

Indigenous Portrait:

Central West Hospital & Health Services

A profile of the Indigenous community of Central West HHS, compared with Queensland, from the 2016 and earlier Censuses.

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Prepared for the Western Queensland Public Health Network

Central West HHS covers the Local Government Areas of Barcardine, Barcoo, Blackall-Tambo, Boulia, Diamantina, Longreach, Winton, 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 Indigenous population of Central West HHS as it was in August 2016, and show how it had changed over the previous decade.

Language in this report In this Portrait, the term 'Indigenous' is used to describe the 'first nations' peoples living in Central West HHS, including Aboriginal nations and people from the Torres Strait. This recognises that Aboriginal people were the original inhabitants of Queensland.

Who is included? The people described in this Portrait were the usual residents of Central West HHS in 2016. They had lived there for more than half the year. They are counted as 'usual residents' even if they completed the Census away from home. People who were visiting Central West HHS on Census night, but did not live there, are not included.

Who are Indigenous? Indigenous 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-Indigenous 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 Indigenous people counted? Not all Indigenous people completed the Census and identified their origins: 7.3% of the region's Census respondents said they had Indigenous origins, but another 8.3% 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 Indigenous population was about a fifth larger than counted. However, despite such omissions, the Census is a vital source of information about Indigenous Australians.

National trends Nationally, the number of people with Indigenous 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 Indigenous 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.

A warning about accuracy Small Census numbers are not precise – they are randomised by the ABS to protect privacy. In this Portrait, numbers less than 5 are reported as 'a few'. 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 in the text.

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Snapshot: Central West Hospital & Health Services, 2016

⌘ In the 2016 Census, 769 of the 10,546 residents (7.3%) counted in Central West HHS said that they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins, or both. Of these, 87% were Aboriginal.

- Between 2011 and 2016, the counted Indigenous population fell by 23%, from 997; the overall population of Central West HHS fell by 12%.
- About 10% of the Indigenous population were under 5 in 2016. This growth from births since 2011 was not enough to offset the population decline in other age groups.

⌘ The Indigenous community in Central West HHS is significantly younger than the non-Indigenous population, with a median age of 23 vs 44

- The proportion under 18 years old was higher: 41% compared with 20% for non-Indigenous.
- The proportion aged 65+ was lower: 6% compared with 19% for non-Indigenous.

⌘ Indigenous households had an average of 2.8 residents, which was larger than non-Indigenous households (2.2) in the health region.

- One in three Indigenous households were couples with children.
- One in four Indigenous households were one parent families.
- 21% of the Indigenous households were single persons (vs 35% of non-Indigenous households).

⌘ Indigenous households most commonly lived in rented dwellings (55%), with 20% in fully owned and 19% in mortgaged dwellings.

- In all, 39% of Indigenous households in Central West HHS were home-owners (with or without a mortgage), which was up by 11% since 2011.

⌘ The median income of Indigenous adults in Central West HHS was about \$504 a week, which was 73% that of all adult residents (\$687).

- The median income gap had increased by 10% since 2011, after having decreased by 9% over the previous five years.

⌘ 60% of Indigenous adults were in the labour force, compared with 72% of non-Indigenous adults.

- 15% of the Indigenous workforce were unemployed, compared with 3% of the non-Indigenous workforce.

⌘ Three in ten Indigenous residents (244 people) were attending an educational institution.

- 144 Indigenous people had completed Year 12, which was 8% less than in 2011 and 48% more than in 2006.
- Compared with non-Indigenous residents of the same age, there were:
 - 23% more Indigenous people aged 15–19 year olds in education;
 - 11% fewer Indigenous people aged 20–24 year olds in education.
- 36% of Indigenous adults had some type of post-school qualification, compared with 57% of non-Indigenous adults in the health region (3% had a degree or higher, compared with 20%).

⌘ 41 Indigenous people (5.3% of the Indigenous population) reported that they had a severe or profound disability.

- Indigenous people had higher disability rates than average in most age groups.
 - the disability rate for Indigenous people aged 35–44 year olds was 4 times the average for this age group in Central West HHS.
 - for 45–54 year olds, the Indigenous rate was 4 times the average in the health region.
- 11% of Indigenous adults (aged 15+) gave assistance to a person with a severe disability.

⌘ 60% of the region's Indigenous households had an internet connection, which was 6% higher than in 2011.

Tracking changes in Central West HHS

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

Indicator	Central West Hospital & Health Services, 2016			Change in Indigenous rate	
	Indigenous	non-Indigenous	Gap in 2016	last 5 years 2011–2016	last decade 2006–2016
				up 11%	up 9%
home ownership % of households owning/buying their home	39%	61%	-22%	up 11%	up 9%
personal income* median weekly income of adults (15+)	\$504	\$687	-27%	up 1%	up 38%
household income median weekly income of households	\$1,146	\$1,173	-2%	up 35%	up 53%
workforce participation % of adults 15+ in labour force	60%	72%	-11%	up 1%	dn 7%
unemployment % of unemployed in workforce	15%	3%	+12%	up 5%	up 4%
employment employed adults as % of population	35%	58%	-23%	up 2%	dn 2%
pre-school % of infants under 5 in education	15%	17%	-2%	up 7%	up 10%
teenage education % of 15–19 year-olds in education	68%	45%	+23%	up 33%	up 28%
children at school % of 5–14 year olds in education	100%	95%	+5%	up 23%	up 19%
Year 12 completion % of adults (15+) who have left school	32%	44%	-12%	up 5%	up 9%
average schooling average school Year completed	10.0 yrs	10.6 yrs	-60%	0.3 yrs	0.5 yrs
tertiary qualifications % of adults 15+ with a post-school qualification	36%	47%	-11%	up 8%	up 13%
degree % of adults 15+ with a degree or higher qualification	3%	12%	-9%	same	up 2%
postgrad % of adults 15+ with a postgraduate qualification	0%	3%	-3%	dn 1%	dn 1%
disability* % of people with a severe, long-term disability	5.3%	4.5%	+0.8%	up 1%	up 2%

* Personal income and disability data compare Indigenous rates with those of the whole population in Central West HHS.

Indigenous population and growth

In the 2016 Census, the region's Indigenous population was counted as 769 people, of whom 670 identified as Aboriginal and 46 as Torres Strait Islander; 28 identified as both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

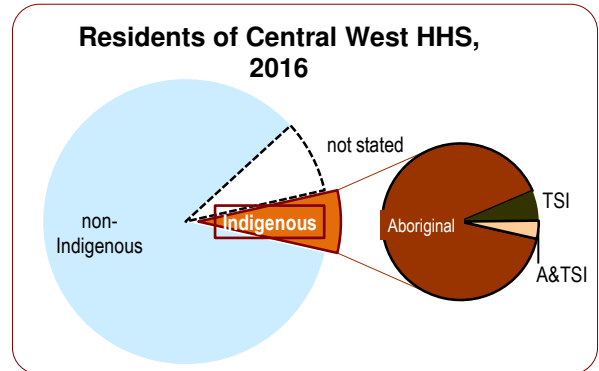
- ⌘ Indigenous people comprised 7.3% of the region's population, compared with 4.0% in Queensland.

8.3% of Central West HHS people did not say whether they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins.

- ⌘ Among the Indigenous people here, there were 104 males per 100 females.

There were equally males and females among non-Indigenous people.

- ⌘ The ABS estimates that the net Census undercount rate nationally for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples was 17.5% in 2016, meaning one in six was not counted.



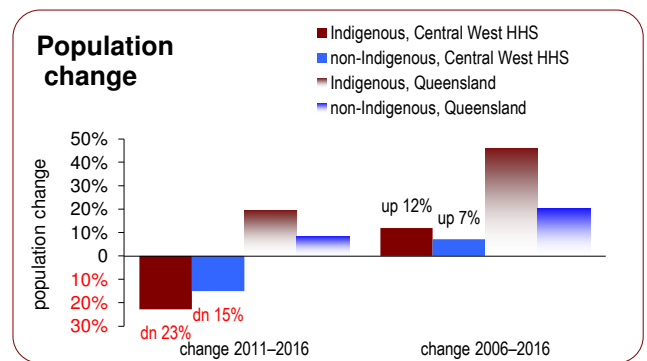
Between 2011 and 2016, the counted Indigenous population in Central West HHS fell by 23% (by 228) from 997; in total, the region's population fell by 12%.

The number of infants born over the last five years was not enough to offset the population decline in other age groups.

- ⌘ Between 2006 and 2016, the region's Indigenous population rose by 12% (from 687 in 2006).

The region's non-Indigenous population rose by 7% over the decade.

The Indigenous population counted in Queensland rose by 46% over the decade.



On Census night 2016, 666 Indigenous residents of Central West HHS were at home (87%), and 95 were staying away from home (12%). Offsetting those away were 100 Indigenous visitors staying in the health region that night, equivalent to 13% of the Indigenous resident population.

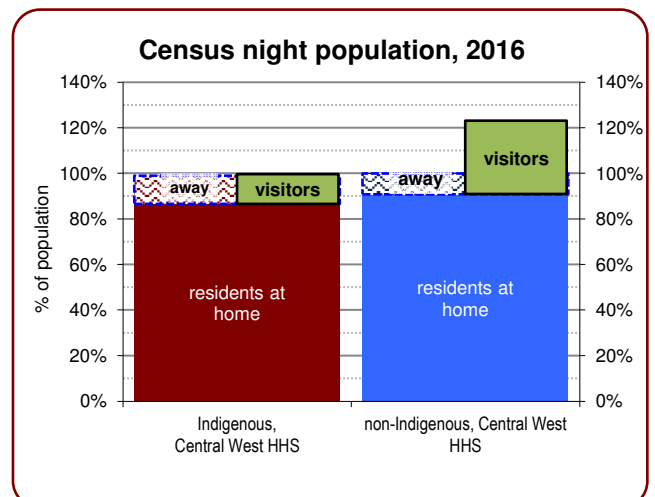
- ⌘ There were a few visitors from the same locality (eg. overnighting with neighbours).

64% of the visitors were from Queensland.

- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous residents away from home on Census night was 3% higher than in 2011.

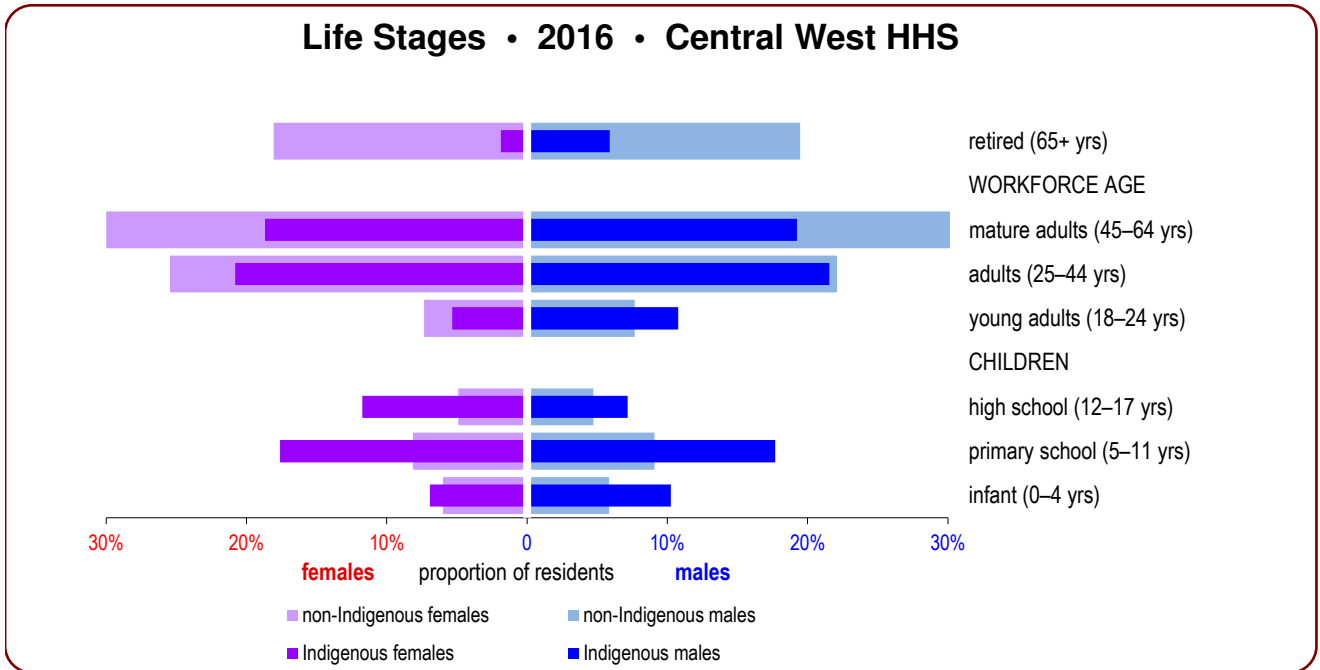
The proportion away from home was 3% higher than for non-Indigenous residents here; it was 6% higher than for Indigenous residents of Queensland.

- ⌘ There were 45 fewer Indigenous visitors than in 2011, when there were 145, equal to 15% of the Indigenous population.



Life stages

The Indigenous population of Central West HHS had a much smaller proportion in the working stage of life (15–64 years) than the non-Indigenous population, with a much higher proportion of children under 15 and a much smaller proportion of people aged 65 or older.



In the region's Indigenous population in 2016:

⌘ 365 people (47% or almost five in ten) were adults aged 18–64.

- 73 (or 9%) were aged 18–24
- 156 (or 20%) were aged 25–44
- 136 (or 18%) were aged 45–64

The number of adults aged 18–64 was down 32% from 2011; and little changed from 2006.

⌘ 313 Indigenous residents (41% or four in ten) were children under 18.

- 79 (or 10%) were under five
- 139 (or 18%) were aged 5–11
- 95 (or 12%) were aged 12–17

The number of children was down 28% since 2011; and up 7% since 2006.

⌘ 49 of Indigenous residents were aged 65+ years (6% of the total).

The number aged 65+ had risen by 53% since 2011; it was 133% higher than in 2006.

The proportion aged 18–64 among Indigenous people was 14% lower than for non-Indigenous (61%).

2% more of the Indigenous population were young adults (18–24 yrs), and 13% fewer were mature adults (45–64 yrs), compared with the non-Indigenous population of the health region.

Those aged 18–64 made up 54% of the Indigenous community in Queensland; their number had risen by 23% from 2011.

The proportion of Indigenous children in Central West HHS was 21% higher than the average for non-Indigenous people.

In Queensland, 42% of the Indigenous community were children under 18; the number was up 13% since 2011.

19% of non-Indigenous people in Central West HHS were aged 65+.

Across Queensland, 4% of Indigenous people were aged 65+; their number had risen by 54% since 2011, and by 114% since 2006.

Age profile

The Indigenous population of Central West HHS has an age profile that is significantly younger than the non-Indigenous population, with a much lower median age (23 vs 44 years).

For the region's Indigenous population in 2016:

- ⌘ The average age was 28 years in 2016, with half the population aged under 23 years (the median age).
The largest 5-year age groups were 10–14 years (13%), 5–9 years (13%) and 0–4 years (10%).
- ⌘ The median age was one year lower than in 2011 and one year higher than in 2006.

Proportionally, the biggest increases since 2011 were of 65+ year olds (53% more), 10–14 year olds (4% less) and 20–24 year olds (16% less).

- ⌘ 49 Indigenous people (6%) were aged 65+ years, compared with 19% of non-Indigenous residents.
- ⌘ There were noticeably more males than females aged 65+ years, 55–59 years and 20–24 years.

The average age was 14 years younger than for the non-Indigenous residents; the median age was 21 years younger.

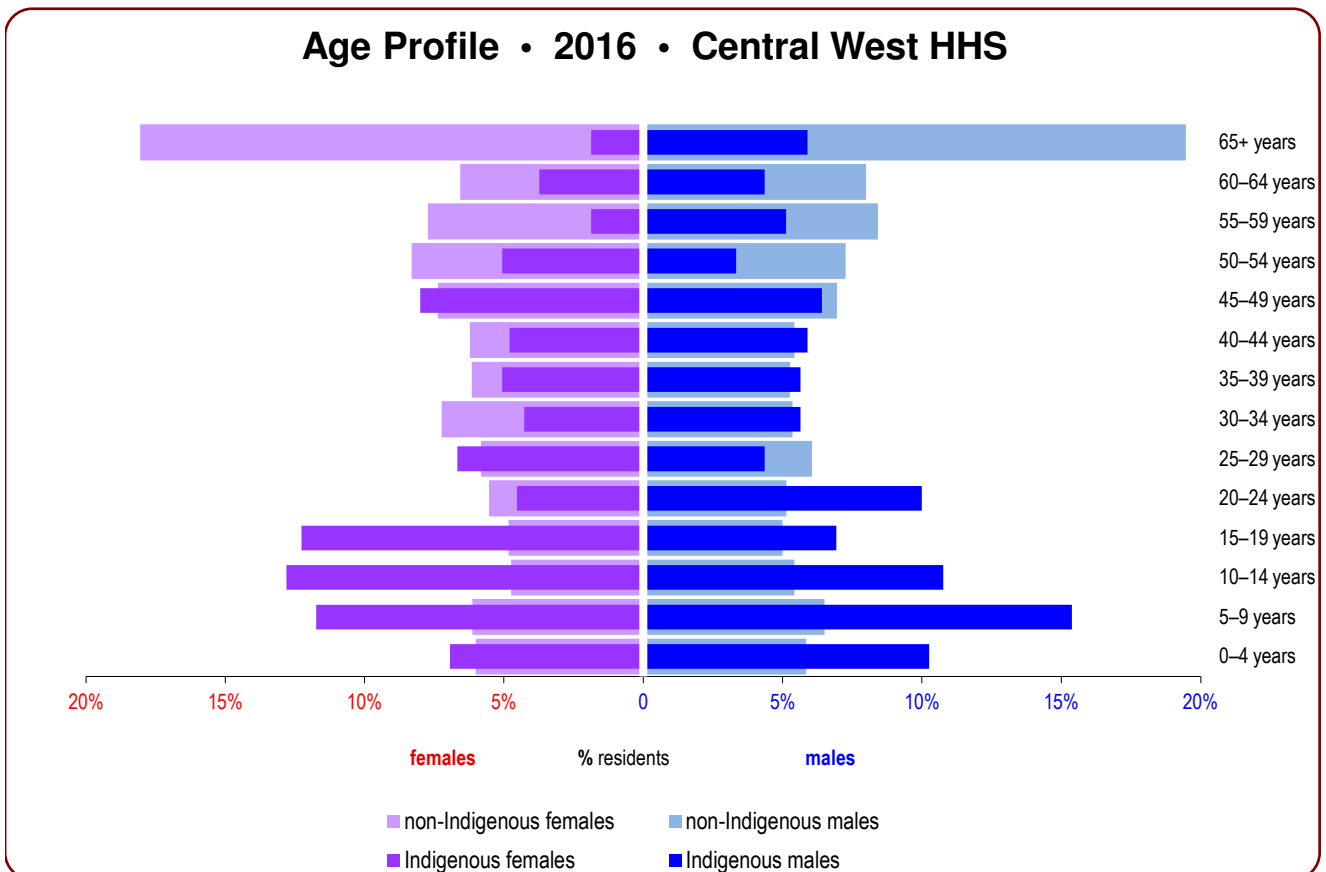
Non-Indigenous population: about 5% were 10–14 years, 6% were 5–9 years and 0–4 years.

The median age of Indigenous people in Queensland had risen by 2 years since 2011, but had changed little since 2006.

Among the State's Indigenous population, the increases since 2011 were: 65+ year olds (54%); 10–14 year olds (13%); and 20–24 year olds (29%).

The number aged 65+ was 53% higher than in 2011; the percentage of people this age was up by 3% since 2011, when it was 3%.

There were many more females than males among those aged 15–19 years, and those aged 25–29 years and 50–54 years.



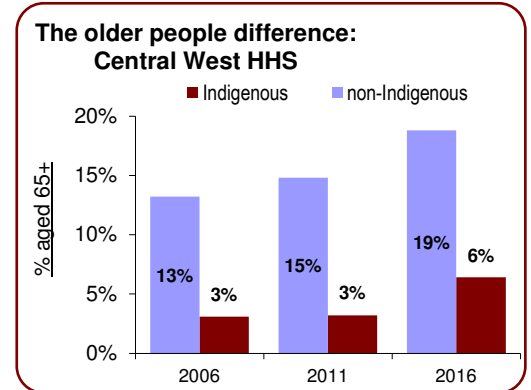
Population Indicators

The older people difference

% aged 65+ in population

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 6.4% of the region's Indigenous residents were aged 65 or over, compared with 18.8% of non-Indigenous residents. The older people difference was -12%.
- ⌘ The older people difference had increased by 1% since 2011, after having increased by 2% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The older people difference in Queensland was -11%. It had widened by 1% since 2011 and widened by 1% over the previous five years.

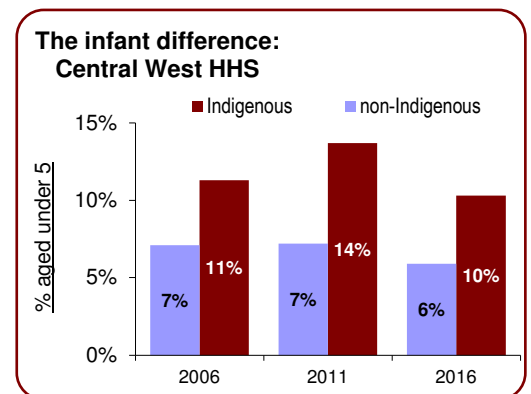


The infant difference

% aged under 5 in population

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 10.3% of the region's Indigenous residents were infants, compared with 6% of non-Indigenous residents. The infant difference was +4%.
- ⌘ The infant difference had closed by 2% since 2011, after having widened by 2% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The infant difference in Queensland was +6%. It had closed by 1% since 2011 and changed little over 2006 to 2011.

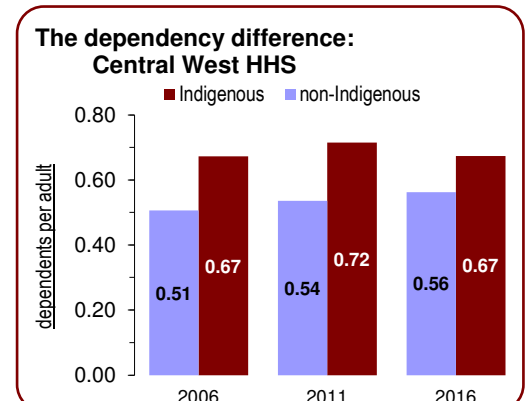


The dependency difference

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 region's Indigenous community had a dependency ratio of 0.67, compared with 0.56 for the non-Indigenous community. The Indigenous dependency ratio was 0.11 higher.
- ⌘ The dependency difference had decreased by 0.07 since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The dependency difference in Queensland was 0.14 and had closed by 0.06 since 2011. It had closed by 0.04 over 2006 to 2011.



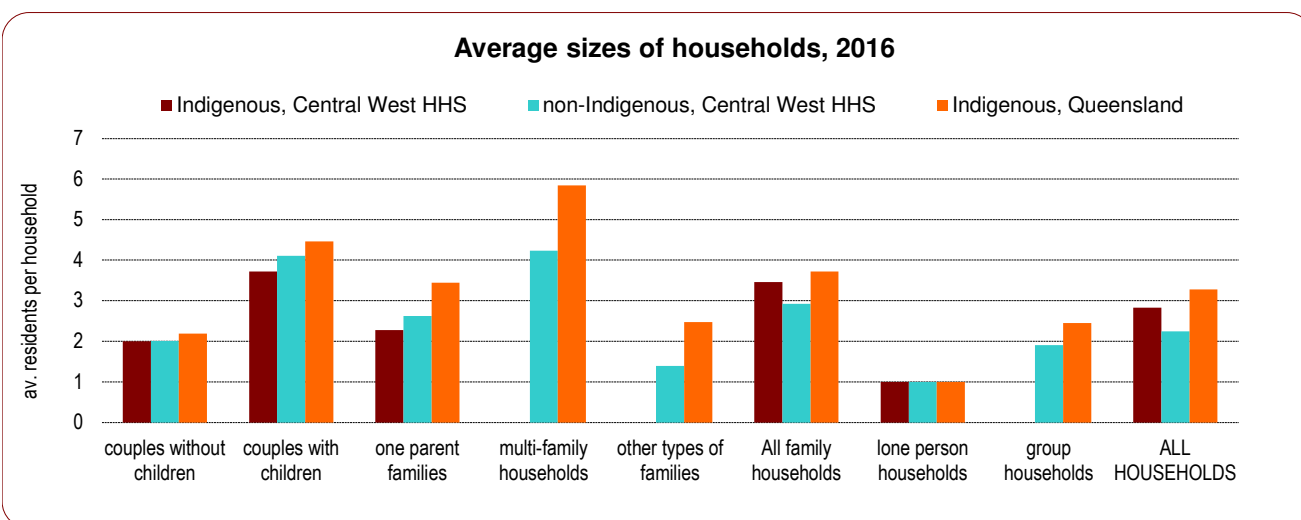
Household types and sizes

In 2016, the 769 Indigenous residents of Central West HHS were living in 334 households, 15% less than in 2011

The main types of Indigenous households* in the health region in 2016 were:

- ⌘ One in three were couples with children (107 households, or 32%). 8% higher than non-Indigenous here
- ⌘ One in four were one parent families (79 households, or 24%). 17% more than non-Indigenous
- ⌘ One in five were couples without children (65 households, or 19%). 12% less than non-Indigenous
- ⌘ One in five were one-person households (70 households, or 21%). 14% less than non-Indigenous
- ⌘ There were no multi-family households, and a few other types of households.

* Indigenous households are those with at least one Indigenous resident.



The region's Indigenous households had an average of 2.8 residents in 2016, which was 0.3 lower than in 2011, and 0.5 lower than in 2006.

- ⌘ Indigenous households here were 0.4 persons smaller than in Queensland, which averaged 3.3 residents.
 - ⌘ The average size of non-Indigenous households in the health region was 2.2 residents; Indigenous households were 26% larger, on average.
 - ⌘ The larger average size of Indigenous households was partly due to lower proportions of people living alone.
 - ⌘ Indigenous couple families here had an average of 1.7 children, compared with 2.1 for non-Indigenous families. Indigenous families in Queensland averaged 2.5 children.
 - ⌘ Indigenous one-parent families here averaged 1.3 children compared with 2.4 in Queensland (non-Indigenous one-parent families here had 1.6).
 - ⌘ At an average size of 2.8 persons, the 334 Indigenous households had some 950 members, but only 639 Indigenous people were counted in these households.
- The average size of the State's Indigenous households was down by 0.1 since 2011.
- The average size of non-Indigenous households fell by 0.1 from 2011.
- Indigenous households: 21% lone person; Other households: 35%.
- The average size of Indigenous nuclear families was down by 0.7 since 2011. It was down by 0.6 from 2006.
- The average number of children in one-parent families was down by 1.2 since 2011. It was down by 1.4 since 2006.
- This suggests that some 310 people in the region's Indigenous households (one in three) did not identify as Indigenous in the Census.

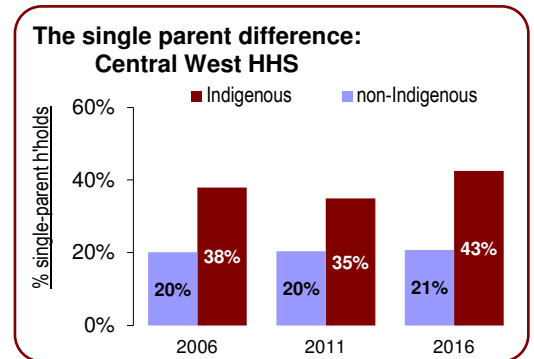
Household Indicators

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 region's Indigenous family households with children had one parent, compared with 21% of non-Indigenous families. The difference was +22%.
- ⌘ The single parent difference had increased by 7% since 2011, after having decreased by 3% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The single parent difference in Queensland was +19%. It had changed little since 2011 after having increased by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

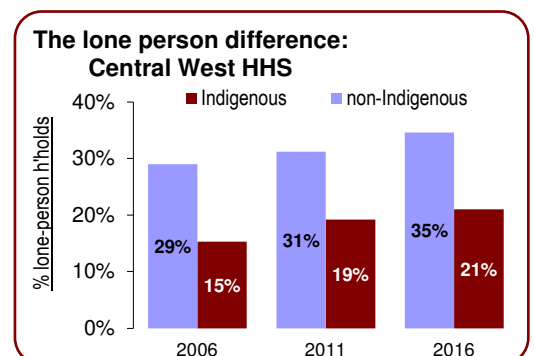


The lone person difference

% of households with one person

Living alone is less common for Indigenous 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, 21% of the region's Indigenous households were lone persons, compared with 35% of non-Indigenous households. The lone person difference was -14%.
- ⌘ The lone person difference had widened by 2% since 2011, after having reduced by 2% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The lone person difference in Queensland was -10% and had closed by 1% since 2011. It had changed little between 2006 and 2011.

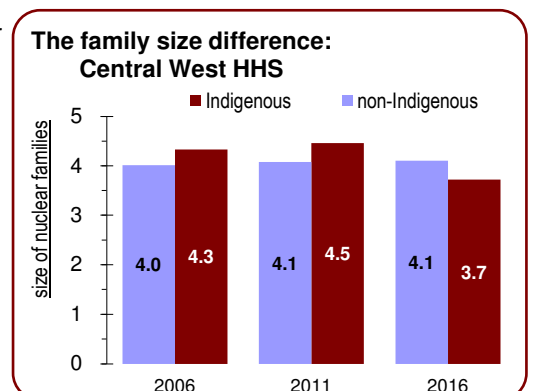


The family size difference

average size of two-parent families

The family size difference is the gap between the average sizes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous '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 region's Indigenous nuclear families was 3.7 persons (i.e. 1.7 children), compared with 4.1 persons (2.1 children) for non-Indigenous families, a difference of -0.4 children per family.
- ⌘ The family size difference had reversed since 2011, after having widened by 0.1 over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The family size difference in Queensland was 0.5 children per family, and had decreased by 0.1 since 2011. It had increased by 0.1 from 2006 to 2011.



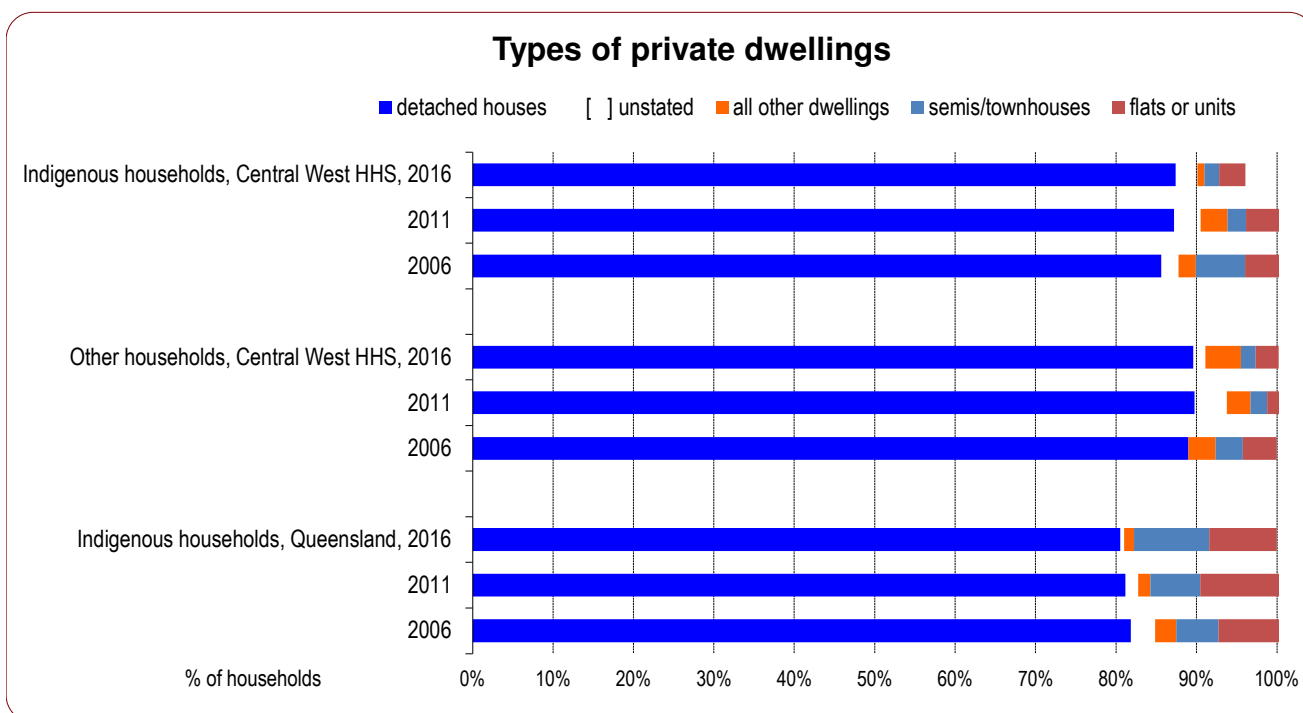
Types of housing

In 2016, most Indigenous households in Central West HHS (87%) were living in detached houses, with 3% living in flats or units and 2% living in semis/townhouses.

- ⌘ Compared with other households in Central West HHS, no more Indigenous households lived in flats or units, and 3% fewer lived in caravans or cabins.
- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households living in detached houses in Central West HHS was little changed since 2011, and was 2% higher than in 2006.

The proportion in detached houses was 7% more than that of Indigenous households in Queensland; the proportion in semis/townhouses was 8% lower.

The proportion of non-Indigenous households in detached houses in Central West HHS was little changed since 2011 and little changed since 2006.



A few Indigenous people in the health region were counted living in institutional accommodation on Census night (eg. nursing homes, hospitals, boarding houses, correctional centres, barracks or boarding schools).

- ⌘ There were 17 Indigenous people living in institutional accommodation in Central West HHS in 2011, and 41 in 2006.
- ⌘ Note: very small numbers are randomly altered by the ABS to protect privacy, so are not precise.

In 2016, there were 249 people living in institutional accommodation in Central West HHS; 3% of the non-Indigenous population lived in institutions.

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

- ⌘ This was down by 16 since 2011.

There were 3 non-Indigenous people reported in improvised accommodation in Central West HHS in 2016.

Housing costs and tenure

In 2016, Indigenous households in Central West HHS most commonly lived in dwellings that were rented (55% of the households). Another 20% lived in dwellings that were fully owned, and 19% in homes that were being purchased.

- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households that rented, 55%, was 22% higher than the rate for other households here.
The proportion living in rented dwellings was down by 10% since 2011, and was 8% lower than in 2006.
The median weekly rent paid by Indigenous households was \$156. It was \$123 in 2011 and \$98 in 2006.
- ⌘ The proportion living in dwellings that were being bought (19%) was 2% lower than for Other households.
The proportion living in mortgaged dwellings was up by 4% since 2011; and 3% higher than in 2006.
The median monthly mortgage paid by Indigenous households in the health region in 2016 was \$1,081. It was \$820 in 2011 and \$577 for 2006.
- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households in fully owned dwellings (20%) was 20% lower than for non-Indigenous households.
The proportion in fully owned dwellings was up by 8% since 2011; and 6% higher than in 2006.

Among Indigenous households, the proportion renting in Central West HHS was 7% lower than the rate in Queensland.

33% of Other households in Central West HHS were renting, similar to 2011, and similar to 2006.

The median weekly rent paid by Other households in Central West HHS was \$130. It was \$97 in 2011 and \$75 in 2006.

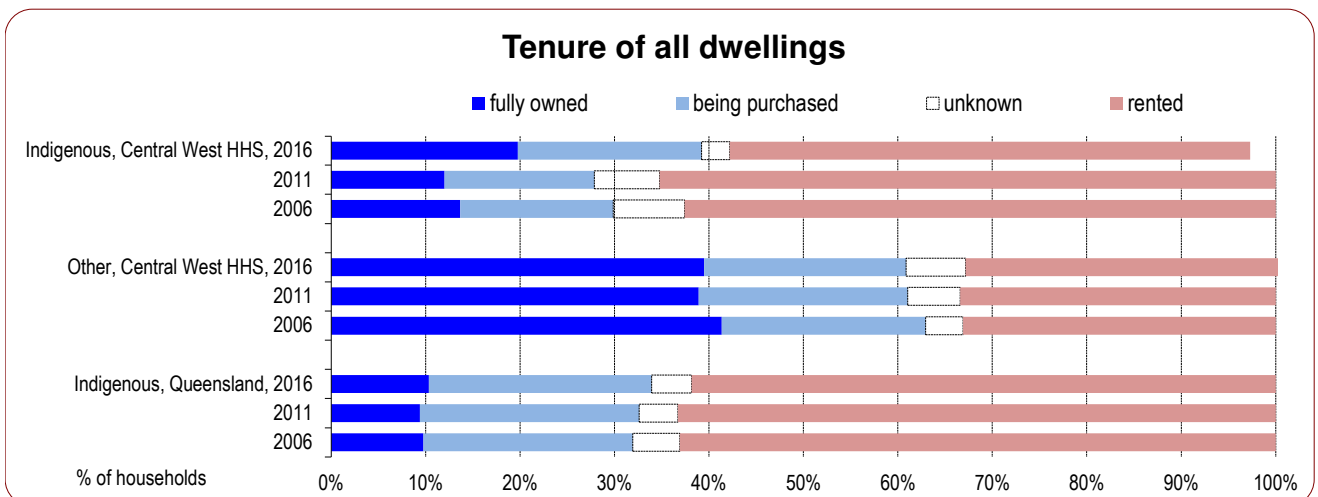
In Queensland, 24% of Indigenous households were home-buyers with a mortgage.

21% of the Other households in Central West HHS had a mortgage, down by 1% since 2011, and steady since 2006.

The median mortgage paid by Other households in Central West HHS was \$1,083. It was \$1,092 in 2011 and \$718 in 2006.

The proportion of Indigenous households in fully owned dwellings in Central West HHS was 9% higher than the average in Queensland.

The proportion of Other households in fully owned dwellings in Central West HHS was unchanged since 2011, and down by 2% since 2006.



Of 184 Indigenous rental households, 33% were managed by public housing and 23% were managed by absentee landlords.

- ⌘ 61 Indigenous households lived in public housing (19% of all households).
This number had fallen by 10 since 2011.

Only 5% of the Other households lived in public housing. Indigenous households occupied 26% of public housing.

The number of Other households in public housing in Central West HHS had fallen by 44.

Housing Indicators

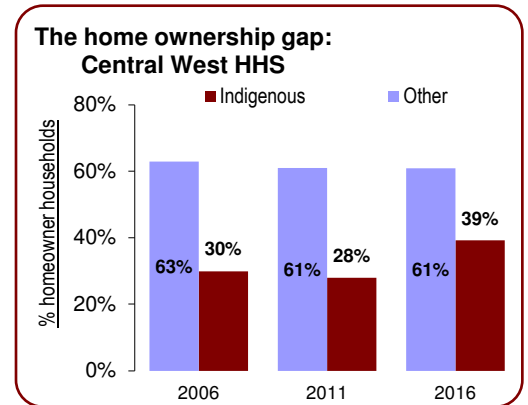
Note: these indicators are based on a small number of households so are not precise.

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, 39% of Indigenous households in Central West HHS were either buying or owned their home, compared with 61% of Other households, a home ownership gap of -22%.
- ⌘ The gap had closed by 11% since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The home ownership gap in Queensland was -30% and had closed by 2% since 2011. It had closed by 3% between 2006 and 2011.

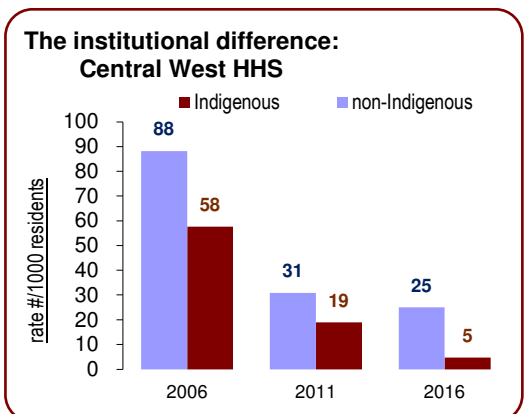


The institutional difference

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.

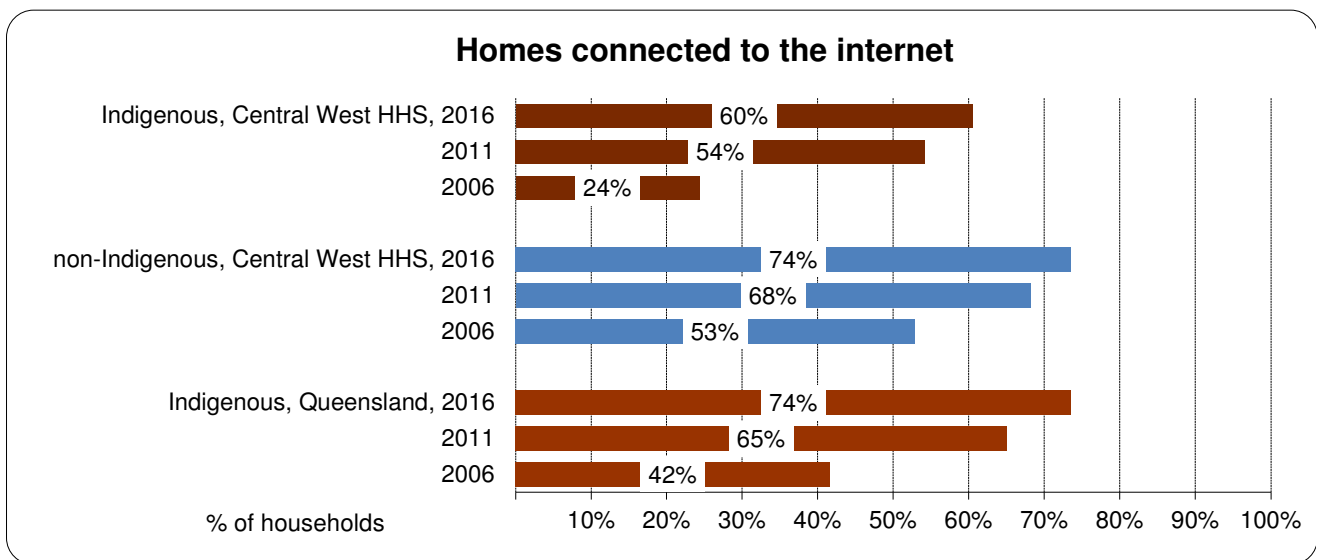
- ⌘ In 2016, there were 5 in every 1000 Indigenous residents in Central West HHS living in institutional housing, compared with 25 per 1000 non-Indigenous residents. The institutional difference was -20 per 1000.
- ⌘ The institutional gap had increased by 8 per 1000 since 2011, after having decreased by 19 per 1000 over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The institutional difference in Queensland was 15 per 1000 and had increased by 1 per 1000 since 2011. It had fallen by 1 per 1000 between 2006 and 2011.



Internet @ home

In 2016, 60% of Indigenous households in Central West HHS had an internet connection while 33% did not (110 households); 3% did not answer the question.

- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households connected to the internet was 13% lower than in Queensland (74% connected), ... and 13% lower than non-Indigenous households in Central West HHS (where 74% of homes were connected).
- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households with internet was up by 6% from 54% in 2011. The proportion was up by 8% for Indigenous households in Queensland. It was up by 5% for non-Indigenous households in this health region (from 68% in 2011).
- ⌘ In 2006, 24% of the region's Indigenous people had the internet at home. This compared with 42% of Indigenous people in Queensland and 53% of non-Indigenous people in this health region.



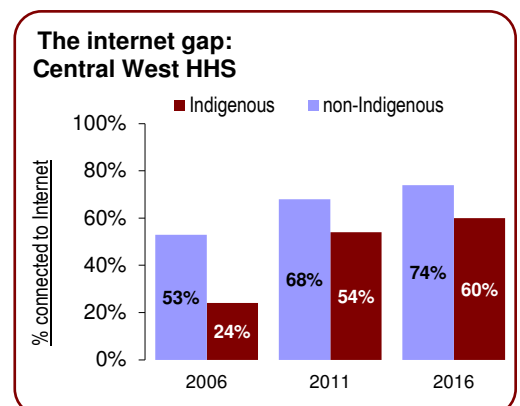
The internet gap

% of households with an internet connection

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 60% of the region's Indigenous households had an internet connection, compared with 74% of other households, an internet gap of -14%.
- ⌘ The internet gap had changed little since 2011, after having closed by 15% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The internet gap in Queensland was 10% and had narrowed by 4% since 2011. It narrowed by 7% between 2006 and 2011.

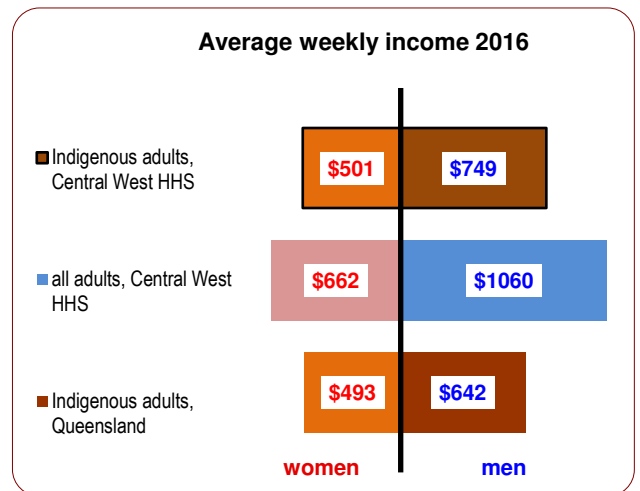
The 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses had different questions about the internet.



Personal income

In 2016, the average weekly income of Indigenous adults (aged 15+) in Central West HHS was about \$612, which was close to that of Indigenous adults in Queensland (\$597), but 36% less than the average of all adults in the health region (\$950).

- ⌘ Indigenous men in Central West HHS averaged \$749 a week (71% of the overall male average here). Indigenous women averaged \$501 a week (76% of the overall female average).
- ⌘ The average weekly income of Indigenous men was \$107 higher in the health region than in Queensland. The average weekly income of Indigenous women here was similar to Queensland.
- ⌘ Half of the Indigenous adults received under \$504 a week (the median income).



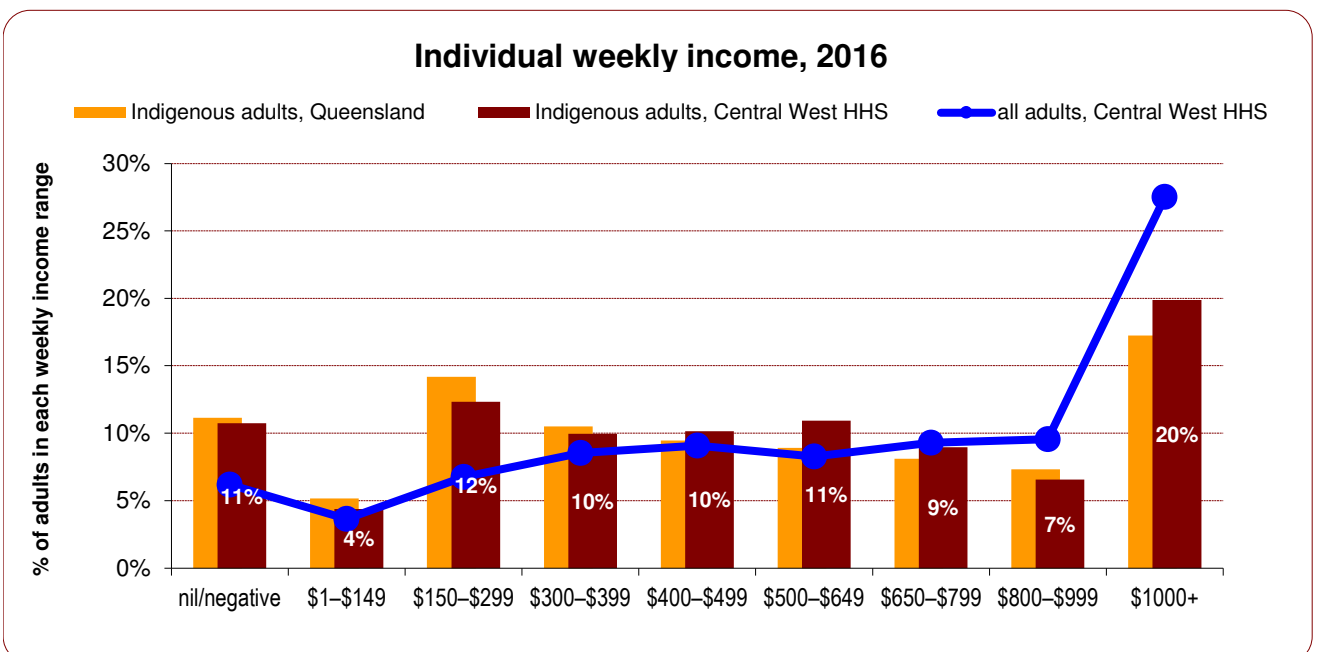
The income distribution pattern among Indigenous adults in Central West HHS was similar to Indigenous adults in Queensland; it was somewhat different from all adults in the health region.

Compared with Indigenous adults across Queensland:

- ⌘ proportionally more Indigenous adults here were in the \$1000+ and \$500–\$649 ranges.
- ⌘ fewer were in the \$150–\$299 and \$1–\$149 ranges.

Compared with all adults in this health region:

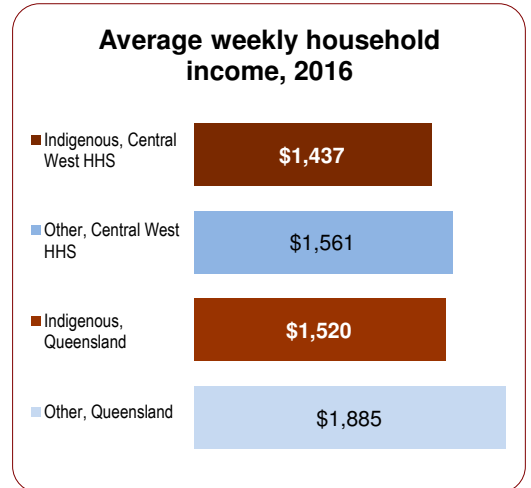
- ⌘ more Indigenous adults were in the \$150–\$299 and nil/negative ranges, and in the \$500–\$649 range.
- ⌘ proportionally fewer were in the \$1000+ and \$800–\$999 range.



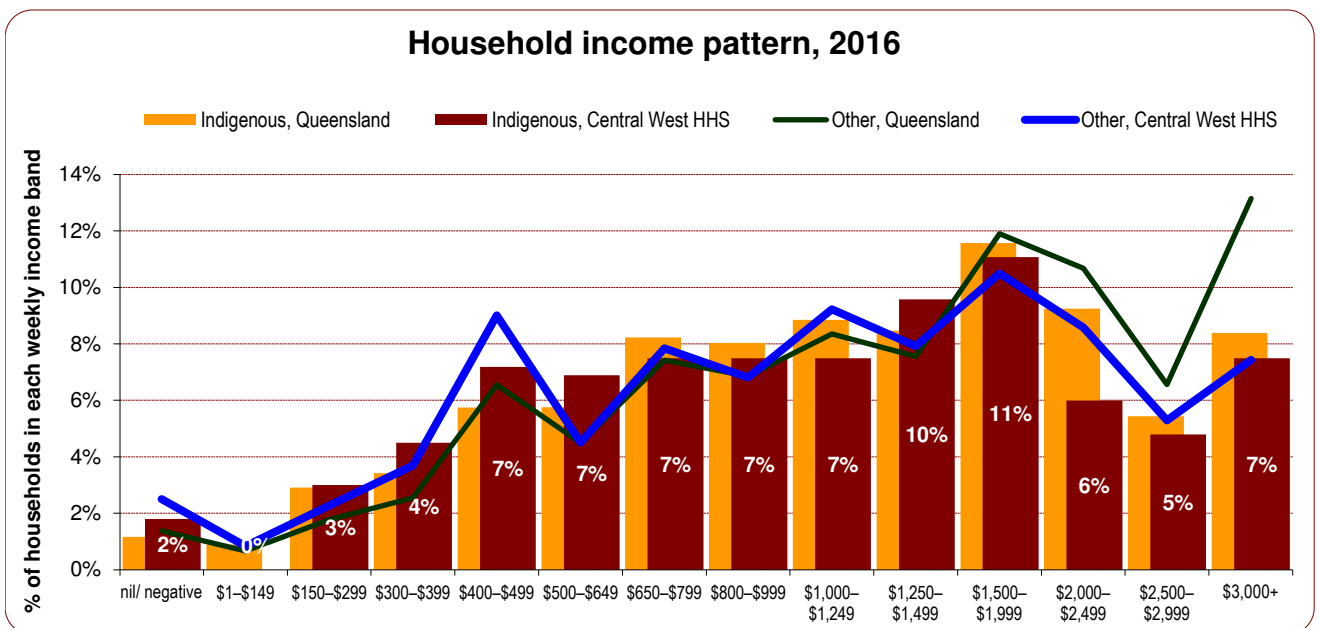
Household income

In 2016, the average income of 338 Indigenous households in Central West HHS was about \$1,437 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.

- ⌘ The average Indigenous household income in Central West HHS was 5% less than the average of Indigenous households in Queensland (\$1,520 a week).
- ⌘ It was 8% less than the average of other households in Central West HHS – \$1,561 a week.
- ⌘ Half the Indigenous households received less than \$1,146 a week (the 'median household income').
- ⌘ Indigenous households in the health region had an average size of 2.8 residents, compared with 2.2 for non-Indigenous households. Household incomes thus had to be spread among more people, compared to other households.



The income distribution pattern among Indigenous households in Central West HHS was similar to the State's Indigenous households, and similar to other households in the health region.



Compared with Indigenous households across Queensland:

- ⌘ more Indigenous households here were in the \$400–\$499 and \$500–\$649 income ranges.
- ⌘ fewer Indigenous households were in the \$2,000–\$2,499 and \$1,000–\$1,249 income ranges.

Compared with non-Indigenous households in this health region:

- ⌘ more Indigenous households were in the \$500–\$649 and \$1,250–\$1,499 income ranges.
- ⌘ fewer Indigenous households were in the \$2,000–\$2,499 and \$400–\$499 income ranges.

Income Indicators

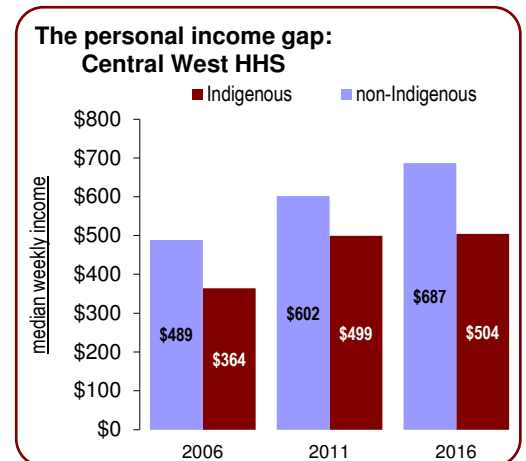
Note: these indicators are based on a small number so are not precise.

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 503 Indigenous adults in Central West HHS was \$504, which was 73% that of non-Indigenous adults here (\$687). The personal income gap was -27%.
- ⌘ The personal income gap had widened by 10% since 2011, after having closed by 9% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The personal income gap in Queensland was -32% and had narrowed by 3% since 2011. It had increased 1% between 2006 and 2011.

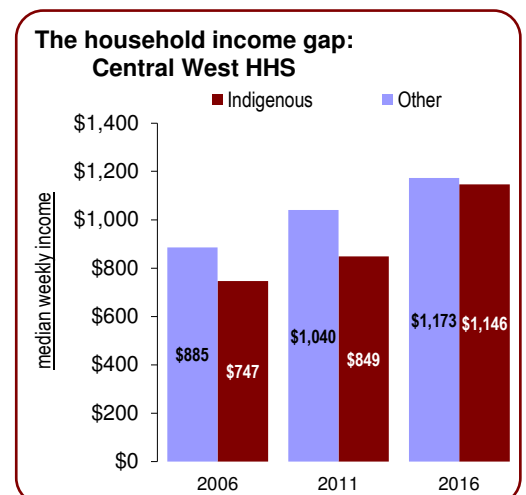


The household income gap

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, Indigenous 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 338 Indigenous households in Central West HHS was \$1,146, compared with \$1,173 for Other households in the health region. This was 2% lower – this is the household income gap.
- ⌘ The household income gap had narrowed by about 16% since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The household income gap in Queensland was 13% and had closed by 1% since 2011. It had increased by 1% between 2006 and 2011.



[‘Other’ households are those that did not include any Indigenous people AND households that did not say.]

Employment

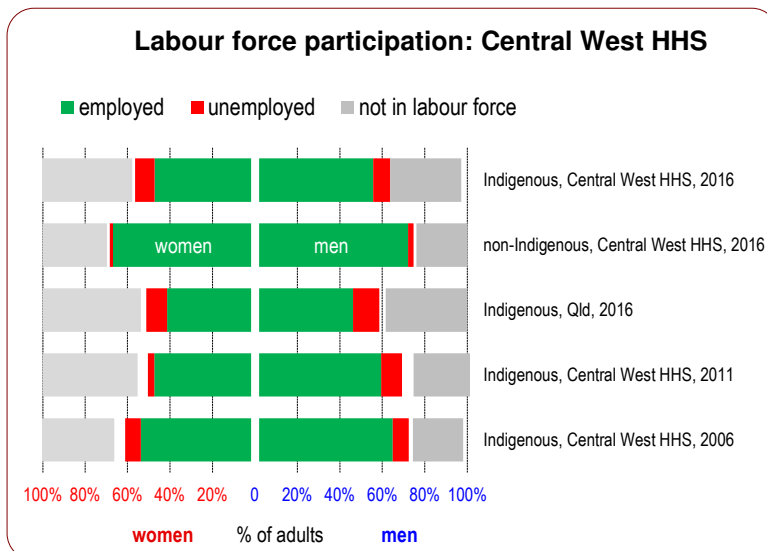
Employment is a prime determinant of a community's income, so it is an important indicator of well-being. In Central West HHS, 267 out of 503 Indigenous adults (15+) were employed in 2016 – 53% of adults.

The workforce participation rate (employed + unemployed) was 60% of all Indigenous adults aged 15+.

Indigenous workforce participation was ...

- ⌘ much lower for women at 54% than for men at 66%.
- ⌘ 11% lower than the average for non-Indigenous adults in the health region.
- ⌘ 6% higher than the average for Indigenous adults in Queensland.

The Indigenous workforce participation rate here was similar to 2011 and 7% lower than in 2006.

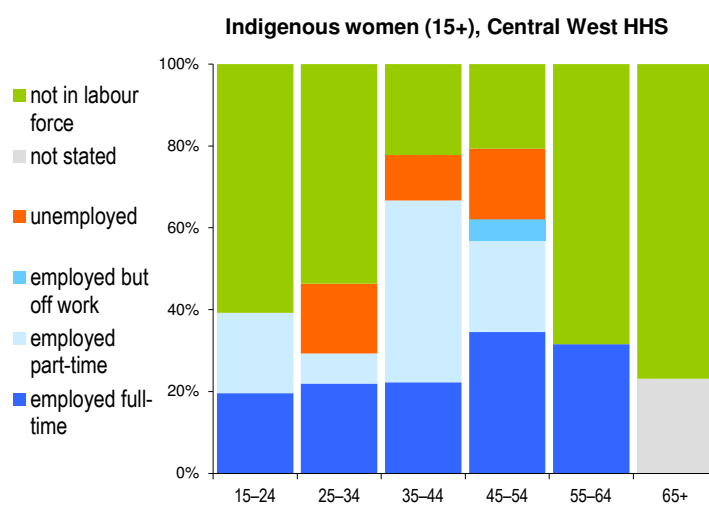
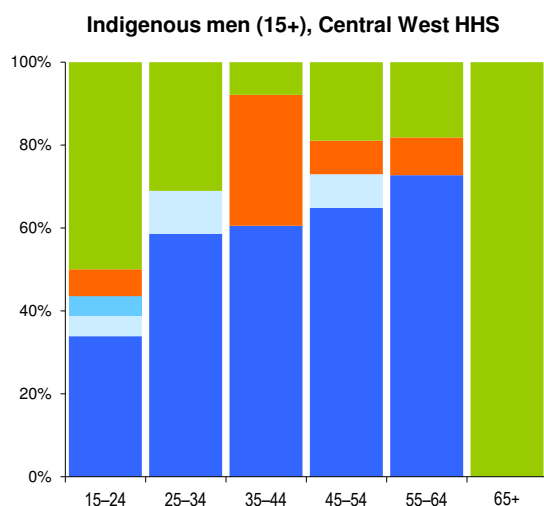


In 2016, the Indigenous unemployment rate in Central West HHS was 15%, with 46 people out of work.

- ⌘ This rate was much higher than the 3% rate among non-Indigenous adults here.
- ⌘ The Indigenous unemployment rate was 12% for men and 17% for women.
- ⌘ The Indigenous unemployment rate was 5% higher than in 2011, and 4% higher than in 2006.
- ⌘ Indigenous unemployment was highest among those aged 45–64 years (16%) and 25–44 years (11%). It was lowest among those aged 15–24 years (9%).



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



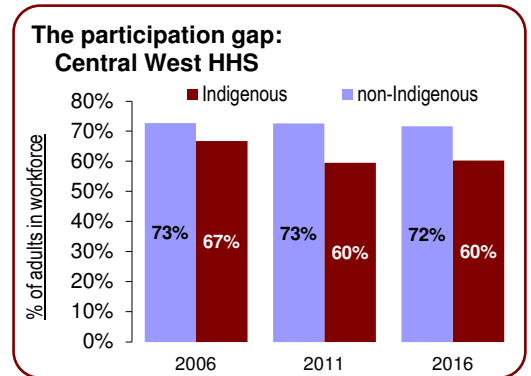
Workforce Gap Indicators

The participation gap

% of adults 15+ in labour force

Workforce participation, measured as the proportion of adults in the workforce, is an important indicator of a community's income and independence. When participation is low, communities become more dependent on income support, and poverty increases.

- ⌘ In 2016 in Central West HHS, there were 303 Indigenous people in the workforce, 60% of the adult residents. The proportion of non-Indigenous adults in the workforce was 72%, so the participation gap was -11%.
- ⌘ The participation gap had closed by 2% since 2011, after having widened by 7% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The participation gap in Queensland was -11% and had changed little since 2011. It had widened by 2% between 2006 and 2011.

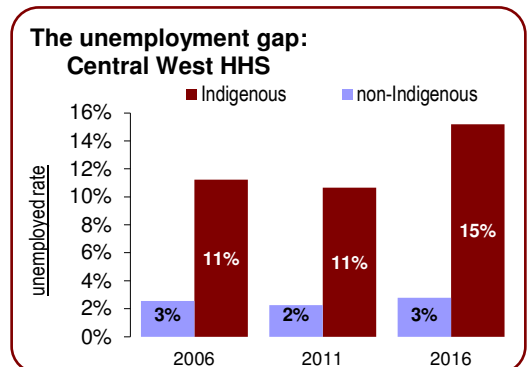


The unemployment gap

% 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, 15% of the Indigenous workforce in Central West HHS were unemployed (46 people), and 3% of the non-Indigenous workforce were unemployed. The unemployment gap was +12%.
- ⌘ The unemployment gap had widened by 4% since 2011, after having closed by 1% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The unemployment gap between in Queensland was +13% and had widened by 1% since 2011. It had widened by 3% between 2006 and 2011.

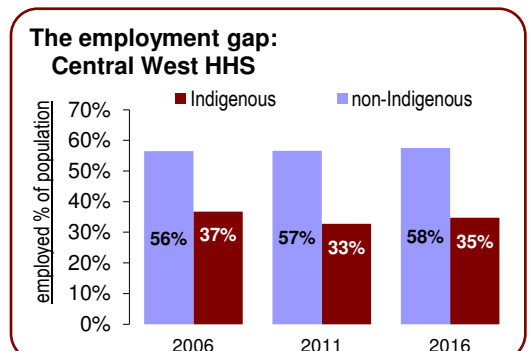


The employment gap

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, 35% of the Indigenous population of Central West HHS were employed (267 people), and 58% of the non-Indigenous workforce were employed. The employment gap was -23%.
- ⌘ The employment gap had closed by 1% since 2011, after having widened by 4% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The employment gap in Queensland was -21% and had closed by 1% since 2011. It had widened by 2% 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 Central West HHS, three in ten Indigenous residents (244 people) were attending an educational institution in 2016.

Indigenous participation in education varied with age. In education in Central West HHS were:

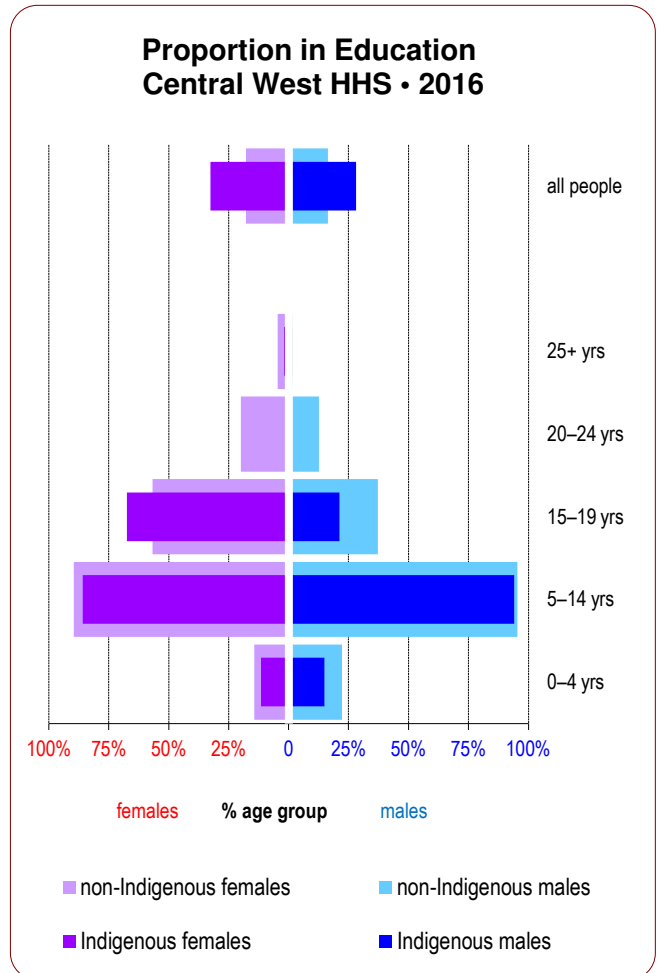
- 15% of the 0–4 year olds
- all of the 5–14 year olds
- 68% of the 15–19 year olds
- 5% of the 20–24 year olds
- 4% of those aged 25+.

Overall participation in education by Indigenous residents here, 32%, is much higher than for non-Indigenous, 17%. This is partly because the Indigenous population has a much higher proportion of children under 18. Relative to non-Indigenous people of the same age, there were, in education:

- similar proportions of 25+ year olds
- 11% fewer Indigenous 20–24 year olds
- 23% more Indigenous 15–19 year olds
- 5% more Indigenous 5–14 year olds
- similar proportions of 0–4 year olds

Central West HHS's Indigenous population had 111 females per 100 males in education. This ratio varied with age. Of those in education, there were:

- 2.0 males per female among 0–4 year olds
- 1.1 females per male among 5–14 year olds
- 1.5 females per male among 15–19 year olds
- too few to be sure for 20–24 year olds
- equally males and females among 25+ year olds



Since 2011, overall participation in education by Indigenous people in Central West HHS had increased by 6%, but this masks changes among the age groups.

- The proportion of 0–4 year olds in education was up by 7% since 2011; the rate was up by 10% since 2006.
- The proportion of 5–14 year olds in education was up by 23% since 2011, and up by 19% since 2006.
- The proportion of 15–19 year olds in education was up by 33% since 2011, and up by 28% since 2006.
- The proportion of 20–24 year olds in education was down by 5% since 2011; the rate was down by 1% over the decade.
- The proportion of 25+ year olds in education was down by 2% since 2011. The rate was up by 1% from 2006.

Current education

In 2016, some 233 Indigenous children and teenagers in Central West HHS were attending school, with 9 in pre-school, 137 in primary school, and 87 in high school.

The number of Indigenous pre-schoolers was down by 9 or 50% since 2011; it was up by 29% since 2006.

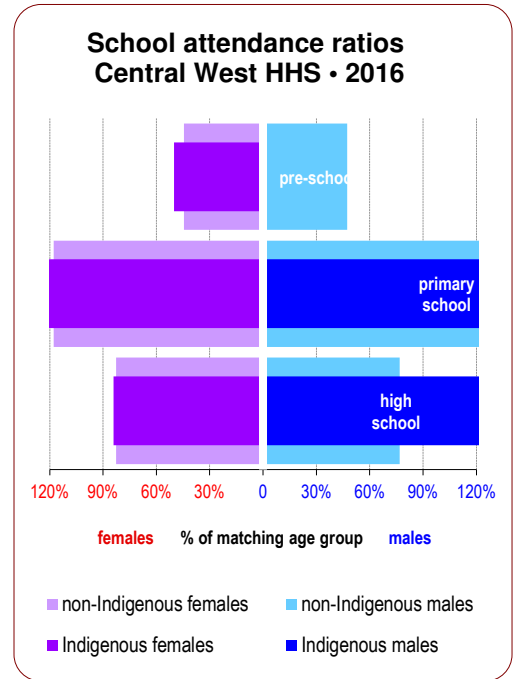
- ⌘ The 9 Indigenous pre-schoolers equalled 18% of the Indigenous children aged 4–5.
- ⌘ In Queensland, Indigenous pre-schoolers equalled 40% of the number aged 4–5 years. Non-Indigenous pre-schoolers in this health region represented 44% of their age group.

The number of Indigenous primary students (137) was down by 13 or 9% since 2011; it was 14% higher than in 2006.

- ⌘ Indigenous primary students were 115% of the number aged 6–11. The rate exceeds 100% if children of other ages attend.
- ⌘ This rate was 8% higher than the Indigenous rate in Queensland and 54% higher than for non-Indigenous children here.

The number of Indigenous secondary students (87) was up by 22 or 34% since 2011 and 93% higher than 2006.

- ⌘ Indigenous secondary students were 92% of the Indigenous children aged 12–17.
- ⌘ This rate was 19% higher than the rate for non-Indigenous secondary students here; it was 13% higher than for Indigenous students in Queensland.



14 Indigenous residents of Central West HHS were in post-school education in 2016. This was 15 less than in 2011, and 5 more than in 2006.

In 2016, there were a few Indigenous 15–24 year olds from the health region enrolled in TAFE.

- ⌘ 4% of Indigenous 15–24 year olds in Queensland attended TAFE, with 50% full-time.
- ⌘ 6% of non-Indigenous 15–24 year olds in this health region attended TAFE, with 43% full-time.

No Indigenous 15–24 year olds from the health region attended university or other tertiary education.

- ⌘ 6% of Indigenous 15–24 year olds in Queensland were at university, with 84% full-time.
- ⌘ 6% of the non-Indigenous 15–24 year olds in this health region were at university, with 55% full-time.

There were no Indigenous students aged 25+ from Central West HHS attending TAFE in 2016.

- ⌘ 2% of Indigenous 25–64 year olds in Queensland attended TAFE, with 37% full-time.
- ⌘ 1% of the non-Indigenous 25–64 year olds in this health region attended TAFE, with 20% full-time.

No Indigenous residents aged 25+ from Central West HHS were in university or other tertiary in 2016.

- ⌘ 3% of Indigenous 25–64 year olds in Queensland were at university, with 49% full-time.
- ⌘ 3% of non-Indigenous 25–64 year olds in this health region were at university, with 20% full-time.

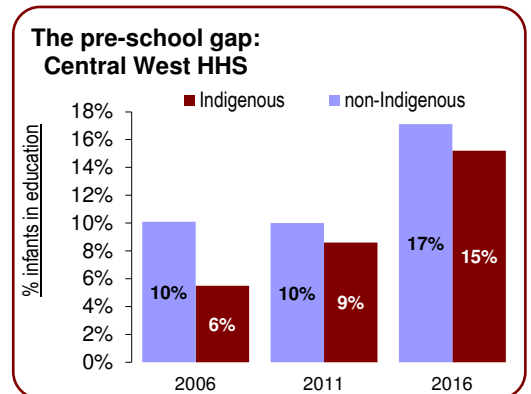
Education Attendance Indicators

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, 15% of Indigenous infants in Central West HHS were in education, compared with 17% of non-Indigenous infants. The pre-school gap was -2%.
- ⌘ The pre-school gap had changed little since 2011, after having closed by 3% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The pre-school rates of Indigenous and non-Indigenous infants in Queensland were 15% and 18% in 2016, a gap of -3%. This gap had narrowed by 1% since 2011.

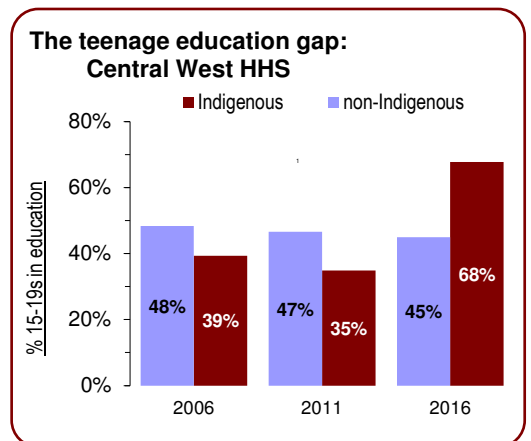


The teenage education gap

% 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 Central West HHS Indigenous teenagers aged 15–19 were in education, compared with 45% of non-Indigenous teenagers. The teenage education gap was +23%.
- ⌘ The teenage education gap had reversed since 2011, after having widened by 3% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The teenage education gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous in Queensland was -17% and had narrowed by 2% since 2011. It widened by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

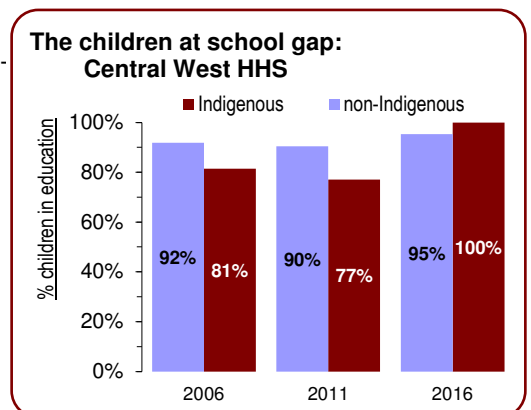


The children at school gap

% of 5–14 year olds in education

School is compulsory for children up to the age of 16. Low schooling rates suggest truancy and/or underage school leavers.

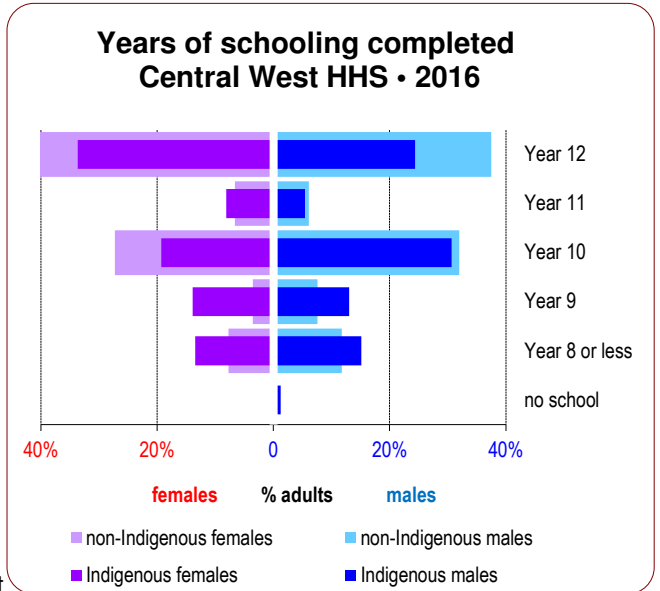
- ⌘ In 2016, 100% of Central West HHS Indigenous children aged 5–14 were in education, and 95% of non-Indigenous of that age were. The schooling gap was +5%.
- ⌘ The schooling gap had reversed since 2011, after having widened by 3% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The schooling gap in Queensland was -5% and had narrowed by 3% since 2011. It changed little over 2006 to 2011.



Schooling levels

In 2016, the Indigenous adults (15+) in Central West HHS had completed an average of Year 10.0 of school, compared with Year 10.6 for non-Indigenous adults. In Queensland, Indigenous adults averaged Year 10.5.

- ⌘ 144 Indigenous adults in the health region had completed Year 12 which was 8% fewer than in 2011, and 48% more than in 2006.
- 32% of Indigenous adults in the health region had completed Year 12, which was 12% lower than the rate for non-Indigenous adults.
- 38% of Indigenous adults across Queensland had completed Year 12.
- ⌘ 68% of Indigenous adults in the health region had completed at least Year 10, which was 7% lower than for Indigenous adults in Queensland.
- ⌘ Of the others, 12% had completed Year 9 and 15% had completed Year 8 or lower; 9 adults did not go to school (2%); 5% did not say.



The average Year of school is calculated by multiplying the number aged 15+ who had finished each Year's school by the Year, assuming those who replied '8 years or less' averaged 7 years schooling and those who responded 'no school' had 0 years. Those who did not respond and those still at school are not included.

The average Year when Indigenous people in Central West HHS left school had risen by 4 months since 2011, and was up by 7 months since 2006.

Over the decade to 2016, there was an increase of 48% in the number who had finished Year 12, and a decrease of 28% in the number who had finished school at Year 11.

For Indigenous adults in this health region, average schooling:

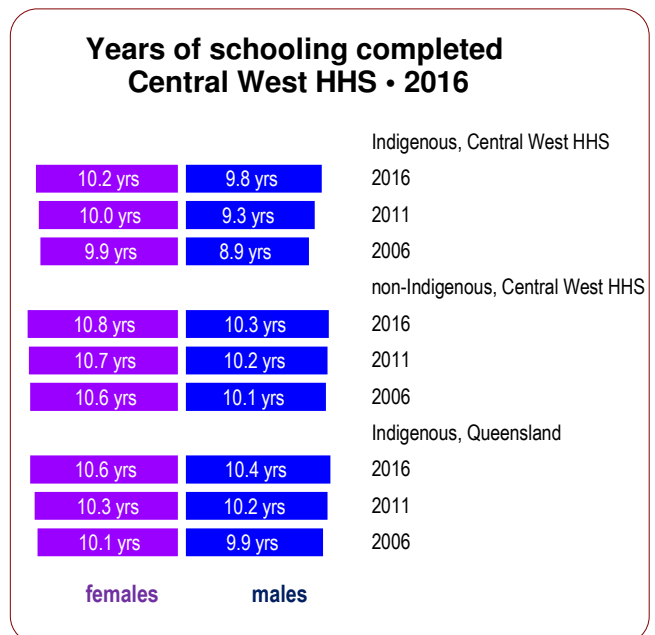
- ⌘ for men, had risen by 6 months since 2011, and had risen by 11 months since 2006.
- ⌘ for women, had risen by 2 months since 2011, and had risen by 4 months since 2006.

For non-Indigenous adults, average schooling:

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

The average schooling of Indigenous adults in Queensland:

- ⌘ for men had risen by 2 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.



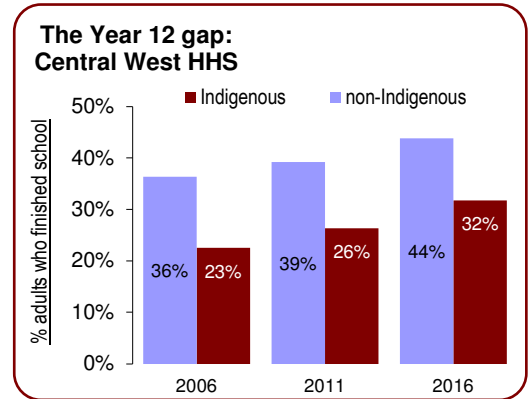
Education Achievement Indicators

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, 32% of the region's 454 Indigenous adults had completed Year 12, compared with 44% of non-Indigenous adults. The Year 12 gap was -12%.
- ⌘ The Year 12 gap had closed by 1% since 2011, after having closed by 1% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The Year 12 gap in Queensland was -19% and had narrowed by 1% since 2011. It widened by 1% between 2006 and 2011.

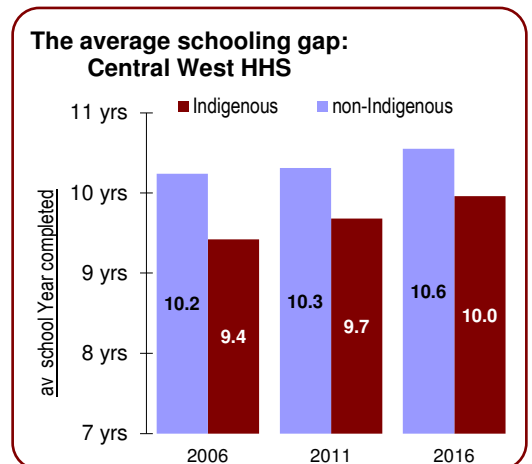


The average schooling gap

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, the 454 Indigenous adults in Central West HHS had completed an average of Year 10.0 at school, compared with Year 10.6 for non-Indigenous adults. The average schooling gap was -0.6 years.
- ⌘ The average schooling gap had barely changed since 2011, after having closed by 2 months over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The average schooling gap in Queensland was 6 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, 184 Indigenous adults in Central West HHS reported having tertiary educational qualifications, which was 37% of the number aged 15+.

By comparison, 44% of Indigenous adults in Queensland and 47% of non-Indigenous adults in Central West HHS had a tertiary qualification.

16 Indigenous adults in the health region had a degree or higher qualification (3%), with none having a postgraduate degree.

- ⌘ In Queensland, 5% of the Indigenous residents had a degree or higher qualification.
- ⌘ 12% of the non-Indigenous residents of Central West HHS had a degree or more.

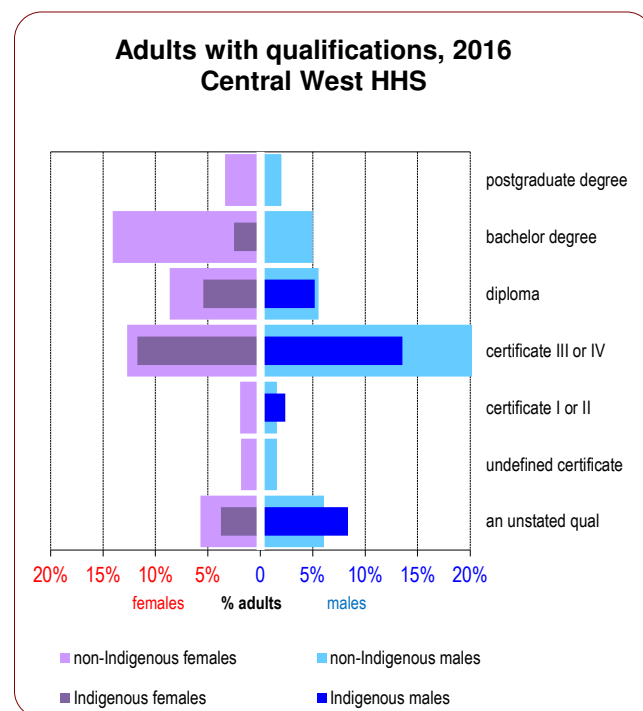
The most common highest qualification held by Indigenous adults here were:

- certificate III or IV, held by 73 people (15%);
- an unstated qual, by 47 people (9%);
- diploma, by 24 people (5%).

While the number of Indigenous adults in Central West HHS fell by 18% from 2011 to 2016, the number with qualifications rose by 7%. There were:

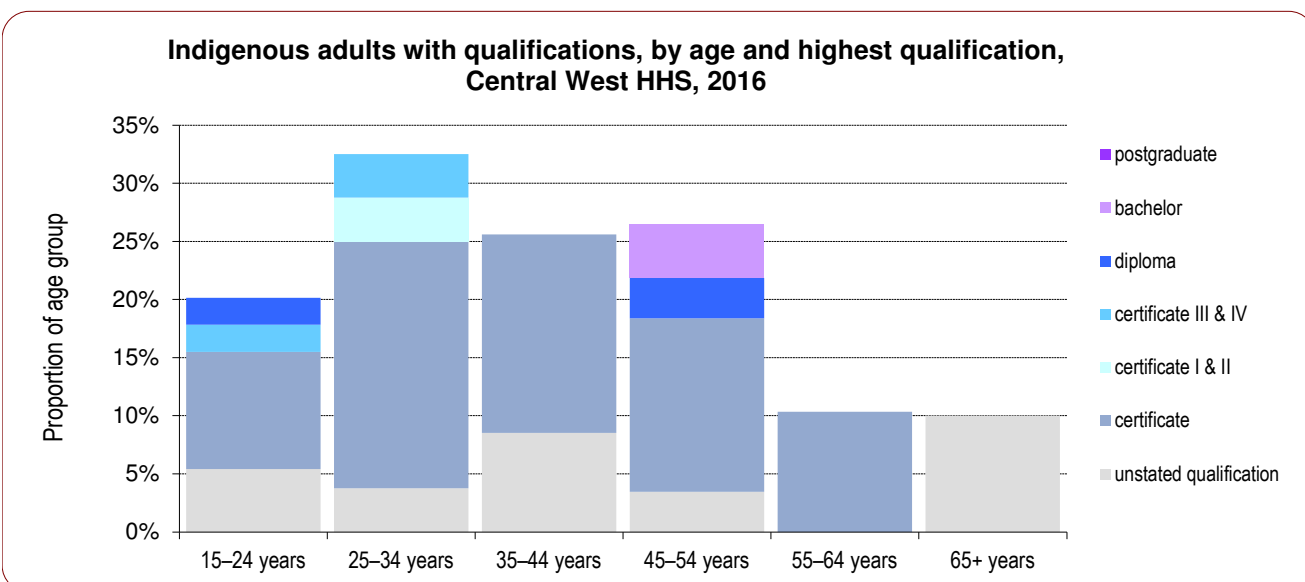
- 10 more with a undefined certificate
- 6 more with a diploma
- similar numbers with a bachelor degree

In the decade from 2006, the number of Indigenous adults in the health region with qualifications increased by 61%, while the adult population increased by 18%. There were 41 more with a certificate III or IV.



In this decade, the number of Indigenous adults in Queensland with qualifications increased by 93%. There were 198% more with a postgraduate degree and 179% more with a diploma.

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



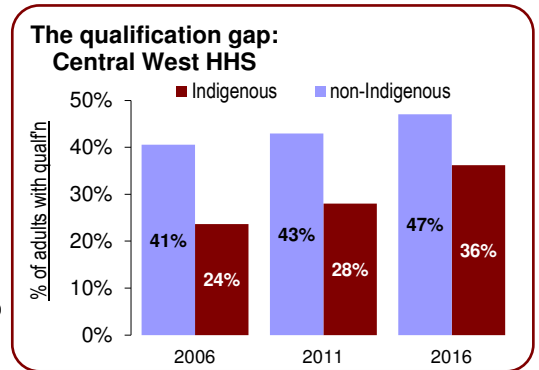
Higher Education Indicators

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, 36% of Central West HHS Indigenous adults aged 15+ had a post-school qualification, compared with 47% of non-Indigenous adults. The qualification gap was -11%.
- ⌘ The qualification gap had closed by 4% since 2011, after having closed by 2% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The qualification gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults in Queensland was -13% and had narrowed by 1% since 2011. It widened by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

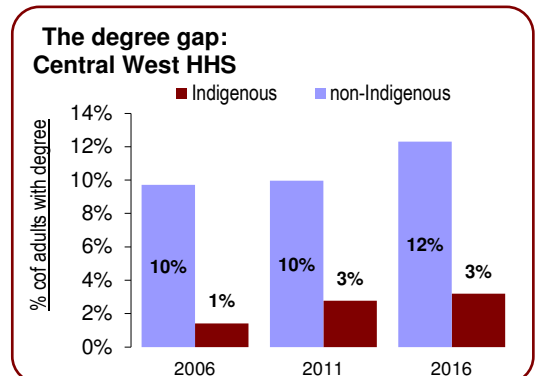


The degree gap

% 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, 3% of Central West HHS Indigenous adults aged 15+ had a degree or higher qualification, compared with 12% of non-Indigenous adults. The degree education gap was -9%.
- ⌘ The degree gap had widened by 2% since 2011, after having closed by 1% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The degree gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults in Queensland was -15% and had widened by 2% since 2011. It widened by 2% over 2006 to 2011.

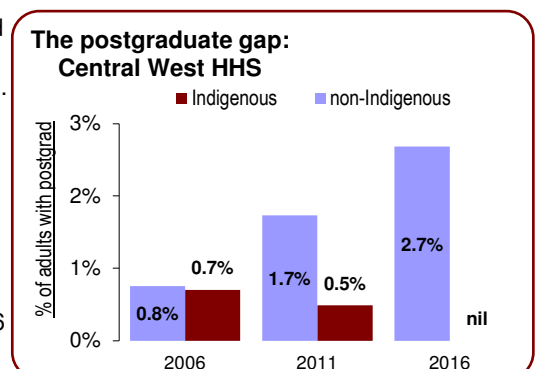


The postgraduate gap

% of adults 15+ with a postgraduate qualification

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

- ⌘ In 2016, none of Central West HHS Indigenous adults aged 15+ had a post-graduate qualification, compared with 2.7% of non-Indigenous adults. The postgraduate gap was -2.7%.
- ⌘ The postgraduate gap had widened by 1.5% since 2011, after having widened by 1.1% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The postgraduate gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults in Queensland was -4.3% and had widened by 0.8% since 2011. It widened by 1.8% over 2006 to 2011.



Disability levels

In 2016 in Central West HHS, 41 Indigenous residents had a long-term severe disability; 5.3% of the population. Among all the region's residents, 4.5% similarly 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 Central West HHS in 2016, they peaked among Indigenous 65+ year olds (18%).

Among younger Indigenous residents, the disability rate was highest among 35–44 year olds at 11% and 25–34 year olds at 4%.

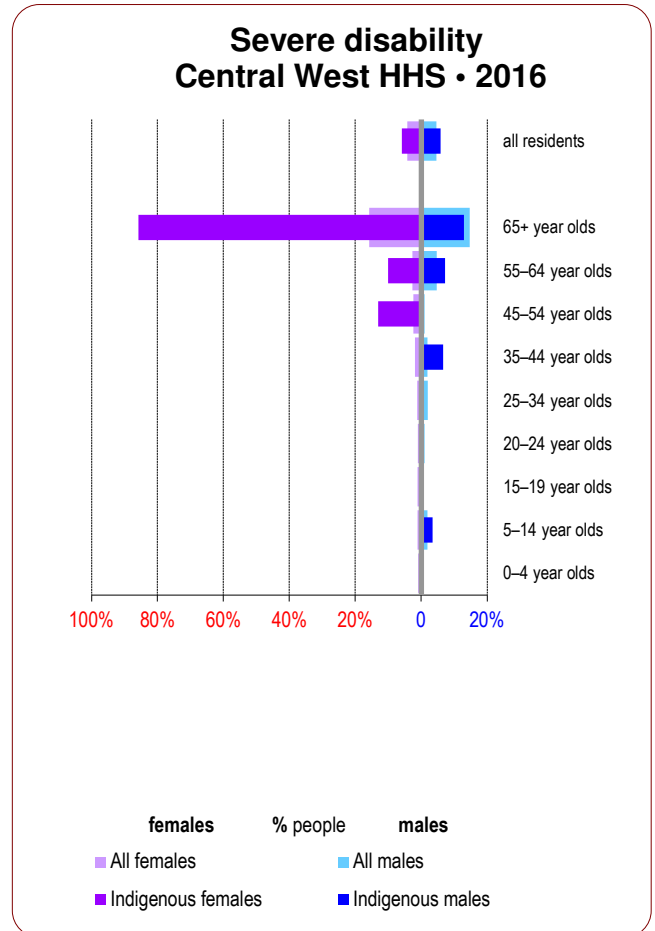
Because Indigenous communities tend to have fewer people in the oldest age groups where disability rates are much higher, the overall disability rate can be lower than in non-Indigenous communities. This can mask much higher rates in some age groups.

⌘ Here, the Indigenous disability rate was 1.2 times that in the overall population: 5.3% compared with 4.5%.

⌘ Indigenous disability rates were similar for men and women (5.9% : 5.9%). Among all residents, they were similar for men and women: 4.7% to 4.2%.

There were 2.0 females per male among 65+ year olds with a disability.

On the other hand, there were only females among 45–54 year olds with a disability. There were only males among those with a disability aged 5–14, 35–44.



From 2011 to 2016, the overall disability rate among Indigenous residents of the health region rose from 3.9% to 5.3%.

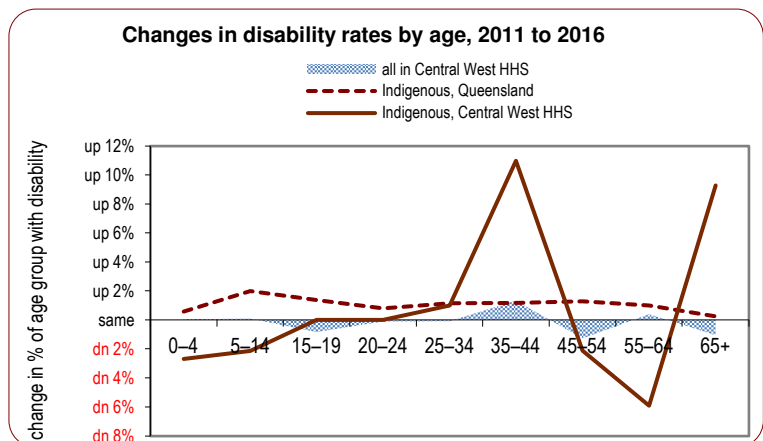
In the health region, the greatest change in the Indigenous disability rate was the increase among those aged 35–44, from nil in 2011 to 11.0% in 2016.

Disability rates also rose among 65+ year olds.

Disability rates fell most among those aged 55–64 years.

Among Indigenous people in Queensland, the disability rate rose from 4.8% to 6.4%.

Among all Central West HHS residents, the disability rate rose 0.6%, from 4.0% in 2011.



Disability care given

In the 2016 Census, 57 Indigenous adults in Central West HHS, 11% of the adult population, reported that they gave assistance to a person with a severe or profound disability. There were at that time 41 Indigenous residents who reported a severe or profound disability.

⌘ Across the age groups, the proportion of Indigenous people caring for a person with a disability ranged from 14% of 25–34 year olds and 13% of 45–54 year olds to none of 20–24 year olds.

⌘ Carers are more often women than men. In this Indigenous community, there were equally males and females among carers.

Female carers were most common among 25–34 year olds with 1.4 females per male caring, and among 55–64 year olds, with only females caring.

There were all male carers found among 15–19 year olds, 65+ year olds. Male carers were most common among carers aged 45–54 with 1.5 males per female caring

⌘ The 11% carer rate among Indigenous residents was higher than the average for all adults in the health region (9%).

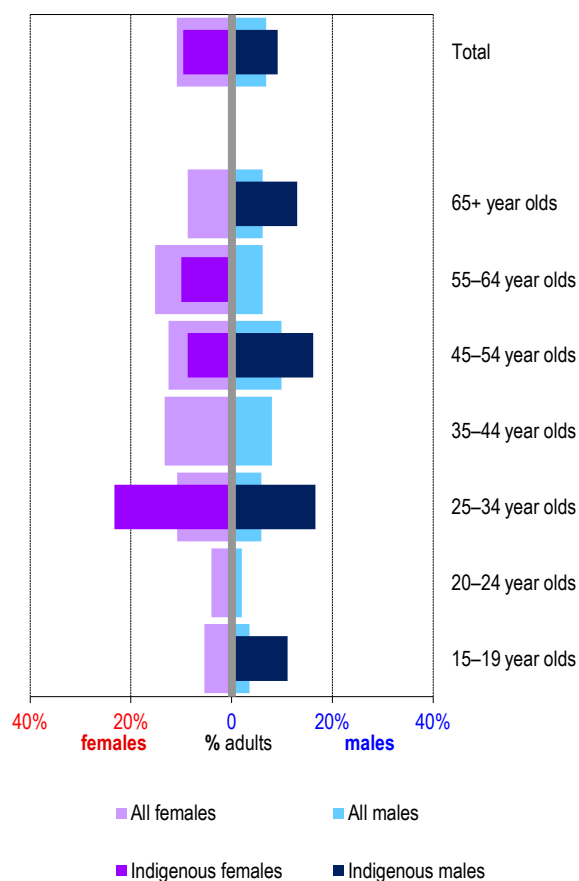
Among 15–19 year olds, the proportion of Indigenous carers was 2.3 times the average.

Among 25–34 year olds, the proportion of Indigenous carers was 1.7 times the average.

⌘ In Queensland, 13% of Indigenous adults were caring for a person with a disability.

Relative to the State's Indigenous community, there were 16% fewer carers among Indigenous people aged 35–44 here, and 9% fewer carers among those aged 20–24.

Carers • Central West HHS • 2016



From 2011 to 2016, overall caring rates among Indigenous adults in Central West HHS changed only slightly from 10% to 11% (rounded).

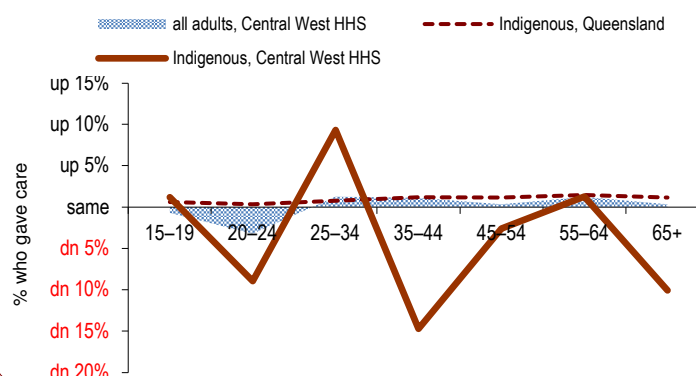
⌘ Among Indigenous adults in Queensland, caring rates rose by 1%.
Among all the region's adults, caring rates rose by 1%.

⌘ In the health region, Indigenous caring rates increased most among 25–34 year olds, from 5% in 2011 to 14% in 2016.

Caring rates also rose 1% among 55–64 year olds.

Caring rates fell most among 35–44 year olds, down by 15%, and among those aged 65+, down by 10%.

Changes in caring rates, by age, 2011–2016



Disability Indicators

Note: these indicators are based on small, randomised numbers so are approximate.

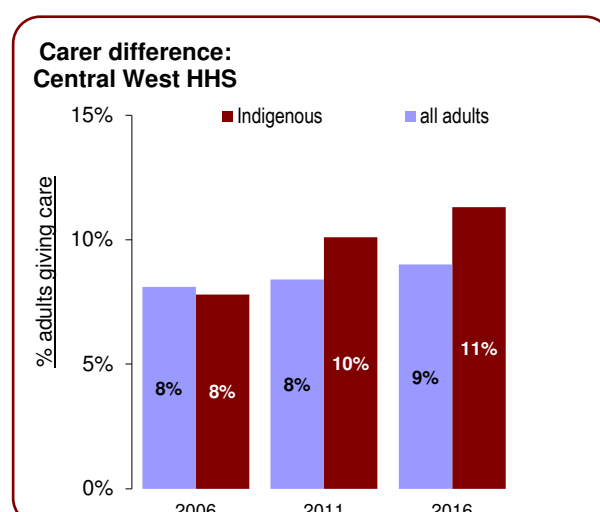
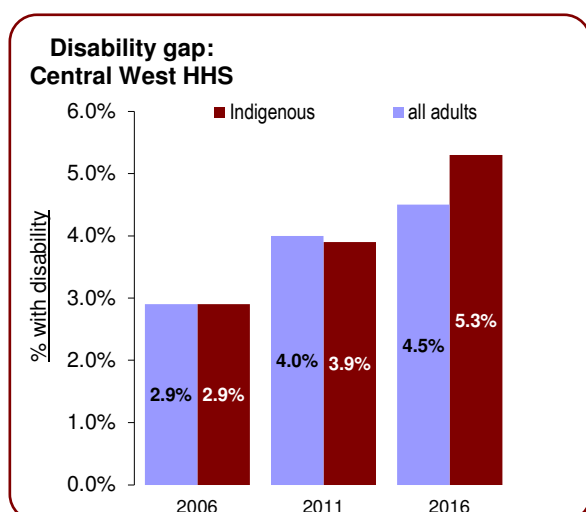
The disability gap

% 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 Indigenous people are about 25% higher than overall rates, across most age groups.

- ⌘ In 2016, 5.3% of the region's Indigenous residents had a severe, long-term disability, compared with 4.5% for all residents. The disability gap was +0.8%. The Indigenous disability rate was 1.2 times the overall rate.
- ⌘ The disability gap in Central West HHS had reversed since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The disability gap in Queensland was +1.2% and had widened by 0.8% 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

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 11% of the region's Indigenous adults (aged 15+) provided assistance to a person with a severe disability, compared with 9% of all adults. The carer difference was +2% (rounded).
- ⌘ The carer difference in Central West HHS had widened by 1% since 2011, after having reversed over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The carer difference in Queensland was +2% in 2016. This had changed little since 2011.