

Indigenous Portrait:

Boulia Shire

A profile of the Indigenous community of Boulia Shire, compared with Queensland, from the 2016 and earlier Censuses.

Contents

Overview	Preface	2
	Snapshot	3
	Tracking changes	4
Population	Indigenous population and growth	5
	Life stages	6
	Age profile	7
	Population Indicators	8
Households	Household types and sizes	9
	Household Indicators	10
	Types of housing	11
	Housing costs and tenure	12
	Housing Indicators	13
	Internet @ home	14
Incomes	Personal income	15
	Household income	16
	Income Indicators	17
	Employment	18
	Workforce Gap Indicators	19
Education	Education participation by age	20
	Current education	21
	Education Attendance Indicators	22
	Schooling levels	23
	Education Achievement Indicators	24
	Tertiary qualifications	25
Disability	Higher Education Indicators	26
	Disability levels	27
	Disability care given	28
	Disability Indicators	29

Prepared for the Western Queensland Public Health Network

Boulia Shire is the Local Government Area in the 2016 Census.

Preface

This report uses data from the Census, held every five years by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), to paint a profile of the Indigenous population of Boulia Shire as it was in August 2016, and show how it had changed over the previous decade.

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

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

Who are Indigenous? Indigenous people, in this Portrait, means all people who, in completing the Census, responded that they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins, or both. Non-Indigenous people are those who said they did not have these origins. Note: the Census question asks people about their origins; it does not ask how they identify in their daily lives.

Are all Indigenous people counted? Not all Indigenous people completed the Census and identified their origins: 27.0% of Boulia's Census respondents said they had Indigenous origins, but another 16.7% did not answer this question. The ABS estimates that the net undercount rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples was 17.5% in 2016 (equivalent to 137,750 persons nationally). This is slightly higher than 2011 (17.2%). This means that, on average, the Indigenous population was about a fifth larger than counted. However, despite such omissions, the Census is a vital source of information about Indigenous Australians.

National trends Nationally, the number of people with Indigenous origins counted in the Census rose by a fifth (21%) between 2011 and 2016. Almost three-quarters of the increase was from births; the rest was caused by more people identifying Indigenous origins than previously.

Sources of data The data for this report are drawn from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (Indigenous) Profiles and Community Profiles published by the ABS from the 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses. Data in this portrait for 2011 and 2006 censuses have been produced using the 2016 boundary regardless of changes to previous LGA or other geographical classifications over time.

A warning about accuracy Small Census numbers are not precise – they are randomised by the ABS to protect privacy. In this Portrait, numbers less than 5 are reported as 'a few'. Note: difference and changes shown in this Portrait are rounded to the nearest significant figure but are calculated from the unrounded data, so small anomalies are possible in the text.

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Snapshot: Boulia Shire, 2016

- ⌘ In the 2016 Census, 115 of the 426 residents (27.0%) counted in Boulia Shire said that they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins, or both. Of these, 94% were Aboriginal.
 - ⌘ Between 2011 and 2016, the counted Indigenous population fell by 40%, from 192; the overall population of Boulia Shire fell by 11%.
 - ⌘ About 3% of the Indigenous population were under 5 in 2016. This growth from births since 2011 was not enough to offset the population decline in other age groups.
- ⌘ The Indigenous community in Boulia is significantly younger than the non-Indigenous population, with a median age of 24 vs 38 years.
 - ⌘ The proportion under 18 years old was higher: 42% compared with 11% for non-Indigenous.
 - ⌘ The proportion aged 65+ was lower: 5% compared with 11% for non-Indigenous.
- ⌘ Indigenous households had an average of 4.1 residents, which was larger than non-Indigenous households (2.3) in the Shire.
 - ⌘ Over four in ten Indigenous households were one parent families.
 - ⌘ Almost two in ten Indigenous households were couples with children.
 - ⌘ 24% of the Indigenous households were single persons (vs 46% of non-Indigenous households).
- ⌘ Indigenous households most commonly lived in rented dwellings (68%), with 19% in fully owned dwellings.
 - ⌘ In all, 19% of Indigenous households in Boulia Shire were home-owners (with or without a mortgage), which was up by 8% since 2011.
- ⌘ The median income of Indigenous adults in Boulia Shire was about \$395 a week, which was 47% that of all adult residents (\$840).
 - ⌘ The median income gap had increased by 2% since 2011, after having decreased by 12% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ 46% of Indigenous adults were in the labour force, compared with 88% of non-Indigenous adults.
 - ⌘ 39% of the Indigenous workforce were unemployed, compared with none of the non-Indigenous workforce.
- ⌘ Almost four in ten Indigenous residents (43 people) were attending an educational institution.
 - ⌘ 9 Indigenous people had completed Year 12, which was 40% less than in 2011 and 50% more than in 2006.
 - ⌘ Compared with non-Indigenous residents of the same age, there were:
 - 80% more Indigenous people aged 15–19 year olds in education;
 - 36% fewer Indigenous people aged 0–4 year olds in education.
 - ⌘ 13% of Indigenous adults had some type of post-school qualification, compared with 57% of non-Indigenous adults in the Shire (4% had a degree or higher, compared with 20%).
- ⌘ A few Indigenous people (2.6% of the Indigenous population) reported that they had a severe or profound disability.
 - ⌘ Among non-Indigenous residents, the disability rate was 3%. The numbers with disabilities was very small and so not precise.
 - ⌘ 4% of Indigenous adults (aged 15+) gave assistance to a person with a severe disability.
- ⌘ 30% of Boulia's Indigenous households had an internet connection, which was 7% lower than in 2011.

Tracking changes in Bouliā Shire

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

Indicator	Bouliā Shire, 2016			Change in Indigenous rate	
	Indigenous	non-Indigenous	Gap in 2016	last 5 years 2011–2016	last decade 2006–2016
				up 8%	dn 1%
home ownership % of households owning/buying their home	19%	40%	-21%	up 8%	dn 1%
personal income* median weekly income of adults (15+)	\$395	\$840	-53%	up 17%	up 75%
household income median weekly income of households	\$900	\$1,408	-36%	dn 4%	up 64%
workforce participation % of adults 15+ in labour force	46%	88%	-43%	up 4%	dn 8%
unemployment % of unemployed in workforce	39%	0%	+39%	up 19%	up 2%
employment employed adults as % of population	19%	79%	-60%	dn 1%	same
pre-school % of infants under 5 in education	0%	36%	-36%	same	same
teenage education % of 15–19 year-olds in education	80%	0%	+80%	up 80%	up 80%
children at school % of 5–14 year olds in education	100%	100%	same	up 24%	up 29%
Year 12 completion % of adults (15+) who have left school	13%	44%	-31%	same	up 3%
average schooling average school Year completed	9.2 yrs	10.7 yrs	-160%	0.4 yrs	1.1 yrs
tertiary qualifications % of adults 15+ with a post-school qualification	13%	44%	-32%	dn 6%	dn 10%
degree % of adults 15+ with a degree or higher qualification	4%	8%	-4%	up 4%	up 4%
postgrad % of adults 15+ with a postgraduate qualification	0%	2%	-2%	same	same
disability* % of people with a severe, long-term disability	2.6%	1.9%	+0.7%	dn 1%	dn 1%

* Personal income and disability data compare Indigenous rates with those of the whole population in Bouliā Shire.

Indigenous population and growth

In the 2016 Census, Boulia's Indigenous population was counted as 115 people, of whom 108 identified as Aboriginal and a few as both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

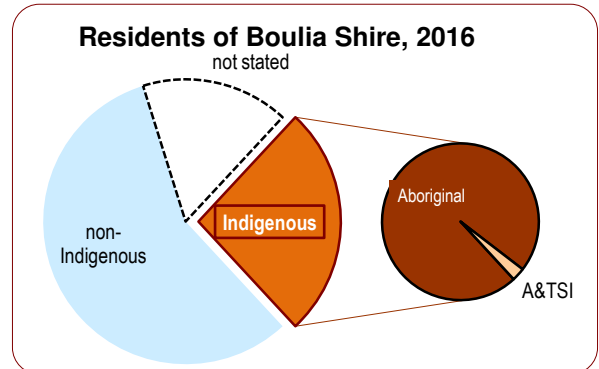
- ⌘ Indigenous people comprised 27.0% of Boulia's population, compared with 4.0% in Queensland.

16.7% of Boulia Shire people did not say whether they had Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origins.

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

There were 121 males per 100 females among non-Indigenous people.

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



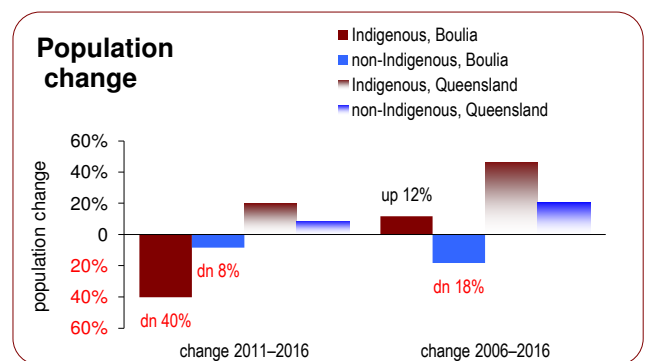
Between 2011 and 2016, the counted Indigenous population in Boulia Shire fell by 40% (by 77) from 192; in total, Boulia's population fell by 11%.

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

- ⌘ Between 2006 and 2016, Boulia's Indigenous population rose by 12% (from 103 in 2006).

Boulia's non-Indigenous population fell by 18% over the decade.

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



On Census night 2016, 97 Indigenous residents of Boulia were at home (84%), and 15 were staying away from home (13%). Offsetting those away were a few Indigenous visitors staying in Boulia Shire that night.

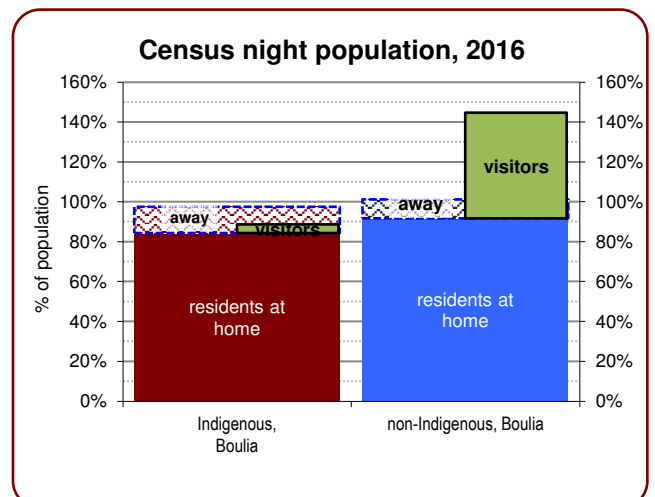
- ⌘ There were no visitors from the same locality (eg. overnighing with neighbours).

There were a few visitors from the other places.

- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous residents away from home on Census night was 11% higher than in 2011.

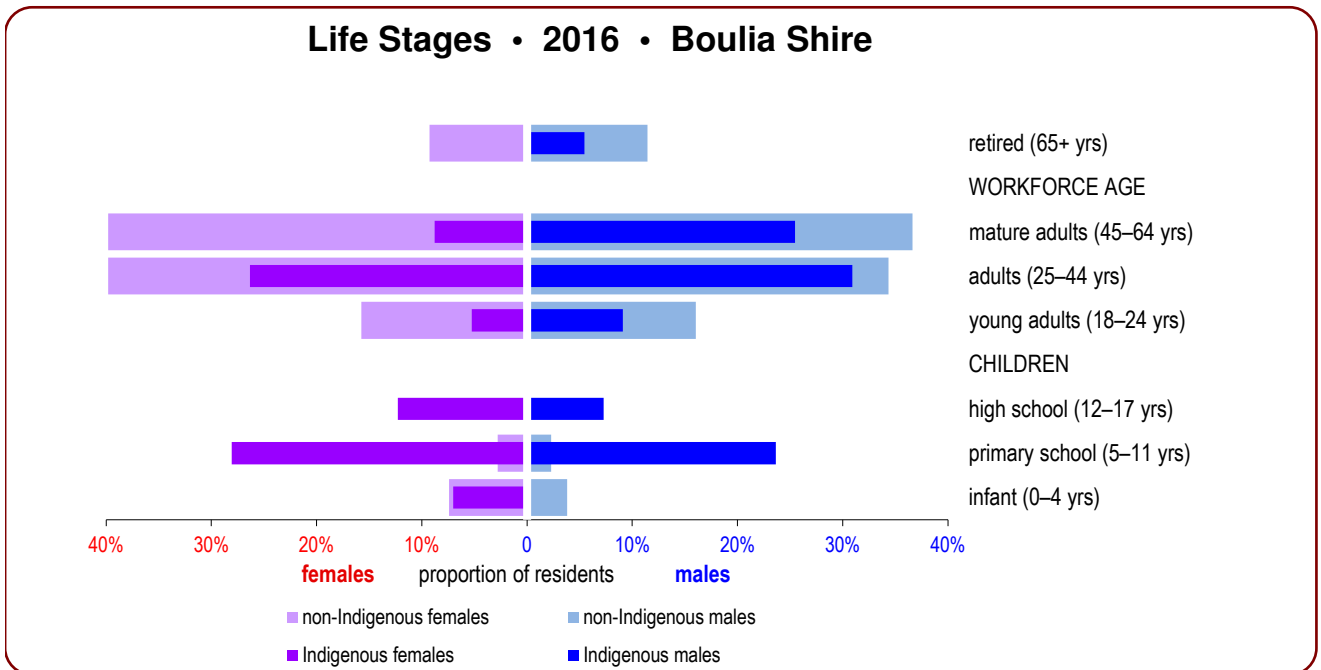
The proportion away from home was 4% higher than for non-Indigenous residents here; it was 7% higher than for Indigenous residents of Queensland.

- ⌘ There were 12 fewer Indigenous visitors than in 2011, when there were 17, equal to 9% of the Indigenous population.



Life stages

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



In Boulia's Indigenous population in 2016:

⌘ 63 people (55% or over five in ten) were adults aged 18–64.

- 10 (or 9%) were aged 18–24
- 38 (or 33%) were aged 25–44
- 15 (or 13%) were aged 45–64

The number of adults aged 18–64 was down 40% from 2011; and up 11% from 2006.

⌘ 48 Indigenous residents (42% or four in ten) were children under 18.

- a few (or 3%) were under five
- 29 (or 25%) were aged 5–11
- 16 (or 14%) were aged 12–17

The number of children was down 41% since 2011; and up 9% since 2006.

⌘ A few of Indigenous residents were aged 65+ years (5% of the total).

The number aged 65+ had not changed since 2011; there were none in 2006.

The proportion aged 18–64 among Indigenous people was 23% lower than for non-Indigenous (78%).

2% more of the Indigenous population were adults (25–44 yrs), and 18% fewer were mature adults (45–64 yrs), compared with the non-Indigenous population of the Shire.

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

The proportion of Indigenous children in Boulia was 31% higher than the average for non-Indigenous people.

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

11% of non-Indigenous people in Boulia were aged 65+.

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

Age profile

The Indigenous population of Boulia Shire has an age profile that is significantly younger than the non-Indigenous population, with a much lower median age (24 vs 38 years).

For Boulia's Indigenous population in 2016:

- ⌘ The average age was 28 years in 2016, with half the population aged under 24 years (the median age).
The largest 5-year age groups were 5–9 years (17%), 10–14 years (17%) and 35–39 years (11%).
- ⌘ The median age was 2 years lower than in 2011 and 2 years higher than in 2006.

Proportionally, the biggest increases since 2011 were of 10–14 year olds (46% more), 20–24 year olds (unchanged) and 65+ year olds (unchanged).

- ⌘ A few Indigenous people (5%) were aged 65+ years, compared with 11% of non-Indigenous residents.
- ⌘ There were only males among those aged 50–54 years, 60–64 years, 65+ years.

The average age was 12 years younger than for the non-Indigenous residents; the median age was 14 years younger.

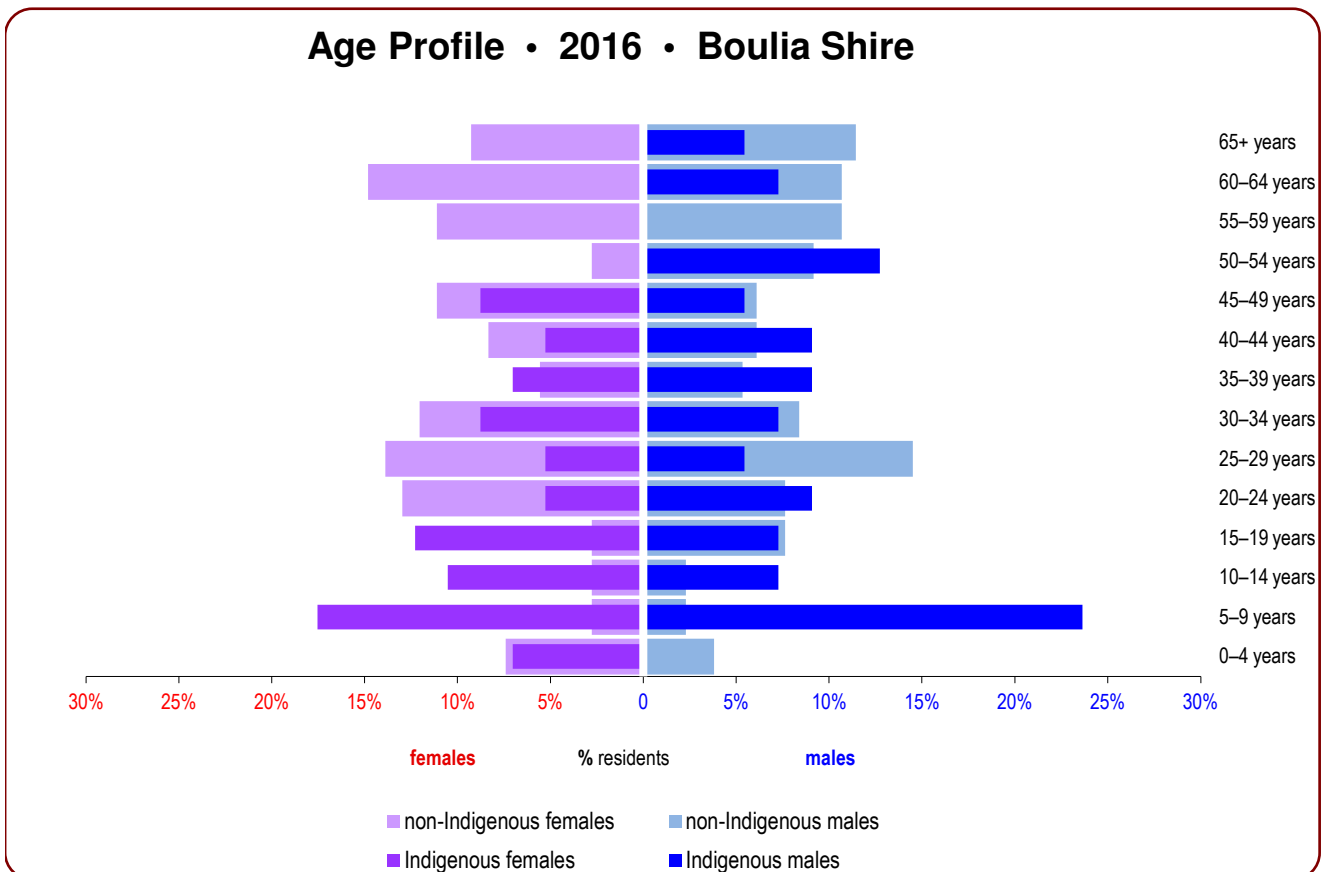
Non-Indigenous population: about 4% were 5–9 years, 2% were 10–14 years and 5% were 35–39 years.

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

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

The number aged 65+ was similar to in 2011; the percentage of people this age was up by 2% since 2011, when it was 3%.

There were many more females than males among those aged 15–19 years, and those aged 45–49 years and 10–14 years.



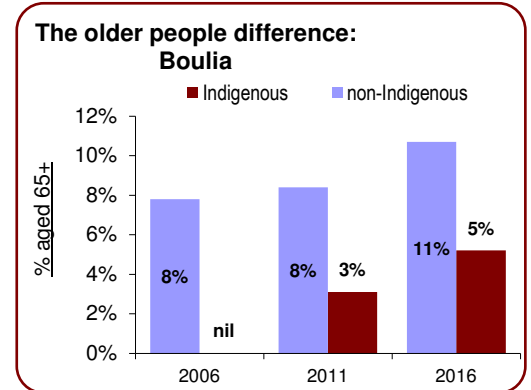
Population Indicators

% aged 65+ in population

The older people difference

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 5.2% of Boulia's Indigenous residents were aged 65 or over, compared with 10.7% of non-Indigenous residents. The older people difference was -6%.
- ⌘ The older people difference had changed little since 2011, after having decreased by 3% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The older people difference in Queensland was -11%. It had widened by 1% since 2011 and widened by 1% over the previous five years.

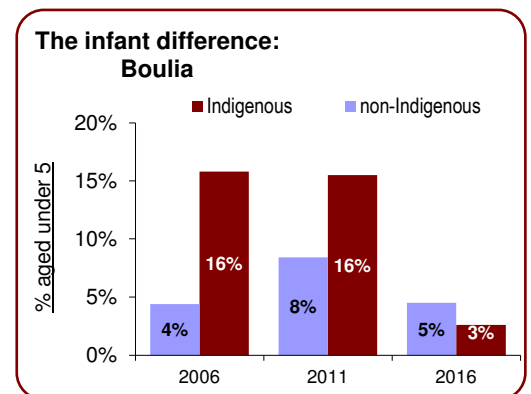


The infant difference

% aged under 5 in population

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 2.6% of Boulia's Indigenous residents were infants, compared with 5% of non-Indigenous residents. The infant difference was -2%.
- ⌘ The infant difference had reversed since 2011, after having closed by 4% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The infant difference in Queensland was +6%. It had closed by 1% since 2011 and changed little over 2006 to 2011.

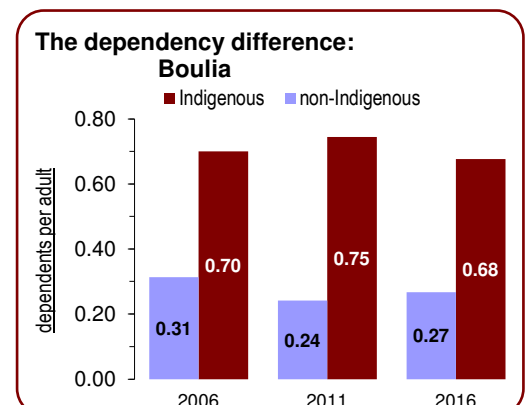


The dependency difference

ratio of dependents to working age adults

The dependency ratio is the average number of people of dependent age (under 15 or 65+) for each person of working age. The national average is 0.5 dependents per adult. A higher ratio means each person of working age has more dependents to support, on average.

- ⌘ In 2016, Boulia's Indigenous community had a dependency ratio of 0.68, compared with 0.27 for the non-Indigenous community. The Indigenous dependency ratio was 0.41 higher.
- ⌘ The dependency difference had decreased by 0.09 since 2011, after having widened by 0.11 over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The dependency difference in Queensland was 0.14 and had closed by 0.06 since 2011. It had closed by 0.04 over 2006 to 2011.



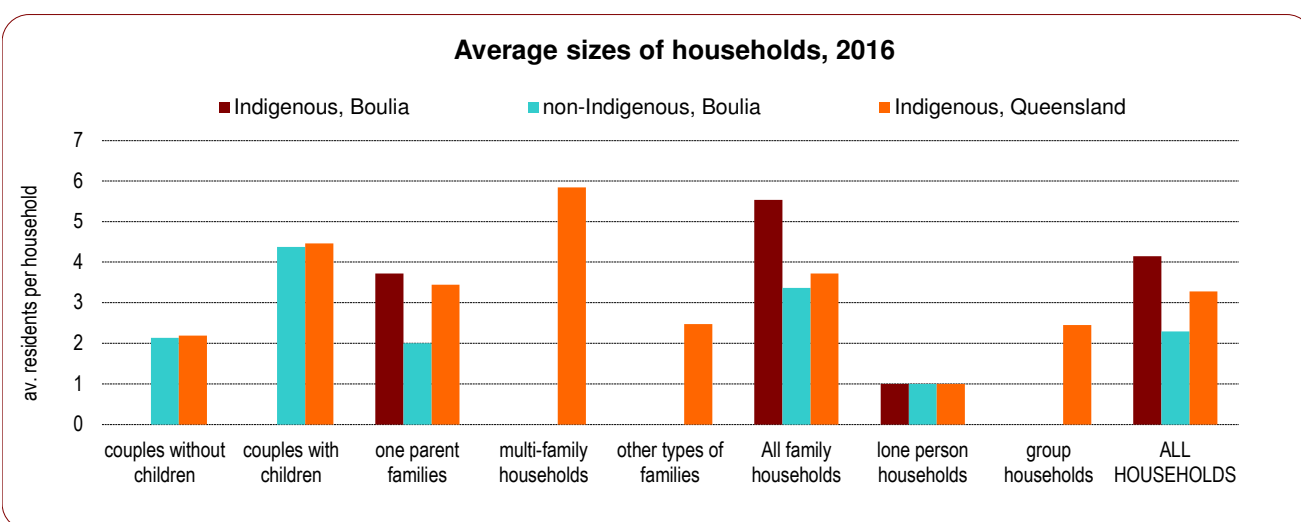
Household types and sizes

In 2016, the 115 Indigenous residents of Boulia Shire were living in 37 households, 31% less than in 2011

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

- ⌘ Over four in ten were one parent families (17 households, or 46%). 43% higher than non-Indigenous here
- ⌘ Almost two in ten were couples with children (7 households, or 19%). 2% more than non-Indigenous
- ⌘ A few were couples without children (6 households, or 16%). 16% less than non-Indigenous
- ⌘ One in four were one-person households (9 households, or 24%). 22% less than non-Indigenous
- ⌘ There were no multi-family households, and no other types of households.

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



Boulia's Indigenous households had an average of 4.1 residents in 2016, which was 0.6 larger than in 2011, and similar to 2006.

- ⌘ Indigenous households here were 0.9 persons larger than in Queensland, which averaged 3.3 residents.
- ⌘ The average size of non-Indigenous households in the Shire was 2.3 residents; Indigenous households were 81% larger, on average.
- ⌘ The larger average size of Indigenous households was partly due to lower proportions of people living alone.
- ⌘ Indigenous couple families here were too few for analysis. Indigenous families in Queensland averaged 2.5 children.
- ⌘ Indigenous one-parent families here averaged 2.7 children compared with 2.4 in Queensland (non-Indigenous one-parent families here had 1.0).
- ⌘ At an average size of 4.1 persons, the 37 Indigenous households had some 150 members, but only 84 Indigenous people were counted in these households.

The average size of the State's Indigenous households was down by 0.1 since 2011.

The average size of non-Indigenous households rose by 0.2 from 2011.

Indigenous households: 24% lone person; Other households: 46%.

The average size of Indigenous nuclear families was 5.4 in 2011 and 4.6 in 2006.

There were no one-parent families in 2011. There were no one-parent families in 2006.

This suggests that some 69 people in Boulia's Indigenous households (over four in ten) did not identify as Indigenous in the Census.

Household Indicators

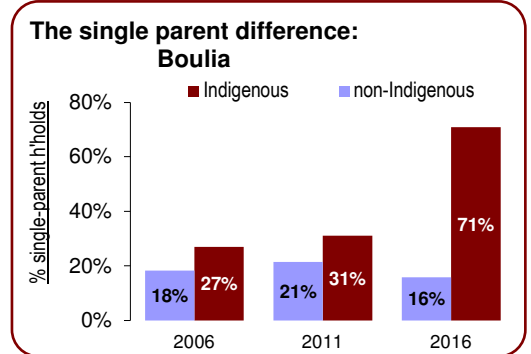
Note: these indicators are based on a small number of households so are not precise.

The single parent difference

% of families with children having one parent

Single parent families often have low incomes because it is difficult for the parent to work without adequate child care and support. High proportions of one-parent families can indicate a higher need for support services.

- ⌘ In 2016, 71% of Boulia's Indigenous family households with children had one parent, compared with 16% of non-Indigenous families. The difference was +55%.
- ⌘ The single parent difference had increased by 45% since 2011, after having increased by 1% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The single parent difference in Queensland was +19%. It had changed little since 2011 after having increased by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

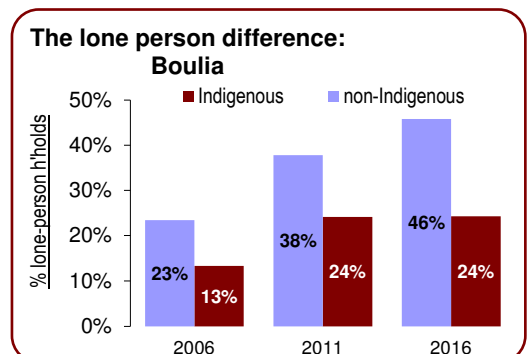


The lone person difference

% of households with one person

Living alone is less common for Indigenous people than for others, so most communities have a large lone person difference. The difference is influenced locally by the availability of small dwellings.

- ⌘ In 2016, 24% of Boulia's Indigenous households were lone persons, compared with 46% of non-Indigenous households. The lone person difference was -22%.
- ⌘ The lone person difference had widened by 8% since 2011, after having widened by 4% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The lone person difference in Queensland was -10% and had closed by 1% since 2011. It had changed little between 2006 and 2011.

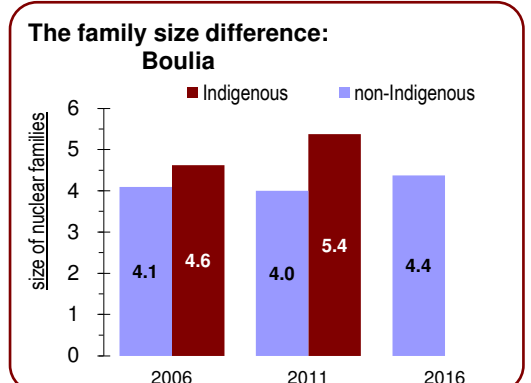


The family size difference

average size of two-parent families

The family size difference is the gap between the average sizes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous 'nuclear families' (couples with children). Larger families have to spread their income among more members, so living standards tend to be lower.

- ⌘ In 2016, the average size of Boulia's Indigenous nuclear families was not able to be calculated, due to small numbers. The average size of non-Indigenous families was 4.4 persons. The gap was not relevant.
- ⌘ The family size difference had been 1.4 in 2011, after having widened by 0.9 over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The family size difference in Queensland was 0.5 children per family, and had decreased by 0.1 since 2011. It had increased by 0.1 from 2006 to 2011.



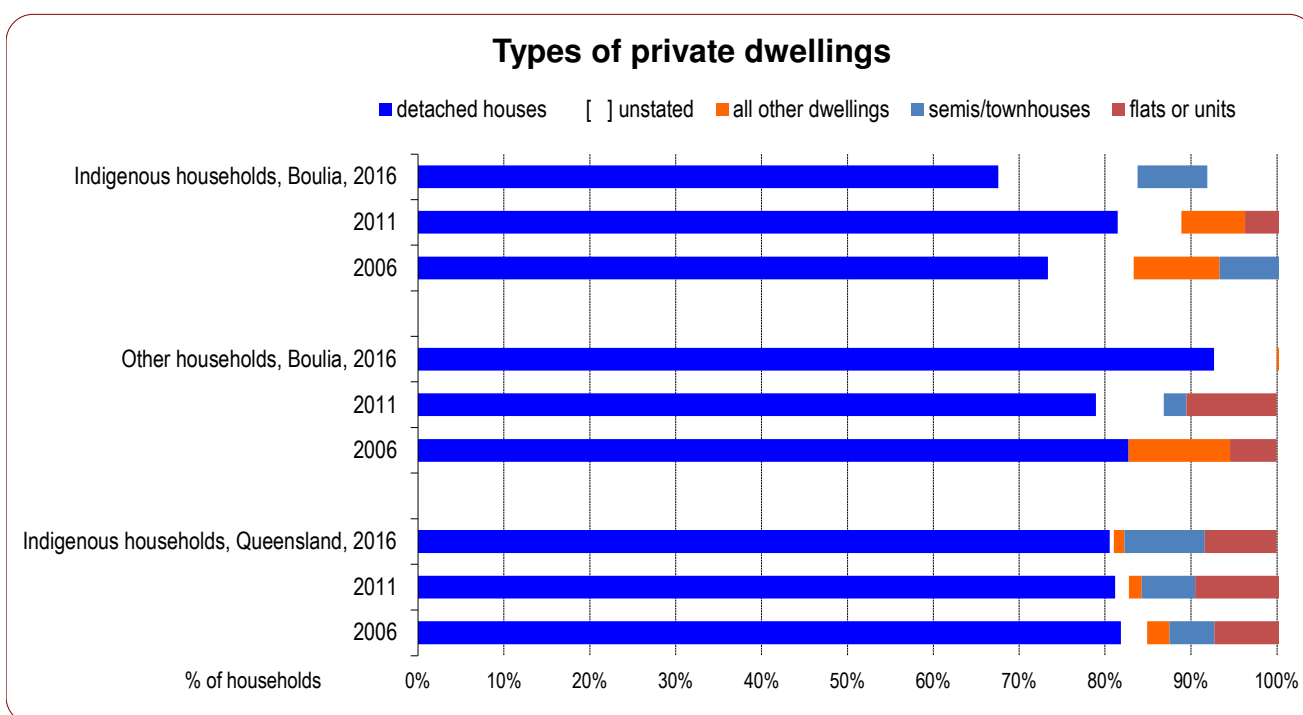
Types of housing

In 2016, most Indigenous households in Boulia Shire (68%) were living in detached houses, with 8% living in semis/townhouses.

- ⌘ Compared with other households in Boulia, 8% more Indigenous households lived in semis/townhouses, and 25% fewer lived in detached houses.
- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households living in detached houses in Boulia was down by 14% since 2011, and was 6% lower than in 2006.

The proportion in improvised shacks was similar to that of Indigenous households in Queensland; the proportion in detached houses was 13% lower.

The proportion of non-Indigenous households in detached houses in Boulia was up by 14% since 2011 and up by 10% since 2006.



No Indigenous people in the Shire were counted living in institutional accommodation on Census night (eg. nursing homes, hospitals, boarding houses, correctional centres, barracks or boarding schools).

- ⌘ There were no Indigenous people living in institutional accommodation in Boulia in 2011, and a few in 2006.
- ⌘ Note: very small numbers are randomly altered by the ABS to protect privacy, so are not precise.

In 2016, there were 35 people living in institutional accommodation in Boulia Shire; 13% of the non-Indigenous population lived in institutions.

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

- ⌘ This was down by 9 since 2011.

There were no non-Indigenous people reported in improvised accommodation in Boulia in 2016.

Housing costs and tenure

In 2016, Indigenous households in Boulia Shire most commonly lived in dwellings that were rented (68% of the households). Another 19% lived in dwellings that were fully owned.

⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households that rented, 68%, was 24% higher than the rate for other households here.

The proportion living in rented dwellings was down by 8% since 2011, and was 12% lower than in 2006.

The median weekly rent paid by Indigenous households was \$98. It was \$80 in 2011 and \$60 in 2006.

⌘ No dwellings were being bought by Indigenous households in 2016.

The proportion living in mortgaged dwellings was down by 6% since 2011; and 10% lower than in 2006.

⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households in fully owned dwellings (19%) was 10% lower than for non-Indigenous households.

The proportion in fully owned dwellings was up by 13% since 2011; and 9% higher than in 2006.

Among Indigenous households, the proportion renting in Boulia was 6% higher than the rate in Queensland.

44% of Other households in Boulia were renting, 2% lower than in 2011, and 8% lower than in 2006.

The median weekly rent paid by Other households in Boulia was \$21. It was \$7 in 2011 and \$16 in 2006.

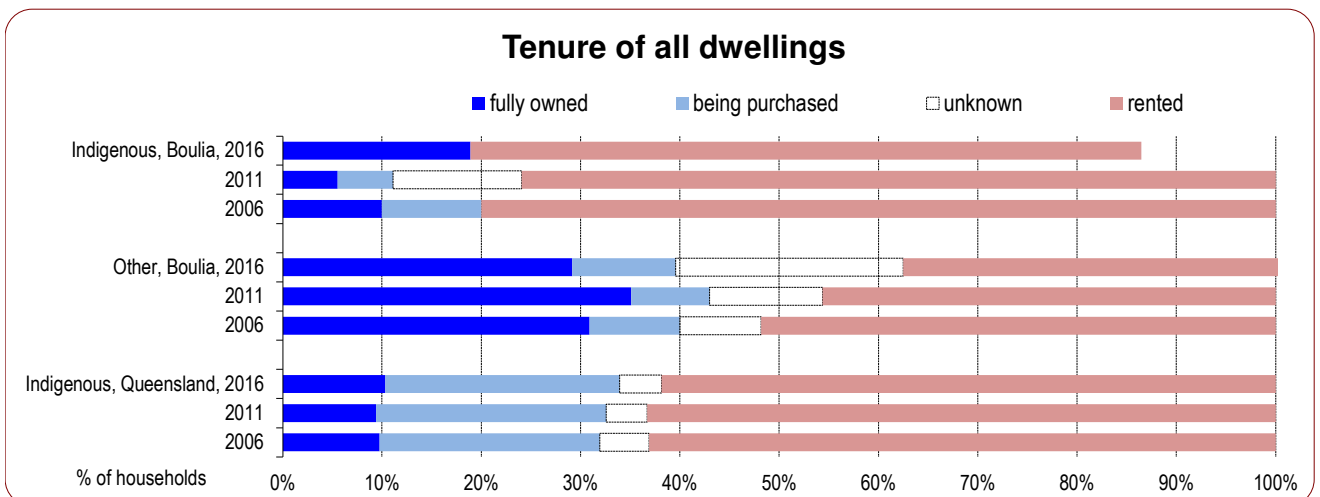
In Queensland, 24% of Indigenous households were home-buyers with a mortgage.

10% of the Other households in Boulia had a mortgage, up by 3% since 2011, and up by 1% since 2006.

The median mortgage paid by Other households in Boulia was \$906. It was \$480 in 2011 and \$795 in 2006.

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

The proportion of Other households in fully owned dwellings in Boulia was down by 6% since 2011, and down by 2% since 2006.



Of 25 Indigenous rental households, 64% were managed by public housing and 24% were managed by community housing.

⌘ 16 Indigenous households lived in public housing (50% of all households).

This number had risen by 4 since 2011.

None of the Other households lived in public housing. Indigenous households occupied 94% of public housing.

The number of Other households in public housing in Boulia was little changed.

Housing Indicators

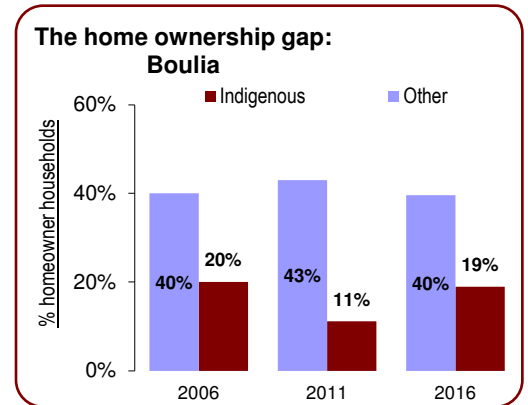
Note: these indicators are based on a small number of households so are not precise.

The home ownership gap

% of households owning/buying their home

Ownership of a home is the main way that most Australians accumulate wealth and ensure secure accommodation.

- ⌘ In 2016, 19% of Indigenous households in Boulia Shire were either buying or owned their home, compared with 40% of Other households, a home ownership gap of -21%.
- ⌘ The gap had closed by 11% since 2011, after having widened by 12% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The home ownership gap in Queensland was -30% and had closed by 2% since 2011. It had closed by 3% between 2006 and 2011.

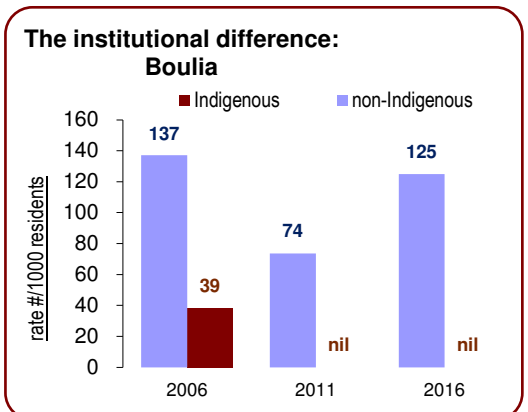


The institutional difference

rate per 1000 of residents in non-private dwellings

Differences in proportion of people in institutional accommodation will reflect the nature and extent of these institutions in the area – they might include hotels, boarding houses, nursing homes, correctional centres, barracks or hospitals.

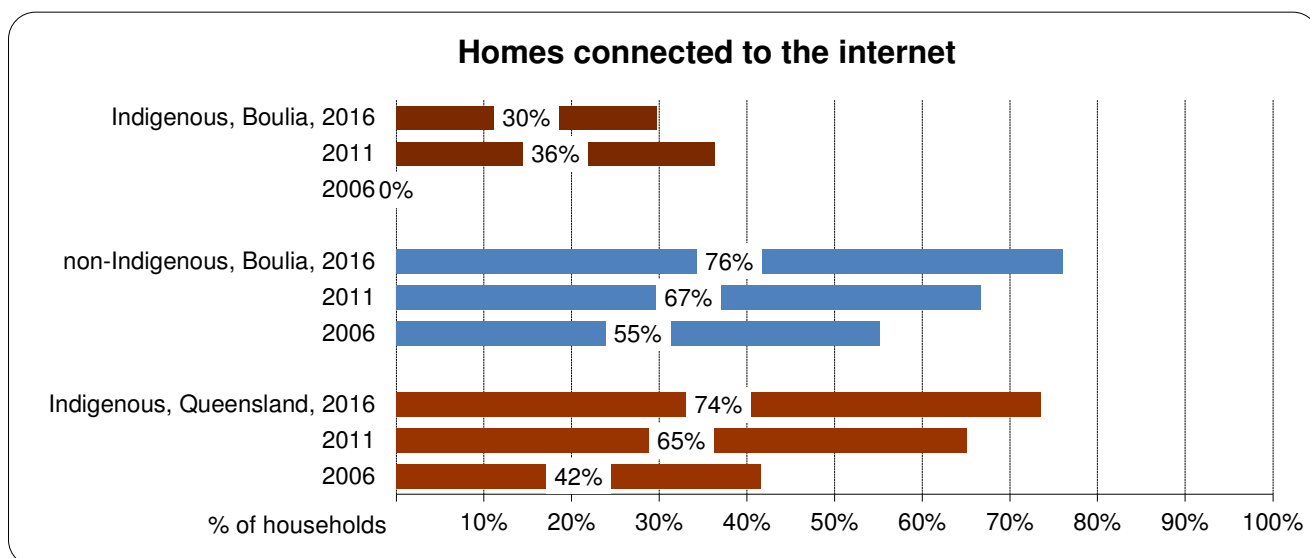
- ⌘ In 2016, there were no Indigenous residents in Boulia living in institutional housing, compared with 125 per 1000 non-Indigenous residents. The institutional difference was -125 per 1000.
- ⌘ The institutional gap had increased by 51 per 1000 since 2011, after having decreased by 25 per 1000 over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The institutional difference in Queensland was 15 per 1000 and had increased by 1 per 1000 since 2011. It had fallen by 1 per 1000 between 2006 and 2011.



Internet @ home

In 2016, 30% of Indigenous households in Boulia Shire had an internet connection while 76% did not (28 households).

- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households connected to the internet was 44% lower than in Queensland (74% connected), ... and 46% lower than non-Indigenous households in Boulia (where 76% of homes were connected).
- ⌘ The proportion of Indigenous households with internet was down by 7% from 36% in 2011. The proportion was up by 8% for Indigenous households in Queensland. It was up by 9% for non-Indigenous households in this Shire (from 67% in 2011).
- ⌘ In 2006, none of Boulia's Indigenous people had the internet at home. This compared with 42% of Indigenous people in Queensland and 55% of non-Indigenous people in this Shire.



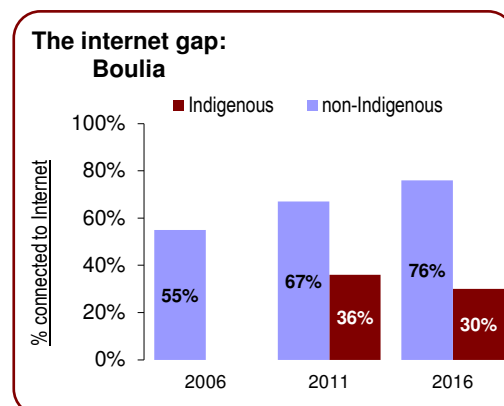
The internet gap

% of households with an internet connection

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 30% of Boulia's Indigenous households had an internet connection, compared with 76% of other households, an internet gap of -46%.
- ⌘ The internet gap had widened by 15% since 2011, after having closed by 24% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The internet gap in Queensland was 10% and had narrowed by 4% since 2011. It narrowed by 7% between 2006 and 2011.

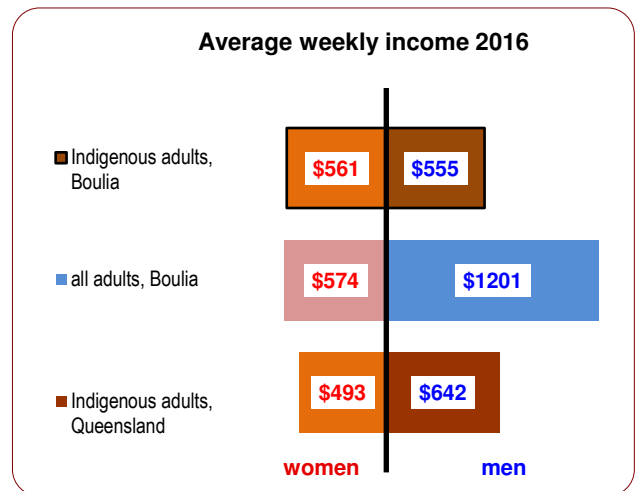
The 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses had different questions about the internet.



Personal income

In 2016, the average weekly income of Indigenous adults (aged 15+) in Boulia Shire was about \$578, which was close to that of Indigenous adults in Queensland (\$597), but 43% less than the average of all adults in the Shire (\$1,006).

- ⌘ Indigenous men in Boulia averaged \$555 a week (46% of the overall male average here).
Indigenous women averaged \$561 a week (98% of the overall female average).
- ⌘ The average weekly income of Indigenous men was \$87 lower in the Shire than in Queensland.
The average weekly income of Indigenous women here was \$67 higher than in Queensland.
- ⌘ Half of the Indigenous adults received under \$395 a week (the median income).



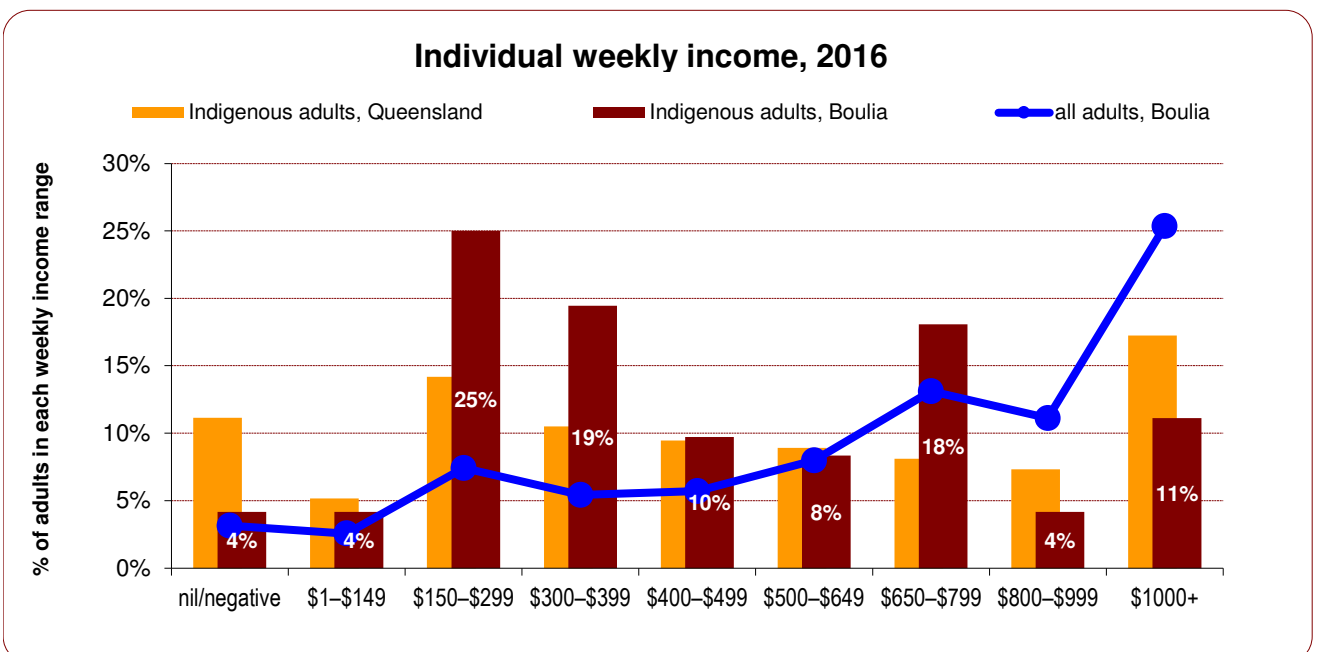
The income distribution pattern among Indigenous adults in Boulia Shire was different from Indigenous adults in Queensland; it was different from all adults in the Shire.

Compared with Indigenous adults across Queensland:

- ⌘ proportionally more Indigenous adults here were in the \$150–\$299 and \$650–\$799 ranges, and in the \$300–\$399 range.
- ⌘ fewer were in the nil/negative and \$1000+ ranges, and in the \$800–\$999 range.

Compared with all adults in this Shire:

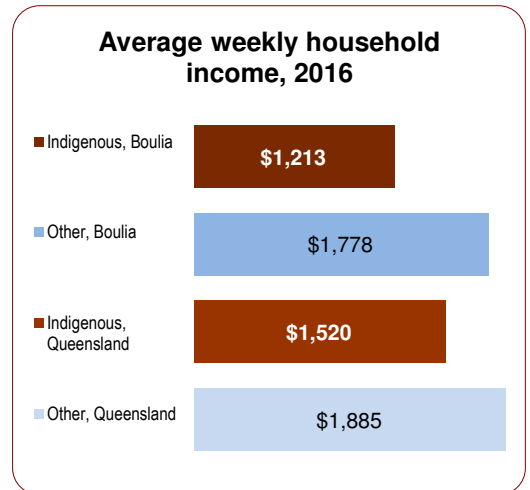
- ⌘ more Indigenous adults were in the \$150–\$299 and \$300–\$399 ranges, and in the \$650–\$799 and \$400–\$499 ranges.
- ⌘ proportionally fewer were in the \$1000+ and \$800–\$999 range.



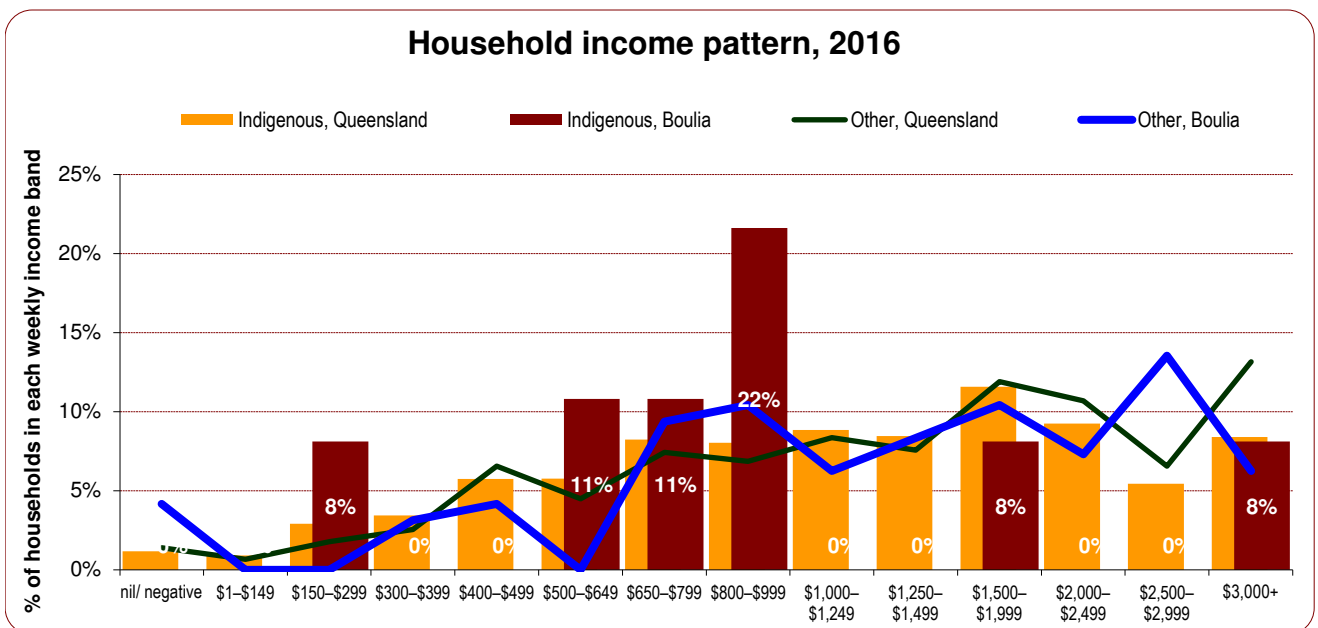
Household income

In 2016, the average income of 33 Indigenous households in Boulia Shire was about \$1,213 a week. Household income is not a strong indicator of well-being because the benefit the income gives household members is affected by the household's size.

- ⌘ The average Indigenous household income in Boulia Shire was 20% less than the average of Indigenous households in Queensland (\$1,520 a week).
- ⌘ It was 32% less than the average of other households in Boulia – \$1,778 a week.
- ⌘ Half the Indigenous households received less than \$900 a week (the 'median household income').
- ⌘ Indigenous households in the Shire had an average size of 4.1 residents, compared with 2.3 for non-Indigenous households. Household incomes thus had to be spread among many more people, compared to other households.



The income distribution pattern among Indigenous households in Boulia Shire was very different from the State's Indigenous households, but otherwise very different from other households in the Shire.



Compared with Indigenous households across Queensland:

- ⌘ more Indigenous households here were in the \$800–\$999 and \$150–\$299 income ranges, and in the \$500–\$649 and \$650–\$799 ranges.
- ⌘ there were many income ranges which no Indigenous households received.

Compared with non-Indigenous households in this Shire:

- ⌘ more Indigenous households were in the \$800–\$999 and \$500–\$649 income ranges, and in the \$150–\$299 range.
- ⌘ there were many income ranges which no Indigenous households received.

Income Indicators

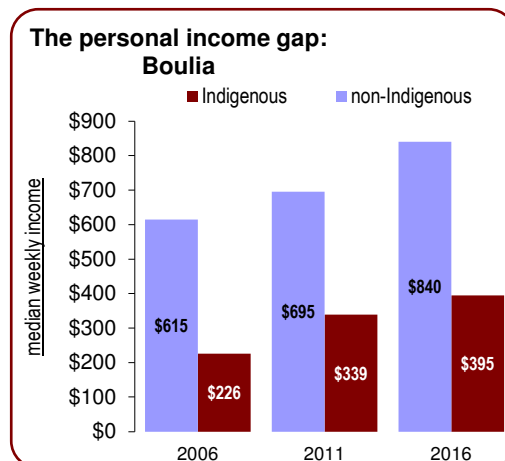
Note: these indicators are based on a small number so are not precise.

The personal income gap

median weekly income of adults (15+)

Income is a major contributor to well-being. One indicator of disadvantage is a low median income – the amount which fewer than half the people earn.

- ⌘ In 2016, the median income of 72 Indigenous adults in Boulia was \$395, which was 47% that of non-Indigenous adults here (\$840). The personal income gap was -53%.
- ⌘ The personal income gap had widened by 2% since 2011, after having closed by 12% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The personal income gap in Queensland was -32% and had narrowed by 3% since 2011. It had increased 1% between 2006 and 2011.

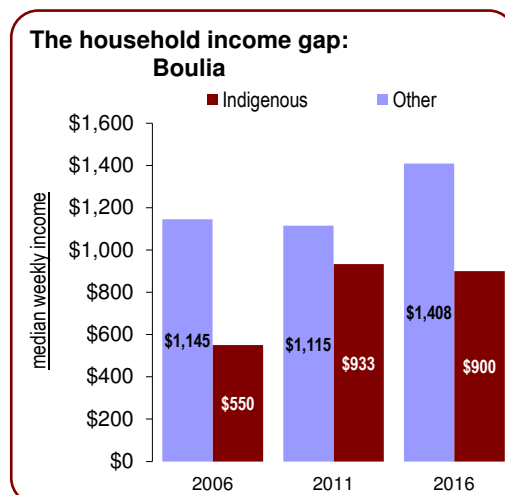


The household income gap

median weekly income of households

Another indicator of disadvantage is a low median household income; half of all households receive less than this amount. However, Indigenous households tend to be larger, with more dependents, so household income does not reflect disadvantage as well as individual income does.

- ⌘ In 2016, the median income of 33 Indigenous households in Boulia Shire was \$900, compared with \$1,408 for Other households in the Shire. This was 36% lower – this is the household income gap.
- ⌘ The household income gap had widened by about 20% since 2011, after having narrowed by about 36% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The household income gap in Queensland was 13% and had closed by 1% since 2011. It had increased by 1% between 2006 and 2011.



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

Employment

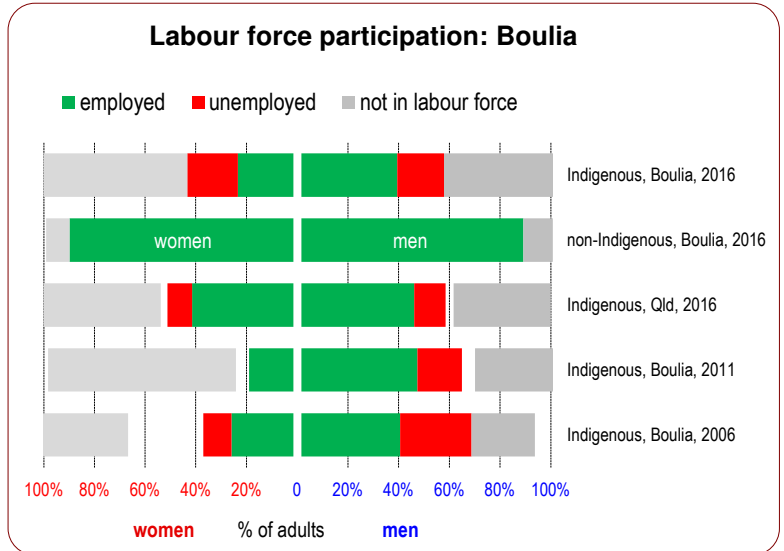
Employment is a prime determinant of a community's income, so it is an important indicator of well-being. In Boulia, 22 out of 72 Indigenous adults (15+) were employed in 2016 – 31% of adults.

The workforce participation rate (employed + unemployed) was 46% of all Indigenous adults aged 15+.

Indigenous workforce participation was ...

- ⌘ lower for women at 50% than for men at 58%.
- ⌘ 43% lower than the average for non-Indigenous adults in the Shire.
- ⌘ 9% lower than the average for Indigenous adults in Queensland.

The Indigenous workforce participation rate here was 4% higher than in 2011 and 8% lower than in 2006.



In 2016, the Indigenous unemployment rate in Boulia was 39%, with 13 people out of work.

- ⌘ This rate was much higher than the nil rate among non-Indigenous adults here.
- ⌘ The Indigenous unemployment rate was 32% for men and 40% for women.
- ⌘ The Indigenous unemployment rate was 19% higher than in 2011, and 2% higher than in 2006.
- ⌘ Unemployment numbers are too small for accurate age-sex comparisons.

Workforce Gap Indicators

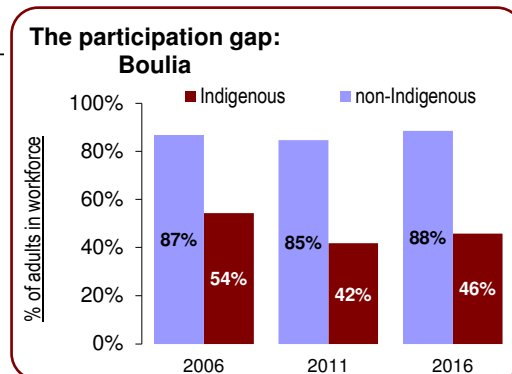
Note: these indicators are based on a small labour force so can fluctuate.

The participation gap

% of adults 15+ in labour force

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

- ⌘ In 2016 in Boulia, there were 33 Indigenous people in the workforce, 46% of the adult residents. The proportion of non-Indigenous adults in the workforce was 88%, so the participation gap was -43%.
- ⌘ The participation gap had changed little since 2011, after having widened by 10% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The participation gap in Queensland was -11% and had changed little since 2011. It had widened by 2% between 2006 and 2011.

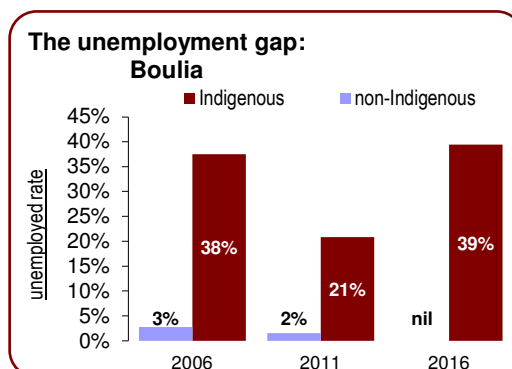


The unemployment gap

% of unemployed in workforce

High unemployment indicates an absence of jobs in occupations for which local people have had training. High unemployment rates have many damaging effects on those unemployed and their community.

- ⌘ In 2016, 39% of the Indigenous workforce in Boulia were unemployed (13 people), and none of the non-Indigenous workforce were unemployed. The unemployment gap was +39%.
- ⌘ The unemployment gap had widened by 20% since 2011, after having closed by 16% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The unemployment gap between in Queensland was +13% and had widened by 1% since 2011. It had widened by 3% between 2006 and 2011.

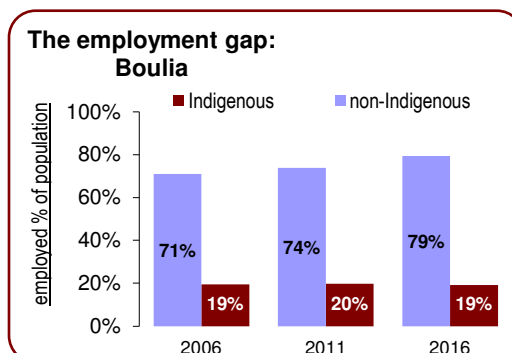


The employment gap

employed adults as % of population

A useful indicator of the financial strength of a community is the proportion of the total population who are employed. A lower proportion means that, on average, each employed person has more people to support.

- ⌘ In 2016, 19% of the Indigenous population of Boulia Shire were employed (22 people), and 79% of the non-Indigenous workforce were employed. The employment gap was -60%.
- ⌘ The employment gap had widened by 6% since 2011, after having widened by 2% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The employment gap in Queensland was -21% and had closed by 1% since 2011. It had widened by 2% between 2006 and 2011.



Education participation by age

Having high proportions of people in education is a good indicator of positive individual and community development. In Boulia Shire, almost four in ten Indigenous residents (43 people) were attending an educational institution in 2016. (Note: numbers are very small so are not precise.)

Indigenous participation in education varied with age. In education in Boulia were:

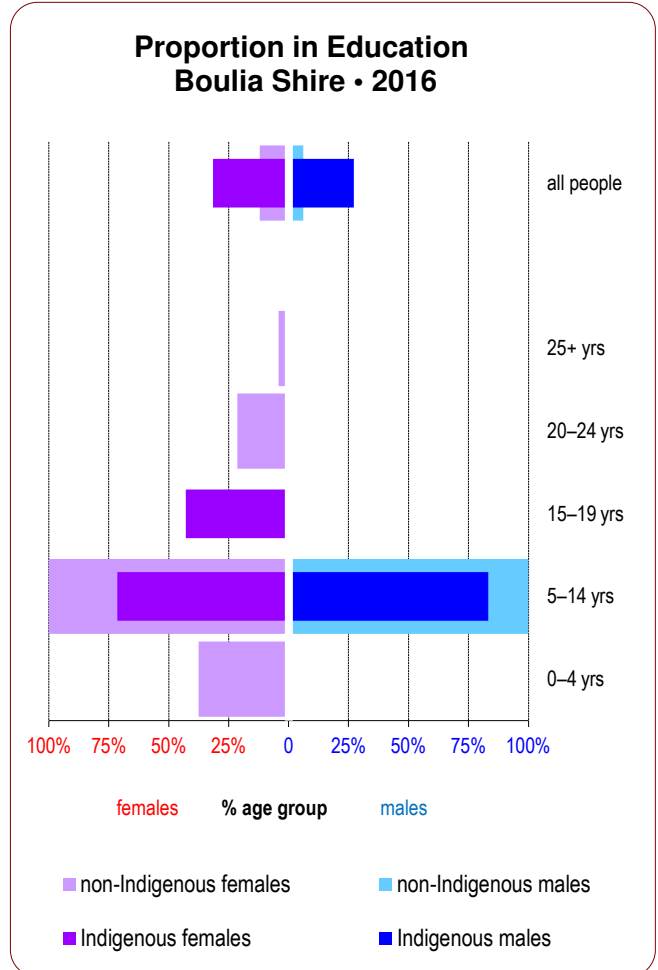
- none of the 0–4 year olds
- all of the 5–14 year olds
- 80% of the 15–19 year olds
- none of the 20–24 year olds
- 5% of those aged 25+.

Overall participation in education by Indigenous residents here, 37%, is much higher than for non-Indigenous, 11%. This is partly because the Indigenous population has a much higher proportion of children under 18. Relative to non-Indigenous people of the same age, there were, in education:

- similar proportions of 25+ year olds
- no 20–24 year olds
- 80% more Indigenous 15–19 year olds
- 3% more Indigenous 5–14 year olds
- no 0–4 year olds

Boulia Shire's Indigenous population had 120 females per 100 males in education. This ratio varied with age. Of those in education, there were:

- too few to be sure for 0–4 year olds
- equally males and females among 5–14 year olds
- only females among 15–19 year olds
- too few to be sure for 20–24 year olds
- too few to be sure for 25+ year olds



Since 2011, overall participation in education by Indigenous people in Boulia Shire had increased by 19%, but this masks changes among the age groups.

- No 0–4 year olds were in education in 2011; the rate was unchanged since 2006.
- The proportion of 5–14 year olds in education was up by 27% since 2011, and up by 32% since 2006.
- No 15–19 year olds were in education in 2011, and up by 80% since 2006.
- No 20–24 year olds were in education in 2011; with none in 2006.
- The proportion of 25+ year olds in education was up by 2% since 2011. The rate was down by 2% from 2006.

Current education

In 2016, some 34 Indigenous children and teenagers in Boulia Shire were attending school, with none in pre-school, 25 in primary school, and 9 in high school.

The number of Indigenous pre-schoolers was little changed since 2011; it was none in 2006

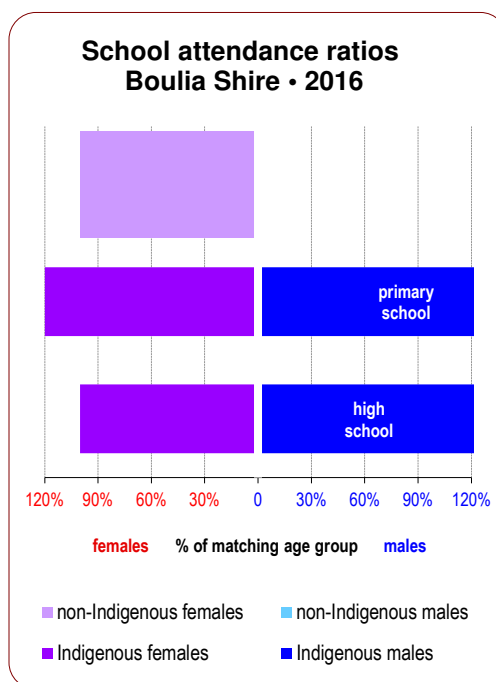
- ⌘ Pre-school numbers are too small for analysis.
- ⌘ In Queensland, Indigenous pre-schoolers equalled 40% of the number aged 4–5 years. Non-Indigenous pre-schoolers in this Shire represented 57% of their age group.

The number of Indigenous primary students (25) was down by 3 since 2011; it was 47% higher than in 2006.

- ⌘ Indigenous primary students were 89% of the number aged 6–11.
- ⌘ The Indigenous rate in Queensland was 107%; the non-Indigenous rate in Boulia was 107%.

The number of Indigenous secondary students (9) was up by 6 or 200% since 2011 and from none in 2006.

- ⌘ Indigenous secondary students were 56% of the Indigenous children aged 12–17.
- ⌘ This rate was 56% higher than the rate for non-Indigenous secondary students here; it was 23% lower than for Indigenous students in Queensland.



No Indigenous residents of Boulia Shire were in post-school education in 2016. This was little changed since 2011, and the same as in 2006.

In 2016, there were no Indigenous 15–24 year olds from the Shire enrolled in TAFE.

- ⌘ 4% of Indigenous 15–24 year olds in Queensland attended TAFE, with 50% full-time.
- ⌘ 11% of non-Indigenous 15–24 year olds in this Shire attended TAFE, with none full-time.

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

- ⌘ 6% of Indigenous 15–24 year olds in Queensland were at university, with 84% full-time.
- ⌘ None of the non-Indigenous 15–24 year olds in this Shire were at university.

There were no Indigenous students aged 25+ from Boulia attending TAFE in 2016.

- ⌘ 2% of Indigenous 25–64 year olds in Queensland attended TAFE, with 37% full-time.
- ⌘ None of the non-Indigenous 25–64 year olds in this Shire attended TAFE.

No Indigenous residents aged 25+ from Boulia were in university or other tertiary in 2016.

- ⌘ 3% of Indigenous 25–64 year olds in Queensland were at university, with 49% full-time.
- ⌘ 2% of non-Indigenous 25–64 year olds in this Shire were at university, with none full-time.

Education Attendance Indicators

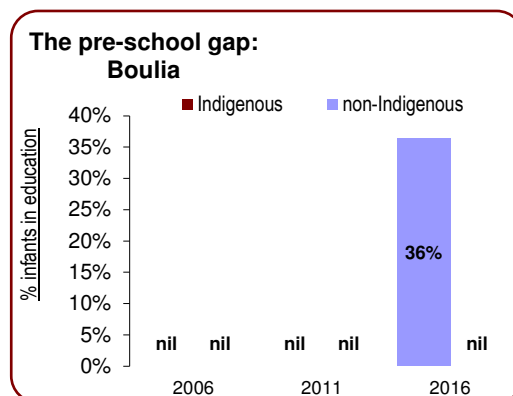
Note: these indicators are based on small numbers so are approximate.

The pre-school gap

% of infants under 5 in education

Early childhood education is an important contributor to success in school and later education, and makes paid work more feasible for parents.

- ⌘ In 2016, none of Indigenous infants in Boulia Shire were in education, compared with 36% of non-Indigenous infants. The pre-school gap was -36%.
- ⌘ The pre-school gap had widened by 36% since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The pre-school rates of Indigenous and non-Indigenous infants in Queensland were 15% and 18% in 2016, a gap of -3%. This gap had narrowed by 1% since 2011.

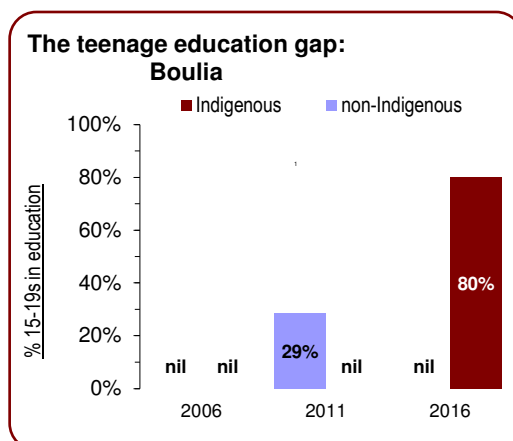


The teenage education gap

% of 15–19 year-olds in education

Education of older teenagers is vital for their future employment, so low levels of participation in education indicates disadvantage.

- ⌘ In 2016, 80% of Boulia Shire Indigenous teenagers aged 15–19 were in education, compared with none of non-Indigenous teenagers. The teenage education gap was +80%.
- ⌘ The teenage education gap had reversed since 2011, after having widened by 29% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The teenage education gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous in Queensland was -17% and had narrowed by 2% since 2011. It widened by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

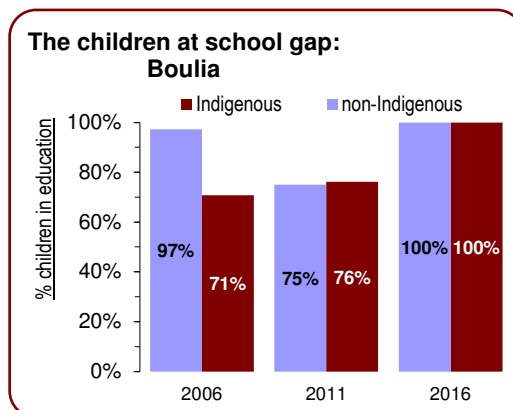


The children at school gap

% of 5–14 year olds in education

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

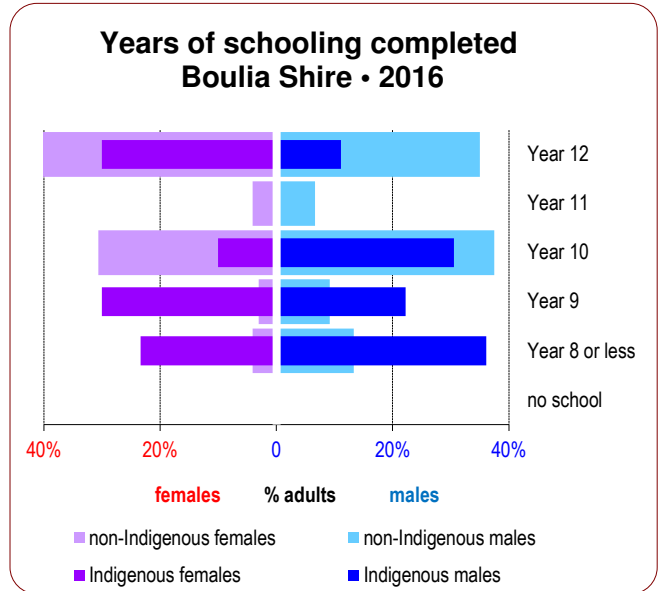
- ⌘ In 2016, 100% of Boulia Shire Indigenous children aged 5–14 were in education, and 100% of non-Indigenous of that age were. The schooling gap was nil.
- ⌘ The schooling gap had closed by 1% since 2011, after having reversed over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The schooling gap in Queensland was -5% and had narrowed by 3% since 2011. It changed little over 2006 to 2011.



Schooling levels

In 2016, the Indigenous adults (15+) in Boulia Shire had completed an average of Year 9.2 of school, compared with Year 10.7 for non-Indigenous adults. In Queensland, Indigenous adults averaged Year 10.5.

- ⌘ 9 Indigenous adults in the Shire had completed Year 12 which was 40% fewer than in 2011, and 50% more than in 2006.
- 13% of Indigenous adults in the Shire had completed Year 12, which was 31% lower than the rate for non-Indigenous adults.
- 38% of Indigenous adults across Queensland had completed Year 12.
- ⌘ 39% of Indigenous adults in the Shire had completed at least Year 10, which was 36% lower than for Indigenous adults in Queensland.
- ⌘ Of the others, 25% had completed Year 9 and 28% had completed Year 8 or lower; no adults did not go to school; 4% did not say.



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

The average Year when Indigenous people in Boulia Shire left school had risen by 6 months since 2011, and was up by one year 1 month since 2006.

Over the decade to 2016, there was an increase of 50% in the number who had finished Year 12, and a decrease of 43% in the number who had finished school at Year 11.

For Indigenous adults in this Shire, average schooling:

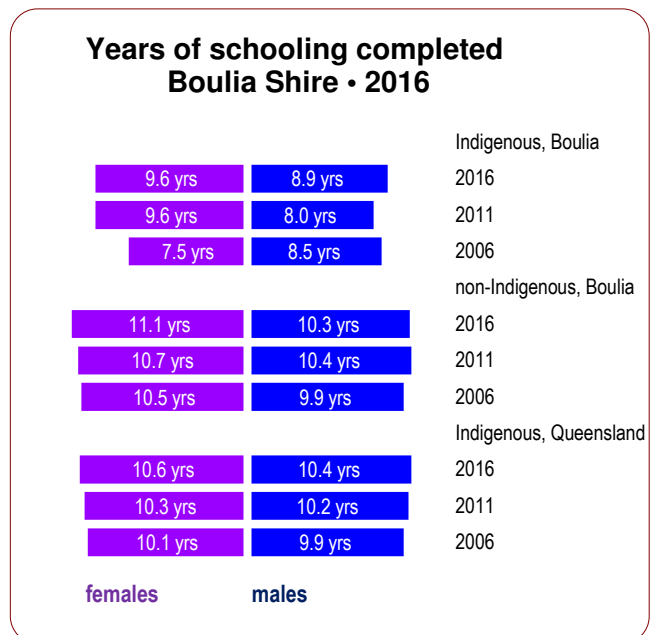
- ⌘ for men, had risen by 11 months since 2011, and had risen by 5 months since 2006.
- ⌘ for women, had changed little since 2011, and had risen by 2 years 1 month since 2006.

For non-Indigenous adults, average schooling:

- ⌘ for men had fallen by one month since 2011, and had risen by 5 months since 2006.
- ⌘ for women had risen by 5 months since 2011, and had risen by 7 months since 2006.

The average schooling of Indigenous adults in Queensland:

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



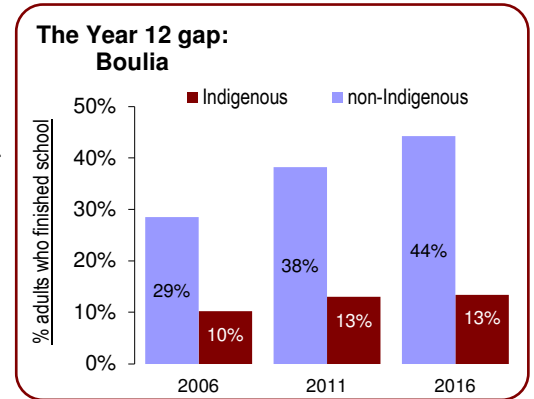
Education Achievement Indicators

The Year 12 gap

% of adults (15+) who have left school

The proportion of adults who have completed Year 12 is an important indicator of a community's educational resources. Nationally, over half of all adults (58%) have completed Year 12.

- ⌘ In 2016, 13% of Boulia's 67 Indigenous adults had completed Year 12, compared with 44% of non-Indigenous adults. The Year 12 gap was -31%.
- ⌘ The Year 12 gap had widened by 6% since 2011, after having widened by 7% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The Year 12 gap in Queensland was -19% and had narrowed by 1% since 2011. It widened by 1% between 2006 and 2011.

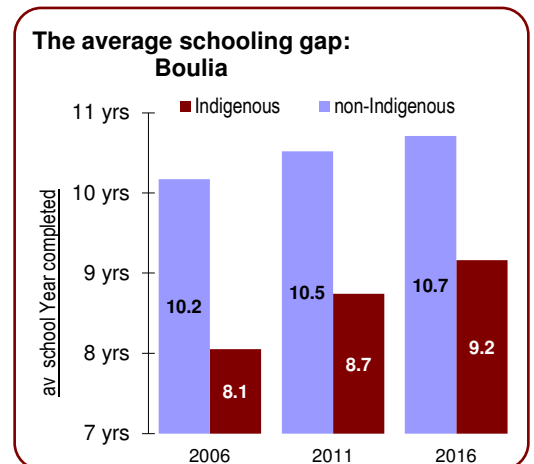


The average schooling gap

average school Year completed

The average Year of schooling completed by adults is an indicator of a community's educational resources. Nationally, the average is Year 11.

- ⌘ In 2016, the 67 Indigenous adults in Boulia had completed an average of Year 9.2 at school, compared with Year 10.7 for non-Indigenous adults. The average schooling gap was -1.6 years.
- ⌘ The average schooling gap had closed by 2 months since 2011, after having closed by 4 months over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The average schooling gap in Queensland was 6 months. It had changed little since 2011, after having changed little between 2006 and 2011.



Tertiary qualifications

The type and extent of post-school qualifications has a major influence on the earning capacities of a community. In the 2016 Census, 7 Indigenous adults in Boulia Shire reported having tertiary educational qualifications, which was 10% of the number aged 15+.

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

A few Indigenous adults in the Shire had a degree or higher qualification (4%), with none having a postgraduate degree.

- ⌘ In Queensland, 5% of the Indigenous residents had a degree or higher qualification.
- ⌘ 8% of the non-Indigenous residents of Boulia had a degree or more.

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

- an unstated qual, held by a few people (6%);
- bachelor degree, by a few people (4%);

While the number of Indigenous adults in Boulia fell by 37% from 2011 to 2016, the number with qualifications fell by 67%

- However, the numbers were too small for accurate analysis.

In the decade from 2006, the number of Indigenous adults in the Shire with qualifications decreased by 30%, while the adult population increased by 22%. There were 3 more with a bachelor degree.

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

Higher Education Indicators

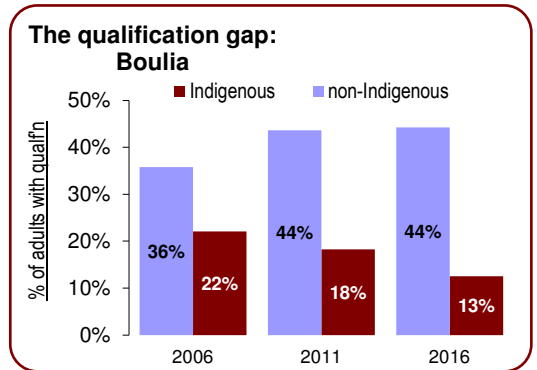
Note: these indicators are based on small, randomised numbers so are approximate.

The qualification gap

% of adults 15+ with a post-school qualification

Tertiary and further education is becoming essential for many occupations, so the proportion of adults with post-school qualifications is a broad indicator of a community's earning capacity.

- ⌘ In 2016, 13% of Boulia Shire Indigenous adults aged 15+ had a post-school qualification, compared with 44% of non-Indigenous adults. The qualification gap was -32%.
- ⌘ The qualification gap had widened by 7% since 2011, after having widened by 11% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The qualification gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults in Queensland was -13% and had narrowed by 1% since 2011. It widened by 1% over 2006 to 2011.

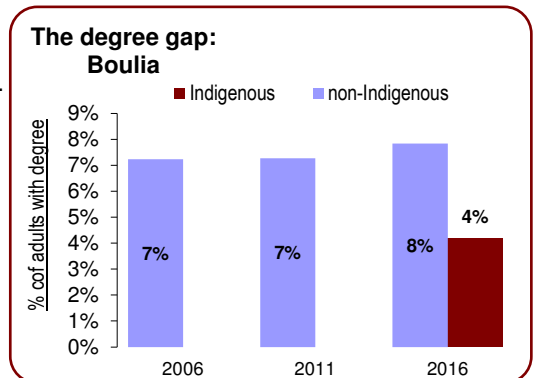


The degree gap

% of adults 15+ with a degree or higher qualification

Most higher skilled and better paid jobs require a university degree or equivalent for entry, so the proportion of adults with a degree or higher indicates the community's capacity to gain these jobs.

- ⌘ In 2016, 4% of Boulia Shire Indigenous adults aged 15+ had a degree or higher qualification, compared with 8% of non-Indigenous adults. The degree education gap was -4%.
- ⌘ The degree gap had closed by 3% since 2011, after having changed little over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The degree gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults in Queensland was -15% and had widened by 2% since 2011. It widened by 2% over 2006 to 2011.

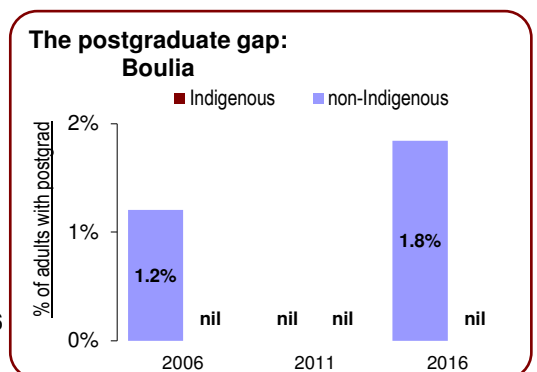


The postgraduate gap

% of adults 15+ with a postgraduate qualification

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

- ⌘ In 2016, none of Boulia Indigenous adults aged 15+ had a post-graduate qualification, compared with 1.8% of non-Indigenous adults. The postgraduate gap was -1.8%.
- ⌘ The postgraduate gap had widened by 1.8% since 2011, after having widened by 1.2% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The postgraduate gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous adults in Queensland was -4.3% and had widened by 0.8% since 2011. It widened by 1.8% over 2006 to 2011.



Disability levels

In 2016 in Bouliia Shire, a few Indigenous residents had a long-term severe disability. Among all Bouliia's residents, 1.9% reported a disability.

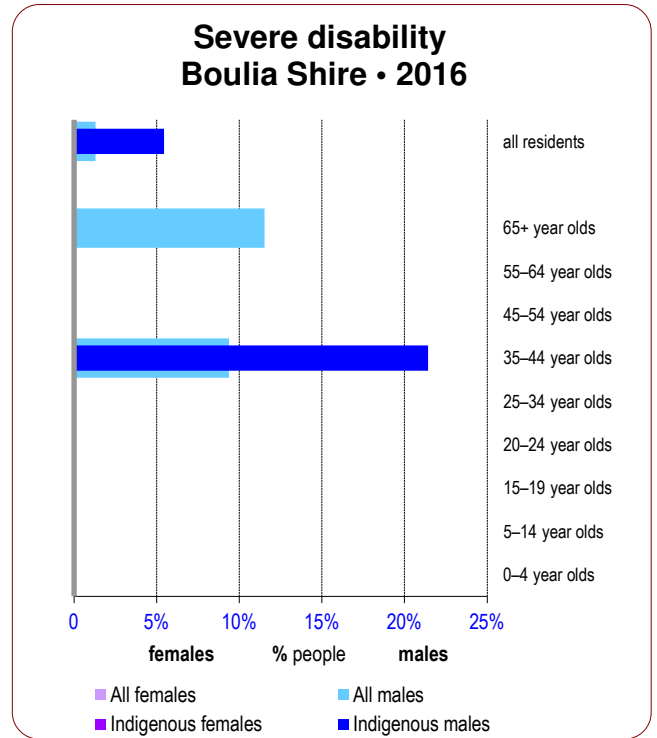
People with a long-term severe disability are those needing help or assistance with self-care, mobility or communication, because of a disability, long-term health condition or old age. This data compares Aboriginal people with the total population.

⌘ Disability rates tend to rise with age. Here, there were too few people with disabilities for this comparison in 2016.

Among younger Indigenous residents, the disability rate was highest among 35–44 year olds.

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

⌘ Here, the number with a disability is too small for more detailed analysis.

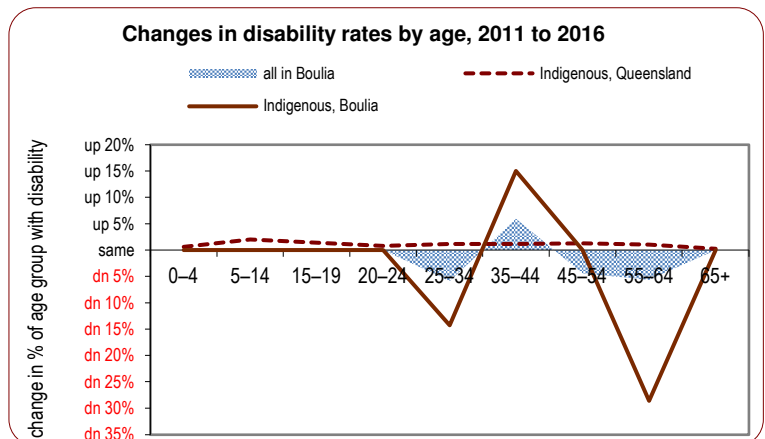


From 2011 to 2016, the overall disability rate among Indigenous residents of the Shire fell from 3.7% to 2.6%.

This change is based on very small numbers so trends can be exaggerated.

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

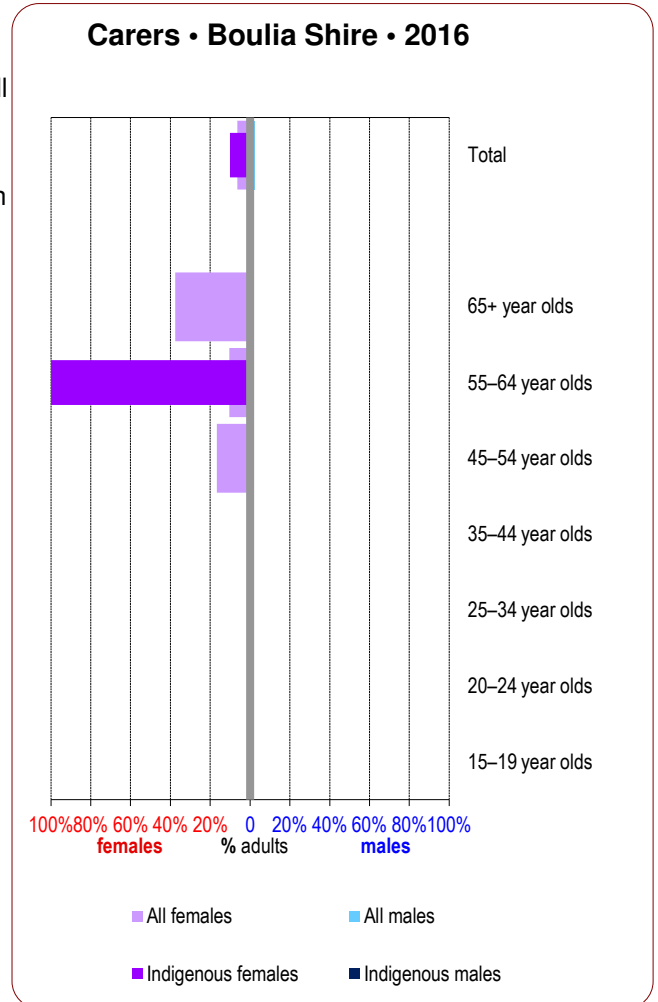
Among all Bouliia residents, the disability rate fell 0.8%, from 2.7% in 2011.



Disability care given

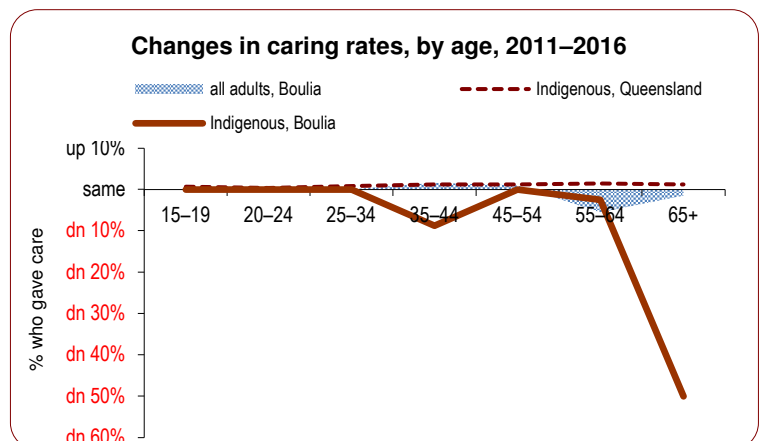
In the 2016 Census, a few Indigenous adults in Boulia Shire, 4% of the adult population, reported that they gave assistance to a person with a severe or profound disability. There were at that time a few Indigenous residents who reported a severe or profound disability.

- ⌘ Across the age groups, the proportion of Indigenous people caring for a person with a disability is not accurate due to very small numbers being randomly adjusted..
- ⌘ Carers are more often women than men. In this Indigenous community, carer numbers were too small to calculate gender ratios.
- ⌘ The 4% carer rate among Indigenous residents was similar to the average for all adults in the Shire (4%).
- ⌘ In Queensland, 13% of Indigenous adults were caring for a person with a disability.



From 2011 to 2016, overall caring rates among Indigenous adults in Boulia fell significantly from 10% to 4%, a decrease of 6% (rounded).

- ⌘ Among Indigenous adults in Queensland, caring rates rose by 1%.
- Among all Boulia's adults, caring rates changed little.



Disability Indicators

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

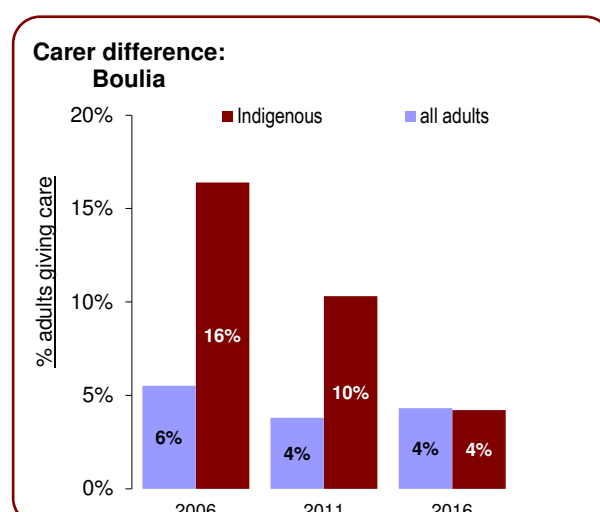
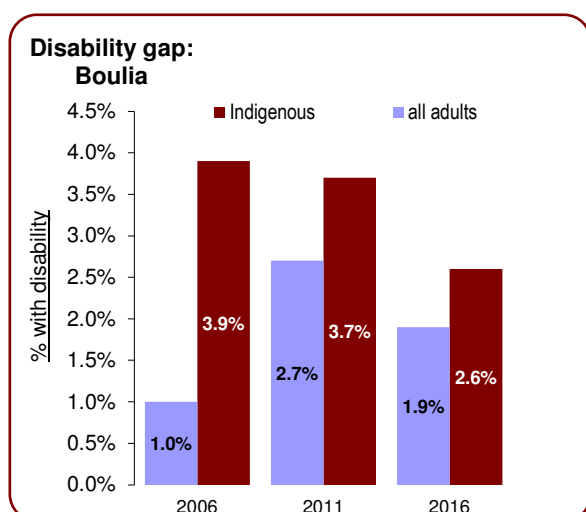
The disability gap

% of people with a severe, long-term disability

Disability rates provide a useful indicator of a community's health and need for support services. Nationally, disability rates among Indigenous people are about 25% higher than overall rates, across most age groups.

- ⌘ In 2016, 2.6% of Boulia's Indigenous residents had a severe, long-term disability, compared with 1.9% for all residents. The disability gap was +0.7%. The Indigenous disability rate was 1.4 times the overall rate.
- ⌘ The disability gap in Boulia Shire had closed by 0.3% since 2011, after having closed by 1.9% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The disability gap in Queensland was +1.2% and had widened by 0.8% since 2011.

In the Census, people with disabilities are those with a severe or profound disability lasting more than six months, who require help with daily activities, self-care or communicating.



The carer difference

% of adults caring for a person with a disability

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

- ⌘ In 2016, 4% of Boulia's Indigenous adults (aged 15+) provided assistance to a person with a severe disability, compared with 4% of all adults. The carer difference was nil.
- ⌘ The carer difference in Boulia Shire had reversed since 2011, after having closed by 4% over the previous five years.
- ⌘ The carer difference in Queensland was +2% in 2016. This had changed little since 2011.