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 2007 were resident in the Sydney South West Area (n = 21206, 22.4%), followed by the Sydney West Area (n = 18068, 19.1%) and the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area (n = 15597, 16.5%) (Table 20).

Maternal age

The proportion of women giving birth at less than 20 years of age varied from 1.5% in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area to 7.8% in the Greater Western Area, whereas the proportion of mothers giving birth at 35 years of age or more ranged from 15.1% in the Greater Western Area to 32.6% in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area (Table 20).

Table 20. Maternal age by health area of residence, NSW, 2007

| Health area | | | | | | | Μ | laterna | l age (ye | ars) | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----|--------|------|--------|------|--------|---------|-----------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | 12- | 19 | 20-2 | 24 | 25-2 | 29 | 30–3 | 34 | 35-3 | 39 | 40-4 | 14 | 45- | F I | Not s | tated | тот | ۹L |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 548 | 2.6 | 2922 | 13.8 | 5964 | 28.1 | 6889 | 32.5 | 4018 | 18.9 | 827 | 3.9 | 38 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 21 206 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 282 | 1.8 | 1467 | 9.4 | 3725 | 23.9 | 5876 | 37.7 | 3585 | 23.0 | 628 | 4.0 | 34 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 15 597 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 624 | 3.5 | 2860 | 15.8 | 5412 | 30.0 | 5742 | 31.8 | 2913 | 16.1 | 489 | 2.7 | 27 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.0 | 18 068 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 222 | 1.5 | 976 | 6.8 | 2942 | 20.4 | 5590 | 38.7 | 3900 | 27.0 | 783 | 5.4 | 32 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.0 | 14 447 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 666 | 6.1 | 2046 | 18.8 | 3162 | 29.1 | 3137 | 28.9 | 1555 | 14.3 | 285 | 2.6 | 17 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 10 868 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 388 | 7.5 | 1034 | 19.9 | 1414 | 27.2 | 1372 | 26.4 | 824 | 15.8 | 155 | 3.0 | 7 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 | 5199 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 281 | 6.9 | 791 | 19.5 | 1185 | 29.2 | 1145 | 28.3 | 547 | 13.5 | 96 | 2.4 | 5 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.0 | 4052 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 318 | 7.8 | 865 | 21.3 | 1230 | 30.3 | 1034 | 25.5 | 537 | 13.2 | 69 | 1.7 | 6 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 4062 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 33 | 3.0 | 189 | 17.1 | 327 | 29.6 | 339 | 30.7 | 168 | 15.2 | 43 | 3.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.4 | 1103 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 3362 | 3.6 | 13 150 | 13.9 | 25 361 | 26.8 | 31 124 | 32.9 | 18 047 | 19.1 | 3375 | 3.6 | 166 | 0.2 | 17 | 0.0 | 94 602 | 100.0 |

Maternal country of birth

Seventy-seven percent of women who gave birth in NSW in 2007 were born in English speaking countries, 13.0% were born in Asian countries, and 4.6% 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, the Middle East and Africa. In the Sydney West Area, the most common non-English speaking maternal countries of birth were in Southern Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Table 21. Maternal country of birth by health area of residence, NSW, 2007#

| Health area | | | | | | | | | | Cou | intry o | fbirt | h group |) | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|------|---------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----|------|---------------------------|-------------------|--|--------------------|-----|------|---------------|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|--------|-------|
| | Engli speak | | Cen and S Ame | South | Melar Micro ar Polyr | nesia 1d | Sout Eur | | Nort | tern nd hern ope | Eur Ru: Cer | tern ope, ssia, ntral n and State | Mid East Afr | and | | n-East sia | North As | | Soutl As | | то | TAL |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 12919 | 61.1 | 317 | 1.5 | 623 | 2.9 | 366 | 1.7 | 132 | 0.6 | 148 | 0.7 | 2103 | 9.9 | 2534 | 12.0 | 1117 | 5.3 | 887 | 4.2 | 21 146 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 12 309 | 79.1 | 158 | 1.0 | 126 | 0.8 | 218 | 1.4 | 199 | 1.3 | 206 | 1.3 | 481 | 3.1 | 701 | 4.5 | 841 | 5.4 | 317 | 2.0 | 15 556 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 12115 | 67.2 | 143 | 0.8 | 565 | 3.1 | 136 | 0.8 | 84 | 0.5 | 122 | 0.7 | 1382 | 7.7 | 1076 | 6.0 | 885 | 4.9 | 1531 | 8.5 | 18039 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 11664 | 81.0 | 129 | 0.9 | 100 | 0.7 | 80 | 0.6 | 242 | 1.7 | 158 | 1.1 | 234 | 1.6 | 551 | 3.8 | 934 | 6.5 | 312 | 2.2 | 14 404 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 10448 | 96.2 | 14 | 0.1 | 38 | 0.3 | 17 | 0.2 | 44 | 0.4 | 16 | 0.1 | 48 | 0.4 | 133 | 1.2 | 61 | 0.6 | 44 | 0.4 | 10863 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 4951 | 95.5 | 11 | 0.2 | 25 | 0.5 | 10 | 0.2 | 35 | 0.7 | 8 | 0.2 | 29 | 0.6 | 73 | 1.4 | 18 | 0.3 | 22 | 0.4 | 5182 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 3874 | 95.7 | 5 | 0.1 | 24 | 0.6 | 9 | 0.2 | 15 | 0.4 | 8 | 0.2 | 26 | 0.6 | 26 | 0.6 | 21 | 0.5 | 42 | 1.0 | 4050 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 3969 | 97.8 | 6 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 5 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 | 17 | 0.4 | 23 | 0.6 | 15 | 0.4 | 12 | 0.3 | 4057 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 860 | 78.0 | 10 | 0.9 | 14 | 1.3 | 4 | 0.4 | 26 | 2.4 | 18 | 1.6 | 23 | 2.1 | 49 | 4.4 | 74 | 6.7 | 24 | 2.2 | 1102 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 73 109 | 77.4 | 793 | 0.8 | 1518 | 1.6 | 843 | 0.9 | 782 | 0.8 | 688 | 0.7 | 4343 | 4.6 | 5166 | 5.5 | 3966 | 4.2 | 3191 | 3.4 | 94 399 | 100.0 |

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

*Excludes 203 mothers for which country of birth was not stated. Maternal countries of birth and country of birth groups are shown in Appendix 3.

Maternal Aboriginality

In 2007, 3.1% of mothers were reported to be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (Table 22). The proportion of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander mothers varied from 0.9% in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area to 13.5% in the Greater Western Area.

Table 22. Maternal Aboriginality by health area of residence, NSW, 2007

| Health area | Aborig | | Non-Abo | | Not s | tated | TOT | ۸L |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Torres Stra No. | it Islander % | Torres Strai No. | it Islander % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 253 | 1.2 | 20 887 | 98.5 | 66 | 0.3 | 21 206 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 246 | 1.6 | 15 323 | 98.2 | 28 | 0.2 | 15 597 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 363 | 2.0 | 17 680 | 97.9 | 25 | 0.1 | 18068 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 137 | 0.9 | 14 290 | 98.9 | 20 | 0.1 | 14447 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 655 | 6.0 | 10 193 | 93.8 | 20 | 0.2 | 10868 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 420 | 8.1 | 4763 | 91.6 | 16 | 0.3 | 5199 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 235 | 5.8 | 3815 | 94.2 | 2 | 0.0 | 4052 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 550 | 13.5 | 3497 | 86.1 | 15 | 0.4 | 4062 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 29 | 2.6 | 1071 | 97.1 | 3 | 0.3 | 1103 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 2888 | 3.1 | 91 519 | 96.7 | 195 | 0.2 | 94602 | 100.0 |

Duration of pregnancy at first antenatal visit

In 2007, 90.7% of mothers commenced antenatal care prior to 20 weeks gestation. This percentage varied from

83.7% in the Sydney South West Area to 95.9% in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area (Table 23).

| | 0-1 | 19 | 2 | 0+ | Not s | tated | TOTA | \L |
|---------------------------------------|--------|------|------|------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 17 744 | 83.7 | 2245 | 10.6 | 1217 | 5.7 | 21 206 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 14 245 | 91.3 | 1175 | 7.5 | 177 | 1.1 | 15 597 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 17115 | 94.7 | 839 | 4.6 | 114 | 0.6 | 18 068 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 13 851 | 95.9 | 537 | 3.7 | 59 | 0.4 | 14 447 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 9741 | 89.6 | 996 | 9.2 | 131 | 1.2 | 10 868 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 4791 | 92.2 | 339 | 6.5 | 69 | 1.3 | 5199 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 3709 | 91.5 | 281 | 6.9 | 62 | 1.5 | 4052 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 3615 | 89.0 | 305 | 7.5 | 142 | 3.5 | 4062 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 970 | 87.9 | 110 | 10.0 | 23 | 2.1 | 1103 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 85 781 | 90.7 | 6827 | 7.2 | 1994 | 2.1 | 94 602 | 100.0 |

Table 23. Duration of pregnancy at first antenatal visit by health area of residence, NSW, 2007

Smoking in pregnancy

In 2007, 12.0% 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 (5.8%) and the highest rate among residents of the Greater Western Area (25.8%).

| Table 24. | Cigarettes smoked in the second l | alf of pregnancy by health area of residence, N | SW, 2007 |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|----------|
| | | | |

| Health area | | | | - | | | second hal | | nancy | | | |
|--|--------|------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------------------------|-----|--------|------|--------|-------|
| | No | ne | 1–10 p | er day | >10 pe | r day | Smok amou not sta | unt | Not st | ated | τοτα | L |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 18800 | 88.7 | 1275 | 6.0 | 703 | 3.3 | 64 | 0.3 | 364 | 1.7 | 21 206 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 14 453 | 92.7 | 744 | 4.8 | 319 | 2.0 | 79 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.0 | 15 597 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 16144 | 89.4 | 1047 | 5.8 | 660 | 3.7 | 212 | 1.2 | 5 | 0.0 | 18068 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 13 598 | 94.1 | 510 | 3.5 | 261 | 1.8 | 76 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.0 | 14 447 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 8668 | 79.8 | 1211 | 11.1 | 890 | 8.2 | 94 | 0.9 | 5 | 0.0 | 10 868 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 4055 | 78.0 | 602 | 11.6 | 473 | 9.1 | 63 | 1.2 | 6 | 0.1 | 5199 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 3128 | 77.2 | 437 | 10.8 | 469 | 11.6 | 15 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.1 | 4052 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 2997 | 73.8 | 420 | 10.3 | 605 | 14.9 | 21 | 0.5 | 19 | 0.5 | 4062 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 955 | 86.6 | 88 | 8.0 | 50 | 4.5 | 7 | 0.6 | 3 | 0.3 | 1103 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 82 798 | 87.5 | 6334 | 6.7 | 4430 | 4.7 | 631 | 0.7 | 409 | 0.4 | 94 602 | 100.0 |

Place of birth

Ninety-five percent of mothers chose to deliver in a hospital birthing suite in 2007, compared with 4.1% who planned a birth-centre birth and 0.2% who planned a home birth (Table 25). Planned birth-centre births were most commonly reported in the Sydney West, Hunter and New England, and South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Areas.

Labour

In 2007, the onset of labour was spontaneous in 57.3% of confinements (Table 26). Labour was induced in 25.9% of confinements and no labour (elective caesarean section) was reported in 16.8%. The rate of spontaneous onset of labour was highest among residents of the North Coast Area (64.4%). The highest rate of induction of labour was among residents of the Sydney West Area (29.2%).

Table 25. Place of birth by health area of residence, NSW, 2007

| Health area | | | | | | | Р | lace of | birth | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|--|---------------------|--------------|---------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|-----|-----|--------|--------|-------|
| | Hospi | ital | Birt cent | | Planı bir cent hosp admiss | th- tre/ ital | Plan home | | | birth/ pital | Bo befc arri | ore | Not | stated | тот | AL |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 20413 | 96.3 | 634 | 3.0 | 51 | 0.2 | 16 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.0 | 89 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.0 | 21 206 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 14666 | 94.0 | 558 | 3.6 | 284 | 1.8 | 17 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.0 | 67 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.0 | 15 597 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 17 031 | 94.3 | 475 | 2.6 | 459 | 2.5 | 14 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.0 | 85 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 18068 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 14132 | 97.8 | 192 | 1.3 | 46 | 0.3 | 19 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.0 | 54 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 14447 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 9663 | 88.9 | 838 | 7.7 | 265 | 2.4 | 8 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.0 | 92 | 0.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 10868 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 5071 | 97.5 | 5 | 0.1 | 37 | 0.7 | 43 | 0.8 | 11 | 0.2 | 32 | 0.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 5199 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 3975 | 98.1 | 3 | 0.1 | 26 | 0.6 | 14 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.0 | 33 | 0.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 4052 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 3991 | 98.3 | 3 | 0.1 | 34 | 0.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 0.1 | 31 | 0.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 4062 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 1073 | 97.3 | 6 | 0.5 | 3 | 0.3 | 13 | 1.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 7 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.1 | 1103 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 90 01 5 | 95.2 | 2714 | 2.9 | 1205 | 1.3 | 144 | 0.2 | 31 | 0.0 | 490 | 0.5 | 3 | 0.0 | 94602 | 100.0 |
| Source: NSW Midwives Dat | ta Collectio | on (HOIS | ST). Centr | e for Ep | idemiolog | y and F | Research, | NSW Dep | partment | of Health | ۱. | | | | | |

Table 26. Onset and augmentation of labour by health area of residence, NSW, 2007

| | Sponta | neous | Sponta augm with | ented | augn w oxyt | neous – nented rith cocics/ glandins [#] | | oour | Induc oxyto pro glan | ocics/ sta- | Induc ARM | | Induce ARM oxyto prostagl | l + cics/ | Induc oth | | Ne sta | | то | TAL |
|--|----------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------------------|---|-------|------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----|-----------|-----|--------|-------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 8798 | 41.5 | 1624 | 7.7 | 2382 | 11.2 | 3306 | 15.6 | 1814 | 8.6 | 272 | 1.3 | 2957 | 13.9 | 47 | 0.2 | 6 | 0.0 | 21 206 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 5520 | 35.4 | 1259 | 8.1 | 1515 | 9.7 | 2946 | 18.9 | 1369 | 8.8 | 290 | 1.9 | 2659 | 17.0 | 36 | 0.2 | 3 | 0.0 | 15 597 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 7170 | 39.7 | 1270 | 7.0 | 1455 | 8.1 | 2894 | 16.0 | 1682 | 9.3 | 259 | 1.4 | 3308 | 18.3 | 29 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.0 | 18 068 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 5585 | 38.7 | 855 | 5.9 | 1231 | 8.5 | 3030 | 21.0 | 1340 | 9.3 | 280 | 1.9 | 2086 | 14.4 | 38 | 0.3 | 2 | 0.0 | 14 447 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 4942 | 45.5 | 771 | 7.1 | 831 | 7.6 | 1537 | 14.1 | 973 | 9.0 | 215 | 2.0 | 1556 | 14.3 | 41 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.0 | 10 868 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 2384 | 45.9 | 566 | 10.9 | 398 | 7.7 | 749 | 14.4 | 448 | 8.6 | 111 | 2.1 | 516 | 9.9 | 26 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.0 | 5199 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 1776 | 43.8 | 430 | 10.6 | 301 | 7.4 | 613 | 15.1 | 544 | 13.4 | 86 | 2.1 | 286 | 7.1 | 16 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 4052 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 1626 | 40.0 | 488 | 12.0 | 308 | 7.6 | 649 | 16.0 | 347 | 8.5 | 117 | 2.9 | 496 | 12.2 | 26 | 0.6 | 5 | 0.1 | 4062 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 490 | 44.4 | 76 | 6.9 | 132 | 12.0 | 154 | 14.0 | 90 | 8.2 | 18 | 1.6 | 139 | 12.6 | 4 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 1103 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 38 2 9 1 | 40.5 | 7339 | 7.8 | 8553 | 9.0 | 15878 | 16.8 | 8607 | 9.1 | 1648 | 1.7 | 14 003 | 14.8 | 263 | 0.3 | 20 | 0.0 | 94 602 | 100.0 |

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

*May include artificial rupture of membranes (ARM).

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

Birth

Sixty percent of confinements were by normal vaginal birth, 10.6% were instrumental and 29.0% were by caesarean section (Table 27). The highest rate of normal vaginal birth was among residents of the North Coast Area (67.7%), whereas the highest rates of instrumental birth were among residents of the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area (13.1%). The caesarean section rate varied from 25.4% among mothers resident in the Hunter and New England Area to 35.7% in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area.

Birth weight

In 2007, 6.1% of births were low birth weight (less than 2500 g). These comprised 0.7% of birth weight less than 1000 g, 0.5% in the 1000-1499-gram range and 4.9% in the 1500-2499-gram range (Table 28). Rates of low birth weight ranged from 4.6% in Greater Southern Area to 7.3% in the Hunter and New England Area.

Table 27. Type of birth by health area of residence, NSW, 2007

| Health area | | | | | | | Ту | pe of b | irth | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|------|-------|-----|----------------|-----|------------|-------------|--------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|------------|-----|--------|-------|
| | Norı vagi | | Force | eps | Vacu extrac | | Vag bre | inal ech | Elect caesar secti | ean | Emerg caesa secti | rean | No stat | | TOTA | ۸L |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 13 294 | 62.7 | 636 | 3.0 | 1547 | 7.3 | 78 | 0.4 | 3306 | 15.6 | 2335 | 11.0 | 10 | 0.0 | 21 206 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 8588 | 55.1 | 606 | 3.9 | 1440 | 9.2 | 53 | 0.3 | 2946 | 18.9 | 1960 | 12.6 | 4 | 0.0 | 15 597 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 10 974 | 60.7 | 808 | 4.5 | 1037 | 5.7 | 66 | 0.4 | 2894 | 16.0 | 2288 | 12.7 | 1 | 0.0 | 18 068 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 7413 | 51.3 | 524 | 3.6 | 1296 | 9.0 | 43 | 0.3 | 3030 | 21.0 | 2128 | 14.7 | 13 | 0.1 | 14447 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 6971 | 64.1 | 372 | 3.4 | 679 | 6.2 | 79 | 0.7 | 1537 | 14.1 | 1228 | 11.3 | 2 | 0.0 | 10868 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 3518 | 67.7 | 97 | 1.9 | 224 | 4.3 | 26 | 0.5 | 749 | 14.4 | 576 | 11.1 | 9 | 0.2 | 5199 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 2564 | 63.3 | 135 | 3.3 | 290 | 7.2 | 8 | 0.2 | 613 | 15.1 | 441 | 10.9 | 1 | 0.0 | 4052 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 2616 | 64.4 | 70 | 1.7 | 195 | 4.8 | 22 | 0.5 | 649 | 16.0 | 483 | 11.9 | 27 | 0.7 | 4062 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 710 | 64.4 | 25 | 2.3 | 71 | 6.4 | 6 | 0.5 | 154 | 14.0 | 133 | 12.1 | 4 | 0.4 | 1103 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 56 648 | 59.9 | 3273 | 3.5 | 6779 | 7.2 | 381 | 0.4 | 15 878 | 16.8 | 11 572 | 12.2 | 71 | 0.1 | 94 602 | 100.0 |

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.

| Health area | | | | | | | | | | | E | Birth wei | ight (g | I) | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--------|------|-------|--------|---------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|------|-------|------|-----|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | <500 | 500 | -999 | 1000- | -1499 | 91500- | 1999 | 2000- | 2499 | 2500- | 2999 | 3000- | -3499 | 3500- | 3999 | 4000 | -4499 | 450 | 0+ | Not s | tated | тот | TAL |
| | No. % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 51 0.2 | 112 | 0.5 | 132 | 0.6 | 253 | 1.2 | 793 | 3.7 | 3452 | 16.0 | 8051 | 37.4 | 6351 | 29.5 | 1933 | 9.0 | 344 | 1.6 | 45 | 0.2 | 21 517 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 32 0.2 | 54 | 0.3 | 65 | 0.4 | 210 | 1.3 | 562 | 3.5 | 2391 | 15.1 | 5912 | 37.3 | 4893 | 30.9 | 1519 | 9.6 | 214 | 1.3 | 7 | 0.0 | 15 859 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 58 0.3 | 78 | 0.4 | 128 | 0.7 | 201 | 1.1 | 701 | 3.8 | 2843 | 15.5 | 6635 | 36.2 | 5480 | 29.9 | 1881 | 10.3 | 321 | 1.8 | 12 | 0.1 | 18 338 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 35 0.2 | 46 | 0.3 | 64 | 0.4 | 146 | 1.0 | 459 | 3.1 | 1966 | 13.4 | 5400 | 36.8 | 4787 | 32.6 | 1507 | 10.3 | 241 | 1.6 | 17 | 0.1 | 14 668 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 43 0.4 | 62 | 0.6 | 70 | 0.6 | 163 | 1.5 | 471 | 4.3 | 1517 | 13.7 | 3666 | 33.2 | 3540 | 32.1 | 1268 | 11.5 | 229 | 2.1 | 8 | 0.1 | 11 037 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 9 0.2 | 22 | 0.4 | 20 | 0.4 | 52 | 1.0 | 230 | 4.4 | 715 | 13.6 | 1844 | 35.0 | 1673 | 31.7 | 589 | 11.2 | 112 | 2.1 | 6 | 0.1 | 5272 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 9 0.2 | 12 | 0.3 | 11 | 0.3 | 22 | 0.5 | 135 | 3.3 | 578 | 14.1 | 1414 | 34.6 | 1333 | 32.6 | 478 | 11.7 | 92 | 2.2 | 5 | 0.1 | 4089 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 14 0.3 | 23 | 0.6 | 17 | 0.4 | 61 | 1.5 | 154 | 3.7 | 665 | 16.1 | 1483 | 35.9 | 1210 | 29.3 | 419 | 10.1 | 79 | 1.9 | 7 | 0.2 | 4132 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 4 0.4 | 13 | 1.2 | 5 | 0.4 | 11 | 1.0 | 36 | 3.2 | 138 | 12.3 | 385 | 34.4 | 381 | 34.1 | 123 | 11.0 | 21 | 1.9 | 1 | 0.1 | 1118 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 255 0.3 | 422 | 0.4 | 512 | 0.5 | 1119 | 1.2 | 3541 | 3.7 | 14265 | 14.9 | 34 790 | 36.2 | 29 648 | 30.9 | 9717 | 10.1 | 1653 | 1.7 | 108 | 0.1 | 96 030 | 100.0 |
| Source: NSW Midw | ives Data | Collec | tion | (HOIS | ST). C | entre f | for Ep | oidemi | ology | and Re | search | , NSW D | epartr | nent of ⊦ | lealth. | | | | | | | | |

Gestational age

The majority of births (91.6%) were at term, and 0.9% were post-term (42 + weeks). The 7.4% of preterm births comprised 0.7% born at less than 28 weeks, 0.7% at

28–31 weeks, and 5.9% at 32–36 weeks. The highest rate of preterm birth was in the Hunter and New England Area (8.8%), whereas the lowest was 5.1% in the Greater Southern Area (Table 29).

| Table 29. | Gestational age and health area of residence, NSW, 2007 |
|-----------|---|
|-----------|---|

| Health area | Gestational age (weeks) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|---------|------|-----|-----|------------|-----|--------|-------|
| | <28 | | 28–31 | | 32–36 | | 37–41 | | 42+ | | Not stated | | TOTAL | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 158 | 0.7 | 168 | 0.8 | 1217 | 5.7 | 19806 | 92.0 | 150 | 0.7 | 18 | 0.1 | 21 517 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 91 | 0.6 | 99 | 0.6 | 1021 | 6.4 | 14 480 | 91.3 | 165 | 1.0 | 3 | 0.0 | 15 859 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 143 | 0.8 | 141 | 0.8 | 1138 | 6.2 | 16 800 | 91.6 | 105 | 0.6 | 11 | 0.1 | 18 338 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 89 | 0.6 | 101 | 0.7 | 770 | 5.2 | 13 555 | 92.4 | 149 | 1.0 | 4 | 0.0 | 14 668 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 116 | 1.1 | 71 | 0.6 | 784 | 7.1 | 9910 | 89.8 | 153 | 1.4 | 3 | 0.0 | 11 037 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 32 | 0.6 | 26 | 0.5 | 297 | 5.6 | 4838 | 91.8 | 79 | 1.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 5272 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 23 | 0.6 | 14 | 0.3 | 172 | 4.2 | 3822 | 93.5 | 57 | 1.4 | 1 | 0.0 | 4089 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 40 | 1.0 | 31 | 0.8 | 249 | 6.0 | 3773 | 91.3 | 37 | 0.9 | 2 | 0.0 | 4132 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 15 | 1.3 | 9 | 0.8 | 55 | 4.9 | 1027 | 91.9 | 12 | 1.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 1118 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 707 | 0.7 | 660 | 0.7 | 5703 | 5.9 | 88 01 1 | 91.6 | 907 | 0.9 | 42 | 0.0 | 96 030 | 100.0 |

Infant feeding

In 2007, infant feeding on discharge from hospital was reported for 95212 live births (Table 30). The majority of babies (78.9%) were reported to be fully breastfed, 12.9% were receiving infant formula only, and a further

6.4% were being partially breastfed. Rates of full breastfeeding varied from 72.2% in the Sydney South West Area to 85.8% in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area.

| Health area | | | | | Infant fe | eding | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------------------------|------|------------------------|-------|------------|-----|--------|-------|
| | Full breast- feeding | | Any breast- feeding | | Infant formula only | | Not stated | | TOTA | L |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Sydney South West | 15 406 | 72.2 | 2440 | 11.4 | 3075 | 14.4 | 413 | 1.9 | 21 334 | 100.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | 13 021 | 82.6 | 879 | 5.6 | 1673 | 10.6 | 195 | 1.2 | 15 768 | 100.0 |
| Sydney West | 13819 | 76.4 | 1226 | 6.8 | 2778 | 15.4 | 272 | 1.5 | 18095 | 100.0 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 12 504 | 85.8 | 790 | 5.4 | 1120 | 7.7 | 157 | 1.1 | 14 571 | 100.0 |
| Hunter and New England | 8641 | 78.9 | 346 | 3.2 | 1749 | 16.0 | 221 | 2.0 | 10957 | 100.0 |
| North Coast | 4462 | 85.2 | 138 | 2.6 | 487 | 9.3 | 149 | 2.8 | 5236 | 100.0 |
| Greater Southern | 3171 | 78.2 | 171 | 4.2 | 638 | 15.7 | 75 | 1.8 | 4055 | 100.0 |
| Greater Western | 3110 | 76.1 | 76 | 1.9 | 704 | 17.2 | 199 | 4.9 | 4089 | 100.0 |
| Other/Not stated | 956 | 86.4 | 46 | 4.2 | 76 | 6.9 | 29 | 2.6 | 1107 | 100.0 |
| TOTAL | 75 090 | 78.9 | 6112 | 6.4 | 12300 | 12.9 | 1710 | 1.8 | 95 212 | 100.0 |

Perinatal outcomes

The perinatal mortality rate in 2007 was 9.0 per 1000 births. This rate includes all live births, and stillbirths of at least 400 g birth weight or at least 20 weeks gestation

(Table 31). The perinatal mortality rate varied from 7.4 per 1000 in the Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area to 12.1 per 1000 in the Greater Western Area.



| Health area | Live born surviving | | Still | Stillbirth | | Neonatal death | | Death – age not stated | | Not stated | | Total births | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------|-------|------------|-----|-------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|------------|---------|--------------|-------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | 1000 births |
| Sydney South West | 21 280 | 98.9 | 146 | 0.7 | 54 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 37 | 0.2 | 21 5 17 | 100.0 | 9.3 |
| South Eastern Sydney | 15 724 | 99.1 | 82 | 0.5 | 44 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 0.1 | 15 859 | 100.0 | 7.9 |
| Sydney West | 18057 | 98.5 | 126 | 0.7 | 38 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 117 | 0.6 | 18338 | 100.0 | 8.9 |
| Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 14 553 | 99.2 | 90 | 0.6 | 18 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.0 | 5 | 0.0 | 14 668 | 100.0 | 7.4 |
| Hunter and New England | 10 908 | 98.8 | 75 | 0.7 | 49 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.0 | 4 | 0.0 | 11 037 | 100.0 | 11.2 |
| North Coast | 5224 | 99.1 | 33 | 0.6 | 12 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.0 | 5272 | 100.0 | 8.5 |
| Greater Southern | 4050 | 99.0 | 31 | 0.8 | 5 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.0 | 4089 | 100.0 | 8.8 |
| Greater Western | 4075 | 98.6 | 36 | 0.9 | 14 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.0 | 6 | 0.1 | 4132 | 100.0 | 12.1 |
| Other/Not stated | 1102 | 98.6 | 10 | 0.9 | 5 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 1118 | 100.0 | - |
| TOTAL | 94 973 | 98.9 | 629 | 0.7 | 239 | 0.2 | 8 | 0.0 | 181 | 0.2 | 96 030 | 100.0 | 9.0 |

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 (Table 32)

Table 32. Live births by health area and statistical local area of residence, NSW, 2007

| Health area/statistical local area | No. | % | Health area/statistical local area | No. | % |
|------------------------------------|--------|-------|------------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Sydney South West | | | Hawkesbury | 882 | 4.9 |
| Ashfield | 579 | 2.7 | Holroyd | 1785 | 9.9 |
| Bankstown – North-East | 1224 | 5.7 | Lithgow | 287 | 1.6 |
| Bankstown – North-West | 1043 | 4.9 | Parramatta – Inner | 873 | 4.8 |
| Bankstown – South | 755 | 3.5 | Parramatta – North-East | 571 | 3.2 |
| Burwood | 388 | 1.8 | Parramatta – North-West | 558 | 3.1 |
| Camden | 872 | 4.1 | Parramatta – South | 686 | 3.8 |
| Campbelltown – North | 1259 | 5.9 | Penrith – East | 1536 | 8.5 |
| Campbelltown – South | 1172 | 5.5 | Penrith – West | 1286 | 7.1 |
| Canada Bay – Concord | 468 | 2.2 | Other | 54 | 0.3 |
| Canada Bay – Drummoyne | 569 | 2.7 | TOTAL | 18 095 | 100.0 |
| Canterbury | 2299 | 10.8 | Northern Sydney and Central Coast | 10070 | |
| Fairfield – East | 1881 | 8.8 | Gosford – East | 680 | 4.7 |
| Fairfield – West | 879 | 4.1 | Gosford – West | 1263 | 8.7 |
| Leichhardt | 1038 | 4.9 | Hornsby – North | 744 | 5.1 |
| Liverpool – East | 1842 | 8.6 | Hornsby – South | 1075 | 7.4 |
| Liverpool – West | 1202 | 5.6 | Hunters Hill | 146 | 1.0 |
| Marrickville | 1277 | 6.0 | Ku-ring-gai | 840 | 5.8 |
| Strathfield | 393 | 1.8 | Lane Cove | 438 | 3.0 |
| Sydney – Inner | 5 | 0.0 | Manly | 693 | 4.8 |
| Sydney – South | 615 | 2.9 | Mosman | 372 | 2.6 |
| Sydney – West | 468 | 2.2 | North Sydney | 969 | 6.6 |
| Wingecarribee | 482 | 2.3 | Pittwater | 755 | 5.2 |
| Wollondilly | 557 | 2.6 | Ryde | 1384 | 9.5 |
| Other | 67 | 0.3 | Warringah | 2175 | 9.5 14.9 |
| TOTAL | 21 334 | 100.0 | - | 1024 | 7.0 |
| South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra | | | Willoughby Wyong – North-East | | 6.9 |
| Botany | 586 | 3.7 | | 1001 | |
| Hurstville | 1062 | 6.7 | Wyong – South and West | 973 | 6.7 |
| Kiama | 203 | 1.3 | Other | 41 | 0.3 |
| Kogarah | 714 | 4.5 | TOTAL | 14573 | 100.0 |
| Randwick | 1886 | 12.0 | Hunter and New England | 272 | 2.5 |
| Rockdale | 1480 | 9.4 | Armidale Dumaresq – City | 273 | 2.5 |
| Shellharbour | 881 | 5.6 | Armidale Dumaresq – Balance | 30 | 0.3 |
| Shoalhaven – Pt A | 435 | 2.8 | Cessnock | 730 | 6.7 |
| Shoalhaven – Pt B | 557 | 3.5 | Dungog Clauden av Causar | 101 | 0.9 |
| Sutherland Shire – East | 1440 | 9.1 | Glen Innes Severn | 106 | 1.0 |
| Sutherland Shire – West | 1533 | 9.7 | Gloucester | 54 | 0.5 |
| Sydney – Inner | 155 | 1.0 | Greater Taree | 529 | 4.8 |
| Sydney (SESAHS) | 421 | 2.7 | Great Lakes | 281 | 2.6 |
| Sydney – South | 161 | 1.0 | Gunnedah | 177 | 1.6 |
| Waverley | 1034 | 6.6 | Guyra | 52 | 0.5 |
| Wollongong – Inner | 1247 | 7.9 | Gwydir | 45 | 0.4 |
| Wollongong – Balance | 1247 | 7.9 | Inverell – Pt A | 49 | 0.4 |
| Woollahra | 696 | 4.4 | Inverell – Pt B | 175 | 1.6 |
| Other | 63 | 0.4 | Lake Macquarie – East | 706 | 6.4 |
| TOTAL | 15 768 | 100.0 | Lake Macquarie – North | 1000 | 9.1 |
| | 13700 | 100.0 | Lake Macquarie – West | 556 | 5.1 |
| Sydney West | 1226 | 7.2 | Liverpool Plains | 82 | 0.1 |
| Auburn Baulkham Hills - Control | 1326 | 7.3 | Maitland | 1014 | 9.3 |
| Baulkham Hills – Central | 895 | 4.9 | Moree Plains | 228 | 2.1 |
| Baulkham Hills – North | 783 | 4.3 | Muswellbrook | 258 | 2.4 |
| Blacktown – North | 1705 | 9.4 | Narrabri | 211 | 1.9 |
| Blacktown – South-East | 1671 | 9.2 | Newcastle – Inner City | 661 | 6.0 |
| Blacktown – South-West | 1871 | 10.3 | Newcastle – Outer West | 566 | 5.2 |
| Blue Mountains | 948 | 5.2 | Newcastle – Throsby | 743 | 6.8 |

(Continued)

Table 32. (Continued)

| Health area/statistical local area | No. | % | Health area/statistical local area | No. | % |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------|
| Port Stephens | 802 | 7.3 | Junee | 82 | 2.0 |
| Singleton | 317 | 2.9 | Leeton | 145 | 3.6 |
| Tamworth Regional – Pt A | 670 | 6.1 | Lockhart | 31 | 0.8 |
| Tamworth Regional – Pt B | 120 | 1.1 | Murray | 22 | 0.5 |
| Tenterfield | 30 | 0.3 | Murrumbidgee | 48 | 1.2 |
| Upper Hunter Shire | 179 | 1.6 | Narrandera | 98 | 2.4 |
| Uralla | 79 | 0.7 | Palerang – Pt A | 42 | 1.0 |
| Walcha | 34 | 0.3 | Queanbeyan | 205 | 5.1 |
| Other | 100 | 0.9 | Snowy River | 59 | 1.5 |
| TOTAL | 10958 | 100.0 | Temora | 71 | 1.8 |
| North Coast | | | Tumbarumba | 24 | 0.6 |
| Ballina | 397 | 7.6 | Tumut | 153 | 3.8 |
| Bellingen | 121 | 2.3 | Upper Lachlan | 45 | 1.1 |
| Byron | 282 | 5.4 | Urana | 5 | 0.1 |
| Clarence Valley – Coast | 208 | 4.0 | Wagga Wagga – Pt A | 804 | 19.8 |
| Clarence Valley – Grafton | 305 | 5.8 | Wagga Wagga – Pt B | 44 | 1.1 |
| Clarence Valley – Balance | 74 | 1.4 | Wakool | 5 | 0.1 |
| Coffs Harbour – Pt A | 625 | 11.9 | Yass Valley | 11 | 0.3 |
| Coffs Harbour – Pt B | 182 | 3.5 | Young | 155 | 3.8 |
| Hastings – Pt A | 441 | 8.4 | Other | 54 | 1.3 |
| Hastings – Pt B | 289 | 5.5 | TOTAL | 4056 | 100.0 |
| Kempsey | 330 | 6.3 | Greater Western | | |
| Kyogle | 88 | 1.7 | Bathurst Regional – Pt A | 431 | 10.5 |
| Lismore – Pt A | 445 | 8.5 | Bathurst Regional – Pt B | 45 | 1.1 |
| Lismore – Pt B | 120 | 2.3 | Blayney | 86 | 2.1 |
| Nambucca | 215 | 4.1 | Bogan | 46 | 1.1 |
| Richmond Valley – Casino | 142 | 2.7 | Bourke | 72 | 1.8 |
| Richmond Valley Bal | 134 | 2.6 | Brewarrina | 29 | 0.7 |
| Tweed – Tweed-Heads | 444 | 8.5 | Broken Hill | 240 | 5.9 |
| Tweed – Tweed Coast | 109 | 2.1 | Cabonne | 160 | 3.9 |
| Tweed – Pt B | 222 | 4.2 | Central Darling | 25 | 0.6 |
| Other | 65 | 1.2 | Cobar | 81 | 2.0 |
| TOTAL | 5238 | 100.0 | Coonamble | 56 | 1.4 |
| Greater Southern | | | Cowra | 160 | 3.9 |
| Bega Valley | 275 | 6.8 | Dubbo – Pt A | 551 | 13.5 |
| Berrigan | 23 | 0.6 | Dubbo – Pt B | 39 | 1.0 |
| Bland | 83 | 2.0 | Forbes | 126 | 3.1 |
| Bombala | 28 | 0.7 | Gilgandra | 62 | 1.5 |
| Boorowa | 12 | 0.3 | Lachlan | 100 | 2.4 |
| Carrathool | 37 | 0.9 | Mid-Western Regional – Pt A | 244 | 6.0 |
| Conargo | 6 | 0.1 | Mid-Western Regional – Pt B | 33 | 0.8 |
| Coolamon | 46 | 1.1 | Narromine | 101 | 2.5 |
| Cooma-Monaro | 111 | 2.7 | Oberon | 69 | 1.7 |
| Cootamundra | 88 | 2.2 | Orange | 630 | 15.4 |
| Deniliquin | 79 | 1.9 | Parkes | 205 | 5.0 |
| Eurobodalla | 325 | 8.0 | Walgett | 123 | 3.0 |
| Greater Argyle – Goulburn | 225 | 5.5 | Warren | 47 | 1.1 |
| Greater Argyle – Balance | 57 | 1.4 | Warrumbungle Shire | 123 | 3.0 |
| Greater Hume Shire | 24 | 0.6 | Weddin | 36 | 0.9 |
| Griffith | 413 | 10.2 | Wellington | 118 | 2.9 |
| Gundagai | 43 | 1.1 | Other | 52 | 1.3 |
| Harden | 32 | 0.8 | TOTAL | 4090 | 100.0 |
| Нау | 40 | 1.0 | Other/Not stated | 1108 | 100.0 |
| Jerilderie | 6 | 0.1 | TOTAL NSW | 95 220 | 100.0 |
| Source: NSW Midwives Data Collection (HOI | ST) Centre for Eni | demiology and Re | search NSW Department of Health | | |