

Introduction

WA Health System

WACHS is the largest country health system in Australia and one of the biggest in the world, providing health services to a 531,000 people, including over 57,000 Aboriginal people, over a 2.5 million square kilometer area.

Metropolitan Services

WA Health is divided into the WA Country Health Service and four Health Service Providers (HSPs) covering the Perth metropolitan area - three Adult services and a specialist Child and Adolescent service:

- North Metropolitan Health Service (NMHS)
- South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS)
- East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS)
- Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS)

WA Country Health Service (WACHS)

WACHS is a network of health facilities across 7 regions including regional hospitals, district hospitals, nursing posts and community health centers. We provide all health services outside Perth, across an area of more than 2.5 million square kilometres, from Kalumburu in the Kimberley to Albany in the Great Southern.

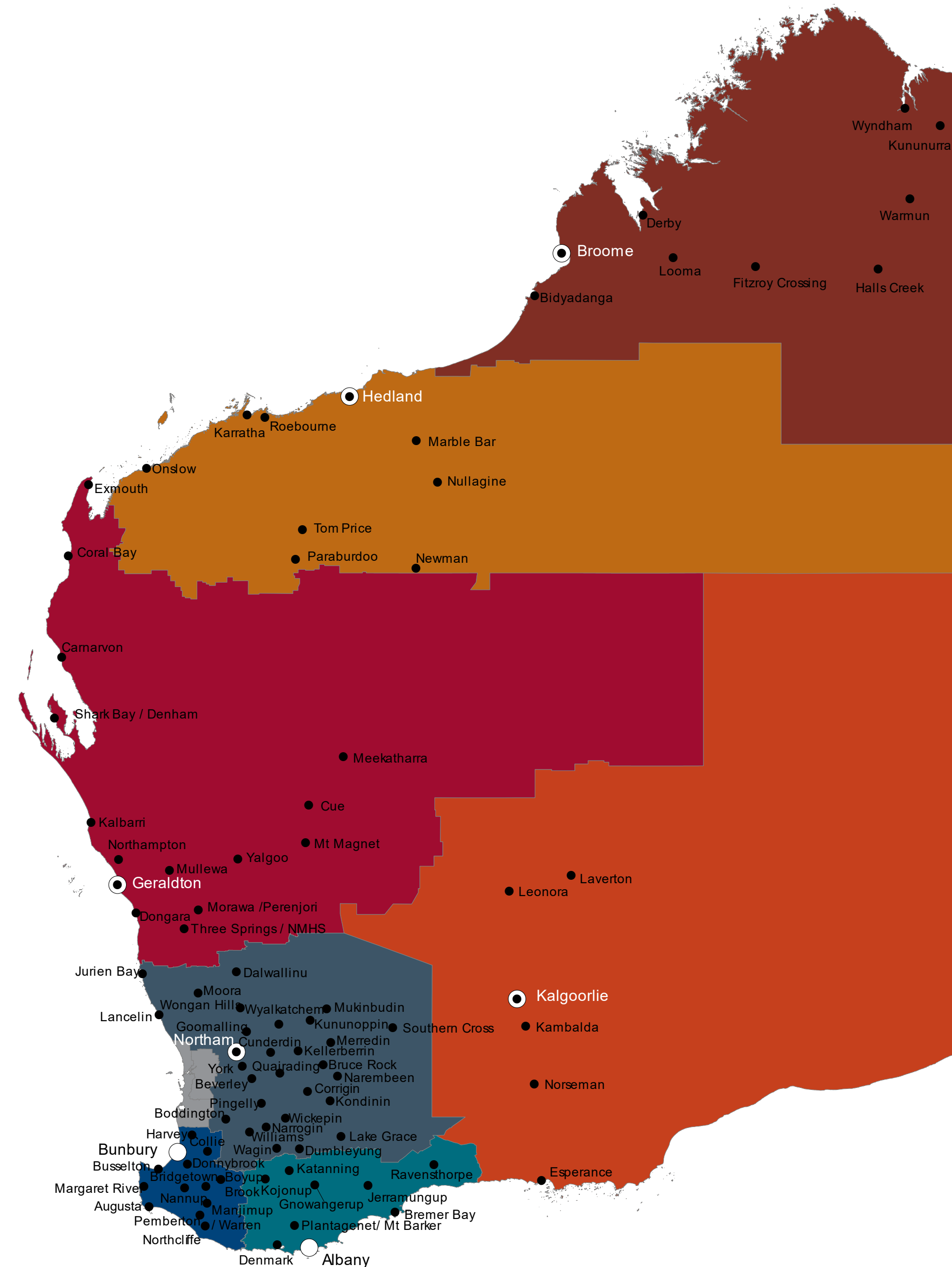
WACHS Services

- Emergency and hospital services
- Population, public and primary healthcare
- Aboriginal health services
- Mental health services
- Drug and alcohol services
- Child, community and school healthcare
- Telehealth services
- Residential and community aged care services

Our Regions

WACHS Regions & Towns

- Kimberley** (MM 6-7, 423,517 km²)
 Towns: Broome, Kununurra, Derby, Halls Creek & Fitzroy Crossing
 Population: 38,801 (approximately half identify as Aboriginal, more than 30 language groups in over 200 indigenous communities)
- Pilbara** (MM 6-7, 507,896 km²)
 Towns: Karratha, Port Hedland, Newman & Tom Price
 Population: 59,552 (15% identify as Aboriginal) + FIFO population.
- Goldfields** (MM 6-7, 771,276 km²)
 Towns: Kalgoorlie, Leonora, Laverton, Norseman & Esperance
 Population: 55,000 (10% identify as Aboriginal) + FIFO population
- Midwest** (MM 3-7, 600,000 km²)
 Towns: Geraldton, Dongara, Meekatharra, Carnarvon & Exmouth
 Population: 63,650 (10% identify as Aboriginal)
- Wheatbelt** (MM 4-7, 154,862 km²)
 Towns: Northam, Narrogin, Merredin, Moora & Jurien Bay
 Population: 76,394 (6% identify as Aboriginal)
- South West** (MM 2-6, 23,000 km²)
 Towns: Bunbury, Collie, Busselton, Manjimup & Margaret River
 Population: 177,300 (2.3% identify as Aboriginal)
- Great Southern** (MM 3-7, 39,007 km²)
 Towns: Albany, Katanning, Denmark, Kojonup & Gnowangerup
 Population: 60,000 (3.6% identify as Aboriginal)





Our Regions

Goldfields

The Goldfields region is the largest region in Western Australia. It is bordered by the Pilbara to the north, the Wheatbelt to the west, the Great Southern to the south-west, the Southern Ocean to the south and the WA border to the east.

With a land area of 771,276 square meters, the Goldfields region is three times the size of Victoria and just under a third of the total land mass of Western Australia. The Goldfields is named because of the abundance of gold discoveries in the late 19th century that sparked a rush of fortune seekers from around the globe to the region, all hoping to find their fortune. It remains a globally significant mining and energy region and is the premier gold producer for the state. Gold and nickel production are the main drivers of the local economy and are supported by the region's agriculture, pastoral, tourism, fishing and aquaculture industries.

The Goldfields is home to some of the Earth's oldest rock formations and its landscape includes coastal plains and mountain ranges with cliffs and gorges. It has a rich Aboriginal culture that spans thousands of years. The region also has a rich biodiversity and is home to a myriad of flora and fauna species, as well as a number of national parks and nature reserves. The region's Great Western Woodlands is one of the world's most important ecological areas, containing more than 20% of Australia's flora species and 25% of Australia's Eucalypt species, and is home to a variety of rare and endangered animals.

- Shire of Coolgardie
- Shire of Dundas
- Shire of Esperance
- City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Shire of Laverton
- Shire of Leonora
- Shire of Menzies
- Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku



The Goldfields region had a population of 58,300 people in 2014 (representing 2.3% of the State's population). By 2025, the population is expected to reach almost 60,000 people. However, although the population will increase, the percentage of the State's population residing in the Goldfields will decrease to 1.9%. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, between 2013 and 2014 the population of the Goldfields declined by 1.8% (or 800 people), with the largest decline in Kalgoorlie (270 people).

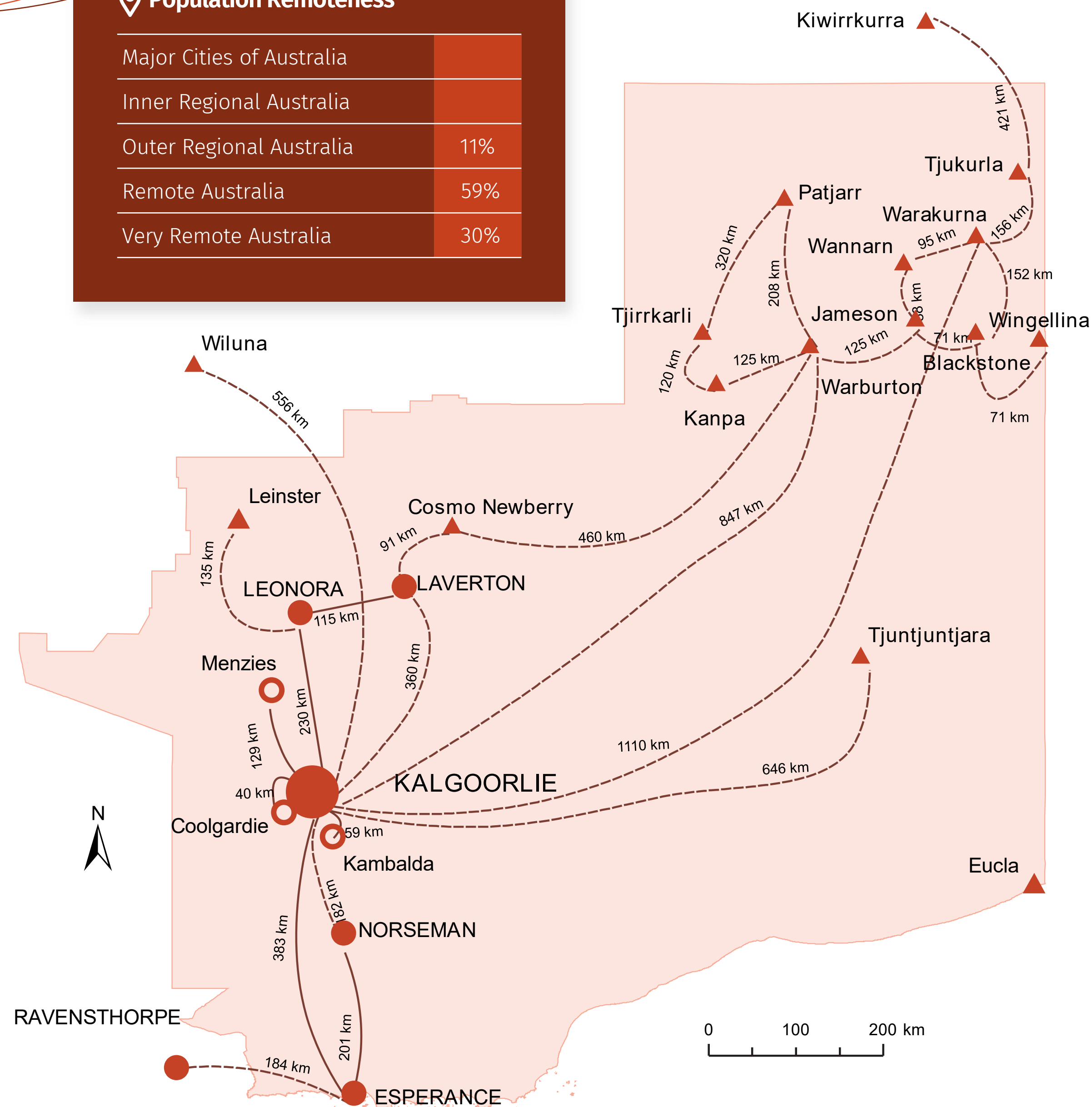
Aboriginal Population

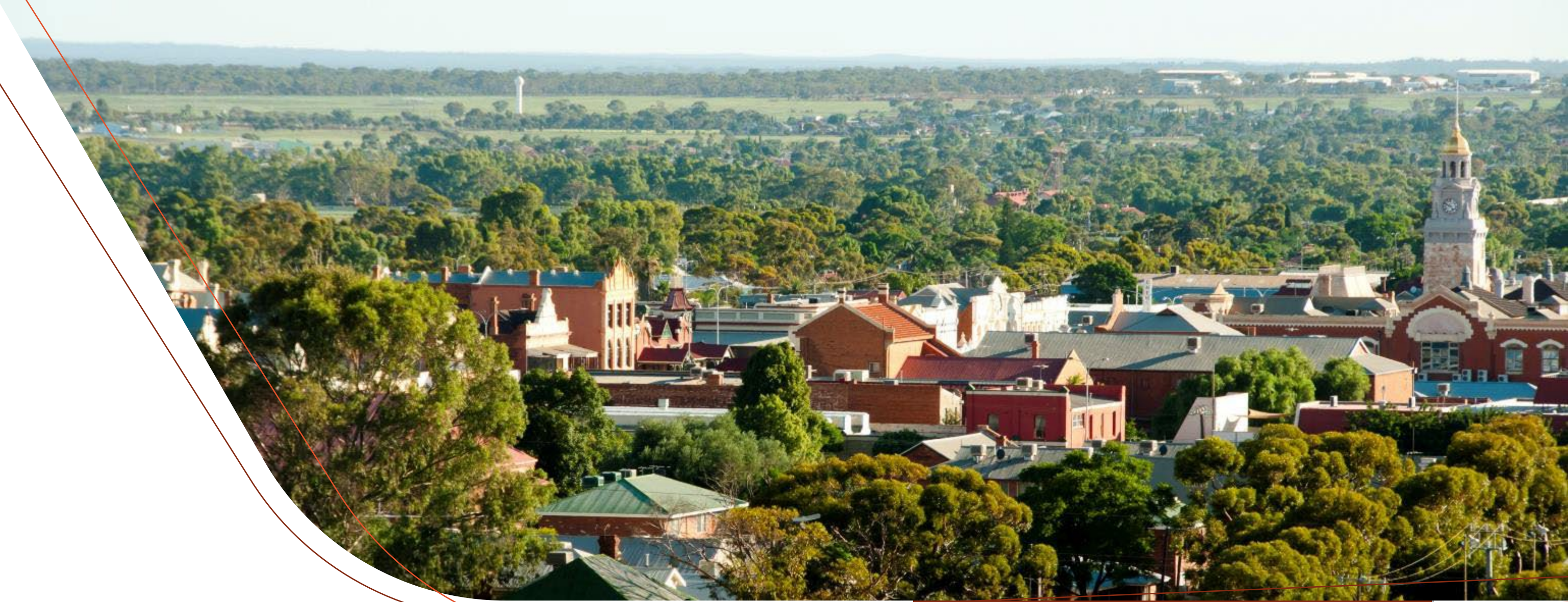
The Aboriginal population in the Goldfields was approximately 6,000 people in 2011, which represented 7.8% of the total Aboriginal population of Western Australia. This is expected to grow to almost 9,300 by 2025.

Major centres	Population	Distance from Perth
Kalgoorlie/Boulder	30,781	595 km (to Kalgoorlie)
Coolgardie	3,710	556 km
Leonora	1,492	831 km
Esperance	14,504	718 km

Population Remoteness

Major Cities of Australia	
Inner Regional Australia	
Outer Regional Australia	11%
Remote Australia	59%
Very Remote Australia	30%





You will find a range of every day services and facilities throughout the Goldfields region, including banks, ATMs, libraries, business centres/telecentres, post offices, shopping (food, grocery and other), hardware stores, police stations, butchers, bakers, cafes, service stations, pubs/taverns, takeaways, newsagents, churches, pharmacies and restaurants. Most of these are in the region's main town centres of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance.

The Goldfields region provides a range of government and non-government schooling options for primary, secondary, and tertiary education. In the public-school sector, there are 54 government schools across the region, supported by a number of private schools.

The region also provides higher education options through TAFE and university facilities.

Accommodation

The Goldfields offers a range of housing and rental options for those living in the region, with more than half of the population living in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and a quarter of residents living in the Shire of Esperance.

The median house price for Kalgoorlie is \$325,000 with the overall median weekly rental costing \$400 per week. The price in Esperance is \$385,000 with the overall median weekly rental costing \$325 per week (Source: REIWA Nov 2021)

Regional Development & Employment





Goldfields Sports & Recreation

Sport and recreation play a vital role in the Goldfields, particularly in the major town centres of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance.

Popular outdoor recreational activities include bush and trail walking, bird and wildflower watching, gold prospecting and fossicking, four-wheel driving, fishing, camping, boating, snorkelling and surfing.

The sporting community in the Goldfields is strong and diverse and there are a number of sporting and

recreational facilities throughout the region, particularly in the towns of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance. Kalgoorlie's Goldfields Oasis facility is recognised as one of the best regional sports venues in Australia. There are a number of clubs throughout the region, representing a range of recreational activities including hockey, football, cricket, netball, basketball, swimming, golf, athletics, lawn bowls, equestrian, horse racing, pony clubs, cycling, rifle shooting, soccer, skateboarding, squash, tennis, BMX and martial arts.

The Goldfields region hosts a number of events throughout the year, including farmer's markets; film, cultural and wildflower festivals; live music and theatre events; film nights; art and craft workshops; car and bike shows; horse races; and bush two-up.

Climate



The Goldfields climate is mostly hot and dry. In the region's main town centre of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, the summer months (December to February) can get quite hot with temperatures regularly reaching 40°C and above and average temperatures ranging between 18°C and 34°C. In winter (June to August) average temperatures can get quite cold, ranging between 5°C and 17°C, despite days remaining sunny and bright.

Annual rainfall throughout the region generally averages around 250mm per year, although can be as high as 635mm in the Esperance area, where winter rainfall is more reliable.

The region's Golden Quest Discovery Trail provides the opportunity to explore the region's rugged landscapes, meet with local characters, discover ghost towns and visit the famous Antony Gormley structures at Lake Ballard. The coastal area of Esperance offers a range of stunning natural attractions including the Cape Le Grand National Park, Twilight Bay, Great Ocean Drive, Hamersley Drive Heritage Trail and Ravensthorpe Range.

Goldfields Health Services

The Goldfields region incorporates a network of public hospital facilities supported by a range of community-based services, including public health, aged care and mental health services; as well as a number of public and private health partners and providers.

The majority of health services are based in the main town centres of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Esperance. The region is also home to a number of Aboriginal Medical Services that are based in Kalgoorlie, Wiluna, the Ngaanyatjarra region, and the Spinifex Lands to the east of Kalgoorlie, and provide visiting services to smaller communities across the region.

Recent Health Infrastructure



Esperance Health Campus 2016 - \$31.3 million

Two new labour delivery rooms and nursery, a new ED, 12 treatment areas, 2 resuscitation bays with VC, acute mental health assessment room and a new day surgery unit & operating theatre.



Kalgoorlie Step-Up/Step-Down 2021 - \$20 million

A 10-bed low acuity community step-up/step-down service providing additional support to those discharged from inpatient units or those who do not need admission but need increased support.

Health Facilities

Hospitals	5
Nursing Posts & Health Centres	5
General Practices	30
Aboriginal Medical Services	4

Hospitals & Beds

Regional Hospitals

Kalgoorlie Hospital	134
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District Hospitals

Esperance Hospital	36
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Small Community Hospitals

Laverton Hospital	8
Leonora Hospital	12
Norseman Hospital	9

Goldfields Mental Health Services

Goldfields Mental Health provides specialist mental health services to the Goldfields Region for all age groups. The service aims to deliver a comprehensive range of high quality, community focused mental health services to residents of and visitors to the Goldfields Region.

Locally based, multi-disciplinary teams are located in regional centres across the Goldfields Region. Regular visits are made to outlying areas within the region to meet current community needs. Outreach is supported by telephone consultation and videoconferencing. Clinical liaison is provided to hospitals within the region.

Adult Mental Health

Community Mental Health teams are located in Kalgoorlie and Esperance and provide outreach to outlying towns and communities.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS)

CAMHS clinicians are located in Kalgoorlie and Esperance and provide Outreach to outlying towns and communities.

All teams are supported by Aboriginal Mental Health Workers.

Drug and Alcohol Services

Community drug and alcohol treatment and residential treatment are provided by non-government organisations.

Psychiatry Training Posts

No Current Training Posts

Future Inpatient and Community posts are planned



Inpatient Mental Health

Kalgoorlie Mental Health Unit

High Acuity Beds	0
Low Acuity Beds	6
Consultant Psychiatrist FTE	1
Registrars/SMP FTE	1
Interns/Resident FTE	0

Community Mental Health

Goldfields Mental Health Service

Main clinics located in Kalgoorlie and Esperance

Consultant Psychiatrist FTE	2.7
Registrars/SMP FTE	1
Interns/Resident FTE	1
Nursing Staff FTE	9.2
Allied Health FTE	12.4