



# Community Portrait:

## Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional LGA

A portrait of the Aboriginal community of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional, compared with NSW, from the 2016 and earlier Censuses.

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#### **Prepared for Aboriginal Affairs NSW**

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional is the Local Government Area of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional at the 2016 Census.

#### **Preface**

This report uses data from the Census, held every five years by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), to paint a profile of the Aboriginal population of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional as it was in August 2016, and show how it had changed over the previous decade.

## report

Language in this Where it is used in this Portrait, the term 'Aboriginal' is used to describe the many nations, language groups and clans in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional, including those from the Torres Strait. This usage recognises that Aboriginal people are the original inhabitants of NSW.

#### Who is included?

The people described in this Portrait were the usual residents of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional in 2016, even if they completed the Census away from home. People who were visiting Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional on Census night are not included.

## Who are Aboriginal?

Aboriginal people, in this Portrait, means all people who, in completing the Census, responded that they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins, or both. Non-Aboriginal people are those who said they did not have these origins. Note: the Census question asks people about their origins; it does not ask how they identify in their daily lives.

## Are all Aboriginal people counted?

Not all Aboriginal people completed the Census and identified their origins: 3.1% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Census respondents said they had Aboriginal origins, but another 7.1% did not answer this question.

The ABS estimates that the net undercount rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples was 17.5% in 2016 (equivalent to 137,750 persons nationally). This is slightly higher than 2011 (17.2%). This means that, on average, the Aboriginal population was about a fifth larger than counted. However, despite such omissions, the Census is a vital source of information about Aboriginal Australians.

#### National trends

Nationally, the number of people with Aboriginal origins counted in the Census rose by a fifth (21%) between 2011 and 2016. Almost three-quarters of the increase was from births; the rest was caused by more people identifying Aboriginal origins than previously.

#### Sources of data

The data for this report are drawn from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (Indigenous) Profiles and Community Profiles published by the ABS from the 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses. Data in this portrait for 2011 and 2006 censuses have been produced using the 2016 boundary regardless of changes to previous LGA or other geographical classifications over time.

Note: difference and changes shown in this Portrait are rounded to the nearest significant figure but are calculated from the unrounded data, so small anomalies are possible when comparing differences. Small Census counts are randomised by the ABS to protect privacy so are not precise; in this Portrait, numbers less than 5 are reported as 'a few'.

Indigenous Portrait2016D Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional.xlsx

Version D of 21 November 2017

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## Snapshot: Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional LGA, 2016

- In the 2016 Census, 1,722 of the 56,027 residents (3.1%) counted in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional said that they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins, or both. Of these, 96% were Aboriginal.
  - Between 2011 and 2016, the counted Aboriginal population rose by 26%, from 1,363; the overall population of the LGA rose by 7%.
  - About 11% of the Aboriginal population were under 5 in 2016. This infant population accounted for half of the Aboriginal population growth between 2011 and 2016.
- The Aboriginal community is younger than the non-Aboriginal population, with a median age of 22 vs 39 years.
  - There was a higher proportion under 18 years old: 41% compared with 23%.
  - There was a lower proportion aged 65 or more: 4% compared with 12%.
- Aboriginal households had an average of 3.1 residents, which was larger than non-Aboriginal households (2.5) in the LGA.
  - m One in three Aboriginal households were couples with children.
  - One in four were one parent families.
  - $\alpha$  16% of the Aboriginal households were single persons (vs 26% of non-Aboriginal households).
- Aboriginal households most commonly lived in rented dwellings (52%), with 33% in mortgaged and 12% in fully owned dwellings.
  - n all, 45% of Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were home-owners (with or without a mortgage), which was up by 3% since 2011.
- The median income of Aboriginal adults was about \$659 a week, which was 70% that of all adults here (\$941).
  - The median income gap had widened by 2% since 2011.
- # 66% of Aboriginal adults were in the labour force, compared with 73% of non-Aboriginal adults.
  - n 10% of the Aboriginal workforce were unemployed, compared with 4% of the non-Aboriginal
- Almost four in ten Aboriginal residents (629 people) were attending an educational institution.
  - 388 Aboriginal people had completed Year 12, which was 49% more than in 2011 and 150% more than in 2006.
  - Compared with non-Aboriginal residents of the same age, there were:
    - 17% fewer Aboriginal people aged 20-24 year olds in education;
    - 11% fewer Aboriginal people aged 15-19 year olds in education.
  - 48% of Aboriginal adults had some type of post-school qualification, compared with 59% of non-Aboriginal adults in the LGA (10% had a degree or higher, compared with 25%).
- 132 Aboriginal people (7.7% of the Aboriginal population) reported that they had a severe or profound disability.
  - Aboriginal people had higher disability rates than average in most age groups.
    - the disability rate for Aboriginal people aged 35–44 year olds was 4 times the average for this age group in Queanbeyan-Palerang.
    - for 55-64 year olds, the Aboriginal rate was 4 times the average in the LGA.
  - 13% of Aboriginal adults (aged 15+) gave assistance to a person with a severe disability.
- <sup>36</sup> 76% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal households had an internet connection, which was unchanged from 2011.

## **Tracking changes in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional**

In the table below, some indicators of community structure and well-being are calculated for Aboriginal people in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional. The difference or gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Queanbeyan-Palerang is shown for 2016. Changes in the Aboriginal rates are tracked over the past five years and decade.

this colour ir rate was in				indicates the airly stable		this colour indicates the rate was worsening
	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional LGA, 2016			Char	Change in Aboriginal rate	
Indicator	Aboriginal	non-Aboriginal	Gap in 2016		last 5 years 2011–2016	last decade 2006–2016
home ownership % of households owning/buying the	45% neir home	69%	-25%		up 3%	up 11%
personal income*  median weekly income of adults (	<b>\$659</b> 15+)	\$941	-30%		up 9%	up 53%
household income median weekly income of household.	\$1,552 olds	\$1,895	-18%		up 6%	up 54%
workforce participation % of adults 15+ in labour force	66%	73%	-7%		dn 1%	up 2%
unemployment % of unemployed in workforce	10%	4%	+7%		up 1%	dn 2%
employment employed adults as % of population	39%	57%	-18%		same	up 4%
pre-school % of infants under 5 in education	20%	21%	-1%		dn 6%	up 8%
teenage education % of 15–19 year-olds in education	68%	79%	-11%		up 10%	up 25%
children at school % of 5–14 year olds in education	91%	97%	-6%		up 2%	up 4%
Year 12 completion % of adults (15+) who have left so	38%	62%	-24%		up 5%	up 14%
average schooling average school Year completed	10.5 yrs	11.1 yrs	-0.6 yrs		0.2 yrs	0.5 yrs
tertiary qualifications % of adults 15+ with a post-school qua	48%	61%	-13%		up 2%	up 12%
degree % of adults 15+ with a degree or higher	10%	25%	-15%		same	up 4%
postgrad % of adults 15+ with a postgraduate qu	3%	10%	-7%		up 0%	up 3%
disability*  % of people with a severe, long-te	7.7%	3.9%	+3.8%		up 3%	up 5%
* Personal income and disability data compare Aboriginal ra	•	he whole population	in Queanbeyan-Pa	alerang Regional.		

## Aboriginal population and growth

In the 2016 Census, the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal population was counted as 1,722 people, of whom 1,661 identified as Aboriginal and 29 as Torres Strait Islander; 28 identified as both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

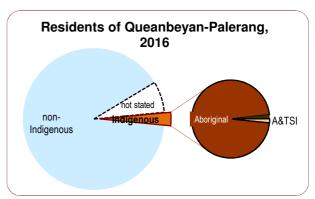
Aboriginal people comprised 3.1% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang population, compared with 2.9% in NSW.

7.1% of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional people did not say whether they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins.

Among the Aboriginal people here, there were 102 females per 100 males.

There were 101 males per 100 females among non-Aboriginal people.

The ABS estimates that the net Census undercount rate nationally for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples was 17.5% in 2016.



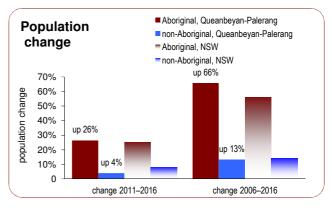
Between 2011 and 2016, the counted Aboriginal population in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional rose by 26% (by 359) from 1,363; in total, the Queanbeyan-Palerang population rose by 7%.

The number of infants born over the last five years accounted for half of the Aboriginal population growth between 2011 and 2016.

Between 2006 and 2016, the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal population rose by 66% (from 1,039 in 2006).

The Queanbeyan-Palerang non-Aboriginal population rose by 13% over the decade.

The Aboriginal population counted in NSW rose by 56% over the decade.



On Census night 2016, 1,626 Aboriginal residents of Queanbeyan-Palerang were at home (94%), and 94 were staying away from home (5%). Offsetting those away, there were 94 Aboriginal visitors staying in the LGA that night, equivalent to 5% of the Aboriginal resident population.

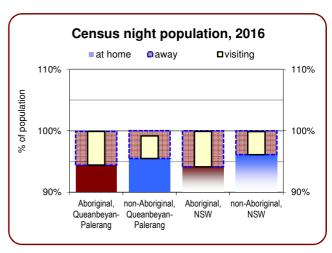
Hare were a few visitors from the same locality (eg. overnighting with neighbours).

57% of the visitors were from elsewhere in NSW and 20% were from the ACT; 6% were from Queensland.

Harmonia The proportion of Aboriginal residents away from home was similar to 2011.

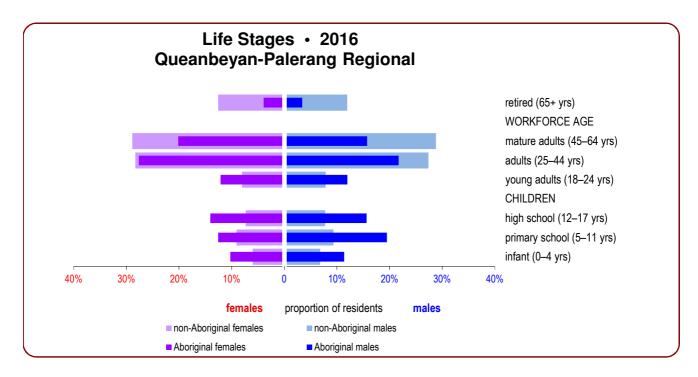
The proportion away from home was 1% higher than for non-Aboriginal residents of this LGA; it was similar to Aboriginal residents of NSW.

There were 10 more Aboriginal visitors than in 2011, when there were 84, equal to 6% of the Aboriginal population.



## Life stages

The Aboriginal population of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional had a smaller proportion in the working stage of life (15–64 years) than the non-Aboriginal population, with a higher proportion of children under 15 and a smaller proportion of people aged 65 or older.



In the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal population in 2016:

- # 934 people (54% or over five in ten) were adults aged 18–64.
  - 215 (or 12%) were aged 18-24
  - 423 (or 25%) were aged 25-44
  - 296 (or 17%) were aged 45-64

The number aged 18–64 was up 26% from 2011; and up 65% from 2006.

- # 712 Aboriginal residents (41% or four in ten) were children under 18.
  - 187 (or 11%) were under five
  - 273 (or 16%) were aged 5–11
  - 252 (or 15%) were aged 12-17

The number of children was up 19% since 2011; and up 55% since 2006.

# 64 of Aboriginal residents were aged 65+ years (4% of the total).

The number aged 65+ had risen by 156% since 2011; it was 327% higher than in 2006.

The proportion aged 18–64 among Aboriginal people was 10% lower than for non-Aboriginal (65%).

5% more of the Aboriginal population were young adults (18–24 yrs), and 12% fewer were mature adults (45–64 yrs), compared with the non-Aboriginal population of the LGA.

Those aged 18–64 made up 54% of the Aboriginal community in NSW; their number had risen by 29% from 2011.

The proportion of Aboriginal children in Queanbeyan-Palerang was 18% higher than the average for non-Aboriginal people.

In NSW, 41% of the Aboriginal community were children under 18; the number was up 18% since 2011.

12% of non-Aboriginal people in Queanbeyan-Palerang were aged 65+.

Across NSW, 5% of Aboriginal people were aged 65+; their number had risen by 58% since 2011, and by 136% since 2006.

## Age profile

The Aboriginal population of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional has an age profile that is younger than the non-Aboriginal population, with a lower median age (22 vs 39 years).

For the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal population in 2016:

The average age was 27 years in 2016, with half the population aged under 22 years (the median age).

The largest 5-year age groups were 10–14 years (12%), 5–9 years (11%) and 0–4 years (11%).

The average age was one year higher than in 2011 and 2 years higher than in 2006.

Proportionally, the biggest increases since 2011 were of 65+ year olds (156% more), 20–24 year olds (50% more) and 40–44 year olds (37% more).

- # 64 Aboriginal people (3.7%) were aged 65+ years, compared with 12% of non-Aboriginal residents.
- There were noticeably more males than females aged 5–9 years, 10–14 years and 15–19 years.

The average age was 11 years younger than for the non-Aboriginal residents; the median age was 17 years younger.

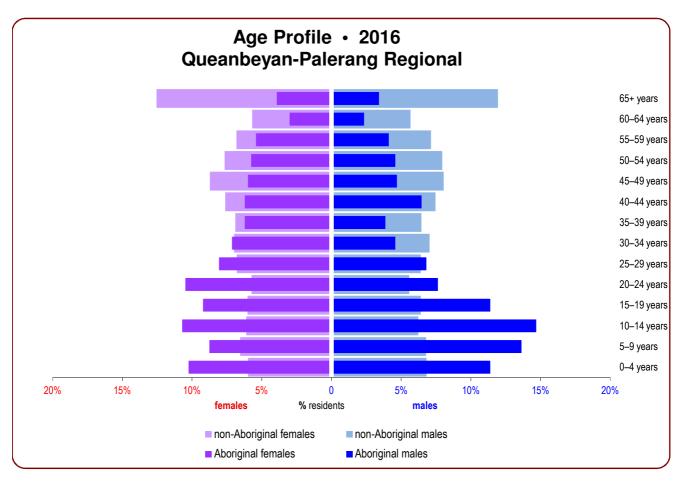
Non-Aboriginal population: about 6% were 10–14 years, 7% were 5–9 years and 6% were 0–4 years.

The average age of Aboriginal people in NSW had risen by one year since 2011, and risen by 3 years in the decade since 2006.

In the NSW Aboriginal population, the increases since 2011 were: 65+ year olds (58%); 20–24 year olds (36%); and 40–44 year olds (15%).

The number aged 65+ was 156% higher than in 2011; the percentage of people this age was up by 1.9% since 2011, when it was 1.8%.

There were many more females than males among those aged 35–39 years, then those aged 30–34 years and 20–24 years.



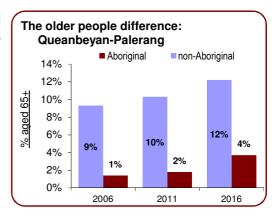
## **Population Indicators**

#### The older people difference

% aged 65+ in population

Commonly, Aboriginal communities have a lower proportion of people aged over 65, due to a shorter average life-span and higher birth rates.

- In 2016, 3.7% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal residents were aged 65 or over, compared with 12.2% of non-Aboriginal residents. The older people difference was -9%.
- The older people difference had changed little since 2011, after having increased by 1% over the previous five years.
- The older people difference in NSW was -11%. It had changed little since 2011 and changed little over the previous five years.

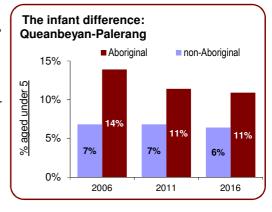


#### The infant difference

% aged under 5 in population

Aboriginal communities generally have a higher proportion of young people due to larger families and fewer older people.

- In 2016, 10.9% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang
  Aboriginal residents were infants, compared with 6.4% of non-Aboriginal residents. The infant difference was +5%.
- The infant difference had changed little since 2011, after having closed by 3% over the previous five years.
- The infant difference in NSW was +5%. It had changed little since 2011 and changed little over 2006 to 2011.

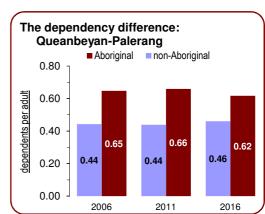


## The dependency difference

ratio of dependents to working age adults

The dependency ratio is the average number of people of dependent age (under 15 or 65+) for each person of working age. The national average is 0.5 dependents per adult. A higher ratio means each person of working age has more dependents to support, on average.

- In 2016, the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal community had a dependency ratio of 0.62, compared with 0.46 for the non-Aboriginal community. The Aboriginal dependency ratio was 0.16 higher.
- The dependency difference had decreased by 0.06 since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- The dependency difference in NSW was 0.13 and had closed by 0.04 since 2011. It had closed by 0.05 over 2006 to 2011.



## Household types and sizes

In 2016, the 1,722 Aboriginal residents of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were living in 797 households, 27% more than in 2011.

The main types of Aboriginal households\* in the LGA in 2016 were:

- One in three were couples with children (263 households, or 33%).
- Solution One in four were one parent families (200 households, or 25%).
- Mone in six were couples without children (136 households, or 17%).
- Mone in six were one-person households (124 households, or 16%).
- # There were 24 multi-family households, and 16 other types of households.

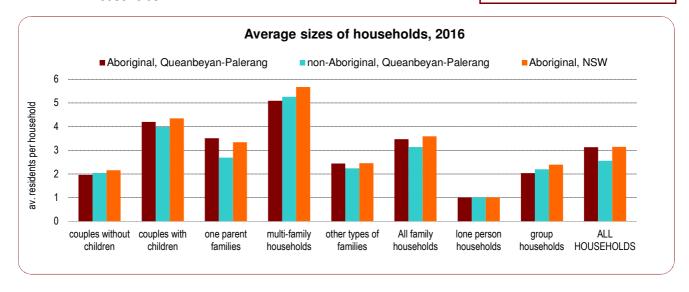
similar to non-Aboriginal here

16% more than non-Aboriginal

9% less than non-Aboriginal

11% less than non-Aboriginal

\* Aboriginal households are those with at least one Aboriginal resident.



# Aboriginal households had an average of 3.1 residents in 2016, which was similar to 2011, and similar to 2006.

- Aboriginal households here were similarly sized to NSW, which averaged 3.1 residents.
- Here are the average size of non-Aboriginal households in the LGA was 2.5 residents; Aboriginal households were 23% larger, on average.
- Harger size of Aboriginal households is consistent with lower proportions of people living alone.
- Aboriginal couple families had an average of 2.2 children, compared with 2.0 for non-Aboriginal families here. Aboriginal families in NSW averaged 2.3 children.
- Aboriginal one-parent families averaged 2.5 children, compared with 2.3 in NSW and 1.7 for non-Aboriginal one-parent families here.
- At an average size of 3.1 persons, the 797 Aboriginal households had some 2,500 members, but only 1,610 Aboriginal people were counted in these households.

The average size of the NSW Aboriginal households was little changed since 2011.

The average size of non-Aboriginal households changed little from 2011.

Aboriginal households: 16% lone person; Other households: 26%.

The average size of Aboriginal nuclear families was little changed since 2011, and little different from 2006.

The average number of children per oneparent family was up by 0.3 since 2011, and up by 0.2 since 2006.

This suggests that some 880 people in the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal households (one in three) did not identify as Aboriginal in the Census.

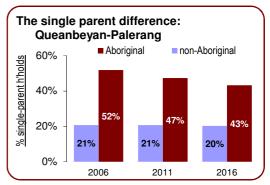
#### Household Indicators

#### The single parent difference

% of families with children having one parent

Single parent families often have low incomes because it is difficult for the parent to work without adequate child care and support. High proportions of one-parent families can indicate a higher need for support services.

- In 2016, 43% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal family households with children had one parent, compared with 20% of non-Aboriginal families. The difference was +23%.
- The single parent difference had decreased by 4% since 2011, after having decreased by 5% over the previous five years.
- The single parent difference in NSW was +23%. It had decreased by 2% since 2011 after having decreased by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

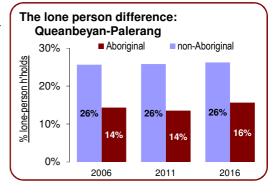


#### The lone person difference

% of households with one person

Living alone is less common for Aboriginal people than for others, so most communities have a large lone person difference. The difference is influenced locally by the availability of small dwellings.

- In 2016, 16% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal households were lone persons, compared with 26% of non-Aboriginal households. The lone person difference was 11%.
- The lone person difference had reduced by 2% since 2011, after having increased by 1% over the previous five years.
- The lone person difference in NSW was -9% and had changed little since 2011. It had decreased by 1% between 2006 and 2011.

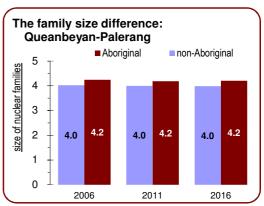


## The family size difference

average size of two-parent families

The family size difference is the gap between the average sizes of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal 'nuclear families' (couples with children). Larger families have to spread their income among more members, so living standards tend to be lower.

- In 2016, the average size of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal nuclear families was 4.2 persons (i.e. 2.2 children), compared with 4.0 persons (2.0 children) for non-Aboriginal families, a difference of 0.2 children per family.
- The family size difference had changed little since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- The family size difference in NSW was 0.3 children per family, and had decreased by 0.1 since 2011. It had increased by 0.1 from 2006 to 2011.



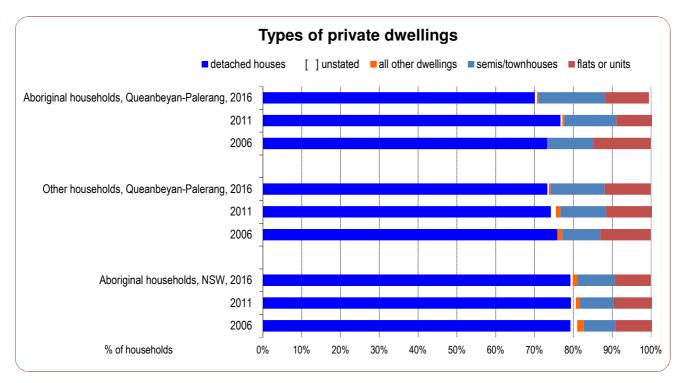
## Types of housing

In 2016, most Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional (70%) were living in detached houses, with 17% living in semis/townhouses and 11% living in flats or units.

- Compared with other households in Queanbeyan-Palerang, 3% more Aboriginal households lived in semis/townhouses, and 3% fewer lived in detached
- The proportion of Aboriginal households living in detached houses in Queanbeyan-Palerang was down by 7% since 2011, and was 3% lower than in 2006.

The proportion in semis/townhouses was 7% higher than that of Aboriginal households in NSW. The proportion in detached houses was 9% lower.

The proportion of non-Aboriginal households in detached houses in Queanbeyan-Palerang was down by 1% since 2011 and down by 3% since 2006.



14 Aboriginal people in the LGA were counted living in institutional accommodation on Census night (eg. nursing homes, hospitals, boarding houses, correctional centres, barracks or boarding schools).

- There were 12 Aboriginal people living in institutional accommodation in this LGA in 2011, and 14 in 2006.
- In 2016, there were 558 people living in institutional accommodation in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional.
- Harmonia There were 2.3 males per female among Aboriginal people in institutional accommodation.

Note: very small numbers are randomly altered by the ABS to protect privacy, so are not precise.

No Aboriginal people were reported living in improvised accommodation (eg. shacks, tents or sleeping out) in the LGA on Census night.

# This was virtually unchanged since 2011.

There were 43 non-Aboriginal people in improvised accommodation in Queanbeyan-Palerang in 2016.

## Housing costs and tenure

In 2016, Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional most commonly lived in dwellings that were rented (52% of the households). Another 33% lived in dwellings that were being purchased, and 12% in homes that were fully owned.

The proportion of Aboriginal households that rented, 52%, was 24% higher than for other households here.

The proportion living in rented dwellings was down by 4% since 2011, and was 10% lower than in 2006.

The median weekly rent paid by Aboriginal households was \$290. It was \$259 in 2011 and \$152 in 2006.

The proportion living in dwellings that were being bought (33%) was 8% lower than for Other households.

The proportion living in mortgaged dwellings was up by 1% since 2011; and 6% higher than in 2006.

The median monthly mortgage paid by Aboriginal households in the LGA in 2016 was \$2,167. It was \$2,056 in 2011 and \$1,524 for 2006.

Here proportion of Aboriginal households in fully owned dwellings (12%) was 17% lower than for non-Aboriginal households.

The proportion in fully owned dwellings was up by 3% since 2011; and 5% higher than in 2006.

Among Aboriginal households, the proportion renting in Queanbeyan-Palerang was 2% lower than the rate in NSW.

28% of Other households in Queanbeyan-Palerang were renting, 1% higher than in 2011, and 1% higher than in 2006.

The median weekly rent paid by Other households in Queanbeyan-Palerang was \$300. It was \$285 in 2011 and \$186 in 2006.

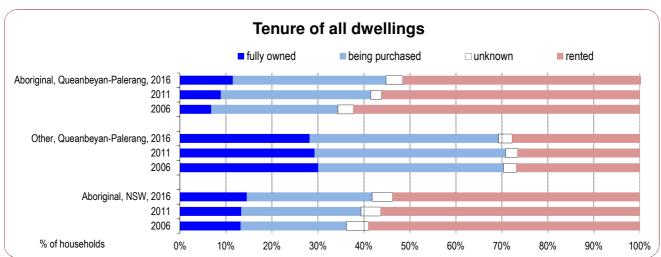
In NSW, 27% of Aboriginal households were home-buyers with a mortgage.

41% of the Other households in Queanbeyan-Palerang had a mortgage, little changed since 2011, and up by 1% since 2006.

The median mortgage paid by Other households in Queanbeyan-Palerang was \$2,080. It was \$2,045 in 2011 and \$1,511 in 2006.

The proportion of Aboriginal households in fully owned dwellings in Queanbeyan-Palerang was 3% less than the average in NSW.

The proportion of Other households in fully owned dwellings in Queanbeyan-Palerang was down by 1% since 2011, and down by 2% since 2006.



# Of 413 Aboriginal rental households, 42% were managed by real estate agents and 32% were managed by public housing.

# 134 Aboriginal households lived in public housing (17% of all households).

This number had fallen by 10 since 2011.

Only 3% of the Other households lived in public housing.

The number of Other households in public housing in Queanbeyan-Palerang had fallen by 59.

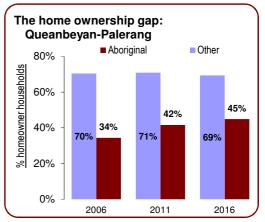
## Housing Indicators

## The home ownership gap

% of households owning/buying their home

Ownership of a home is the main way that most Australians accumulate wealth and ensure secure accommodation.

- In 2016, 45% of Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were either buying or owned their home, compared with 69% of other households, a home ownership gap of -25%.
- The gap had closed by 4% since 2011, after having closed by 7% over the previous five years.
- The home ownership gap in NSW was -24% and had closed by 4% since 2011. It had closed by 3% between 2006 and 2011.

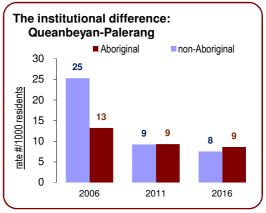


#### The institutional difference

rate per 1000 of residents in non-private dwellings

Differences in proportion of people in institutional accommodation will reflect the nature and extent of these institutions in the area – they might include hotels, boarding houses, nursing homes, correctional centres, barracks or hospitals.

- In 2016, 9 in every 1000 Aboriginal residents in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were in institutional housing, compared with 8 per 1000 non-Aboriginal residents. The institutional difference was +1 per 1000.
- The institutional gap had increased by 1 per 1000 since 2011, after having decreased by 12 per 1000 over the previous five years.
- The institutional difference in NSW was 9 per 1000 and had changed little since 2011. It had also changed little between 2006 and 2011.



## Internet @ home

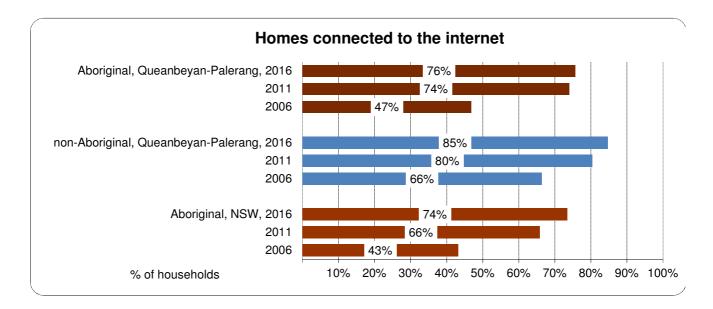
In 2016, 76% of Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional had an internet connection while 20% did not (162 households); 4% did not answer the question.

- The proportion of Aboriginal households connected to the internet was 2% higher than in NSW (74% connected),
- Harmonia The proportion of Aboriginal households with internet was unchanged from 74% in 2011.
- In 2006, 47% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal people had the internet at home.

... but 9% lower than non-Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang (where 85% of homes were connected).

The proportion was up by 8% for Aboriginal households in NSW. It was up by 4% for non-Aboriginal households in this LGA (from 80% in 2011).

This compared with 43% of Aboriginal people in NSW and 66% of non-Aboriginal people in this LGA.



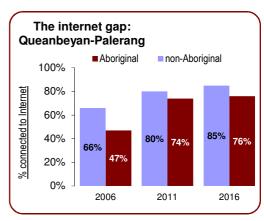
## The internet gap

% of households with an internet connection

The internet is becoming increasingly important as a source of communication and information, and is becoming an essential service.

- In 2016, 76% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal households had an internet connection, compared with 85% of other households, an internet gap of -9%.
- He internet gap had widened by 3% since 2011, after having closed by 13% over the previous five years.
- The internet gap in NSW was 9% and had narrowed by 2% since 2011. It narrowed by 8% between 2006 and 2011.

The 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses had different questions about the internet.



#### Personal income

NSW.

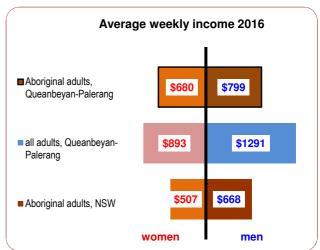
In 2016, the average weekly income of Aboriginal adults (aged 15+) in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional was about \$776, which was 25% more than that of Aboriginal adults in NSW (\$621), but 34% less than the average of all adults in the LGA (\$1,180).

- Aboriginal men in Queanbeyan-Palerang averaged \$799 a week (62% of the overall male average here).

  Aboriginal women averaged \$680 a week (76% of the overall female average).
- The average weekly income of Aboriginal men was \$132 higher in the LGA than in NSW.

  The average weekly income of Aboriginal women here was \$173 higher than in
- Half of the Aboriginal adults received under \$659 a week (the median income).

 $\mathfrak{R}$ 



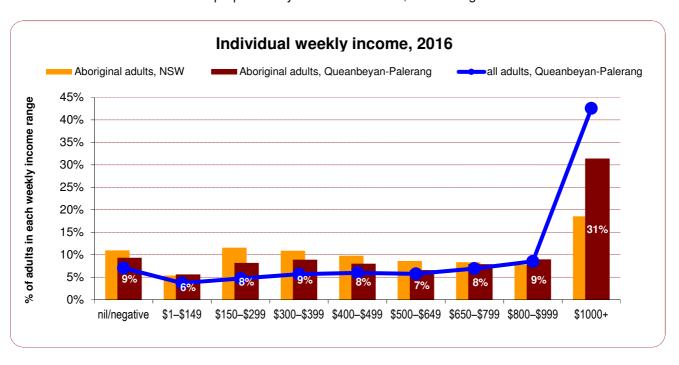
The income distribution pattern among Aboriginal adults in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional was different from Aboriginal adults in NSW, and different from all adults in the LGA.

Compared with Aboriginal adults across NSW:

- # proportionally more Aboriginal adults here were in the \$1000+ and \$800–\$999 ranges.
- # fewer were in the \$150–\$299 and \$300–\$399 ranges, and in the \$500–\$649 range.

Compared with all adults in this LGA:

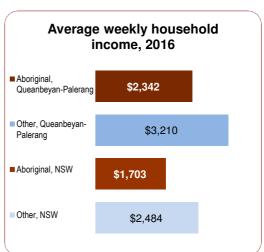
- more Aboriginal adults were in the \$150–\$299 and \$300–\$399 ranges, and in the nil/negative and \$400–\$499 ranges.
- # proportionally fewer were in the \$1000+ range.



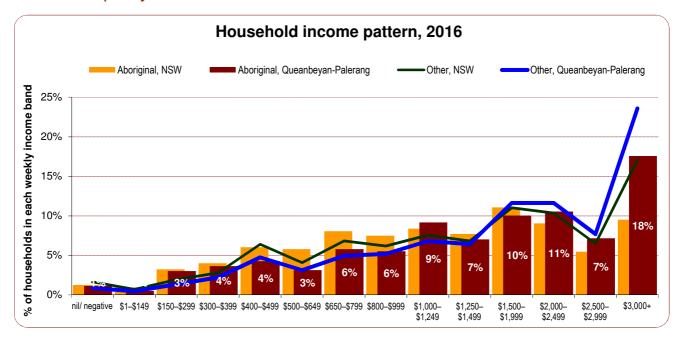
#### Household income

In 2016, the average income of Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional was about \$2,342 a week. Household income is not a strong indicator of well-being because the benefit the income gives household members is affected by the household's size.

- Hand The average Aboriginal household income in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional was 38% more than the average of Aboriginal households in NSW (\$1,703 a week).
- It was 27% less than the average of other households in Queanbeyan-Palerang \$3,210 a week.
- Half the Aboriginal households received less than \$1,552 a week (the median household income).
- Aboriginal households in the LGA had an average size of 3.1 residents, compared with 2.5 for non-Aboriginal households. Household incomes thus had to be spread among more people, compared to other households.



The income distribution pattern among Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional was different from the NSW Aboriginal households, but otherwise partly different from other households in the LGA.



Compared with Aboriginal households across NSW:

- more Aboriginal households here were in the \$3,000+ and \$2,500–\$2,999 income ranges.
- fewer Aboriginal households were in the \$500–\$649 and \$650–\$799 income ranges.

Compared with non-Aboriginal households in this LGA:

- more Aboriginal households were in the \$1,000–\$1,249 and \$150–\$299 income ranges.
- fewer Aboriginal households were in the \$3,000+ and \$1,500-\$1,999 income ranges.

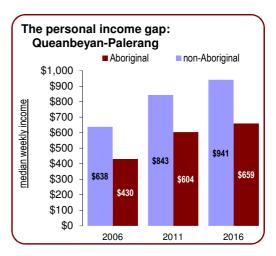
#### Income Indicators

## The personal income gap

median weekly income of adults (15+)

Income is a major contributor to well-being. One indicator of disadvantage is a low median income – the amount which fewer than half the people earn.

- In 2016, the median income of Aboriginal adults in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional (\$659) was 70% that of non-Aboriginal adults in this LGA (\$941). The personal income gap was -30%.
- The personal income gap had widened by 2% since 2011, after having closed by 5% over the previous five years.
- The personal income gap in NSW was -29% and had narrowed by 5% since 2011. It had narrowed 2% between 2006 and 2011.

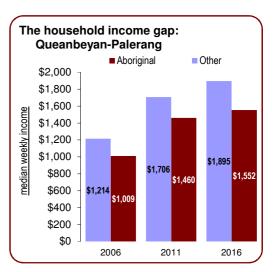


## The household income gap

median weekly income of households

Another indicator of disadvantage is a low median household income; half of all households receive less than this amount. However, Aboriginal households tend to be larger, with more dependents, so household income does not reflect disadvantage as well as individual income does.

- In 2016, the median income of Aboriginal households in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional was \$1,552, compared with \$1,895 for other households in the LGA. This was 18% lower this is the household income gap.
- The household income gap had widened by about 4% since 2011, after having narrowed by about 3% over the previous five years.
- The household income gap in NSW was 19% and had closed by 6% since 2011. It had narrowed by 5% between 2006 and 2011.



## **Employment**

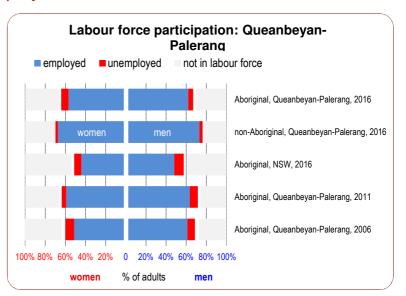
Employment is a prime determinant of a community's income, so it is an important indicator of well-being. In Queanbeyan-Palerang, 667 out of 1,129 Aboriginal adults (15+) were employed in 2016 – 59% of adults.

78 Aboriginal adults were unemployed (7%), so the overall workforce participation rate (employed + unemployed) was 66%.

Aboriginal workforce participation was ...

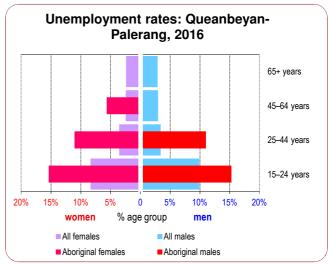
- similar for women (65%) and men (67%).
- 7% lower than the average for non-Aboriginal adults in the LGA.
- # 12% higher than the average for Aboriginal adults in NSW.

The Aboriginal workforce participation rate here was similar to 2011 and similar to 2006.

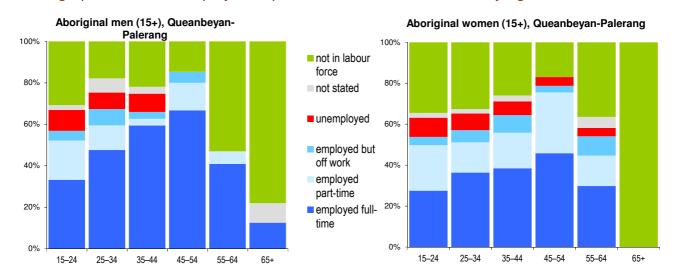


In 2016, the Aboriginal unemployment rate in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional was 11%, with 78 people out of work.

- This rate was higher than the 4% rate among non-Aboriginal adults in the LGA.
- The Aboriginal unemployment rate was 8% for men and 11% for women.
- Hamiltonian The Aboriginal unemployment rate was 1% higher than in 2011, and 2% lower than in 2006.
- Aboriginal unemployment was highest among those aged 15–24 years (17%) and 25–44 years (10%). It was lowest among those aged 45–64 years (3%).



These graphs show the employment patterns for men and women, by age, in 2016.



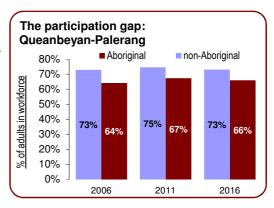
## Workforce Gap Indicators

#### The participation gap

% of adults 15+ in labour force

Employment in the workforce is the main way that people gain income and independence. When the proportion of adults in the workforce is low, communities become more dependent on income support, and poverty increases.

- In 2016, the proportion of Aboriginal adults (15+) of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional in the workforce was 66%; the proportion of non-Aboriginal adults in the workforce was 73%; the participation gap was -7%.
- The participation gap had changed little since 2011, after having closed by 2% over the previous five years.
- The participation gap in NSW was -8% and had closed by 3% since 2011. It had changed little between 2006 and 2011.

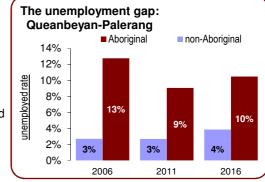


#### The unemployment gap

% of unemployed in workforce

High unemployment indicates an absence of jobs in occupations for which local people have had training. High unemployment rates have many damaging effects on those unemployed and their community.

- In 2016, 10% of the Aboriginal workforce in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were unemployed; 4% of the non-Aboriginal workforce were unemployed; the unemployment gap was +7%.
- The unemployment gap had widened by 1% since 2011, after having closed by 4% over the previous five years.
- The unemployment gap between in NSW was +9% and had closed by 2% since 2011. It had narrowed by 3% between 2006 and 2011.

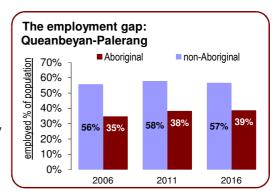


## The employment gap

employed adults as % of population

A useful indicator of the financial strength of a community is the proportion of the total population who are employed. A lower proportion means that, on average, each employed person has more people to support.

- In 2016, 39% of the Aboriginal population of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were employed; 57% of the non-Aboriginal workforce were employed; the employment gap was -18%.
- The employment gap had closed by 2% since 2011, after having closed by 1% over the previous five years.
- The employment gap in NSW was -18% and had closed by 3% since 2011. It had narrowed by 1% between 2006 and 2011.



## **Education participation by age**

Having high proportions of people in education is a good indicator of positive individual and community development. In Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional, almost four in ten Aboriginal residents (629 people) were attending an educational institution in 2016.

Aboriginal participation in education varied with age. Here in education were:

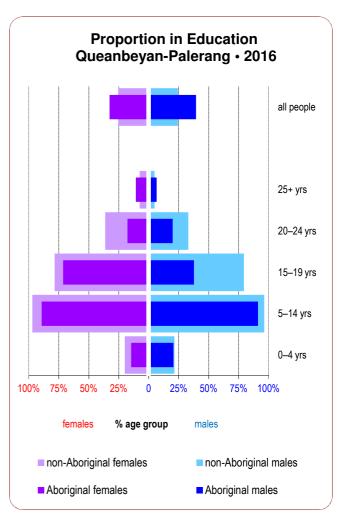
- 20% of the 0–4 year olds
- 91% of the 5–14 year olds
- 68% of the 15–19 year olds
- 18% of the 20–24 year olds
- 9% of those aged 25+

Partly because the Aboriginal population has a much higher proportion of children, their overall rate of participation in education, 37%, is higher than the non-Aboriginal rate in this LGA, 25%. Relative to non-Aboriginal people of the same age, there were, in education:

- 3% more Aboriginal 25+ year olds
- similar proportions of 0–4 year olds
- 6% fewer Aboriginal 5–14 year olds
- 11% fewer Aboriginal 15–19 year olds
- 17% fewer Aboriginal 20–24 year olds

Overall, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional's Aboriginal population had 119 males per 100 females in education. This varied with age. Of those in education, there were:

- 1.5 males per female among 0–4 year olds
- 1.5 males per female among 5–14 year olds
- 1.1 males per female among 15–19 year olds
- 1.2 females per male among 20–24 year olds
- 2.1 females per male among 25+ year olds



Since 2011, overall participation in education by Aboriginal people in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional had remained stable, but this masks changes among the age groups.

- The proportion of 0–4 year olds in education was down by 6% since 2011, and up by 8% since 2006.
- The proportion of 5–14 year olds in education was up by 2% since 2011, and up by 4% since 2006.
- The proportion of 15–19 year olds in education was up by 10% since 2011, and up by 25% since 2006.
- The proportion of 20–24 year olds in education was down by 2% since 2011, and up by 8% since 2006.
- The proportion of 25+ year olds in education was up by 2% since 2011, and up by 2% since 2006.

Note: In January 2010, the school leaving age in NSW changed from 15 to 17 years of age.

#### **Current education**

In 2016, some 504 Aboriginal children and teenagers in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were attending school, with 42 in pre-school, 258 in primary school, and 204 in high school.

The number of Aboriginal pre-schoolers was down by 6 or 13% since 2011 and, from 2006, up by 110%.

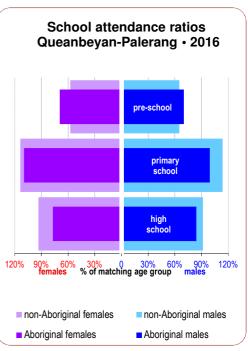
- ## The 42 Aboriginal pre-schoolers equalled 55% of the Aboriginal children aged 4–5.
- In NSW, Aboriginal pre-schoolers equalled 72% of the number aged 4–5 years. Non-Aboriginal pre-schoolers in this LGA represented 62% of their age group.

The number of Aboriginal primary students (258) was up by 18 or 8% since 2011; it was 70% higher than in 2006.

- Aboriginal primary students were 104% of the number aged 6–11.
  This is because some primary students were other ages.
- This rate was 5% lower than the Aboriginal rate in NSW and 10% lower than for non-Aboriginal children here.

The number of Aboriginal secondary students (204) was up by 71 or 53% since 2011 and 143% higher than 2006.

- Aboriginal secondary students were 81% of the Aboriginal children aged 12−17.
- This rate was 11% lower than the rate for non-Aboriginal secondary students; it was similar to Aboriginal students in NSW.



111 Aboriginal residents of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were in postschool education in 2016. This was 40 more than in 2011, with 62 more than in 2006.

In 2016, there were 24 Aboriginal 15–24 year olds from the LGA enrolled in TAFE (7% of the number this age); 21% attended full-time.

- 8% of Aboriginal 15–24 year olds in this LGA attended TAFE, with
  35% full-time.
- ₩ 9% of non-Aboriginal 15–24 year olds in this LGA attended TAFE, with 28% full-time.

20 Aboriginal 15–24 year olds from the LGA attended university or other tertiary education (6% of the number this age); 55% were full-time.

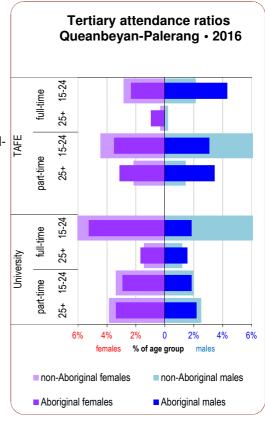
- # 7% of Aboriginal 15–24 year olds in NSW were at university, with 83% full-time.
- # 15% of non-Aboriginal 15–24 year olds in this LGA were at university, with 83% full-time.

There were 33 Aboriginal students aged 25+ attending TAFE in 2016 (5% of those aged 25–64), with 24% full-time.

- # 4% of Aboriginal 25–64 year olds in NSW attended TAFE, with
- 2% of non-Aboriginal 25–64 year olds in this LGA attended TAFE, with 13% full-time.

32 Aboriginal residents aged 25+ were in tertiary education in 2016 (4% of 25–64 year olds), with 25% full-time.

- \$\frac{3\psi}{3\psi}\$ of Aboriginal 25–64 year olds in NSW were at university, with 43\psi full-time.
- # 5% of non-Aboriginal 25–64 year olds in this LGA were at university, with 29% full-time.



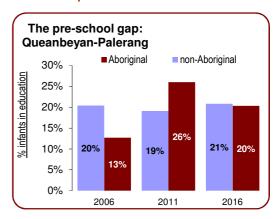
#### **Education Attendance Indicators**

#### The pre-school gap

% of infants under 5 in education

Early childhood education is an important contributor to success in school and later education, and makes paid work more feasible for parents.

- In 2016, 20% of Aboriginal infants in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional were in education, compared with 21% of non-Aboriginal infants. The pre-school gap was -1%.
- Here the pre-school gap had reversed since 2011, after having reversed over the previous five years.
- The pre-school rates of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal infants in NSW were 25% and 25% in 2016, a gap of nil. This gap had narrowed by 2% since 2011.

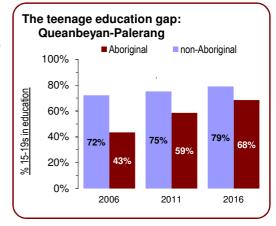


## The teenage education gap

% of 15-19 year-olds in education

Education of older teenagers is vital for their future employment, so low levels of participation in education indicates disadvantage.

- In 2016, 68% of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Aboriginal teenagers aged 15–19 were in education, compared with 79% of non-Aboriginal teenagers. The teenage education gap was -11%.
- The teenage education gap had closed by 6% since 2011, after having closed by 12% over the previous five years.
- Herenage education gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal in NSW was -18% and had narrowed by 1% since 2011. It narrowed by 6% over 2006 to 2011.

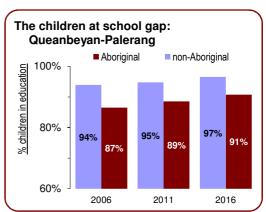


## The children at school gap

% of 5-14 year olds in education

School is compulsory for children up to the age of 17\*. Low schooling rates suggest truancy and/or underage school leavers.

- In 2016, 91% of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Aboriginal children aged 5–14 were in education, and 97% of non-Aboriginal of that age were. The schooling gap was -6%.
- The schooling gap had changed little since 2011, after having closed by 1% over the previous five years.
- The schooling gap in NSW was -3% and had narrowed by 4% since 2011. It changed little over 2006 to 2011.
  - \* In January 2010, the school leaving age in NSW changed from 15 to 17 years of age.



## Schooling levels

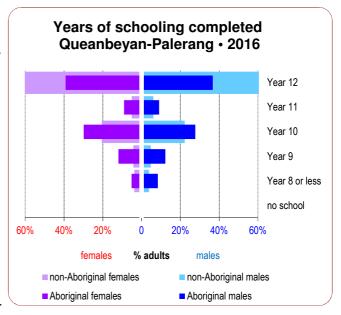
In 2016, Aboriginal adults (15+) in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional had completed an average of Year 10.5 of school, compared with Year 11.1 for non-Aboriginal adults. In NSW, Aboriginal adults averaged Year 10.3.

388 Aboriginal adults in the LGA had completed Year 12, which was 49% more than in 2011 and 150% more than in 2006.

The proportion of Aboriginal adults in the LGA who had completed Year 12 was 38%, which was 24% lower than that of non-Aboriginal adults.

30% of Aboriginal adults across NSW had completed Year 12.

- # 76% of Aboriginal adults in the LGA had completed at least Year 10, which was 5% more than for Aboriginal adults in NSW.
- Hospital Of the others, 12% had completed Year 9 and 7% had completed Year 8 or lower; 3 adults did not go to school; 6% did not say.



The average Year of school is calculated by multiplying the number who finished each Year's school by the Year, assuming those who replied '8 years or less' averaged 7 years schooling, those who responded 'no school' had 0 years, and excluding those who did not respond.

The average Year when Aboriginal people in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional left school had risen by 2 months since 2011, and was up by 6 months since 2006.

Over the decade to 2016, there was an increase of 150% in the number who had finished Year 12 and an increase of 36% in the number who had finished school at Year 11.

For Aboriginal adults in this LGA, average schooling:

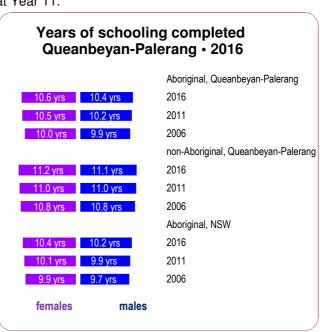
- for men had risen by 2 months since 2011, and had risen by 6 months since 2006.
- for women had risen by one month since 2011, and had risen by 7 months since 2006.

For non-Aboriginal adults, average schooling:

- for men had risen by one month since 2011, and had risen by 4 months since 2006.
- for women had risen by 2 months since 2011, and had risen by 5 months since 2006.

The average schooling of Aboriginal adults in NSW:

- for men had risen by 4 months since 2011, and risen by 6 months since 2006.
- for women had risen by 4 months since 2011, and risen by 6 months since 2006.



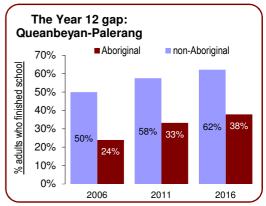
#### **Education Achievement Indicators**

## The Year 12 gap

% of adults (15+) who have left school

The proportion of adults who have completed Year 12 is an important indicator of a community's educational resources. Nationally, over half of all adults (58%) have completed Year 12.

- In 2016, 38% of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Aboriginal adults had completed Year 12, compared with 62% of non-Aboriginal adults. The Year 12 gap was -24%.
- Having closed by 2% over the previous five years.
- The Year 12 gap in NSW was -28% and had narrowed by 1% since 2011. It widened by 2% between 2006 and 2011.

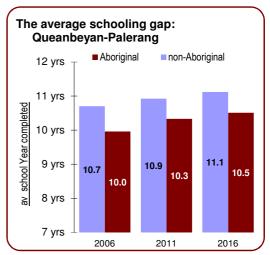


## The average schooling gap

average school Year completed

The average Year of schooling completed by adults is an indicator of a community's educational resources. Nationally, the average is Year 11.

- In 2016, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Aboriginal adults had completed an average of Year 10.5 at school, compared with Year 11.1 for non-Aboriginal adults. The average schooling gap was -0.6 years.
- The average schooling gap had barely changing since 2011, after having closing by one month over the previous five years.
- The average schooling gap in NSW was 8 months. It had changed little since 2011, after having changed little between 2006 and 2011.



## **Tertiary qualifications**

The type and extent of post-school qualifications has a major influence on the earning capacities of a community. In the 2016 Census, 540 Aboriginal adults in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional reported having tertiary educational qualifications, which was 48% of the number aged 15+.

By comparison, 45% of Aboriginal adults in NSW and 61% of non-Aboriginal adults in Queanbeyan-Palerang had a tertiary qualification.

116 Aboriginal adults in the LGA had a degree or higher qualification (10%), with 36 having a postgraduate degree.

- In NSW, 7% of the Aboriginal residents had a degree or higher qualification.
- 25% of the non-Aboriginal residents of Queanbeyan-Palerang had a degree or more.

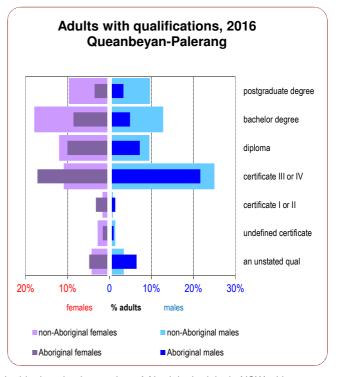
The most common highest qualification held by Aboriginal adults here were:

- certificate III or IV, held by 219 people (19%);
- diploma, by 93 people (8%);
- bachelor degree, by 80 people (7%).

While the number of Aboriginal adults in Queanbeyan-Palerang rose by 32% from 2011 to 2016, the number with qualifications rose by 37%. There were:

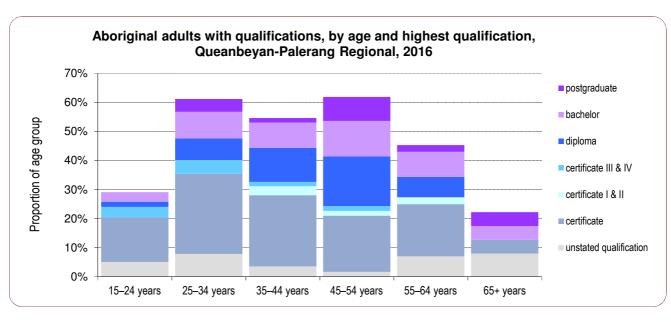
- 86 more with a certificate III or IV;
- 33 more with a diploma;
- 17 more with a bachelor degree.

In the decade from 2006, the number of Aboriginal adults in the LGA In this decade, the number of Aboriginal adults in NSW with with qualifications increased by 119%, while the adult population increased by 74%. There were 146 more with a certificate III or IV and 65 more with a diploma qualification.



qualifications increased by 99%. There were 204% more with a diploma and 200% more with a postgraduate degree.

The chart below shows how the level of qualifications varies with age. Here, Aboriginal people aged 45–54 years had the most higher qualifications, then people aged 25-34 years and 35-44 years.



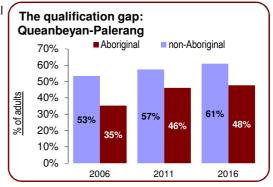
## **Higher Education Indicators**

#### The qualification gap

% of adults 15+ with a post-school qualification

Tertiary and further education is becoming essential for many occupations, so the proportion of adults with post-school qualifications is a broad indicator of a community's earning capacity.

- In 2016, 48% of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Aboriginal adults aged 15+ had a post-school qualification, compared with 61% of non-Aboriginal adults. The qualification gap was -13%.
- The qualification gap had widened by 2% since 2011, after having closed by 7% over the previous five years.
- The qualification gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal adults in NSW was -14% and had narrowed by 1% since 2011. It widened by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

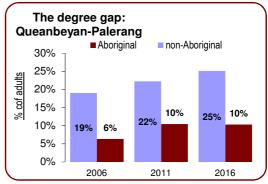


## The degree gap

% of adults 15+ with a degree or higher qualification

Most higher skilled and better paid jobs require a university degree or equivalent for entry, so the proportion of adults with a degree or higher indicates the community's capacity to gain these jobs.

- In 2016, 10% of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Aboriginal adults aged 15+ had a degree or higher qualification, compared with 25% of non-Aboriginal adults. The degree education gap was -15%.
- The degree gap had widened by 3% since 2011, after having closed by 1% over the previous five years.
- The degree gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal adults in NSW was -19% and had widened by 3% since 2011. It widened by 3% over 2006 to 2011.

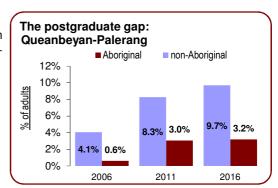


## The postgraduate gap

% of adults 15+ with a postgraduate qualification

Increasingly, getting promoted in many industries requires a post-graduate qualification, but the number of Aboriginal people with post-graduate degrees has been low.

- In 2016, 3.2% of Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal adults aged 15+ had a post-graduate qualification, compared with 9.7% of non-Aboriginal adults. The postgraduate gap was 6.5%.
- Here are the postgraduate gap had widened by 1.3% since 2011, after having widened by 1.8% over the previous five years.
- The postgraduate gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal adults in NSW was -6.2% and had widened by 1.3% since 2011. It widened by 2.1% over 2006 to 2011.



## **Disability levels**

In 2016 in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional, 132 Aboriginal residents had a long-term severe disability; 7.7% of the population. Among all the Queanbeyan-Palerang residents, 3.9% reported a disability.

People with a long-term severe disability are those needing help or assistance with self-care, mobility or communication, because of a disability, long-term health condition or old age. This data compares Aboriginal people with the total population.

Disability rates tend to rise with age. In 2016, they peaked among Aboriginal 65+ year olds (25%) and 55–64 year olds (17%).

Among younger Aboriginal residents, the disability rate was highest among 35–44 year olds at 8% and 5–14 year olds at 8%.

Because Aboriginal communities tend to have fewer people in the oldest age groups where disability rates are much higher, the overall disability rate can be lower than in non-Aboriginal communities. This can mask much higher rates in some age groups.

In this LGA, the overall Aboriginal disability rate was 2.0 times that in the overall population: 7.7% compared with 3.9%.

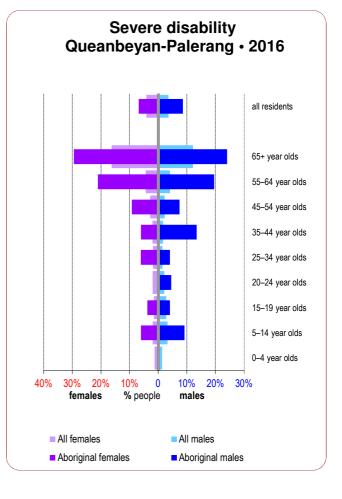
Among 35–44 year olds, the Aboriginal disability rate (8%) was 4 times the overall rate (1.8%);

Among 55–64 year olds, the Aboriginal disability rate (17%) was 4 times that of all residents (4.3%).

Aboriginal disability rates were higher for men than women: 8.7% to 6.8%. Among all residents, they were similar for men and women: 3.6% to 4.1%.

There were 2.0 females per male among 25–34 year olds with a disability.

On the other hand, there were 2.2 males per female among 5–14 year olds with a disability. There were only males among those with a disability aged 20–24.



# From 2011 to 2016, the overall disability rate among Aboriginal residents of the LGA rose significantly from 4.8% to 7.7%.

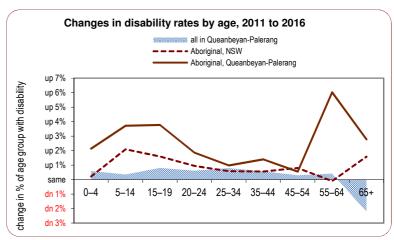
Among Aboriginal people in NSW, the disability rate rose from 6.2% to 7.6%.

Among all Queanbeyan-Palerang residents, the disability rate rose 0.5%, and was 3.9% in 2016.

In the LGA, the greatest change in the Aboriginal disability rate was the increase among those aged 55–64, from 10.6% in 2011 to 16.7% in 2016.

Disability rates also rose among 15–19 year olds and 5–14 year olds.

Disability rates rose least among those aged 45–54 years.



## Disability care given

In the 2016 Census, 148 Aboriginal adults in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional, 13% of the adult population, reported that they gave assistance to a person with a severe or profound disability. There were at that time 132 Aboriginal residents who reported a severe or profound disability.

- Across the age groups, the proportion of Aboriginal people caring for a person with a disability ranged from 19% of 45–54 year olds and 17% of 35–44 year olds to 2% of 15–19 year olds.
- Carers are more often women than men. In this Aboriginal community, there were 2.5 females per male among carers.

Female carers were most common among 55–64 year olds with 3.2 females per male caring, and among 25–34 year olds, with 3.0 females per male caring.

Male carers were most common among carers aged 15–19 with 1.3 males per female caring.

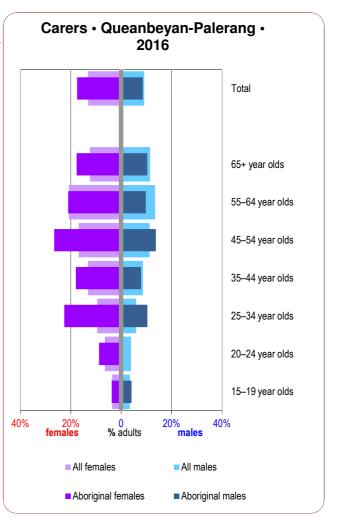
The 13% carer rate among Aboriginal residents was higher than the average for all adults in the LGA (11%).

Among 25–34 year olds, the proportion of Aboriginal carers was 1.9 times the average.

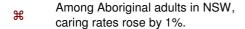
Among 35–44 year olds, the proportion of Aboriginal carers was 1.6 times the average.

In NSW, 15% of Aboriginal adults were caring for a person with a disability.

Relative to the NSW Aboriginal community, there were 1% more carers among Aboriginal people aged 25–34 here. There were 5% fewer carers here among those aged 15–19.



# From 2011 to 2016, overall caring rates among Aboriginal adults in the LGA changed only slightly from 12%.

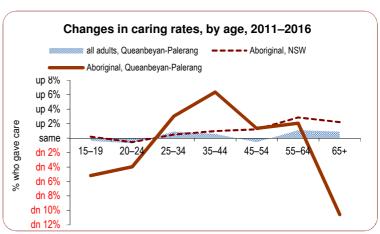


Among all the Queanbeyan-Palerang adults, caring rates changed little.

In the LGA, Aboriginal caring rates increased most among 35–44 year olds, from 11% in 2011 to 17% in

Caring rates also rose 3% among 25–34 year olds and 2% among 55–64 year olds..

Caring rates fell most among 65+ year olds, down by 11%, and among those aged 15–19, down by 5%.



## **Disability Indicators**

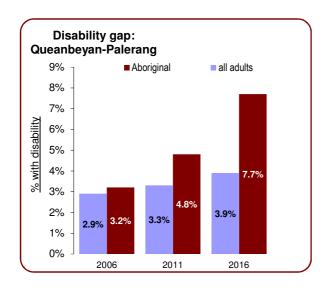
#### The disability gap

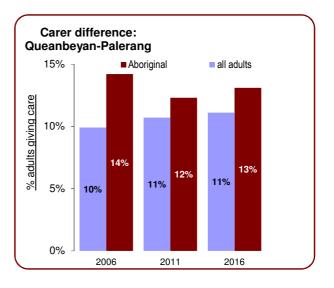
% of people with a severe, long-term disability

Disability rates provide a useful indicator of a community's health and need for support services. Nationally, disability rates among Aboriginal people are about 25% higher than overall rates, across most age groups.

- In 2016, 7.7% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal residents had a severe, long-term disability, compared with 3.9% for all residents. The disability gap was +3.8%. The Aboriginal disability rate was 2.0 times the overall rate.
- The disability gap in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional had widened by 2.3% since 2011, after having widened by 1.2% over the previous five years.
- The disability gap in NSW was +2.2% and had widened by 0.9% since 2011.

In the Census, people with disabilities are those with a severe or profound disability lasting more than six months, who require help with daily activities, self-care or communicating.





## The carer difference

% of adults caring for a person with a disability

Aboriginal people have higher disability rates and larger families, so often have proportionally more carers than the general population.

- In 2016, 13% of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Aboriginal adults (aged 15+) provided assistance to a person with a severe disability, compared with 11% of all adults. The carer difference was +2% (rounded).
- The carer difference in Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional had changed little since 2011, after having closed by 3% over the previous five years.
- The carer difference in NSW was +3% in 2016. This had widened by 0.7% since 2011.