

What does the 2014-15 NATSISS tell us about Western Australia

Subject	Key findings
Population	In 2014-15, the estimated total Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population was 87,200 (up from 69,200 in 2008). Around one-third (38%) live in the Greater Perth area, 22% in regional areas, and 40% in remote and very remote areas.
	Nearly half (45%) the total Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population were under the age of 20.
Culture, identity and connection	24% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people spoke an Australian Indigenous language.
	70% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people identified with a clan, tribal or language group.
	Of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 3 years and over, more than two-thirds (68%) participated in cultural activities. More than 9 out of 10 (92%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people felt they were able to get support in times of crisis from outside the household.
	37% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people felt they had been unfairly treated at least once in the previous 12 months because they were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
Health	The proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were current daily smokers remained the same from 2008 to 2014-15 (41%)
	37% of people living in the Greater Perth area and 33% and 32% in remote/very remote and regional areas respectively had never smoked.
	The proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people engaging in risky single occasion drinking (four or more standard drinks at a time according to 2009 NHMRC guidelines) was 33%, similar to the national rate (30%)
	60% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people reported having a long-term health condition.
	1 in approx. 15 (6%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people reported having a profound or severe disability.
Housing	Around 1 in 3 (31%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people had experienced homelessness.
Employment	Close to 4 in 10 (38%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were employed. Of those who were employed, around two-thirds (67%) were in full-time employment.
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males (33%) were nearly twice as likely to be in full-time employment as females (18%)
Crime and justice	Around 1 in 4 (27%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experienced physical or threatened physical violence in the last 12 months.
	18% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people reported experiencing physical violence in the last 12 months. Of these, more than half (54%) reported their most recent experience of physical violence was by a family member.

(a) National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey

(b) The key findings above are for **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over** in WA unless otherwise stated.

Thank you

The ABS thanks the people who contributed to the content of the survey and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who shared their stories in the 2014-15 NATSISS – your support and assistance is important.

