

indigenous people

working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry



abare research report 06.3

Veronica Boero Rodriguez, Phantipa Puangsumalee
and Greg Griffiths

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foreword

Agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries are an important source of employment for Australia's indigenous people. Around 4 per cent of the indigenous workforce is employed in these industries but this represents little more than 1 per cent of all people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Australia. Little is known about the roles that indigenous people play in the sector.

This report summarises statistics from the 2001 Australian Census of People and Housing, providing a profile of indigenous people employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The project was funded by the Rural Policy and Innovation Division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, with the aim of making this information more broadly available to industry stakeholders.

The information presented in this report includes national, state and ATSI region overviews of the socioeconomic characteristics of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. Such information is expected to contribute more broadly to a better understanding of the role of indigenous people in the sector and provide the basis for future policy and program development.



BRIAN S. FISHER
Executive Director

May 2006

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summary

In the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, 4220 people responded that they were indigenous people working in Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries. This represents around 4 per cent of the total indigenous workforce. At the national level a similar proportion of the nonindigenous workforce work in these industries. However, when disaggregated by region, proportionally fewer indigenous people work in agriculture, fisheries and forestry than nonindigenous people in almost all ATSI regions.

The largest proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in the grain, sheep and beef cattle farming industry — 35 per cent. This is followed by the horticulture and fruit growing industry in which 25 per cent of indigenous people work.

Gender distribution

The gender distribution of employment across industries in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector is different for indigenous women in one notable way. The largest proportion of indigenous women work in the horticulture and fruit growing industry. However, more indigenous men, nonindigenous men and nonindigenous women work in the grain, sheep and beef industry than in any other industry. Overall, indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are likely to be younger, have lower education, lower occupational status and lower incomes than nonindigenous people of the same gender working in the same sector.

Age distribution

Indigenous workers are likely to be younger than nonindigenous workers. Three-quarters of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are younger than 45 years of age. For nonindigenous workers this proportion is only half. Indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are likely to be slightly older than indigenous workers, in other industries; for nonindigenous workers, this difference is much larger.

Education and income

People working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have, on average, lower levels of education than people working in other industries. Indeed, across all industries, indigenous people are likely to have lower education levels than nonindigenous people. Indigenous women frequently have

slightly higher education levels than indigenous men in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

On average, indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have lower weekly incomes than both nonindigenous people working in the same industries and indigenous people working in other industries. Indigenous women are likely to have lower incomes than indigenous men working in the same industry. The same is true for the nonindigenous population.

Occupational categories

Most indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are laborers — 56 per cent of the men and half of the women. Most of the nonindigenous workers in these industries are farmers or managers. A larger proportion of indigenous women than men employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are farmers or managers.

In agriculture, 60 per cent of indigenous workers are laborers, while 17 per cent are farmers or managers.

In the agricultural services industry, nearly half of indigenous workers are laborers and a fifth are tradespersons or skilled workers.

In the forestry and logging category, most indigenous workers (54 per cent) are in the clerical, sales, production and transport workers category. The second largest proportion of indigenous workers (27 per cent) is in the laborer category.

In the commercial fishing industry, almost half of indigenous workers are in the clerical, sales, production and transport worker category. A fifth of indigenous workers in this industry are in the laborer category.

introduction

Within its responsibilities, the Rural Policy and Innovation (RPI) Division of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry develops initiatives and communication strategies targeted toward indigenous people employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

To aid in developing and implementing initiatives for indigenous people in the rural sector, it is beneficial to have a better understanding of the characteristics of indigenous people working in those industries and how they compare with nonindigenous workers in the same industries and with indigenous workers in other industries.

To this end, RPI commissioned ABARE to conduct a statistical analysis of data relating to indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries that are available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and through the 2001 Australian Census of People and Housing.

data quality

All ABS indigenous population statistics are based on responses to the ABS standard question on indigenous identification used in ABS census collections (ABS 2002). The term indigenous is used in this report to refer to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Less than 1 per cent of people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry did not state their indigenous status and therefore are not considered in this analysis.

Some people are missed each census and some are counted more than once; the net effect of this is called net undercount. The preliminary net undercount for indigenous Australians for the 2001 census has been estimated at about 6.5 per cent (ABS 2002). This undercount is much larger for the indigenous population than it is for the rest of the population, for which it was 2.2 per cent. For a more detailed analysis of the implications of this issue, see Martin et al. (2002).

industry definitions

In this analysis, three different industry groupings are used (table 1). Within group 2, estimates for the 'hunting and trapping' and the 'agriculture, fisheries and forestry, undefined' industries are not reported owing to the small number of observations in those industries.

1 Industry groupings

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Agriculture, undefined Horticulture and fruit growing Grain, sheep and beef cattle farming Dairy cattle farming Poultry farming Other livestock farming Other crop growing	Agriculture	
Services to agriculture Services to agriculture; hunting and trapping, undefined	Services	All agriculture, fisheries and forestry
Commercial fishing, undefined Marine fishing Aquaculture	Commercial fishing	
Forestry and logging	Forestry and logging	
Hunting and trapping	Hunting and trapping	
Agriculture, fishing and forestry, undefined	Agriculture, fishing and forestry, undefined	
All other industries	All other industries	All other industries

ATSIC regions

For each state, part of the analysis was undertaken for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) regions. This provides a regional classification relevant to indigenous Australians and ensures consistency of regional classification with other data on indigenous Australians.

There are 36 ATSIC regions in Australia — six in New South Wales, two in Victoria, eight in Queensland, three in South Australia, nine in Western Australia, one in Tasmania and seven in the Northern Territory (map 1). For a very small number of observations, the ATSIC region was not stated. Census counts of people at place of usual residence rather than place of enumeration on Census night were used throughout this analysis.

ATSIC regions



2

Australia – overview

There are 4220 indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in Australia, as recorded on Census night 2001. This represents around 4 per cent of the total indigenous workforce and is identical to the proportion of the nonindigenous workforce in these industries.

In this national overview, the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector is divided into thirteen industries (see table 1):

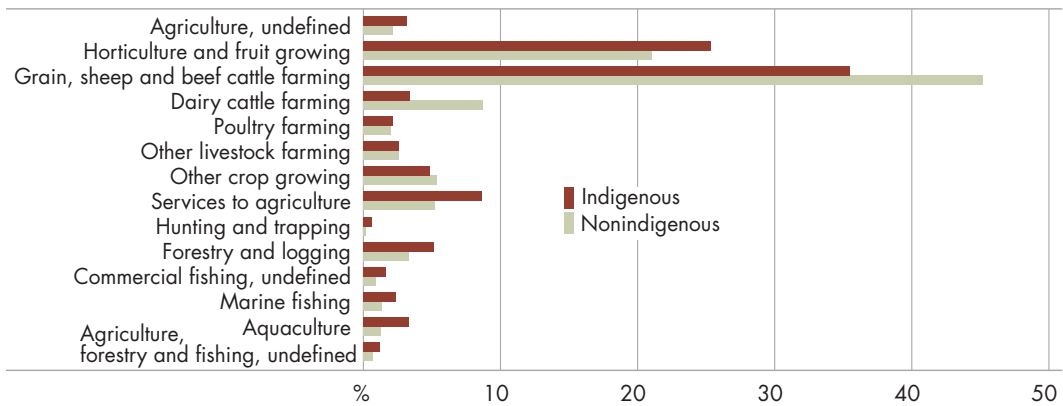
- Agriculture, undefined
- Horticulture and fruit growing
- Grain, sheep and beef cattle farming
- Dairy cattle farming
- Poultry farming
- Other livestock farming
- Other crop growing
- Services to agriculture, hunting and trapping
- Commercial fishing, undefined
- Marine fishing
- Aquaculture
- Forestry and logging
- Agriculture, fisheries and forestry, undefined.

Within these industries, the largest proportion of people work in the grain, sheep and beef cattle farming industry. The proportions are 35 per cent for indigenous people and 45 per cent for nonindigenous people (figure 1). The industry offering the next largest employment is horticulture and fruit growing.

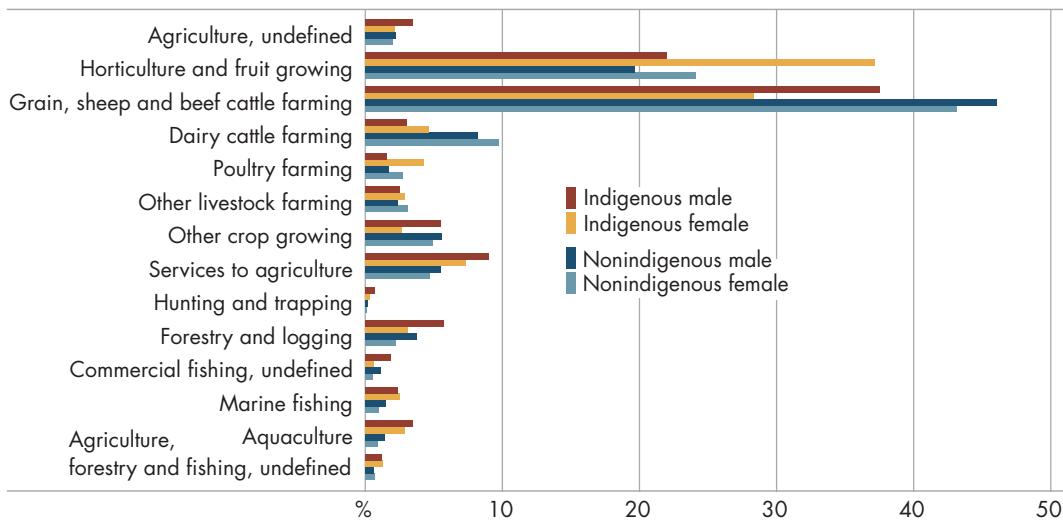
gender distribution

For indigenous women, the distribution of employment across industries in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector is different from the national distribution in one notable way. The largest proportion of indigenous women work in the horticulture and fruit growing industry. However, more indigenous men, nonindigenous men and nonindigenous women work in the grain, sheep and beef industry than in any other industry (figure 2).

1 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – Australia



2 Share of employment in agriculture, by gender – Australia

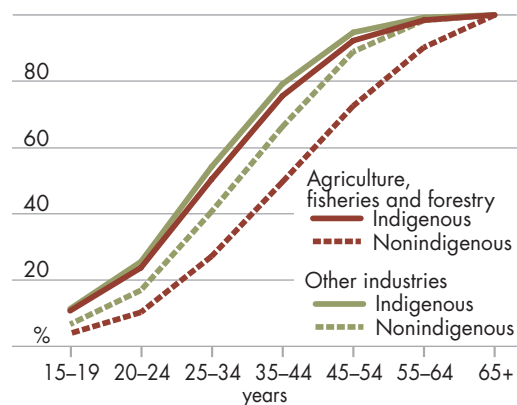


age distribution

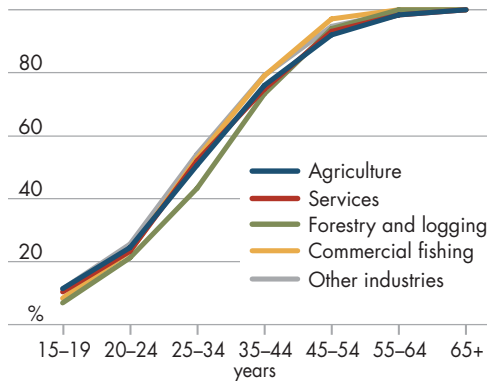
Indigenous workers tend to be younger than nonindigenous workers (figure 3). Three-quarters of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are younger than 45 years of age, compared with around half for nonindigenous workers. Indigenous people working in these industries are only slightly older than indigenous workers in other industries; this difference is much larger for nonindigenous workers.

The age distribution of indigenous workers is very similar for all industries (figure 4). The only

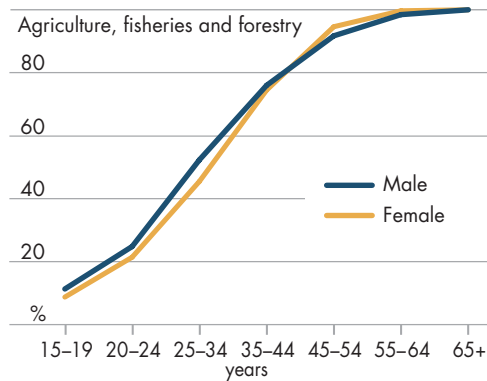
3 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – Australia



4 Cumulative age distribution of indigenous workers, by industry – Australia



5 Cumulative age distribution of indigenous workers, by gender – Australia



industry that is slightly different is the forestry and logging industry, which has a smaller proportion of workers in the 25–34 year age group.

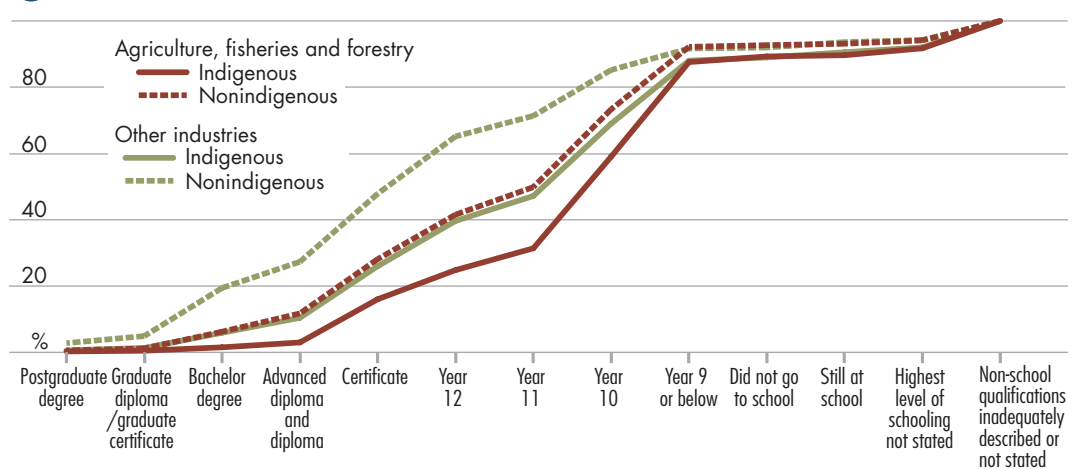
The age distribution of indigenous men and women working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is very similar, with the women being slightly older (figure 5).

education and income

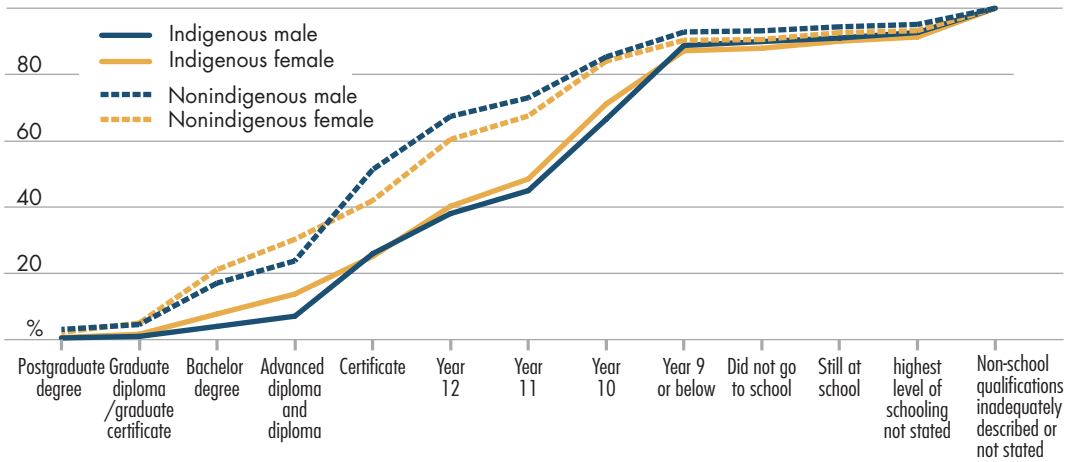
level of education

People working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have lower education levels than people working in other industries. Within each industry, indigenous people have lower levels of education than nonindigenous people (figure 6). Only a quarter of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry had been educated to year 12 or higher, while this proportion is 40 per cent for indigenous people working in other industries, 42 per cent for nonindigenous

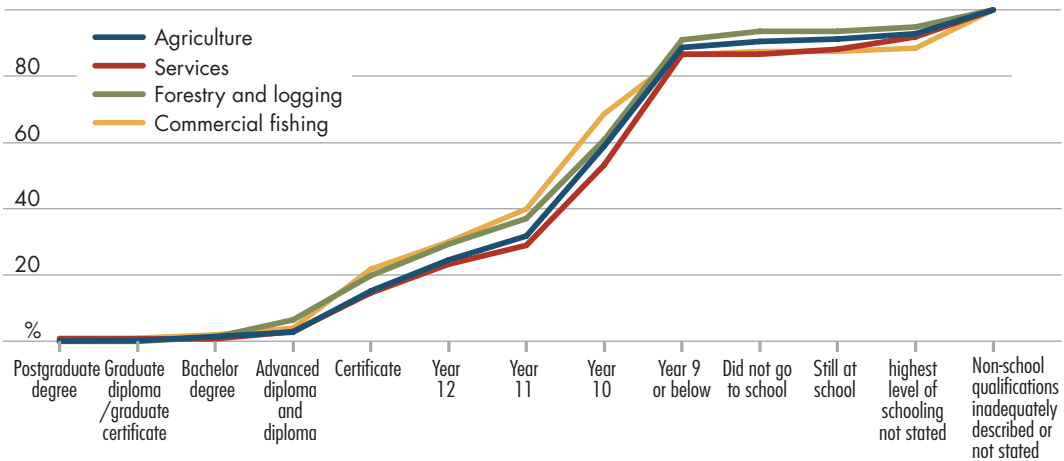
6 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – Australia



7 Cumulative distribution of education level for workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender – Australia



8 Cumulative distribution of education level for indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by industry – Australia

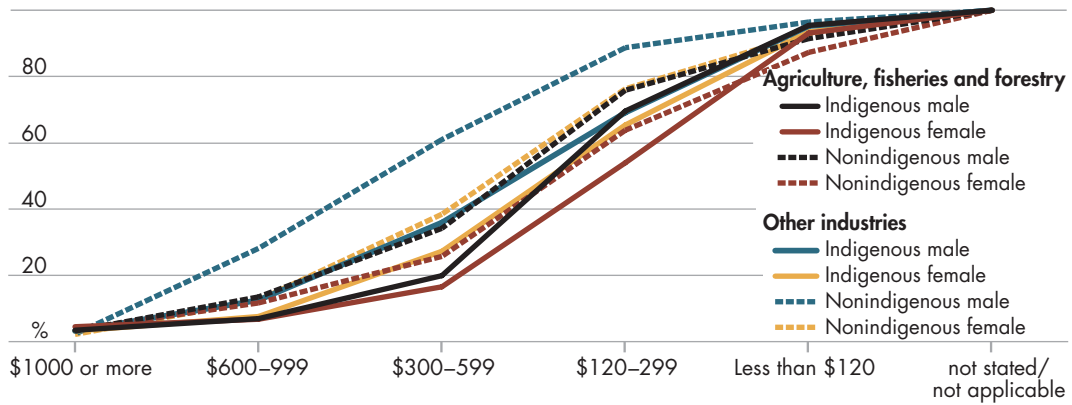


people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries and 65 per cent for nonindigenous people working in other industries.

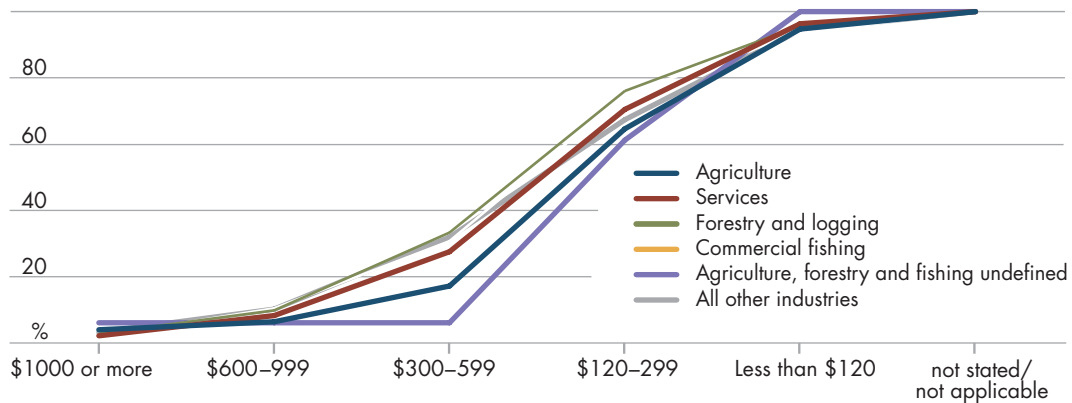
Indigenous women have slightly higher education levels than indigenous men in agriculture, fisheries and forestry (figure 7). For nonindigenous people the pattern is marginally different, with a larger proportion of women than men having been educated to the diploma level or higher while a significantly greater proportion of men than women had attained a certificate education level.

The level of education of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries is very similar for all industries (figure 8). Most indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry attained at least a year 10 education level.

9 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry and gender – Australia



10 Cumulative distribution of weekly income of indigenous people, by industry – Australia



income per person

Indigenous people have lower weekly incomes than nonindigenous people, and indigenous people working in agricultural industries have lower incomes than indigenous people working in other industries (figure 9). Women have lower incomes than men with the same indigenous status working in the same industry.

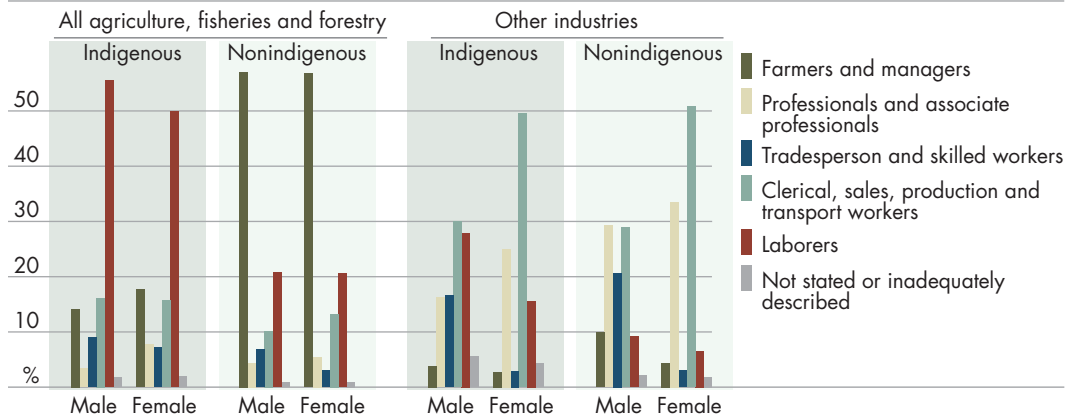
The income distributions of indigenous people working in the fishing and forestry industries are very similar and are the highest (figure 10).

occupation

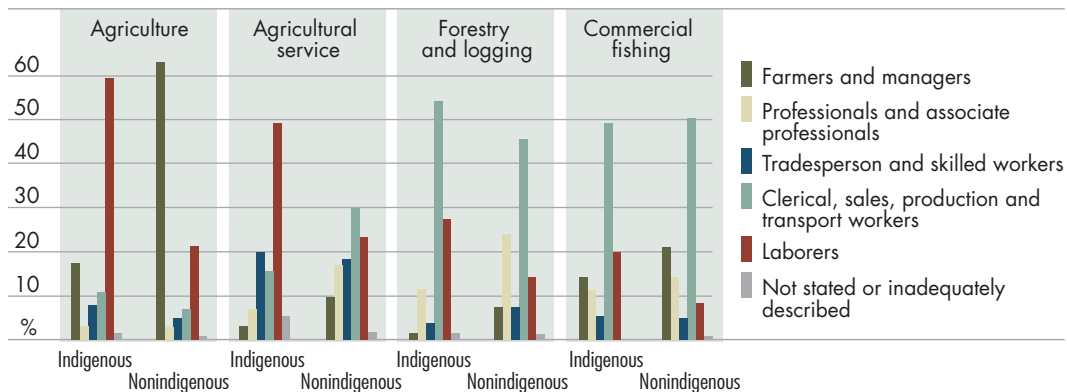
Most indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are laborers, while most of the nonindigenous workers in these industries are farmers or managers (figure 11). In the other industries the occupational categories are more evenly spread; however, most women are in the clerical, sales and transport workers occupational category.

Independent of indigenous status and industry, a larger percentage of women are professionals or associate professionals than men. Also independent of indigenous status and industry, more

1.1 Distribution of workers, by occupational category, industry, indigenous status and gender – Australia



1.2 Distribution of workers, by occupational category in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by industry and indigenous status – Australia



men are tradespersons or skilled workers than are women.

Indigenous women employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries are slightly more likely to be farmers or managers than are men.

In agriculture, 60 per cent of indigenous workers are in the laborer occupational category, while only 17 per cent are farmers or managers (figure 1.2). The reverse is true for nonindigenous workers — 21 per cent are laborers and 63 per cent are farmers or managers.

In the agricultural services industry, 49 per cent of indigenous workers are laborers and 20 per cent are tradespersons or skilled workers. The occupational category distribution in the agricultural services industry is more evenly spread for nonindigenous workers.

In the forestry and logging industry the distributions of occupational category are similar for indigenous and nonindigenous workers. The main differences are that indigenous workers are laborers in larger proportions than nonindigenous workers and nonindigenous workers are professionals and associate professionals in larger proportions than indigenous workers.

In the commercial fishing industry the distributions of occupational category are similar for indigenous and nonindigenous workers, with most workers in the clerical, sales, production and transport workers category.

distribution by ATSI region

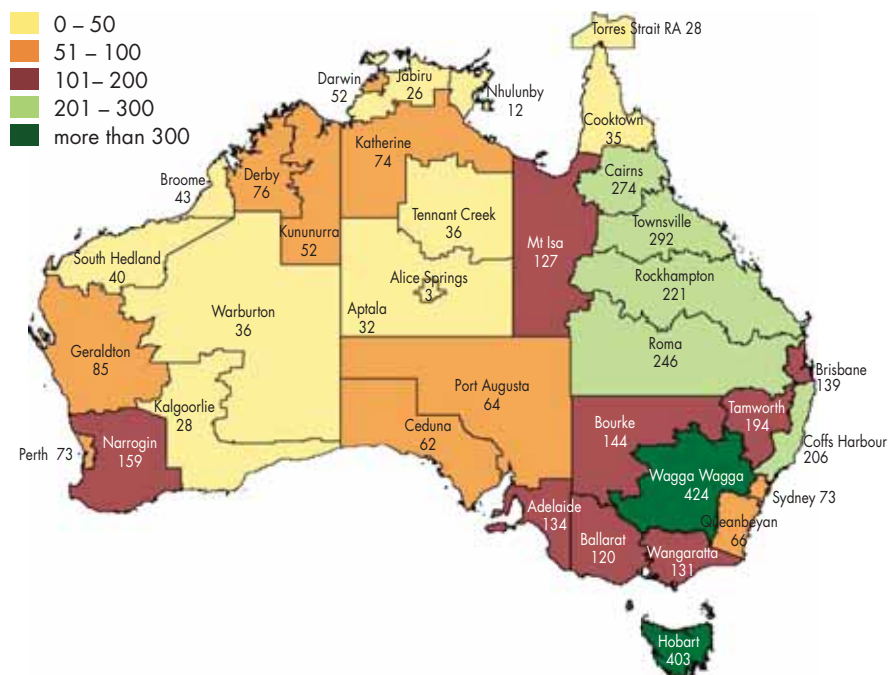
The largest number of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are in the Wagga Wagga region, with 424 indigenous people working in those industries in that region (map 2). The only other ATSI region with around 400 indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is Hobart. The distribution is different for nonindigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, where the largest number work in the Ballarat region, followed by Wagga Wagga and Wangaratta (table 2).

In the Torres Strait Area and Nhulunbuy regions, indigenous people are the majority of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries (map 3). However, there are very small numbers of these workers in these regions — 28 and 12 respectively. In general, indigenous workers represent larger than national level proportions of the agriculture, fisheries and forestry workforce in the Northern Territory (except in the more metropolitan regions of Darwin and Alice Springs), the north and east of Western Australia and the north and west of Queensland.

Indigenous people work in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in smaller proportions than non-indigenous people in almost all ATSI regions (map 4). The largest exception is the region of Hobart, where 9 per cent of the indigenous workforce is in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries, while this proportion is 7 per cent for the nonindigenous workforce.

Ceduna has the largest proportion of the indigenous workforce in agricultural, fisheries and forestry industries (11 per cent), followed by Wagga Wagga and Roma, with 10 per cent each and Hobart and Bourke with 9 per cent.

2 Number of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by region

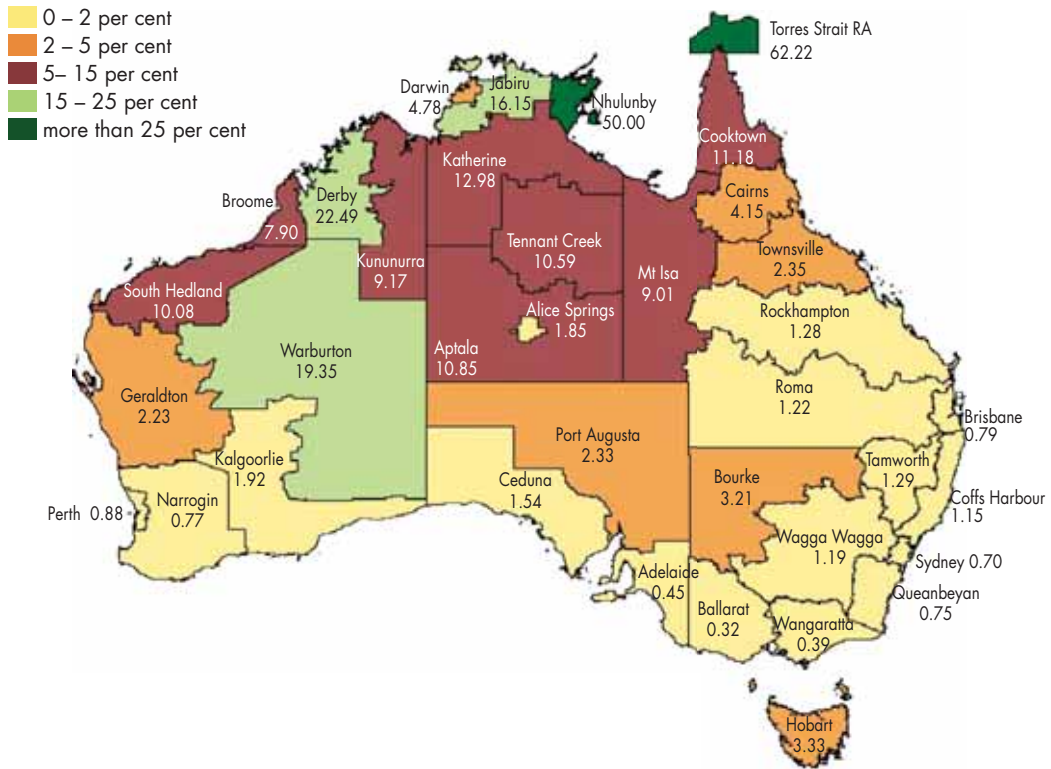


2 Number of people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender and region

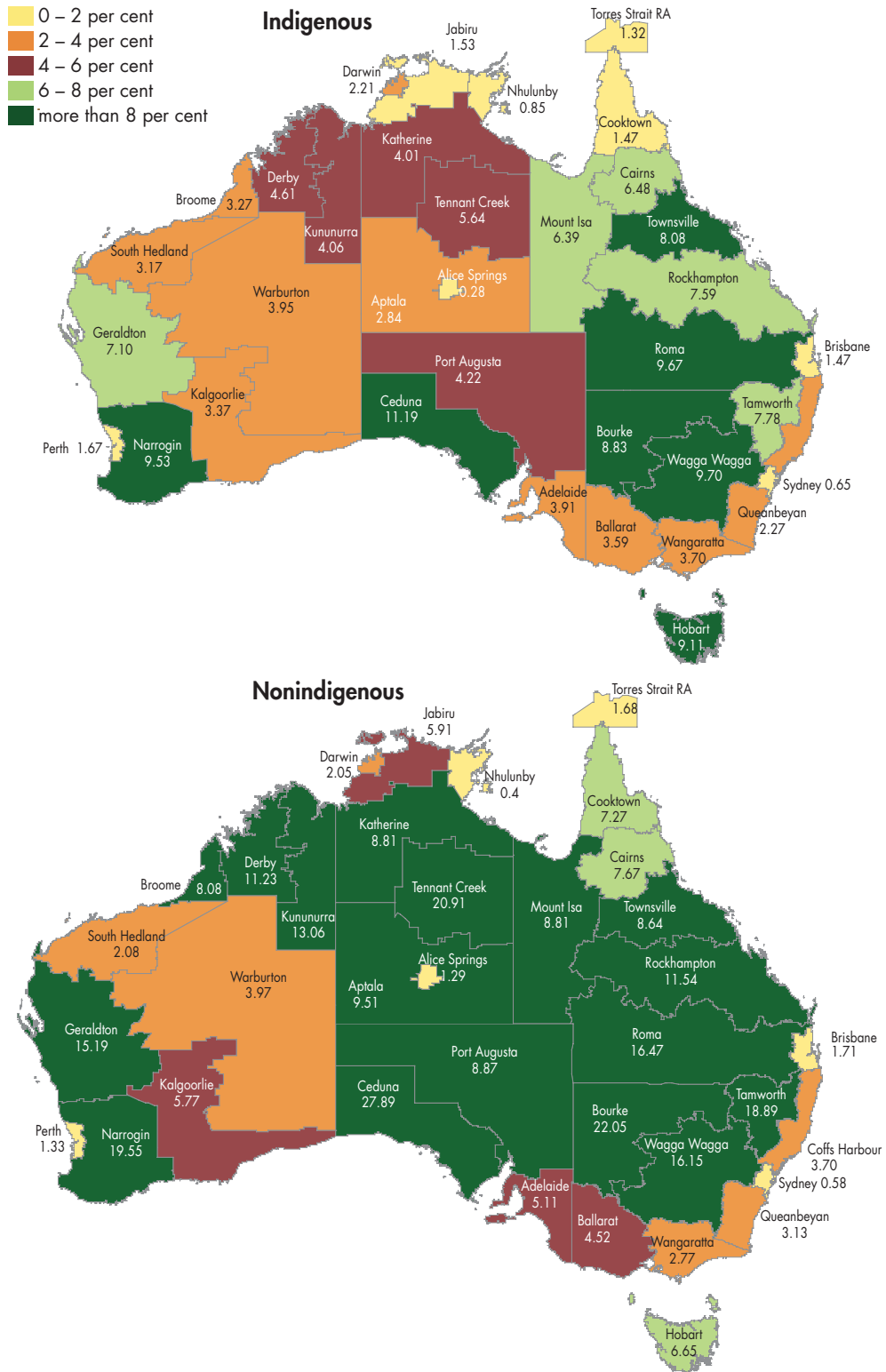
	Indigenous			Nonindigenous		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.
New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory						
Queanbeyan	52	14	66	6 293	2 480	8 773
Bourke	126	18	144	3 185	1 154	4 339
Coffs Harbour	154	52	206	12 311	5 325	17 636
Sydney	44	29	73	6 318	4 058	10 376
Tamworth	155	39	194	10 642	4 207	14 849
Wagga Wagga	335	89	424	25 852	9 419	35 271
Victoria						
Wangaratta	89	42	131	22 382	11 443	33 825
Ballarat	85	35	120	26 491	11 466	37 957
Queensland						
Brisbane	99	40	139	10 956	6 473	17 429
Cairns	213	61	274	4 446	1 890	6 336
Mount Isa	115	12	127	872	411	1 283
Cooktown	29	6	35	201	77	278
Rockhampton	167	54	221	11 776	5 269	17 045
Roma	195	51	246	13 952	6 041	19 993
Torres Strait Area	16	12	28	17	0	17
Townsville	218	74	292	8 933	3 212	12 145
South Australia						
Adelaide	102	32	134	20 704	8 984	29 688
Ceduna	43	19	62	3 072	895	3 967
Port Augusta	56	8	64	1 975	707	2 682
Western Australia						
Perth	37	36	73	5 142	3 092	8 234
Broome	37	6	43	347	154	501
Kununurra	44	8	52	365	150	515
Warburton	33	3	36	107	43	150
Narrogin	130	29	159	14 631	5 953	20 584
South Hedland	40	0	40	241	116	357
Derby	61	15	76	186	76	262
Kalgoorlie	22	6	28	1 035	399	1 434
Geraldton	79	6	85	2 655	1 076	3 731
Tasmania						
Hobart	293	110	403	8 657	3 067	11 724
Northern Territory						
Alice Springs	3	0	3	103	56	159
Jabiru	23	3	26	100	35	135
Katherine	63	11	74	339	157	496
Apatula	26	6	32	169	94	263
Nhulunbuy	12	0	12	6	6	12
Tennant Creek	36	0	36	213	91	304
Darwin	30	22	52	691	346	1 037
Total	3 262	948	4 210	225 365	98 422	323 787

Note: Because of ABS's confidentiality requirements, some populations do not add to the populations in the state chapters.

3 Indigenous workers as a percentage of the workforce in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by region



4 Percentage of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by indigenous status and region



New South Wales – overview

In New South Wales, 3 per cent of both the indigenous and nonindigenous workforce is in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries. This compares with the national figure of 4 per cent.

A total of 1 107 indigenous people work in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in New South Wales, representing 26 per cent of Australia’s indigenous workforce in those industries. New South Wales also has 30 per cent of Australia’s indigenous workforce in other industries. These proportions are similar for the nonindigenous workforce — 28 per cent and 35 per cent respectively.

The largest proportion of indigenous people working in agricultural industries is in grain, sheep and beef cattle farming, with 37 per cent working in this category (figure 13). Other categories with significant proportions of this workforce are horticulture and fruit growing (18 per cent) and services to agriculture (13 per cent).

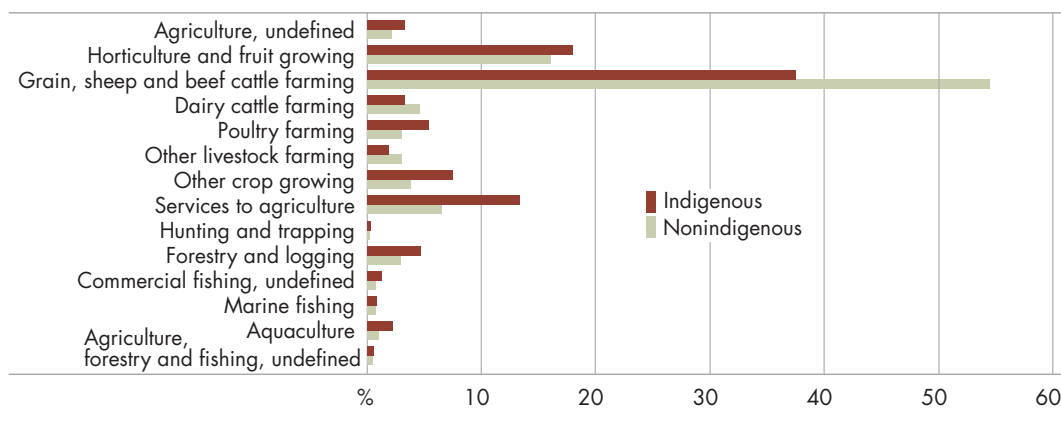
gender distribution

Most indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in New South Wales are male (78 per cent). This proportion is smaller for the other industries — 70 per cent.

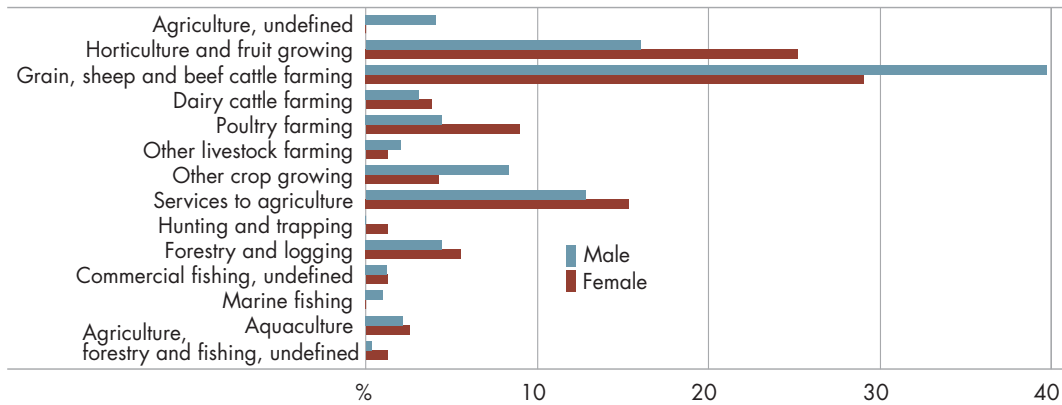
The largest proportion of indigenous men working in agricultural industries (40 per cent) is in the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry (figure 14). This proportion is smaller for women, with 29 per cent of indigenous women working in this industry. The proportion of indigenous women working in the horticulture and fruit growing industry is larger than that of men — 25 per cent and 16 per cent respectively.

The proportion of women working in services to agriculture (15 per cent) is larger than the proportion of men working in this industry (13 per cent). A similar pattern is apparent in the

13 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – New South Wales



14 Share of indigenous employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender – New South Wales



poultry industry, with 9 per cent of women and 4 per cent of men working in that industry.

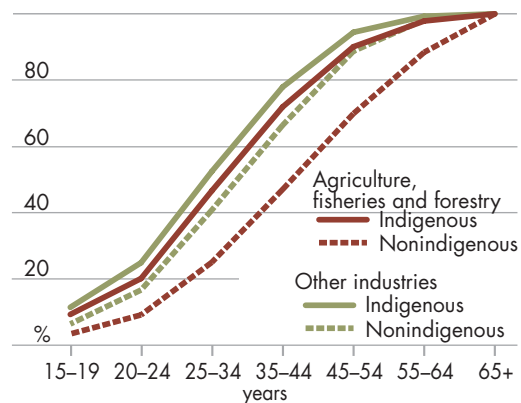
The pattern of a larger proportion of women than men working in an industry is also repeated in the forestry and logging, dairy and aquaculture industries.

age distribution

In New South Wales, indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are slightly older than indigenous people working in other industries. This difference is slightly larger than at the national level.

Similar to the national level, nonindigenous workers in New South Wales are much older than indigenous workers, with nonindigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry tending to be markedly older than nonindigenous workers in other industries. In contrast, indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry tend to be slightly younger than nonindigenous workers in other industries.

15 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – New South Wales



education and income

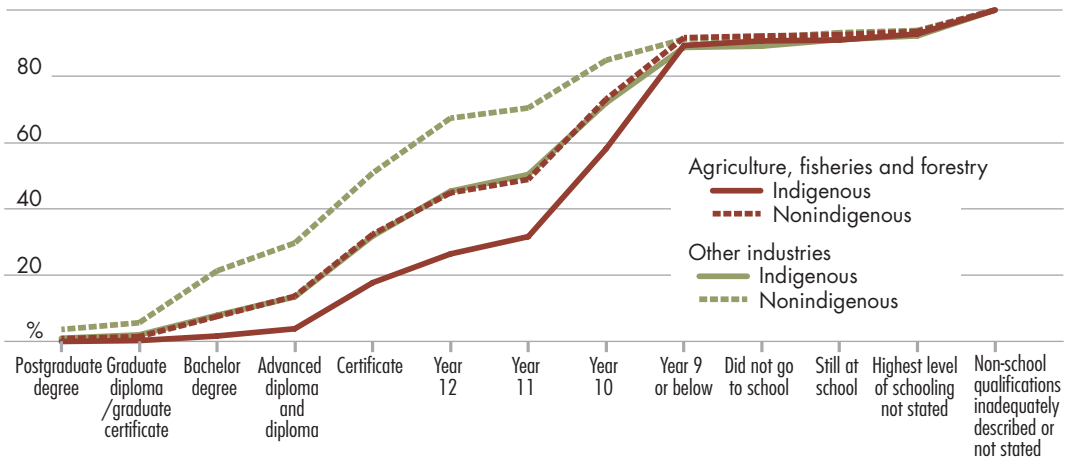
In New South Wales, indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry tend to have the lowest levels of education of all workers in that state (figure 16). Only 26 per cent attained a year 12 or higher education, while this proportion is 45 per cent for indigenous people working in other industries. Also, 31 per cent of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry had an education level of year 9 or below. This proportion is only 17 per cent for indigenous people working in other industries.

The majority of indigenous workers in agriculture had an education level of year 10 or higher, with 61 per cent attaining this level (figure 17). This proportion is lower for indigenous workers in the services, forestry and logging and commercial fishing industries — at 50 per cent, 48 per cent and 47 per cent respectively.

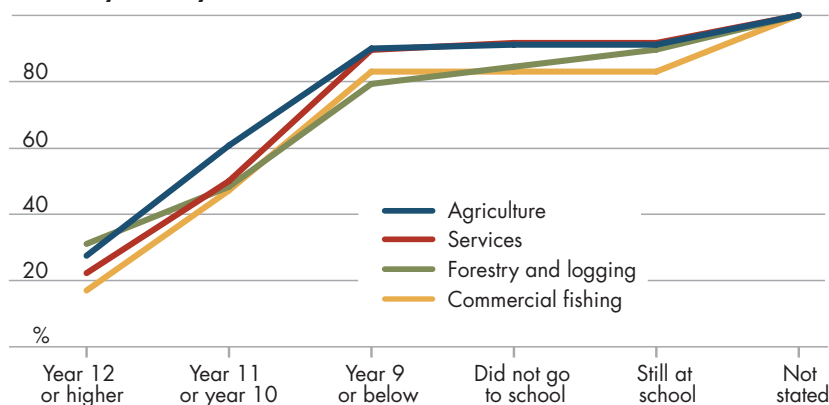
Weekly income follows a similar pattern to that of level of education. Indigenous people have lower incomes than nonindigenous people, and people working in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries have lower income than workers in other industries (figure 18).

Across all agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in New South Wales the majority of indigenous workers have a weekly income of \$300 or more. The proportions are 76 per cent in the forestry and logging industry, 74 per cent in the commercial fishing industry, 69 per cent in agricultural services and 67 per cent in agriculture (figure 19). However, the proportions of indigenous people with a weekly income of \$600 or more are quite different, with the forestry and logging industry having the highest proportion, at 30 per cent, followed by agricultural services with 26 per cent and then agriculture and the commercial fishing industries, with 19 per cent and 15 per cent respectively.

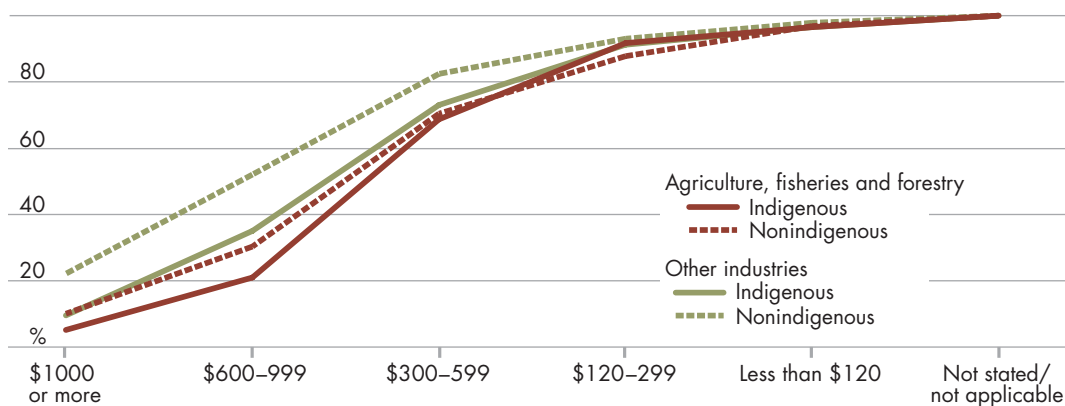
16 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – New South Wales



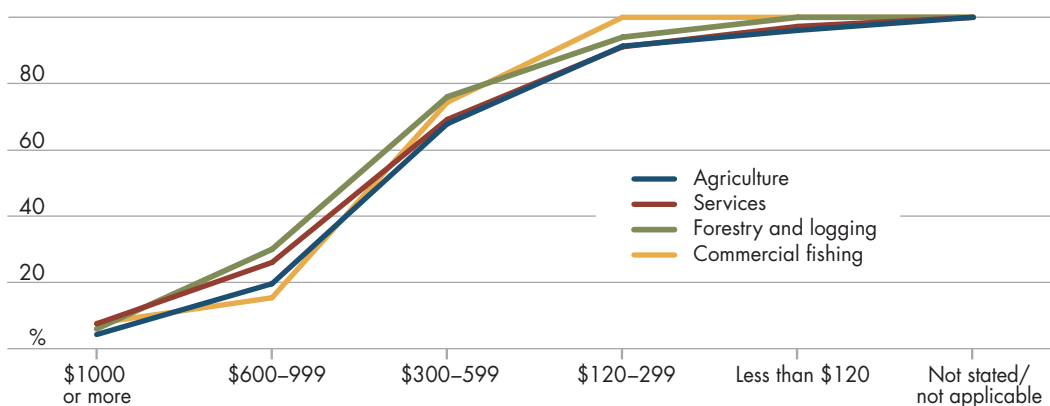
17 Cumulative distribution of education level of indigenous workers, by industry – New South Wales



18 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – New South Wales



19 Cumulative distribution of weekly income for indigenous workers, by industry – New South Wales



distribution by ATSI region

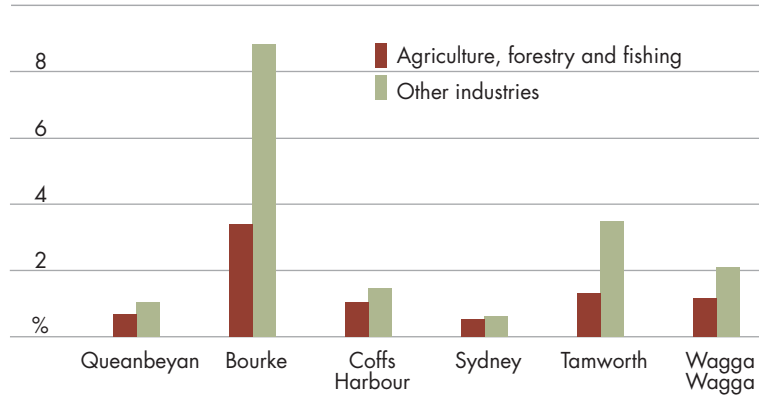
The largest proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in New South Wales is in the Bourke region, with 3 per cent of workers in those industries being indigenous (figure 20). This proportion is around 1 per cent in each of the other ATSI regions in New South Wales.

Indigenous people are represented in larger proportions in other industries. The largest proportion of indigenous people working in other industries is in the Bourke region, with 9 per cent.

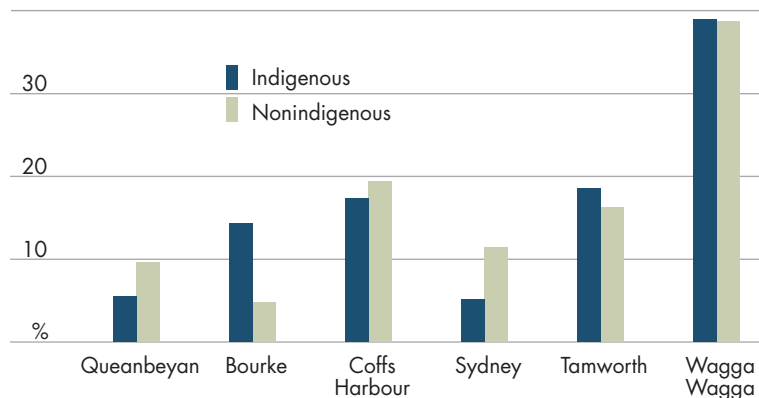
The percentages of indigenous and nonindigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are broadly similar (figure 21). The largest differences are in the Bourke region, where the percentage of indigenous people employed in those industries is higher, and in the Sydney and Queanbeyan regions where it is lower.

In all ATSI regions in New South Wales, the great majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in agriculture (figure 22). Another important industry in these regions is agricultural services, with up to 20 per cent of indigenous workers in the Bourke region working in this industry.

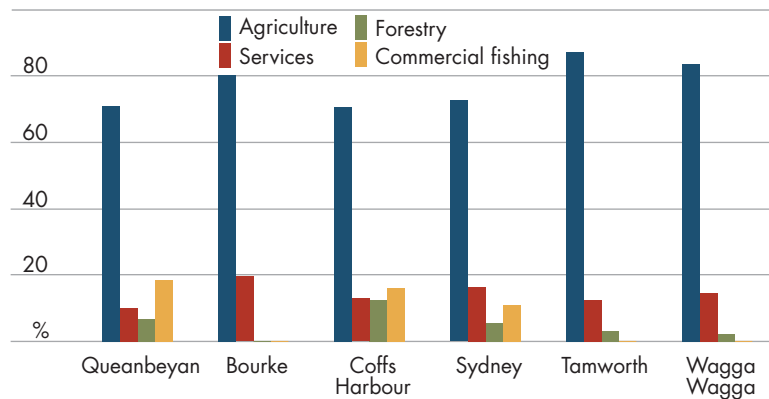
20 Percentage of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – New South Wales



21 Distribution of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – New South Wales



22 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – New South Wales



In the coastal ATSI regions of Queanbeyan (which includes the South Coast of New South Wales), Coffs Harbour and Sydney, a fair proportion of indigenous workers are employed in the commercial fishing industry — 19 per cent, 16 per cent and 11 per cent respectively.

In all ATSI regions in New South Wales, except Sydney, the great majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$120–599 (figure 23). Indigenous workers in the Sydney region have the highest average weekly income in New South Wales, with the majority having a weekly income of \$300 or more and 11 per cent earning \$1000 dollars or more.

The majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in the Tamworth region have a weekly income of \$300–599. In all the other regions, the largest proportion of workers has a weekly income in this bracket.

In the Queanbeyan region, 45 per cent of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300–599, a quarter have a weekly income of \$120–299, 17 per cent earn \$600 or more and 9 per cent less than \$120.

In the Bourke region, 44 per cent of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300–599, 24 per cent earn \$120–299, 22 per cent \$600 or more and 6 per cent less than \$120.

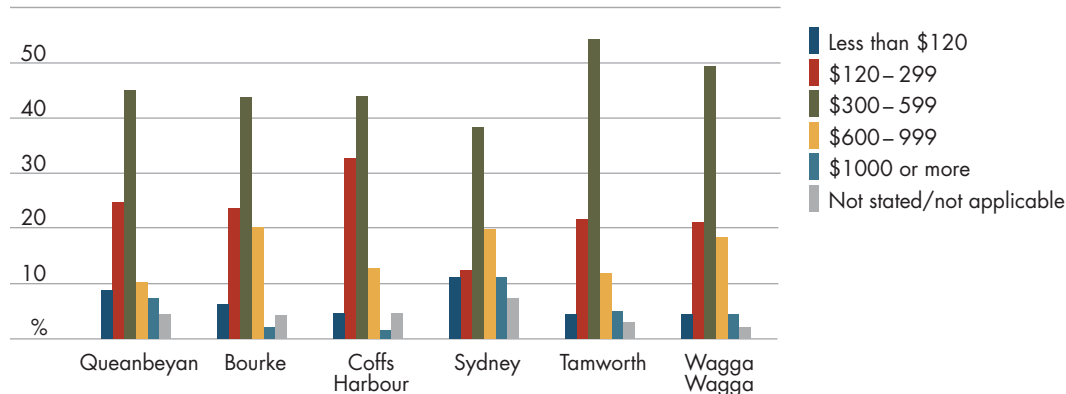
In the Coffs Harbour region, 44 per cent of indigenous workers in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries also have a weekly income of \$300–599, but 33 per cent have a weekly income of \$120–299, 15 per cent earn \$600 or more and 5 per cent less than \$120.

In the Tamworth region, 54 per cent of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300–599, 22 per cent earn \$120–299, 17 per cent \$600 or more and only 4 per cent less than \$120.

In the Wagga Wagga region, 49 per cent of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300–599, 21 per cent earn \$120–299, 23 per cent \$600 or more and 5 per cent less than \$120.

In all regions of New South Wales, the proportion of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is larger than that at the national level.

23 Distribution of weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – New South Wales

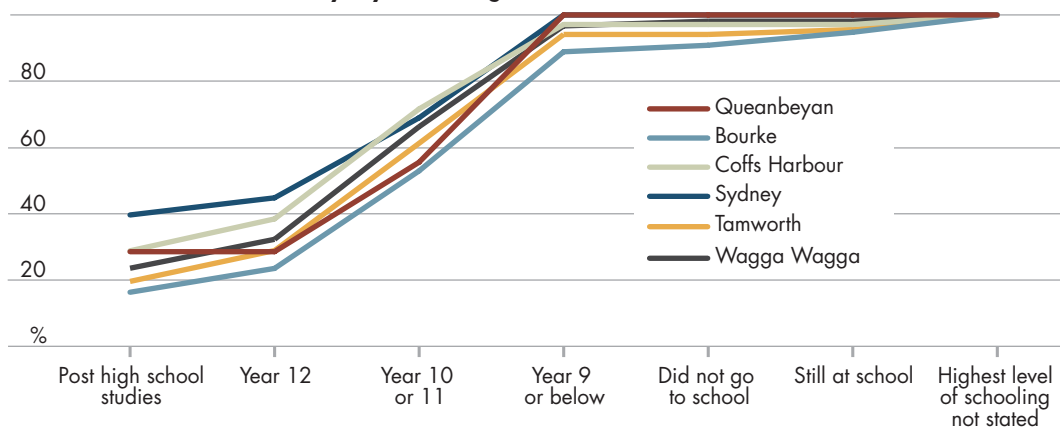


As expected, the education level of indigenous people working in these industries is higher in the more metropolitan and coastal regions of Sydney, Coffs Harbour and Queanbeyan (figure 24). These regions have the highest proportion of indigenous workers in those industries that had attained a post high school education level. In Sydney that proportion is 40 per cent; in Coffs Harbour and Queanbeyan it is 29 per cent each.

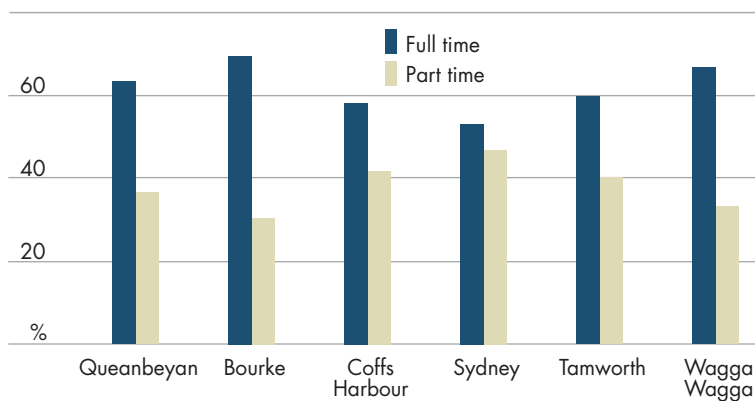
Of the inland regions, Wagga Wagga is the region where indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry attained the highest level of education, with 24 per cent attaining post high school education and 9 per cent a year 12 education level. In the Tamworth region, 20 per cent and 9 per cent attained post high school and year 12 education levels respectively. Bourke is not very far behind, with 16 per cent and 7 per cent.

In all ATSI regions of New South Wales the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work full time (figure 25). This proportion reaches 70 per cent in Bourke, followed by Wagga Wagga with 67 per cent, Queanbeyan with 63 per cent, Tamworth 60 per cent, Coffs Harbour 58 per cent and Sydney 53 per cent.

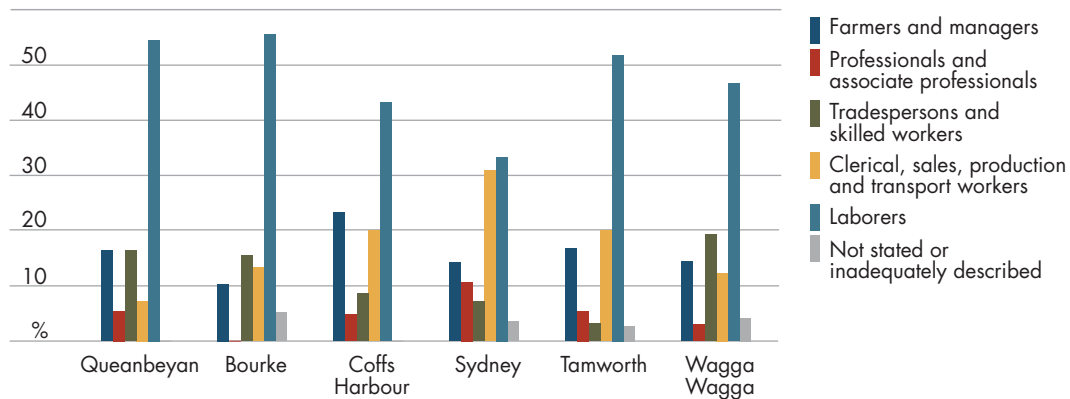
24 Cumulative distribution of education level of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – New South Wales



25 Distribution of employment of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – New South Wales



26 Distribution of occupational classification of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – New South Wales



In all ATSC regions in New South Wales the largest proportion of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are in the occupational category of laborers, with these indigenous workers being in the majority in the regions of Bourke, Queanbeyan and Tamworth, with 56 per cent, 55 per cent and 52 per cent respectively (figure 26).

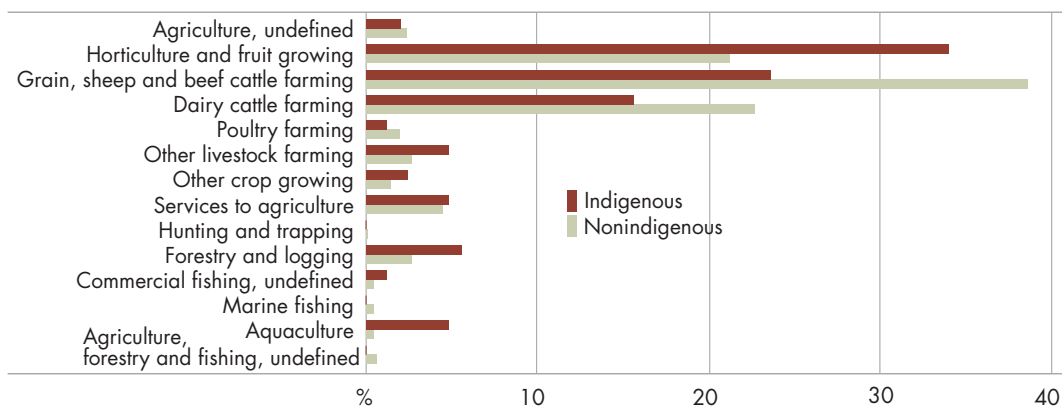
The Coffs Harbour region has the highest proportion over all New South Wales regions of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry classified to the occupational category of farmers and managers, 24 per cent. The Tamworth region follows, with 17 per cent.

Victoria – overview

In Victoria there are 250 indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. This represents 6 per cent of the Australian indigenous workforce in these industries. Also, 7 per cent of Australia's indigenous workforce is in other industries in Victoria.

The largest proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Victoria is in the horticulture and fruit growing industry — 34 per cent (figure 27). Other industries with a significant proportion of this workforce are the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry (24 per cent) and the dairy industry (16 per cent). This distribution is different for nonindigenous workers, where the largest proportion (39 per cent) works in the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry, followed by the dairy industry, with 23 per cent.

27 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – Victoria

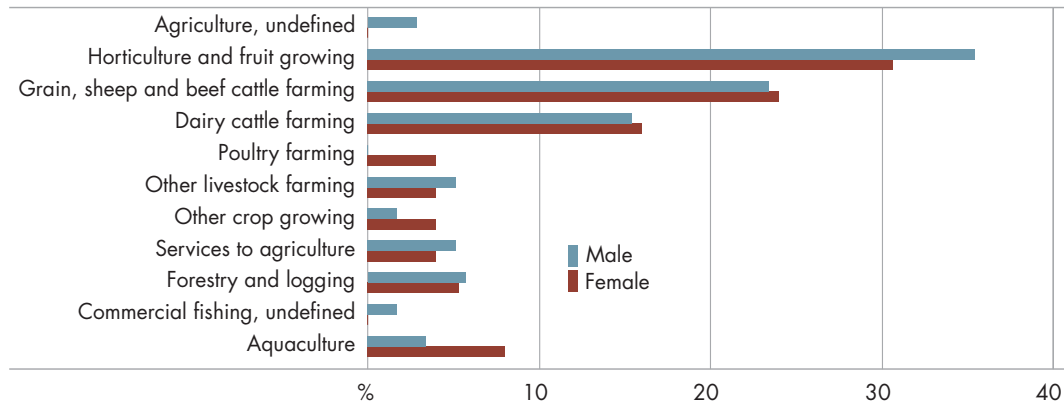


gender distribution

Most indigenous people working in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in Victoria are male — 70 per cent. This proportion is much smaller for the other industries — 54 per cent.

The largest proportions of male and female indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in the horticultural and fruit growing industries — 35 per cent and 31 per cent respectively (figure 28). Other industries with large proportions of these workers are the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry, with 23 per cent of indigenous men and 24 per cent of indigenous women, and the dairy industry, with 15 per cent of indigenous men and 16 per cent of indigenous women.

28 Shares of employment in agriculture, by gender – Victoria



In Victoria, as recorded in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, there were no indigenous men working in the poultry industry.

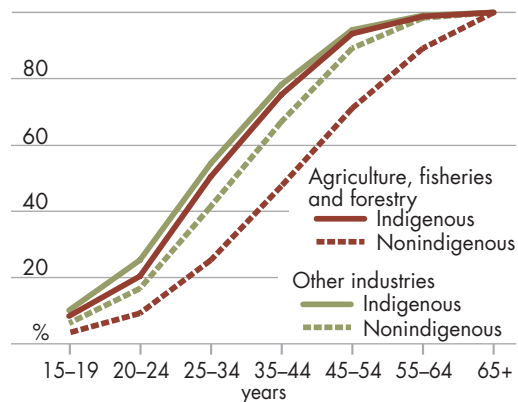
age distribution

Victorian indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries are slightly older than indigenous people working in other industries (figure 29). This difference is very similar to that for Australia as a whole.

Again, as at the national level, nonindigenous workers in Victoria are much older on average than indigenous workers, with nonindigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry being the oldest.

Half of the indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are 34 years old or younger, while this proportion is 25 per cent for nonindigenous workers.

29 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – Victoria

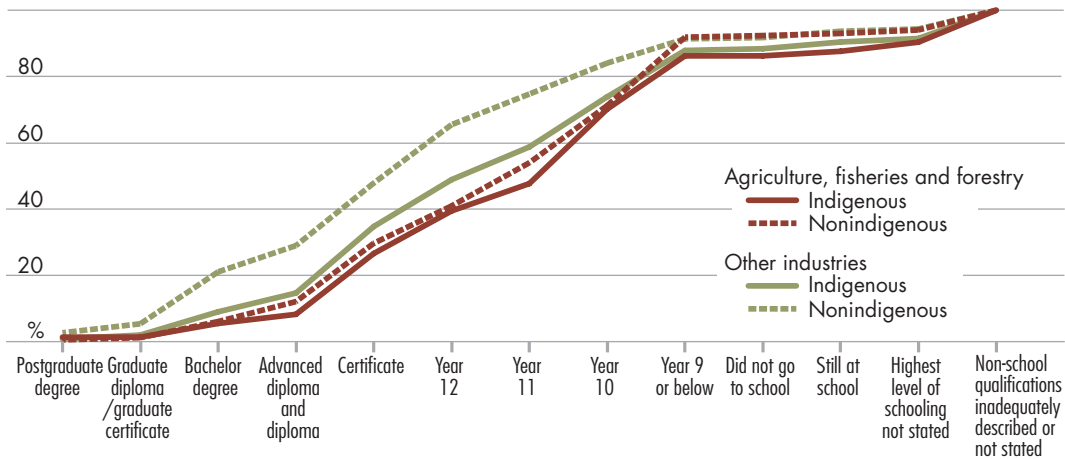


education and income

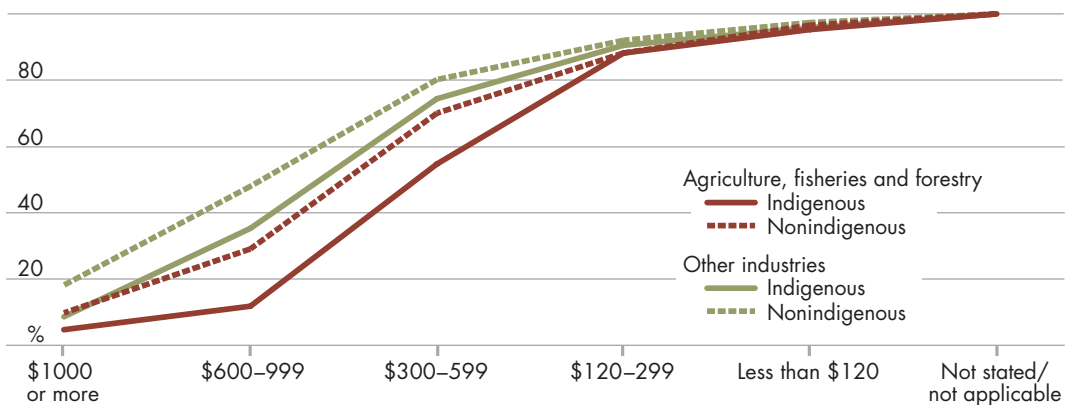
In Victoria, indigenous and nonindigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have similar levels of education (figure 30). Also, people employed in these industries tend to have lower education levels than people employed in other industries. Industry differences in the distribution of population across education levels are less pronounced than that at the national level.

Indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have lower weekly incomes than nonindigenous people working in the same industries (figure 31). The difference in weekly income between indigenous and nonindigenous workers in these industries is larger than the difference in education level.

30 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – Victoria



31 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – Victoria

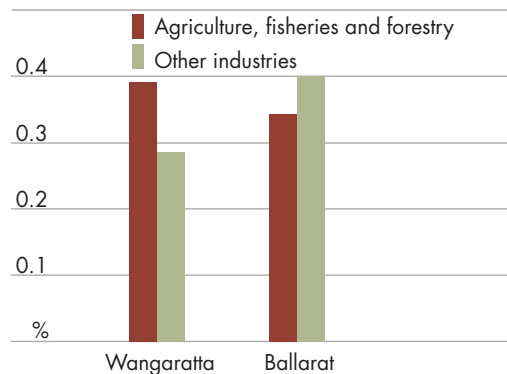


About 55 per cent of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300 or more, while this proportion is 70 per cent for nonindigenous workers.

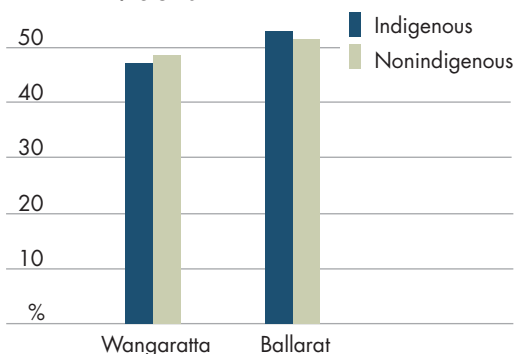
distribution by ATSIC region

Fewer than four in 1000 people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in the Wangaratta ATSIC region are indigenous (figure 32). This proportion decreases to only three in 1000 for the other industries. In the Ballarat region, these proportions are three in 1000 people for agriculture, fisheries and

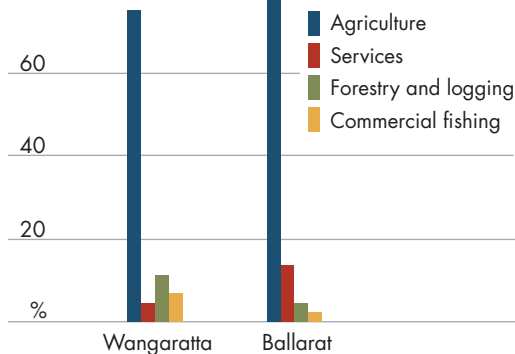
32 Percentage of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSIC region – Victoria



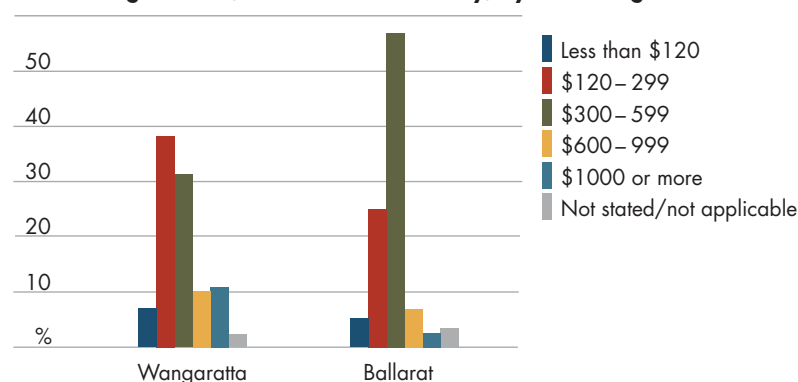
33 Distribution of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Victoria



34 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – Victoria



35 Distribution of weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Victoria



forestry and four in 1000 for the other industries. These are among the smallest regional proportions of indigenous workers in Australia.

The majority of people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Victoria work in the region of Ballarat — 53 per cent of indigenous workers and 51 per cent of nonindigenous workers (figure 33).

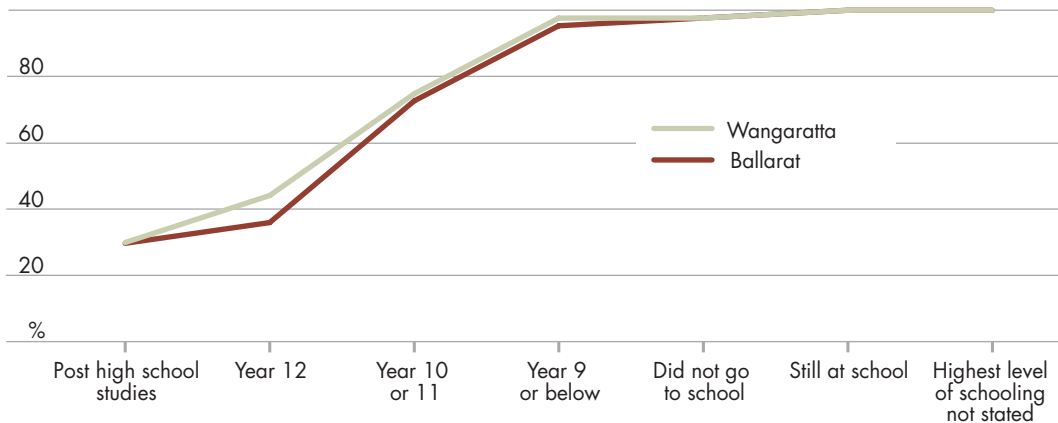
The great majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in agriculture in both Victorian regions (figure 34). These proportions are 75 per cent for Wangaratta and 79 per cent for Ballarat.

In Wangaratta, small proportions of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in forestry (11 per cent), commercial fishing (7 per cent) and agricultural services (5 per cent).

In Ballarat, small proportions of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries work in agricultural services (14 per cent), forestry (5 per cent) and commercial fishing (2 per cent).

In Wangaratta the highest proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$120–299 (38 per cent), while 31 per cent earn \$300–599 and only 21 per cent \$600 or more (figure 35).

36 Cumulative distribution of education level of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Victoria

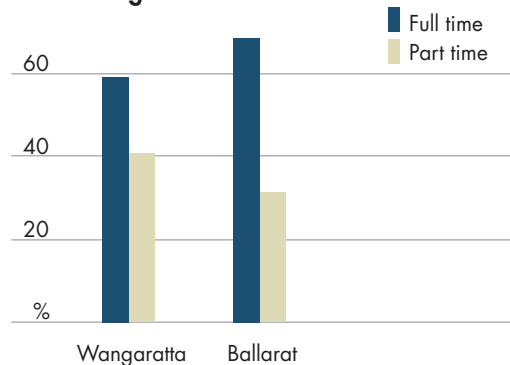


In Ballarat the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300–599 (57 per cent), while a quarter earn of \$120–299 and only 10 per cent \$600 or more.

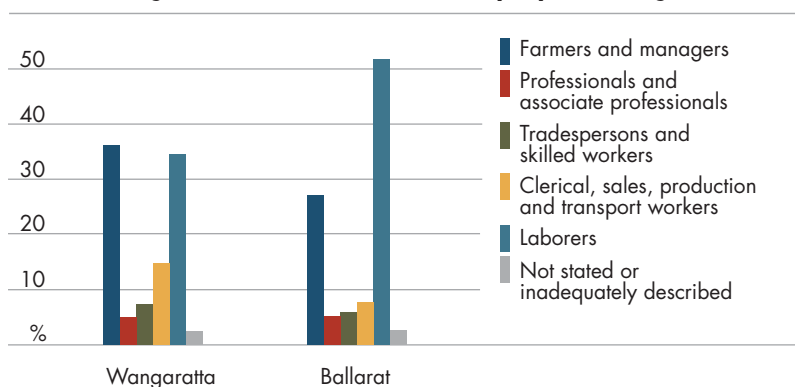
The distributions of educational level of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries for the Wangaratta and Ballarat regions are very similar (figure 36). The largest difference is that in Wangaratta, 44 per cent of these workers attained an education level of year 12 or higher, while in Ballarat this proportion was 36 per cent.

The great majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Victoria work full time — 69 per cent of those working

37 Distribution of employment of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Victoria



38 Distribution of occupational classification of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Victoria



in Ballarat and 60 per cent of those in Wangaratta (figure 37). This might partly explain why a larger proportion of these workers in Ballarat have a weekly income of \$300–599 compared with those working in Wangaratta.

In Wangaratta, the largest proportion of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are farmers or managers — 36 per cent (figure 38). About 34 per cent are in the occupational category of laborers and 15 per cent in the occupational category of clerical, sales, production and transport workers.

In Ballarat, the majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are laborers — 52 per cent. Only 27 per cent are in the occupational category of farmers and managers and 8 per cent in clerical, sales, production and transport workers.

These differences between the two Victorian regions in the distribution of occupational categories might be the reason why Wangaratta has a higher proportion of indigenous workers working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, with a weekly income of \$600 or more.

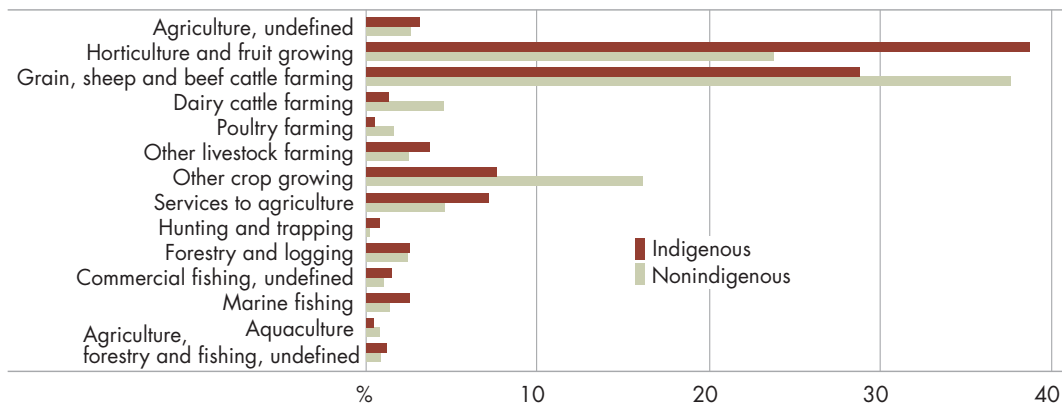
Queensland – overview

Queensland has the largest number of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries — 1 367 workers. This represents 32 per cent of the national indigenous workforce in these industries.

In Queensland, 5 per cent of the indigenous and nonindigenous workforce is in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. This percentage is slightly larger than the national one of 4 per cent.

The largest proportion of indigenous people working in Queensland’s agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries work in horticulture and fruit growing — 39 per cent (figure 39). Other industries with a significant proportion of Queensland’s indigenous population that work in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry (29 per cent), the other crops industry (8 per cent) and services to agriculture (7 per cent).

39 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – Queensland



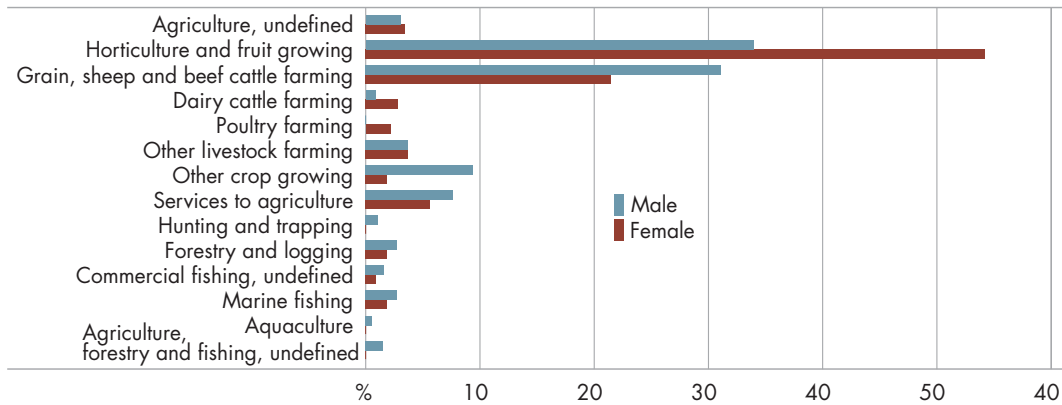
gender distribution

Most indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Queensland are male — 77 per cent. The proportion is smaller for the other industries, where only 69 per cent are male.

The largest proportion of indigenous males working in agricultural industries (34 per cent) work in the horticulture and fruit growing industry, closely followed by the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry, with 31 per cent of indigenous men (figure 40).

The majority of indigenous females in Queensland working in agricultural, fisheries and forestry

40 Share of indigenous employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender – Queensland



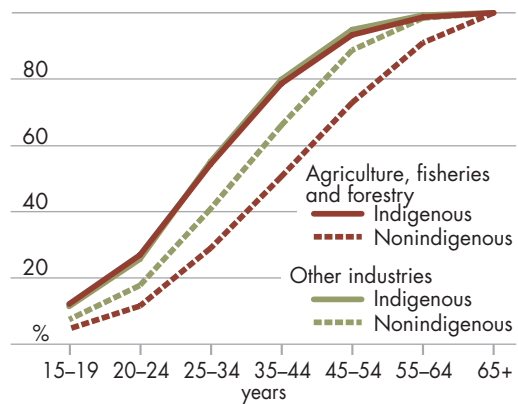
industries also work in the horticulture and fruit growing industry, though the concentration of employment at 54 per cent is significantly higher than for males.

In Queensland, as reported in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, there were no indigenous men working in the poultry industry and there are no indigenous women working in the hunting and aquaculture industries.

age distribution

In Queensland, the age distribution of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries is almost the same as that of indigenous people working in other industries (figure 41). This pattern is quite similar to that at the national level. Indigenous workers in Queensland are younger than nonindigenous workers, while nonindigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are older than nonindigenous workers in other industries.

41 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – Queensland

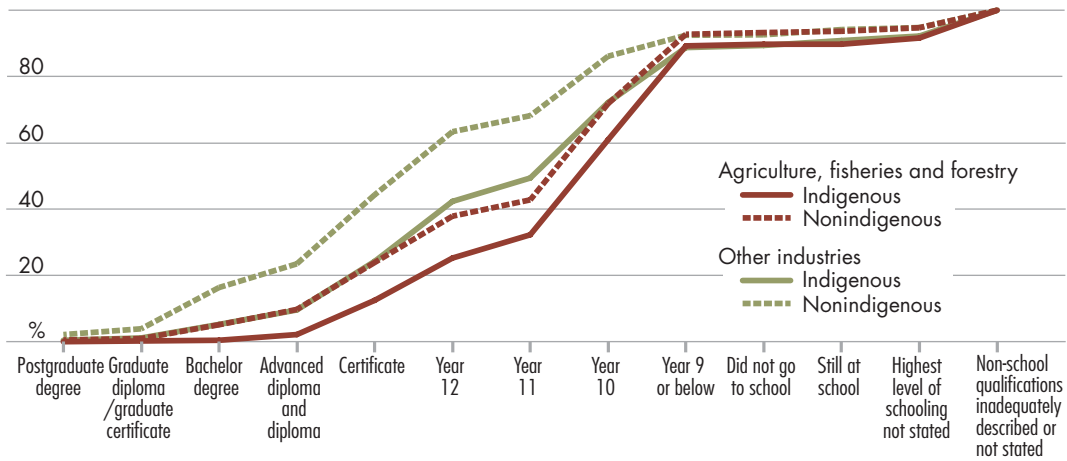


education and income

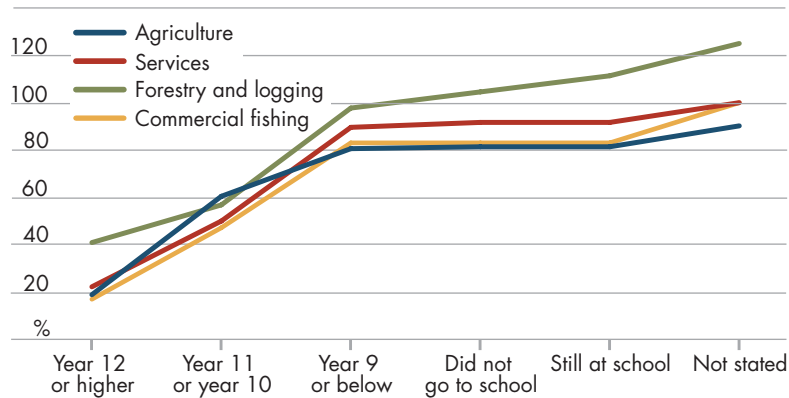
In Queensland, indigenous people have lower education levels than nonindigenous people in the same industries (figure 42). Also, people employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries have lower levels of education than people employed in other industries. The difference in education level between industries is similar to that at the national level, and the difference between indigenous and nonindigenous workers is also similar to that at the national level.

The majority of indigenous workers in agriculture attained an education level of year 10 or higher, with 60 per cent attaining this level (figure 43). This proportion is lower for indigenous workers in the forestry and logging, agricultural services and commercial fishing industries, with these proportions being 57 per cent, 50 per cent and 47 per cent respectively.

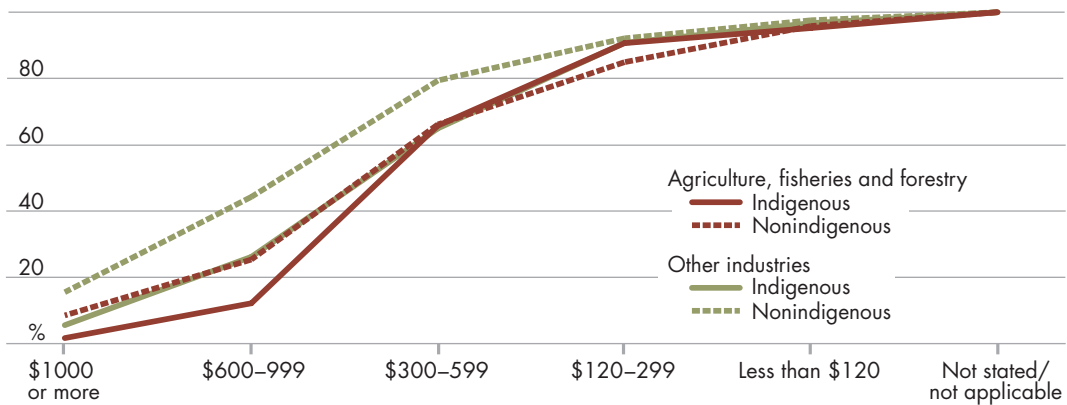
42 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – Queensland



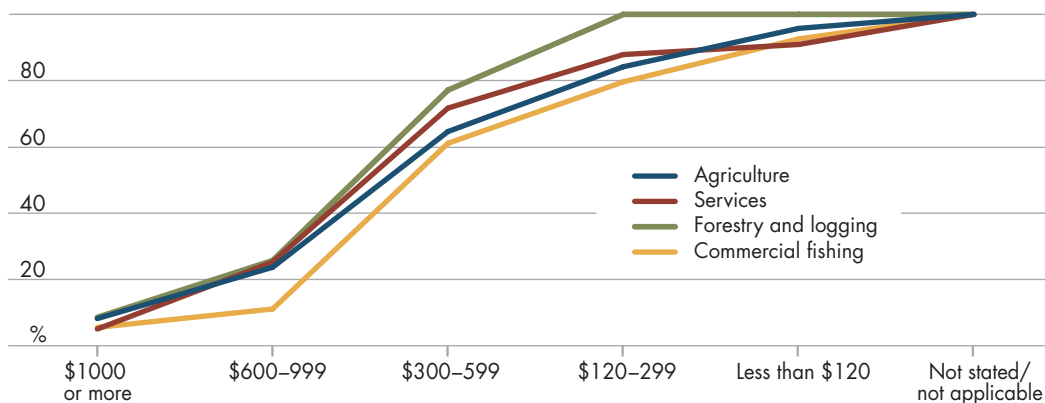
43 Cumulative distribution of education level for indigenous workers, by industry – Queensland



44 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – Queensland



45 Cumulative distribution of weekly income for indigenous workers, by industry – Queensland



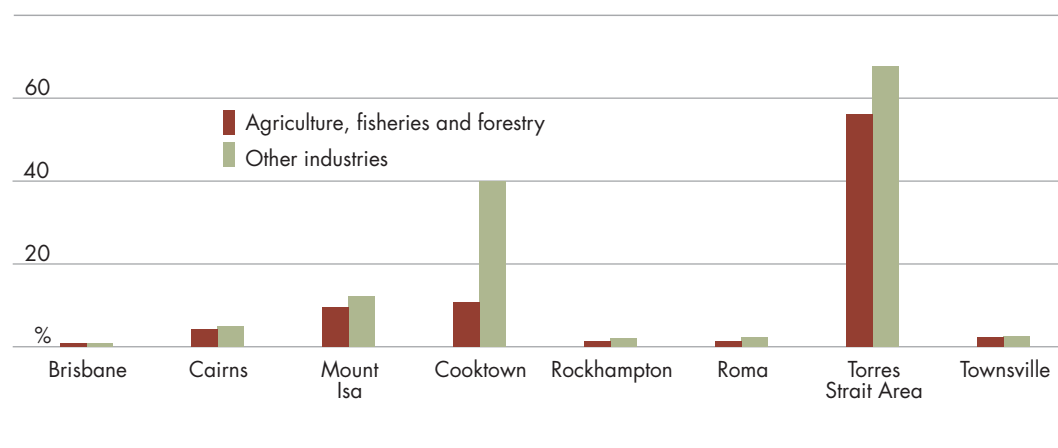
The distribution of weekly income follows a similar pattern to that of education level. Indigenous people have lower income than nonindigenous people and people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries have lower income than workers in other industries (figure 44). The differences in income between indigenous and nonindigenous workers and between industries are slightly larger in Queensland than at the national level.

In all agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in Queensland the majority of indigenous workers have a weekly income of \$300 or more — the proportions are 77 per cent in forestry and logging, 72 per cent in agricultural services, 65 per cent in agriculture and 61 per cent in commercial fishing (figure 45). However, the proportion of indigenous people with a weekly income of \$600 or more are quite different — the commercial fishing industry being well below the other industries, with only 11 per cent of workers with that weekly income.

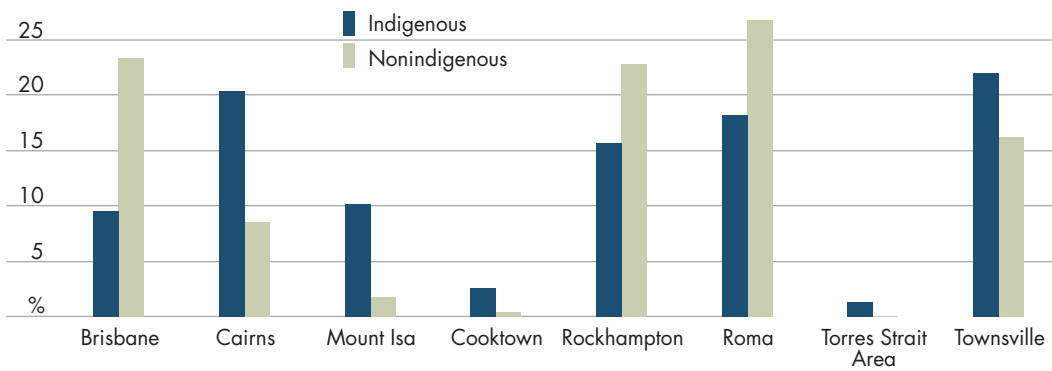
distribution by ATSI region

Of the ATSI regions, the Torres Strait Area has the highest proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry — 56 per cent (figure 46). About 11 per cent of

46 Percentage of indigenous workers, by ATSI region and industry – Queensland



47 Distribution of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Queensland



workers in the Cooktown region in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are indigenous. One in ten of such workers in the Mount Isa region are indigenous.

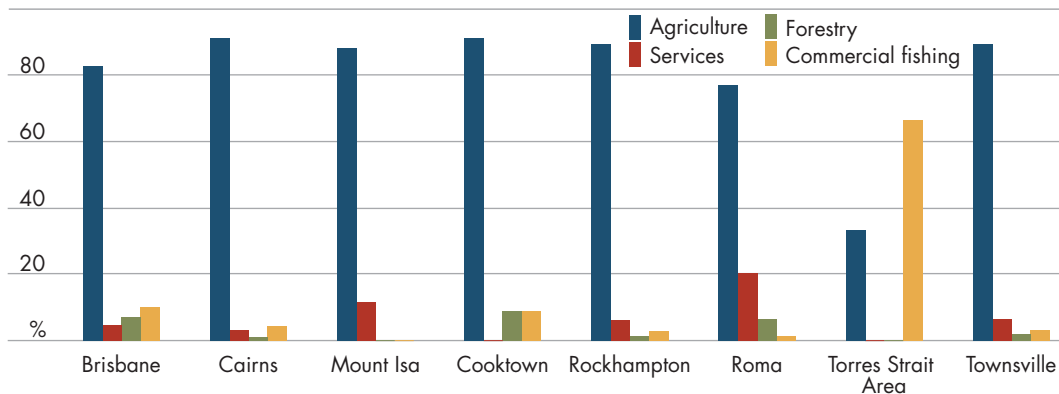
In all regions the proportion of indigenous workers is larger in the other industries than in agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

The proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is larger than that of nonindigenous people in the Queensland ATSC regions of Townsville, Cairns, Mount Isa, Cooktown and the Torres Strait Area (figure 47). The largest proportion of indigenous workers in these industries is in the Townsville region (22 per cent), closely follow by Cairns with 20 per cent, Roma with 19 per cent and Rockhampton with 15 per cent.

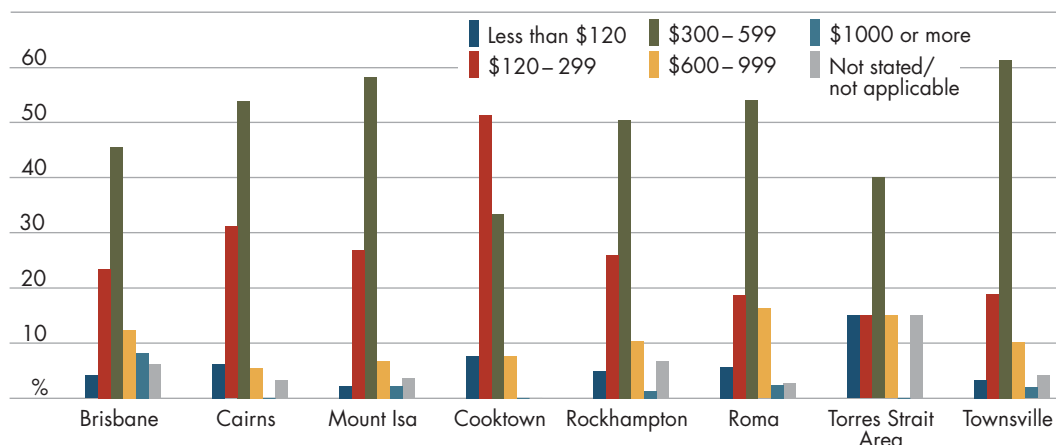
In all ATSC regions except the Torres Strait Area the great majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are in agriculture (figure 48). In the Torres Strait Area the majority (66 per cent) work in commercial fishing and the remainder in agriculture.

In the Brisbane region, 83 per cent work in agriculture, 10 per cent in commercial fishing, 7 per cent in forestry and 5 per cent in agricultural services. In the Cairns region, 91 per cent work in agriculture, 4 per cent in commercial fishing, 3 per cent in agricultural services and only 1 per cent in forestry.

48 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – Queensland



49 Distribution of weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – Queensland



In the Mount Isa region, 88 per cent work in agriculture, with the remaining 12 per cent in agricultural services. In the Cooktown region, 91 per cent work in agriculture and 9 per cent each in commercial fishing and forestry.

In the Rockhampton region, 90 per cent work in agriculture, 3 per cent in commercial fishing, 1 per cent in forestry and 6 per cent in agricultural services. In the Roma region, 77 per cent work in agriculture, 1 per cent in commercial fishing, 7 per cent in forestry and 20 per cent in agricultural services. In the Townsville region, 89 per cent work in agriculture, 3 per cent in commercial fishing, 2 per cent in forestry and 6 per cent in agricultural services.

In the Cairns, Mount Isa, Rockhampton, Roma and Townsville regions the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300–599 (figure 49). In the Cooktown region the majority have a weekly income of \$120–299. The Roma and Townsville regions have a fair proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture fisheries and forestry with a weekly income of \$600 or more. These proportions are 19 per cent for Roma and 12 per cent for Townsville.

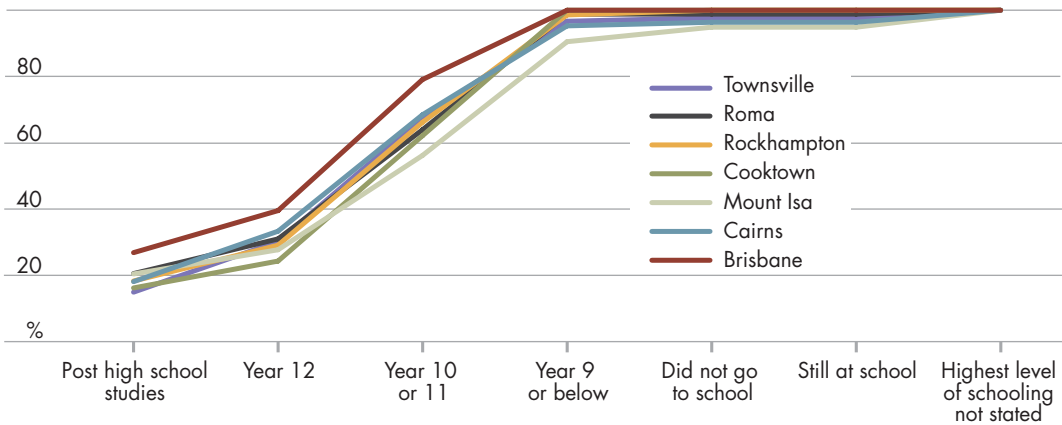
In the Brisbane region, the distribution of weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is quite different from those of the other regions. The largest proportion has a weekly income of \$300–599.

Since level of education is typically highly positively correlated with income, it is not surprising that agricultural, fisheries and forestry workers in the Brisbane region have higher education levels than workers in the same industries working in other Queensland regions (figure 50). In the Brisbane region, 40 per cent of these workers had an education level of year 12 or higher, while 80 per cent had an education level of year 10 or higher. In the other regions the education distributions are similar, except in the Cooktown and Mount Isa regions where the education level attained seems to be slightly lower.

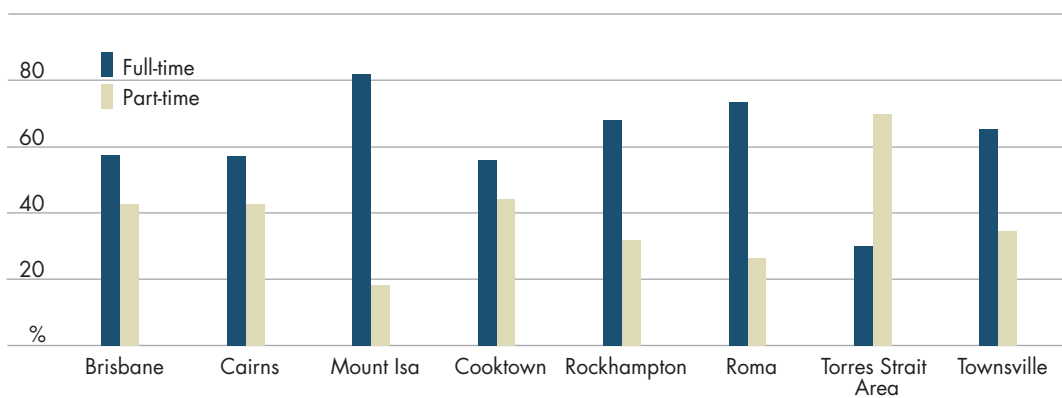
There were not enough data to report education level distributions in the Torres Strait Area.

In all Queensland regions, except the Torres Strait Area, the majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work full time (figure 51). This proportion is the largest in the Mount Isa region, with 82 per cent, follow by the Roma region, with 74 per cent, the Rockhampton region, with 68 per cent, and the Townsville region, with 65 per cent.

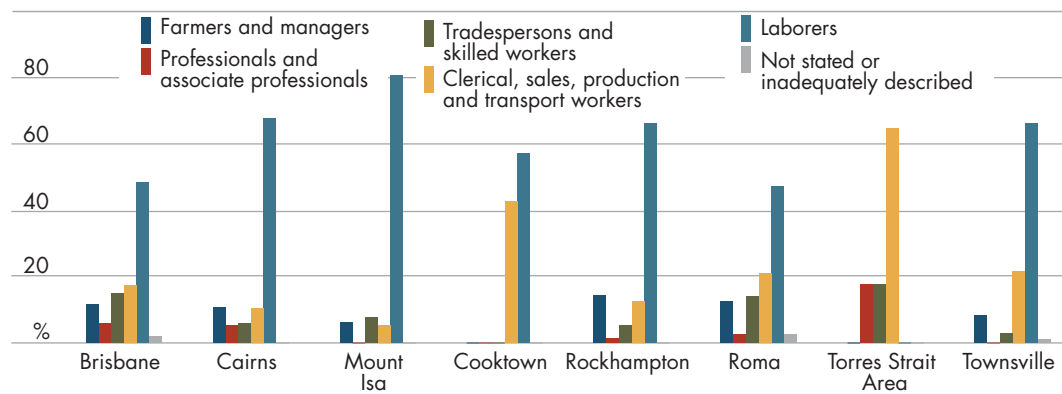
50 Cumulative distribution of education level of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by industry – Queensland



51 Distribution of employment of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – Queensland



52 Distribution of occupational classification of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – Queensland



The Brisbane, Cairns and Cooktown regions have similar distributions of employment type for indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. In these regions 57 per cent of these workers in Brisbane and Cairns and 56 per cent in Cooktown work full time.

In the Cairns, Mount Isa, Cooktown, Rockhampton and Townsville regions the majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work as laborers (figure 52). These proportions are 68 per cent in Cairns, 81 per cent in Mount Isa, 57 per cent in Cooktown and 66 per cent in Rockhampton and Townsville. In the Brisbane and Roma regions, the largest proportions of those workers also work as laborers. These proportions are 48 per cent for Brisbane and 47 per cent for Roma.

In Rockhampton, Roma, Brisbane and Cairns more than one in ten indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work as farmers or managers. These proportions are 14 per cent in Rockhampton, 13 per cent in Roma, 12 per cent in Brisbane and 11 per cent in Cairns.

In the Torres Strait Area the great majority work as clerical, sales and transport workers. However, the estimates for this region should be interpreted with caution because there is very little data for this area.

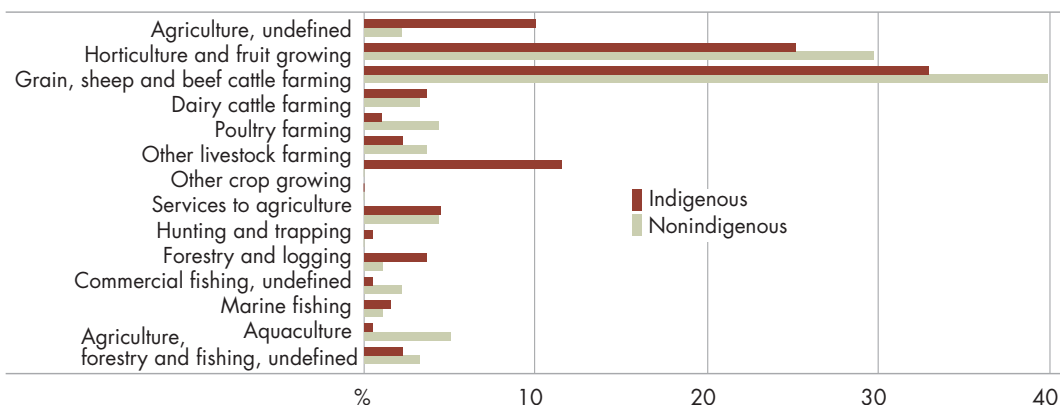
South Australia – overview

In South Australia, 5 per cent of the indigenous and nonindigenous workforce is in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries. This percentage is slightly larger than the national level of 4 per cent.

South Australia has 276 indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, which represents about 7 per cent of the Australian indigenous workforce in those industries. South Australia also has 6 per cent of the Australian indigenous workforce in other industries.

The largest proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in South Australia is in the grain, sheep and beef cattle farming industry — 33 per cent (figure 53). Horticulture and fruit growing also accounts for a significant proportion of this workforce, at 25 per cent.

53 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – South Australia

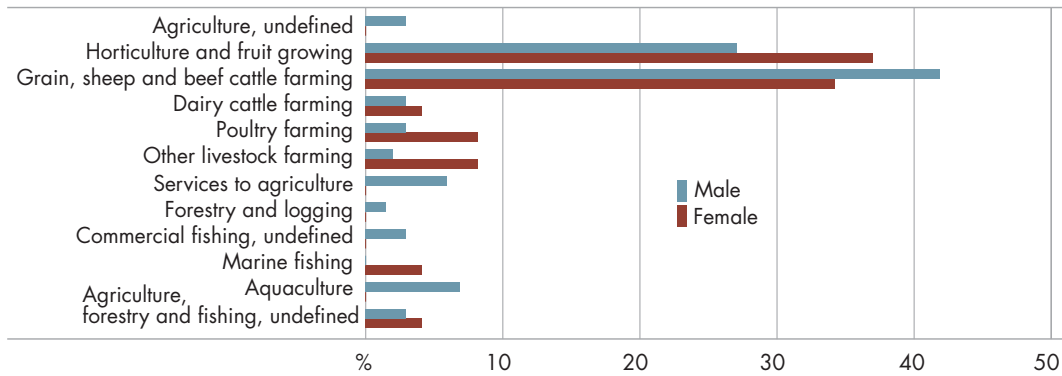


gender distribution

Most indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in South Australia are male (74 per cent). This proportion is similar for the other industries, where 71 per cent are male.

The largest proportion of indigenous men working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry (41 per cent) is in the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry (figure 54). The proportion is smaller for indigenous women, with 34 per cent working in this industry. The proportion of indigenous women working in horticulture and fruit growing is larger than that of men — 37 per cent and 27 per cent respectively.

54 Share of indigenous employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender – South Australia

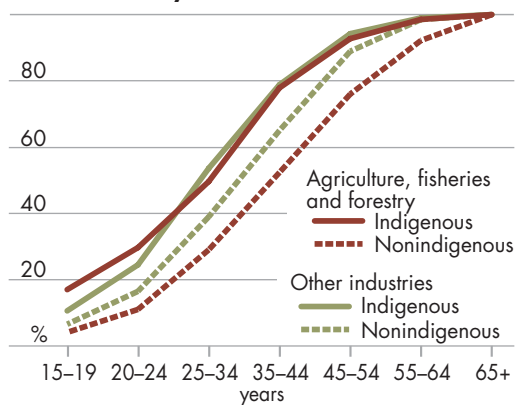


In South Australia, as recorded in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing, there were no indigenous men working in the marine fishing industry. Also, no indigenous women worked in services to agriculture, forestry and logging, or aquaculture.

age distribution

In South Australia, the age distribution of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is almost the same as that of indigenous people working in other industries (figure 55). However, there is a larger proportion of young indigenous people working in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries than in other industries. Nonindigenous workers are older than indigenous workers regardless of the industry they are working in.

55 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – South Australia

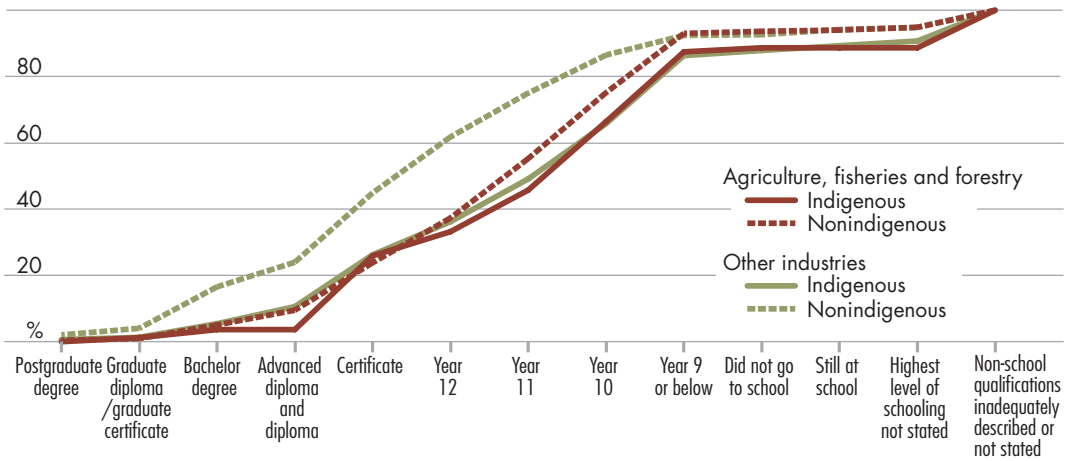


education and income

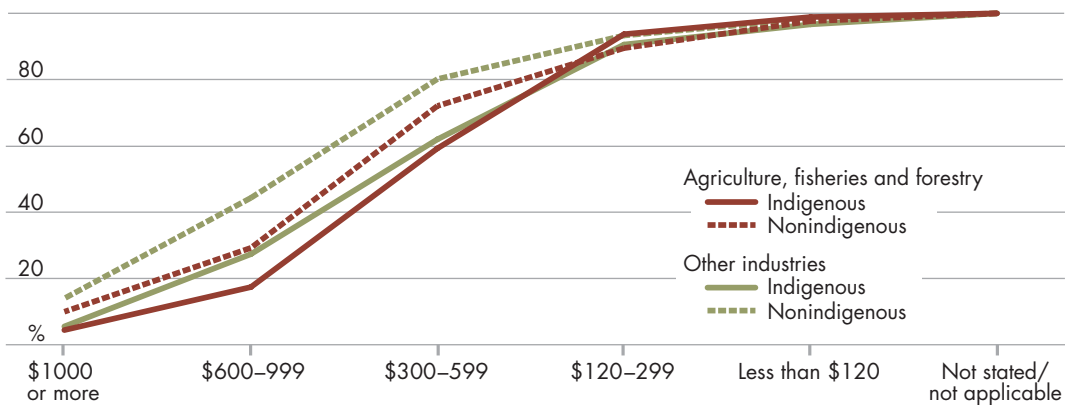
In South Australia, indigenous people have lower education levels than nonindigenous people (figure 56). Also, people employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries have lower levels of education than people employed in other industries. The difference in education level between indigenous and nonindigenous workers is more pronounced for the other industries than for agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

Weekly income follows a similar pattern to that of education level. Indigenous people have lower incomes than nonindigenous people and people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have lower incomes than workers in other industries (figure 57). In South Australia the majority (59 per cent) of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300 or more.

56 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – South Australia



57 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – South Australia

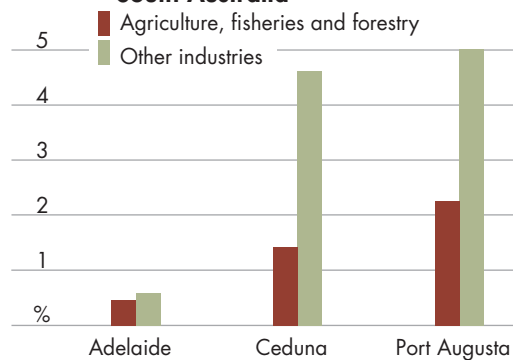


distribution by ATSI region

In all ATSI regions of South Australia, a smaller proportion of indigenous people work in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries than is the case for other industries. In Port Augusta, only 2 per cent of the workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are indigenous. This proportion falls to 1 per cent in the Ceduna region and only five in 1000 workers in the Adelaide region.

The corresponding proportions for the other industries are 5 per cent in Port Augusta and Ceduna and six in 1000 in Adelaide.

58 Percentage of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSI region – South Australia



The majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in South Australia work in the region of Adelaide (figure 59). Port Augusta has the second largest proportion of these workers in the state, with 24 per cent of workers, while Ceduna has 22 per cent.

For nonindigenous workers, the distribution for these industries in South Australia is quite different, with the great majority working in the Adelaide region, and very small proportions in Ceduna and Port Augusta.

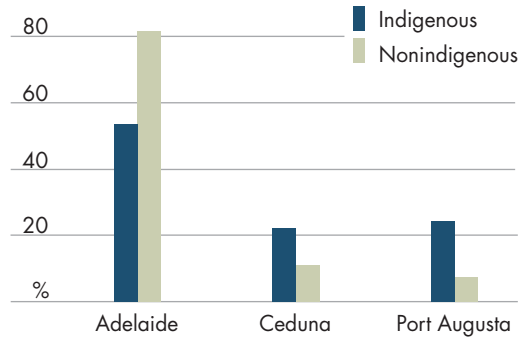
In all South Australian regions the great majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in agriculture (figure 60). These proportions are 88 per cent for Adelaide, 81 per cent for Port Augusta and 70 per cent for Ceduna.

One in four indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Ceduna works in the commercial fishing industry. In Port Augusta, 15 per cent of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in agricultural services.

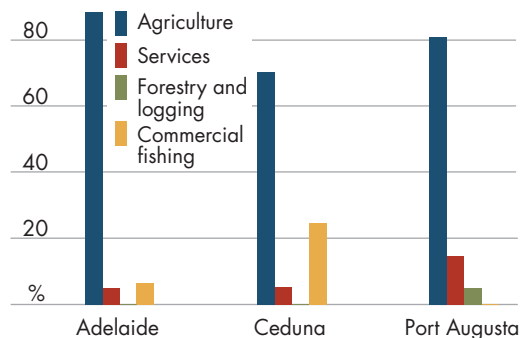
There is not enough data about education level in the regions of Ceduna and Port Augusta, therefore education level is not reported at the region level in South Australia.

In the Adelaide region the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of

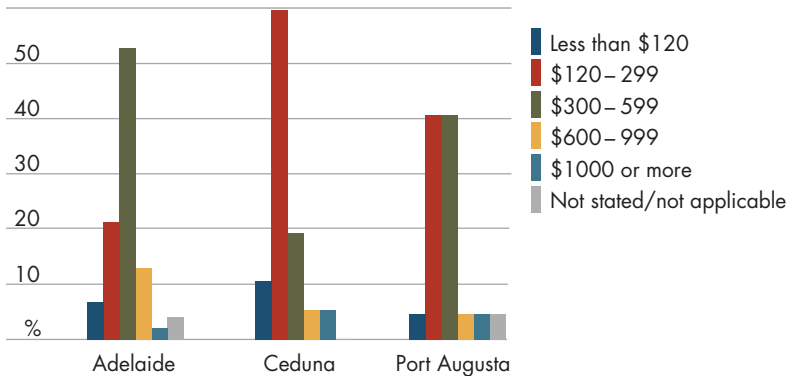
59 Distribution of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – South Australia



60 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSI region – South Australia



61 Distribution of weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – South Australia

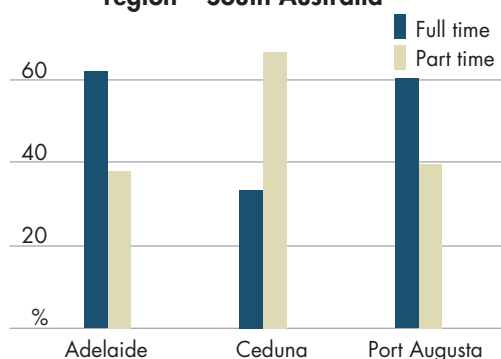


\$300–599 (figure 61). Also, 28 per cent earn less than \$300 and 15 per cent \$600 or more.

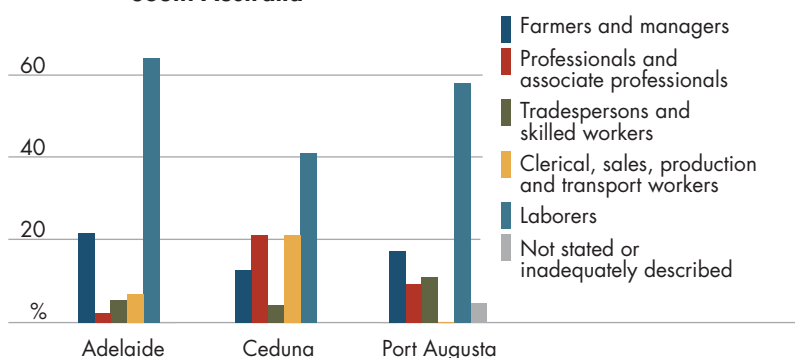
In the Ceduna region, the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$120–299. Around 11 per cent earn less than \$120 a week, 19 per cent earn \$300–599 and 10 per cent \$600 or more.

In the Port Augusta region, 40 per cent of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$120–299 and a further 40 per cent earn \$300–599. Further, 5 per cent earn less than \$120 a week and 10 per cent \$600 or more.

62 Distribution of employment of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – South Australia



63 Distribution of occupational classification of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – South Australia



In the Adelaide and Port Augusta regions, the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work full time — 62 per cent and 60 per cent respectively (figure 62). In Ceduna the majority of these workers work part time. This may be part of the reason why these workers have lower incomes in Ceduna than in the other two regions in South Australia.

In the Adelaide and Port Augusta regions, the majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are laborers (figure 63). In the Ceduna region, the largest proportion of these workers are laborers (41 per cent) but the proportions of professionals or associate professionals and of clerical, sales, production or transport workers are above 20 per cent, while the proportion of farmers or managers is above 10 per cent.

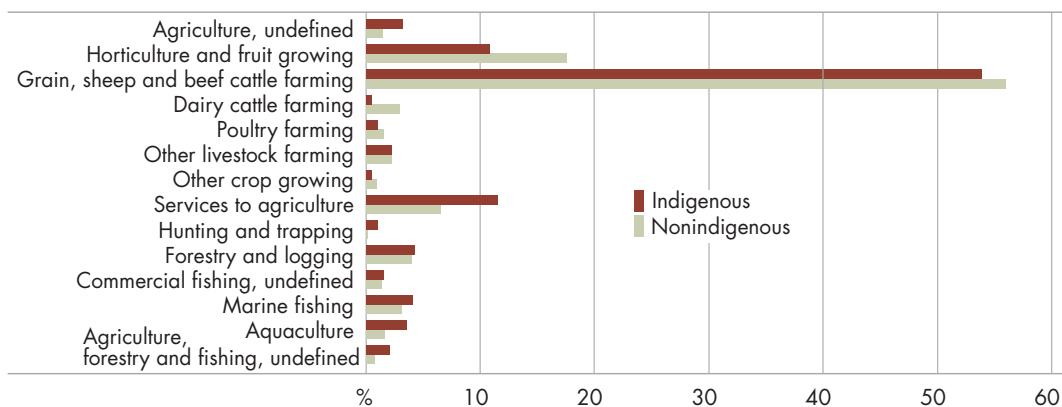
Western Australia – overview

In Western Australia, 4 per cent of the indigenous and nonindigenous workforce work in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries. This percentage is the same as that at the national level.

Western Australia has 592 indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, representing about 14 per cent of the Australian indigenous workforce in these industries. This state also has 15 per cent of the Australian indigenous workforce in other industries.

The majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is in the broad-acre grain, sheep and beef cattle farming industry — 54 per cent (figure 64). Other industries with a significant proportion of this workforce are agricultural services and horticulture and fruit growing, each with 11 per cent each.

64 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – Western Australia

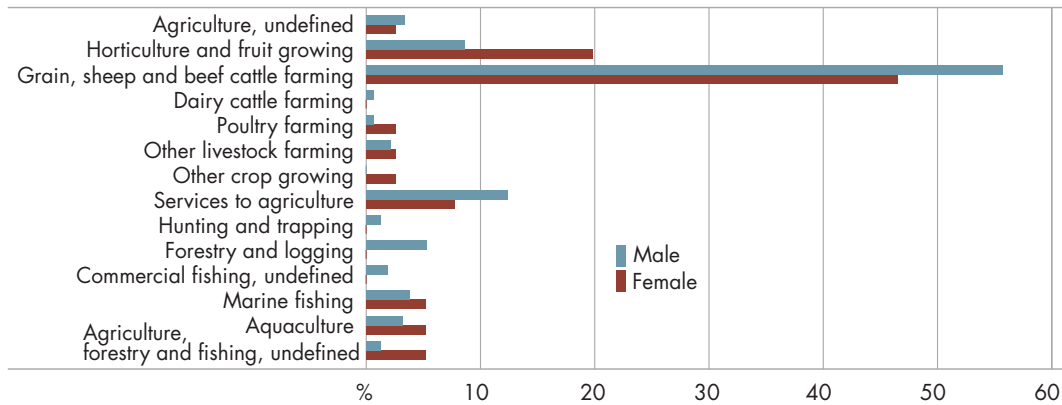


gender distribution

Most indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Western Australia are male (80 per cent). This proportion is smaller for the other industries, where 69 per cent are male.

Most indigenous men working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry (56 per cent) work in the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry (figure 65). The proportion is smaller for women, with only 47 per cent of indigenous women working in this industry. The proportion of indigenous women working in the horticulture and fruit growing industry is more than double that of men — these proportions being 20 per cent and 9 per cent respectively.

65 Share of indigenous employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender – Western Australia

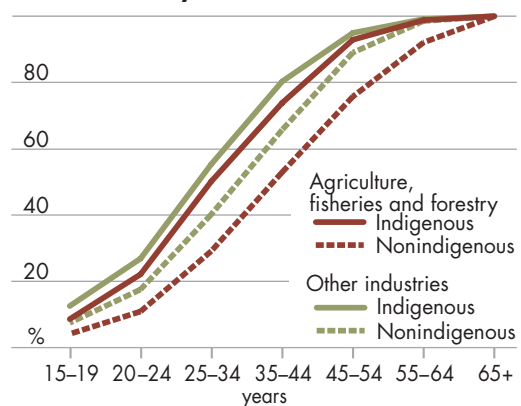


In Western Australia, there are almost no indigenous workers in the dairy industry. Also, no indigenous women work in the hunting and forestry industries, while no indigenous men work in the other crops industry and very few of them work in the poultry industry.

age distribution

In Western Australia, indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are older than indigenous people working in other industries (figure 66). In Western Australia, indigenous workers are younger than nonindigenous workers, while nonindigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are older than nonindigenous workers in other industries.

66 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – Western Australia

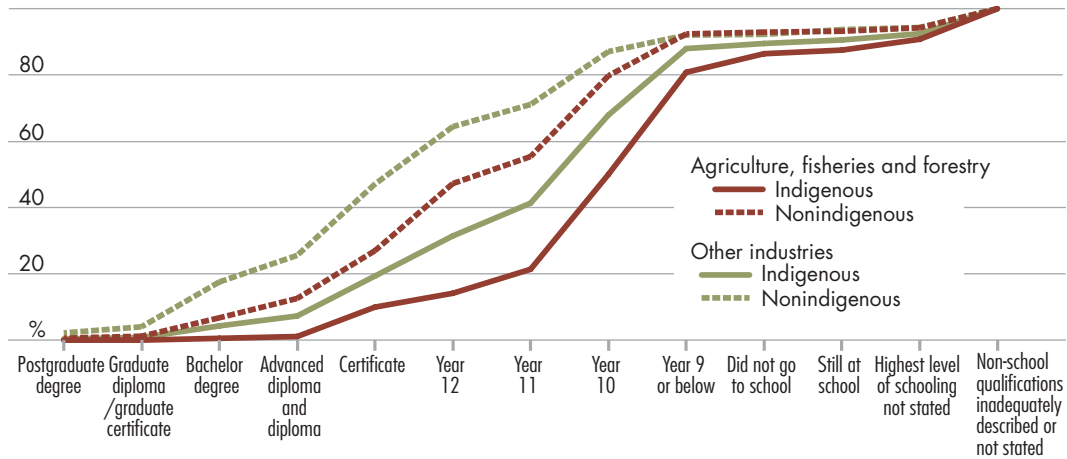


education and income

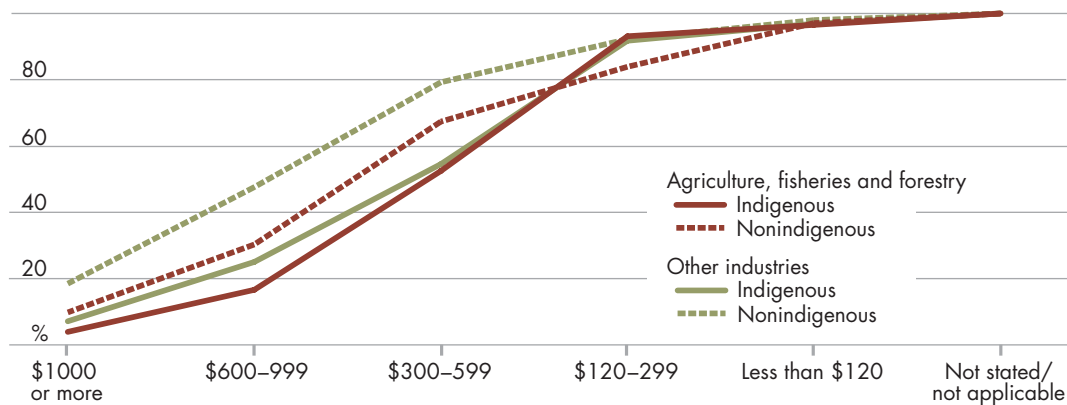
In Western Australia, indigenous people have lower levels of education than nonindigenous people (figure 67). Also, people employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries have lower education levels than people employed in other industries. The differences in education level between industries and between indigenous and nonindigenous workers are similar to those at the national level.

Weekly income follows a similar pattern to that of education level. Indigenous people have lower incomes than nonindigenous people and people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have lower incomes than workers in other industries (figure 68). The difference in income of indigenous people between industries seems to be smaller in Western Australia than at the national level.

67 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – Western Australia



68 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – Western Australia

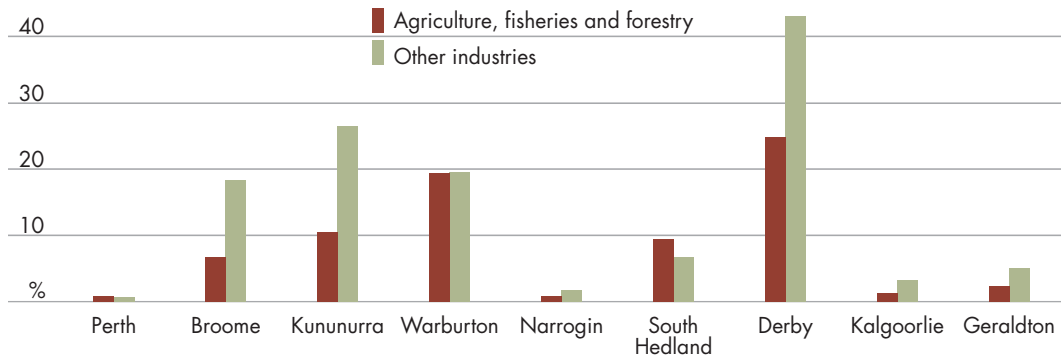


distribution by ATSI region

In all ATSI regions of Western Australia except South Hedland, the proportions of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are smaller than in the other industries (figure 69). In Derby, a quarter of the workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are indigenous. This proportion falls to 17 per cent in the Warburton region, 11 per cent in Kununurra and 10 per cent in the South Hedland region. The proportions are much smaller in the Broome, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie regions, with 7 per cent, 3 per cent and 1 per cent respectively; and even lower in the Perth and Narrogin regions, each with less than 1 per cent.

The proportion of indigenous workers in the other industries are 43 per cent in Derby, 26 per cent in Kununurra, 19 per cent in Warburton, 18 per cent in Broome, 7 per cent in South Hedland, 5 per cent in Geraldton and less than 5 per cent in all the other regions in Western Australia.

69 Percentage of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – Western Australia



Indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are broadly spread over all Western Australian regions (figure 70). A quarter work in the Narrogin region, followed by Geraldton and Derby with 16 per cent and 15 per cent respectively, then Perth and Kununurra, each with 11 per cent, and all the other regions with less than 10 per cent.

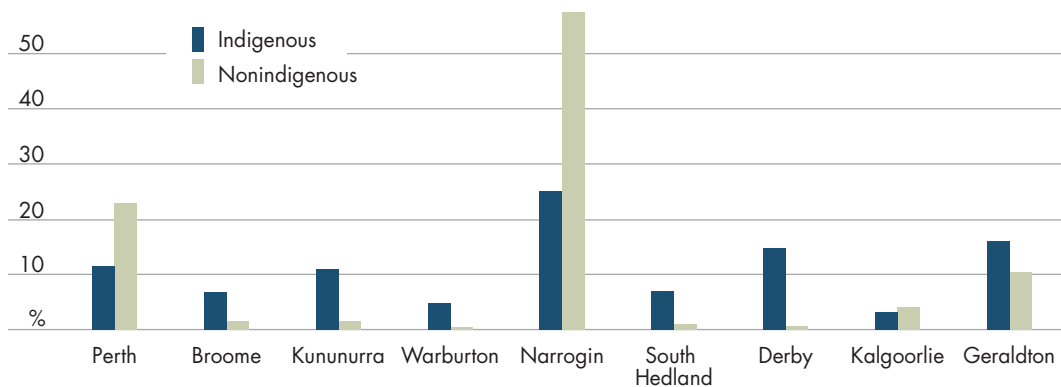
Nonindigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are concentrated in the regions of Narrogin, Perth and Geraldton, with 58 per cent, 23 per cent and 10 per cent respectively.

In all regions of Western Australia except Broome, the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in agriculture (figure 71). In the Broome region the majority work in the commercial fishing industry.

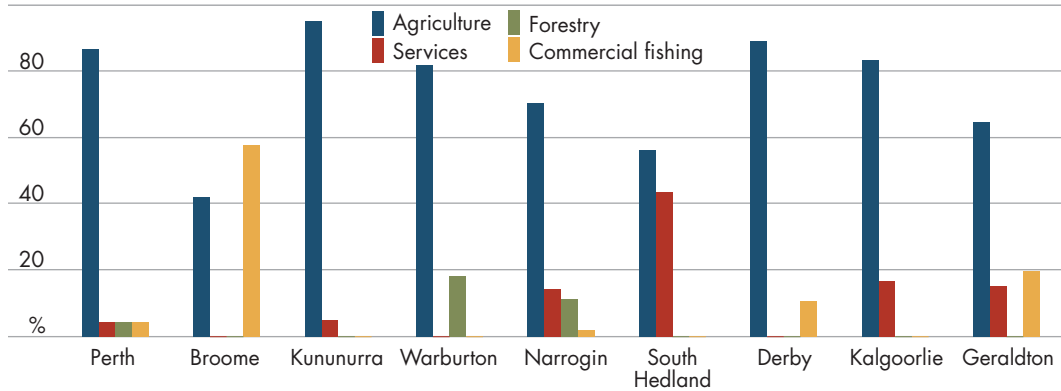
In the Warburton, Narrogin and Perth regions, 18 per cent, 11 per cent and 4 per cent respectively of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in forestry and logging.

About 44 per cent of agriculture, fisheries and forestry workers in South Hedland, 17 per cent in Kalgoorlie, 15 per cent in Geraldton, 14 per cent in Narrogin, 5 per cent in Kununurra and 4 per cent in Perth work in agricultural services. One in five of those workers in Geraldton, 11 per cent in Derby, 4 per cent in Perth and 2 per cent in Narrogin work in the commercial fishing industry.

70 Distribution of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – New South Wales



71 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – Western Australia

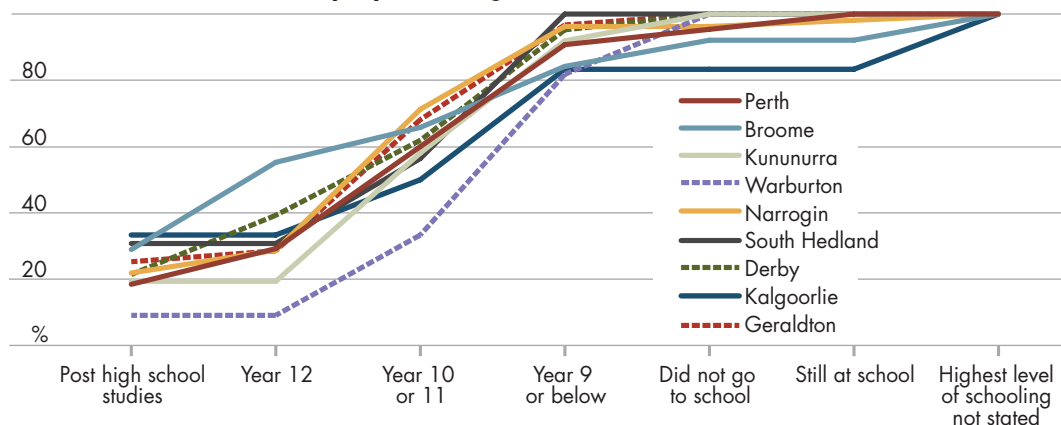


In the Western Australian region of Broome, 55 per cent of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry had an education level of year 12 or higher (figure 72). This proportion is much smaller in the other Western Australian regions — 39 per cent for Derby, 33 per cent for Kalgoorlie, 30 per cent for South Hedland, 29 per cent for Perth, Narrogin and Geraldton, 19 per cent for Kununurra and only 9 per cent for Warburton.

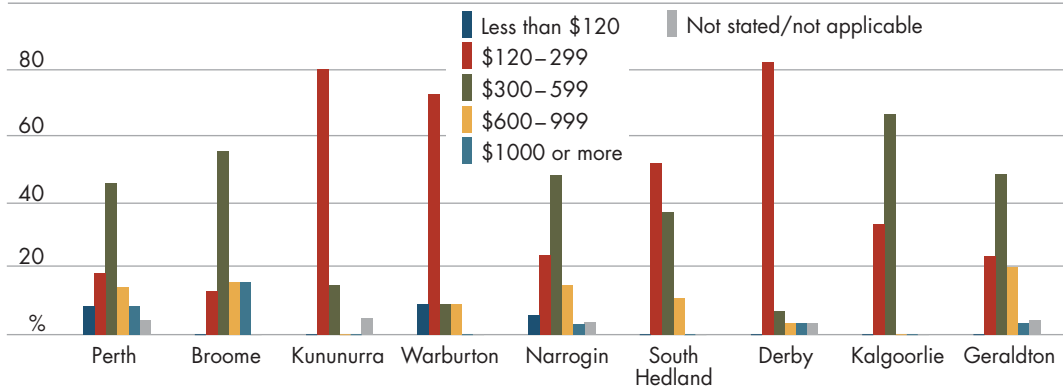
The education level of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in the more remote region of Warburton is far lower than in any other region in the state. In that region, 66 per cent of these workers had an education level of year 9 or lower.

In the Derby, Kununurra and Warburton regions the great majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$120–299, 82 per cent, 80 per cent and 73 per cent respectively (figure 73). In the South Hedland region also the majority has a weekly income in that range but the proportion is much smaller, 52 per cent.

72 Cumulative distribution of education level of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Western Australia



73 Distribution of weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – Western Australia



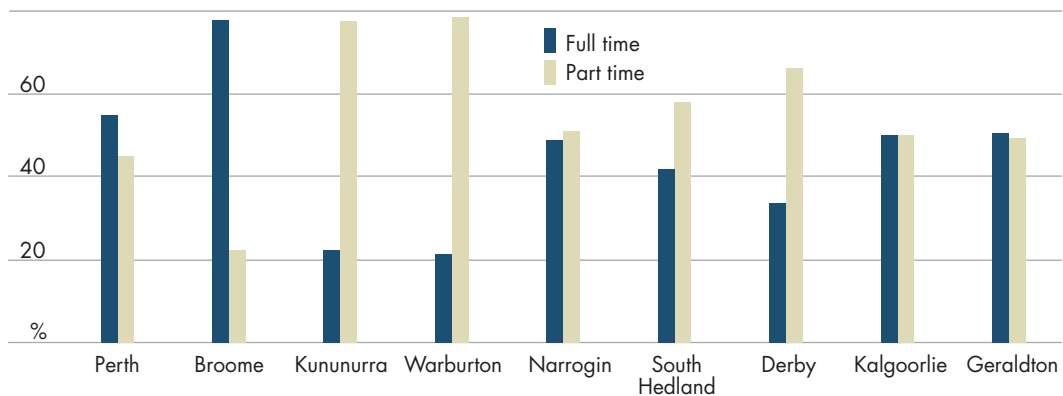
In the Kalgoorlie and Broome regions the majority of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have a weekly income of \$300–599, with 67 per cent and 55 per cent respectively. In the Geraldton, Narrogin and Perth regions the largest proportion rather than the majority of these workers have a weekly income in that range.

The proportion of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry that have a weekly income of \$600 or more are 32 per cent in Broome, 23 per cent in Geraldton and Perth, 18 per cent in Narrogin, 11 per cent in South Hedland, 9 per cent in Warburton and 8 per cent in Derby.

The proportions of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry that have a weekly income of less than \$120 are 9 per cent in Warburton and Perth and 6 per cent in Narrogin.

The majority of indigenous people working in these industries in the Warburton, Kununurra, Derby, South Hedland and Narrogin work part time (figure 74). This could partly explain the lower weekly income in some of these regions. In Kalgoorlie, half of these workers work full time

74 Distribution of employment of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – Western Australia



and the other half part time, while in the Broome and Perth regions the majority work full time, which could partly explain the higher weekly income, particularly in the Broome region.

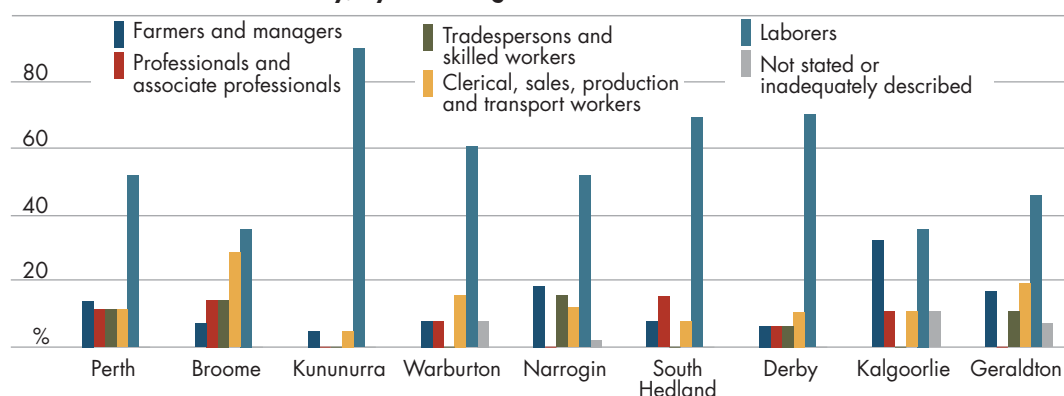
In the Kununurra region the great majority of indigenous workers working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work as laborers — 90 per cent (figure 75). Also in the regions of Derby, South Hedland, Warburton, Perth and Narrogin the majority of these workers work as laborers. In the Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Broome regions, though not a majority, the largest proportion of indigenous workers work as laborers.

Almost a third of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in the Kalgoorlie region are in the farmers and managers category. The proportions of these workers in other regions are much smaller: 18 per cent, 17 per cent and 14 per cent in the Geraldton, Narrogin and Perth regions respectively and less than 10 per cent in all the other regions.

Broome also has a fairly large proportion of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry within the clerical, sales, production and transport workers category (29 per cent). This proportion is quite small in most other regions.

In Narrogin, Broome, Geraldton and Perth regions, more than 10 per cent of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in the tradespersons and skilled workers category.

75 Distribution of occupational classification of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – Western Australia



Tasmania – overview

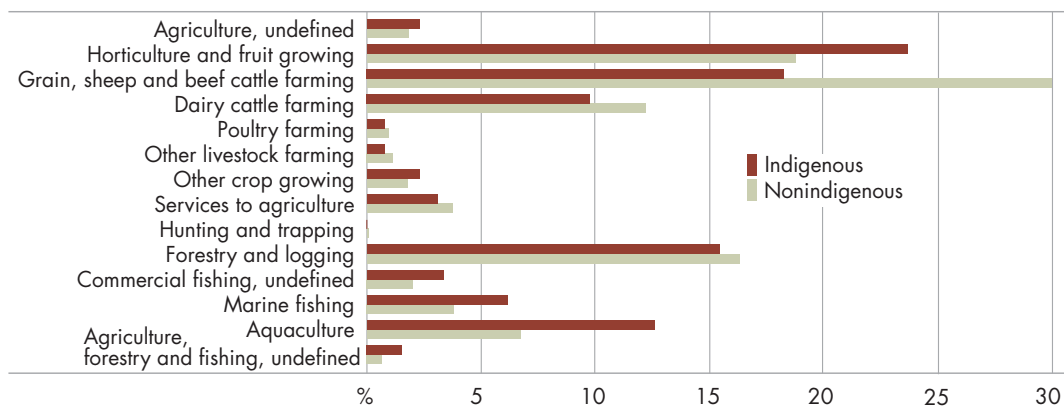
In Tasmania, 6 per cent of the indigenous and nonindigenous workforce work in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries. This proportion, together with that in the Northern Territory, is the largest in Australia.

Tasmania has 389 indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, representing about 9 per cent of the Australian indigenous workforce in those industries. The state also has 5 per cent of Australia’s indigenous workforce in other industries.

Indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Tasmania are more spread across the industries than in all other states (figure 76). About 24 per cent work in horticulture and fruit growing, 18 per cent work in grain, sheep and beef cattle farming, 15 per cent in forestry and logging, 13 per cent in aquaculture, 9 per cent in dairy and 6 per cent in marine fishing.

The distribution across industries is different for nonindigenous agriculture, fisheries and forestry workers. The largest proportion of these work in grain, sheep and beef cattle farming (30 per cent), 19 per cent in horticulture and fruit growing, 15 per cent in forestry and logging, 13 per cent in aquaculture and only 10 per cent in dairy.

76 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – Tasmania

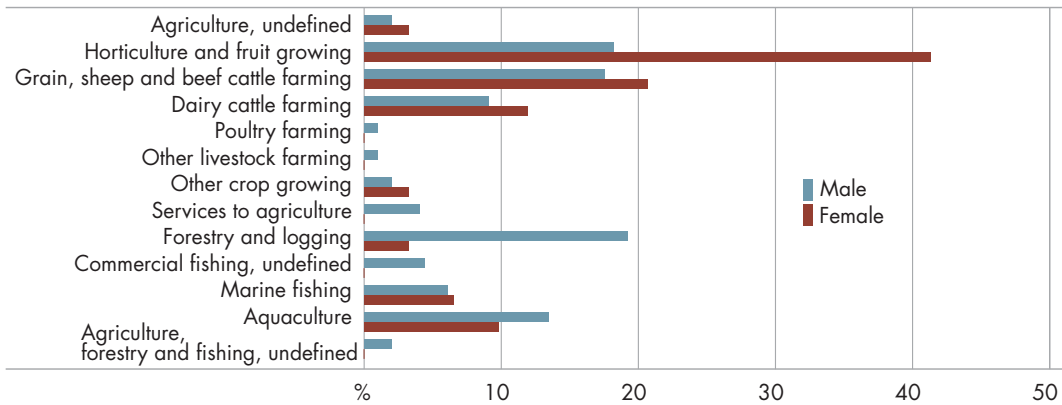


gender distribution

Most indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Tasmania are male (76 per cent). The proportion is much smaller for other industries, where only 52 per cent are male.

Similar proportions of indigenous men working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in forestry and logging (19 per cent), and in horticulture and fruit growing and grain, sheep and

77 Share of indigenous employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender – Tasmania



beef cattle farming (18 per cent in each) (figure 77). These proportions are different for women. The largest proportion (41 per cent) of indigenous women work in horticulture and fruit growing. This is followed by 21 per cent of indigenous women working in grain, sheep and beef cattle farming, 12 per cent in dairy and 10 per cent in aquaculture.

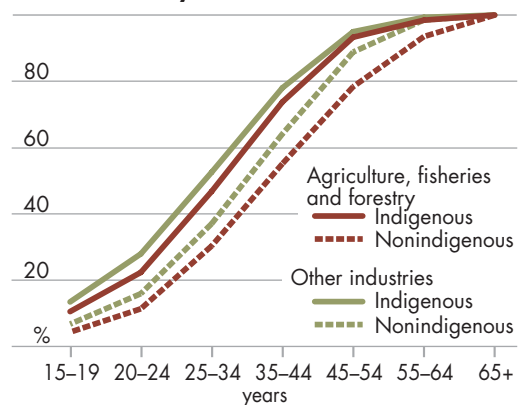
In Tasmania, there are no indigenous workers in the hunting and trapping industry. Also, no indigenous women work in the poultry, other livestock and services to agriculture industries.

age distribution

In Tasmania, indigenous people working in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries are older than indigenous people working in other industries (figure 78). This distribution is different from that at the national level, where the two groups have quite similar age distributions.

Indigenous workers in Tasmania are younger than nonindigenous workers, while nonindigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries are older than nonindigenous workers in other industries.

78 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – Tasmania

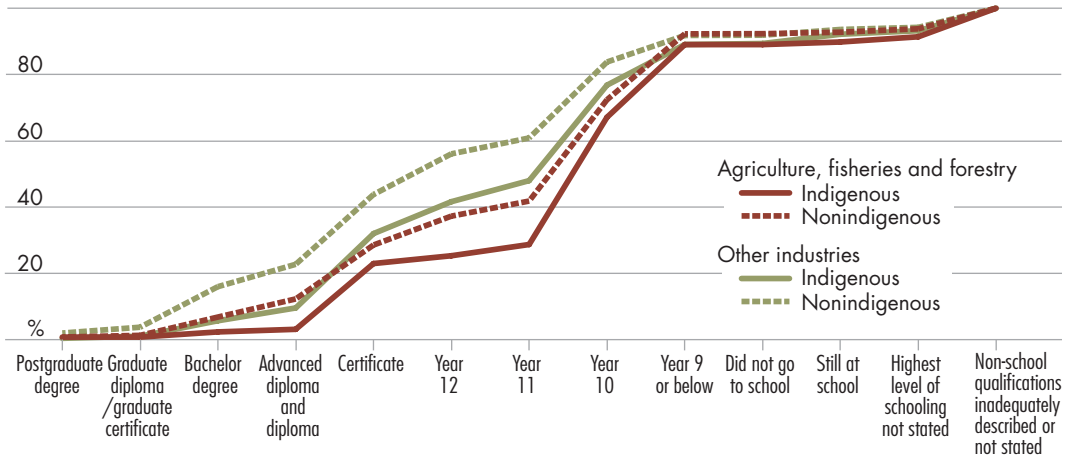


education and income

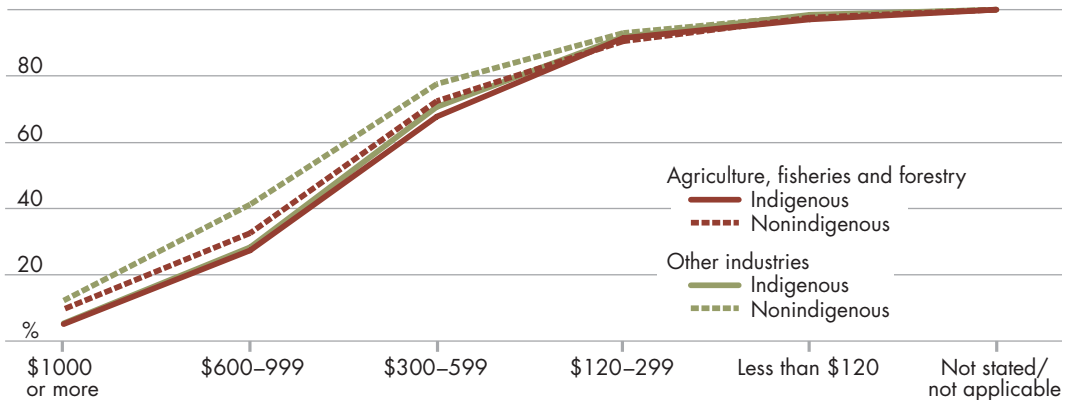
In Tasmania, indigenous people have lower levels of education than nonindigenous people working in the same industry group (figure 79). Also, people employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have lower levels of education than people employed in other industries. The difference in education level between industries is similar to that at the national level; also the difference between indigenous and nonindigenous workers is similar to that at the national level.

Indigenous people have lower incomes than nonindigenous people and people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry have lower incomes than workers in other industries (figure 80). However, there is almost no difference in weekly income between indigenous workers

79 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – Tasmania



80 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – Tasmania

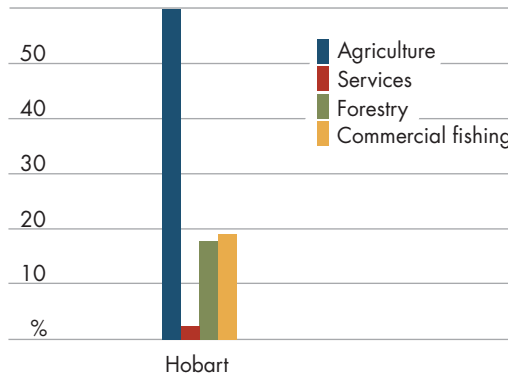


in agriculture, fisheries and forestry and indigenous workers in other industries. The difference in weekly income between these two groups is much smaller than the difference in education between the groups.

distribution by industry

In this section the broader agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries were split into four groups — agriculture, services to agriculture, fisheries and forestry, commercial fishing and forestry and logging. In Tasmania, 60 per cent of indigenous people working in these

81 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – Tasmania



industries work in agriculture, 19 per cent work in commercial fishing, 18 per cent in forestry and only 2 per cent in agricultural services (figure 81).

In Tasmania, indigenous people working in the commercial fishing industry had a higher education level than indigenous people working in agriculture and forestry (figure 82). Four in ten indigenous people working in the commercial fishing industry had an education level of year 12 or higher, while nine in ten of these workers had an education level of year 10 or higher.

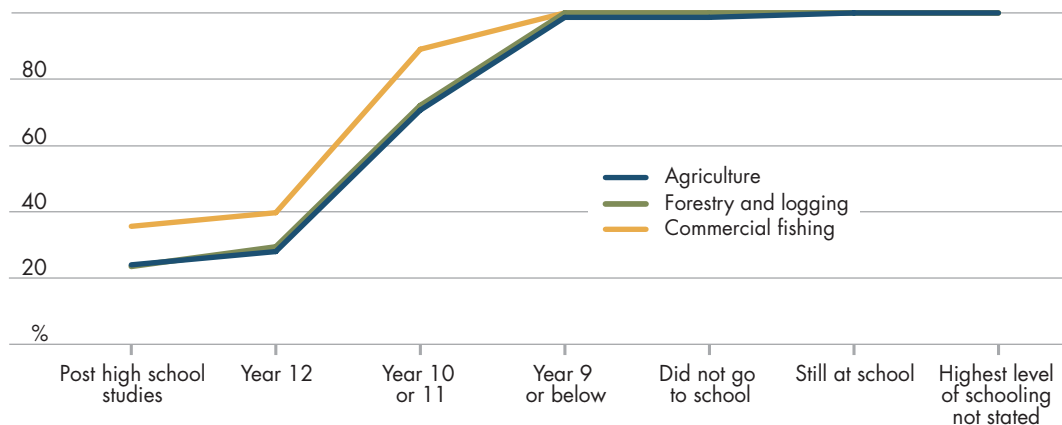
These proportions are smaller for the forestry industry, where 29 per cent of indigenous people working in this industry had an education level of year 12 or higher and 72 per cent an education level of year 10 or higher.

The distribution of the education level of indigenous people working in agriculture is very similar to that of these workers in the forestry industry. In agriculture, 28 per cent of indigenous people working in this industry had attained an education level of year 12 or higher and 71 per cent an education level of year 10 or higher.

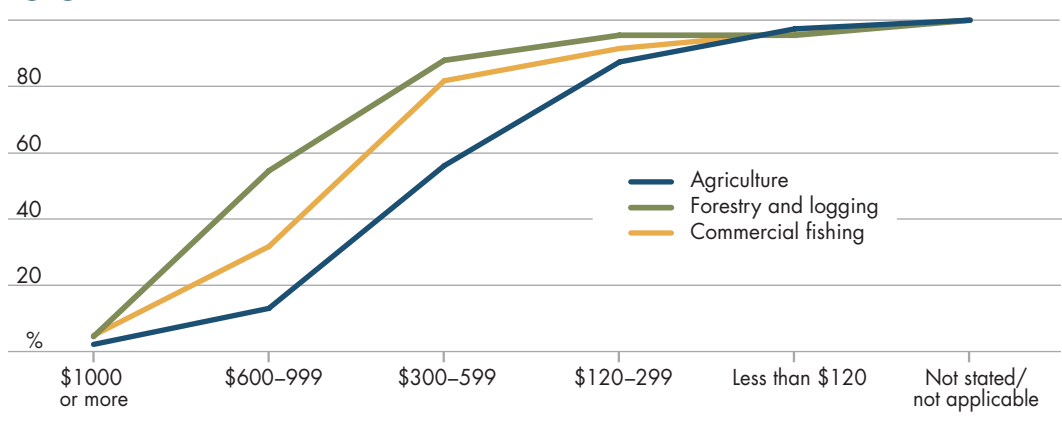
There were not enough data to report details on the agricultural services industry.

In Tasmania, indigenous workers in the forestry industry have the highest weekly income levels (figure 83). In this industry the majority of indigenous workers have a weekly income of \$600

82 Cumulative distribution of education level of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSIIC region – Tasmania



83 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – Tasmania



or more, while less than 8 per cent earn less than \$300 a week.

In the commercial fishing industry, half of indigenous workers have a weekly income of \$300–599 and only 32 per cent have a weekly income of \$600 or more. Around 15 per cent have a weekly income of less than \$300.

In agriculture, only 13 per cent of indigenous workers have a weekly income of \$600 or more, while 43 per cent earn \$300–599 a week and 41 per cent less than \$300 a week.

There were not enough data to report the weekly income levels for the agricultural services industry.

In Tasmania, the weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is best explained by the full time/part time status of these workers. In the forestry industry, 76 per cent of the indigenous workers work full time. This proportion falls to 68 per cent in the commercial fishing industry and to 55 per cent in agriculture (figure 84). There were not enough data to report the full time/part time status for the agricultural services industry.

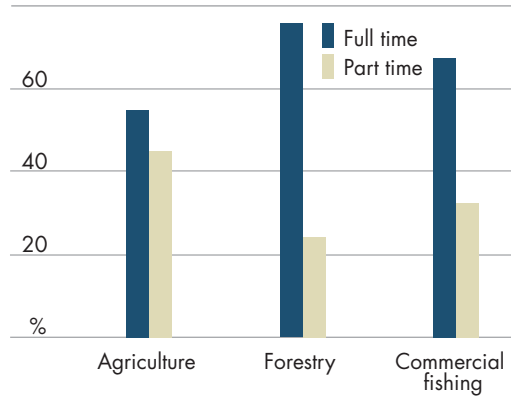
In agriculture, 48 per cent of indigenous workers are in the laborer category, 36 per cent in the farmer and manager category and less than 10 per cent in the other categories (figure 85).

In the forestry industry the great majority are in the clerical, sales, production and transport workers category (74 per cent), with almost four in ten of them transport workers. In this industry, 13 per cent of indigenous workers are in the professionals and associate professionals category, while only 9 per cent are in the laborer category.

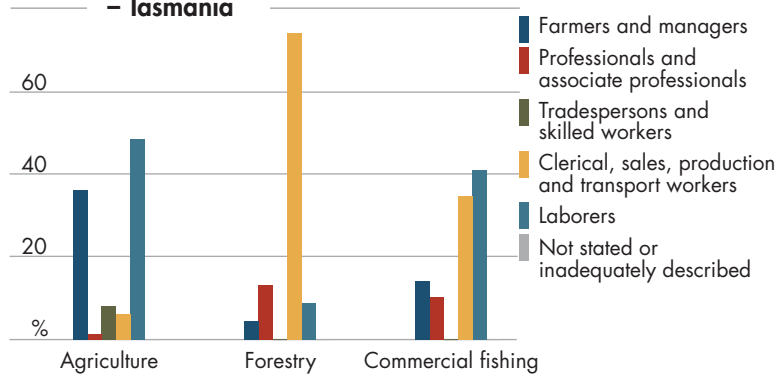
In the commercial fishing industry, 41 per cent of indigenous workers are in the laborer category, 35 per cent in the clerical, sales, production and transport workers category, 14 per cent in the farmers and managers category and 10 per cent in the professionals and associate professionals category.

There were not enough data to report on occupational classification for the agricultural services industry.

84 Distribution of employment of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – Tasmania



85 Distribution of occupational classification of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by industry – Tasmania



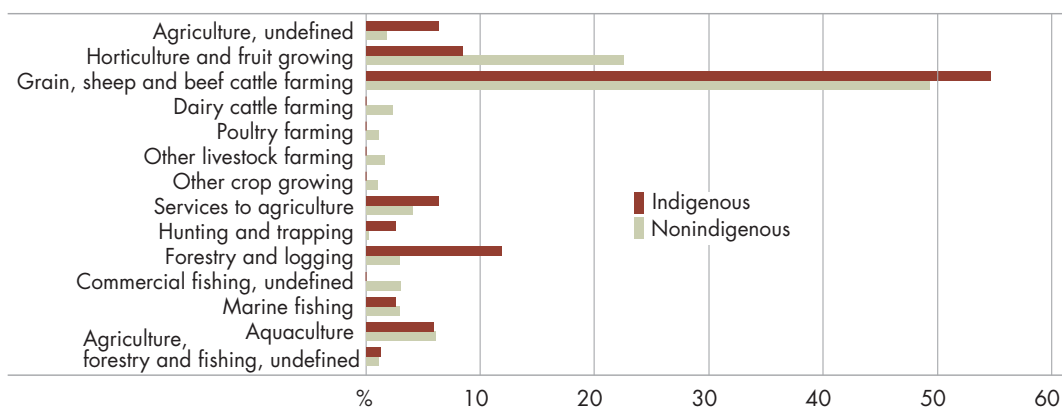
Northern Territory – overview

In the Northern Territory, 3 per cent of the indigenous and nonindigenous workforce is in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries. This percentage is slightly smaller than the national level of 4 per cent.

The Northern Territory has 239 indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. This represents 6 per cent of Australia's indigenous workforce in these industries. Around 11 per cent of Australia's indigenous workforce is in other industries. These proportions are smaller for the nonindigenous workforce — three-quarters of a percentage point and 1 per cent respectively.

Most indigenous people working in agricultural industries work in grain, sheep and beef cattle farming — 55 per cent work in this area (figure 86). Other areas with a significant proportion of this workforce are forestry and logging (12 per cent) and horticulture and fruit growing (8 per cent).

86 Share of employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry – Northern Territory

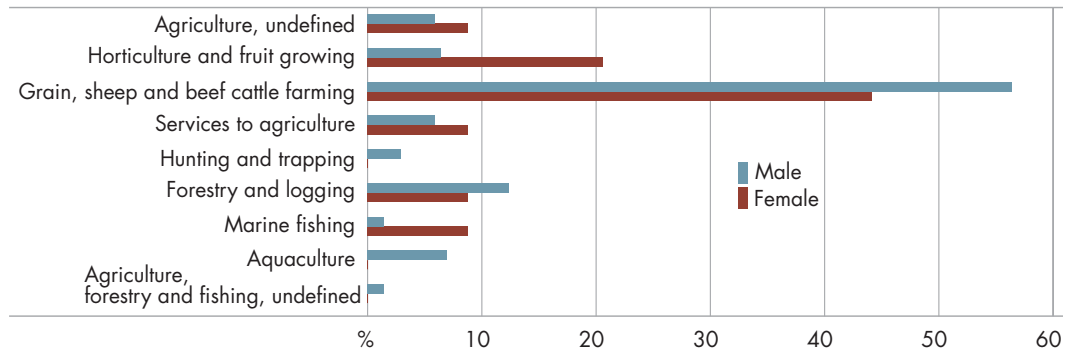


gender distribution

Most indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in the Northern Territory are male (86 per cent). This proportion is much smaller for the other industries, where only 54 per cent are male.

Most indigenous men working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry (56 per cent) work in the grain, sheep and beef cattle industry (figure 87). This proportion is smaller for women, with 44 per cent of indigenous women working in this industry. The proportion of indigenous women working in the horticulture and fruit growing industry is much larger than that of men — 20 per cent and 6 per cent respectively.

87 Share of indigenous employment in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by gender – Northern Territory



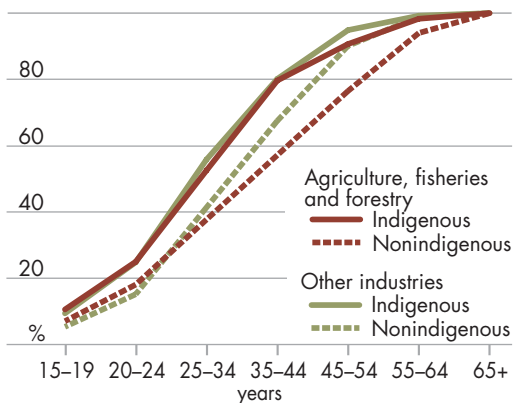
In the Northern Territory, there are no indigenous workers in the dairy, poultry, other livestock and other crop industries. Also, no indigenous women work in the hunting and aquaculture industries.

age distribution

In the Northern Territory, the age distribution of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry is almost the same as that of indigenous people working in other industries (figure 88). This pattern is quite similar to that at the national level.

Indigenous workers in the Northern Territory are younger than nonindigenous workers, while nonindigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry are older than nonindigenous workers in other industries.

88 Cumulative age distribution, by industry – Northern Territory

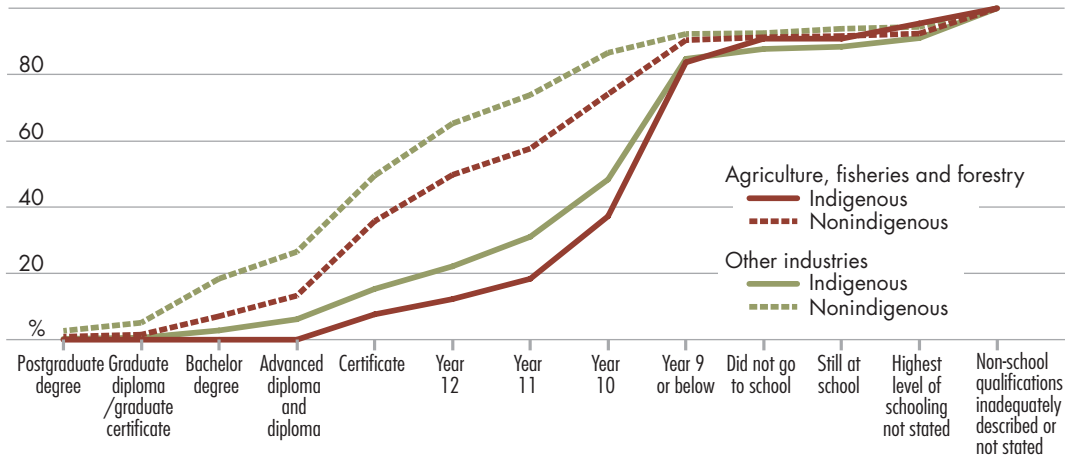


education and income

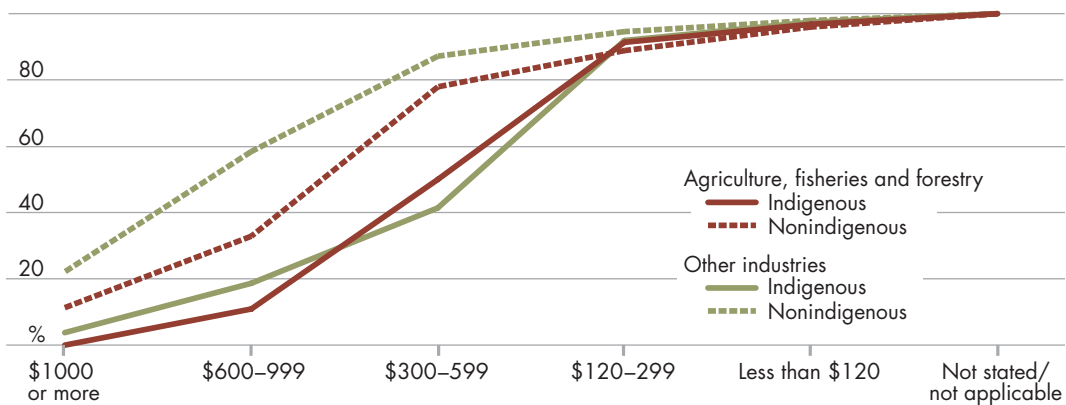
In the Northern Territory, indigenous people have a lower level of education than nonindigenous people (figure 89). Also, people employed in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries have a lower level of education than people employed in other industries. The difference in education level between industries is more pronounced than that at the national level, while the difference between indigenous and nonindigenous workers is similar to that at the national level.

Weekly income follows a similar pattern to that of education level (figure 90). Indigenous people have lower income than nonindigenous people and people working in agricultural, fisheries and forestry industries have lower income than workers in other industries. The differences in income between indigenous and nonindigenous workers and between industries are larger in the Northern Territory than at the national level.

89 Cumulative distribution of education level, by industry – Northern Territory



90 Cumulative distribution of weekly income, by industry – Northern Territory

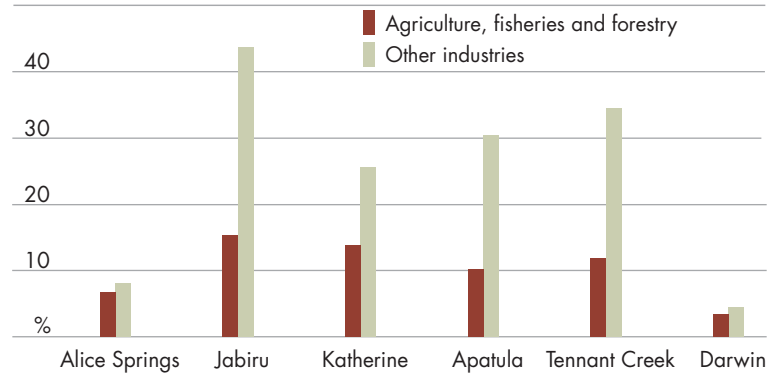


distribution by ATSI region

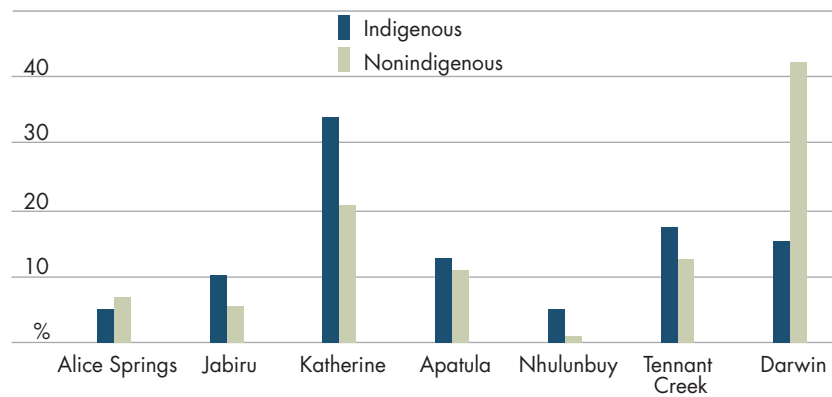
Indigenous people work in agricultural, fisheries and forestry industries in smaller proportions than in other industries in all ATSI regions in the Northern Territory (figure 91). This difference is larger in the more rural regions of Jabiru, Apatula, Tennant Creek and Katherine, while in the more metropolitan regions of Darwin and Alice Springs the difference is very small. There were not enough data to report on the Nhulunbuy region.

Over 35 per cent of indigenous people working in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries in the Northern Territory work in the region of Katherine (figure 92). Tennant Creek has the second largest proportion of these workers in the territory, with 17 per cent. The distribution of nonindigenous workers in these industries in the Northern Territory is quite different, with the largest proportion of workers in the Darwin region, and the second largest proportion in Katherine.

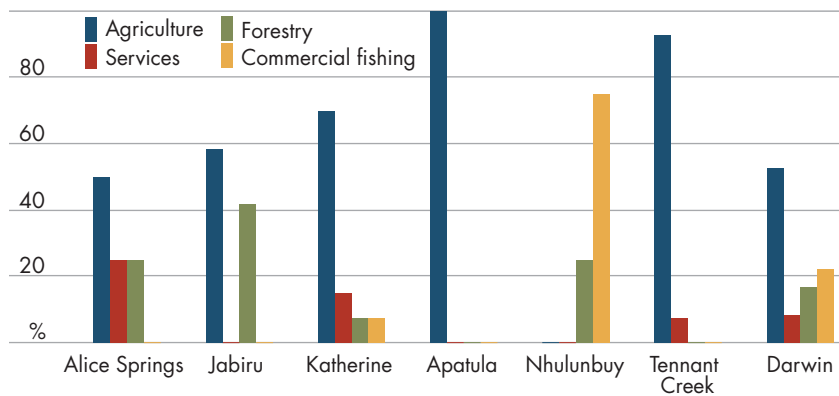
91 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – Northern Territory



92 Distribution of workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSC region – Northern Territory



93 Distribution of indigenous workers, by industry and ATSC region – Northern Territory



In Katherine, 70 per cent of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in agriculture, while 15 per cent work in agricultural services and half of the remaining 15 per cent in each of forestry and commercial fishing (figure 93).

In the Tennant Creek region, most of these workers are in agriculture (93 per cent), with the rest in agricultural services. In the Apatula region, all indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry work in agriculture. In the Darwin region, workers are more evenly spread across the industries but still the majority work in agricultural industries.

In Jabiru, most workers are in agriculture (58 per cent) but a large proportion (the remaining 42 per cent) work in the forestry and logging industry. In Nhulunbuy three-quarters of workers are in the commercial fishing industries, while the remaining quarter work in the forestry and logging industries; however, the number of workers in this region is very small.

In all ATSI regions in the Northern Territory except Darwin, the great majority of indigenous workers working in agricultural, fisheries and forestry industries have a weekly income of \$120–599 (figure 94). Workers in the Darwin region have the highest weekly income in the Northern Territory, with the majority having a weekly income of \$300 or more and one in ten having a weekly income of \$1000 or more.

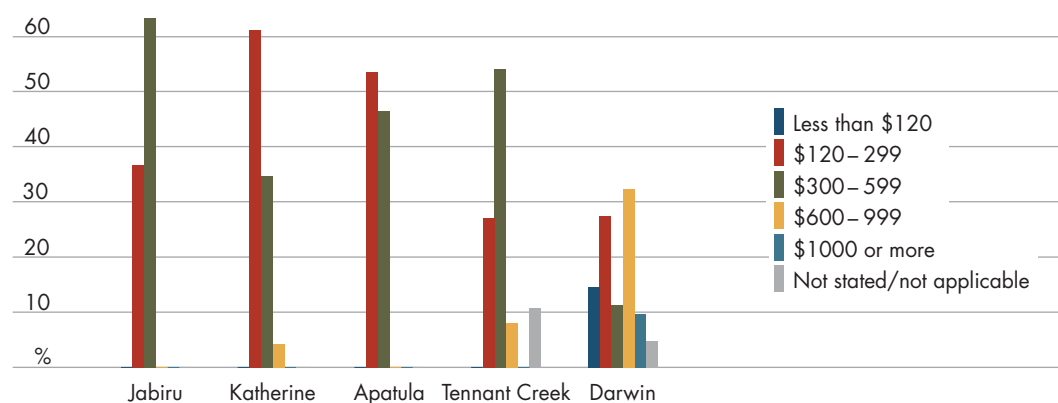
In the Katherine region, the majority of these workers (61 per cent) have a weekly income of \$120–299, while 35 per cent have a weekly income of \$300–599 and the remaining 4 per cent \$600–999.

In the Tennant Creek region, most workers have a weekly income of \$300–599. This region has the second largest proportion in the Northern Territory of this type of workers with weekly income of \$600–999.

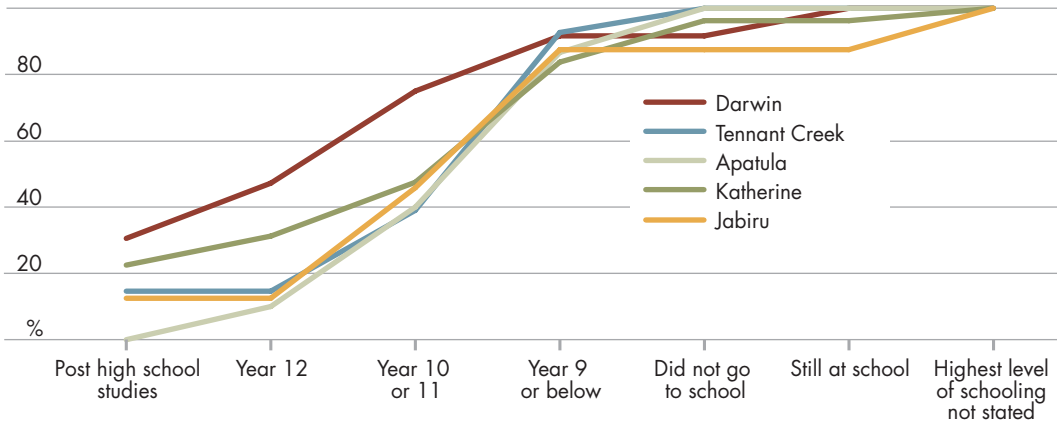
In the Jabiru region, 63 per cent have a weekly income of \$300–599, with the remainder having a weekly income of \$120–299. In the Apatula region the situation is reversed, the majority have a weekly income of \$120–299 and the rest a weekly income of \$300–599.

There were not enough data to report on weekly income for the Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy regions.

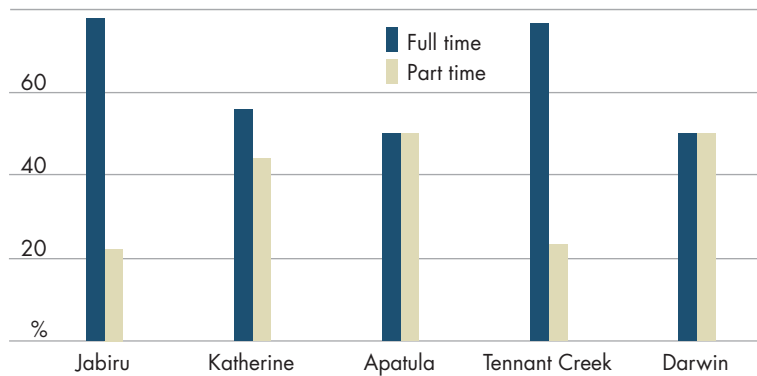
94 Distribution of weekly income of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSI region – Northern Territory



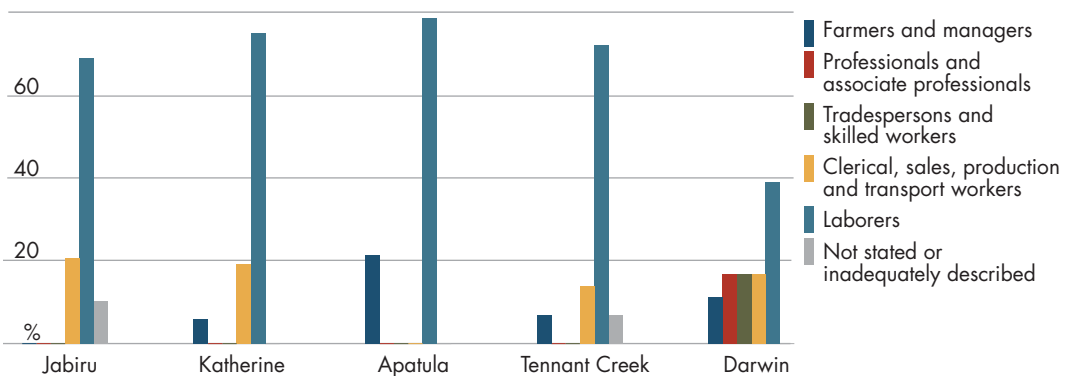
95 Cumulative distribution of education level of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSIC region – Northern Territory



96 Distribution of employment of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by ATSIC region – Northern Territory



97 Distribution of occupational classification of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, by industry – Northern Territory



Agricultural, fisheries and forestry workers in the Darwin region have higher education levels than workers in the same industries in other Northern Territory regions (figure 95). In the other regions the level of education has similar distributions, except in the Katherine region, where there is a higher proportion of workers with high school and post high school studies.

There were not enough data to report education level distributions in the Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy regions.

In the regions of Jabiru, Katherine and Tennant Creek, most indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries work full time (figure 96). In the regions of Apatula and Darwin, half of the indigenous workers are full time and half part time. There were not enough data to report on the Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy regions.

In all regions in the Northern Territory except Darwin, the large majority of indigenous workers in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries are laborers (figure 97). In the Darwin region, the largest proportion of these workers are laborers (39 per cent) but there the proportion of farmers or managers, professionals or associate professionals, trades persons or skilled workers and clerical, sales, production or transport workers are all above 10 per cent. There were not enough data to report the Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy regions.

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- Martin, D.F., Morphy, F., Sanders, W.G. and Taylor, J. 2002, *Making Sense of the Census: Observations of the 2001 Enumeration in Remote Aboriginal Australia*, Australian National University, Canberra.

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Australian Greenhouse Office	International Food Policy Research Institute
Australian Plague Locust Commission	ITS Global
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service	Land and Water Australia
Australian Wool Innovation Limited	Meat and Livestock Australia
Batelle Pacific NW	Melbourne Development Institute
Canegrowers	Minerals Council of Australia
Chevron Texaco	Ministerial Council on Energy
Commonwealth Grants Commission	National Land and Water Resources Audit
Commonwealth Secretariat, London	National Landcare Program
CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation)	National Oceans Office
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Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Department of Health and Ageing	New Zealand Ministry of Prime Minister and Cabinet
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Department of Primary Industries, Victoria	Pratt Water
Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet	Primary Industries, Victoria
Department of Transport and Regional Services	Rio Tinto
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