

## 5. AREA HEALTH SERVICES

Information on the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers and mothers born in non-English speaking countries is shown in Chapters 7 and 8 respectively.

### Confinements

The largest numbers of mothers who gave birth in 2006 were resident in the Sydney South West Area (20,426, 22.4 per cent), followed by the Sydney West Area (17,210, 18.8 per cent) and the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra (15,020, 16.4 per cent) Area (Table 20).

### Maternal age

The proportion of women giving birth at less than 20 years of age varied from 1.6 per cent in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area to 8.9 per cent in the Greater Western Area, while the proportion of mothers giving birth at 35 years of age or more ranged from 13.1 per cent in the Greater Western Area to 31.4 per cent in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area (Table 20).

### Maternal country of birth

Seventy-nine per cent of women who gave birth in NSW in 2006 were born in English speaking countries, 11.7 per cent were born in Asian countries, and 4.6 per cent were born in the Middle East or Africa (Table 21). The highest proportions of mothers born in non-English speaking countries were in the Sydney South West and Sydney West Areas. In the Sydney South West Area, the majority of mothers born in non-English speaking countries were born in South East Asia, and the Middle East and Africa. In the Sydney West Area, the most common maternal countries of birth were in the Middle East and Africa, and in Southern Asia.

### Maternal Aboriginality

In 2006, 2.9 per cent of mothers were reported to be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (Table 22). The proportion of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander mothers varied from 0.7 per cent in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area to 13.8 per cent in the Greater Western Area.

**TABLE 20**

**MATERNAL AGE AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006**

Health Area	Maternal age (years)																TOTAL	No.	%
	12-19		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45 +		Not stated				
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			
Sydney South West	602	2.9	2786	13.6	5729	28.0	6859	33.6	3707	18.1	702	3.4	34	0.2	7	0.0	20426	100.0	
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	326	2.2	1388	9.2	3669	24.4	5769	38.4	3208	21.4	622	4.1	34	0.2	4	0.0	15020	100.0	
Sydney West	642	3.7	2739	15.9	5278	30.7	5519	32.1	2543	14.8	464	2.7	21	0.1	4	0.0	17210	100.0	
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	228	1.6	1044	7.4	2897	20.5	5533	39.1	3727	26.4	677	4.8	31	0.2	2	0.0	14139	100.0	
Hunter and New England	683	6.5	1893	17.9	3081	29.1	3181	30.1	1460	13.8	259	2.4	16	0.2	6	0.1	10579	100.0	
North Coast	361	7.1	1054	20.7	1368	26.8	1420	27.8	748	14.7	137	2.7	10	0.2	2	0.0	5100	100.0	
Greater Southern	246	6.1	837	20.6	1148	28.3	1134	27.9	580	14.3	106	2.6	8	0.2	0	0.0	4059	100.0	
Greater Western	359	8.9	836	20.6	1149	28.4	1151	28.4	438	10.8	85	2.1	7	0.2	27	0.7	4052	100.0	
Other – not stated	24	3.3	109	14.9	234	32.1	219	30.0	115	15.8	21	2.9	2	0.3	6	0.8	730	100.0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3471</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>12686</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>24553</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>30785</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>16526</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>3073</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>91315</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

**TABLE 21****MATERNAL COUNTRY OF BIRTH AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006#**

Health Area	Country of birth group																					
	English speaking		Central and South America		Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia		Southern Europe		Western and Northern Europe		Eastern Europe, Russia, Central Asian and Baltic States		Middle East and Africa		South East Asia		North East Asia		Southern Asia		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	12614	62.1	292	1.4	673	3.3	418	2.1	141	0.7	140	0.7	2030	10.0	2363	11.6	897	4.4	748	3.7	20316	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	11964	80.7	175	1.2	126	0.8	219	1.5	180	1.2	149	1.0	456	3.1	645	4.3	650	4.4	266	1.8	14830	100.0
Sydney West	11833	69.0	115	0.7	533	3.1	138	0.8	74	0.4	114	0.7	1379	8.0	969	5.6	682	4.0	1323	7.7	17160	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	11639	82.6	137	1.0	94	0.7	92	0.7	210	1.5	126	0.9	226	1.6	470	3.3	774	5.5	321	2.3	14089	100.0
Hunter and New England	10150	96.1	17	0.2	48	0.5	20	0.2	44	0.4	16	0.2	49	0.5	115	1.1	61	0.6	40	0.4	10560	100.0
North Coast	4891	96.2	11	0.2	15	0.3	3	0.1	37	0.7	5	0.1	28	0.6	54	1.1	27	0.5	14	0.3	5085	100.0
Greater Southern	3884	96.0	6	0.1	31	0.8	4	0.1	19	0.5	3	0.1	23	0.6	31	0.8	17	0.4	27	0.7	4045	100.0
Greater Western	3911	97.4	5	0.1	9	0.2	4	0.1	11	0.3	7	0.2	16	0.4	29	0.7	11	0.3	12	0.3	4015	100.0
Other-not stated	629	86.9	7	1.0	9	1.2	3	0.4	9	1.2	4	0.6	9	1.2	22	3.0	24	3.3	8	1.1	724	100.0
TOTAL	71515	78.7	765	0.8	1538	1.7	901	1.0	725	0.8	564	0.6	4216	4.6	4698	5.2	3143	3.5	2759	3.0	90824	100.0

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

#Excludes 491 mothers for which country of birth was not stated. Maternal countries of birth and country of birth groups are shown in Appendix 3.

**TABLE 22****MATERNAL ABORIGINALITY AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006**

Health Area	Aboriginality							
	Aboriginal – Torres Strait Islander		Non-Aboriginal – Torres Strait Islander		Not Stated		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	213	1.0	20112	98.5	101	0.5	20426	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	228	1.5	14596	97.2	196	1.3	15020	100.0
Sydney West	284	1.7	16893	98.2	33	0.2	17210	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	105	0.7	13998	99.0	36	0.3	14139	100.0
Hunter and New England	594	5.6	9969	94.2	16	0.2	10579	100.0
North Coast	406	8.0	4668	91.5	26	0.5	5100	100.0
Greater Southern	193	4.8	3841	94.6	25	0.6	4059	100.0
Greater Western	561	13.8	3406	84.1	85	2.1	4052	100.0
Other – not stated	27	3.7	693	94.9	10	1.4	730	100.0
TOTAL	2611	2.9	88176	96.6	528	0.6	91315	100.0

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

## Duration of pregnancy at first antenatal visit

In 2006, 87.5 per cent of mothers commenced antenatal care prior to 20 weeks gestation. This percentage varied from 87.2

per cent in the Hunter and New England Area to 93.9 per cent in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area (Table 23).

**TABLE 23**

### DURATION OF PREGNANCY AT FIRST ANTENATAL VISIT AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006

Health Area	Duration of pregnancy at first antenatal visit (weeks)							
	0–19		20–plus		Not stated		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	16314	79.9	3647	17.9	465	2.3	20426	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	13580	90.4	1202	8.0	238	1.6	15020	100.0
Sydney West	15017	87.3	2132	12.4	61	0.4	17210	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	13280	93.9	788	5.6	71	0.5	14139	100.0
Hunter and New England	9220	87.2	1288	12.2	71	0.7	10579	100.0
North Coast	4615	90.5	405	7.9	80	1.6	5100	100.0
Greater Southern	3636	89.6	361	8.9	62	1.5	4059	100.0
Greater Western	3554	87.7	340	8.4	158	3.9	4052	100.0
Other – not stated	658	90.1	55	7.5	17	2.3	730	100.0
TOTAL	79874	87.5	10218	11.2	1223	1.3	91315	100.0

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

## Smoking in pregnancy

In 2006, 12.8 per cent of mothers reported smoking in the second half of pregnancy (Table 24). The lowest reported rate was among mothers resident in the Northern

Sydney and Central Coast Area (6.8 per cent) and the highest rate among residents of the Greater Western Area (27.5 per cent).

**TABLE 24**

### NUMBER OF CIGARETTES SMOKED IN THE SECOND HALF OF PREGNANCY, NSW 2006

Health Area	Cigarettes smoked in the second half of pregnancy											
	None		1–10 per day		More than 10 per day		Smoked amount not stated		Not stated		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	17280	84.6	1038	5.1	812	4.0	95	0.5	1201	5.9	20426	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	13647	90.9	805	5.4	378	2.5	47	0.3	143	1.0	15020	100.0
Sydney West	15078	87.6	1065	6.2	791	4.6	134	0.8	142	0.8	17210	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	13091	92.6	562	4.0	352	2.5	49	0.3	85	0.6	14139	100.0
Hunter and New England	8299	78.4	1201	11.4	998	9.4	72	0.7	9	0.1	10579	100.0
North Coast	3929	77.0	593	11.6	520	10.2	40	0.8	18	0.4	5100	100.0
Greater Southern	3115	76.7	477	11.8	442	10.9	9	0.2	16	0.4	4059	100.0
Greater Western	2894	71.4	440	10.9	669	16.5	5	0.1	44	1.1	4052	100.0
Other – not stated	596	81.6	62	8.5	54	7.4	4	0.5	14	1.9	730	100.0
TOTAL	77929	85.3	6243	6.8	5016	5.5	455	0.5	1672	1.8	91315	100.0

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

## Place of birth

Ninety-six per cent of mothers chose to deliver in a hospital birthing suite in 2006, compared to 3.4 per cent who planned a birth centre birth and 0.2 per cent who planned a home birth (Table 25). Planned birth centre births were most commonly reported in the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra, Sydney West and Sydney South West Areas.

## Labour

In 2006, the onset of labour was spontaneous in 58.2 per cent of confinements (Table 26). Labour was induced in 24.7 per cent of confinements and no labour (elective caesarean section) was reported in 17.0 per cent. The rate of spontaneous onset of labour was highest among residents of the North Coast Area (65.6 per cent). The highest rate of induction of labour was among residents of the Sydney West Area (27.7 per cent).

**TABLE 25**

### PLACE OF BIRTH AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006

Health Area	Place of birth														TOTAL	
	Hospital		Birth Centre		Planned birth centre/ hospital admission		Planned homebirth		Planned homebirth / hospital admission		Born before arrival		Not stated			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	19999	97.9	223	1.1	98	0.5	11	0.1	6	0.0	79	0.4	10	0.0	20426	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	14151	94.2	425	2.8	349	2.3	15	0.1	12	0.1	44	0.3	24	0.2	15020	100.0
Sydney West	16268	94.5	404	2.3	444	2.6	12	0.1	6	0.0	74	0.4	2	0.0	17210	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	13875	98.1	149	1.1	53	0.4	12	0.1	1	0.0	46	0.3	3	0.0	14139	100.0
Hunter and New England	9675	91.5	652	6.2	181	1.7	6	0.1	3	0.0	62	0.6	0	0.0	10579	100.0
North Coast	4963	97.3	10	0.2	43	0.8	36	0.7	9	0.2	36	0.7	3	0.1	5100	100.0
Greater Southern	3982	98.1	5	0.1	38	0.9	11	0.3	2	0.0	20	0.5	1	0.0	4059	100.0
Greater Western	3949	97.5	7	0.2	29	0.7	7	0.2	6	0.1	27	0.7	27	0.7	4052	100.0
Other – not stated	705	96.6	3	0.4	5	0.7	15	2.1	2	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	730	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87567</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>1878</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>91315</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

**TABLE 26**

### ONSET AND AUGMENTATION OF LABOUR AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006

Health Area	Onset of labour																		TOTAL	
	Spontaneous		Spontaneous augmented with ARM		Spontaneous augmented with oxytocics - prostaglandins#		No labour		Induced oxytocics/ prostaglandins		Induced - ARM only		Induced - ARM + oxytocics/ prostaglandins		Induced - other##		Not stated			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	9434	46.2	1022	5.0	2120	10.4	3214	15.7	1598	7.8	231	1.1	2674	13.1	122	0.6	11	0.1	20426	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	5981	39.8	1055	7.0	1399	9.3	2771	18.4	1059	7.1	238	1.6	2393	15.9	98	0.7	26	0.2	15020	100.0
Sydney West	7007	40.7	1179	6.9	1439	8.4	2810	16.3	1415	8.2	253	1.5	3051	17.7	54	0.3	2	0.0	17210	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	5611	39.7	821	5.8	1289	9.1	2973	21.0	1044	7.4	215	1.5	2140	15.1	43	0.3	3	0.0	14139	100.0
Hunter and New England	4651	44.0	687	6.5	880	8.3	1570	14.8	863	8.2	234	2.2	1666	15.7	28	0.3	0	0.0	10579	100.0
North Coast	2312	45.3	616	12.1	418	8.2	720	14.1	430	8.4	70	1.4	516	10.1	13	0.3	5	0.1	5100	100.0
Greater Southern	1785	44.0	412	10.2	268	6.6	641	15.8	471	11.6	95	2.3	366	9.0	15	0.4	6	0.1	4059	100.0
Greater Western	1609	39.7	465	11.5	259	6.4	710	17.5	368	9.1	104	2.6	481	11.9	39	1.0	17	0.4	4052	100.0
Other – not stated	316	43.3	61	8.4	74	10.1	107	14.7	58	7.9	7	1.0	102	14.0	5	0.7	0	0.0	730	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38706</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>6318</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>8146</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>7306</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>1447</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>13389</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>91315</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

# May include artificial rupture of membranes.

## This category includes other forms of induction such as Foley's catheter.

## Birth

Sixty per cent of confinements were by normal vaginal birth, 10.1 per cent were instrumental and 28.8 per cent were by caesarean section (Table 27). The highest rate of normal vaginal birth was among residents of the North Coast Area (69.5 per cent), while the highest rates of instrumental birth were among residents of South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area (13.4 per cent). The caesarean section rate varied from 24.6 per cent among mothers resident in the North Coast Area to 34.5 per cent in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area.

## Birth weight

In 2006, 6.4 per cent of births were low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams). These comprised 0.7 per cent of birth weight less than 1,000 grams, 0.6 per cent in the 1,000 to 1,499 gram range and 5.1 per cent in the 1,500 to 2,499 gram range (Table 28). Rates of low birth weight ranged from 4.7 per cent in Greater Southern Area to 7.5 per cent in the Hunter and New England Area.

**TABLE 27**

**TYPE OF BIRTH BY HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006**

Health Area	Place of birth														TOTAL	
	Normal vaginal		Forceps		Vacuum extraction		Vaginal breech		Elective caesarean section		Emergency caesarean section#		Not stated			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	12985	63.6	482	2.4	1490	7.3	84	0.4	3209	15.7	2140	10.5	36	0.2	20426	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	8141	54.2	500	3.3	1515	10.1	61	0.4	2770	18.4	1967	13.1	66	0.4	15020	100.0
Sydney West	10628	61.8	681	4.0	874	5.1	57	0.3	2807	16.3	2151	12.5	12	0.1	17210	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	7480	52.9	518	3.7	1212	8.6	36	0.3	2973	21.0	1904	13.5	16	0.1	14139	100.0
Hunter and New England	6811	64.4	367	3.5	626	5.9	57	0.5	1570	14.8	1140	10.8	8	0.1	10579	100.0
North Coast	3515	68.9	103	2.0	181	3.5	30	0.6	720	14.1	535	10.5	16	0.3	5100	100.0
Greater Southern	2576	63.5	145	3.6	232	5.7	7	0.2	641	15.8	448	11.0	10	0.2	4059	100.0
Greater Western	2569	63.4	75	1.9	170	4.2	29	0.7	710	17.5	458	11.3	41	1.0	4052	100.0
Other – not stated	482	66.0	14	1.9	32	4.4	5	0.7	107	14.7	84	11.5	6	0.8	730	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55187</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>2885</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>6332</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>15507</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>10827</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>91315</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

# Emergency caesarean section includes caesarean section where the onset of labour was not stated.

**TABLE 28**

**BIRTH WEIGHT AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006**

Health Area	Birthweight (grams)																		TOTAL			
	Less than 500		500–999		1000–1499		1500–1999		2000–2499		2500–2999		3000–3499		3500–3999		4000–4499				4500+	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	53	0.3	90	0.4	134	0.6	275	1.3	820	4.0	3384	16.3	7605	36.7	6195	29.9	1856	8.9	300	1.4	20750	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	33	0.2	75	0.5	100	0.7	186	1.2	581	3.8	2245	14.7	5521	36.1	4800	31.4	1489	9.7	232	1.5	15285	100.0
Sydney West	51	0.3	85	0.5	125	0.7	217	1.2	670	3.8	2704	15.5	6375	36.4	5240	30.0	1706	9.8	306	1.7	17491	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	33	0.2	53	0.4	71	0.5	180	1.3	464	3.2	1893	13.2	5167	35.9	4684	32.6	1568	10.9	263	1.8	14384	100.0
Hunter and New England	36	0.3	49	0.5	63	0.6	168	1.6	454	4.2	1587	14.8	3557	33.1	3333	31.0	1218	11.3	254	2.4	10735	100.0
North Coast	14	0.3	14	0.3	23	0.4	45	0.9	207	4.0	786	15.2	1717	33.2	1657	32.0	590	11.4	117	2.3	5175	100.0
Greater Southern	4	0.1	6	0.1	13	0.3	37	0.9	133	3.2	576	14.0	1409	34.3	1339	32.6	493	12.0	94	2.3	4111	100.0
Greater Western	12	0.3	28	0.7	24	0.6	50	1.2	192	4.7	627	15.3	1453	35.4	1247	30.4	387	9.4	73	1.8	4107	100.0
Other – not stated	3	0.4	11	1.5	9	1.2	9	1.2	33	4.4	104	14.0	270	36.3	210	28.3	82	11.0	10	1.3	743	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1167</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3554</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>13906</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>33074</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>28705</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>9389</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>1649</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>92781</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

## Gestational age

The majority of births (91.0 per cent) were at term, and 1.6 per cent were post-term (42-plus weeks). The 7.4 per cent of preterm births comprised 0.7 per cent born at less than 28 weeks, 0.7 per cent at 28–31 weeks, and 5.9 per

cent at 32–36 weeks. The highest rate of preterm birth was in the Hunter and New England Area (8.9 per cent), while the lowest was 5.4 per cent in the Greater Southern Area (Table 29).

**TABLE 29**

### BIRTHS BY GESTATIONAL AGE AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006

Health Area	Gestational age (weeks)												TOTAL	
	< 28		28–31		32–36		37–41		42+		Not stated			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	141	0.7	144	0.7	1194	5.8	18850	90.8	410	2.0	11	0.1	20750	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	119	0.8	122	0.8	901	5.9	13787	90.2	355	2.3	1	0.0	15285	100.0
Sydney West	136	0.8	132	0.8	1052	6.0	16024	91.6	145	0.8	2	0.0	17491	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	87	0.6	94	0.7	776	5.4	13196	91.7	229	1.6	2	0.0	14384	100.0
Hunter and New England	86	0.8	102	1.0	767	7.1	9593	89.4	187	1.7	0	0.0	10735	100.0
North Coast	31	0.6	29	0.6	311	6.0	4734	91.5	69	1.3	1	0.0	5175	100.0
Greater Southern	17	0.4	11	0.3	195	4.7	3825	93.0	63	1.5	0	0.0	4111	100.0
Greater Western	44	1.1	28	0.7	249	6.1	3751	91.3	33	0.8	2	0.0	4107	100.0
Other – not stated	24	3.3	109	14.9	234	32.1	219	30.0	115	15.8	6	0.8	730	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3471</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>12686</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>24553</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>30785</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>16526</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>91315</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

## Infant feeding

In 2006, infant feeding on discharge from hospital was reported for 36,481 live births. The majority of babies (74.8 per cent) were reported to be fully breast-fed, 12.3 per cent were having infant formula only, and a further 2.1

per cent were having a combination of breast-feeding and infant formula. Rates of full breast-feeding varied from 65.0 per cent in the Sydney South West Area to 85.7 per cent in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area.

**TABLE 30**

### LIVE BIRTHS BY INFANT FEEDING ON DISCHARGE AND HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006

Health Area	Infant feeding												TOTAL	
	Breast feeding only		Expressed breast milk only		Infant formula only		Breast-feeding and infant formula		Other combination		Not stated			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sydney South West	2636	65.0	48	1.2	586	14.5	197	4.9	129	3.2	458	11.3	4054	100.0
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	5478	77.1	168	2.4	954	13.4	151	2.1	176	2.5	182	2.6	7109	100.0
Sydney West	2590	60.0	42	1.0	431	10.0	84	1.9	129	3.0	1038	24.1	4314	100.0
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	3783	85.7	29	0.7	224	5.1	67	1.5	101	2.3	208	4.7	4412	100.0
Hunter and New England	2241	73.6	37	1.2	419	13.8	67	2.2	55	1.8	225	7.4	3044	100.0
North Coast	4164	82.8	44	0.9	497	9.9	68	1.4	95	1.9	159	3.2	5027	100.0
Greater Southern	3005	75.7	35	0.9	657	16.5	88	2.2	67	1.7	118	3.0	3970	100.0
Greater Western	2863	73.2	27	0.7	653	16.7	48	1.2	37	0.9	283	7.2	3911	100.0
Other – not stated	524	81.9	10	1.6	74	11.6	2	0.3	10	1.6	20	3.1	640	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27284</b>	<b>74.8</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>4495</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2691</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>36481</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

## Perinatal outcomes

The perinatal mortality rate in 2006 was 8.8 per 1,000 births. This includes all births and deaths of babies of at least 400 grams birth weight or at least 20 weeks gestation

(Table 31). The rate varied from 6.3 per 1,000 in the Greater Southern Area to 10.5 per 1,000 in the Greater Western Area.

**TABLE 31**

**PERINATAL MORTALITY BY HEALTH AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006#**

Health Area	Liveborn surviving		Stillborn		Perinatal outcome						Total births	Perinatal mortality / 1000 births	
					Neonatal death		Not stated		Death – age not stated				
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			No.
Sydney South West	20527	98.9	129	0.6	59	0.3	35	0.2	0	0.0	20750	100.0	9.1
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra	15129	99.0	112	0.7	36	0.2	7	0.0	1	0.0	15285	100.0	9.7
Sydney West	17307	98.9	119	0.7	34	0.2	31	0.2	0	0.0	17491	100.0	8.7
Northern Sydney and Central Coast	14277	99.3	72	0.5	30	0.2	5	0.0	0	0.0	14384	100.0	7.1
Hunter and New England	10630	99.0	75	0.7	30	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	10735	100.0	9.8
North Coast	5120	98.9	37	0.7	9	0.2	7	0.1	2	0.0	5175	100.0	8.9
Greater Southern	4083	99.3	18	0.4	8	0.2	1	0.0	1	0.0	4111	100.0	6.3
Greater Western	4036	98.3	25	0.6	18	0.4	26	0.6	2	0.0	4107	100.0	10.5
Other – not stated	731	98.4	5	0.7	5	0.7	2	0.3	0	0.0	743	100.0	–
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>91840</b>	<b>99.0</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>92781</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8.8</b>

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

# Perinatal deaths include deaths reported to the MDC only. As the MDC form is completed at discharge or transfer of the baby; deaths occurring after this time may not be reported to the MDC.

## Live births by statistical local areas

<b>TABLE 32</b>					
<b>LIVE BIRTHS BY HEALTH AREA AND STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006</b>					
<b>Health Area – Statistical Local Area</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Health Area – Statistical Local Area</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Sydney South West</b>			Sutherland Shire – East	1325	8.7
Ashfield	565	2.7	Sutherland Shire – West	1524	10.0
Bankstown – North-East	1226	6.0	Sydney – Inner	152	1.0
Bankstown – North-West	972	4.7	Sydney – South	156	1.0
Bankstown – South	721	3.5	Sydney – East	417	2.7
Burwood	309	1.5	Waverley	975	6.4
Camden	817	4.0	Wollongong – Inner	1186	7.8
Campbelltown – North	1203	5.8	Wollongong – Balance	1221	8.1
Campbelltown – South	1094	5.3	Woollahra	737	4.9
Canada Bay – Concord	439	2.1	TOTAL	15166	100.0
Canada Bay – Drummoyne	572	2.8	<b>Northern Sydney and Central Coast</b>		
Canterbury	2334	11.3	Gosford – East	706	4.9
Fairfield – East	1739	8.4	Gosford – West	1276	8.9
Fairfield – West	889	4.3	Hornsby – North	789	5.5
Leichhardt	1020	5.0	Hornsby – South	1107	7.7
Liverpool – East	1889	9.2	Hunters Hill	169	1.2
Liverpool – West	1161	5.6	Ku-ring-gai	899	6.3
Marrickville	1229	6.0	Lane Cove	488	3.4
Strathfield	347	1.7	Manly	587	4.1
Sydney – Inner	3	0.0	Mosman	373	2.6
Sydney – South	540	2.6	North Sydney	895	6.3
Sydney – West	390	1.9	Pittwater	690	4.8
Wingecarribee	455	2.2	Ryde	1265	8.8
Wollondilly	672	3.3	Warringah	2092	14.6
TOTAL	20586	100.0	Willoughby	1035	7.2
<b>Sydney West</b>			Wyong – North-East	1019	7.1
Auburn	1246	7.2	Wyong – South and West	917	6.4
Baulkham Hills – Central	935	5.4	TOTAL	14307	100.0
Baulkham Hills – North	767	4.4	<b>Hunter and New England</b>		
Baulkham Hills – South	443	2.6	Armidale Dumaresq – City	227	2.1
Blacktown – North	1609	9.3	Armidale Dumaresq – Balance	99	0.9
Blacktown – South-East	1559	9.0	Cessnock	671	6.3
Blacktown – South-West	1787	10.3	Dungog	78	0.7
Blue Mountains	910	5.2	Glen Innes Severn (A)	115	1.1
Hawkesbury	934	5.4	Gloucester	51	0.5
Holroyd	1683	9.7	Greater Taree	489	4.6
Lithgow	243	1.4	Great Lakes	338	3.2
Parramatta – Inner	672	3.9	Gunnedah	155	1.5
Parramatta – North-East	514	3.0	Guyra	53	0.5
Parramatta – North-West	526	3.0	Gwydir (A)	67	0.6
Parramatta – South	646	3.7	Inverell – Pt A	71	0.7
Penrith – East	1558	9.0	Inverell – Pt B	154	1.4
Penrith – West	1309	7.5	Lake Macquarie – East	692	6.5
TOTAL	17341	100.0	Lake Macquarie – North	978	9.2
<b>South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra</b>			Lake Macquarie – West	544	5.1
Botany	538	3.5	Liverpool Plains (A)	81	0.8
Hurstville	1006	6.6	Maitland	975	9.1
Kiama	187	1.2	Moree Plains	199	1.9
Kogarah	708	4.7	Muswellbrook	277	2.6
Randwick	1726	11.4	Narrabri	184	1.7
Rockdale	1438	9.5	Newcastle – Inner City	667	6.3
Shellharbour	816	5.4	Newcastle – Outer West	604	5.7
Shoalhaven – Pt A	398	2.6	Newcastle – Throsby	720	6.8
Shoalhaven – Pt B	656	4.3	Port Stephens	731	6.9



**TABLE 32 (continued)**
**LIVE BIRTHS BY HEALTH AREA AND STATISTICAL LOCAL AREA OF RESIDENCE, NSW 2006**

Health Area – Statistical Local Area	No.	%	Health Area – Statistical Local Area	No.	%
Singleton	353	3.3	Lockhart	31	0.8
Tamworth Regional – Pt A	566	5.3	Murray	9	0.2
Tamworth Regional – Pt B	189	1.8	Murrumbidgee	27	0.7
Tenterfield	36	0.3	Narrandera	97	2.4
Upper Hunter Shire	201	1.9	Palerang – Pt A	28	0.7
Uralla	55	0.5	Palerang – Pt B	8	0.2
Walcha	40	0.4	Queanbeyan	215	5.3
TOTAL	10660	100.0	Snowy River	75	1.8
<b>North Coast</b>			Temora	66	1.6
Ballina	376	7.3	Tumbarumba	19	0.5
Bellingen	130	2.5	Tumut	125	3.1
Byron	277	5.4	Upper Lachlan	88	2.2
Clarence Valley – Coast	167	3.3	Urana	10	0.2
Clarence Valley – Grafton	273	5.3	Wagga Wagga – Pt A	757	18.5
Clarence Valley – Balance	97	1.9	Wagga Wagga – Pt B	112	2.7
Coffs Harbour – Pt A	601	11.7	Wakool	7	0.2
Coffs Harbour – Pt B	159	3.1	Yass Valley (A)	14	0.3
Hastings – Pt A	442	8.6	Young	145	3.5
Hastings – Pt B	304	5.9	Other	2	0.0
Kempsey	375	7.3	TOTAL	4092	100.0
Kyogle	86	1.7	<b>Greater Western</b>		
Lismore – Pt A	393	7.7	Bathurst Regional – Pt A	409	10.1
Lismore – Pt B	184	3.6	Bathurst Regional – Pt B	48	1.2
Nambucca	210	4.1	Blayney – Pts A and B	86	2.1
Richmond Valley – Casino	129	2.5	Bogan	66	1.6
Richmond Valley – Balance	162	3.2	Bourke	49	1.2
Tweed – Tweed-Heads	452	8.8	Brewarrina	27	0.7
Tweed – Tweed Coast	90	1.8	Broken Hill	217	5.4
Tweed – Pt B	224	4.4	Cabonne – Pts A, B and C	128	3.2
TOTAL	5131	100.0	Central Darling	18	0.4
<b>Greater Southern</b>			Cobar	92	2.3
Albury	7	0.2	Coonamble	69	1.7
Bega Valley	287	7.0	Cowra	143	3.5
Berrigan	21	0.5	Dubbo – Pt A	610	15.0
Bland	74	1.8	Dubbo – Pt B	59	1.5
Bom – Balance	26	0.6	Forbes	117	2.9
Boorowa	16	0.4	Gilgandra	71	1.8
Carrathool	39	1.0	Lachlan	86	2.1
Conargo	20	0.5	Mid-Western Regional – Pt A	261	6.4
Coolamon	49	1.2	Mid-Western Regional – Pt B	35	0.9
Cooma-Monaro	84	2.1	Narromine	107	2.6
Cootamundra	82	2.0	Oberon	126	3.1
Deniliquin	103	2.5	Orange	598	14.7
Eurobodalla	383	9.4	Parkes	225	5.5
Greater Argyle – Goulburn	255	6.2	Walgett	105	2.6
Greater Argyle – Balance	29	0.7	Warren	31	0.8
Greater Hume Shire – Pt B	27	0.7	Warrumbungle Shire	110	2.7
Griffith	366	8.9	Weddin	48	1.2
Gundagai	44	1.1	Wellington	106	2.6
Harden	33	0.8	Wentworth	5	0.1
Hay	48	1.2	Other	4	0.1
Jerilderie	13	0.3	TOTAL	4056	100.0
Junee	79	1.9	<b>Other – Not stated</b>	736	100.0
Leeton	172	4.2	<b>TOTAL NSW</b>	92075	100.0

Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.