



MEDIA RELEASE

**Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC
Attorney General
Minister for Industrial Relations**

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TOP 10 BABY SUBURBS SURPRISE RESULTS

Attorney General John Hatzistergos said Blacktown was the top Sydney suburb for new babies followed by Bankstown, Auburn and Merrylands. The top regional areas were Dubbo, Wagga Wagga and Orange.

He said the NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages had today released the top 10 postcode areas for births in 2008. The suburbs and towns named in the list recognise the place where the mother usually resides.

“Blacktown has come out the clear winner, followed by Bankstown. The two Western Sydney suburbs have traded the top two positions for the last two years running,” said Mr Hatzistergos.

“Newcomers to the top 10 in 2008 include Liverpool and Guildford, edging out Baulkham Hills and Tamworth.”

He said 2008 was a busy year for Registry staff, recording 94,750 births in NSW. From 2000 to 2005 there was an increase of 3% in births, compared to an increase of 10% in between 2005 and 2008.

“While the number of birth registrations has increased, the ratio of boys to girls has stayed constant, with 51% male and 49% female,” said Mr Hatzistergos.

In 2008, the most popular baby names for boys were Jack, William and Lachlan, while for girls they were Mia, Chloe and Isabella.

In NSW, parents are required to register their child within 60 days of birth. Registering your child’s birth is free.

“Registering a birth is an important step in establishing a child’s identity,” he said.

“It helps in providing access to health and social services, and lays the foundation for future needs such as drivers’ licences and passports.”

To find out more about NSW birth registration, call 1300 655 236 or visit www.bdm.nsw.gov.au.

NSW Top Ten Baby Suburbs*					
2008** Stats			2007*** Stats		
Rank	No. of Babies	Suburb	Rank	No. of Babies	Suburb
1	789	Blacktown	1	715	Bankstown
2	739	Bankstown	2	680	Blacktown
3	699	Auburn	3	622	Auburn
4	645	Merrylands	4	591	Merrylands
5	603	Dubbo	5	568	Wagga Wagga
6	589	Wagga Wagga	6	532	Orange
7	560	Orange	7	495	Dubbo
8	504	Quakers Hill	8	474	Tamworth
9	494	Guildford	9	461	Baulkham Hills
10	494	Liverpool	10	459	Quakers Hill