



'Our Story. Our Future.' was created by proud Wiradjuri, Wotjobaluk, Yuin and Gumbaynggirr artist Luke Penrith and Maluililgal people, Badu Island artist Naseli Tamwoy.

13 August 2021

It's not too late to complete your Census

Census night was Tuesday 10 August, but it's not too late to participate.

Haidee Allan is a proud Kamilaroi woman from Tamworth NSW and a Census Communication Officer. She's reminding everyone to get their Census done as soon as possible.

"We all need to be counted in the Census, so we can see how much our community has grown and what our strengths are.

"You still have time to complete your Census. You can do it online, by paper or with help from us. If you're in a remote community, there are field staff available to help you complete your Census.

"If you can't find your letter, that's OK. You can request a Census number and complete online, or get a paper form sent to you.

"We want all mob to be supported in filling out the Census. There's so much help available from our staff – face to face, over the phone or online.

"Young mob out there - please help your Elders, Aunties and Uncles fill in the form, so they can get the services our communities need.

"If we don't hear from you soon, you'll get a reminder letter or a visit from our field staff."

The Census is compulsory*. Everyone who was staying in your household on Census night must be included. This includes visitors and babies.

The Census can show community where services are needed, from housing and employment services through to transport and community infrastructure.

"It's an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to have their voices heard," Haidee said.

"Help tell our story and complete your Census today."

For more information or help visit www.census.abs.gov.au/indigenous or call 1800 512 441.

*See the 2021 Census Privacy Statement for more information.

Media notes

- For media requests and interviews, contact the ABS Media Team on media@abs.gov.au or **1300 175 070**.
- Subscribe to our [email notification service](#) and get media releases or products sent to you on release.

More information

What is the Census?

The Census, held on Tuesday 10 August 2021, is a snapshot of who we are and tells the story of how we are changing. It is one of the largest and most important statistical collections undertaken by the ABS.

How will people complete their Census?

People will be able to complete the Census online, on their mobile device, or on paper. There will be a number of options available for people who need assistance to complete their Census form including help from Census field staff, and phone and online help.

Census staff are available in remote communities during July and August 2021. Where possible, they'll be people who live in the community. Our staff will do face-to-face interviews with people living there.

What is new with the Census?

People can complete their Census as soon as they receive their instructions if they know where they'll be on 10 August. They don't have to wait until Census night. There are two new questions in the 2021 Census—the first changes to questions collected since 2006. The new questions are on long-term health conditions, such as arthritis and diabetes, and on defence force participation.

Conducting the Census in a COVID environment

We expect most people will complete their Census online with no in-person contact from us. Information on conducting the Census in a COVID-19 environment is available at [Keeping the community safe during COVID-19](#).

How do people know if the Census instructions are legitimate?

Census instructions will feature the official Australian Bureau of Statistics logo and the 2021 Census branding. Further information about what the public can expect from us is available at [Identifying and avoiding scams](#).

Census stories

Here are some Census stories that demonstrate the real, lived benefits of the Census for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, organisations, and communities:

[Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are leading the conversation](#) about the importance of Indigenous Australians participating in the next Census.

The [Coen Regional Aboriginal Corporation](#) used Census data understand the transport needs of people living in remote communities to help them stay connected.

Census data helps First Nation's surgeon [Professor Kelvin Kong](#) understand patient needs, and improve community health across Australia.

Census data helps [SEARMS Aboriginal Corporation](#) understand the housing needs of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and help them "age in place" in an appropriate home.

The [University of Sydney](#) uses Census data to help smooth the pathway to university for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The [Walu-win Centre](#) uses Census data to understand the health services needed by the local community – helping local Aboriginal and Torres Strait residents to thrive.

Kalkadoon man, [Warren King](#) became a local engagement manager so he could help his community be Census-ready and understand the importance of being counted.

The [Institute of Urban Indigenous Health](#) uses Census data to inform expansion of its successful 'Birthing in our Communities' program. The program provides holistic support to more than 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mums in South East Queensland.