

Annual bulletin for Queensland's discrete Indigenous communities 2015–16

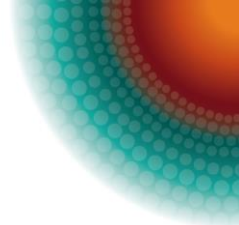


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Executive summary

The *Annual bulletin for Queensland's discrete Indigenous communities 2015–16* (the *Annual bulletin*) presents:

- statistical information on annual findings for each of the discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, as well as the Torres Strait Region
- an examination of longer-term trends for offences against the person and student attendance.

Similar to previous bulletins¹, the five indicators examined are:

- reported offences against the person
- breaches of alcohol restrictions
- new substantiated notifications of harm
- finalised child protection orders
- student attendance.

In most communities, levels of offending and harm in 2015–16 were generally consistent with those reported for 2014–15:

- Annual rates of offences against the person were similar to 2014–15 levels in 15 of the 18 communities: Aurukun, Coen, Doomadgee, Hope Vale, Kowanyama, Mapoon, Mornington Island, Mossman Gorge, Napranum, the Northern Peninsula Area, Palm Island, the Torres Strait Region, Woorabinda, Wujal Wujal and Yarrabah.
 - A significant decrease in the annual rate of offences against the person was evident in Pormpuraaw in 2015–16.
 - In contrast, significant increases in the annual rate of offences against the person were evident in Cherbourg and Lockhart River in 2015–16, compared with 2014–15.

Over the longer-term, trends of rates for offences against the person showed that Coen was the only community for which there was evidence of a downward trend over the entire reporting period from 2000–01 to 2015–16. There were also downward trends over shorter periods to 2015–16 in two communities: the Torres Strait Region (from 2009–10) and Yarrabah (from 2013–14).

Of concern however, were upward trends to 2015–16 in the rate of offences against the person in Doomadgee (from 2011–12), Kowanyama (from 2010–11) and Mornington Island (from 2010–11).

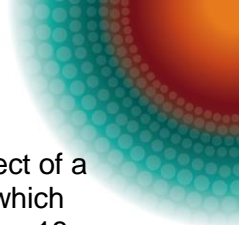
Despite these results, in 2015–16, rates of harm and offending in communities remained significantly higher than the corresponding state rates. In each of the communities, the overall rate of reported offences against the person was at least three times the Queensland rate (6.5 per 1,000 persons).

In 2015–16, four communities experienced significant increases in their annual rates of charges resulting in convictions for breaches of alcohol restrictions: Aurukun, Cherbourg, Lockhart River and Pormpuraaw. In contrast, significant reductions were evident in Hope Vale, Mornington Island, Napranum, Palm Island² and Yarrabah². No significant changes in rates were observed in the remaining communities.

- Rates of charges resulting in convictions for breaches of alcohol restrictions in 2015–16 were highest in the communities of Cherbourg, Kowanyama, Mornington Island and Wujal Wujal.

¹ Due to unavailability of data, episodes of care for assault-related conditions is no longer presented in this bulletin.

² In 2013–14, Yarrabah and Palm Island both had a relatively high number of charges resulting in a conviction. This may be related to the High Court of Australia (Maloney -v- The Queen) decision handed down on 19 June 2013.



Over the period 2014–15 to 2015–16, annual rates of children (0–17 years) who were the subject of a substantiated notification of harm did not change significantly in 12 communities. The rates at which children were admitted to finalised child protection orders did not change significantly in 16 of the 18 communities. This was primarily due to relatively small counts being recorded in each community in both years.

- Significant decreases in rates of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification of harm were evident in five communities: Aurukun, Hope Vale, Lockhart River, Palm Island and Woorabinda.
- A significant increase in the annual rate of children who were subject of a substantiated notification of harm over the same period was evident in the community of Yarrabah.
- Hope Vale and Palm Island were the only two communities to experience a significant decrease in the annual rate at which children were admitted to finalised child protection orders over the same period, and no significant changes in rates were observed in the remaining communities.

Analyses of the gap in Semester 1 student attendance data over the ten Semester 1 periods from 2007 to 2016, between community state school students and all Queensland state school students, shows positive results for Mornington Island State School and Woorabinda State School students, with a significant decline in the gap over time. In contrast, Kowanyama State School, Lockhart State School, Napranum Community and Yarrabah State School each experienced a significant increase in the gap between their student attendance rates and the corresponding statewide rate.

For further information, see Summary of results for key indicators, Table 1, a summary of trends for all five key indicators.

Summary of results for key indicators

Table 1: Summary of results for key indicators

Community ^(a)	Reported offences against the person	Charges resulting in convictions for breaches of Sections 168B and 168C ^(c)	Children subject of a substantiated notification of harm	Children admitted to finalised child protection orders	Student attendance – gap between community student rate and all Queensland state school student rate
	2000–01 to 2015–16 ^(b)	2014–15 to 2015–16	2014–15 to 2015–16	2014–15 to 2015–16	Semester 1, 2007 to 2016
Aurukun	↓ ⇄ ⇄	↑	↓	⇄	⇄
Cherbourg	⇄	↑	⇄	⇄	⇄
Coen	↓	n.a.	⇄	⇄	⇄
Doomadgee	↑ ⇄ ↑	⇄	⇄	⇄	⇄
Hope Vale	⇄	↓	↓	↓	n.a.
Kowanyama	↓ ↑	⇄	⇄	⇄	↑
Lockhart River	↑ ⇄ ⇄	↑	↓	⇄	↑
Mapoon	⇄	n.a.	⇄	⇄	⇄
Mornington Island	↓ ↑	↓	⇄	⇄	↓
Mossman Gorge	⇄	n.a.	⇄	⇄	⇄
Napranum	↓ ⇄	↓	⇄	⇄	↑
Northern Peninsula Area	⇄ ⇄ ⇄	⇄	⇄	⇄	⇄
Palm Island	⇄	↓	↓	↓	⇄
Pormpuraaw	↑ ⇄ ⇄	↑	⇄	⇄	⇄
Torres Strait Region	↓ ⇄ ↓	n.a.	⇄	⇄	⇄
Woorabinda	↑ ⇄	⇄	↓	⇄	↓
Wujal Wujal	⇄	⇄	⇄	⇄	⇄
Yarrabah	⇄ ↓	↓	↑	⇄	↑

- ↑ Statistical evidence of an upward trend or increase in annual rate.
 ↓ Statistical evidence of a downward trend or decrease in annual rate.
 ⇄ No statistical evidence of trend / change in annual rate.
 n.a. Not applicable. For further details see General trends.

(a) Unless otherwise stated, local government areas (LGAs) community populations have been used in the development of rates. Exceptions are: Coen (SA1 3139616) and Mossman Gorge (SA1 3116408) and Torres Strait Region which includes the LGAs of Torres (S) and Torres Strait Island (R). Geographies for individual indicator counts may vary, with details specified in the technical notes section at the end of this report.

(b) Multiple arrows indicate a change in the trend during the reporting period.

(c) Relates to offences against the *Liquor Act 1992*.

General trends

Reported offences against the person

2015–16 rates per 1,000 persons

Across the communities, rates of reported offences against the person were at least three times the statewide rate (6.5).

Relatively **low** rates were recorded in:

- Torres Strait Region (20.8), Mapoon (27.2), Northern Peninsula Area (27.6) and Hope Vale (36.4).

High rates were recorded in:

- Kowanyama (157.6), Woorabinda (143.9) and Doomadgee (136.5).

Annual rate change 2014–15 to 2015–16

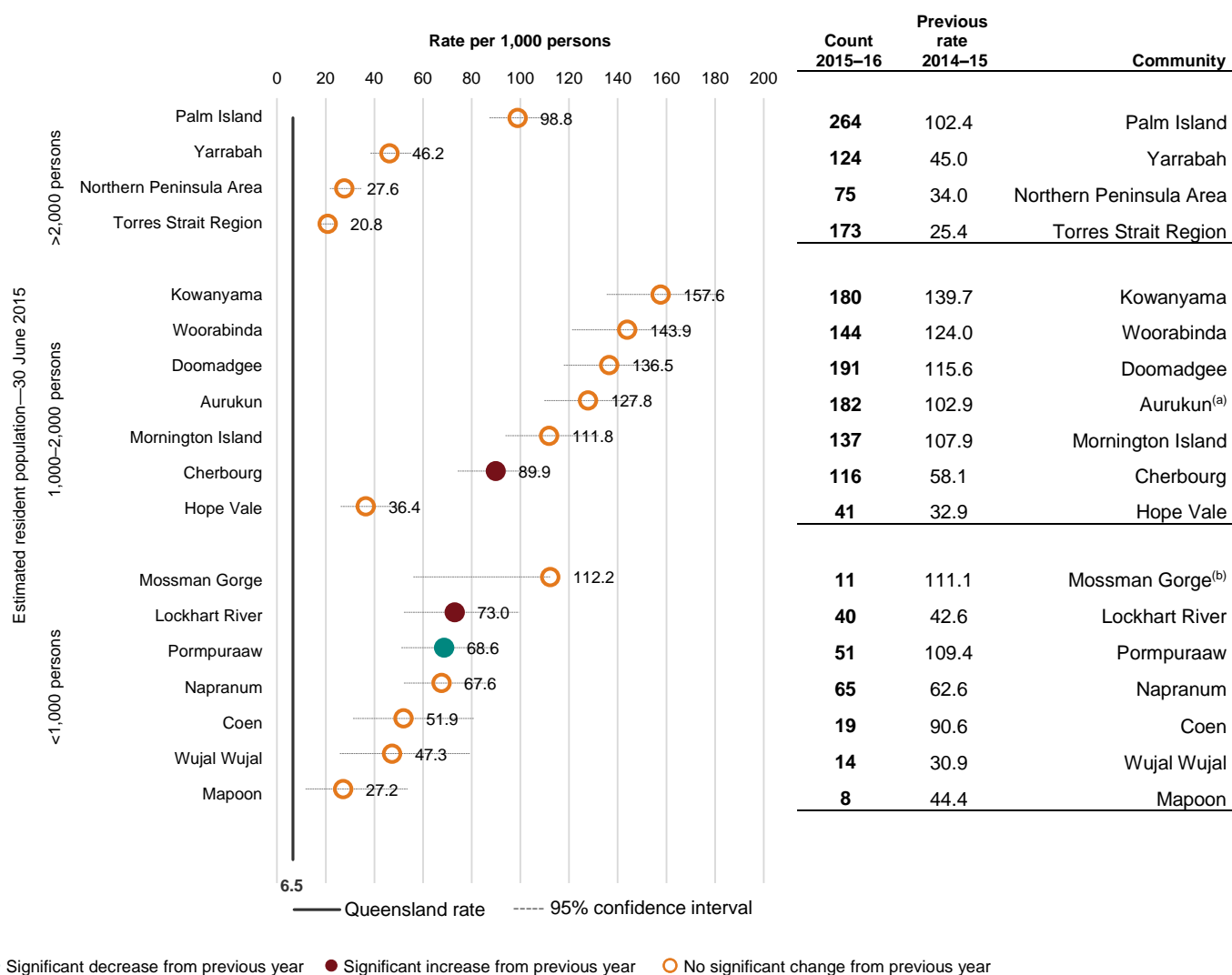
A significant **decrease** was evident for:

- Pormpuraaw.

Significant **increases** were evident for:

- Cherbourg and Lockhart River.

Figure 1: Annual rates of reported offences against the person, by community, 2015–16



(a) Aurukun excludes the 91 reported offences relating to the 'fake nurse'.

(b) To maintain the scale of the graph, the upper confidence limit for Mossman Gorge has been truncated.

Source: Queensland Police Service, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data. Data are preliminary and subject to change.

Trends in rates of reported offences against the person

Trends 2000–01 to 2015–16^(a)

Downward trends were evident for:

- Coen (from 2000–01)
- Torres Strait Region (from 2009–10)
- Yarrabah (from 2013–14).

Upward trends were evident for:

- Doomadgee (from 2011–12)
- Kowanyama (from 2010–11)
- Mornington Island (from 2010–11).

(a) Refers to latest trend period only.

Table 2: Summary of trends in reported offences against the person^(a)

Community	Evidence of change ^(c)	
	Trend 2000–01 to 2015–16	Estimated average annual percentage change 2000–01 to 2015–16 –%–
Aurukun ^(b)	↓ ⇔ ⇔	–7.7 / –2.5 / 2.4
Cherbourg	⇔	–0.8
Coen	↓	–4.5
Doomadgee	↑ ⇔ ↑	4.3 / –7.9 / 18.5
Hope Vale	⇔	–0.8
Kowanyama	↓ ↑	–10.2 / 24.4
Lockhart River	↑ ⇔ ⇔	28.8 / –0.1 / –0.1
Mapoon	⇔	0.6
Mornington Island	↓ ↑	–4.5 / 11.6
Mossman Gorge ^(b)	⇔	–2.8
Napranum	↓ ⇔	–5.8 / 3.0
Northern Peninsula Area	⇔ ⇔ ⇔	–5.7 / –3.6 / 0.5
Palm Island ^(b)	⇔	1.0
Pormpuraaw	↑ ⇔ ⇔	35.6 / –8.8 / 4.1
Torres Strait Region	↓ ⇔ ↓	–18.3 / 1.0 / –8.8
Woorabinda	↑ ⇔	18.4 / 0.8
Wujal Wujal	⇔	–1.9
Yarrabah	⇔ ↓	–2.0 / –21.3

↑ Statistical evidence of an upward trend ↓ Statistical evidence of a downward trend ⇔ No statistical evidence of a trend

- (a) More than one arrow indicates a change in the trend during the reporting period.
- (b) Due to data quality issues, trends for Aurukun, Mossman Gorge and Palm Island commence at 2003–04, 2007–08 and 2006–07 respectively.
- (c) For communities with more than one change in the trend during the reporting period, the trends refer to:
- Aurukun: 2003–04 to 2007–08 / 2008–09 to 2011–12 / 2012–13 to 2015–16
 - Doomadgee: 2000–01 to 2007–08 / 2008–09 to 2010–11 / 2011–12 to 2015–16
 - Kowanyama: 2000–01 to 2009–10 / 2010–11 to 2015–16
 - Lockhart River: 2000–01 to 2004–05 / 2005–06 to 2009–10 / 2010–11 to 2015–16
 - Mornington Island: 2000–01 to 2009–10 / 2010–11 to 2015–16
 - Napranum: 2000–01 to 2012–13 / 2013–14 to 2015–16
 - Northern Peninsula Area: 2000–01 to 2004–05 / 2005–06 to 2009–10 / 2010–11 to 2015–16
 - Pormpuraaw: 2000–01 to 2003–04 / 2004–05 to 2007–08 / 2008–09 to 2015–16
 - Torres Strait Region: 2000–01 to 2003–04 / 2004–05 to 2008–09 / 2009–10 to 2015–16
 - Woorabinda: 2000–01 to 2004–05 / 2005–06 to 2015–16
 - Yarrabah: 2000–01 to 2010–11 / 2013–14 to 2015–16.

Source: Queensland Police Service, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data. Data are preliminary and subject to change.

Breaches of alcohol restrictions

Persons convicted of breaches across all discrete Indigenous communities

Alcohol restrictions commenced at various times between 30 December 2002 and 19 June 2009 in the discrete Indigenous communities³. From when alcohol restrictions were first introduced, to 30 June 2016, 7,996 people (unique) had been convicted of 19,732 charges for breaches of alcohol carriage limits.

Charges resulting in a conviction

2015–16 rates per 1,000 persons

Relatively low rates were recorded in:

- Northern Peninsula Area (11.8), Hope Vale (18.7) and Napranum (33.3).

No breaches of alcohol restrictions were recorded in Mapoon in 2015–16, or in 2014–15.

High rates were recorded in:

- Wujal Wujal (300.7), Mornington Island (284.1), Cherbourg (268.0) and Kowanyama (260.9).

Annual rate change 2014–15 to 2015–16

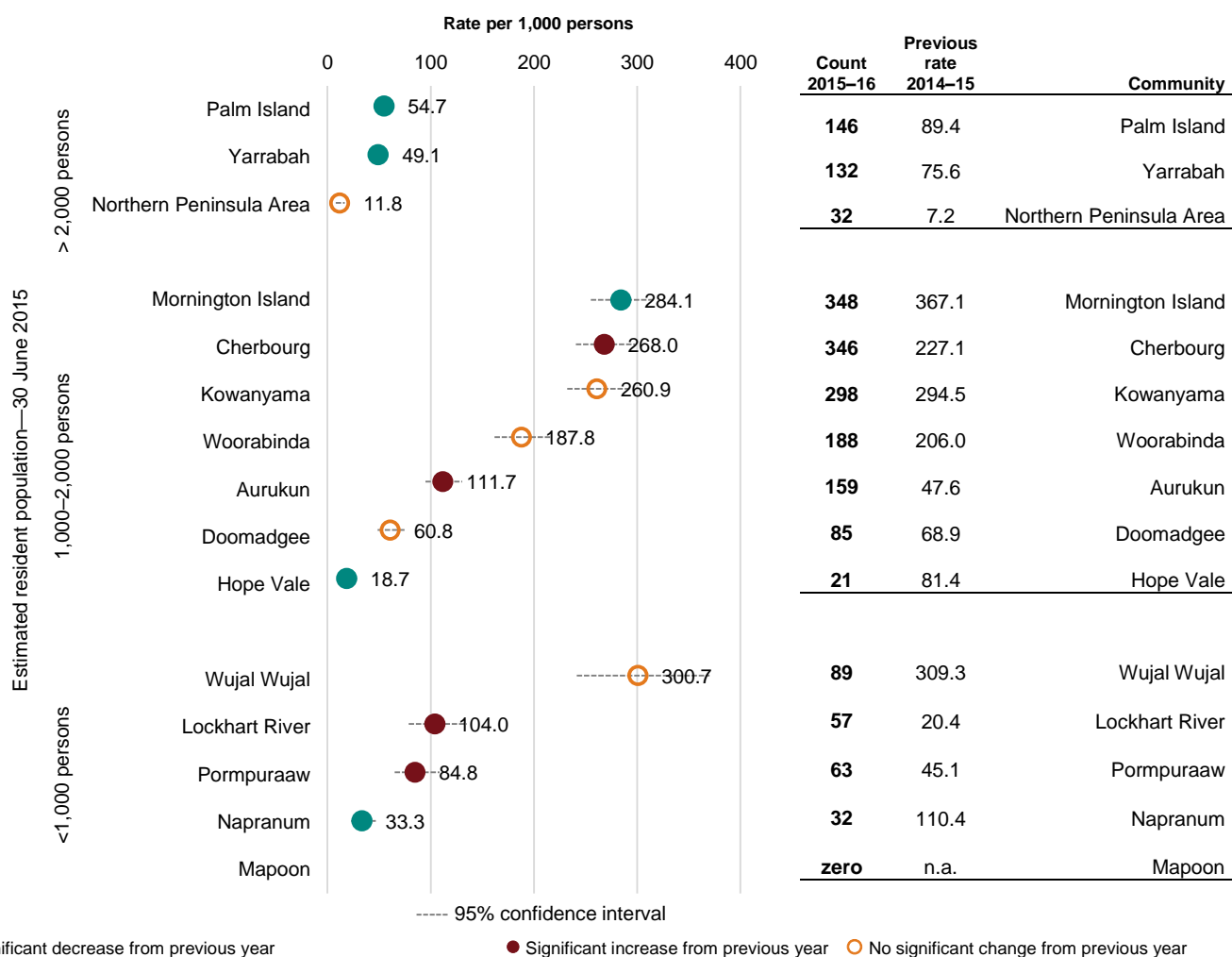
Significant decreases were evident for:

- Hope Vale, Mornington Island, Napranum, Palm Island and Yarrabah.

Significant increases were evident for:

- Aurukun, Cherbourg, Lockhart River and Pormpuraaw.

Figure 2: Annual rates of charges resulting in a conviction for breaches of Sections 168B and 168C of the Liquor Act 1992, 2015–16



n.a. – not applicable. No breaches of alcohol restrictions were recorded in Mapoon in 2015–16, or in 2014–15.

Source: Department of Justice and Attorney-General, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.

³ Alcohol restrictions are not in place in Coen, Mossman Gorge or the Torres Strait Region.

Child safety

Substantiated notifications of harm⁴

2015–16 rates per 1,000 persons aged 0–17 years

Relatively **low** rates were recorded in:

- Palm Island (5.7) and the Northern Peninsula Area (5.9).
- Less than five children from Coen, Lockhart River, Mossman Gorge, Woorabinda and Wujal Wujal were the subject of a substantiated notification of harm.

High rates were recorded in:

- Mapoon (123.1 or 8 children), Pormpuraaw (59.4 or 12 children) and Doomadgee (54.2 or 30 children).

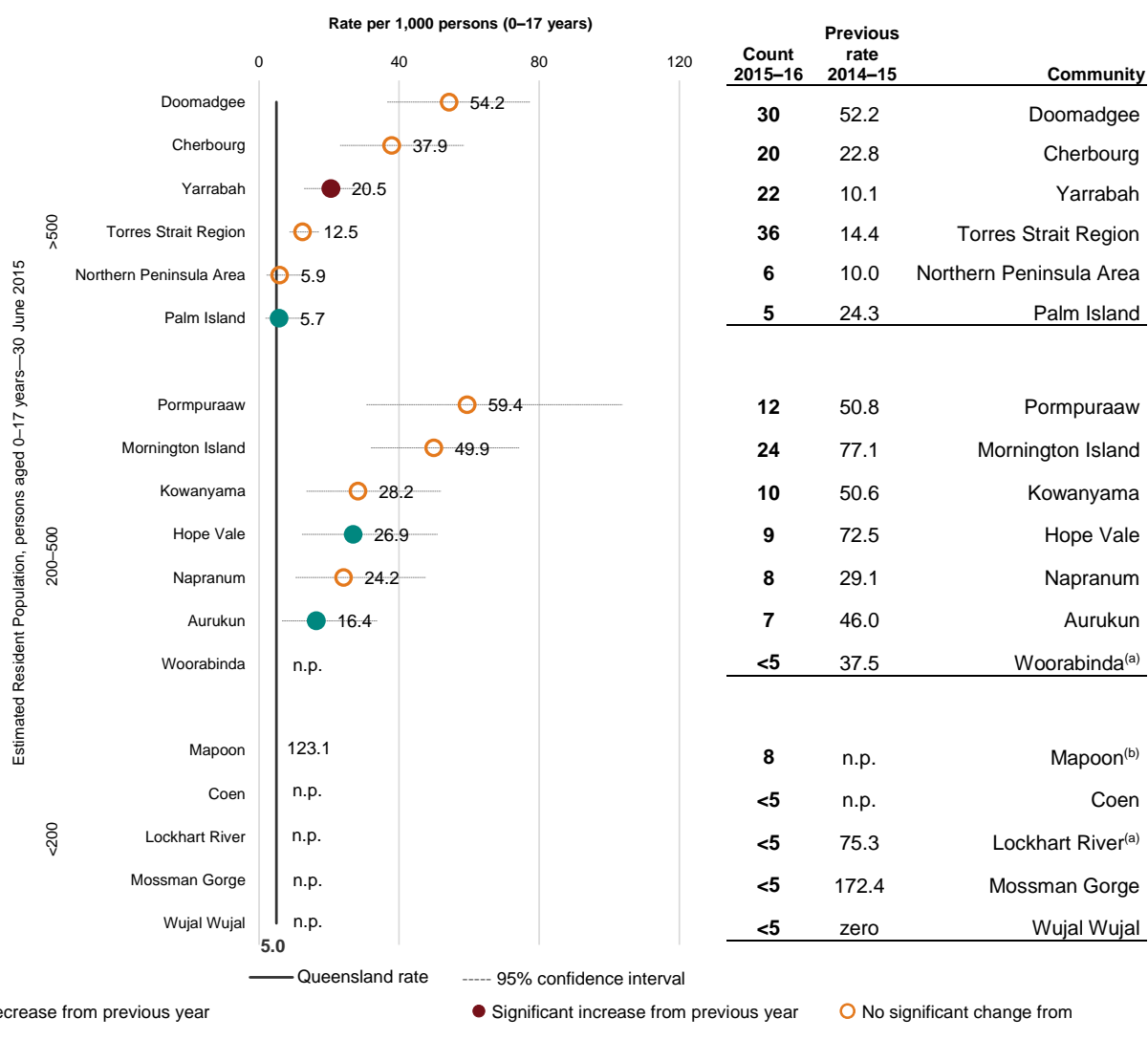
Annual rate change 2014–15 to 2015–16

Significant **decreases** were evident for:

- Aurukun, Hope Vale, Lockhart River, Palm Island and Woorabinda.

A significant **increase** was evident for Yarrabah.

Figure 3: Annual rates of children (0–17 years) who were the subject of a substantiated notification of harm, 2015–16



(a) Significant decreases were recorded for Woorabinda and Lockhart River from the previous year.

(b) To maintain the scale of the graph, the rate for Mapoon has not been plotted.

n.p. – not published (fewer than five children counted).

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.

⁴ Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification of harm are a different cohort to those admitted to finalised child protection orders.

Finalised child protection orders⁵

2015–16 rates per 1,000 persons aged 0–17 years

Rates of children who were admitted to finalised child protection orders were at least 2.5 times the statewide rate (2.3).

Relatively **low** rates were recorded in:

- Palm Island (5.7), Northern Peninsula Area (5.9) and the Torres Strait Region (5.9).

Less than five children from Hope Vale, Mapoon, Mornington Island and Woorabinda were admitted to a finalised protection order. No children from Wujal Wujal were admitted to a finalised protection order.

High rates were recorded in:

- Mossman Gorge (214.3 or 6 children), Lockhart River (93.5 or 13 children), and Coen (73.7 or 7 children).

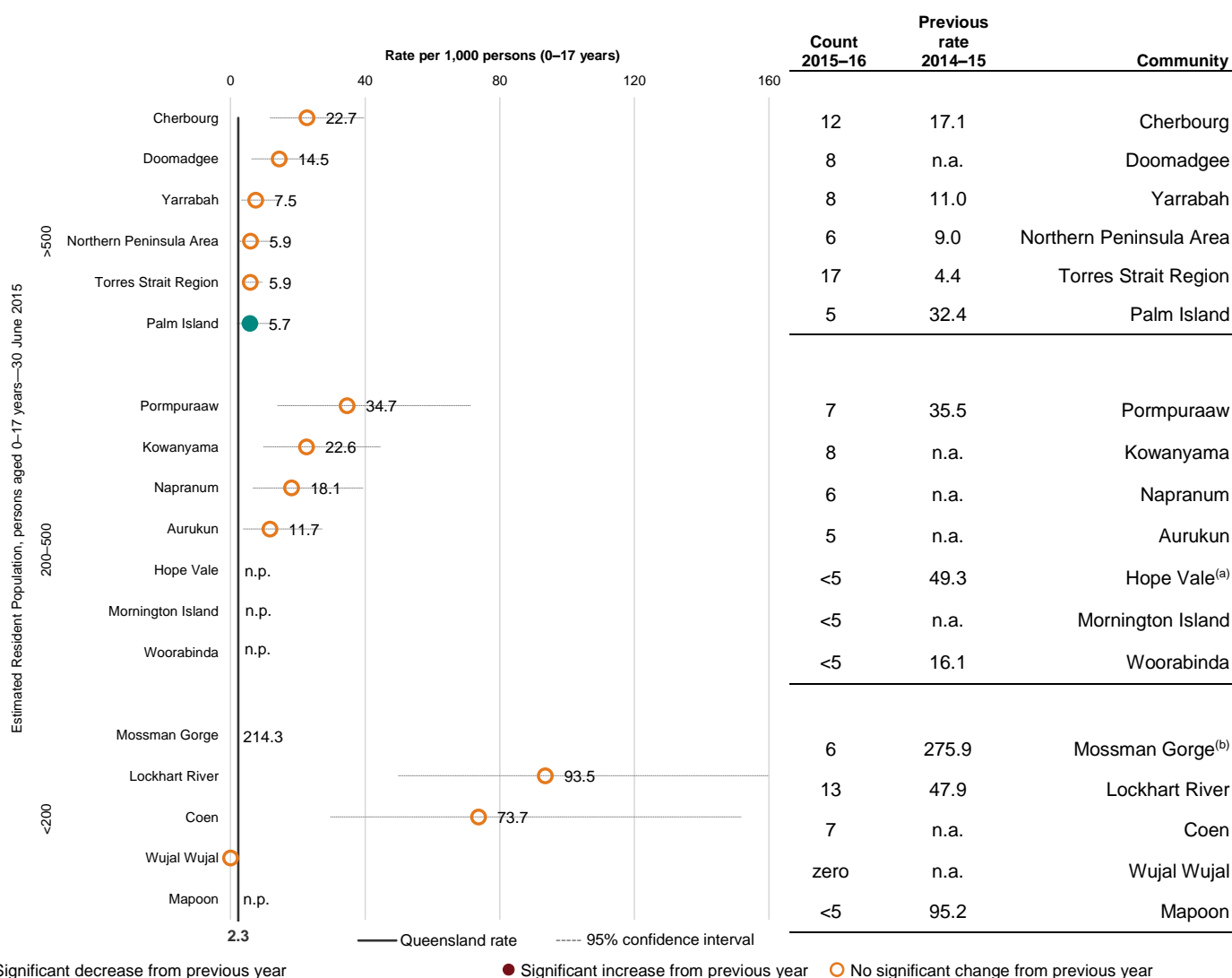
Annual rate change 2014–15 to 2015–16

No communities recorded a significant **increase**.

Significant **decreases** were recorded for:

- Hope Vale and Palm Island.

Figure 4: Annual rates of children (0–17 years) admitted to child protection orders, 2015–16



(a) A significant decrease was recorded for Hope Vale from the previous year.
 (b) To maintain the scale of the graph, the rate for Mossman Gorge has not been plotted.
 n.p. – not published (fewer than five children counted).

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.

⁵ Children admitted to finalised child protection orders are a different cohort to those who were the subject of a substantiated notification of harm.

Student attendance

Semester 1 rates

Semester 1, 2016 rates

Relatively **high** attendance rates were recorded for:

- Coen Campus of CYAAA (90.5%), and Tagai State College (89.0%).

Low attendance rates were recorded for:

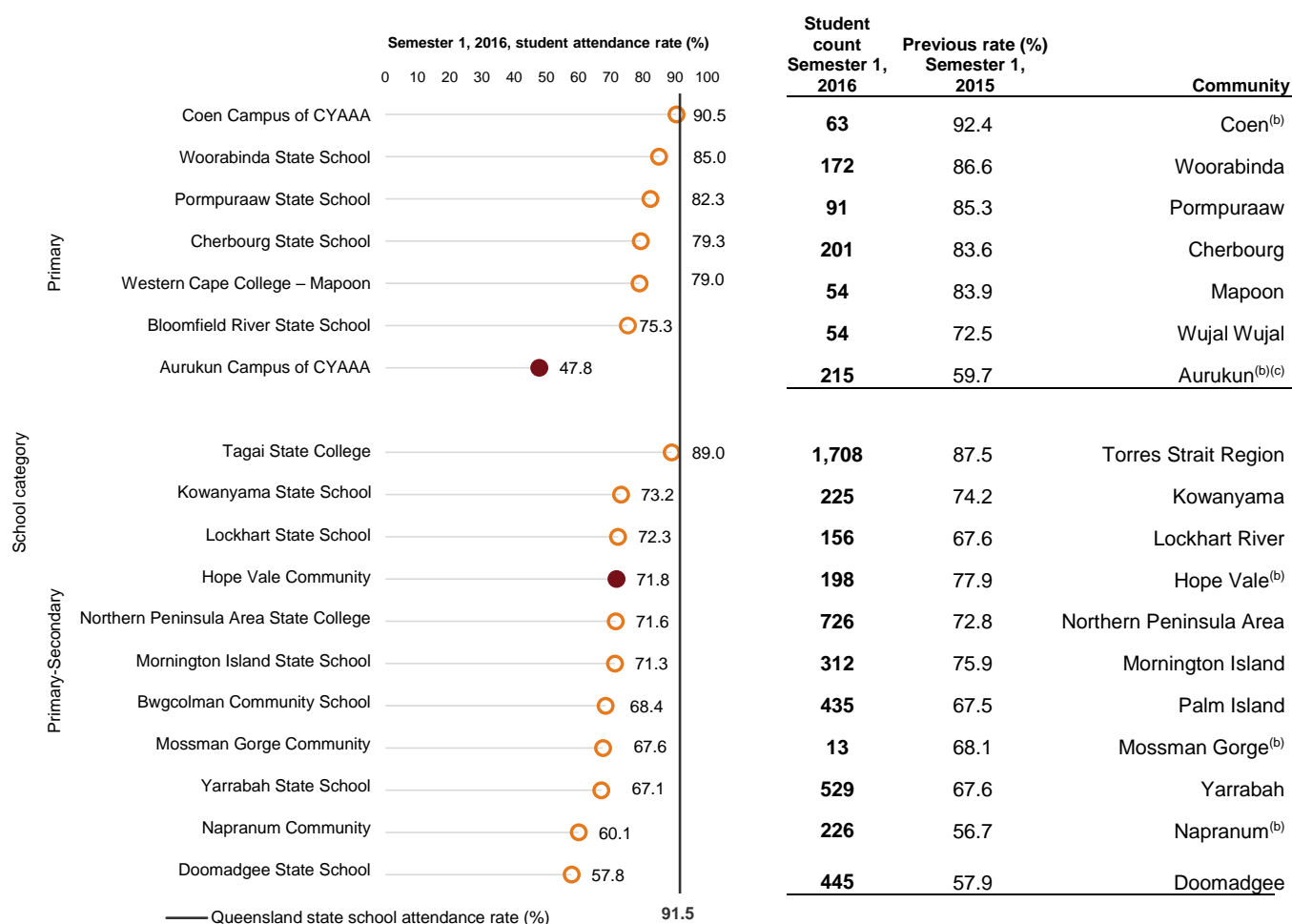
- Aurukun Campus of CYAAA (47.8%), Doomadgee State School (57.8%), and Napranum Community (60.1%).

Rate change Semester 1, 2015 to Semester 1, 2016

Decreases were evident for:

- Aurukun Campus of CYAAA (–11.9 percentage points) and Hope Vale Community (–6.1 percentage points).

Figure 5: Attendance rates (%) for state school students^(a), Semester 1, 2016



● Increase from previous year (+5.0 percentage points or more) ● Decrease from previous year (-5.0 percentage points or more) ○ Similar to previous year

(a) See Table 7 for year levels included in reporting for each school.

(b) CYAAA refers to Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy. Hope Vale Community student attendance rates include student attendance for all full-time students at Hope Vale Campus of CYAAA and full-time students identified as Hope Vale residents at Cooktown State School. Mossman Gorge Community attendance rates include school identified students attending Mossman State and State High Schools. Napranum Community attendance rates include students enrolled at Western Cape College – Weipa with an address in Napranum.

(c) In Term 2 2016, Aurukun Campus of CYAAA was closed from 11-18 May (inclusive) and again from 26-30 May (inclusive). An alternative education program was offered for the remainder of the term covering 31 May to 24 June. Attendance at this alternative program was lower than rates recorded in the preceding seven years (Semester 1 2009 to Semester 1 2015) for this semester (ranging from a low of 59.7% in Semester 1 2015 to a high of 73.5% in Semester 1 2011 during this period).

Source: Department of Education and Training, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.

Student attendance rate trends⁶

Gap between community state school students and Queensland state school students — Semester 1, 2007 to Semester 1, 2016

A **narrowing** of the gap was evident for:

- Mornington Island State School, and
- Woorabinda State School.

A **widening** of the gap was evident for:

- Kowanyama State School
- Lockhart River State School
- Napranum Community, and
- Yarrabah State School.

Table 3: Summary of trends in student attendance rate gaps

Community State School	Evidence of change
	Trend, Semester 1, 2007 to Semester 1 2016 ^(a)
Aurukun Campus of CYAAA ^(b)	↔
Bloomfield River State School	↔
Bwgcolman Community School	↔
Cherbourg State School	↔
Coen Campus of CYAAA ^(b)	↔
Doomadgee State School	↔
Hope Vale Community ^(b)	n.a.
Kowanyama State School	↑
Lockhart State School	↑
Mornington Island State School	↓
Mossman Gorge Community ^(b)	↔
Napranum Community ^(b)	↑
Northern Peninsula Area State College	↔
Pormpuraaw State School	↔
Western Cape College – Mapoon	↔
Tagai State College	↔
Woorabinda State School	↓
Yarrabah State School	↑

↑ Statistical evidence of a widening of the gap

↓ Statistical evidence of a narrowing of the gap

↔ No statistical evidence of change of the gap

n.a. – not applicable. Data for Hope Vale Community are not available for all 10 semester periods.

(a) For consistency, trend analyses for all primary schools relate to Years 6 and below, except analyses for Bwgcolman Community School which exclude students in Years 11 and 12.

(b) CYAAA refers to Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy. Hope Vale Community student attendance rates include student attendance for all full-time students at Hope Vale Campus of CYAAA and full-time students identified as Hope Vale residents at Cooktown State School. Mossman Gorge Community attendance rates include school identified students attending Mossman State and State High Schools. Napranum Community attendance rates include students enrolled at Western Cape College – Weipa with an address in Napranum.

Source: Department of Education and Training, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.

⁶ Prior to 2015, primary school attendance rates (with the exception of Western Cape College – Mapoon) included Year 7 students. In 2015, Year 7 students transitioned to secondary school and students in Special year level were reassigned to their academic or age-appropriate year level.

Student attendance rate ranges

Students attending 90% or more of all school days

Relatively **high** percentages of students attending 90% or more of all school days were recorded at:

- Tagai State College (61%) and Coen Campus of CYAAA (60%).

Low percentages were recorded for students at:

- Aurukun Campus of CYAAA (7%), Napranum Community (9%) and Doomadgee State School (12%).

Annual change Semester 1, 2015 to Semester 1, 2016

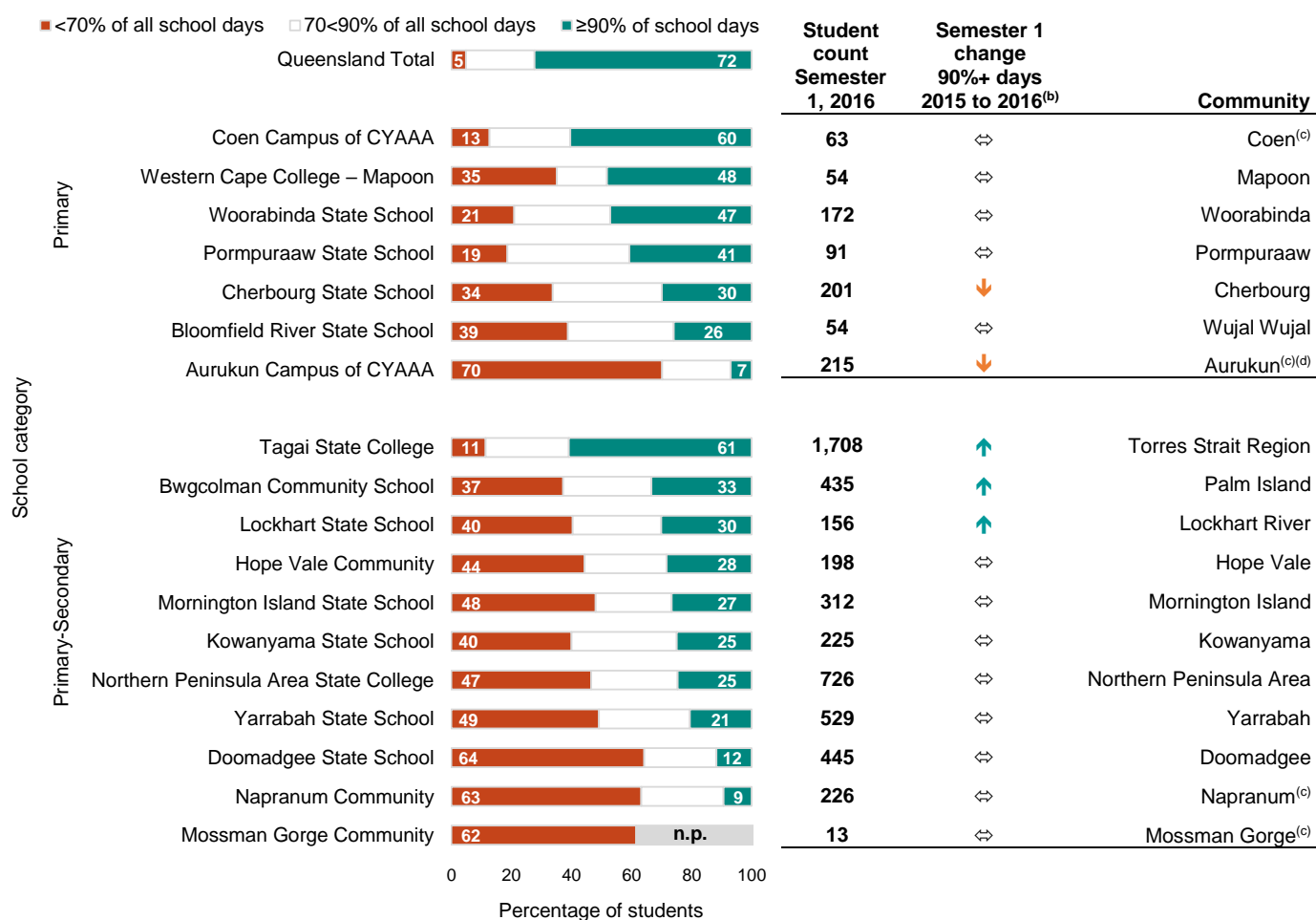
Significant **increases** were evident for:

- Bwgcolman Community School, Lockhart State School and Tagai State College.

Significant **decreases** were evident for:

- Aurukun Campus of CYAAA and Cherbourg State School.

Figure 6: Semester 1 attendance rate ranges, Semester 1, 2016^(a)



↑ Significant increase from previous year ↓ Significant decrease from previous year ↔ No significant change from previous year
n.p. - not published (fewer than five children counted).

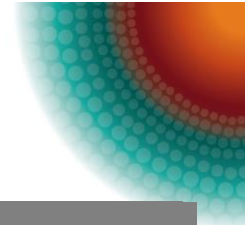
(a) Rate range data includes students who were enrolled at the school but may not have arrived at the school or were enrolled for a small number of days during the semester.

(b) Because the two cohorts are composed of mostly the same students, reducing the likelihood that any differences are merely chance events, this should be treated as a conservative estimate of significant difference.

(c) CYAAA refers to Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy. Hope Vale Community attendance rates include student attendance for all full-time students at Hope Vale Campus of CYAAA and full-time students identified as Hope Vale residents at Cooktown State School. Mossman Gorge Community attendance rates include school identified students attending Mossman State and State High Schools. Napranum Community attendance rates include students enrolled at Western Cape College – Weipa with an address in Napranum.

(d) In Term 2 2016, Aurukun Campus of CYAAA was closed from 11-18 May (inclusive) and again from 26-30 May (inclusive). An alternative education program was offered for the remainder of the term covering 31 May to 24 June. Attendance at this alternative program was lower than rates recorded in the preceding seven years (Semester 1 2009 to Semester 1 2015) for this semester (ranging from a low of 59.7% in Semester 1 2015 to a high of 73.5% in Semester 1 2011 during this period).

Source: Department of Education and Training, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.



Semester 1 student attendance, Prep to Year 10, 2016

Attendance rates

In Semester 1, 2016, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander state school student attendance rates were lower than non-Indigenous state school attendance rates across all year levels statewide. The gap was:

- greatest in high school year levels, ranging from 7.8 (Year 7) to 10.6 percentage points (Year 9)
- lowest in primary school year levels, ranging from 5.9 (Year 5) to 7.1 percentage points (Year 1).

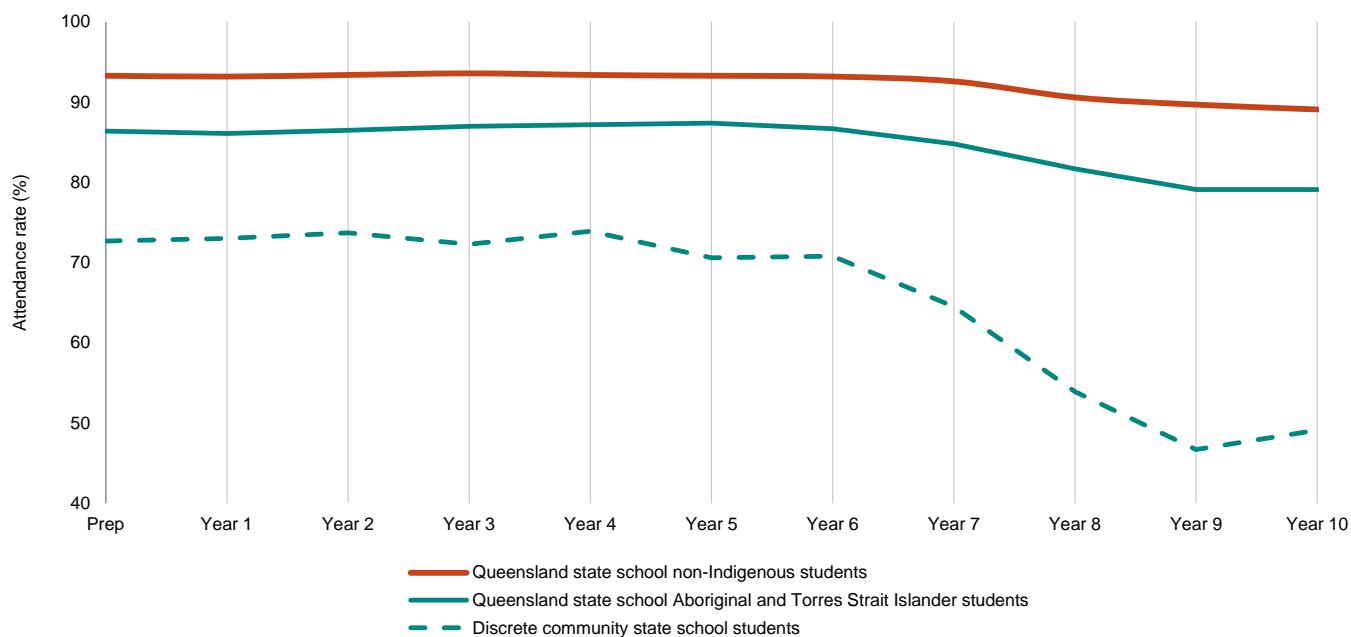
There was also a gap between the attendance rates of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander state school students and state school students in the discrete communities⁷, ranging from at least 12 percentage points in primary year levels to at least 19 percentage points in the secondary year levels.

Absences

In Semester 1, 2016, 43% of the days absent attributed to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander state school students in Prep to Year 10 were unexplained, and 5% were disciplinary absences, compared with 22% and 3% respectively for non-Indigenous students.

Across the discrete Indigenous communities, the proportion of all student absences which were unexplained ranged from 7% for students at Coen Campus of CYAAA, to at least 97% for students at Aurukun Campus of CYAAA.

Figure 7: Semester 1 student attendance rates for discrete Indigenous community state school students⁷ and Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous state school students by year level, 2016



Source: Department of Education and Training, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.

⁷ Excludes attendance rates for Tagai State College students. Except for Prep year, attendance rates for Tagai State College students were higher than rates for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander state school students in Queensland.

Boarding schools

The attendance data described in this report are only for the children and young people from the discrete Indigenous communities and the Torres Strait Region, who are enrolled in state schools in their communities (or near their communities, for residents of Hope Vale, Mossman Gorge and Napranum).

Young people from the discrete Indigenous communities and the Torres Strait Region may attend schools outside their community. For example, many students from remote Indigenous communities who continue into senior secondary school leave their communities to attend boarding schools. In 2016 (Semester 1), there were at least 322 young people from discrete Indigenous communities in Cape York and Palm Island supported by the Department of Education and Training's Transition Support Service (TSS). These students were enrolled in Years 7 to 12 at boarding schools across Queensland (see Table 4).

Table 4: Estimated number of discrete Indigenous community students enrolled in Years 7 to 12 at Queensland boarding schools, Semester 1, 2016^{(a)(b)(c)}

Community	–student count–
Aurukun	57
Cherbourg	n.a.
Coen	13
Doomadgee	n.a.
Hope Vale	19
Kowanyama	48
Lockhart River	39
Mapoon	<5
Mornington Island	n.a.
Mossman Gorge	n.a.
Napranum	zero
Northern Peninsula Area	13
Palm Island	83
Pormpuraaw	29
Woorabinda	n.a.
Wujal Wujal	17
Yarrabah	n.a.
Total	322

n.a. Not applicable. Data are not available for Cherbourg, Doomadgee, Mornington Island, Mossman Gorge, Woorabinda and Yarrabah.

- (a) These figures represent the number of students who attended primary schools in discrete Indigenous communities, and transitioned to secondary boarding schools, and are supported by the Department of Education and Training's Transition Support Service (TSS). The student numbers supported by the TSS do not necessarily reflect all students who attended primary schools in those communities that may be in boarding schools.
- (b) In previous years the data provided for this report included students supported by TSS as well as data for other students attending school at another location (other than their community). From Semester 1, 2015 onwards this includes students supported by TSS only. This means that statistics for Semester 1, 2016 and 2015 are not comparable with data for previous years.
- (c) Excludes students from the Torres Strait Region.

Source: Department of Education and Training, unpublished data. Please read the technical notes prior to using these data.

Notes to accompany data (technical notes)

Alcohol carriage limits

Community	Alcohol carriage limit
Aurukun*	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Cherbourg	11.25 litres (1 carton of 30 cans [#]) of light or mid-strength beer.
Doomadgee	22.5 litres (2 cartons of 30 cans ^{##}) of light or mid-strength beer. Home brew and home brew equipment are banned.
Hope Vale*	11.25 litres (1 carton of 30 cans [#]) of light or mid-strength beer; or 750 ml (1 bottle) of non-fortified wine.
Kowanyama	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Lockhart River	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Mapoon	2 litres of non-fortified wine, and 22.5 litres (2 cartons of 30 cans ^{##}) of light or mid-strength beer, and 9 litres [^] (1 carton of 24 cans) of pre-mixed spirits; or 2 litres of non-fortified wine and 33.75 litres (3 cartons of 30 cans ^{###}) of light or mid-strength beer.
Mornington Shire*	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Napranum	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Northern Peninsula Area*	2 litres of non-fortified wine, and 11.25 litres (1 carton of 30 cans [#]) of any strength beer; or 2 litres of non-fortified wine and 9 litres [^] (1 carton of 24 cans) of pre-mixed spirits.
Palm Island*	11.25 litres (1 carton of 30 cans [#]) of light or mid-strength beer.
Pormpuraaw*	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Woorabinda	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Wujal Wujal	Zero alcohol carriage limit – no alcohol, home brew or home brew equipment is allowed.
Yarrabah	11.25 litres (1 carton of 30 cans [#]) of light or mid-strength beer; or 750 ml (1 bottle) of non-fortified wine.

* Alcohol restrictions do not apply at licensed premises operating in the community. However, specific licence conditions limiting the amount, type and availability of alcohol apply to each of the premises individually, to complement alcohol restrictions.

[^] 9 litres = 1 carton of 24 x 375 mL cans.

[#] 11.25 litres = 1 carton of 30 x 375 mL cans.

^{##} 22.50 litres = 2 cartons of 30 x 375 mL cans.

^{###} 33.75 litres = 3 cartons of 30 x 375 mL cans.

Note: For more information on licensed premises and alcohol restrictions see: <http://www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/liquor-gaming>.

Statistical significance

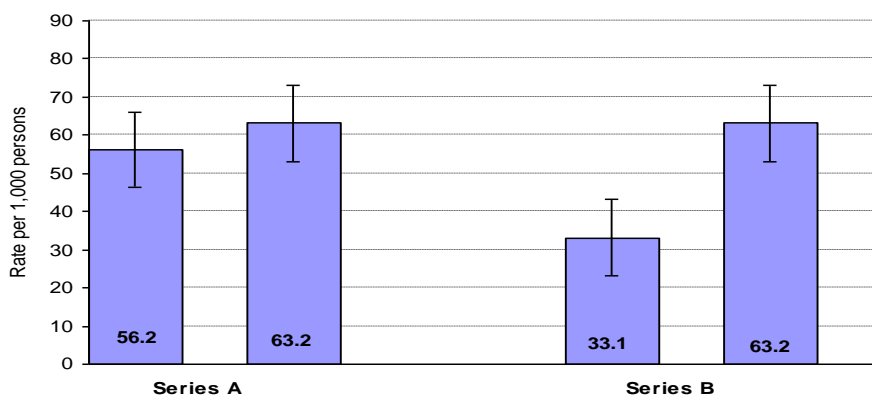
A casual comparison of two rates from the same indicator series will often appear to show that there is a difference between them. For example, 56.2 reported offences per 1,000 persons appears to be different to (lower than) 63.2 per 1,000 persons. Statistical tests of significance are used to determine whether a difference between two rates is due to randomness or a significant change in the underlying risk of the event occurring. For example, an increase or decrease in the number of reported offences resulting from the implementation of alcohol restrictions or community policing practices. A confidence level of 95 per cent has been used in this report.

For simplicity, confidence limits can also be used to approximate a statistical significance test: where the confidence intervals of two rates (from the same indicator) do not overlap, it can be concluded that an observed difference between the two rates most likely did not arise through randomness. In small populations, the confidence intervals will be wider than those of larger populations, indicating a greater likelihood of change being due to random variation.

In this report, the confidence limits are depicted in the graphs as error bars. Where the confidence intervals of two rates do not overlap for the indicators of reported offences and convictions for breaches of carriage limits, they are said to be statistically significantly different. Conversely, where the confidence intervals for rates of these indicators do overlap, the rates may be similar. More accurate statistical tests have been conducted when the error bars almost overlap, or when there is a slight overlap. In some cases these tests will indicate a significant difference between rates even if the bars overlap slightly, and vice versa.

Figure 8 shows two series of rates, series A and series B, where the bar height represents the magnitude of the estimated rate and the vertical lines overlaying the bar represent the confidence interval around each rate. The confidence intervals in series A overlap considerably, indicating that the observed difference between these two rates is likely to be due to random variation. The confidence intervals in series B do not overlap at all. Thus it can be reasonably concluded that there has been a significant change in the underlying risk of the event occurring in series B.

Figure 8: Annual rates showing confidence limits



Trend analyses in this report were designed to assess whether there is evidence of a relationship between reported offences with time and student attendance rate gaps with time. This was achieved by examining the overall trend and its rate of change over time. Statistical evidence of trends was determined by examining the statistical strength of the test, the magnitude of change and its associated confidence interval. This allows for the assessment of both the range of plausible values for the magnitude of the true change over time and its direction. This is particularly important when using a small amount of data as undertaken in this report.

Estimated resident population for reported offences against the person and breaches measures

Estimated resident populations (ERP) used to define community size, and in the calculation of rates, have been sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications.

For discrete communities that are also local government areas (LGA) total ERP for the LGA has been sourced from:

ABS 3218.0, *Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2014–15*.

For the communities of Coen and Mossman Gorge, the total ERP of their corresponding statistical area level 1 (SA1) has been used.

Source: ABS, Estimated resident population by statistical area level 1 (SA1), Australia, 2011 to 2015p, unpublished data, and Queensland Treasury, Queensland Government Statistician's Office (QGSO) calculations based on these data.

ERP prior to and as at 30 June 2011 are final, revised for 2012 to 2014, and preliminary for 2015.

Unless otherwise stated, rates have been calculated using the ERP at the beginning of the period.

Measure: Reported offences against the person

Source: Queensland Police Service (QPS), unpublished data.

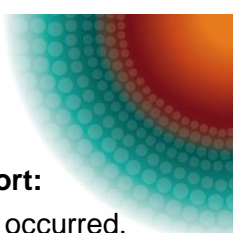
These data are for reported offences against the person and are reported by the location of the offence.

- Data are preliminary and subject to change.
- ERP for the entire reporting period have been rebased by the ABS according to results from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. Reported offence rates for communities over these years may have changed from those reported previously.
- 'Offences against the person' describes the number of person offences reported to police, such as homicide, assaults, sexual assaults, etc. It does not count the number of victims or the number of offenders. Many things, including where and when the offence occurred, the availability of police officers and the relationship between the offender and the victim, can impact the number of reported offences in any period. For example, offences may be reported many months or even years after they have occurred. Offences that are 'not substantiated' or 'cancelled' are not included in the offence count.
- All data used have been supplied by the Public Safety Business Agency (PSBA) from QPS's Crime Reporting Information System for Police (CRISP) database and the Queensland Police Records and Information Management Exchange (QPRIME) database.
- PSBA has provided QPS offence data for the periods and locations shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Queensland Police Service offence data by location, July 2000 to June 2016

Divisions	Communities
Aurukun Division	Mapoon Community
Badu Island Division*	Mossman Gorge Community
Bamaga Division*	Napranum Community
Cherbourg Division	
Coen Division	
Doomadgee Division	
Hope Vale Division	
Horn Island Division*	
Kowanyama Division	
Lockhart River Division	
Mornington Island Division	
Palm Island Division	
Pompuraaw Division	
Thursday Island Division*	
Woorabinda Division	
Wujal Wujal Division	
Yarrabah Division	

*For the purposes of this report, Northern Peninsula Area refers to the Bamaga Division while the Torres Strait Region refers to the divisions of Badu Island, Horn Island and Thursday Island.



PSBA has provided the following counting rules for the offence data included in this report:

- The offence is counted on the date the offence is reported to police rather than the date it occurred.
- Offences that are 'not substantiated' or 'cancelled' are not included in the offence count.
- The ABS crime statistics counting methodology in respect of the use of Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO) states that for each victim within a distinct criminal incident, the most serious offence (MSO) per ANCO subdivision is counted. The national data set *Recorded crime – Victims* does not include 'victimless' offences such as those contained in the 'Other offences' division, nor does it include offences of fraud. The QPS counting rule for offences of this type is to count each distinct criminal act of criminal transaction per criminal incident.

The application of the MSO rule has major implications for the recording of crime statistics. By applying the MSO rule, a single criminal incident may result in a number of offences being recorded. For incidents where the same victim is subjected to multiple offences belonging to different subdivisions, one offence, the most serious, is counted within each subdivision. For example, if two offenders were to break into a house and assault the occupant, one count of assault and one count of unlawful entry would be recorded since assault and unlawful entry belong to separate ANCO subdivisions. In addition, as statistics are reported in Queensland on a victim-based counting system, a count of one offence is recorded for each major offence despite the fact that there are two offenders.

The description of a victim differs according to offence type. For most person offences, the victim is an individual person, although for some offences (robbery and extortion) the victim can be an organisation. In the case of motor vehicle theft, the victim is the motor vehicle, while for unlawful entry offences the victim is the place or premises as defined on the basis of occupation or ownership. In the example given above, there are two separate victims—the occupant (victim of assault) and the premises (victim of unlawful entry).

The exception to the counting rule is the offence division of Sexual offences. The counting rule applied by QPS in respect of this group of offences is that for each victim the MSO per ANCO subdivision is counted on the basis of time and place. Under this rule, if a victim can remember offences taking place on a number of different occasions over a number of years, each incident is counted. For example, a victim has been subjected to the offence of incest on 12 occasions over the past five years. Although there is only one victim, QPS counts this as 12 offences. (Note that under national counting rules, this would be counted as a single offence and, therefore, **Queensland differs nationally with regard to sexual offences**).

Another exception to this national counting rule concerns 'Regina offences'. All Regina offences may be recorded regardless of whether they belong to the same ANCO subdivision. As there is no 'victim' as such (the Crown is considered to be the 'victim'), each offence committed is recorded. For example, if an offender commits the offences of disorderly conduct, obscene language, and indecent behaviour (all sub-categories of Good order offences), all offences are counted.

- Based on the reporting methodologies for reported offences, offence data do not provide a unique count of all offences, offenders or victims for victim-based offences.

Caveats

The offence data should only be used with reference to the above technical notes and the following caveats supplied by PSBA:

- Analysis of these QPS data has been undertaken by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office.
- Data produced for geographical areas other than State, Region or District are subject to inconsistency. Data are estimates only and caution should be used in their interpretation.
- Initially, data are preliminary and may be subject to change.
- Data are supplied on the condition that they not be supplied to any other person or agency without appropriate authorisation from QPS.

Measure: Breaches of Sections 168B and 168C of the Liquor Act 1992

Source: Queensland Wide Interlinked Courts (QWIC).

- The 'Number of charges resulting in a conviction' includes charges finalised where an order is made that no conviction be recorded on the defendants' criminal history.
- Data for Cherbourg include offences committed prior to the commencement date of the Alcohol Management Plan.
- A single offender can be convicted of multiple charges; as such, the rate of charges is a measure of charges not offenders.
- The entire population has been used to determine the conviction rate, rather than those aged ten years and older, in recognition that breaches are likely to impact on the entire community and may not be committed by community residents.

Measure: Child safety

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, unpublished data.

- Data were provided as counts by discrete Indigenous community and only represent new admissions in each community over the reporting period.
- Children subject to substantiated child protection notifications are all children who were subject to a notification during the financial years from 2014–15 to 2015–16 where the investigation resulted in a substantiated outcome, and who were living in the relevant community at the time of notification. If a child was the subject of more than one substantiated child protection notification in the period, the first substantiation was recorded.
- Children admitted to child protection orders are all children who were admitted to a finalised child protection order during the financial years from 2014–15 to 2015–16 and whose family residence was in the relevant community at the time the order was made. This measure is a count of the number of children admitted to a child protection order during the reference period, regardless of when the substantiation occurred.
- Children who are the subject of a substantiated notification are a different cohort to those admitted to a child protection order.
- The rate per 1,000 persons was calculated using the ERP for persons aged 0–17 years as the denominator.
- Rates are based on ERP at 30 June at the beginning of the reference period. ERP have been sourced from:

ABS 3235.0, *Population by age and sex, regions of Australia*, 2015, and
QGSO, Queensland Treasury, *Population estimates by Indigenous status*, 2015 edition.

- Rates for Mossman Gorge and Coen are based on ERP for each of the relevant SA1s sourced from an ABS consultancy published on the QGSO website:
<http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/tables/erp-age-sex-sa1-qld-consult/index.php>

The estimated population aged 0–17 years for each of these communities has been derived by applying the proportion of total persons aged 0–17 years (based on census counts) to the relevant SA1 total ERP.

- Readers should consider that annual counts by discrete Indigenous community are small and vary substantially. For this reason, they do not reliably represent sustained change in the counts of substantiated child protection notifications or child protection orders for each community. The number of children subject to substantiation can vary significantly each quarter for a range of reasons, such as the number of children per substantiated household.

Measure: Student attendance

Source: Department of Education and Training (DET), unpublished data.

These data are reported as rates percentages where:

Attendance rate = total full-time equivalent days attendance/total possible number of days of attendance*100 (%).

Attendance rate change/difference:

Decision rules have been developed in liaison with DET to facilitate consistent reliable reporting on student attendance rate percentage point change/difference (see Table 6). These rules have been applied in this report to assess the:

- percentage point difference in the school student attendance rate between periods
- percentage point difference between the student attendance rate at a school and the corresponding state rate.

For example, if a student attendance rate for a school in Semester 1, 2012 was 4.5 percentage points higher than the rate recorded in Semester 1, 2011, according to the rules, the Semester 1, 2012 rate would be described as 'similar to the rate recorded for Semester 1, 2011'. However, if a Semester 1, 2012 rate was 5.0 percentage points higher than the rate recorded for Semester 1, 2011, the difference would be described as 'an increase on the rate recorded for Semester 1, 2011'.

Table 6: Rules for describing differences in student attendance rates

Percentage point difference	Description
<- 5.0 to < + 5.0	Similar
+5.0 to +20.0 (inclusive)	Increase (or Higher)
-5.0 to -20.0 (inclusive)	Decrease (or Lower)
> + 20.0	Substantial increase
> - 20.0	Substantial decrease

Data quality statement

Revised student attendance data collection methodologies

- Semester 1 rates since 2013 are based on a revised collection methodology, effectively counting attendance for every student for every day of attendance in a given reference period.
- These changes are the result of an improvement in the calculation methodology which is now possible due to the increased data captured through the school management system—OneSchool. The new method is in line with the national standard for student attendance, as endorsed by the Australian Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs Senior Officials Committee in 2014, which requires collection of standardised student attendance data by all state, independent and catholic education systems.
- The previous method was based only on the absences of students enrolled at the school at a specified date. Absence information about students who left the school before the specified date was not included in the attendance rate. The previous method was developed due to the constraints of the School Information Management System (SiMS). The method led to students with high mobility being under-represented in attendance rate calculations, with the exclusion of those students leading to the attendance rate being higher than it otherwise would have been.
- OneSchool does not have the same constraints as SiMS, with OneSchool allowing the capture of the attendance history of every student on every day, irrespective of enrolment history and mobility. While the transition to the new method wasn't required under the national standards until 2014, it was agreed to use this more inclusive data from 2013 given it was available.

- OneSchool began collecting the additional information required in 2012, but because time series reporting is integral to interpreting student attendance data it was not proposed to make the transition until 2013, when a consistent 2012 to 2013 view was possible.
- For the Semester 1 collection, the Semester 1, 2012 data were not revised to reflect the new methodology, due to the confounding effects of changes made to the roll-marking procedures which were implemented during Semester 1, 2013.

Changes to the roll-marking procedures

- In Semester 1 2013, two major changes were made to the roll-marking procedures which have impacted on how full and partial-day absences are recorded:
 - Absences due to natural disasters: Under the revised procedures, a student will no longer be considered absent if they are unable to attend school due to a natural disaster.
 - Treatment of Early and Late absences: Under the revised procedures, a student who leaves (or arrives) within **two hours** of scheduled schooling is marked as either Early or Late (with no penalty). This does not count as a half day absence. Under the previous procedures, the specified timeframe was **half an hour**.

Student attendance

- The data include full and part-day absences. Only school days are counted. Local holidays, public holidays, etc. are not included.
- The data include all full-time students, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous.
- Student counts at community level are of unique students.
- Semester attendance data include full-time students in Years Prep to 12 (including special students). Prior to Semester 1, 2013, the collection was restricted to students who were enrolled for at least some period during Semester 1 and were still enrolled at the school as at August Census. From Semester 1, 2013, the rates are based on all full-time students who were enrolled at a school during any part of Semester 1.
- From 2015, Year 7 was moved to secondary schooling and students in Special year level were re-assigned to their academic or age appropriate year levels.
- From 2011 to 2012, ungraded students were recorded in their age-specific year levels.
- Prior to Term 3, 2011, Year 11 and Year 12 students on Palm Island attended Palm Island Senior Campus (hosted by Kirwan State High School). From Term 3, 2011, Bwgcolman Community School was updated to a P–12 school and all Year 11 and Year 12 students on Palm Island began attending the school.
- Mossman Gorge Community attendance is calculated by combining the attendance for school-identified students from Mossman State School and Mossman State High School.
- Napranum attendance data are for students at Western Cape College – Weipa who have an address in Napranum.
- Information for Northern Peninsula Area Community provides an integrated summary which includes students residing in Bamaga, Injinoo, New Mapoon, Seisia and Umagico, as all students attend Northern Peninsula Area State College (previously Bamaga SS).
- From Semester 1, 2012, Hopevale State School, Western Cape College – Aurukun, and Western Cape College – Coen became part of Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy and changed their names to Hope Vale Campus of CYAAA, Aurukun Campus of CYAAA and Coen Campus of CYAAA respectively.
- In Term 2 2016, Aurukun Campus of CYAAA was closed from 11-18 May (inclusive) and again from 26-30 May (inclusive). An alternative education program was offered for the remainder of the term covering 31 May to 24 June. Attendance at this alternative program was lower than rates recorded

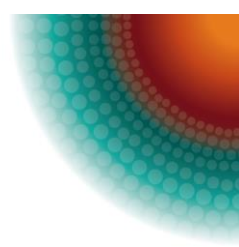
in the preceding seven years (Semester 1 2009 to Semester 1 2015) for this semester (ranging from a low of 59.7% in Semester 1 2015 to a high of 73.5% in Semester 1 2011 during this period).

- In Semester 1, 2016, the attendance rate of all Queensland state primary students was 92.7 per cent⁸. The equivalent rate for secondary students was 89.7 per cent.
- When analysing attendance data over time, it should be noted that 2009 data were impacted by the Human Swine Influenza Pandemic (H1N1) and 2011 data were impacted by extreme weather events.

Table 7: Table of year levels and schools included in reporting

Community	School	Year levels attendance reported for	Students included in attendance
Aurukun	Aurukun Campus of CYAAA	Prep – Yr 6	all full-time
Cherbourg	Cherbourg State School	Prep – Yr 6	all full-time
Coen	Coen Campus of CYAAA	Prep – Yr 6	all full-time
Doomadgee	Doomadgee State School	Prep – Yr 10	all full-time
Hope Vale	Hope Vale Campus of CYAAA and Cooktown State School	Prep – Yr 12	all full-time students at Hope Vale Campus of CYAAA and full-time students identified by address from Cooktown State School
Kowanyama	Kowanyama State School	Prep – Yr 10	all full-time
Lockhart River	Lockhart State School	Prep – Yr 12	all full-time
Mapoon	Western Cape College – Mapoon	Prep – Yr 6	all full-time
Mornington Island	Mornington Island State School	Prep – Yr 10	all full-time
Mossman Gorge	Mossman State School and Mossman State High School	Prep – Yr 12	full-time students identified by address
Napranum	Western Cape College – Weipa	Prep – Yr 12	full-time students identified by address
Northern Peninsula Area	Northern Peninsula Area State College	Prep – Yr 12	all full-time
Palm Island	Bwgcolman Community School	Prep – Yr 12	all full-time
Pompuraaw	Pompuraaw State School	Prep – Yr 6	all full-time
Torres Strait Region	Tagai State College	Prep – Yr 12	all full-time
Woorabinda	Woorabinda State School	Prep – Yr 6	all full-time
Wujal Wujal	Bloomfield River State School	Prep – Yr 6	all full-time
Yarrabah	Yarrabah State School	Prep – Yr 10	all full-time

⁸ Queensland Department of Education and Training, *Reports and statistics—student attendance by year level*, released October 2016.



Student absences

- Absences consist of full and part-day absences that contribute to the calculation of the official Queensland state school semester one attendance rates. Absence reason categories include: unexplained, unauthorised, disciplinary, holiday, illness, sorry business and other.
- An unexplained absence is where no explanation for the student's absence has been offered to the school by the parent/guardian or the student, if they are living independently.
- An unauthorised absence is where the explanation provided is considered by the principal to not be reasonable. Principals use their professional judgment to determine whether the reasons are a reasonable explanation for the student's absence.
- Disciplinary absences are defined as one of the following:
 - short suspension (a student is suspended for 1 to 10 days)
 - long suspension (a student is suspended for 11 to 20 days)
 - recommendation for exclusion (a student is suspended with a recommendation for exclusion)

Other absences: the principal may use their professional judgement to determine if an absence reason outside of the available absence categories is reasonable.

Students at boarding schools

- These figures represent the number of students who attended primary schools in discrete Indigenous communities and now attend secondary boarding schools that are supported by DET's Transition Support Service (TSS).
- The student numbers supported by the TSS do not necessarily reflect all students who attended primary schools in those communities who may be in boarding schools. They are not representative of students receiving Cape York Leaders Program (CYLP) scholarships or in private board arrangements. Nor do the numbers include students from the communities attending Western Cape College Residential Campus.
- Not all discrete Indigenous communities are supported by the TSS. It is therefore not possible to provide data for Cherbourg, Doomadgee, Mornington Island, Woorabinda, and Yarrabah.

Contact us

Disclaimer

While the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships has taken all possible measures to ensure the reliability of the data and information, such data and information are provided without any express or implied warranty as to its accuracy, currency or completeness.

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This report was produced by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office on behalf of the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, with the assistance of other Queensland Government agencies.

Other Information

Queensland

- Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
<https://www.datsip.qld.gov.au/>
- Know Your Community profile builder
<http://statistics.qgso.qld.gov.au/datsip/profiles>

Australia

- Australian Bureau of Statistics (Data by Region)
<http://stat.abs.gov.au/itt/r.jsp?databyregion#/>
- Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage Report
<http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp/overcoming-indigenous-disadvantage>
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/mf/4714.0>
- Indigenous languages
<http://www.abc.net.au/indigenous/map/default.htm>

Feedback

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