

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People at a Glance WESTERN AUSTRALIA



ESTIMATES OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION, JUNE 1996

States/Territory	Indigenous persons	% of Australian Indigenous population	Total persons	Indigenous population as % of total persons
New South Wales	83 500	26.2	6 165 400	1.4
Victoria	20 400	6.4	4 533 600	0.5
Queensland	83 900	26.3	3 318 800	2.5
South Australia	19 500	6.1	1 484 000	1.3
Western Australia	50 300	15.7	1 748 500	2.9
Tasmania	10 700	3.3	481 400	2.2
Northern Territory	48 700	15.3	177 100	27.5
Australia(a)	319 200	100.0	18 223 400	1.8

Western Australia

Age group (years)	Indigenous population			Total population (all persons)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
0-4	3 900	3 800	7 700	64 500	61 600	126 100
5-9	3 600	3 300	6 800	67 000	63 100	130 100
10-14	3 000	2 900	5 800	67 900	64 000	131 900
15-19	2 600	2 500	5 100	64 600	61 600	126 200
20-24	2 400	2 200	4 600	68 800	66 500	135 300
25-29	2 300	2 300	4 600	69 100	66 900	136 000
30-34	2 000	2 000	4 000	68 000	68 600	136 600
35-39	1 500	1 600	3 000	70 800	70 700	141 500
40-44	1 200	1 300	2 500	67 300	67 700	135 000
45-49	800	900	1 700	65 800	62 500	128 400
50-54	600	600	1 200	50 000	46 200	96 100
55-59	500	500	900	39 800	37 900	77 700
60-64	400	400	800	31 900	31 400	63 300
65-69	300	300	600	29 300	30 100	59 400
70-74	200	200	400	23 300	26 300	49 600
75+	200	300	500	29 000	46 200	75 400
Total	25 300	25 000	50 300	877 100	871 500	1 748 500

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

Source: Projections of the Populations of Australia States & Territories 1993 to 2041 (3222.0) series D.

Experimental Projections Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Population June-1991-June 2001 (3231.0) medium series.

Population figures have been rounded to the nearest hundred.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION, 1994

	Western Australia	Australia		Western Australia	Australia
Health	%	%	Family and culture	%	%
Self reported conditions(a)			Speaks Indigenous language(d)	20.9	21.0
Asthma	12.2	15.3	Identifies with a clan(b)	63.7	59.8
Diabetes	5.7	4.5	Recognises homeland/ traditional country(b)	75.4	75.2
Heart problems	3.8	4.7	Taken away from natural family(e)	16.8	10.3
Chest problems	5.5	6.6			
Skin problems	5.9	7.8	Education and training	%	%
High blood pressure	6.7	7.7	Left school and currently studying(c)	6.0	5.4
Ear/hearing problems	10.9	11.0	Taught about Indigenous culture at school(f)	49.8	52.2
Eye problems	3.7	3.0	Taught by Indigenous person(f)		
Kidney problems	3.0	3.6	Yes, teacher	5.8	13.7
			Yes, education worker	33.3	21.8
Perceived local health problems(b)	%	%	Yes, community member	9.9	11.9
Alcohol problems	75.4	58.8	No	47.3	55.8
Diabetes	29.6	22.0			
Diet/nutrition	27.5	19.6	Housing(g)	% of households	
Drugs	38.5	30.2	Running water connected to dwelling	93.9	96.1
Happy with local health services	78.6	79.3	Satisfied with dwelling	73.0	77.3
			Dwelling on sealed road	72.2	81.6
Health/risk factors(b)	%	%	Average persons per private dwelling (no.)	4.3	4.1
Drank alcohol in last year	57.0	61.7			
Cigarette smokers	48.2	49.7			
			Employment and income(c)	%	%
			Participation rate	58.0	58.0
			Unemployment rate	36.6	38.2
			Main source of income		
			Non-CDEP	20.0	24.1
			CDEP	13.1	8.5
			Government payments	56.6	54.9
			No income	9.1	10.7
			Law and justice(b)	%	%
			Relations with police better now than 5 years ago	20.6	21.5
			In the last year		
			Hassled by police	10.2	9.6
			Physically attacked	7.9	8.0
			Verbally threatened	9.1	8.5

(a) All persons. (b) Persons aged 13 years and over. (c) Persons aged 15 years and over. (d) Persons aged 5 years and over. (e) Persons aged 25 years and over. (f) All school students. (g) Households living in private dwellings.

Source: National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994-Detailed Findings (4190.0).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

National survey:

- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - Detailed Findings (4190.0)
- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - State/Territory Statistics (4180.1 - 7)
- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - ATSI Regional Statistics (4196.0.00.001 - 036)
- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - Regional Overviews (4192.0.40.001 - 036)
- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - Employment Outcomes for Indigenous Australians (4199.0)
- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - Housing Characteristics & Conditions (4187.0)
- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - Health of Indigenous Australians (4395.0)
- National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - Australia's Indigenous Youth (4197.0)

Further publications are planned for August and September 1996 including Atlas of Indigenous Australians (4155.0), and National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Survey 1994 - Law and Justice (4189.0) and Torres Strait Islanders in Queensland (4179.3).

Population statistics:

- Experimental Estimates of the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Population 1991 (3230.0)
- Experimental Projections of the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Population (3231.0) June 1991-June 2001.

Catalogues:

- Electronic catalogue of statistics data: Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Statistics (1138.0)
- Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia (1101.0).

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey was funded from Commonwealth Government funds as a result of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. The Royal Commission recommended a survey of Australia's Indigenous people after recognising that little comparable data about Indigenous people was available.

FOR DETAILS OF WHAT IS AVAILABLE AND HOW TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics
Australian Bureau of Statistics

5th floor Telephone (08) 8943 2192
81 Smith Street, Darwin Facsimile (08) 8941 0715
(GPO Box 3796, Darwin 0801)

Free phone information service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations:
1800 633216

Or contact the ABS Office in your State/Territory on:

SA (08) 8237 7100	WA (09) 360 5140
NSW (02) 9268 4611	TAS (03) 6220 5800
VIC (03) 9615 7755	ACT (06) 252 6627
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