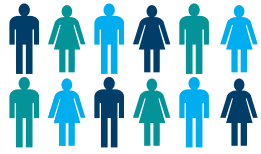


## Population

Total population  
**625,186+**



More than  
**25,800 (4.2%)**

people identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander



High socio-economic disadvantage:

**42%**  
of the population



Projected population growth:  
**8.4%** between 2016-2026



**19.9%** aged over 65 years



spend a total of  
**13 million tourists** and **18 million nights**

**51.9%** people live in major cities



**38.5%** in inner regional areas



**9.6%** in outer regional areas



**55,200+ (9.3%)** culturally and linguistically diverse people



## Health and older persons' services

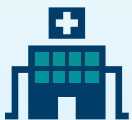
More than  
**730 GPs**



**198** general practices



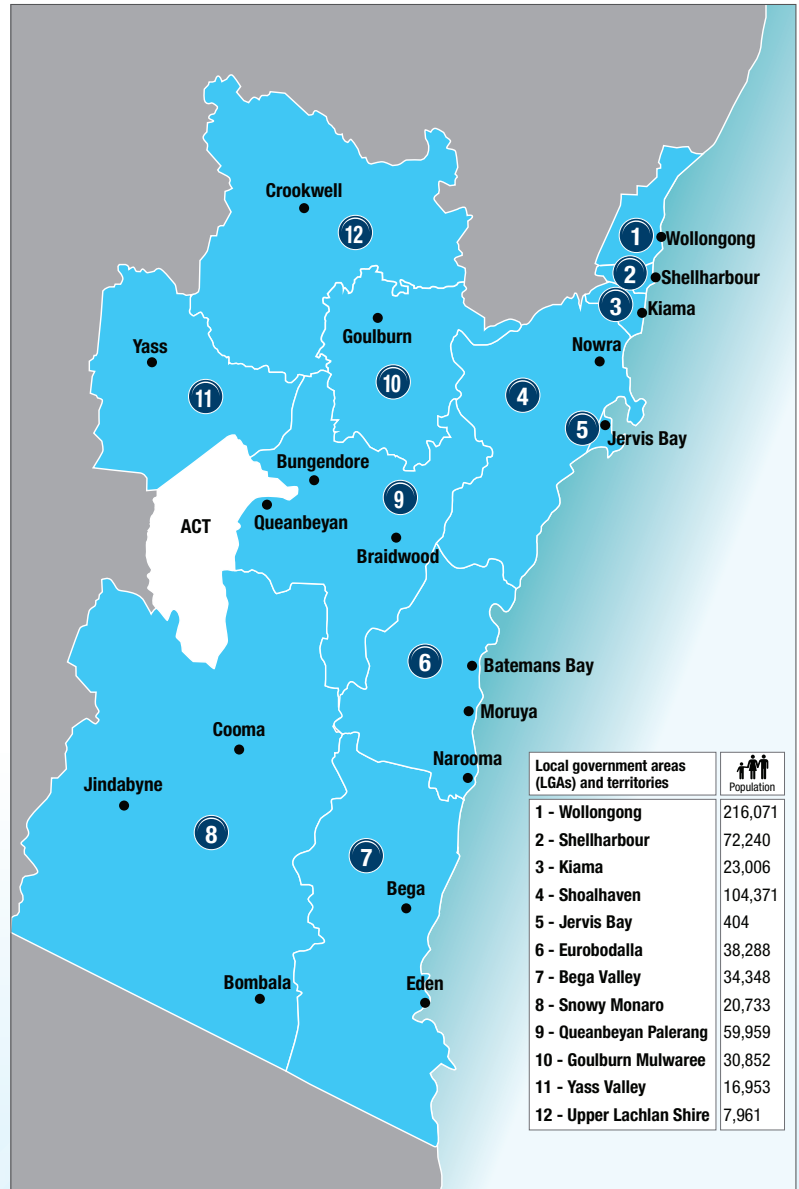
**79** residential aged care facility sites



**22** public hospitals

**16** emergency departments

**30** community health centres



## Our health priorities

### Chronic conditions

Higher than NSW and Australian average prevalence figures for chronic conditions including:

- mental and behavioural disorders
- arthritis
- heart and vascular diseases



Several pockets of relatively high rates of potentially preventable hospitalisations with top 5 conditions in the region being:

1. pneumonia and influenza (vaccine preventable)
2. chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
3. congestive heart failure
4. cellulitis
5. diabetes complications

### Preventative health

Higher than NSW and Australian average prevalence figures for lifestyle risk factors amongst the adult population including:

- insufficient physical activity
- inadequate consumption of fruits and vegetables at recommended levels
- obesity

### Annual childhood immunisation coverage

1 year	2 years	5 years
<b>95.1%</b>	<b>92.9%</b>	<b>96.2%</b>
Australia 94.3%	Australia 91.6%	Australia 94.8%

### Annual cancer screening coverage (national screening programs only)

Bowel	Breast	Cervical
<b>43.1%</b>	<b>57.2%</b>	<b>56.3%</b>
Australia 42.4%	Australia 54.8%	Australia 56.0%

### Mental health and suicide prevention

Higher than NSW and Australian average estimates for:

- prevalence of long-term mental or behavioural problems
- high or very high psychological distress

Higher than NSW and Australian rates for:

- suicide deaths
- intentional self-harm related hospitalisations

### Alcohol and other drugs

Higher than NSW and Australian average prevalence figures for:

- high risk alcohol consumption
- smoking



### Aboriginal health

Poorer status on all social determinants of health:

- unemployment
- inadequate housing
- lower educational attainment
- vulnerability to childhood development risks
- poverty

Higher prevalence of most health and lifestyle risk factors and consequently a higher prevalence of most major long-term conditions

### End of life care

Highest projected growth in the population is estimated for people aged **65+**

Higher than state and national average rates for premature mortality (death before 75 years of age)

High burden of long term debilitating conditions:

- all types of cancer
- cardiovascular diseases
- musculoskeletal diseases especially arthritis

