



Penrith City LGA's First Nations Communities



Penrith is transforming.

At the heart of this transformation are the communities that drive growth and innovation in our area.

Council values the unique status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the original owners and custodians of lands and waters, including the land and waters of Penrith.

We work together for a united Australia and City that respects this land of ours, that values the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage and provides justice and equity for all.



First Nations Residents

An important part of our broader community, our First Nations peoples have many unique strengths and challenges. When compared with the wider Penrith City LGA our First Nations communities:

- Have perceptions of quality of life that are on par with wider Penrith City LGA – ranking excellent, very good or good.
- Are more satisfied with quality of life measures – e.g personal relationships, standard of living, mental health, current achievements in life, physical health, future security and feeling a part of the community.
- Are more likely to walk around the neighbourhood using streets, footpaths, parks, ovals or bushlands.
- Are less likely to be able to raise \$2,000 if needed in an emergency.
- Were more likely to have experienced one episode of food shortage in the last 12 months.
- Are more likely to experience barriers to accessing services due to discrimination.

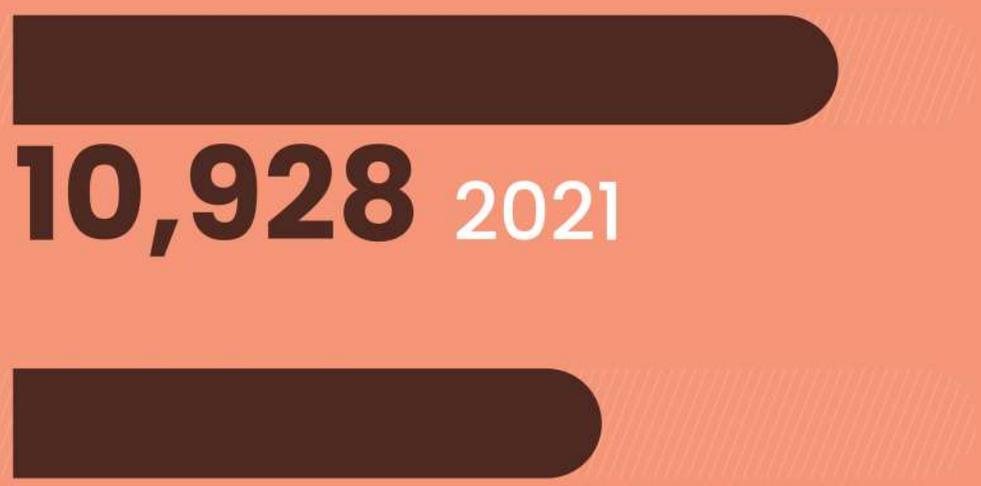


**Who are
our First
Nations
people?**



Population

More First Nations People are calling the Penrith City LGA Home



10,928 2021

7,740 2016

Since **2016**, the number of First Nations peoples has increased by **1.1%**, making up **5%** of Penrith's population.

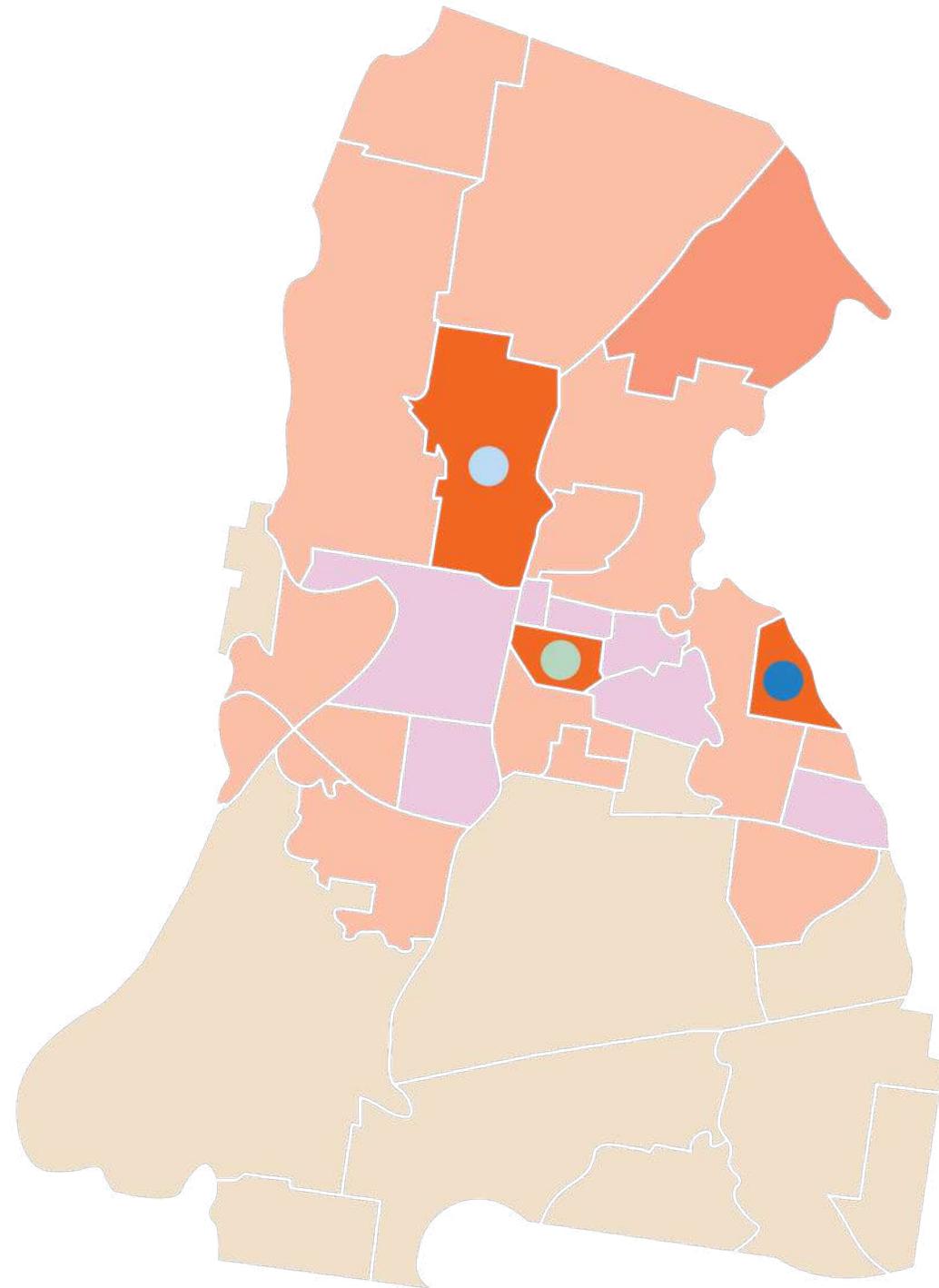


Where we live

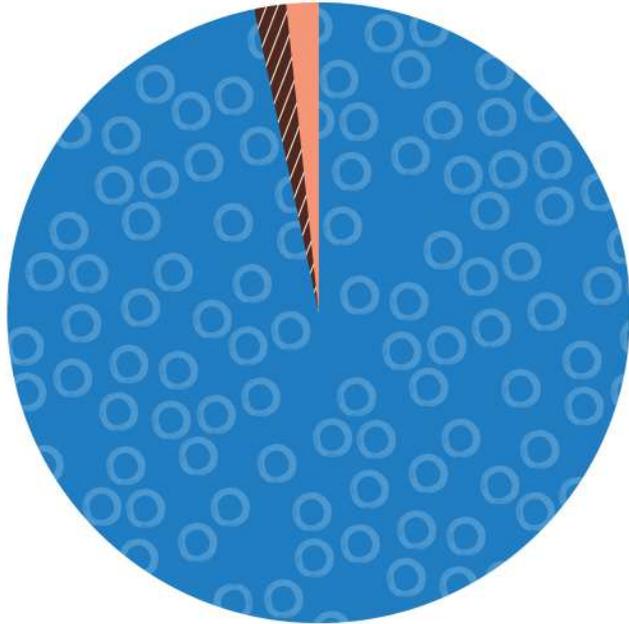
Suburbs with the largest proportion of First Nations people:

- 1** North St Marys
- 2** Cambridge Park
- 3** Cranebrook

First Nations % of suburb population



First Nations Status



**The majority of Penrith City LGA's
First Nations Peoples are Aboriginal**

- 97%** (10,578 people) - Aboriginal
- 1.7%** (184 people) - Torres Strait Islander
- 1.5%** (166 people) - both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

First Nations Language

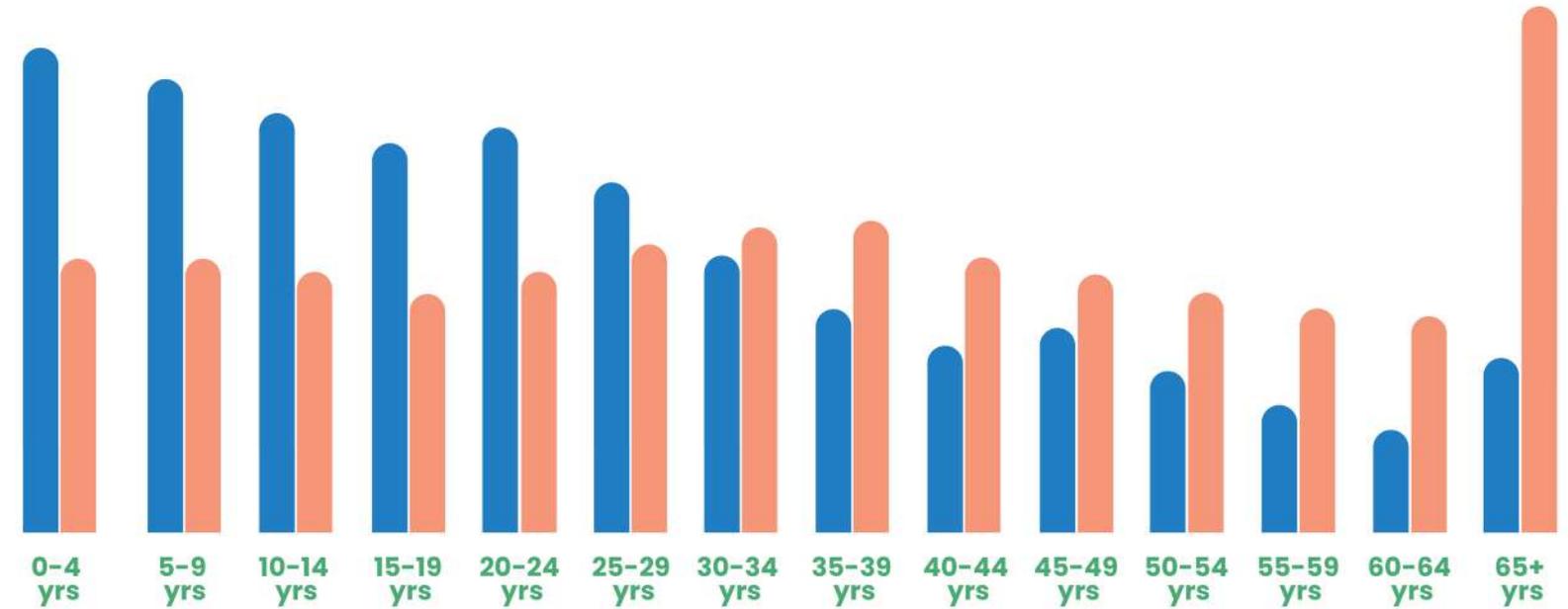
First Nations People in Penrith City LGA are speaking Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander languages at twice the rate as Greater Sydney.



Age

Penrith City LGA's First Nations population is significantly younger than the non-indigenous population.

The median age for First Nations people in Penrith LGA is 22, while the median age of the broader LGA is 35.



● First Nations Peoples in Penrith City LGA's

● Penrith City LGA's non-Indigenous population



Households

67% of our First Nations population live with their family, this is higher than the Penrith City LGA.

Within our First Nations population, there are more one-parent families but less lone-person households than the Penrith City LGA.

- First Nations Communities in Penrith City LGA
- Total population of Penrith City LGA

Couples with children
36%
35%

One parent families
29%
14%

Couples without children
17%
21%

Lone Person
13%
21%

Group Households
4%
3%

Other Families
2%
1%

includes any household of related individuals where a parent/child or couple relationship



Health



Since 2016, we have seen an increase in First Nations people in Penrith City LGA living with disability.

8.1%

First Nations peoples in Penrith City LGA

5.5%

total population of Penrith City LGA

First Nations people living in Penrith City LGA are also more likely to be living with at least one long-term health condition, compared to non-Indigenous residents.

33%

of the First Nations population

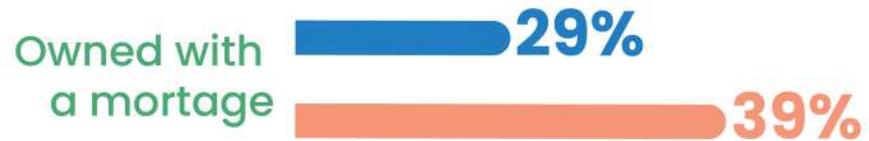
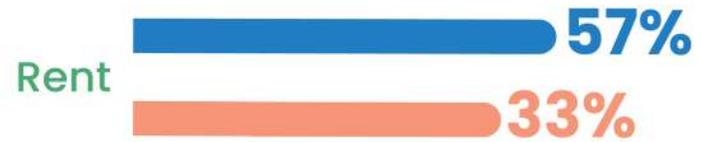
28%

of the wider Penrith City LGA population



**How do our
First Nations
people live?**

Housing tenure



● First Nations Peoples in Penrith City LGA

● Total population of Penrith City LGA

Of those who rented:

10% rented public housing

2% rented from a community housing provider

44% rented privately

Since 2016:

Public housing renting ↓ 3.7%

Community housing renting ↑ 1%

Private renting ↑ 7.6%



**What
do our
First
Nations
peoples
do?**

Education

Fewer First Nations students aged 15 years or older are completing Year 12

34% First Nations (Penrith City LGA) **48%** Penrith City LGA (total population)

↑ 4.4% since 2016

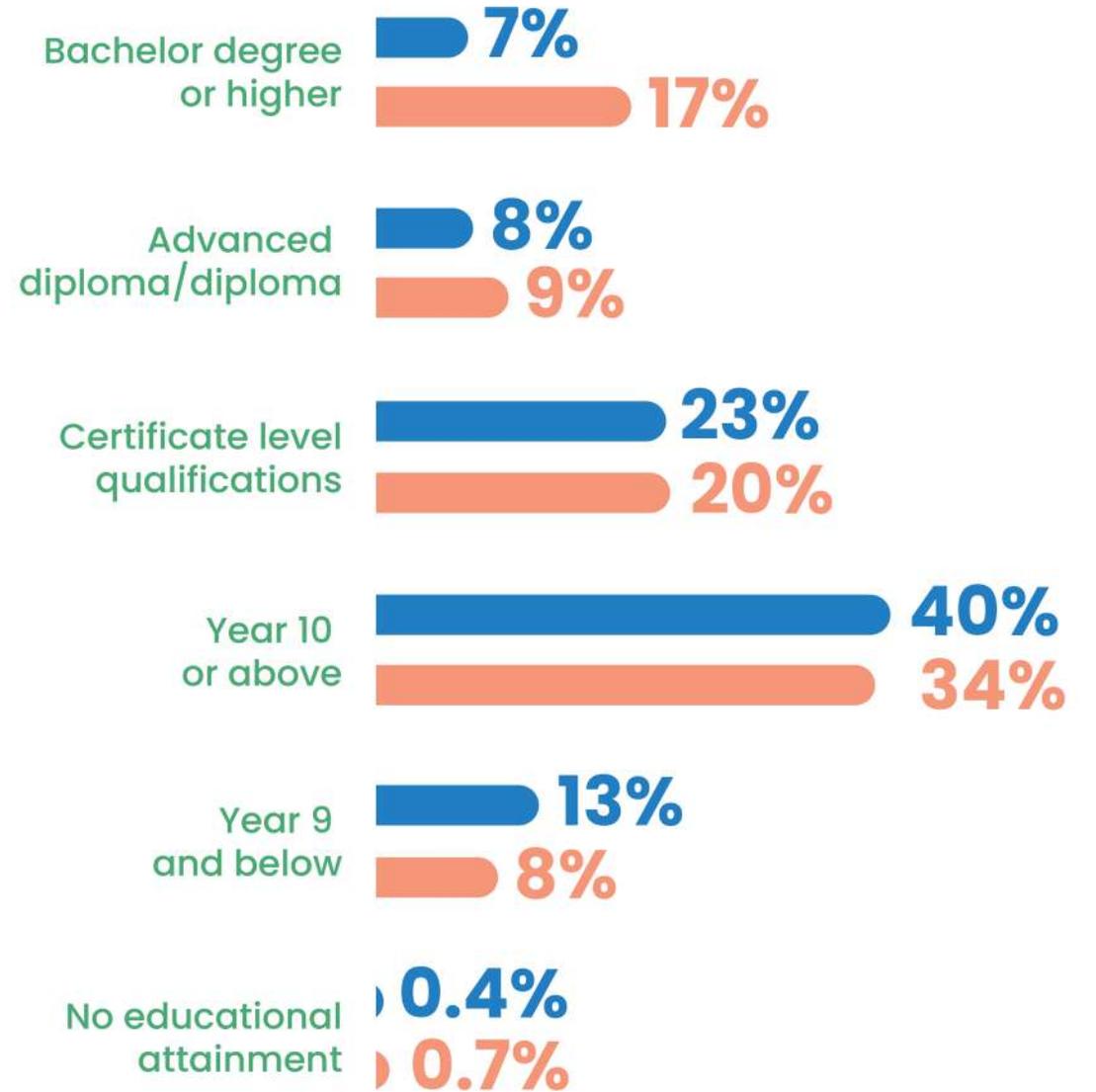
Rates of completion by First Nations students in Years 8-11 suggest they are leaving school earlier.



Education

Fewer of our First Nations people are gaining Bachelor degrees or Advanced Diplomas/Diplomas, when compared to Penrith City LGA's general population.

However, a higher proportion are gaining Certificate-level or secondary school qualifications when compared to Penrith City LGA's general population aged 15+



● First Nations Peoples in Penrith City LGA ● Penrith City LGA General Population

Employment

Participation in the labour force is similar to the overall population, but our First Nations communities have a higher unemployment rate.



Unemployment Rate

8.2%

First Nations Peoples in Penrith City LGA

4.6%

Total population of Penrith City LGA

Penrith City LGA's First Nations people in the labour force (4,266)

59.5%

Penrith City LGA's general population in the labour force

62.4%

The top three industries of employment for Penrith City LGA's First Nations peoples are:

1

16%

Construction



2

14%

Healthcare
and social
assistance



3

10%

Public
administration
and Safety



Income

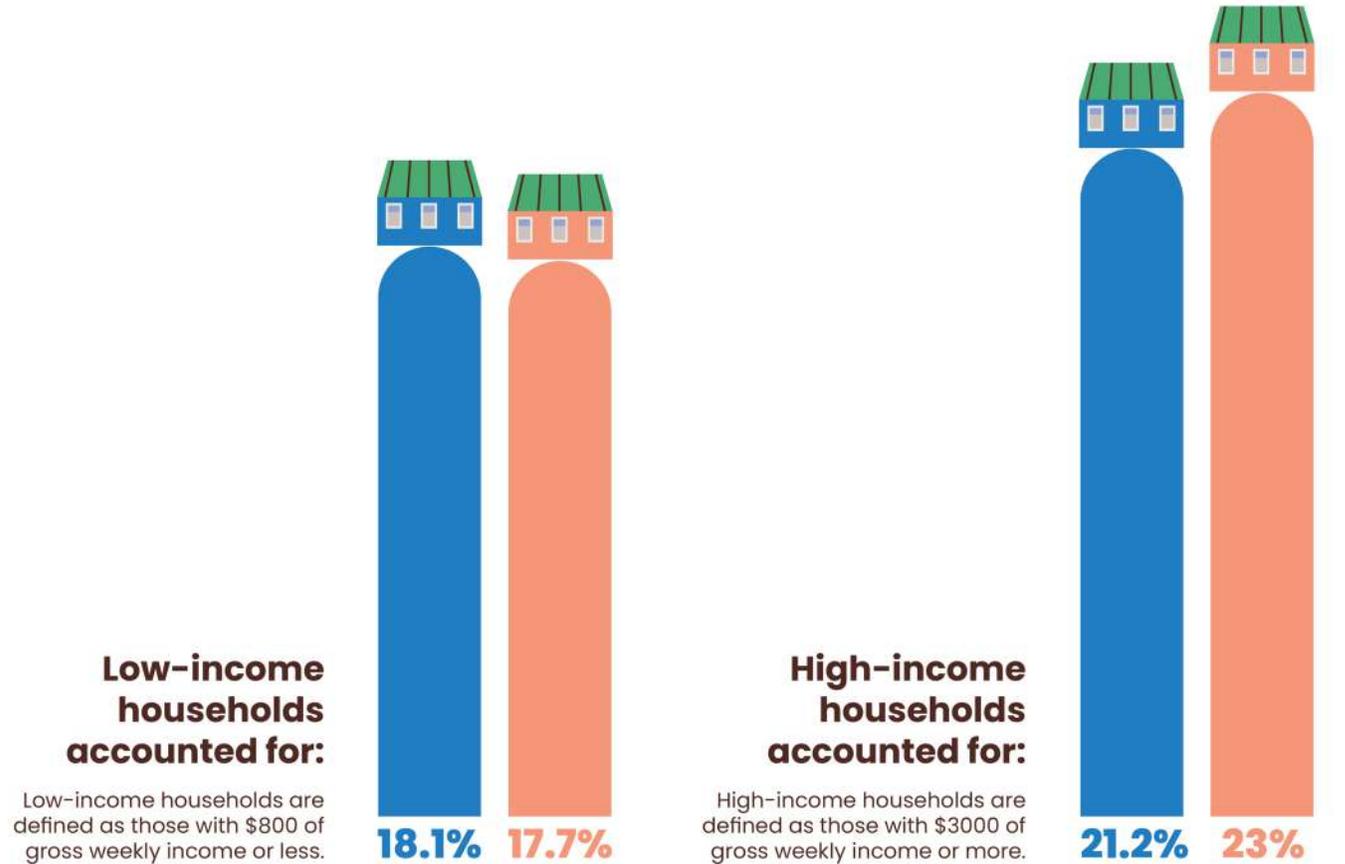
First Nations households earn similar incomes to the wider Penrith City LGA population, despite the higher unemployment rate in First Nations communities.



The median household income:

\$1,874 (First Nations)

\$1,866 (Penrith City LGA - General Population)



● First Nations Peoples in Penrith City LGA ● Total Penrith City LGA

**Our
First Nations
peoples:**

Account for
5%
of the
population.

Are young,
with a median
age of
22.

Are family
orientated
67%
are families.



More information

This community profile is part of a suite of resources. See Penrith City Council's [Community Profile](#) for more resources like this.

<https://profile.id.com.au/penrith/indigenous-profile>

Note: Much of the content of this report has been sourced from .id – informed decisions. Some of the .id sourced content is a derivative of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data.

Note: Unless otherwise stated, data from 2021.