Around 112,200 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples aged 15–64 years reported Queensland as their home in the 2016 Census of Population and Housing.

This snapshot describes their reported engagement in education, training and work. Education, training and work characteristics by remoteness areas are also explored. Typically, geographically remote areas have reduced access to services.

Notes:
(a) Inadequately described, undetermined and not stated responses have been excluded from analyses where applicable.
(b) Five remoteness areas are featured based on their relative access to services – major cities, inner regional, outer regional, remote and very remote areas.

Younger people were more likely to finish Year 12, with higher proportions among females in most age groups.

Where did Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15–64 years call home?

Those in major cities were more likely to finish Year 12.

39% had a non-school qualification (most were at the certificate level)

Women more likely than men to have a diploma or a higher level qualification.

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1. Year 12 or equivalent. Note that the definition of ‘equivalent’ used in these data, may not match that used elsewhere.

Top 5 qualification fields for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

1. Building 18%
2. Mechanical and industrial engineering and technology 9%
3. Business and management 7%
4. Food and hospitality 6%
5. Engineering and related technologies, nfd 5%

1. Business and management 20%
2. Human welfare studies and services 18%
3. Teacher education 8%
4. Food and hospitality 7%
5. Nursing 6%

61% were engaged in work or study

Those in major cities had higher levels of engagement in work or study

Higher qualification levels led to higher employment levels

The proportion with a non-school qualification increased over time, particularly for women

Qualifications led to jobs

Has a non-school qualification

Does not have a non-school qualification

Employed Unemployed Not in the labour force

Postgraduate degree

Graduate diploma/diploma

Bachelor degree

Advanced diploma/diploma

Certificate

2. As a proportion of the labour force.
Queensland Government Statistician’s Office

About half the labour force worked full-time

1 in 5 unemployed

Women twice as likely to work part-time

Men more likely to work full-time

6% had a job but were not at work at the time

Unemployment rate was lowest in major cities

Top 5 occupations

1. Technicians and trades 23%
2. Labourers 23%
3. Machinery operators and drivers 17%
4. Community and personal service 10%
5. Professionals 9%

Unpaid work

Women more than twice as likely to do unpaid domestic work

Women more likely to do unpaid childcare

Most worked in the private sector, though a smaller proportion in remote areas

Unemployed

Employed part-time

Employed full-time

Away from work

Major cities

Inner regional

Outer regional

Remote

Very remote

Employed full-time

Employed part-time

Away from work

Unemployed

Education and labour force characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Queensland,
Census 2016 Snapshot