



1 in 29

people in New South Wales are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (3.4%)

23

median age

A young community

Half are younger than 23 (the wider New South Wales median is 39). Follow the journey below, across the life course.

IDENTITY & CULTURE — WOVEN THROUGH EVERY STAGE

96.1%

identify as Aboriginal (2.1% as both Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander)

Wiradjuri

most-spoken Aboriginal language — 1151 speakers at home
As reported on the ABS 2021 Census

1.9%

speak an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language at home

Early years · ages 0–4



About 1 in 17

New South Wales preschoolers are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

10,714 children in preschool (as at the 2021 Census) — about 6% of all New South Wales preschoolers, around 1.8× their 3.4% population share. The early years are a key point for investment.

School & study · ages 5–24

Highest level of education attained (aged 15+)

Share of all people aged 15+, grouped from ABS attainment levels (top number Aboriginal, below all-New South Wales). 'Unknown' = not stated or inadequately described.

	Aboriginal	All New South Wales
No attainment	0.6%	1%
Year 9 or below	14.6%	7.4%
Year 10–11	24.9%	13.8%
Year 12	13.3%	14.5%
Certificate	21.3%	15%
Diploma	7%	9.3%
University	8.3%	27.9%
Unknown	10%	11.1%

23 **Median age 23** — about half of New South Wales's Aboriginal community is younger than this (the wider New South Wales median age is 39).

Working life · ages 25–54

9.8%

Unemployment

Aboriginal	9.8%
All New South Wales	4.9%

2.0× the LGA rate

\$600

Median weekly personal income

Aboriginal	\$600
All New South Wales	\$813

Household income \$1,558/wk shared across 3.1 people

56.5%

Labour force participation (15+)

Aboriginal	56.5%
All New South Wales	58.7%

Top 5 occupations · Aboriginal community

Community & personal service	17.8%
Labourers	14.2%
Technicians & trades	14%
Professionals	13.7%
Clerical & administrative	11.3%

Family & home

102,388

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander families

24.9%

One-parent families

Aboriginal	24.9%
All New South Wales	15.8%

51.9%

Households renting

28.5% mortgage · 15.9% owned outright

\$340

Median weekly rent

All New South Wales: \$420

3.1 people per household (All New South Wales 2.6)

Caring & community

28.7%

Provide unpaid child care

All New South Wales: 25.3%

14.6%

Provide unpaid assistance to a person with a disability, health condition or due to old age

All New South Wales: 11.5%

59.4%

Do unpaid domestic work

All New South Wales: 66.5%

10.8%

Volunteer through an organisation

All New South Wales: 13%

Health & wellbeing · all ages

54.5%

report no long-term health condition

Aboriginal	54.5%
All New South Wales	61%

Despite being a far **younger** population (median age 23 vs 39), about the same share report no long-term condition as the wider LGA (54.5% vs 61%) — a sign conditions are emerging **earlier in life**. Figures cover all ages.

Most common conditions — prevalence

Share reporting each condition. Categories **overlap** — a person may report more than one.

Mental health

Aboriginal	15.3%
All New South Wales	8%

Asthma

Aboriginal	15.1%
All New South Wales	7.8%

Arthritis

Aboriginal	7.4%
All New South Wales	8.4%

Diabetes

Aboriginal	5.4%
All New South Wales	4.8%

Heart disease

Aboriginal	3.6%
All New South Wales	3.9%

⚠ **Read with care:** These figures count only people who identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in the Census. Undercounting is common — the true population is likely larger. Small-area counts are also randomly adjusted by the ABS to protect privacy, so components may not sum exactly.

■ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander — New South Wales ■ All New South Wales (whole population) ■ All NSW



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