



September 27, 2017



Spring has sprung – and so have 24 babies

September is traditionally when most births occur in NSW, and 24 babies have already sprung into the world this month before their mums were able to reach hospital.

NSW Ambulance Director Control Tim Collins said each year NSW Ambulance Triple Zero (000) call takers play a direct role in the safe arrival of hundreds of babies, often teaming with paramedics who are trained in the delivery of babies in the out of hospital setting.

So far this year, 289 babies have been born before in this way, including one of a set of twins at Orange. This is compared with 320 born 2016 in total, and 32 in September.

In a breakdown of births, 189 were assisted by NSW Ambulance call takers and 71 of those were completed by paramedics. The balance arrived before mum had a chance to reach the phone.

This month's births include:

3/9	Elmore Vale	Baby boy born assisted by call taker and paramedics;
3/9	Orange	Twins, baby girl born first, second in hospital;
4/9	Auburn	Baby born assisted by call taker and paramedics;
4/9	Roseville	Baby born before Triple Zero (000) could be called;
6/9	Brighton Le Sands	Baby born before Triple Zero (000) called;
8/9	Orange	Baby girl born before Triple Zero (000) called;
9/9	Tweed Heads South	Baby girl born with help of call taker;
10/9	Bondi Junction	Baby born with help of call taker;
11/9	Bankstown	Baby girl born before Triple Zero (000) called;
12/9	Bangor	Baby girl born before Triple Zero (000) called;

Is your URGENCY an EMERGENCY?



14/9	Paddington	Baby girl born before Triple Zero (000) called;
15/9	Tabulam	Baby girl born assisted by paramedics;
16/9	Merrylands	Baby girl born assisted by call taker;
18/9	North Bondi	Baby girl born assisted by call taker;
19/9	Buladelah	Baby girl born assisted by call taker;
20/9	Ingleburn	Baby born with help of call taker;
20/9	Currans Hill	Baby born assisted by call taker and paramedics;
21/9	Warners Bay	Baby girl born with assistance of call taker;
22/9	Muswellbrook	Baby boy born before Triple Zero (000) called;
24/9	Minto	Baby born assisted by call taker and paramedics;
24/9	Tilba Tilba	Baby girl born with assistance of call taker;
25/9	Seven Hills	Baby girl born before Triple Zero (000) called;
26/9	The Entrance	Baby girl born with assistance of call taker; and
27/9	Eden	Baby boy born assisted by call taker and paramedics.

Australian Bureau of Statistics figures show that, in the past 10 years, the highest number of births occurred in September. This is true for both NSW where 81,877 babies were born, and Australia where 250,978 babies were born during this period.

Chief Superintendent Collins said dialling Triple Zero (000) ensures an ambulance is dispatched and essential instructions can be provided until paramedics arrive.

“Advice includes placing the mother in the most comfortable position, guiding when to push, and supporting the baby as it makes its way into the world.

“Often our highly trained call takers have been on the line right through to delivery to celebrate the birth of the child,” he said.

Chief Supt Collins provided the following advice for those called upon to deliver a baby:

- dial Triple Zero (000) and ask for Ambulance;
- stay on the line with the call taker who will talk you through the necessary steps;
- provide mum with assurance that an ambulance is on its way;
- mum is not to sit on the toilet;
- make sure mum is in a comfortable position;
- provisions should include dry towels and a blanket in which to wrap the baby;
- tell mum to take slow, deep breaths between contractions; continue to reassure her help is on its way;
- when the baby is delivered, gently wipe its mouth and nose. Dry the baby off with the towel and wrap it in a blanket;
- don't cut the umbilical cord;
- make sure mum and baby are both warm; and
- await arrival of the placenta. When it delivers, wrap it in a towel. The doctor will need to examine it to make sure it's all out.

Is your URGENCY an EMERGENCY?