

Population, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders, 30 June 2011

Source: ABS 3238.0.55.001, released 30 August 2013, 11:30 am AEST

Final population estimates

Introduction

This brief presents final estimated resident Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population figures for both Australia and Queensland at 30 June 2011. These replace the preliminary estimates released on 20 June 2013 in Australian Demographic Statistics, December 2012 (ABS 3101.0).

These final population estimates are based on the 2011 Census and cannot be used with the 2006-based estimates or the 1991–2021 projection series (ABS 3238.0). However, compatible historical and projected estimates for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, 2001–2026, are expected to be released on 30 April 2014.

Due to the methods used to derive the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population estimates, these figures should be used with caution. For further information see the explanatory notes and technical notes in: *Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, June 2011* (ABS 3238.0.55.001).

Australian and Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations

The final estimated resident Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Queensland at 30 June 2011 was 188,954, which was 4.2% of the Queensland population.

Queensland had the second largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population (28.2% of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population) after New South Wales (31.1%). In terms of proportions of the total state or territory population, Queensland (4.2%) ranked third highest, after the Northern Territory (29.8%) and Tasmania (4.7%) (Table 1).

Among the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population at 30 June 2011:

- 149,072 or 78.9% were estimated as being of Aboriginal origin only
- 24,386 or 12.9% were of Torres Strait Islander origin only
- 15,496 or 8.2% were of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin.

Table 1: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons, states and territories, 2011

State or territory	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons	Total	Proportion of state or territory	Proportion of Australia
— persons —		— % —		
NSW	208,476	7,218,529	2.9	31.1
Vic.	47,333	5,537,817	0.9	7.1
Qld	188,954	4,476,778	4.2	28.2
SA	37,408	1,639,614	2.3	5.6
WA	88,270	2,353,409	3.8	13.2
Tas.	24,165	511,483	4.7	3.6
NT	68,850	231,292	29.8	10.3
ACT	6,160	367,985	1.7	0.9
Australia	669,881	22,340,024	3.0	100.0

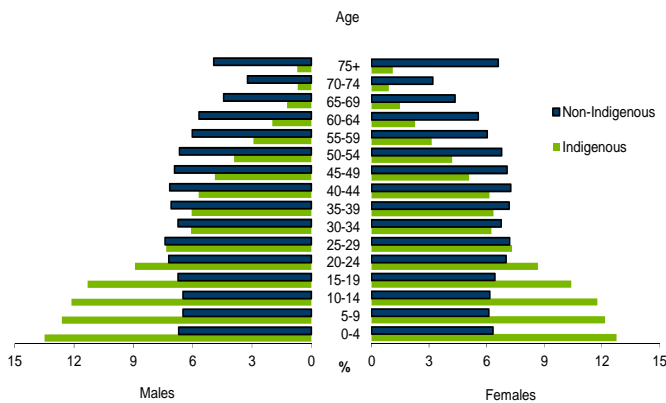
Age structure

The Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population had a younger age structure than the non-Indigenous population, with a smaller proportion of older people.

Over a third (37.5%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons were aged less than 15 years, compared with 19.1% of the non-Indigenous population. Only 3.1% of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population was aged 65 years and over, compared with 13.4% of the non-Indigenous population (Figure 1).

The median age of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population at 30 June 2011 was 21.0 years, compared with 37.2 years for the non-Indigenous population. The median age of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females (21.7 years) was slightly higher than that of males (20.2 years), as it was for the non-Indigenous population (37.8 years compared with 36.5 years).

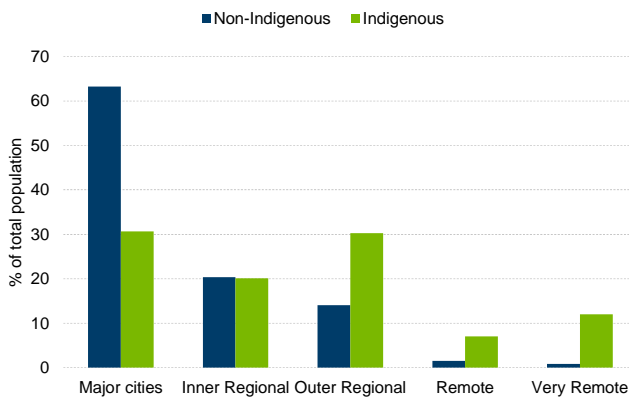
Figure 1: Age structure of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous populations, 2011



Remoteness

At 30 June 2011, 30.7% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders lived in major cities (57,936 persons). A further 20.1% (37,911) lived in inner regional Queensland while 30.3% (57,183) lived in outer regional Queensland. The remainder lived in remote or very remote Queensland (7.0% or 13,219 and 12.0% or 22,705 respectively). For the non-Indigenous population, a higher proportion lived in major cities (63.2%), while only 2.3% lived in remote and very remote areas.

Figure 2: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons by Remoteness Area, Queensland, 2011



Statistical Areas – level 3

Almost half of Queensland’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population resided in ten of the 80 Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3s) (Table 2).

Far North had the largest estimated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, with 17,992 persons or 56.9% of its total population. Of these persons, most lived in the Statistical Area Level 2 regions of the Torres Strait Islands (23.9%), followed by Cape York (22.7%) and Torres (14.4%).

The SA3 with the second largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Queensland was Cairns South with 14,649 persons or 14.9% of its total

population, followed by Townsville with 13,271 persons or 7.4% of its total population.

Table 2: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander estimated resident population in the 10 largest SA3s, 2011

Region	Estimated resident population		
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons	Proportion of Qld Indigenous population	Proportion of total population in region
	– persons –	– % –	
Queensland	188,954	100.0	4.2
SA3			
Far North	17,992	9.5	56.9
Cairns - South	14,649	7.8	14.9
Townsville	13,271	7.0	7.4
Outback - North	9,092	4.8	26.3
Rockhampton	7,368	3.9	6.6
Innisfail - Cassowary Coast	6,138	3.2	17.7
Mackay	6,055	3.2	5.2
Toowoomba	5,698	3.0	3.9
Charters Towers - Ayr - Ingham	5,485	2.9	12.3
Tablelands (East) - Kuranda	4,657	2.5	11.8

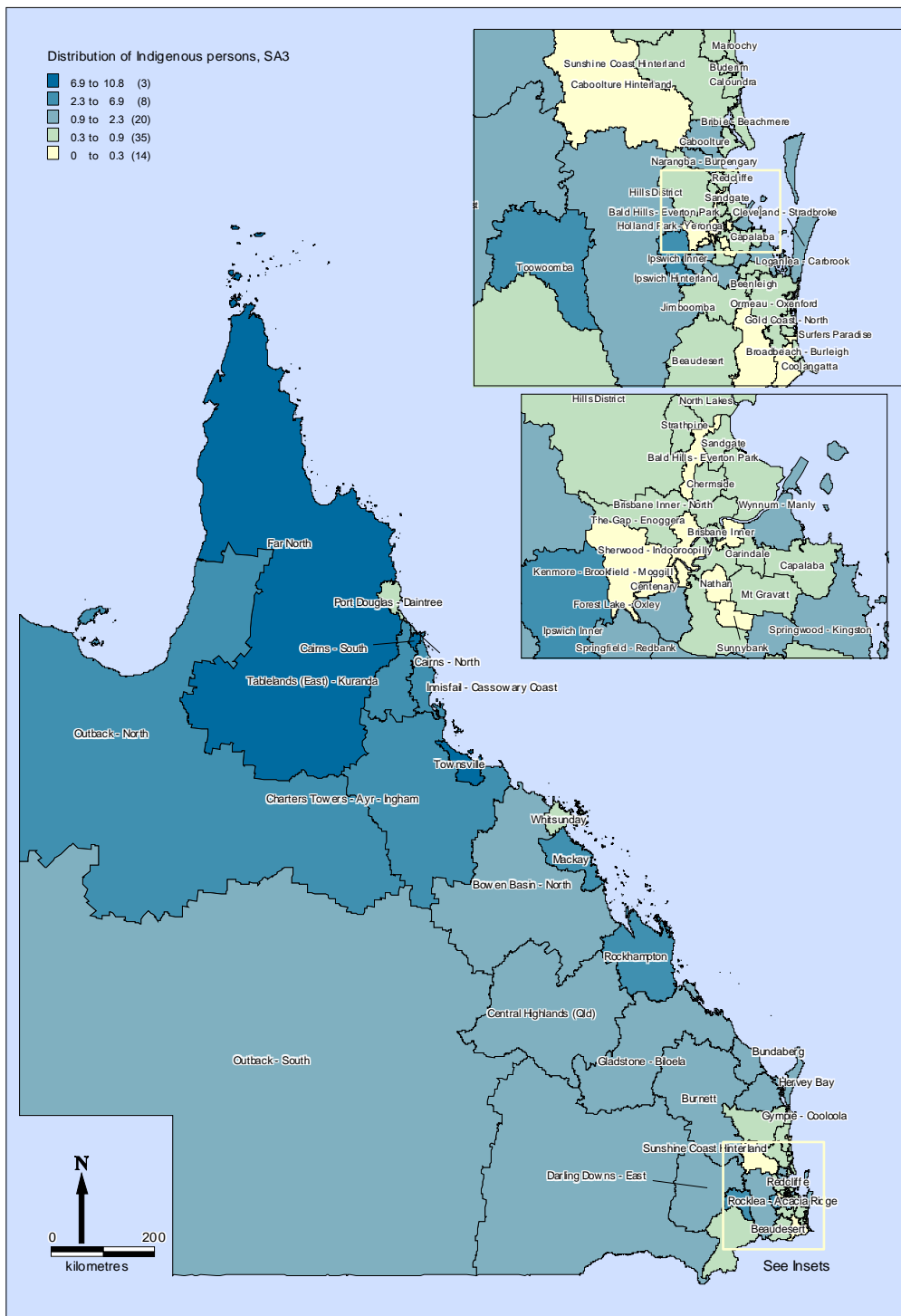
Torres Strait Islander persons

At 30 June 2011, there were 63,717 Torres Strait Islander persons in Australia (including persons of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin). Of these, 62.6% (39,882) lived in Queensland. There were 6,715 Torres Strait Islander persons living in the Torres Strait Indigenous Region (10.5% of the total estimate of Australian Torres Strait Islander persons). Overall, 83.6% of persons estimated to be resident in the Torres Strait Indigenous Region were of Torres Strait Islander origin.

Future releases:

Backcast and projected estimates for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population are expected to be released by the ABS on 30 April 2014 in *Population Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2001-2026* (ABS 3238.0). Government Statistician will release sub-state estimates of the age and gender breakdown of these populations in the week following the publication of the ABS estimates.

Distribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander estimated resident population by SA3, 2011



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