Population: in 2016, 216,176 Aboriginal people resided in NSW, representing 2.9% of the total NSW population and 33.3% of the Aboriginal population in Australia.

Population growth: by 2026, the NSW Aboriginal population is expected to grow to 282,962 people.

Age: in 2016, the median age of the NSW Aboriginal population was 22 years, compared with 38 years for the non-Aboriginal population. 53% of the Aboriginal population was aged 24 years and below, compared with 31% of the non-Aboriginal population.

Location: in 2011, 44.6% of the NSW Aboriginal population lived in major cities, 33.7% in inner regional areas, 17.2% in outer regional areas, 2.9% in remote areas and 1.6% in very remote areas.

Population mobility: between 2006 and 2011, 6,587 Aboriginal people permanently left NSW and 4,591 Aboriginal people moved to NSW.

Identification change: in 2011, 14.7% of the NSW Aboriginal population had not identified as Aboriginal in 2006, and 6.5% of those who had identified as Aboriginal in 2006 did not in 2011.

Mixed partnerships: in 2015, 79% of NSW Aboriginal babies were born to mixed partnerships.

Life expectancy: in 2010-12, the life expectancy for Aboriginal people in NSW was 70.5 years for males and 74.6 years for females, compared to 79.8 years for non-Aboriginal males and 83.1 years for non-Aboriginal females.

Infant mortality: between 2010 and 2014, the rate of infant mortality was 4.6 per 1,000 for Aboriginal infants, compared with 3.9 per 1,000 for non-Aboriginal infants.

Subjective well-being: in 2011-13, 66% of Aboriginal people assessed their own health as good, very good or excellent, compared with 86% of the total population.

Disability: in 2016, the disability rate for Aboriginal people was 7.6% compared with 5.4% for the NSW population overall.

Land ownership: in 2009, 0.5% of NSW land was owned by Aboriginal people.

Children on track on the Australian Early development Index: in 2015, 34.1% of Aboriginal children were developmentally vulnerable on one or more domain on school entry, compared with 19.4% of non-Aboriginal children.

Reading and numeracy: between 2008 and 2016, with the exception of Year 3 performance in Reading where there was a statistically significant increase, there was no statistically significant change in the proportion of non-Aboriginal or Aboriginal students achieving at or above the national minimum standard in reading or numeracy.

Between 2015 and 2016 with the exception of Aboriginal students in Year 3 whose performance increased in numeracy, there was no statistically significant change in the proportion of non-Aboriginal or Aboriginal students achieving at or above the national minimum standard in either reading or numeracy.

Year 12 attainment: in 2014-15, 63% of Aboriginal people in NSW aged 20-24 years had completed Year 12 or higher, compared with 87% of the non-Aboriginal population.

Post-school education: in 2015, 2,576 Aboriginal people commenced university in NSW, compared with 1,000 Aboriginal students in 2004. In 2011, 39% of Aboriginal people and 61% of non-Aboriginal people aged 20-64 had a post school qualification.

Child protection: in 2015-16, Aboriginal children and young people in NSW were the subject of 21% of all child protection reports and represented 37% of all children and young people in out-of-home-care.

Language: in 2016, less than 1% of Aboriginal people in NSW spoke an Aboriginal language at home, compared with 15% for the rest of Australia.

Community safety: in 2015, Aboriginal people in NSW were 3.4 times more likely to be a victim of assault compared to non-Aboriginal people.

Employment: in 2014-15, 53% of Aboriginal people aged 15-64 years in NSW were employed, compared with 71% of non-Aboriginal people.

Unemployment: in 2014-15, the unemployment rate in NSW for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people aged 15-64 years was 15% and 5.7% respectively. In 2011, for 18-24 year olds, it was 26% and 11.4% respectively.

Self-employment: in 2011, 8% of employed Aboriginal people in NSW were owner/managers or contributing family workers compared with 17% of the non-Aboriginal workforce. Between 2006 and 2011, there was a 33% increase in the number of Aboriginal employers.

Housing and home ownership: in 2016, 42% of Aboriginal households in NSW owned or were purchasing their home, compared with 65% of non-Aboriginal households.

Household income (equivalised): in 2014-15, the median weekly household income for Aboriginal households in NSW was $550, compared with $850 for non-Aboriginal households.

Incarceration rate: in 2016, Aboriginal people in NSW were 11.3 times more likely than non-Aboriginal people to be imprisoned; and 74% of Aboriginal people in prison in NSW had experienced prior imprisonment, compared with 49% of non-Aboriginal people. In 2014-15, Aboriginal young people were detained at 15 times the rate of non-Aboriginal young people in NSW.

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1 The term ‘Aboriginal’ is used to describe the many nations, language groups and clans in New South Wales (NSW) including those from the Torres Strait. The preference for the term ‘Aboriginal’ to ‘Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander’ in NSW recognises that Aboriginal people are the original inhabitants of NSW (NSW Ministry for Health, 2004, Communicating positively. A guide to appropriate Aboriginal terminology. Retrieved from http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/aboriginal/Publications/pub-terminology.pdf)

2 Median equivalised household income is not a measure of the total income of a household. It is a measure of the income a lone person in a household would need to have the same standard of living as the household in question (See Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage Key Indicators 2016, p.481)
Population

Population growth

Location


Age

Identification change

Mixed partnerships

Life expectancy

Infant mortality

Subjective wellbeing

Disability

Land ownership

Children on track on the Australian Early development index

Reading and Numeracy

Post school education

Post school education


Self-employment

Household income

Incarceration rate


Language use
Australian Bureau of statistics. Censo de Población y Vivienda 2010. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples QuickStats.


Community safety

Employment

Unemployment

Housing and home ownership


Household income