District Profile: Northern NSW District

This accessible text document provides a descriptive summary of indicators presented in the Northern NSW District Profile Dashboard. It accompanies the interactive dashboard, published on our Department's website.

Overview

Statistics presented in the Dashboard are mainly derived from data products published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (e.g., 2016 Census and Estimated Resident Population of Australia) and from our performance results in 2018-19. The indicators are reported under the following five topics:

1. **Demographics:** Eight indicators are included under this topic to provide a comparison of the district with the whole of NSW. These include population growth rate, age distribution, and the size of disadvantaged groups (e.g., Aboriginal people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people with disability, and people aged under 65 years who need assistance with core activities).

2. **Our clients:** Statistics presented under this topic highlight nine selected service delivery indicators from our child protection and social housing services in the district compared the whole of NSW.

3. **Families and homelessness:** This section compares the district with the whole of NSW on three indicators:

    a. the proportion of families with children aged under 15 years;
    b. the proportion of one-parent families with children aged under 15 years and a weekly family income less than $650; and
    c. the homelessness rate.

4. **Employment and income:** This section compares the district with the whole of NSW on three indicators:

    a. average annual employee income;
    b. the proportion of Newstart Allowance recipients; and
    c. the proportion of Disability Support Pension recipients.

5. **Health and safety:** This section compares the district with the whole of NSW on two indicators:

    a. hospitalisations rates for all causes; and
    b. the rate of domestic assaults.

1.   Demographics

According to ABS Estimate Resident Population of Australia 2018-19:

- The estimated population growth rate from 2018 to 2019 for Northern NSW District was **0.7** per cent, which is lower than the overall NSW result of **1.4** per cent for the same period.

The ABS 2016 Census data show that:

- The proportion of people aged 0-17 years was **20.7** per cent in Northern NSW District. This is lower than the overall NSW result of **22.1** per cent.

- People aged 18-64 years made up **56.3** per cent of the population in Northern NSW District, which is lower than the overall NSW result of **61.6** per cent.

- In Northern NSW District, **23.1** per cent of the population were people aged 65 years and over. More people aged 65 years and over were in Northern NSW District than in NSW (**16.3** per cent) proportionately.

- Aboriginal people made up **4.5** per cent of the population in Northern NSW District. This is higher than the overall NSW result of **2.9** per cent.

- People from a culturally and linguistically diverse background accounted for **11.6** per cent of the population in Northern NSW District. This is much lower than the overall NSW result of **27.7** per cent.

- People aged under 65 years who need assistance with core activities accounted for **6.8** per cent of the total population in Northern NSW District. Proportionately more people aged under 65 years who need assistance with core activities were in Northern NSW District than in NSW (**5.4** per cent).

- The percentage of carers for people with disability in Northern NSW District was **10.6** per cent, which is slightly higher than the overall NSW result of **9.5** per cent.

2. Our clients

Child protection services

- In 2018-19, the rate of children and young people involved in risk of significant harm (ROSH) reports in Northern NSW District was **87** per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years, about 1.4 times the rate of children and young people involved in ROSH reports in NSW (**64** per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years).

- In Northern NSW District, the rate of children and young people involved in ROSH reports who were seen by DCJ caseworkers was **30** per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years in 2018-19. This is higher than the rate of **19** per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years in NSW.

- At 30 June 2019, the rate of children and young people in out-of-home care (OOHC) was **16** per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years in Northern NSW District, 1.6 times the rate of children and young people in OOHC in NSW (**10** per 1,000 population aged 0-17 years).

- In 2018-19, **67.1** per cent of children and young people entering OOHC, entered for the first time in Northern NSW District. Compared to **73.5** per cent in NSW, proportionately fewer new children and young people entered OOHC in Northern NSW District than that in NSW.

- At 30 June 2019, **45.3** per cent of children and young people have been in OOHC for at least five years in Northern NSW District. This is lower than the overall NSW result of **49.4** per cent.

Social housing services

- In 2018-19, **11.3** per cent of households exited from public housing and Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) properties to private rental market/ownership in Northern NSW District. Compared to **14.0** per cent in NSW, proportionately fewer households moved to private rental market/ownership from public housing and AHO properties in Northern NSW District.

- At 30 June 2019, single parents with dependent children accounted for **24.2** per cent of applicant households on the NSW Housing Register in Northern NSW District. Compared to **23.5** per cent in NSW, Northern NSW District had proportionately more applicant households who were single parents with dependent children on the Register.

- In 2018-19, **10.9** per cent of newly housed applicants in public housing and AHO properties in Northern NSW District received a Newstart Allowance. This is lower than the overall NSW result of **28.3** per cent.

- In 2018-19, **two** per cent of the households in Northern NSW District were in public housing or a property of AHO Compared to **3.3** per cent in NSW, Northern NSW District had relatively fewer households living in public housing or a property of AHO.

3.   Families and homelessness

The ABS 2016 Census data show that:

- The rate of families with children under 15 years per 1,000 families in Northern NSW District was **196**, which is lower than the overall NSW result of **246**.

- The percentage of one-parent families with children aged under 15 years and a weekly income less than $650 was **2.4** per cent in Northern NSW District. This is slightly higher than the overall NSW result of **1.9** per cent.

- The homelessness rate was **515** per 100,000 people in Northern NSW District. This is slightly higher than the rate of **504** per 100,000 people in NSW. Northern NSW had relatively more homeless people than NSW overall.

4.   Employment and income

- According to ABS, the average annual employee income in 2016 was **$46,204** in Northern NSW District. This is **$15,745** or **25.4** per cent lower than that in NSW (**$61,949**).

- In 2018-19, **7.3** per cent of the total working age population in Northern NSW District received a Newstart Allowance, which is higher than the overall NSW result of **3.9** per cent.

- In 2018-19, **5.3** per cent of the population in Northern NSW District received Disability Support Pensions. This is higher than the overall NSW result of **2.9** per cent.

5. Health and safety

- In 2018-19, the rate of hospitalisations for all causes per 1,000 population was **431** in Northern NSW District, which is higher than the overall NSW result of **409**.

- The rate of domestic assaults per 100,000 population in Northern NSW District was **397** in 2018-19. This is higher than the overall NSW result of **372**.

Endnotes

If you need more information on this DCJ District, please contact us on FACSIAR@facs.nsw.gov.au.

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Visit the DCJ Statistics website to view key DCJ performance data.