

Women in the Territory

Fact sheet

budget.nt.gov.au

The Territory government is supporting better outcomes for women and girls through a range of programs funded in Budget 2023.

Health and wellbeing

Budget 2023 supports the health and wellbeing of Territory women through:

- \$45 million for maternity services in Territory hospitals, including 28 beds at Royal Darwin Hospital and 16 in Alice Springs, and 11 same-day beds
- \$5 million for the Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home Visiting program to engage and support mothers and their families to get the best possible care and to raise their babies and small children
- \$4 million for the Ramingining and Lake Evella health centres, outreach services and Strong Women Workers Program, to promote good health in women and babies during pregnancy and early parenting
- \$1.3 million to support young mothers to obtain ongoing long-term employment or take up flexible learning pathway opportunities and support the Strong Young Dads program
- \$3.1 million for free mammograms with BreastScreenNT for women aged 50 to 74, with services available in urban centres. A mobile service also provides screening to over 1,000 women every year in up to 20 communities across the Territory
- \$1.5 million for travel support and other women's residential rehabilitation treatment services and programs to address drug and alcohol misuse
- \$0.9 million for sexual health programs for women, including pregnancy services and contraception support for priority groups and clients in crisis.
- \$0.2 million for the cervical cancer screening program.



Working women

Budget 2023 supports working women through:

- \$5.5 million to subsidise child care operators to reduce the cost of child care for parents, enabling women and carers to get back into the workforce or pursue study
- \$1.5 million for Screen Territory to provide grants to support local screen practitioners, attract productions to the Territory, and provide upskilling opportunities for locals. Grants can be up to \$100,000 each. In 2022-23, 51 grants were awarded including 35 to women and 5 to female-run companies
- \$220,000 in 2023-24 to support women in the fields of construction and engineering with funding for:
 - two women to undertake a Certificate IV in Civil Construction Supervision
 - an engineering scholarship, supporting two female students over four years to study a Bachelor of Engineering at Charles Darwin University
 - sponsoring the National Association of Women in Construction to grow careers in construction

- \$194,000 to the NT Working Women's Centre to provide free and confidential advice to Territory women on industrial relations and workplace issues.

Education and training

Budget 2023 invests in education and training for women including:

- \$24 million towards apprenticeships and traineeships to offer Territorians the opportunity to study and earn an income while undertaking a qualification. Of the 3,462 current apprentices, 1106 are females (32%) across the Territory. Women also receive additional incentives, such as pastoral care, and are targeted for traditional trades
- \$2.4 million for Stars Foundation programs for girls to provide school-based mentoring and wellbeing support across 16 schools to increase attendance and assist female students to complete Year 12
- \$2.4 million for the Remote Aboriginal Teacher Education program enabling remote residents, particularly women, to pursue a teaching career in schools and early childhood care
- up to 20 NT Higher Education scholarships of \$5,000 will help year 12 graduates to study their first degree. In 2023, 60% of the scholarships went to women
- \$47,400 to fund five Minister for Women's Scholarships for tertiary and vocational education and training through Charles Darwin University.

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence

The Territory government is committed to ensuring women are safe, respected and free from violence through its 10-year plan to reduce the impact of domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) in our community. Since 2017, \$71 million has been invested in implementing the plan.

Budget 2023 includes \$55.1 million for DFSV reduction programs and initiatives, which includes an additional \$20 million over two years to support implementation of the DFSV Prevention and Response: Action Plan 2.

Leadership and diversity

Budget 2023 supports leadership and diversity through:

- \$1.2 million to implement the Gender Equality Action Plan 2022–2025

- \$90,000 in grants to support a range of organisations for various events and activities to mark International Women's Day, celebrated around the world each year on 8 March, to promote women's diversity and social, political and economic achievements
- the Women's Leadership Network, which includes monthly inspirational speakers, a formal mentoring program and training events aimed at growing leadership capabilities for women in the public sector.

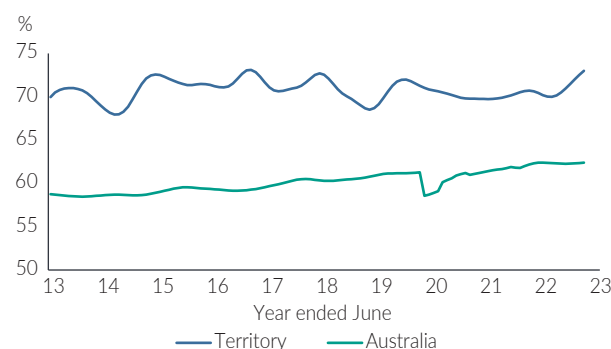
Statistical snapshot

Compared with the national female population, Territory women are younger (33.7 years old vs 39.4), proportionately more are Aboriginal (31.6% and 3.6%), and have a higher fertility rate (1.76 births vs 1.69).

There are fewer females than males in the Territory (96.8:100). This is partly due to the prevalence of male dominated industries in our economy. However, women participate in the labour force at a higher rate and with a higher employment to population ratio than nationally.

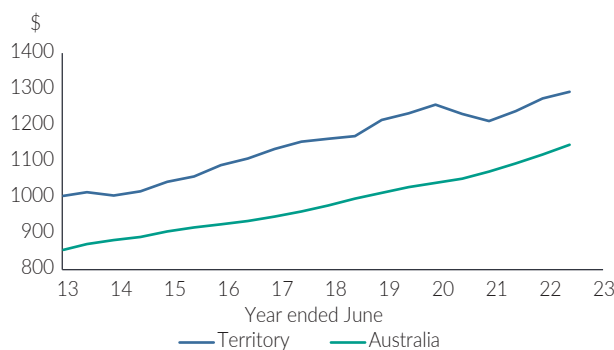
In March 2023, the Territory female participation rate was 73% (62.4% nationally) and the employment to population ratio was 71.2% in the Territory (60.3% nationally).

Female participation rate



Territory women are more likely to work full-time and earn \$145.60 more in average weekly earnings than nationally (November 2022).

Female average weekly earnings



Photograph courtesy of the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities

Delivering for all Territorians.

