

FIRST NATIONS

RESEARCH SUMMARY



Our health and wellbeing is shaped by the people in our lives, our community, and the place in which we live.

Hobsons Bay City Council has prepared a series of research summaries to provide information about the social and environmental conditions that affect our health and wellbeing.

This research summary provides information on First Nations people in Hobsons Bay.

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**



PEOPLE

Population 3

In 2021, the First Nations population in Hobsons Bay was 628 persons (0.7% of the population), the same rate as Greater Melbourne (0.7%).

Between 2016 and 2021, Hobsons Bay's First Nations population grew by 28% (+138 persons).



Aboriginal



Torres Strait Islander

628 PERSONS

(0.7% of the population)

Aboriginal: **582 (93.6%)**

Torres Strait Islander: **28 (4.5%)**

Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander: **12 (1.9%)**

Median age breakdown 4

Indigenous

42%

0-25 YEARS

29%

Non-Indigenous

48%

26-59 YEARS

48%

11%

60+ YEARS

22%

In Hobsons Bay, the median age of First Nations people is 30, compared to 39 for the overall population.

LGBTIQA+ status 6

2.7%

of all Australian LGBTIQA+ people are Indigenous

In 2020, national data indicated that 2.7% of people who identify as LGBTIQA+ are Indigenous Australians, a slightly smaller

proportion compared to Indigenous people in the national population (3.2%).

Disability 1



In 2018, 24% of First Nations people in Victoria had a disability, substantially higher than the population-wide rate across the state (17%).

Aboriginal languages in Hobsons Bay and Victoria

3, 7, 8

38 Aboriginal languages | **11** language families

According to the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages, there are **38 Aboriginal languages** and **11 language families** in Victoria.

The 2021 Census noted less than 10 speakers of an Indigenous language in Hobsons Bay, including Garrwa.

Hobsons Bay is located where the **Boon Wurrung** language is spoken on **Bunurong** land, part of the Eastern or Central Kulin language family.

<10 speakers of an Indigenous language

Garrwa is spoken by only **147 people** across Australia, mostly across the Northern Territory and on the western border of Queensland.

Households

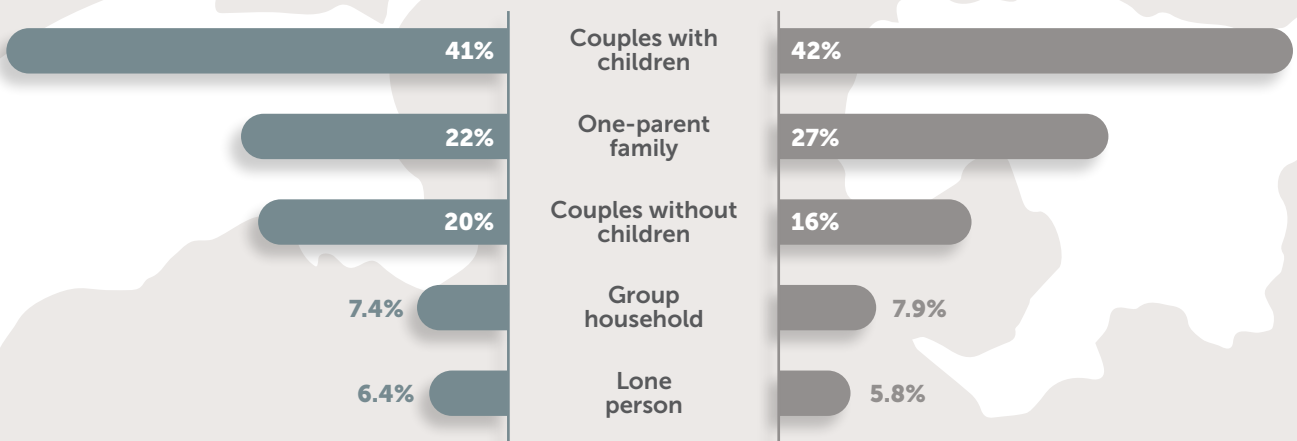
3

In 2021, there was a smaller proportion of First Nations people in Hobsons Bay living in one-parent family households (21.8%) compared to Greater Melbourne (26.9%).

There was also a larger proportion living in couple families without children households (20.4%), compared to Greater Melbourne (15.7%).

HOBSONS BAY

GREATER MELBOURNE



EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

Unpaid Employment

In 2021, 9% of First Nations people aged 15 years and over in Hobsons Bay volunteered, a slightly smaller proportion than for non-Indigenous persons (10%).



Note: Volunteering status is recorded for the 12 months prior to completing the Census survey, which included the period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

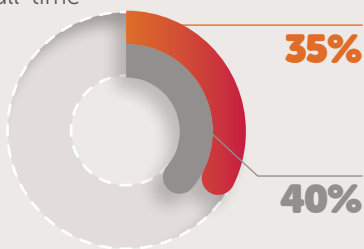
Employment levels

Of those over the age of 15 and in the labour force at the time of the 2021 Census, First Nations people had similar rates of full-time and part-time work, compared to the non-Indigenous population.

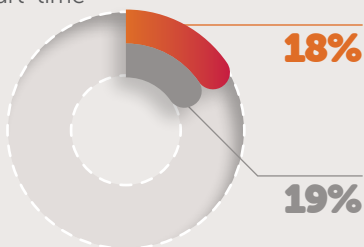
In Hobsons Bay, First Nations people aged 15 and over in the labour force had a higher rate of unemployment (6.3%), compared to the non-Indigenous population (3.4%).

● First Nations ● Non-Indigenous

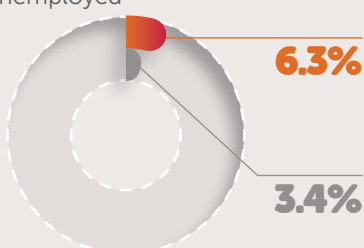
Full-time



Part-time

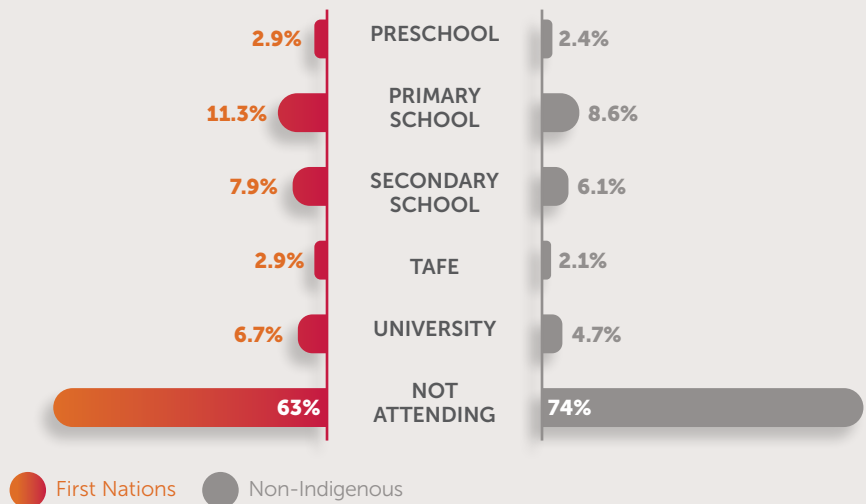


Unemployed



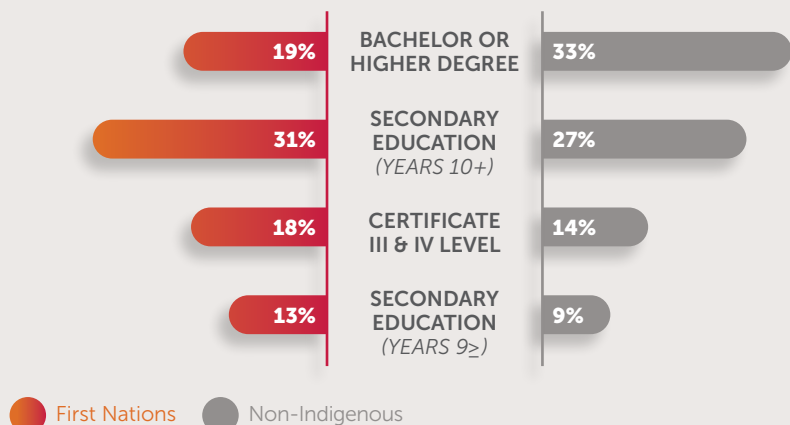
Education attendance

In 2021, more First Nations people aged 15 and over overall were attending an educational institution, compared to the non-Indigenous population.



Education levels

In 2021, the highest level of education achieved by those aged 15 years and over was:

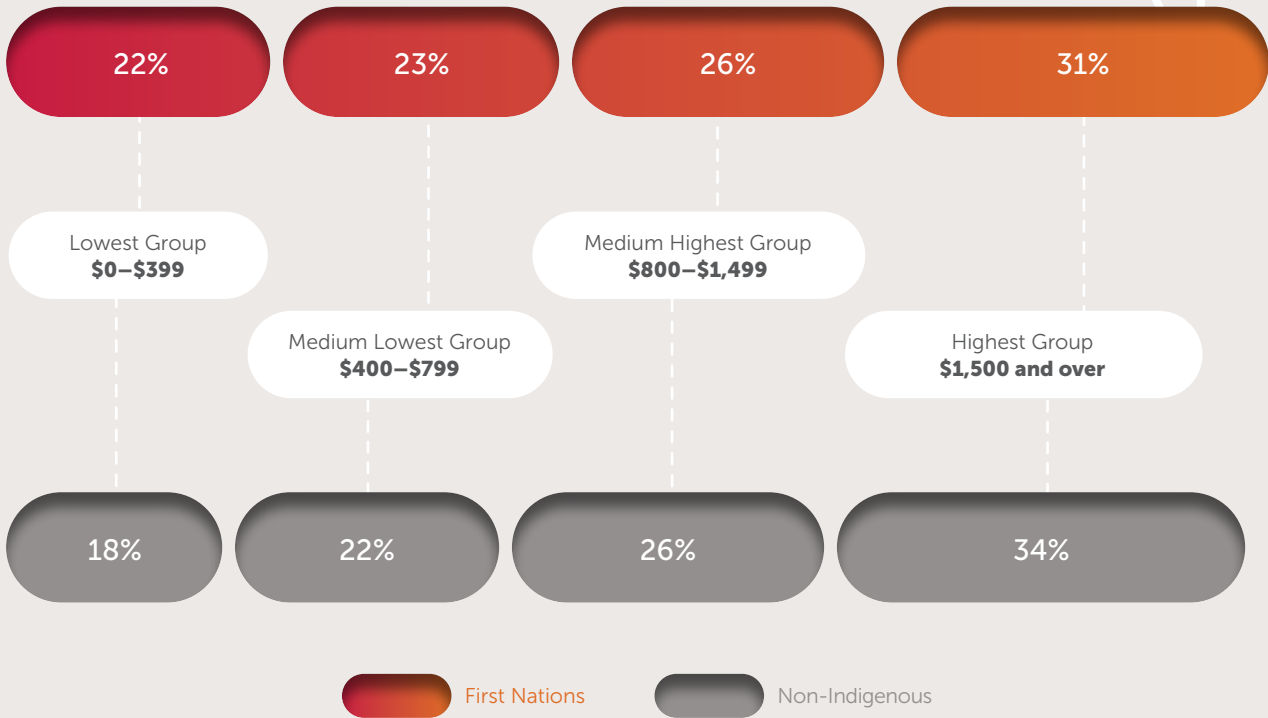


Income

3

In 2021, 22% of First Nations people in Hobsons Bay were in the lowest gross individual weekly income group, a larger proportion than the non-Indigenous population (18%).

INCOME LEVELS OF HOBSONS BAY



Caring and unpaid work

3

In 2021, 19% of First Nations people over the age of 15 in Hobsons Bay provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability, long-term illness or old age, a larger proportion than for the non-Indigenous population (14%).

● First Nations ● Non-Indigenous

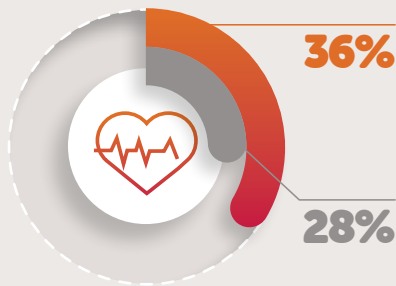


HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Long-term health conditions ³

In 2021, a larger proportion of First Nations people in Hobsons Bay (36%) experienced a long-term health condition, compared to the non-Indigenous population (28%).

- First Nations
- Non-Indigenous

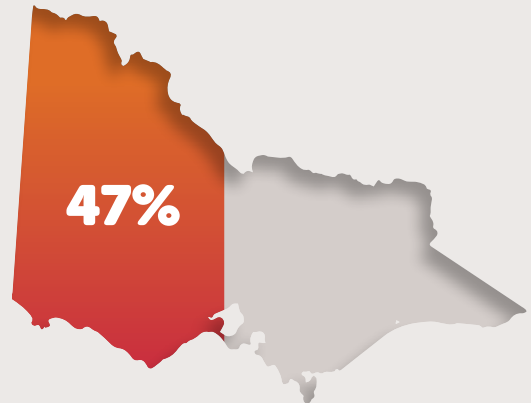


Top three health conditions among First Nations people in Hobsons Bay:

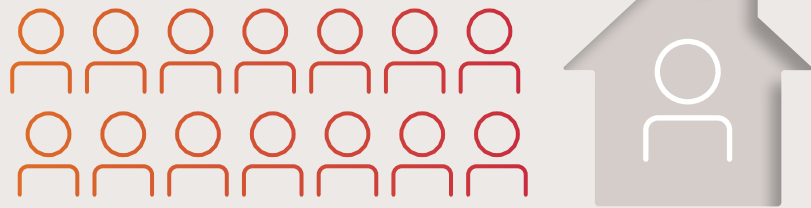
- 1** Mental health: **17%**
- 2** Asthma: **13%**
- 3** Arthritis: **7%**

Intergenerational impacts ^{11, 12, 13}

Almost half of the Victorian Aboriginal population (47%) have a relative who was forcibly removed from their family as part of the Stolen Generations. The number of descendants is estimated at **9,500 to 11,300 Victorians**.



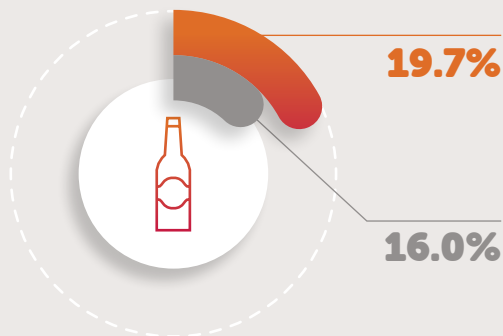
In Victoria, Aboriginal children are 14 times more likely than non-Aboriginal children to be in out-of-home care.



Note: Victorian admissions to out-of-home care were the highest in Australia for Indigenous children at 38.4 per 1,000 persons.

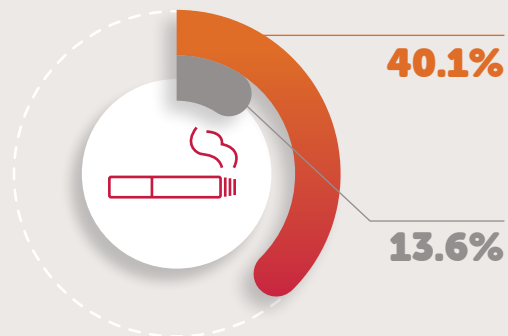
Alcohol and other drugs ²

In 2019, an ABS survey found 19.7% of Indigenous Australians aged 18 and above had exceeded lifetime risk guidelines for the consumption of alcohol in the previous week, higher than the non-Indigenous population (16.0%).



- First Nations
- Non-Indigenous

In 2019, an ABS survey found 40.1% of Indigenous Australians aged 18 and above smoked daily, almost three times higher than the non-Indigenous population (13.6%).



- First Nations
- Non-Indigenous

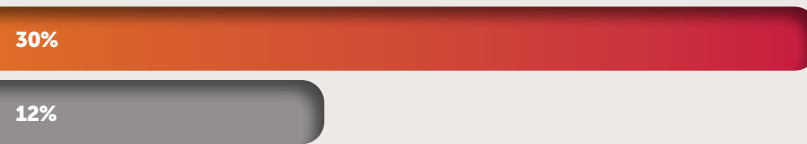
Gambling

9, 10

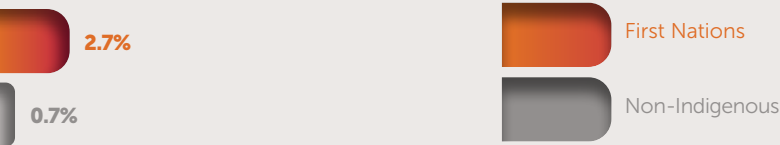
A 2014 study found that about 30% of Indigenous Victorians experience gambling harm, more than double the proportion of non-Indigenous Victorians (12%).

A 2019 study also found that Indigenous Victorians experience severe gambling harm (2.7%) at four times the rate of other Victorians (0.7%).

GAMBLING HARM



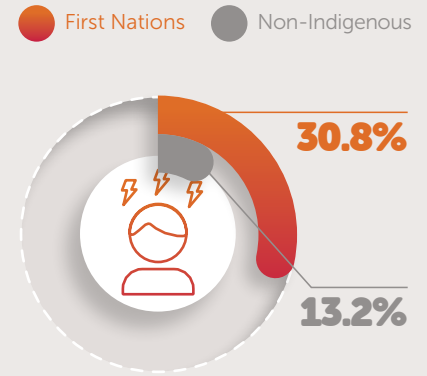
SEVERE GAMBLING HARM



Mental health

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In 2019, an ABS survey found 30.8% of Indigenous Australians aged 18 and above experience high or very high levels of psychological distress, more than double the non-Indigenous population (13.2%).

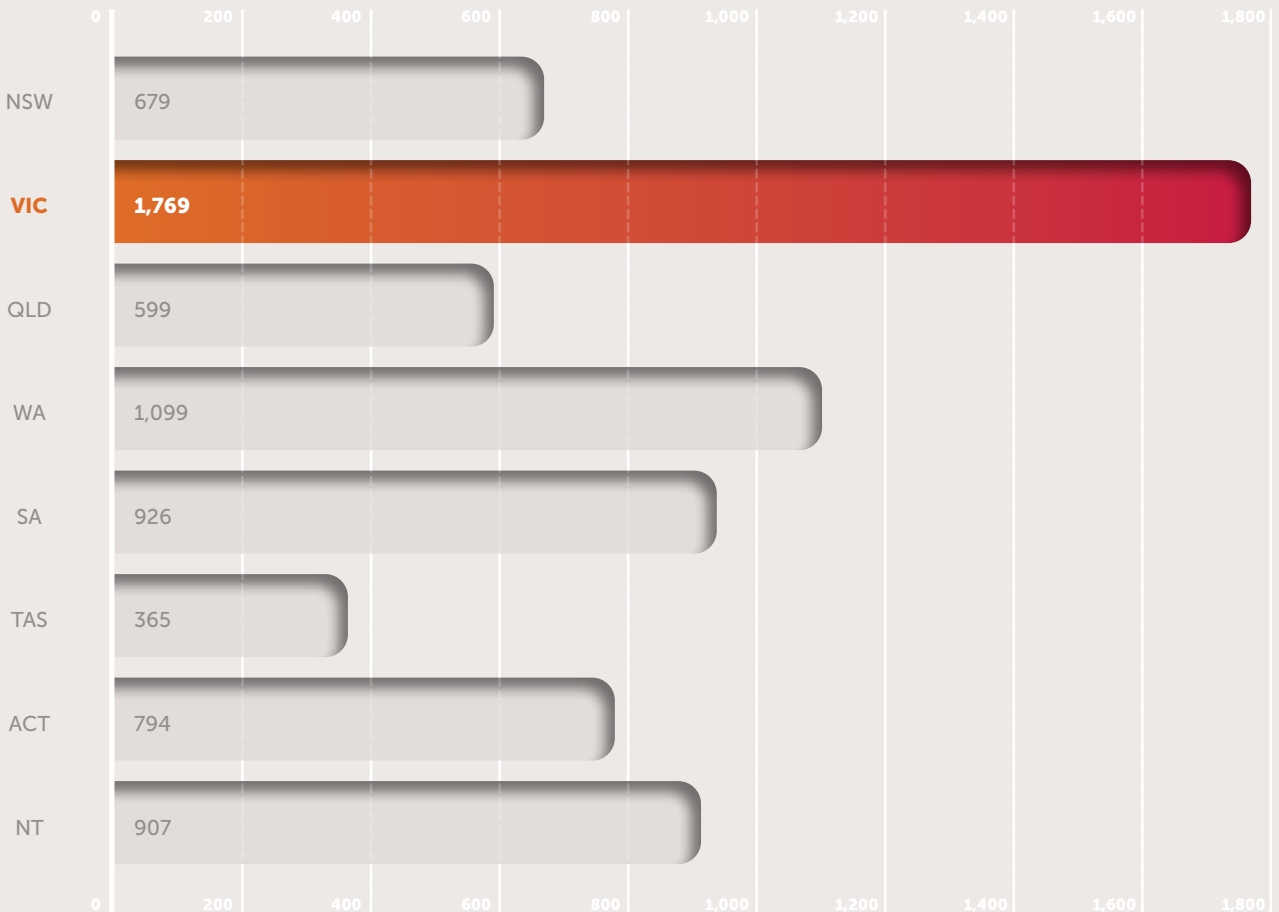


Housing and Homelessness

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In 2021-22, Victoria had the highest rate of Indigenous Australians accessing specialist homelessness services.

Rate (per 10,000 ERP)



Reference list

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3. Australian Bureau of Statistics (2022a) *2021 Census of Population and Housing, Australian Bureau of Statistics - TableBuilder - Datasets*. Available at: <https://tablebuilder.abs.gov.au/webapi/jsf/dataCatalogueExplorer.xhtml> (Accessed: 1 December 2022).
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5. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2022c) *Specialist homelessness services annual report 2021–22*. Available at: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/homelessness-services/specialist-homelessness-services-annual-report/contents/indigenous-clients> (Accessed: 1 December 2022).
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9. Rockloff et al. (2020) *Victorian population gambling and health study 2018–2019*. Available at: <https://responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au/resources/publications/victorian-population-gambling-and-health-study-20182019-759/> (Accessed: 1 December 2022).
10. Sarah Hare-Schottler consulting (2015) *Study of gambling and health in Victoria: findings from the Victorian Prevalence Study 2014*. Available at: <https://responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au/resources/publications/study-of-gambling-and-health-in-victoria-findings-from-the-victorian-prevalence-study-2014-72/> (Accessed: 1 December 2022).
11. State of Victoria, Department of Health (c. 2017) *Korin Korin Balit-Djak: Aboriginal health, wellbeing and safety strategic plan 2017–2027*. Available at: <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/health-strategies/korin-korin-balit-djak-aboriginal-health-wellbeing-and-safety-strategic-plan-2017> (Accessed: 1 December 2022).
12. State of Victoria, Department of Health and Human Services (2017) *Balit Murrup: Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing framework 2017–2027*. Available at: <https://apo.org.au/node/264326> (Accessed: 1 December 2022).
13. Stolen Generations Reparations Victoria (2022) *Stolen Generations Reparations Steering Committee Report*. Available at: <https://www.vic.gov.au/stolen-generations-reparations-steering-committee-report/chapter-2-victorian-stolen-generations-5> (Accessed: 1 December 2022).