (37.2%) of Indigenous people in the region were aged 0-14 years, with just 1.7% aged 65 years and over.

MINING

The NT has significant deposits of gold, bauxite, manganese, zinc, lead and silver. All of the Territory's manganese, bauxite and alumina is produced in East Arnhem Region, while all of the bulk lead/zinc/silver is produced in Katherine Region. Over half (58.7%) of the Territory's gold production is from Central Region, with a further 30.5% produced in Darwin Region Balance. Only 0.2% of the Northern Territory's non-metallic minerals are produced in East Arnhem Region.

4.1 MINERAL PRODUCTION, 1998–99

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Metallic minerals								
Gold	kilograms	0	5 694	0	102	1 925	10 957	18 678
Manganese	kilotonnes	0	0	1 621	0	0	0	1 621
Bauxite	kilotonnes	0	0	6 292	0	0	0	6 292
Alumina	kilotonnes	0	0	1 776	0	0	0	1 776
Lead concentrate	kilotonnes	28	0	0	0	0	0	28
Zinc concentrate	kilotonnes	50	0	0	0	0	0	50
Bulk lead/zinc/silver	kilotonnes	0	0	0	346	0	0	346
Silver	kilograms	0	1 818	0	23	65	476	2 382
Tin/tantalite concentrate	tonnes	64	0	0	0	0	0	64
Copper concentrate	tonnes	0	0	0	0	40 441	0	40 441
Non-metallic minerals(a)(b)	kilotonnes	556	1 227	7	304	4	971	3 069
Energy minerals								
Crude oil	megalitres	0	667	0	0	0	107	774
Natural gas	megalitres	0	0	0	0	0	452 705	452 705
Uranium oxide	tonnes	0	4 795	0	0	0	0	4 795

(a) Industrial minerals include: crushed rock, gravel, limestone, quicklime, vermiculite, soil, sand, dimension stone/sand stone.

(b) Excludes diamonds.

NOTE: Regions approximate Australian Bureau of Statistics regions.

Source: NT Department of Mines and Energy.

In 1998–99 the mining industry contributed 13.8% to the Territory's Gross State Product. The total value of metallic minerals produced in the NT for 1998–99 was \$1,152.7 million. More than half (58.8%) of the value of metallic mineral production in the NT was from East Arnhem Region. The total value of alumina production in the region was \$328.8 million, the total value of manganese was \$182.4 million, and the total value of bauxite was \$166.6 million.

The total value of non-metallic minerals produced in the Northern Territory for 1998–99 was \$32.8 million, an increase of 31.5% from the previous year. Only \$305,000 (0.9%) of the total value of the Territory's non-metallic mineral production was from East Arnhem Region, with most of the production within Darwin Region Balance (34.9%) and the rest spread fairly evenly across Darwin SD and Environs (17.1%), Katherine Region (14.1%) and Central Region (18.6%).

In 1998–99 the total value of energy minerals produced in the NT was \$354.9 million. The total value of crude oil production was \$104.5 million, with 87.3% produced in Darwin Region Balance and the rest in Central Region. All of the Territory's natural gas was produced in Central Region (value \$36.6 million), while all of the Territory's uranium oxide was produced in Darwin Region Balance (\$213.8 million).

4.2 VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION, 1998-99

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Metallic minerals								
Gold	\$'000	0	98 324	0	1 535	28 304	191 662	319 825
Manganese	\$'000	0	0	182 447	0	0	0	182 447
Bauxite	\$'000	0	0	166 583	0	0	0	166 583
Alumina	\$'000	0	0	328 754	0	0	0	328 754
Lead concentrate	\$'000	2 212	0	0	0	0	0	2 212
Zinc concentrate	\$'000	22 793	0	0	0	0	0	22 793
Bulk lead/zinc/silver	\$'000	0	0	0	103 339	0	0	103 339
Silver	\$'000	0	487	0	5	17	126	635
Tin/tantalite concentrate	\$'000	1 174	0	0	0	0	0	1 174
Copper concentrate	\$'000	0	0	0	0	24 928	0	24 928
Non-metallic minerals(a)(b)	\$'000	5 596	11 450	305	4 623	4 720	6 099	32 793
Energy minerals								
Crude oil	\$'000	0	91 255	0	0	0	13 250	104 505
Natural gas	\$'000	0	0	0	0	0	36 602	36 602
Uranium oxide	\$'000	0	213 761	0	0	0	0	213 761

(a) Industrial minerals include: crushed rock, gravel, limestone, quicklime, vermiculite, soil, sand, dimension stone/sand stone.

(b) Excludes diamonds.

NOTE: Regions approximate Australian Bureau of Statistics regions.

Source: NT Department of Mines and Energy.

HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals In East Arnhem Region there were 52 approvals for new dwellings units during 1999 with a total value of \$8.7 million. Thirty-four of these approvals were in East Arnhem-Balance (value \$5.9 million). The value of all building (residential and commercial) approved in the region was \$11.5 million.

Public housing At 30 June 1999 there were 287 public dwellings available in East Arnhem Region. Full rent was being paid for 240 of these dwellings, some form of rebated rent for 42 dwellings, and 5 dwellings were vacant. There were 90 applications for public housing in the region during 1998-99, with a waiting list of 56 at 30 June 1999. The most common wait time in East Arnhem Region was between one to two years (refer to table 2.4).

TRANSPORT

There were 20,036 kilometres of roads managed by the Department of Transport and Works in the year ended 30 June 1999. In East Arnhem Region there were just 539 kilometres of managed roads. Of these, 13 kilometres (2.4%) were sealed roads, 424 kilometres (78.7%) were gravel roads, and 102 kilometres (18.9%) were formed roads (refer to table 5.4).

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS East Arnhem Region recorded the lowest number of road traffic accidents (41) in the NT.

In 1998 there were 28 road traffic accidents in East Arnhem Region which resulted in a fatality or injury. The fatality rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles in East Arnhem Region was 0.4 and the injury rate for every 1,000 registered motor vehicles was 10.6 (refer to tables 5.5 and 5.6).

EDUCATION

Secondary In August 1998 there were 182 schools in the Northern Territory. There were 14 schools in East Arnhem Region; 13 government schools and one non-government school. Of the total of 3,056 students enrolled in August 1999, 10.9% were enrolled at preschool, 64.5% were enrolled at primary school, and 11.1% were enrolled at secondary school. There were 289 teaching staff at schools in East Arnhem Region, which represented one teacher for every 10.6 students, the lowest student/teacher ratio for the Territory. The attendance rate for East Arnhem Region was 69.4%, the second lowest in the NT (refer to table 3.1).

Higher education At 31 March 1999, only 1.0% of enrolments to commence higher education at NTU were from East Arnhem Region.

Of the 22 enrolments all were non-Indigenous (refer to table 3.2).

Vocational education and training In 1998, 905 clients from East Arnhem Region registered for a course through the Vocational and Education and Training program in the NT. Of these 51.8% were non-Indigenous, 44.1% were of Indigenous origin and 3.9% did not record their Indigenous status (refer to table 3.4).

HEALTH

There were just 30 available public hospital beds in East Arnhem Region, 5.3% of the NT total of 565 beds. In 1998–99 East Arnhem Region recorded the second lowest bed utilisation rate (69%), with Barkly Region recording the lowest (63%) and Darwin Region recording the highest (96%).

In East Arnhem Region, the most frequently notified diseases were sexually transmitted diseases (471) and gastrointestinal diseases (135). Of the sexually transmitted diseases, 53.1% were trichomonas. There were 53 notifications of rotavirus, 39.3% of the total gastrointestinal diseases notified in the region (refer to tables 5.9 and 5.10).

POLICING

Police staff In 1999 East Arnhem Region's police service consisted of 26 police officers and eight Aboriginal community police officers. For every 10,000 persons in East Arnhem Region there were 20 police officers (refer to table 7.6).

Selected incidents In 1999 only 42 (1.4%) of the 2,947 unlawful entries in dwellings in the NT were reported in East Arnhem Region. The region was also responsible for 2.9% of total reported incidents of unlawful use of a motor vehicle in the NT, 4.7% of unlawful entries into buildings, and 2.9% of all assaults (refer to table 7.7).

Protective custodies and apprehensions A total of 12,467 protective custodies were recorded in the NT, 19.0% of which were reported in East Arnhem Region.

The NT recorded a total of 10,498 apprehensions during 1999, with the least number of apprehensions in East Arnhem Region (550 or 5.2%) (refer to table 7.8).

Traffic infringement notices and traffic offences Only 1.4% of the Northern Territory's traffic infringement notices were issued in East Arnhem Region. In 1998–99 there were 184 traffic offences reported in East Arnhem Region, with the majority of offences for speeding (49.5%) or failure to comply with seat belt regulations (29.9%) (refer to table 7.10).

RACING, GAMING AND LICENSING

Gaming In 1998–99 East Arnhem Region had four venues with 70 gaming machines. Nhulunbuy and Groote Eylandt SLA's had two venues each, with Nhulunbuy holding 71.4% of the gaming machines for the region. East Arnhem Region's expenditure on gaming for 1998–99 was \$2.7 million, 11.1% of the Northern Territory gaming market. The per capita expenditure in East Arnhem Region from gaming was \$335.40 for every person aged 18 years and over, the highest for the six regions. In 1998–99 East Arnhem Region was the third highest contributor to government revenue from gaming (\$1.3 million) (refer to table 2.13).

Liquor In 1998–99 East Arnhem Region had eight of the 429 liquor outlets in the NT. The number of litres of liquor purchased per capita was 9.6 litres, the lowest recorded in the NT. During the five years to 1998–99 there has been a slight decline in litres of liquor purchased per capita in East Arnhem Region (refer to table 2.14).

There were eight restricted areas located in East Arnhem Region, six in East Arnhem Balance and two on Groote Eylandt.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

East Arnhem Region has three Community Government Councils (CGC'S) and seven Incorporated Associations. In 1997–98 the Angurugu CGC received a total of \$5.0 million in revenue, with current and capital expenditure of \$6.4 million. Of the Incorporated Associations, Galiwinku had revenue of \$8.0 million and expenditure of \$8.1 million, while Milingimbi had revenue of \$5.6 million and expenditure of \$6.7 million.

4.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, 1997-98

<i>East Arnhem Region</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Revenue</i>			<i>Expenditure</i>		
		<i>Grants</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
Community Government Councils							
Angurugu	\$'000	1 700.1	3 314.6	5 014.6	5 357.0	994.8	6 351.8
Mamgarr	\$'000	1 107.7	181.3	1 288.9	703.7	288.8	992.4
Numbulwar Numburindi	\$'000	981.3	2 502.6	3 483.9	4 298.8	80.0	4 378.8
Incorporated Associations							
Galiwinku	\$'000	6 600.9	1 416.5	8 017.3	5 619.5	2 455.3	8 074.8
Gapuwiyak	\$'000	1 373.1	489.8	1 862.9	2 047.9	165.2	2 213.2
Milingimbi	\$'000	3 889.8	1 711.1	5 600.9	5 722.2	1 000.9	6 723.0
Milyakburra	\$'000	1 913.5	473.5	2 387.0	1 322.0	595.4	1 917.3
Ramingining	\$'000	796.9	555.1	1 351.9	1 884.7	134.5	2 019.2
Umbakumba	\$'000	2 702.9	663.0	3 365.9	3 600.0	250.2	3 850.2
Yirrkala Dhanbul	\$'000	2 633.4	1 380.1	4 013.5	4 026.5	546.5	4 573.0

Source: NT Department of Local Government.

4.4 EAST ARNHEM REGION

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>East Arnhem - Balance</i>	<i>Groote Eylandt</i>	<i>Nhulunbuy</i>	Total
Area	sq km	35 594	2 396	7	37 997
Population					
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1999p	no.	6 684	2 777	3 652	13 113
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1998	no.	6 515	2 787	3 718	13 020
Annual growth rate 1998 to 1999	%	2.6	-0.4	-1.8	0.7
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1994	no.	5 814	2 605	3 814	12 233
Annual growth rate 1994 to 1999(a)	%	2.8	1.3	-0.9	1.4
Age range of population 30 June 1998p(b)					
0-4 years	no.	740	314	383	1 437
5-14 years	no.	1 562	626	681	2 869
15-44 years	no.	3 397	1 464	1 807	6 668
45-64 years	no.	699	343	791	1 833
65 years and over	no.	119	41	57	217
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>6 517</i>	<i>2 788</i>	<i>3 719</i>	13 024
Dependency rate	no.	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5
Median age, Census 1996(c)	no.	20	25	31	24
Births 1998(d)	no.	177	65	52	294
Deaths 1998(d)	no.	35	17	6	58
Indigenous population, Census 1996(e)(f)					
Age range of population					
0-4 years	no.	669	147	14	830
5-14 years	no.	1 418	363	43	1 824
15-44 years	no.	2 798	741	68	3 607
45-64 years	no.	590	145	13	748
65 years and over	no.	94	24	3	121
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>5 569</i>	<i>1 420</i>	<i>141</i>	7 130
Dependency rate	no.	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6
Building approvals, 1999(g)					
New dwelling units approved	no.	34	11	7	52
Value of new residential buildings approved	\$'000	5 948	1 795	985	8 728
Proportion of NT value of new dwellings approved	%	2.5	0.8	0.4	3.7
Value of non-residential buildings approved	\$'000	279	297	0	576
Proportion of NT value of non-residential building approvals	%	0.2	0.2	0	0.4
Value of all buildings approved(h)	\$'000	7 582	2 432	1 485	11 499
Proportion of NT value of all buildings approved	%	1.9	0.6	0.4	2.9
Labour force, DEWRSB(i), Dec qtr 1999					
Employed persons	no.	1 505	826	2 329	4 660
Unemployed persons	no.	128	41	40	209
Persons in the labour force	no.	1 633	867	2 369	4 869
Unemployment rate	%	7.8	4.7	1.7	4.3
Gaming, 30 June 1999					
Licensed gaming venues	no.	0	2	2	4
Gaming machines	no.	0	20	50	70
Liquor, 30 June 1999					
Restricted areas	no.	6	2	0	8

(a) Average annual growth rate.

(b) Based on 1998 ERP preliminary figures.

(c) Median age of usual residence population only.

(d) Data refers to births and deaths registered in the calendar year 1998.

(e) Excludes overseas visitors.

(f) Data have been randomised to ensure confidentiality of information.

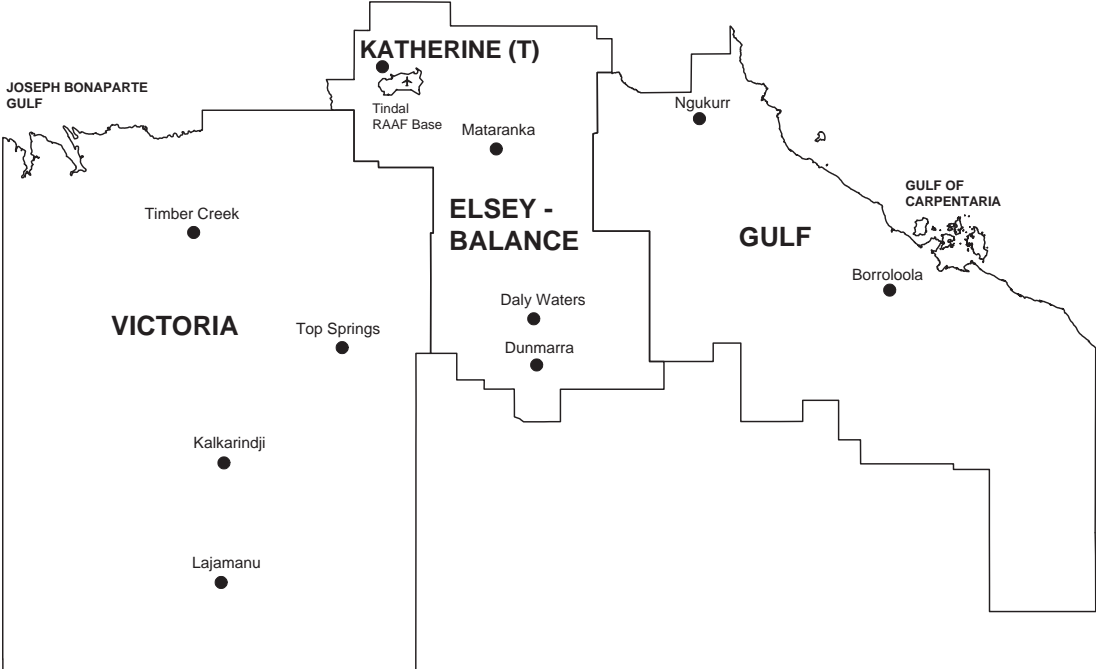
(g) Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component item and totals shown.

(h) Includes alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(i) See Glossary.

Source: ABS, unpublished data, Building Approvals, 1999; ABS unpublished data, Census 1996; Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7); Population by Age and Sex, Northern Territory, 30 June 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3235.7); Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99 (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0); Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 1999 (ABS Cat. no. 1362.7); Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (Cat. no. 96 25208), DEWRSB Canberra, December quarter 1999; NT Department of Industries and Business.

KATHERINE REGION



CHAPTER 5

KATHERINE REGION

INTRODUCTION

The Katherine Region covers an area of 336,674 square kilometres, and includes the town of Katherine and the surrounding Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) of Elsey - Balance, Gulf and Victoria.

POPULATION

Estimated resident population

Katherine Region comprises 9.0% of the total Northern Territory (NT) population. In 1999 more than half (57.2%) of the region's population resided in Katherine (T), with 15.8% in Gulf SLA, 14.4% in Victoria SLA, and 12.7% in Elsey - Balance SLA. The estimated resident population for the region was 17,378 at 30 June 1999, an increase of 0.5% from 1998. Elsey - Balance recorded the highest annual growth rate of 1.5% for the region, while the population of Victoria decreased by 0.8% between 1998 and 1999. In the five years to 1999 the average annual population growth rate for Katherine Region was 2.0%, with Katherine (T) increasing by 1,028 persons (an average annual increase of 2.2%).

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

At December 1999 there were an estimated 8,885 persons in the labour force in Katherine Region, comprising 8482 employed persons and 403 unemployed. The unemployment rate for the region was 4.5%, varying from 6.3% in Gulf to 3.6% in Katherine (T).

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

At the time of the 1996 Census 6,720 Indigenous persons resided in Katherine Region. Of these, 31.9% lived in the Gulf SLA, 27.2% in Victoria, 24.7% in Katherine (T) and 16.2% in Elsey - Balance. In Katherine Region 40.1% of the Indigenous population were aged 0-14 and 3.1% were aged 65 years and over.

MINING

There are three metallic minerals mined in Katherine Region; gold, bulk lead/zinc/silver and silver, with all of the Territory's bulk lead/zinc/silver produced in the region. In 1998-99 the value of bulk lead/zinc/silver production was \$103.3 million. The value of gold production in Katherine Region was \$1.5 million, 0.5% of the total value of gold produced in the NT for 1998-99. The region contributed 9.1% to the total value of metallic mineral production in the Territory. The value of non-metallic mineral production in Katherine Region was \$4.6 million, 14.1% of the total value of non-metallic mineral production in the NT (refer to tables 4.1 and 4.2).

AGRICULTURE

Fruit, vegetables and field crops have been commercially produced in Katherine Region for many years. In 1998-99, the estimated value of field crops in the region was \$571,000, representing 65.0% of the total value of field crops in the NT. Katherine Region field crops experienced an increase of 72.5% between 1997-98 and 1998-99. The value of field crops production in Katherine Region has varied significantly over the past five years, from as high as \$571,000 in 1998-99, to as low as \$226,000 in 1995-96.

5.1 VALUE OF CROPS(a)(b)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Crops	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
DARWIN					
Cereal	215	243	87	300	308
Other	19	n.a.	n.a.	280	n.a.
Total	234	243	87	579	308
KATHERINE					
Cereal	436	220	247	54	314
Other	99	6	72	277	257
Total	534	226	319	331	571
NORTHERN TERRITORY					
Cereal	651	463	334	354	622
Other	118	6	72	557	257
Total(c)	768	469	406	910	879

(a) Excludes hay and seed production.

(b) Estimates only.

(c) Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

Source: NT Office of Resource Development.

In 1998 the value of fruit and vegetables in the Katherine Region was \$8.2 million. Between 1994 and 1997 the estimated value of fruit and vegetables production in the NT increased steadily, with most of the increase in the Darwin and Alice Springs areas. There was a slight decrease in the value of NT crops in 1998. The value of fruit and vegetables production in Katherine Region decreased slightly over the past four years, however the contribution of Katherine to the NT total has decreased from 33.0% in 1994 to 15.5% in 1998.

5.2 VALUE OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
DARWIN					
Fruit	15 252	19 040	22 657	30 691	26 064
Vegetable	1 751	2 400	2 944	5 261	7 575
Total	17 003	21 440	25 601	35 952	33 639
KATHERINE					
Fruit	9 068	8 307	7 348	8 753	6 237
Vegetable	1 729	1 263	1 293	1 195	1 940
Total	10 797	9 570	8 641	9 948	8 177
ALICE SPRINGS					
Fruit	4 721	6 796	6 472	8 582	10 801
Vegetable	205	348	702	623	290
Total	4 927	7 144	7 174	9 205	11 091
NORTHERN TERRITORY					
Fruit	29 041	34 143	36 477	48 026	43 102
Vegetable	3 685	4 011	4 939	7 079	9 805
Total(a)	32 726	38 155	41 416	55 106	52 908

(a) Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

Source: NT Office of Resource Development.

A joint venture between the Northern Territory and Western Australian governments to develop the Ord River Irrigation Area (ORIA) has seen the project expand from 13,000 ha by a further 50,000 ha for broadacre cropping and some 15,000 ha for intensive horticulture. The most suitable broadacre crops proposed for irrigation are sugar, cotton, peanuts, maize and soybeans. With half the broadacre area located in the NT, the consortium (Wesfarmers/Marubeni) intends to concentrate on sugar production.

At 31 March 1998 there were 83 cattle establishments in Katherine Region with a total of 634,553 head of cattle, an increase of 6.0% from 1997. Three-quarters of these cattle were on establishments in Victoria SLA.

In 1998 there were 11,248 buffalo in the NT. Of these 43.5% were in Elsey - Balance SLA and 19.0% were in South Alligator SLA.

5.3 DOMESTICATED BUFFALO—31 MARCH

	1995	1996	1997	1998
<i>Statistical Local Area</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
South Alligator	2 076	1 997	2 439	2 136
Daly	172	98	102	140
Elsey - Balance	7 238	5 009	5 088	4 894
Victoria	117	113	119	121
Other	1 277	1 633	1 692	3 957
Northern Territory	10 880	8 850	9 440	11 248

Source: ABS unpublished data, Agriculture Census/Survey, Australia.

HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals In 1999 there were 114 approvals for new dwellings in Katherine Region with a total value of \$14.3 million. Sixty-six of these approvals were for the town of Katherine (value \$7.2 million). The value of all building (residential and commercial) approved in the region was \$26.3 million, with \$16.8 million (63.9%) of this for approvals in Katherine (T).

Public housing At 30 June 1999 there were 721 public housing dwellings in Katherine Region, representing 9.8% of the NT public housing stock. Full rent was being paid for 217 of these dwellings, some form of rebated rent for 456 dwellings, while 48 dwellings were vacant. In Katherine Region there were 610 applications for public housing in 1998-99, with a waiting list of 163 at 30 June 1999. Almost 70% of persons on the wait list were allocated a public dwelling within six months and a further 18.4% between six to twelve months (refer to table 2.4).

TRANSPORT

The NT had 20,036 kilometres of roads managed by the Department of Transport and Works at 30 June 1999. Of these 31.5% were sealed, 33.2% were gravel, 22.9% were formed and 12.4% were flat bladed. At 1 July 1999, there were 123,231 vehicles registered in the NT, of which 79.5% were light vehicles, 4.3% heavy vehicles and 16.2% were trailers.

At 30 June 1999, there were 5,861 kilometres of roads managed by the Department of Transport and Works in Katherine Region (29.3% of managed roads in the NT), with 31.3% being sealed roads, 48.1% gravel roads, and 20.7% formed or flat bladed roads.

5.4 TRANSPORT

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Road Lengths, 30 June 1999(a)(b)								
Sealed								
National highway	km	207	—	0	925	970	568	2 670
Arterial	km	627	—	7	663	486	497	2 280
Local	km	396	—	6	244	186	529	1 362
Gravel								
National highway	km	0	—	0	0	0	0	0
Arterial	km	31	—	374	420	0	594	1 419
Local	km	1 148	—	50	2 397	956	681	5 232
Formed								
National highway	km	0	—	0	0	0	0	0
Arterial	km	0	—	0	0	0	7	7
Local	km	304	—	102	842	1 171	2 158	4 577
Flat bladed								
National highway	km	0	—	0	0	0	0	0
Arterial	km	0	—	0	0	0	5	5
Local	km	30	—	0	370	241	1 844	2 484
Road works expenditure 1998–99(a)(b)								
Maintenance	\$'000	15 160	—	451	9 391	2 585	3 185	30 772
Minor works	\$'000	9 388	—	200	945	504	1 173	12 210
Capital works	\$'000	16 329	—	613	1 716	1 126	5 002	24 786
Registered motor vehicles at 1 July 1999								
Light vehicles (less than 4.5. tonnes)	no.	69 520	1 106	2 833	5 722	1 927	16 859	97 967
Heavy vehicles (exceeding 4.5 tonnes)	no.	3 140	113	191	455	167	1 180	5 246
Trailers	no.	13 455	315	705	1 798	421	3 324	20 018

(a) Darwin Statistical Division and Environs figures include Darwin Region Balance.

(b) Data refer to NT Department of Transport and Works managed roads only, local government managed roads are not included.

Source: NT Department of Transport and Works.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

The NT covers an area of 1,346,200 square kilometres, with an estimated resident population of 192,882 at 30 June 1999. The road safety environment of the NT differs from other Australian jurisdictions due to the relatively small resident population, large geographic area, extensive road network and varied road conditions plus large visitor numbers at specific times of the year.

Katherine Region recorded 194 road traffic accidents in 1998, 8.3% of the total for NT. Of these, 21.1% were the result of an overturned vehicle, 12.4% were angle collisions and 11.3% were either rear end collisions or accidents without colliding.

5.5 ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, 1998

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Type of road traffic accident								
Overturn vehicle	no.	56	28	8	41	27	74	234
Struck pedestrian	no.	63	3	5	14	6	18	109
Struck object	no.	118	9	6	17	4	35	189
Struck animal	no.	9	5	0	13	6	15	48
Without colliding(a)	no.	142	24	3	22	13	41	245
Angle collision	no.	465	3	4	24	6	59	561
Rear end	no.	461	2	3	22	5	38	531
Other	no.	285	12	12	41	14	64	428
Total	no.	1 599	86	41	194	81	344	2 345
Road traffic accident rate per 10,000 population	no.	154.4	69.0	31.5	112.2	120.9	93.2	123.5

(a) Includes 'ran off road' and 'fell off motor cycle'.

Source: NT Road Safety Council.

During 1998 there were 14 fatalities and 115 injuries from road accidents in Katherine Region. The rate of fatalities per 10,000 population in Katherine Region was 8.1, the highest for all regions. The fatality rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles was 2.4, equal highest with Darwin Region Balance.

5.6 ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, 1998

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Type of road traffic accident(a)								
Fatal								
Male	no.	22	2	1	10	2	14	51
Female	no.	3	1	0	4	2	8	18
Total	no.	25	3	1	14	4	22	69
Fatality rate per 10,000 population	no.	2.4	2.4	0.8	8.1	6.0	6.0	3.6
Fatality rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles(b)								
	no.	0.4	2.4	0.4	2.4	2.0	1.3	0.7
Injury								
Male	no.	522	47	21	80	47	167	884
Female	no.	268	25	6	35	19	106	459
Total	no.	790	72	27	115	66	273	1 343
Injury rate per 10,000 population	no.	76.3	57.8	20.7	66.5	98.5	74.0	70.7
Injury rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles(b)	no.	11.7	58.1	10.6	19.5	32.2	16.4	14.0
Road user(a)								
Driver of a motor vehicle	no.	505	37	10	62	32	126	772
Passenger (any type)	no.	144	32	10	42	31	114	373
Motor cyclist	no.	56	1	2	8	3	19	89
Pedestrian	no.	54	5	5	14	4	21	103
Pedal cyclist	no.	56	0	1	3	0	15	75
Total	no.	815	75	28	129	70	295	1 412

(a) See Glossary.

(b) Based on motor vehicle registrations of light vehicles (less than 4.5 tonnes).

Source: NT Road Safety Council.

PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED) The Australian Automobile Association monitors petrol prices in selected areas of Australia. In the NT unleaded petrol prices are monitored in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

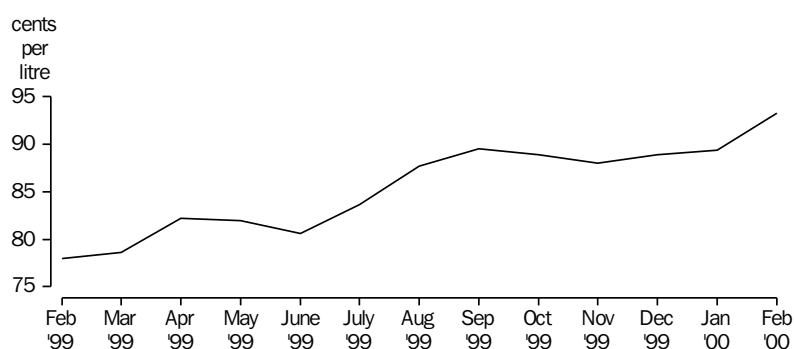
In the year to February 2000 the average price of unleaded petrol in Katherine rose from 78.0 cents to 93.3 cents per litre, an increase of 15.3 cents. For most of 1999 the average petrol price (unleaded) was above 80 cents in Katherine, peaking at 89.5 cents in September.

5.7 AVERAGE PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)

Selected Areas	Unit	1999											2000	
		Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Darwin	cents	73.7	73.7	75.8	76.5	76.3	77.4	81.3	83.9	84.5	84.4	84.9	85.4	90.2
Katherine	cents	78.0	78.6	82.2	82.0	80.6	83.6	87.7	89.5	88.9	88.0	88.9	89.4	93.3
Tennant Creek	cents	78.7	78.4	81.9	86.2	86.6	85.9	88.3	92.1	92.7	93.0	92.9	93.0	95.2
Alice Springs	cents	83.9	83.9	87.0	87.2	85.9	87.3	90.7	92.2	92.6	92.8	93.6	94.1	97.3

Source: Australian Automobile Association.

5.8 AVERAGE PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)—KATHERINE



Source: Australian Automobile Association.

TOURISM

In 1998–99 there were a total of 256,000 visitors to Katherine Region, 20% of all visitors to the Territory. More than half (52.0%) of these were interstate visitors, 23.4% were from within the NT, and 24.6% were overseas visitors. The main reason for visiting Katherine Region was holiday/recreation (77%). Visitors to the region stayed an average of 2.9 nights in 1998–99, and spent an average of \$89.23 per night. Visitors to the Katherine Region chose self drive as their main form of transport to and within the region (44% and 71% respectively). Total expenditure by visitors to Katherine Region was \$66.3 million (refer to tables 7.2, 7.3 and 7.5).

EDUCATION

Secondary In August 1999 there were 27 schools operating in Katherine Region, 26 government and one non-government school. There were 3,987 student enrolments, with 8.3% enrolled to attend preschool, 70.1% enrolled to attend primary school, and 16.7% enrolled to attend secondary school. In August 1999 there were 298 teaching staff in Katherine Region, which represented one teacher for every 13.4 students. The attendance rate for Katherine Region was 79.4%, 0.6% higher than the Territory average of 78.8% (refer to table 3.1).

Higher education At 31 March 1999, 4.5% of total commencement enrolments for higher education were from the Katherine Region. Of these, 79.4% were female, the highest percentage for all regions (refer to table 3.2).

Vocational education and training In 1998, Katherine Region recorded 6.4% of clients attending a vocational, education and training program in the NT. Just over half of the clients were non-Indigenous (54.8%), with 40.5% identifying as Indigenous and 4.7% with Indigenous status not known (refer to table 3.4).

HEALTH

There were 60 available public hospital beds in Katherine Region in 1998–99, 10.6% of the NT total of 565 beds. Katherine Region had a bed utilisation rate of 73%. Darwin Region had the highest hospital bed utilisation rate of 96%, with Barkly Region recording the lowest at 63%. There were 4,007 hospital separations in Katherine Region (10.9% of the NT total).

5.9 HEALTH

	Unit	Darwin Region(a)	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Hospitals 1998–99(b)							
Hospital bed utilisation	%	96	69	73	63	78	76
Available beds	no.	295	30	60	20	160	565
Separations(c)							
Overnight							
Indigenous	no.	5 087	1 270	2 094	815	5 174	14 440
Non-Indigenous	no.	8 227	313	1 131	324	2 564	12 559
Total	no.	13 314	1 583	3 225	1 139	7 738	26 999
Day only							
Indigenous	no.	1 113	152	328	161	813	2 567
Non-Indigenous	no.	4 743	267	454	105	1 667	7 236
Total	no.	5 856	419	782	266	2 480	9 803
Total separations							
Indigenous	no.	6 200	1 422	2 422	976	5 987	17 007
Non-Indigenous	no.	12 970	580	1 585	429	4 231	19 795
Total	no.	19 170	2 002	4 007	1 405	10 218	36 802
Average length of stay(d)							
Indigenous	days	6.2	4	4.4	2.9	5.8	5.4
Non-Indigenous	days	3.7	2	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4
Total	days	4.5	3.4	3.8	2.9	4.7	4.4
Day surgery							
	no.	3 655	322	440	25	1 767	6 209
Weighted separations(e)							
Indigenous	no.	8 220	1 144	2 025	836	7 194	19 419
Non-Indigenous	no.	13 674	368	1 193	339	3 858	19 432
Total	no.	21 894	1 512	3 218	1 175	11 052	38 851
Community childcare, June 1999							
Children in substitute care	no.	391	1	34	19	208	653
Access to childcare							
Target population(f)	no.	5 232	565	1 035	294	1 683	8 809
Childcare centres available to access	no.	2 011	115	180	46	581	2 933
Damaged, missing or filled teeth, 1998(g)							
Indigenous	no.	116	11	80	17	109	333
Non-Indigenous	no.	411	0	63	4	48	526
Total	no.	527	11	143	21	157	859

(a) Darwin Region combines Darwin Statistical Division and Environs and Darwin Region Balance.

(b) Data for Darwin Region refer only to Darwin Statistical Division and Environs as there are no hospitals in Darwin Region Balance. All data refer to public hospitals only.

(c) See Glossary.

(d) Includes same day separations.

(e) See Glossary.

(f) Children aged 0 to 4 years.

(g) Figures based on children aged 12 years. Figures may not add to total due to rounding.

Source: Territory Health Services.

There were 798 notifiable diseases recorded in Katherine Region in 1999 compared to 563 in 1998. Sexually transmitted diseases and gastrointestinal diseases were the most frequently notified diseases in the region (546 and 161 notifications respectively). Almost one-third (32.8%) of the notifications of sexually transmitted diseases were for gonococcal disease, with 34.4% for trichomonas. Notifications of salmonella made up 37.9% of all notifications of gastrointestinal diseases in the region. Ross river virus accounted for 14 of the 18 notifications of vectorborne diseases in Katherine Region.

5.10 NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Darwin Region(a)</i>	<i>East Arnhem Region</i>	<i>Katherine Region</i>	<i>Barkly Region</i>	<i>Central Region</i>	Total
Notifiable diseases, 1999							
Bloodborne diseases(b)							
Hepatitis C (prevalence)	no.	216	3	9	0	23	251
Total (incl. other)	no.	232	4	17	9	46	308
Gastrointestinal diseases(b)							
Campylobacter	no.	155	8	13	0	66	242
Rotavirus	no.	131	53	53	43	125	405
Salmonella	no.	213	23	61	12	58	367
Shigella	no.	39	15	9	3	50	116
Total (incl. other)	no.	624	135	161	63	343	1 326
Sexually transmitted diseases(b)							
Chlamydia	no.	337	65	104	20	329	855
Gonococcal disease	no.	322	97	179	42	498	1 138
Syphilis	no.	101	59	47	55	77	339
Trichomonas(c)	no.	304	250	188	14	114	870
Total (incl. other)	no.	1 079	471	546	131	1 030	3 257
Vaccine preventable diseases(b)							
Pneumococcal disease	no.	23	1	7	0	45	76
Total (incl. other)	no.	68	7	15	2	79	171
Vectorborne diseases(b)							
Ross river virus	no.	114	8	14	6	0	142
Total (incl. other)	no.	201	14	18	7	1	241
Other(b)	no.	133	17	41	7	8	206

(a) Darwin Region combines Darwin SD and Environs and Darwin Region Balance.

(b) See Glossary.

(c) Officially notifiable from April 1999.

NOTE: Regions approximate Australian Bureau of Statistics regions.

Source: Territory Health Services.

POLICING

Police staff	In 1999 Katherine Region's police service consisted of 65 officers supported by 12 Aboriginal community officers. For every 10,000 persons in Katherine Region there were 37 police officers (refer to table 7.6).
Selected incidents	Katherine Region recorded 6.6% of all incidents of unlawful entries into dwellings in NT, up from 4.5% in 1998. The region was also responsible for 5.9% of total reported incidents of unlawful use of a motor vehicle and 10.2% of unlawful entry into buildings. In 1999, 12.5% of total assaults were reported in Katherine Region, the third highest of the regions (refer to table 7.7).
Protective custodies and apprehensions	In 1999, Katherine Region accounted for 29.6% of protective custodies in the NT, and 15.6% of total apprehensions (refer to table 7.8).
Traffic infringement notices and traffic offences	<p>There were 1,203 traffic infringement notices issued to persons in the Katherine Region in 1998-99.</p> <p>In the same period there were 1,332 traffic offences committed. Of these, 43.1% were for speeding and 24.0% were for failure to comply with seat belt regulations (refer to table 7.10).</p>

RACING, GAMING AND LICENSING

Gaming	In 1998-99 there were six venues with 54 gaming machines in Katherine Region. The gaming industry generated \$2.5 million expenditure in Katherine Region during 1998-99, with a per capita expenditure of \$223.85 per person aged 18 years and over. In Katherine Region, \$1.2 million of government revenue was generated from gaming machines, 10.5% of the total government revenue (refer to table 2.13).
Liquor	Katherine Region accounted for 11.4% of the total number of liquor outlets in the NT. In 1998-99, 19.7 litres of pure alcohol were purchased per person aged 15 years and over in Katherine Region, the highest for all regions. During the five years to 1998-99, Katherine Region recorded the highest per capita liquor purchase for the Territory (refer to table 2.14). Katherine Region has 27 restricted areas, with most in Gulf and Victoria SLAs.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
FINANCE

In 1997–98 there were 11 Community Government Councils (CGCs) and one municipality in Katherine Region. The CGC of Yugul Mangi had the highest revenue and expenditure of the region, with revenue of \$7.1 million and expenditure of \$8.4 million. Katherine Town Council had revenue of \$5.6 million and expenditure of \$8.3 million.

5.11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, 1997–98

<i>Katherine Region</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Revenue</i>			<i>Expenditure</i>		
		<i>Grants</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
Municipality							
Katherine Town Council	\$'000	2 318.9	3 273.0	5 591.9	7 295.8	972.8	8 268.6
Community Government Councils							
Barunga - Manyallaluk	\$'000	622.2	588.3	1 210.5	1 827.9	130.5	1 958.4
Binjari	\$'000	1 771.8	119.3	1 891.1	1 264.7	565.0	1 829.7
Borrooloola	\$'000	550.8	259.2	810.0	889.5	79.1	968.6
Daguragu	\$'000	3 577.4	1 055.3	4 632.7	4 677.5	1 086.4	5 763.8
Jilkminggan	\$'000	1 832.4	518.8	2 351.2	2 132.6	0.0	2 132.6
Lajamanu	\$'000	770.0	361.5	1 131.5	1 830.1	113.1	1 943.2
Mataranka	\$'000	340.0	94.0	434.0	438.5	98.1	536.6
Timber Creek	\$'000	390.4	69.9	460.3	374.2	23.7	398.0
Walangeri Ngumpinku	\$'000	2 405.7	336.3	2 741.9	2 725.9	1 372.8	4 098.6
Wugularr	\$'000	3 071.4	1 694.8	4 766.2	4 580.8	252.0	4 832.8
Yugul Mangi	\$'000	6 564.5	572.0	7 136.5	7 565.3	831.8	8 397.1

Source: NT Department of Local Government.

5.12 KATHERINE REGION

Particulars	Unit	Eley - Balance	Gulf	Katherine (T)	Victoria	Total
Area	sq km	63 588	99 565	526	172 995	336 674
Population						
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1999p	no.	2 205	2 742	9 933	2 498	17 378
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1998	no.	2 173	2 753	9 853	2 518	17 297
Annual growth rate 1998 to 1999	%	1.5	-0.4	0.8	-0.8	0.5
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1994	no.	1 916	2 521	8 905	2 417	15 759
Annual growth rate 1994 to 1999(a)	%	2.8	1.7	2.2	0.7	2.0
Age range of population 30 June 1998p(b)						
0-4 years	no.	207	378	1 019	229	1 833
5-14 years	no.	371	627	1 891	603	3 492
15-44 years	no.	1 144	1 334	5 323	1 250	9 051
45-64 years	no.	371	334	1 388	327	2 420
65 years and over	no.	81	81	235	110	507
Total	no.	2 174	2 754	9 856	2 519	17 303
Dependency rate	no.	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5
Median age, Census 1996(c)	no.	26	21	27	22	25
Births 1998(d)	no.	38	90	183	67	378
Deaths 1998(d)	no.	18	23	54	21	116
Indigenous population, Census 1996(e)(f)						
Age range of population						
0-4 years	no.	131	310	232	198	871
5-14 years	no.	315	569	421	520	1 825
15-44 years	no.	517	1 030	789	843	3 179
45-64 years	no.	93	192	161	192	638
65 years and over	no.	30	44	55	78	207
Total	no.	1 086	2 145	1 658	1 831	6 720
Dependency rate	no.	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8
Building approvals, 1999(g)						
New dwelling units approved	no.	8	22	66	18	114
Value of new residential buildings approved	\$'000	1 495	3 264	7 223	2 277	14 259
Proportion of NT value of new dwellings approved	%	0.6	1.4	3.1	1.0	6.1
Value of non-residential buildings approved	\$'000	1 426	424	9 070	87	11 007
Proportion of NT value of non-residential building approvals	%	1.1	0.3	6.8	0.1	8.2
Value of all buildings approved(h)	\$'000	2 921	4 163	16 826	2 424	26 334
Proportion of NT value of all buildings approved	%	0.7	1.0	4.2	0.6	6.6
Labour force, DEWRB(i), Dec qtr 1999						
Employed persons	no.	1 123	1 041	5 200	1 118	8 482
Unemployed persons	no.	64	70	195	74	403
Persons in the labour force	no.	1 187	1 111	5 395	1 192	8 885
Unemployment rate	%	5.4	6.3	3.6	6.2	4.5
Gaming, 30 June 1999						
Licensed gaming venues	no.	0	0	5	1	6
Gaming machines	no.	0	0	50	4	54
Liquor, 30 June 1999						
Restricted areas	no.	7	9	2	9	27

(a) Average annual growth rate.

(b) Based on 1998 ERP preliminary figures.

(c) Median age of usual residence population only.

(d) Data refers to births and deaths registered in the calendar year 1998.

(e) Excludes overseas visitors.

(f) Data have been randomised to ensure confidentiality of information.

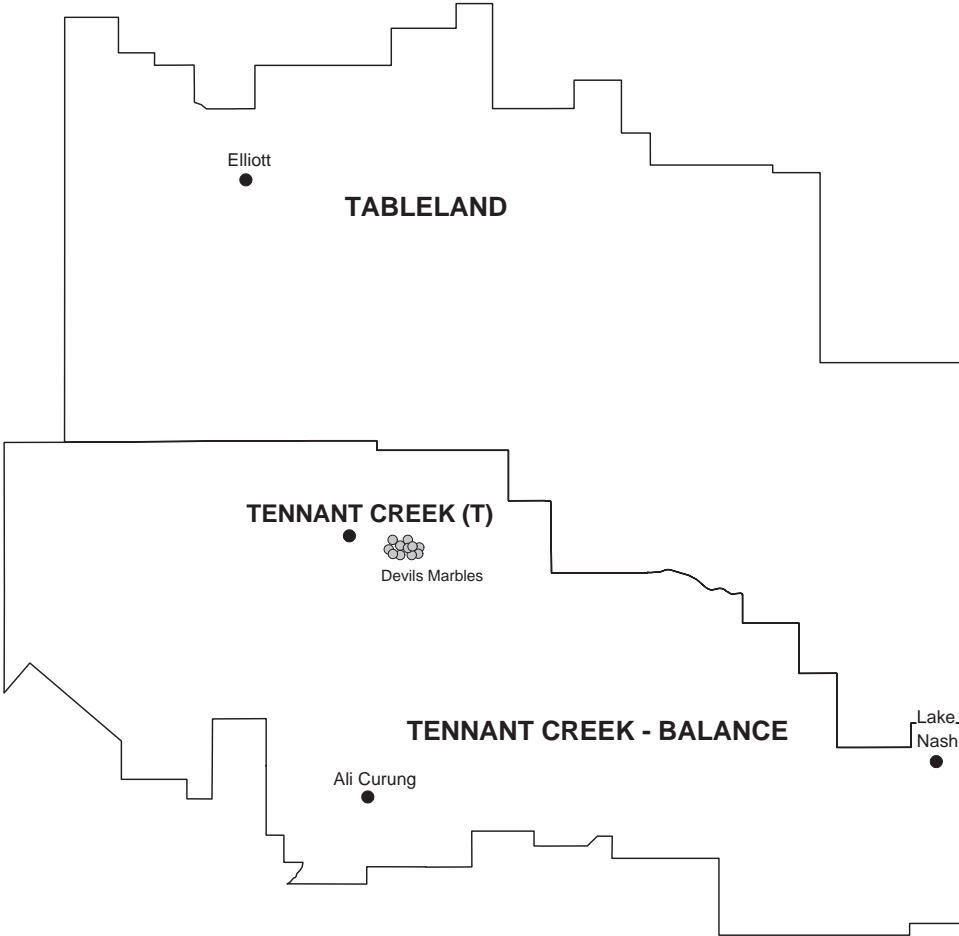
(g) Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component item and totals shown.

(h) Includes alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(i) See Glossary.

Source: ABS, unpublished data, Building Approvals, 1999; ABS unpublished data, Census 1996; Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (Cat. no. 3311.7); Population by Age and Sex, Northern Territory, 30 June 1998 (Cat. no. 3235.7); Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99 (Cat. no. 3218.0); Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 1999 (Cat. no. 1362.7); Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (Cat. no. 96 25208), DEWRB Canberra, December quarter 1999; NT Department of Industries and Business.

BARKLY REGION



CHAPTER 6

BARKLY REGION

INTRODUCTION

Barkly Region covers an area of 283,648 square kilometres, and includes the town of Tennant Creek and the Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) of Tableland and Tennant Creek - Balance.

POPULATION

Estimated resident population

Barkly Region contains just 3.5% of the Territory's population, the least of the six administrative regions. In 1999, 57.2% of the region's population resided in Tennant Creek (T), 26.4% in Tennant Creek - Balance and 16.4% in Tableland SLA. The estimated resident population for Barkly Region at 30 June 1999 was 6,844, an increase of 2.1% from 1998, with 30.7% aged 0–14 years and 3.3% aged 65 years and over. Between 1998 and 1999 Tennant Creek (T), Tennant Creek - Balance and Tableland SLAs recorded population increases of 1.3%, 2.0% and 5.2% respectively. In the five years to 1999 the average annual population growth rate for Barkly Region was 1.7%.

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

At December 1999 there were an estimated 2,958 persons in the labour force in Barkly Region, comprising 2,844 employed persons and 114 unemployed. The unemployment rate for the region was 3.9%.

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

At the time of the 1996 Census 3,481 Indigenous persons resided in Barkly Region. Of these, 43.8% lived in Tennant Creek (T), with 38.4% in Tennant Creek - Balance and 17.7% in Tableland SLA, while 39.4% were aged 0-14 and 3.4% were 65 years and over.

MINING

In 1998–99 there were three metallic minerals produced in Barkly Region; gold, copper concentrate and a small amount of silver. The value of gold production was \$28.3 million, 8.8% of the total value of gold production in the Northern Territory. All of the Territory's copper concentrate was produced in the region, with a value of \$24.9 million. In 1998–99 Barkly Region contributed 4.6% of the total value of metallic mineral production in the NT (refer to tables 4.1 and 4.2).

AGRICULTURE

At 31 March 1998 there were 377 establishments involved in commercial agriculture in the NT, with property holdings totalling 67 million hectares. Agricultural industries in NT include the pastoral industry; other livestock (including crocodile, poultry and camel); horticulture (fruit, vegetables, nursery and cut flowers); and other agriculture (field crops, hay and seeds). The total estimated value of the NT agriculture industry in 1998 was \$207.6 million, with the livestock industry valued at \$169.8 million and the field crops and horticulture industry at \$37.8 million.

Pastoral industry

At 31 March 1998 there were 1.6 million head of cattle on properties in the NT, a decrease of 37,000 cattle (2.4%) from 1997. More than half a million cattle (508,578) were on holdings in Barkly Region representing 32.5% of all cattle in NT. Properties in Katherine Region held 40.5% of all cattle in the Territory.

6.1 CATTLE—31 MARCH 1998

<i>Statistical Local Area</i>	<i>no.</i>
Daly	71 072
South Alligator	19 331
Elsey - Bal	117 145
Gulf	32 418
Victoria	479 464
Tableland	440 620
Tennant Creek - Bal	58 568
Petermann	66 513
Sandover - Bal	150 743
Tanami	92 046
Other	39 317
Northern Territory	1 567 237

Source: ABS unpublished data, Agriculture Census/Survey, Australia.

In 1998 the number of cattle and calf disposals in the Territory increased by 15.8% to 425,037. The Barkly Region recorded the highest number of disposals in NT for 1998. The combined total of cattle and calf disposals for the SLAs of Tableland and Tennant Creek - Balance represented 27.9% of all disposals for NT in 1998 compared to 34.5% in 1997.

6.2 CATTLE AND CALF DISPOSALS—31 MARCH

<i>Statistical Local Area</i>	<i>1996 no.</i>	<i>1997 no.</i>	<i>1998 no.</i>
Daly	14 285	11 190	26 685
Elsey — Bal	50 136	69 243	92 998
Gulf	2 537	3 397	3 386
Victoria	70 873	81 384	109 749
Tableland	88 549	112 697	113 412
Tennant Creek — Bal	10 440	13 808	5 293
Petermann	9 182	10 615	14 250
Sandover — Bal	35 534	36 711	35 341
Tanami	16 714	6 710	10 876
Other	22 949	21 232	13 047
Northern Territory	321 199	366 987	425 037

Source: ABS unpublished data, Agriculture Census/Survey, Australia.

Live cattle exports

The live cattle trade has been operating in the NT since 1885 when a small trial shipment of cattle were sent to Hong Kong. By 1997 the number of live cattle exports through the Port of Darwin had increased to 448,196, with Indonesia (244,701) and the Philippines (167,186) as the main destinations.

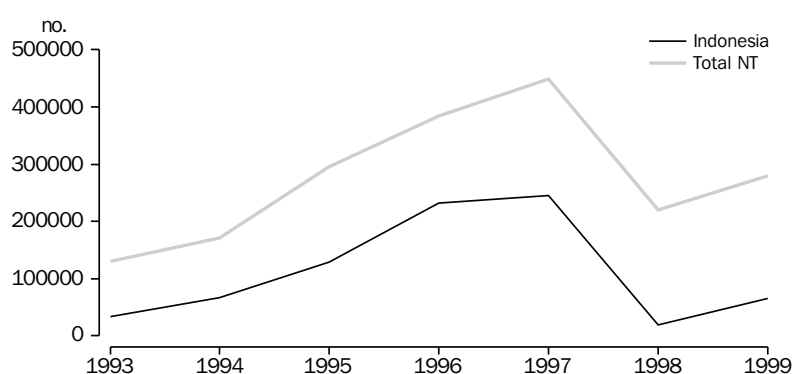
In 1998 the downturn in South-east Asian economies influenced trade through the Port of Darwin, with live cattle exports decreasing by 51.0% to 219,439. Live cattle exports to Indonesia decreased from 244,701 in 1997 to just 19,614 in 1998. However, the industry has regained strength in 1999. Overall, live cattle exports from the NT increased by 27.6% in 1999, although still below 1995–97 levels.

6.3 LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS THROUGH PORT OF DARWIN

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
<i>Destination</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
Brunei	7 776	5 153	6 008	4 041	5 650	6 948	14 862
Indonesia	33 780	66 329	129 208	232 207	244 701	19 614	65 277
Malaysia	8 455	9 774	16 714	22 183	21 141	10 163	19 324
Philippines	77 194	89 529	143 884	124 284	167 186	133 265	152 198
Thailand	1 269	0	0	820	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	34 286	28 350
Libya	1 291	0	0	0	9 518	15 163	0
Total	129 765	170 785	295 814	383 535	448 196	219 439	280 011

Source: NT Office of Resource Development.

6.4 LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS THROUGH PORT OF DARWIN—1993–1999



Source: NT Office of Resource Development.

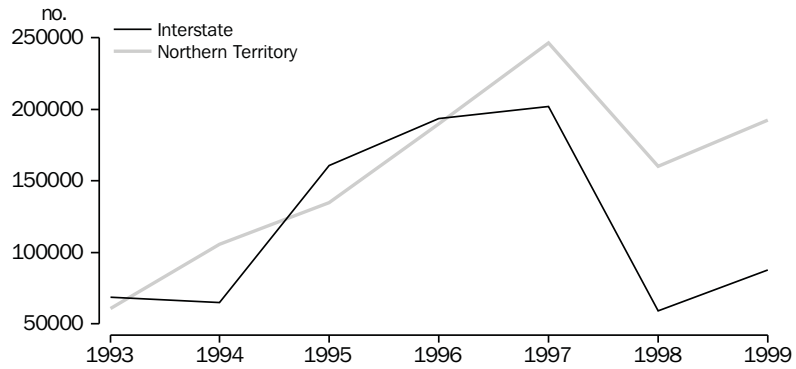
Of the 280,011 live cattle exported via the Port of Darwin in 1999, 192,441 (68.7%) were from within the Territory and 87,570 were from interstate. With the downturn in live cattle exports in 1998, the number of exports of NT cattle through Darwin decreased by 34.9%, while exports of interstate cattle decreased by 70.8%. The industry experienced an increase of 20.0% of NT cattle and 48.4% of interstate live cattle exports through the Port of Darwin for 1999.

6.5 LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS VIA PORT OF DARWIN

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
Northern Territory	60 912	105 685	135 014	189 918	246 389	160 412	192 441
Interstate	68 853	65 100	160 800	193 617	201 807	59 027	87 570
Total	129 765	170 785	295 814	383 535	448 196	219 439	280 011

Source: NT Office of Resource Development.

6.6 LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS THROUGH PORT OF DARWIN—1993–1999



Source: NT Office of Resource Development.

HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals In 1999 there were a total of 34 approvals for new dwelling units in Barkly Region, with a total value of \$4.4 million. The value of all building (residential and commercial) approved in the region was \$5.1 million.

Public housing At 30 June 1999 there were 236 public housing dwellings in Barkly Region, representing 3.2% of the NT public housing stock. Full rent was being paid for 97 of these dwellings, some form of rebated rate for 111 dwellings, with 28 dwellings vacant. In 1998–99 there were 150 applications for public housing in the region, with a waiting list of 29 at June 1999 (refer to table 2.4).

TRANSPORT

At 30 June 1999 there were 4,010 kilometres of roads managed by the Department of Transport and Works in Barkly Region (20.0% of managed roads in the NT). Less than half (40.9%) of these roads were sealed, 23.8% were gravel, and 35.2% were formed or flat bladed (refer to table 5.4).

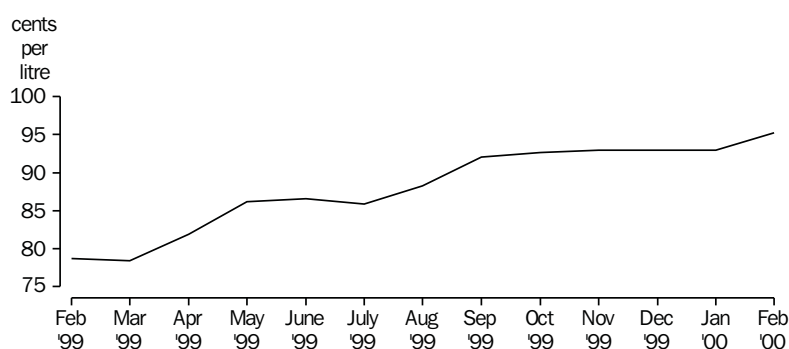
ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

In 1998 Barkly Region recorded 81 road traffic accidents, 3.5% of the total NT. Of these, 33.3% were the result of the vehicle overturning. Barkly Region recorded 70 fatal or injury related road traffic accidents. The fatality rate per 1,000 registered motor vehicles in Barkly Region was 2.0 and 32.2 for injuries (refer to tables 5.5 and 5.6).

PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)

In the twelve months to February 2000 the average price of unleaded petrol in Tennant Creek has increased from 78.7 cents to 95.2 cents, an increase of 16.5 cents (refer to table 5.7).

6.7 AVERAGE PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)—TENNANT CREEK



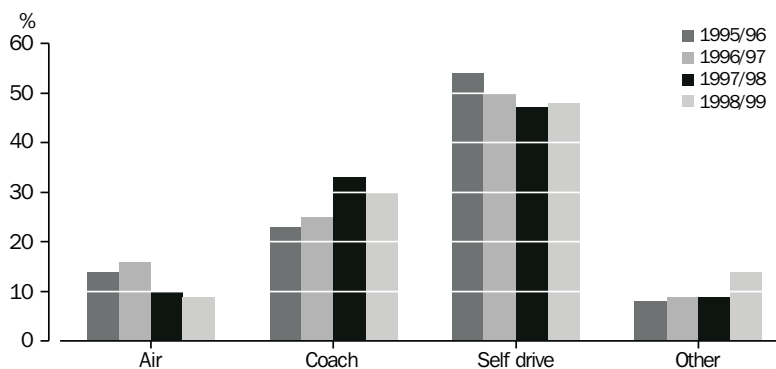
Source: Australian Automobile Association.

TOURISM

A total of 126,000 people visited Barkly Region in 1998–99 which represented 10% of all visitors to the NT. Interstate visitors accounted for 69.0% of visitors to the Barkly Region, 11.9% were from within the NT, and 18.3% were from overseas.

The main mode of transport into the Territory for visitors to Barkly Region was self-drive (77%) or air (16%). Holidays/recreation was the main reason for visiting the region for 71% of visitors. Visitors to Barkly Region stayed an average of just 1.9 days, spending an average of \$102.51 per night. Total visitor expenditure for Barkly Region was \$24.5 million in 1998–99 (refer to tables 7.2, 7.3 and 7.5).

6.8 VISITORS, MAIN TRANSPORT WITHIN THE NT—1995–1999



Source: Northern Territory Tourist Commission.

EDUCATION

Secondary In August 1999 there were 13 government schools in Barkly Region, with 1,295 students enrolled to attend school in the region (10.3% at preschool, 67.6% at primary school, and 15.1% enrolled to attend secondary school). There were 112 teaching staff at schools in the region, which represented one teacher for every 11.6 students. The attendance rate for students in Barkly Region was 68.9%, the lowest of the six NT regions (refer to table 3.1).

Higher education	Less than one percent of the higher education enrolments were from the Barkly Region. Of these, 89.5% were non-Indigenous and 63.1% were female (refer to table 3.2).
Vocational education and training	In 1998, 338 clients from Barkly Region registered for vocational education and training programs in the NT. Of the 338 clients, 54.4% were Indigenous, 38.4% were non-Indigenous and 7.1% did not specify their Indigenous status (refer to table 3.4).
HEALTH	<p>There were just 20 available public hospital beds in Barkly Region in 1998–99 (3.5% of the NT total of 565 beds). The bed utilisation rate in the region was 63%, the lowest rate for NT regions. There were 1,405 hospital separations in 1999 or 3.8% of all NT separations.</p> <p>Sexually transmitted diseases and gastrointestinal diseases were the two main notifiable diseases in Barkly Region during 1998–99. Of the 131 sexually transmitted diseases notified in the region, 42.0% were for syphilis and 32.1% were for gonococcal disease. Forty-three of the 63 notifications of gastrointestinal diseases were rotavirus (refer to tables 5.9 and 5.10).</p>
POLICING	
Police staff	There were 29 police officers and seven Aboriginal community police officers responsible for the Barkly Region in 1999. There were 42 police officers per 10,000 population in Barkly Region, the highest for the regions (refer to table 7.6).
Selected incidents	In 1999, 5.4% of unlawful entry into NT buildings were reported in Barkly Region. Unlawful entry in dwellings increased by 9.5% and assaults increased by 32.2% from 1998 (refer to table 7.7).
Protective custodies and apprehensions	Barkly Region accounted for 7.7% of the total persons taken into protective custody in the NT in 1999, and 6.4% of the total apprehensions in the NT. Of these, 16.0% were juvenile apprehensions (refer to table 7.8).
Traffic infringement notices and traffic offences	In 1998–99 there were 372 traffic infringement notices issued in Barkly Region. For every 10,000 persons in the Barkly Region, 543.5 traffic infringement notices were issued (refer to table 7.10).
RACING, GAMING AND LICENSING	
Gaming	There were five venues and 39 gaming machines located in Tennant Creek (T) in 1999, representing the total for Barkly Region. In 1999, \$1.4 million was generated in expenditure from the gaming industry with \$311.99 per capita expenditure for persons aged 18 years and over (refer to table 2.13).

Liquor Barkly Region has 17 of the 429 liquor outlets in the NT. The number of litres of alcohol purchased per capita of persons aged 15 years and over was 13.8 litres in 1998–99. Over the past 5 years number of litres purchased per capita has decreased from 18.4 in 1994–95 to 13.8 in 1998–99 (refer to table 2.14). Of the 102 restricted areas located throughout the NT, 19 (18.6%) are in the Barkly Region, with 12 of these in Tennant Creek - Balance.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
FINANCE

Tennant Creek Town Council had the highest revenue and expenditure of local government organisations in Barkly Region, with revenue of \$2.7 million and expenditure of \$3.0 million in 1997–98. The Incorporated Association of Alpururulam had revenue of \$2.6 million and expenditure of \$3.0 million.

6.9 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, 1997–98

<i>Barkly Region</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Revenue</i>			<i>Expenditure</i>		
		<i>Grants</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
Municipality							
Tennant Creek Town Council	\$'000	1 069.6	1 659.5	2 729.1	2 819.8	207.2	3 027.0
Community Government Councils							
Elliott	\$'000	467.2	262.4	729.6	860.1	129.9	989.9
Incorporated Associations							
Ali Curung	\$'000	2 170.7	326.8	2 497.5	2 053.5	801.4	2 854.9
Alpururulam	\$'000	1 908.4	665.1	2 573.5	2 599.7	446.6	3 046.3

Source: NT Department of Local Government.

6.10 BARKLY REGION

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Tableland</i>	<i>Tennant Creek (T)</i>	<i>Tennant Creek - Balance</i>	Total
Area	sq km	156 617	24	127 007	283 648
Population					
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1999p	no.	1 123	3 913	1 808	6 844
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1998	no.	1 067	3 861	1 772	6 700
Annual growth rate 1998 to 1999	%	5.2	1.3	2.0	2.1
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1994	no.	1 024	3 603	1 675	6 302
Annual growth rate 1994 to 1999(a)	%	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.7
Age range of population 30 June 1998p(b)					
0–4 years	no.	101	416	187	704
5–14 years	no.	190	788	377	1 355
15–44 years	no.	565	1 848	913	3 326
45–64 years	no.	156	710	227	1 093
65 years and over	no.	55	100	68	223
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>1 067</i>	<i>3 862</i>	<i>1 772</i>	<i>6 701</i>
Dependency rate	no.	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5
Median age, Census 1996(c)	no.	23	27	21	24
Births 1998(d)	no.	6	95	25	126
Deaths 1998(d)	no.	7	17	15	39
Indigenous population, Census 1996(e)(f)					
Age range of population					
0–4 years	no.	78	196	178	452
5–14 years	no.	157	393	370	920
15–44 years	no.	287	719	627	1 633
45–64 years	no.	63	179	114	356
65 years and over	no.	31	41	48	120
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>616</i>	<i>1 528</i>	<i>1 337</i>	<i>3 481</i>
Dependency rate	no.	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8
Building approvals, 1999(g)					
New dwelling units approved	no.	4	13	17	34
Value of new residential buildings approved	\$'000	481	1 536	2 426	4 442
Proportion of NT value of new dwellings approved	%	0.2	0.7	1.0	1.9
Value of non-residential buildings approved	\$'000	120	101	0	221
Proportion of NT value of non-residential building approvals	%	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2
Value of all buildings approved(h)	\$'000	601	1 750	2 719	5 070
Proportion of NT value of all buildings approved	%	0.2	0.4	0.7	1.3
Labour force, DEWRB(i), Dec qtr 1999					
Employed persons	no.	576	1 678	590	2 844
Unemployed persons	no.	17	72	25	114
Persons in the labour force	no.	593	1 750	615	2 958
Unemployment rate	%	2.9	4.1	4.1	3.9
Gaming, 30 June 1999					
Licensed gaming venues	no.	0	5	0	5
Gaming machines	no.	0	39	0	39
Liquor, 30 June 1999					
Restricted areas	no.	2	5	12	19

(a) Average annual growth rate.

(b) Based on 1998 ERP preliminary figures.

(c) Median age of usual residence population only.

(d) Data refers to births and deaths registered in the calendar year 1998.

(e) Excludes overseas visitors.

(f) Data have been randomised to ensure confidentiality of information.

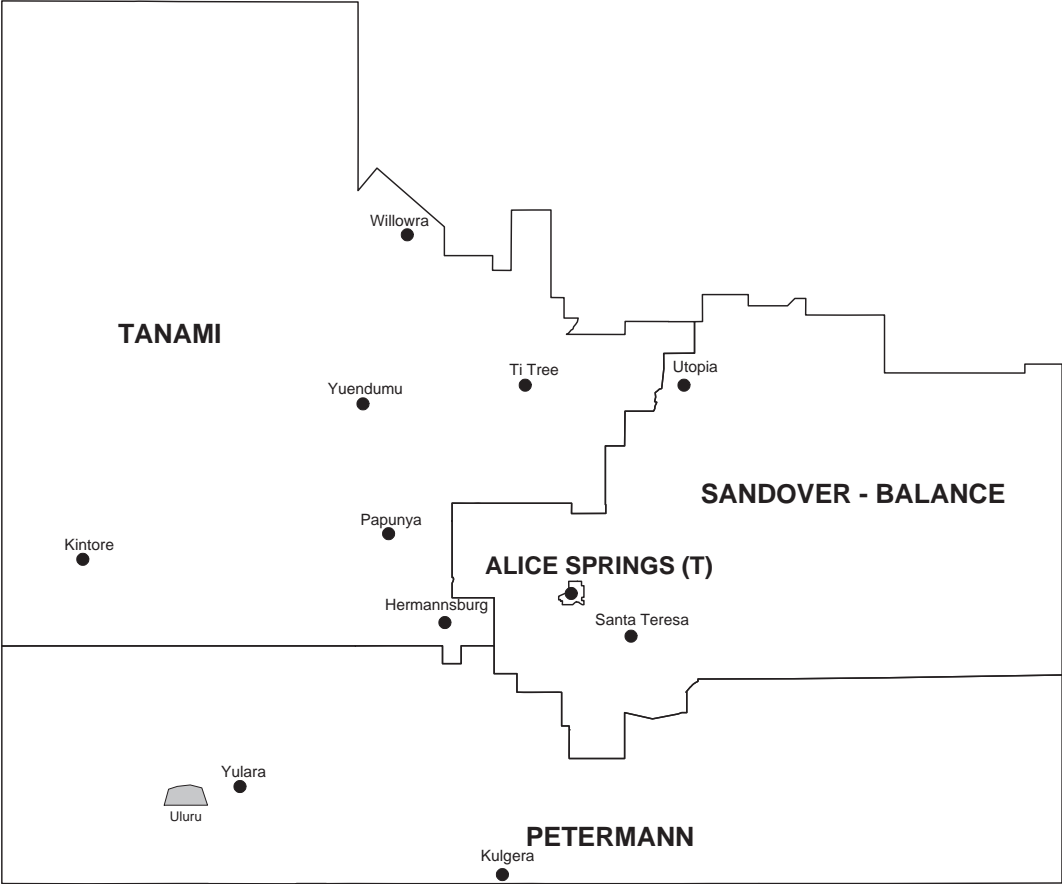
(g) Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component item and totals shown.

(h) Includes alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(i) See Glossary.

Source: ABS, unpublished data, Building Approvals, 1999; ABS unpublished data, Census 1996; Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3311.7); Population by Age and Sex, Northern Territory, 30 June 1998 (ABS Cat. no. 3235.7); Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998–99 (ABS Cat. no. 3218.0); Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 1999 (ABS Cat. no. 1362.7); Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (Cat. no. 96 25208), DEWRB Canberra, December quarter 1999; NT Department of Industries and Business.

CENTRAL REGION



CHAPTER 7

CENTRAL REGION

INTRODUCTION

Central Region covers an area of 546,572 square kilometres and is located in the southern part of the Northern Territory (NT). The region includes the town of Alice Springs, and the Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) of Petermann, Sandover - Balance and Tanami.

POPULATION

Estimated resident population

Central Region contains 19.4% of the total NT population, with Alice Springs being the second largest population centre in the Territory. In 1999, 68.3% of the region's population resided in Alice Springs (T), with a further 18.3% in Tanami SLA. The estimated resident population of Central Region at 30 June 1999 was 37,397, an increase of 1.3% from 1998. In the 12 months to June 1999, the SLA of Sandover - Balance had the highest growth rate of 4.9%, while the population of Petermann SLA increased by 3.9%. In the five years to 1999 there was an average annual population growth rate of 1.4% in Central Region, varying from 1.0% in Alice Springs to 2.8% in Tanami and Sandover - Balance. Just over a quarter of the region's population was aged 0-14 years, with 3.5% aged 65 years and over.

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

At December 1999 there were an estimated 19,481 persons in the labour force in Central Region, comprising 18,411 employed persons and 1,070 unemployed. The unemployment rate for the region was 5.5%, varying from 11.9% in Tanami to 4.1% in Alice Springs (T).

INDIGENOUS POPULATION

At the time of the 1996 Census, 11,963 Indigenous people resided in Central Region. Of these, 45.5% lived in Tanami, 31.3% in Alice Springs (T), 15.6% in Sandover - Balance and 7.6% in Petermann. Within the region 35.5% of the Indigenous population were aged 0-14 years, while 3.6% were 65 years and over.

MINING

Gold is the main metallic mineral mined in Central Region, with small amounts of silver also produced. In 1998-99 the value of gold produced in the region was \$191.7 million, 59.9% of the total value of gold production in the NT. The region contributed 16.6% to the total value of metallic mineral production in the Territory. The value of non-metallic minerals produced in the region was \$6.1 million, 18.6% of the total value of non-metallic minerals in the NT. The total value of crude oil produced in the Territory in 1998-99 was \$104.5 million, with \$13.3 million (12.7%) of this from Central Region. All of the natural gas produced in the NT is from Central Region, with a value of \$36.6 million in 1998-99 (refer to tables 4.1 and 4.2).

AGRICULTURE

At 31 March 1998 there were 312,148 head of cattle on pastoral establishments in Central Region, 20.0% of total NT holdings. The value of fruit and vegetable production in the region was \$11.1 million in 1998, 21.0% of the total value of the NT fruit and vegetables production. Central Region fruit and vegetables production has experienced a steady increase over the past five years, ranging from \$4.9 million in 1994 to \$11.1 million in 1998 (refer to table 5.2).

HOUSING AND
CONSTRUCTION

Building approvals In 1999 there were 189 building approvals for new dwelling units in Central Region, with a total value of \$23.4 million. Alice Springs (T) accounted for 111 of these approvals (total value \$12.9 million). The total value of all residential and commercial building approved in Central Region was \$57.0 million, of which \$36.8 million was for Alice Springs (T).

Public housing At 30 June 1999 there were 1,326 public housing dwellings in Central Region, representing 18.1% of the NT public housing stock. Full rent was being paid for 388 of these dwellings, some form of rebated rent for 858 dwellings, and 80 dwellings were vacant. In 1998–99 there were 606 applications for public housing in the region, with a waiting list of 351 at 30 June 1999. In Central Region, 47.3% of applicants for public housing waited less than six months and 30.2% between six to twelve months (refer to table 2.4).

TRANSPORT

At 30 June 1999 there were 6,883 kilometres of roads managed by the Department of Transport and Works across Central Region (34.4% of managed roads in the NT), with 75.7% of these being local roads. Of the local roads in the region, 76.8% were either formed or flat bladed (as opposed to sealed or gravel roads) (refer to table 5.4).

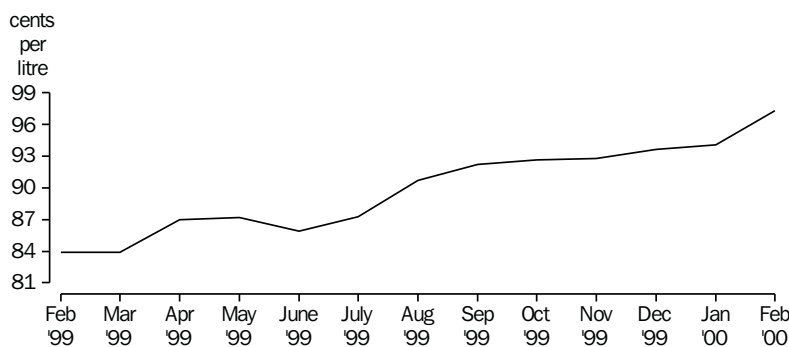
ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

In 1998 Central Region recorded 344 road traffic accidents or 14.7% of the total for NT. Of these 21.5% were the result of vehicles overturning and 17.2% were angle collisions. Central Region recorded 22 fatalities and 273 injuries for the year 1998, with the majority of dead or injured being male (63.6% and 61.2% respectively). For every 10,000 persons in Central Region there were 93.2 road traffic accidents, 6.0 fatalities and 74.0 injuries (refer to tables 5.5 and 5.6).

PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)

In February 2000 the average price for unleaded petrol in Alice Springs was 97.3 cents per litre. Unleaded petrol prices had averaged above 90 cents in Alice Springs since August 1999, in Tennant Creek from September 1999, and in Katherine and Darwin from February 2000 (refer to table 5.7).

7.1 AVERAGE PETROL PRICES (UNLEADED)—ALICE SPRINGS



Source: Australian Automobile Association.

TOURISM

In 1998–99 a total of 1.3 million people visited the NT. Approximately 39% of these visited the Top End, with 50% visiting Central Region, 20% visiting Katherine Region, and 10% visiting Barkly Region. On average visitors stayed 6.5 nights in the Top End compared with 3.7 nights in Central Region, 2.9 nights in Katherine Region and 1.9 nights in Barkly Region.

In the NT, 60.1% of all visitor nights were due to interstate visitors, 27.4% to overseas visitors, and 12.5% to visitors from within the NT. Interstate visitors accounted for 55.5% of visitor nights in Central Region, whereas intrastate visitors accounted for 29.7% of all visitor nights in Katherine Region.

7.2 TOURISM, VISITOR PROFILE—1998–99

	Unit	Top End(a)					Total
		Darwin SD and Environs	Total Top End	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	
Number of visitors(b)							
Intra-territory visitors	'000	99	140	60	15	48	250
Interstate visitors	'000	214	244	133	87	290	596
International visitors	'000	84	118	63	23	299	434
All visitors	'000	396	503	256	126	637	1 280
Proportion of total	%	31	39	20	10	50	100
Visitors nights							
Intra-territory visitors	'000	319	420	221	37	148	827
Interstate visitors	'000	1 875	2 110	394	166	1 311	3 981
International visitors	'000	584	747	127	36	905	1 816
All visitors	'000	2 778	3 278	743	239	2 364	6 623
Proportion of total	%	42	49	11	4	36	100
Visitors nights by purpose(c)							
Holiday/recreation	%	n.a.	68	77	71	80	74
Business	%	n.a.	17	8	9	8	12
Visit friends or relatives	%	n.a.	5	5	7	3	4
Other	%	n.a.	11	10	13	9	10
Average length of stay	days	n.a.	6.5	2.9	1.9	3.7	5.2

(a) Top End combines Darwin Statistical Division and Environs, Darwin Region Balance and East Arnhem Region. Other regions approximate Australian Bureau of Statistics regions.

(b) Regions add to more than total, and percentages to over 100, as visitors may visit more than one region.

(c) Based on commercial accommodation visitors only.

Source: Northern Territory Tourist Commission.

The majority of visitors to the Top End and Central Region travelled into the NT by air (68% and 62% respectively), while visitors to Barkly and Katherine Regions preferred to drive themselves (77% and 44% respectively).

While visiting in the NT, self-drive vehicle was the most popular form of transport, particularly in Barkly (86%) and Katherine Regions (71%). Central Region visitors preferred either coach or self drive (39% and 38% respectively).

7.3 TOURISM, TRANSPORTATION—1998–99

	Unit	Top End(a)					Total
		Darwin SD and Environs	Total Top End	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	
Main transport to Northern Territory(b)(c)							
Air	%	n.a.	68	38	16	62	61
Coach	%	n.a.	4	12	3	9	8
Self drive	%	n.a.	27	44	77	21	25
Other	%	n.a.	1	6	5	7	6
Main transport within Northern Territory(b)(c)							
Air	%	n.a.	9	2	1	11	9
Coach	%	n.a.	20	20	8	39	30
Self drive	%	n.a.	54	71	86	38	48
Other	%	n.a.	17	7	5	13	14

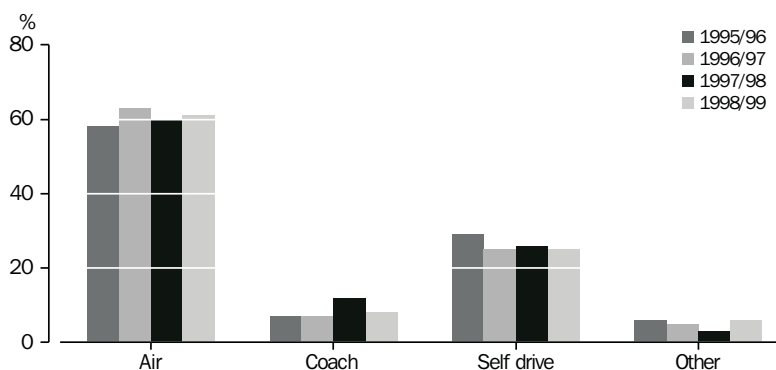
(a) Top End combines Darwin Statistical Division and Environs, Darwin Region Balance and East Arnhem Region. Other regions approximate Australian Bureau of Statistics regions.

(b) Regions add to more than total, and percentages to over 100, as visitors may visit more than one region.

(c) Based on commercial accommodation visitors only.

Source: Northern Territory Tourist Commission.

7.4 VISITORS, MAIN TRANSPORT TO NT—1995–1999



Source: Northern Territory Tourism Commission.

In 1998–99 the total visitor expenditure in the NT was \$763.1 million, with the majority of expenditure in the Top End (47%) and Central Region (42%). On average, visitors to Central Region spent more per visitor night than in the other regions.

7.5 TOURISM, EXPENDITURE—1998–99

	Unit	Top End(a)					Total
		Darwin SD and Environs	Total Top End	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	
Expenditure							
Intra-territory visitors	\$m	32.6	40.2	10.2	2.7	14.1	67.2
Interstate visitors	\$m	187	211.9	41	18.5	156.6	428
International visitors	\$m	83.7	103	15.1	3.3	146.6	267.9
All visitors	\$m	303.3	355.1	66.3	24.5	317.2	763.1
Proportion of total(b)	%	40	47	9	3	42	100
Average expenditure per visitor night(b)							
Accommodation	\$	n.a.	27.82	17.27	19.50	35.71	29.15
Food/beverages	\$	n.a.	20.09	16.03	20.10	25.50	21.57
Pleasure shopping	\$	n.a.	10.18	3.75	8.40	10.74	9.59
Transport and tours in Northern Territory	\$	n.a.	21.18	29.42	35.96	34.14	27.27
Total (includes Other)	\$	n.a.	108.33	89.23	102.51	134.18	115.22

(a) Top End combines Darwin SD and Environs, Darwin Region Balance and East Arnhem Region. Other regions approximate Australian Bureau of Statistics regions.

(b) Regions add to more than total, and percentages to over 100, as visitors may visit more than one region.

(c) Based on commercial accommodation visitors only.

Source: Northern Territory Travel Monitor 1998/99, Northern Territory Tourist Commission.

EDUCATION

Secondary In August 1999 there were 48 schools operating in Central Region, 39 government schools and nine non-government schools. There were 8,214 students enrolled to attend school in the region (7.6% at preschool, 63.5% at primary school, and 19.8% at secondary school). At August 1999 there were 722 teaching staff in Central Region, which represented one teacher for every 11.4 students. The attendance rate for Central Region was lower than the average attendance rate for NT (73.5% compared to 78.8%) (refer to table 3.1).

Higher education Of the 2,149 Northern Territory University enrolments for the NT, 137 (6.4%) were from Central Region. Central Region had the second highest proportion of female enrolments (73.0%) with Katherine Region recording the highest (79.4%) (refer to table 3.2).

Vocational education and training In 1998, 16,067 clients registered with the vocational education and training program in the NT. Of these, 4,170 (26.0%) were from Central Region (refer to table 3.4).

HEALTH

There were 160 available public hospital beds in Central Region in 1998–99, 28.3% of the NT total of 565 beds. The bed utilisation rate in the region was 78%, the second highest rate after Darwin Region. There were 10,218 hospital separations in the region during 1998–99, 27.8% of the NT total.

HEALTH *continued*

The two categories of notifiable diseases with the highest number of notifications in Central Region were sexually transmitted diseases (1,030 notifications) and gastrointestinal diseases (343). The most frequently notified sexually transmitted diseases in the region were gonococcal disease (48.3%) and chlamydia (31.9%). There were 79 notifications of vaccine preventable diseases in the region, 46.2% of all the notifications in NT. Forty-five of these were for pneumococcal disease (refer to tables 5.9 and 5.10).

POLICING

Police staff In 1999, there were 147 police officers and 12 aboriginal community officers in Central Region, which represented 39 police officers for every 10,000 persons.

7.6 POLICE STAFF, 1999

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Police officers(a)	no.	444	25	26	65	29	147	736
Police officer rate per 10,000 population	no.	42.0	20.1	19.8	37.4	42.4	39.3	38.2
Aboriginal community police officers	no.	3	7	8	12	7	12	49

(a) See Glossary.

Source: NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

Selected incidents Of the 990 reports of unlawful use of motor vehicles in the NT in 1999, 162 (16.4%) were in Central Region, with the majority in Darwin Statistical Division (SD) and Environs. Central Region was also responsible for 16.5% of unlawful entries into buildings and 10.5% of unlawful entries into dwellings. In 1999, 19.7% of sexual assaults and 28.4% of other assaults were reported in Central Region.

7.7 SELECTED OFFENCES AND INCIDENTS, 1999(a)

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Against Property								
Unlawful use of a motor vehicle								
Incidents	no.	708	18	29	58	15	162	990
Offences	no.	728	18	30	61	17	172	1 026
Offence ratio	no.	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Interference with a motor vehicle								
Incidents	no.	2 433	26	19	87	20	176	2 761
Offences	no.	2 519	31	19	94	20	201	2 884
Offence ratio	no.	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0
Theft from a motor vehicle								
Incidents	no.	2 054	76	70	286	127	612	3 225
Offences	no.	2 077	78	121	286	129	623	3 314
Offence ratio	no.	1.0	1.0	1.7	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Bicycle theft								
Incidents	no.	716	7	18	48	11	114	914
Offences	no.	776	7	18	48	11	120	980
Offence ratio	no.	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1
Unlawful entry in buildings(b)								
Incidents	no.	1 017	56	79	174	92	280	1 698
Offences	no.	1 056	56	90	179	96	287	1 764
Offence ratio	no.	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Unlawful entry in dwellings								
Incidents	no.	2 282	39	42	194	81	309	2 947
Offences	no.	2 306	39	42	205	87	314	2 993
Offence ratio	no.	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0
Other theft(c)								
Incidents	no.	4 748	108	120	596	180	1 105	6 857
Offences	no.	4 968	111	123	964	189	1 191	7 546
Offence ratio	no.	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.1
Against the person								
Assault								
Incidents	no.	1 130	91	72	320	179	710	2 502
Offences	no.	1 238	107	86	358	185	899	2 873
Offence ratio	no.	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.1
Sexual assault								
Incidents	no.	88	8	5	11	14	31	157
Offences	no.	91	8	5	14	16	34	168
Offence ratio	no.	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1

(a) See Glossary.

(b) Includes non-dwelling buildings.

(c) Excludes motor vehicle theft and unlawful entry with intent (taking of property and other).

Source: NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

Protective custodies and apprehensions

In 1999, 12,467 protective custodies were recorded for all regions, with the highest number being reported in Katherine Region (3,694 or 29.6%). A total of 10,498 apprehensions were made in the NT, 36.5% in Darwin SD and Environs and 28.4% in Central Region. The juvenile apprehension rate in Central Region was 9.7%, the lowest for the NT.

7.8 PROTECTIVE CUSTODIES AND APPREHENSIONS, 1999

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Protective custodies								
Male	no.	1 935	72	1 732	2 574	764	2 159	9 236
Female	no.	567	19	633	1 120	198	694	3 231
Persons	no.	2 502	91	2 365	3 694	962	2 853	12 467
Proportion of total	%	20.1	0.7	19.0	29.6	7.7	22.9	100.0
Apprehensions								
Adult	no.	3 138	598	441	1 455	563	2 693	8 981
Juvenile(a)	no.	698	129	109	186	107	288	1 517
Total(b)	no.	3 836	727	550	1 641	670	2 981	10 498
Juvenile rate	%	18.2	17.7	19.8	11.3	16.0	9.7	14.5
Proportion of total	%	36.5	6.9	5.2	15.6	6.4	28.4	100.0

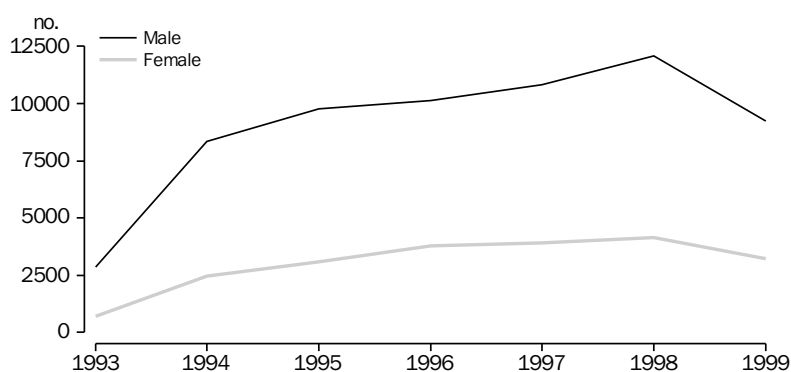
(a) See Glossary.

(b) Total includes unknown category.

Source: NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

In the year to 1994 there was a sharp increase in the number of persons taken into protective custody in the NT. From 1994 to 1998 the number of males in protective custody rose from 8,345 to 12,085. A similar pattern occurred with the number of females in protective custody for the same period (2,459 in 1994 to 4,133 in 1998).

7.9 PROTECTIVE CUSTODIES BY SEX—NT—1993–1999



Source: NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

Traffic infringement notices and traffic offences During 1998–99, 12,141 traffic infringement notices were issued in the NT. Of these 1,820 (15.0%) were issued in Central Region. One third of the traffic offences in Central Region were for speeding and 38.1% were for failure to comply with seat belt laws.

7.10 TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENT NOTICES AND TRAFFIC OFFENCES, 1998–99(a)

	Unit	Darwin SD and Environs	Darwin Region Balance	East Arnhem Region	Katherine Region	Barkly Region	Central Region	Total
Traffic infringement notices								
Issued	no.	8 221	361	164	1 203	372	1 820	12 141
Offences	no.	8 891	385	182	1 331	392	1 954	13 135
Offence ratio	no.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Traffic infringement notices issued per 10,000 population(a)	no.	777.5	290.7	125.1	692.3	543.5	486.7	629.5
Traffic offences								
Speeding(b)	no.	5 023	218	91	574	247	658	6 811
Fail to comply seatbelt	no.	1 284	102	55	319	77	753	2 590
Failure to obey traffic device	no.	593	8	0	42	3	88	734
Unroadworthy vehicle	no.	59	0	0	20	2	12	93
Drink drive 0.05–0.08%(c)	no.	77	1	3	13	2	17	113
Other(d)	no.	1 888	57	35	364	80	446	2 870
Total	no.	8 924	386	184	1 332	411	1 974	13 211

(a) See Glossary.

(b) Excludes speed camera infringements.

(c) From 1 December 1994, a reading between 0.05–0.08% became an offence, dealt with by an infringement notice.

(d) Includes all other traffic offences.

Source: NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

RACING, GAMING AND LICENSING

Gaming At 30 June 1999, the NT had 60 venues with 590 gaming machines, with Central Region having 11 venues and 104 gaming machines. Central Region generated \$3 million in expenditure, 12.3% of the total for the NT. The per capita expenditure for persons aged 18 years and over for Central Region in 1998–99 was \$120.15. Government revenue from gaming generated in the Central Region during 1998–99 was \$1.4 million (refer to table 2.13).

Liquor In 1998–99 Central Region had 105 (24.5%) of the 429 liquor outlets in the NT. In the 5 years to 1998–99 the number of litres purchased per capita in Central Region was around 19 litres, the second highest of the regions after Katherine (around 20 litres) (refer to table 2.14). Almost one-third (32) of the restricted areas in the NT are in Central Region, with 17 of these in the Tanami SLA.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
FINANCE

In 1997–98 there were 21 local government organisations in Central Region. Alice Springs Town Council had revenue of \$13.1 million for the year, with expenditure of \$13.8 million. Of the five Community Government Councils in Central Region, Ltyentye Purte had the highest revenue (\$5.0 million) and expenditure (\$5.8 million). Of the Incorporated Associations, Aputula Housing Association had the highest revenue and expenditure for the region (\$4.5 million and \$5.1 million respectively).

7.11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, 1997–98

<i>Central Region</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Revenue</i>			<i>Expenditure</i>		
		<i>Grants</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
Municipality							
Alice Springs Town Council	\$'000	3 181.1	9 884.3	13 065.5	11 317.0	2 455.1	13 772.1
Community Government Councils							
Anmatjere	\$'000	969.0	574.6	1 543.6	1 079.2	1 515.3	2 594.5
Ltyentye Purte	\$'000	3 107.4	1 917.5	5 024.9	5 787.0	41.3	5 828.3
Wallace Rockhole	\$'000	878.9	386.9	1 265.8	1 460.2	223.7	1 684.0
Watiyawanu	\$'000	575.7	113.9	689.6	1 135.1	321.9	1 456.9
Yuendumu	\$'000	3 209.5	230.0	3 439.4	3 324.5	607.5	3 932.0
Incorporated Associations							
Aherrenge	\$'000	969.7	119.0	1 088.7	1 446.0	1 066.5	2 512.5
Amoonguna	\$'000	425.3	62.5	487.8	475.8	95.7	571.4
Aputula Housing Association	\$'000	2 247.5	2 271.3	4 518.8	4 363.2	740.6	5 103.8
Areyonga	\$'000	730.4	264.6	995.1	816.6	402.9	1 219.5
Ikuntji	\$'000	770.4	285.6	1 056.0	676.0	0.0	676.0
Imanpa	\$'000	476.6	61.6	538.1	490.8	119.9	610.7
Kaltukatjara	\$'000	1 148.7	246.7	1 395.4	1 063.9	590.7	1 654.6
Ntaria	\$'000	1 534.8	376.1	1 910.8	2 161.6	660.9	2 822.4
Nyirmpi	\$'000	419.2	316.8	736.0	1 033.5	296.8	1 330.2
Papunya	\$'000	457.4	293.7	751.2	844.2	62.8	907.0
Titjikala	\$'000	1 293.3	270.8	1 564.1	1 009.1	1 185.3	2 194.4
Urapuntja	\$'000	483.6	99.9	583.5	920.4	301.9	1 222.3
Walungurru	\$'000	1 029.8	165.4	1 195.2	1 266.7	1.0	1 267.7
Willowra	\$'000	1 528.1	386.5	1 914.6	2 223.1	375.0	2 598.2
Yuelamu	\$'000	1 624.7	71.9	1 696.6	1 677.9	577.0	2 254.8

Source: NT Department of Local Government.

7.12 CENTRAL REGION

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Alice Springs (T)</i>	<i>Petermann</i>	<i>Sandover - Balance</i>	<i>Tanami</i>	Total
Area	sq km	424	167 896	136 464	241 788	546 572
Population						
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1999p	no.	25 557	2 408	2 604	6 828	37 397
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1998	no.	25 515	2 317	2 483	6 584	36 899
Annual growth rate 1998 to 1999	%	0.2	3.9	4.9	3.7	1.3
Estimated resident population at 30 June 1994	no.	24 354	2 273	2 263	5 952	34 842
Annual growth rate 1994 to 1999(a)	%	1	1.2	2.8	2.8	1.4
Age range of population 30 June 1998p(b)						
0-4 years	no.	2 247	197	353	546	3 343
5-14 years	no.	4 383	251	581	1 386	6 601
15-44 years	no.	13 520	1 384	1 144	3 530	19 578
45-64 years	no.	4 509	394	325	884	6 112
65 years and over	no.	863	92	81	240	1 276
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>25 522</i>	<i>2 318</i>	<i>2 484</i>	<i>6 586</i>	36 910
Dependency rate	no.	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.4
Median age, Census 1996(c)	no.	29	26	22	23	27
Births 1998(d)	no.	465	33	90	118	706
Deaths 1998(d)	no.	109	10	18	39	176
Indigenous population, Census 1996(e)(f)						
Age range of population						
0-4 years	no.	458	108	278	608	1 452
5-14 years	no.	883	192	444	1 271	2 790
15-44 years	no.	1 872	429	882	2 706	5 889
45-64 years	no.	418	128	196	659	1 401
65 years and over	no.	119	45	64	203	431
<i>Total</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>3 750</i>	<i>902</i>	<i>1 864</i>	<i>5 447</i>	11 963
Dependency rate	no.	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6
Building approvals, 1999(g)						
New dwelling units approved	no.	111	7	13	58	189
Value of new residential buildings approved	\$'000	12 876	1 073	1 471	7 951	23 371
Proportion of NT value of new dwellings approved	%	5.5	0.5	0.6	3.4	10.0
Value of non-residential buildings approved	\$'000	20 730	7 881	672	645	29 928
Proportion of NT value of non-residential building approvals	%	15.5	5.9	0.5	0.5	22.4
Value of all buildings approved(h)	\$'000	36 837	9 113	2 273	8 806	57 029
Proportion of NT value of all buildings approved	%	9.3	2.3	0.6	2.2	14.3
Labour force, DEWRSB(i), Dec qtr 1999						
Employed persons	no.	14 081	1 846	801	1 683	18 411
Unemployed persons	no.	600	154	89	227	1 070
Persons in the labour force	no.	14 681	2 000	890	1 910	19 481
Unemployment rate	%	4.1	7.7	10.0	11.9	5.5
Gaming, 30 June 1999						
Licensed gaming venues	no.	10	1	0	0	11
Gaming machines	no.	98	6	0	0	104
Liquor, 30 June 1999						
Restricted areas	no.	0	5	10	17	32

(a) Average annual growth rate.

(b) Based on 1998 ERP preliminary figures.

(c) Median age of usual residence population only.

(d) Data refers to births and deaths registered in the calendar year 1998.

(e) Excludes overseas visitors.

(f) Data have been randomised to ensure confidentiality of information.

(g) Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component item and totals shown.

(h) Includes alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(i) See Glossary.

Source: ABS, unpublished data, Building Approvals, 1999; ABS unpublished data, Census 1996; Demography, Northern Territory, 1998 (Cat. no. 3311.7); Population by Age and Sex, Northern Territory, 30 June 1998 (Cat. no. 3235.7); Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99 (Cat. no. 3218.0); Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 1999 (Cat. no. 1362.7); Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business, (Cat. no. 96 25208), DEWRSB Canberra, December quarter 1999; NT Department of Industries and Business.

GLOSSARY

Agriculture	Number of establishments, area of agricultural holdings, and livestock numbers are produced from the annual ABS Agricultural Survey. The scope of the survey is establishments with an estimated value of agricultural operations of \$5,000 or more.
Ashmore and Cartier Islands	Tenements in the Ashmore and Cartier Islands are administered by the Northern Territory Department of Mines and Energy. Therefore all petroleum exploration expenditure in this area has been included with Northern Territory data.
Births and deaths	Births and deaths relate to all registrations of such events which occurred within Australia, irrespective of State of registration, where the usual residence was within the Northern Territory. Births are allocated to a statistical local area according to the usual residence of the mother, and deaths are allocated according to the usual residence of the deceased (infant deaths are generally assigned to the usual residence of the mother).
Building statistics	Statistics of building work approved are compiled from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ permits issued by licensed Private Building Certifiers or the Building Branch, NT Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, in areas subject to building control by those authorities;■ contracts let or day labour work authorised by Commonwealth, State, semi-government and local government authorities;■ major building activity in areas not subject to the normal administrative approval processes (e.g. building on remote mine sites).
Census of Population and Housing 1996	<p>A Census of Population and Housing was conducted by ABS on 6 August 1996. The objective of each Census is to measure accurately the number and key characteristics of people in Australia on Census night, and the dwellings in which they live. Data based on where people were on Census night are referred to as place of enumeration counts.</p> <p>Place of usual residence counts are derived from place of enumeration counts after adjustments for temporary visitors are made based on the census question about the "...address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of six months or more in 1996". Adjustments have also been made for residents temporarily absent (but counted elsewhere in Australia) but not for incomplete or imperfect counting.</p>
Commencing student	A student who has enrolled in a particular course for the first time at the institution or an antecedent institution on a day subsequent to the reference date of the previous year but not later than the reference date of the current year.

DEWRSB small area labour force estimates

DEWRSB has implemented a procedure for deriving small area labour market estimates, based on the Structure Preserving Estimation (SPREE) methodology. The purpose of SPREE is to produce estimates that reflect the regional disparities of Centrelink data, while being consistent with ABS Labour Force Survey estimates. There are two assumptions made in applying the SPREE methodology. First, it is assumed that recipients of unemployment benefits are uniformly distributed within postcodes. Second, it is assumed that there have been no changes to postcode and SLA boundaries since the *1996 Census of Population and Housing*. The reliability of these estimates compared with the census estimates has been found to vary with the size of the population in small area regions, and these estimates should be treated with caution.

Estimated resident population

The estimated resident population (ERP) is the official ABS estimate of the Australian population. ERP is compiled according to place of usual residence of the population. The ERP for 30 June 1996 is based on results of the Census of Population and Housing held on 6 August 1996. Census usual residence data are adjusted for under-enumeration and for the number of residents overseas at the time of the Census, then ERP is calculated by using the numbers of births, deaths, and estimates of interstate and overseas migration.

Commencing with ERP figures based on the 1996 Census, the ABS has decided to cease publishing ERP for Off-Shore and Migratory SLAs and to redistribute that population across the other SLAs in that State or Territory.

To meet the demand for accuracy and timeliness there are two estimates of resident population. Preliminary estimates are available seven months after the reference date and revised estimates are available a year later. The estimates in this publication are preliminary for 1999 and revised for 1998.

Experimental projections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

Experimental estimates of the Indigenous population as at 30 June 1996 are used as the base population for projections of the Indigenous population to 30 June 2006. A low and high projection series have been generated, and respectively imply a low and high overall growth rate of the Indigenous population. The low series uses a nil change in propensity to identify assumption based on the premise that the Indigenous population (as recorded in the 1996 Census) will only change as a result of natural increase. The high series uses a change in propensity to identify assumption based on the increase in the Indigenous population observed between the 1991 and 1996 Censuses which cannot be attributed to natural increase. For further details see *Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population, 30 June 1996 to 30 June 2006 (ABS Cat.no 3231.0)*.

Fatality

Where a person is killed outright or dies within 30 days of being involved in a motor vehicle accident, and their death was directly attributed to injuries sustained in the accident. (Source: Road Safety Council of the Northern Territory).

Government financial estimates Due to changes associated with the move to an accrual accounting framework, data from 1998–99 onwards have been compiled on a different methodological basis to that of previous years. Data prior to 1998–99 are not directly comparable with the data for 1998–99 onwards.

Home address region The location that the student nominates as his/her permanent home residence. For simplification, the addresses have been categorized by postcode into regions within the Northern Territory, states of Australia or overseas.

Incidents A criminal incident consists of one or more offences (and their related victims and offenders) which are grouped into the same unique occurrence if they are committed by the same person or group of persons and if:

- they are part of actions committed simultaneously or in sequence over a short period of time at the same place; or
- they are part of interrelated actions; that is, where one action leads to the other or where one is the consequences of the other(s); or
- they involve the same action(s) repeated over a long period of time against the same victim(s) and come to the attention of the police at one point in time.

Indigenous population counts ABS produces ‘experimental’ estimates of the Indigenous population. These estimates are known as experimental in that the standard approach to population estimation is not possible because satisfactory data on births, deaths and internal migration are not generally available. Estimates are derived using the Census place of usual residence counts as a base and adjusting figures to take into account the following factors:

- persons recorded as Indigenous whose parents were born overseas;
- non-response to the census question on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin;
- net Census undercount; and
- registered births.

Users need to be careful when using Census counts and ERP figures together. The 1996 Census count of Indigenous people was 46,150 and the ERP at 30 June 1996 was 51,876, some 12.1% higher. Users may wish to take this into account when interpreting Census characteristics data. Census data are not adjusted for under enumeration or other factors used to calculate ERP. Indigenous ERP data are presented in Chapter 1 of this publication, while Census counts of Indigenous people are presented in Chapters 2 to 7.

Injury Where a person sustained some degree of injury as a direct result of a motor vehicle accident. The three levels of injury in the Northern Territory are:

- treated and admitted to hospital
- treated but not admitted to hospital
- injured but did not seek treatment.

Juvenile apprehensions A juvenile offender refers to persons under 17 years of age at the time of being processed for committing criminal offences.

Labour force status Labour force status identifies whether a person aged 15 years or over is employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.

Employed—includes those people who, during the reference period, worked for payment or profit; who had a job from which they were on leave or were otherwise temporarily absent; were on strike or stood down temporarily; or worked as unpaid helpers in a family business. CDEP participants are classified as employed in the labour force.

Unemployed—includes people who did not have a job but were actively looking for work (either full-time or part-time) and were available to start work.

Not in the labour force—includes people aged 15 years or more who were not employed or unemployed as defined above. This category includes people who were retired, pensioners and people engaged in home duties.

Medians A median is a measure of central tendency. It is a mid-value which divides a population distribution into two, with half the observations falling below it and half above. Unlike averages (means), medians are not usually skewed by extreme observations.

**Northern Territory
Education and Training
Authority** Information has been extracted from data collected as part of the Northern Territory Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard Data Collection for 1998. This data includes data from public providers and private providers. Adult and Community Education data has been excluded. Northern Territory region has been assigned according to the client's residential postcode except where the postcode was 0822. Where the postcode was 0822, the postcode of the location at which the client received the most hours of training has been used to assign the Northern Territory region. When the postcode of the training location was 0822, Northern Territory region was assigned by looking at the training location name. The name of a community was coded to the Northern Territory region of the community. If the location name did not specify a community then the location of the main office of the training provider was used to assign the Northern Territory region. Individual clients are only

**Northern Territory
Education and Training
Authority** *continued*

counted once, irrespective of the number of courses or modules in which they are enrolled.

The residential locations of interstate, overseas and unknown have not been included in these figures.

Notifiable diseases

Diseases notifiable in the NT have been categorised as shown below. Note that diseases for which there were no notifications in 1999 are included below.

Bloodborne diseases—include Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C (incidence), Hepatitis C (prevalence), Hepatitis D, Hepatitis E, HIV, and HTLV1

Gastrointestinal diseases—include Botulism, Campylobacter, Hepatitis A, Listeriosis, Salmonella, Shigella, Typhoid, Yersiniosis, Gastroenteritis, Rotavirus, and Amoebiasis.

Sexually transmitted diseases—include Chancroid, Chlamydia, Donovanosis, Gonococcal Disease, Gonococcal Conjunct., Lymphogranuloma venereum, Syphilis, and Congenital Syphilis.

Vaccine preventable diseases—include Diphtheria, Haemophilus inf type b, Measles, Meningococcal Infection, Pertussis, Poliomyelitis, Rubella, and Congenital Rubella Syndrome.

Vectorborne diseases—include Barmah Forest Virus, Ross River Virus, Dengue, Malaria, Kunjin Virus, Typhus, and Australian Encephalitis (MVE)

Other notifiable diseases—include quarantinable diseases (Cholera, Viral Haemorrhagic Fever), zoonoses (Brucellosis, Leptospirosis, Hydatid Disease) and Legionellosis, Leprosy, Tuberculosis, Acute Rheumatic Fever, Glomerulonephritis and Adverse Vaccine Reactions.

Number of employees

Includes all wage and salary earners (permanent, temporary, casual, managerial and executive) who received pay for any part of the relevant pay period.

Occupied private dwellings

Premises occupied by the household on census night. Private dwellings include all houses, flats, units, apartments, caravans and other improvised types of dwellings. Occupied caravans in parks are counted as occupied private dwellings. Non-private dwellings include motels, prisons, welfare institutions, hospitals, retirement villages, boarding schools, etc.

Offence

An offence is an act considered prima facie to be in breach of the criminal law.

Other Territories	Following the 1992 amendments to the Acts Interpretation Act to include the Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and the Coco (Keeling) Islands as part of geographic Australia, population estimates commencing from September quarter 1993 include estimates for these two territories. To reflect this change, another category of State and Territory level has been created, known as Other Territories. Other Territories include Jervis Bay Territory, previously included in Australian Capital Territory, as well as Christmas Island and The Cocos (Keeling) Islands, previously excluded from population estimates for Australia. Data for Other Territories, while not detailed separately, are included in Australia totals commencing from September quarter 1993.
Participation rate	The labour force participation rate is the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate is calculated excluding persons who did not state their labour force status.
Police officers	These figures are based on actual numbers as at 31 December 1999, the Commissioner of Police is not included in the total figure.
Random adjustment of Census data	Census data cells with counts of 1 or 2 are randomly adjusted to 0 or 3 to avoid releasing information about particular individuals, families or households. The effect of random adjustment is statistically insignificant.
Road traffic accident	A road traffic accident is an unpremeditated event which results in property damage or the death of/or injury to, a person, and is attributable to the movement of a vehicle on a public road (including vehicles entering or leaving a public road).
Road works expenditure	Maintenance work—includes repair work done to a road to take it back to its original servicing level, before wear and tear, regardless of the cost of such work. For example, maintenance work includes resurfacing roads, replacing paving, etc. Minor works and Capital works—includes any work that goes towards improving or increasing the service offered by a road. An example of this is upgrading from a gravel to a sealed road, or increasing the width of a road or the number of lanes, etc. Works are considered capital works when the value of this work is \$100,000 or over and minor works when the value is under \$100,000.
Rounding	Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals shown.
Secondary aged students	Students may only be regarded as secondary-aged students if either of the following criteria applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the school provides secondary-aged facilities which the students uses most of the time; or ■ a secondary-aged course is conducted at the school (with or without secondary-aged facilities) and the student attends such a course.

Separation	The term used to refer to the episode of care, which can be a total hospital stay (from admission to discharge, transfer or death), or a portion of an hospital stay beginning or ending in a change of type of care (for example, from acute to rehabilitation). 'Separation' also means the process by which an admitted patient completes an episode of care by being discharged, dying, transferring to another hospital or changing type of care.
Traffic infringement notices	Each traffic infringement notice may have more than one offence associated with it.
Traffic offences	<p>These figures represent total offences, they are not a unique count, as one infringement may contain more than one offence.</p> <p>The figures do not include Speed Camera infringements.</p> <p>From 1 December 1994, a blood alcohol reading between 0.05–0.08% became an offence and is dealt with by an infringement notice.</p> <p>Due to changes within offence coding, please note that the figures may vary to previously published 1998–99 Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services Annual Report figures. The figures have been revised from the previously published figures.</p>
Unemployment rate	The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force.
Ungraded students	Ungraded students are students that are in special units for students with special needs such as intensive English units.
Visitor	The Northern Territory Tourist Commission defines a visitor as someone who has travelled at least 40 kilometres from their usual place of residence and who will spend at least one night away from home. Also, to be included the trip must be short-term. A short-term trip is defined as at least one night but less than 90 nights spent in the NT.
Visitor expenditure	The estimates of visitor expenditure are based on the amounts visitors say they have spent while in the NT. Thus, the expenditure is a direct expenditure estimate only.
Visitor night	Estimates of visitor nights take into account the total number of nights people spend in the NT. For example, if a family of four spends ten nights in the Territory this family represents four visitors and forty visitor nights.
Vocational education and training	Client figures refer to the number of individuals enrolled in courses or modules with each client being counted only once regardless of the number of courses or modules they may be enrolled in. Course enrolment figures exclude students enrolled in module only activity. Students enrolled in more than one course are counted more than once in course enrolment figures. (Refer to Northern Territory Education and Training Authority).
Weighted separation	An average measure of resource consumption using admitted patient episodes in hospital.

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