



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.

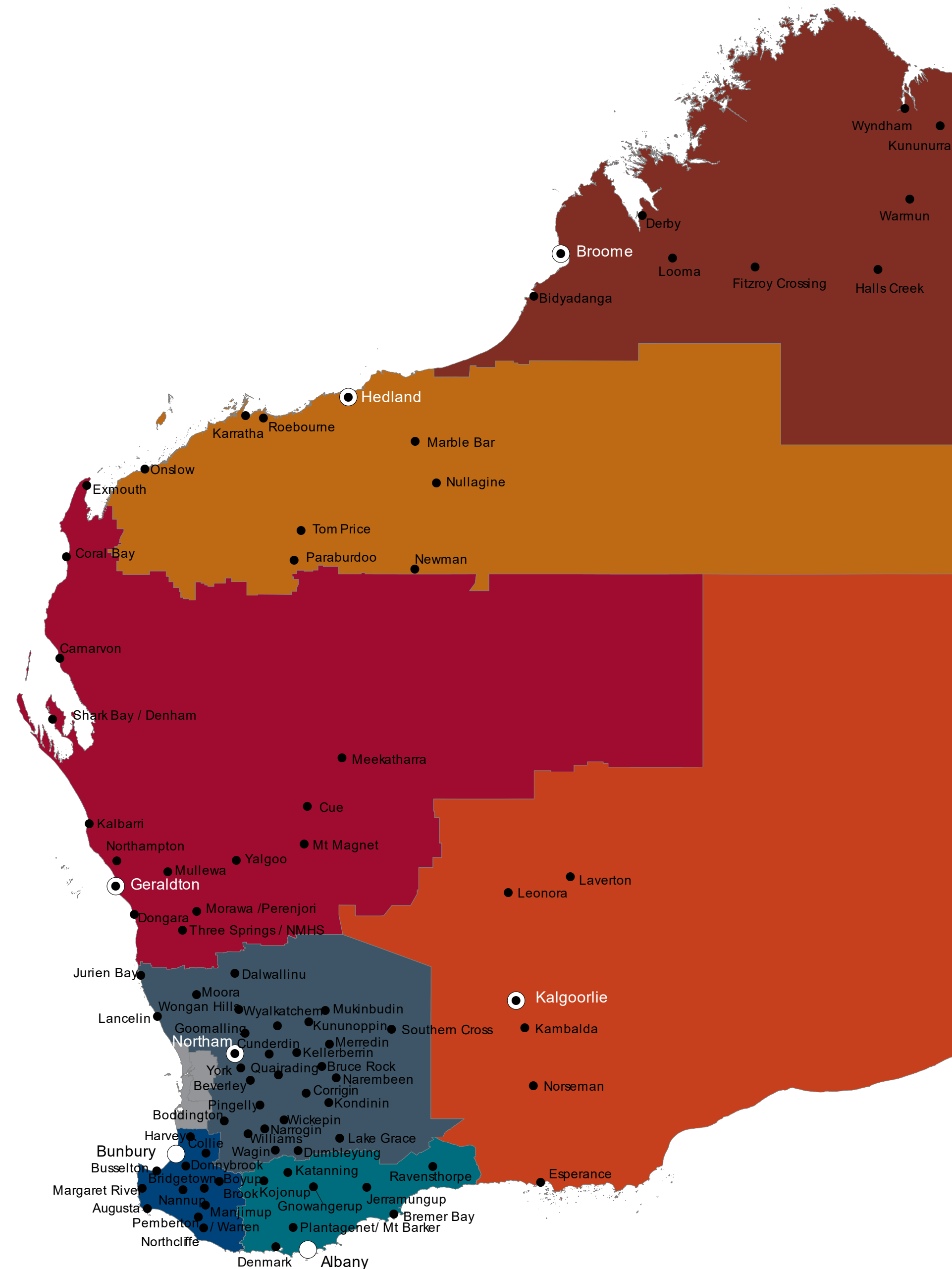
WACHS Services

- 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

Kimberley

The Kimberley is the northernmost region of Western Australia. It is bordered on the west by the Indian Ocean, on the north by the Timor Sea, on the south by the Great Sandy and Tanami Deserts of the Pilbara region, and on the east by the Northern Territory.

With an area covering 423,517 square kilometres, the Kimberley region is about three times the size of England, twice the size of Victoria and just slightly smaller than California in the USA.

While the Kimberley is often known for the red dirt (or pindan) found in the south-western part of the region, the natural landscape of the entire region varies between broad savannah grasslands, rugged ranges, golden beaches and spectacular tropical gorges. Much of the flora and fauna found in the Kimberley is unique to the region.

The region has a rich cultural history spanning tens of thousands of years. Approximately half of the region's population comprises Aboriginal people that represent more than 30 traditional Aboriginal language groups. There are around 200 indigenous communities across the Kimberley and traditional culture remains a strong part of everyday life in the region.

Agriculture, tourism, construction, retail and the resource sector are the region's major industries and combine with the Kimberley's traditional pastoral and pearling industries to provide a diverse economic base for the region.

- Shire of Broome
- Shire of Derby-West Kimberley
- Shire of Halls Creek
- Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley

Kimberley Demographics

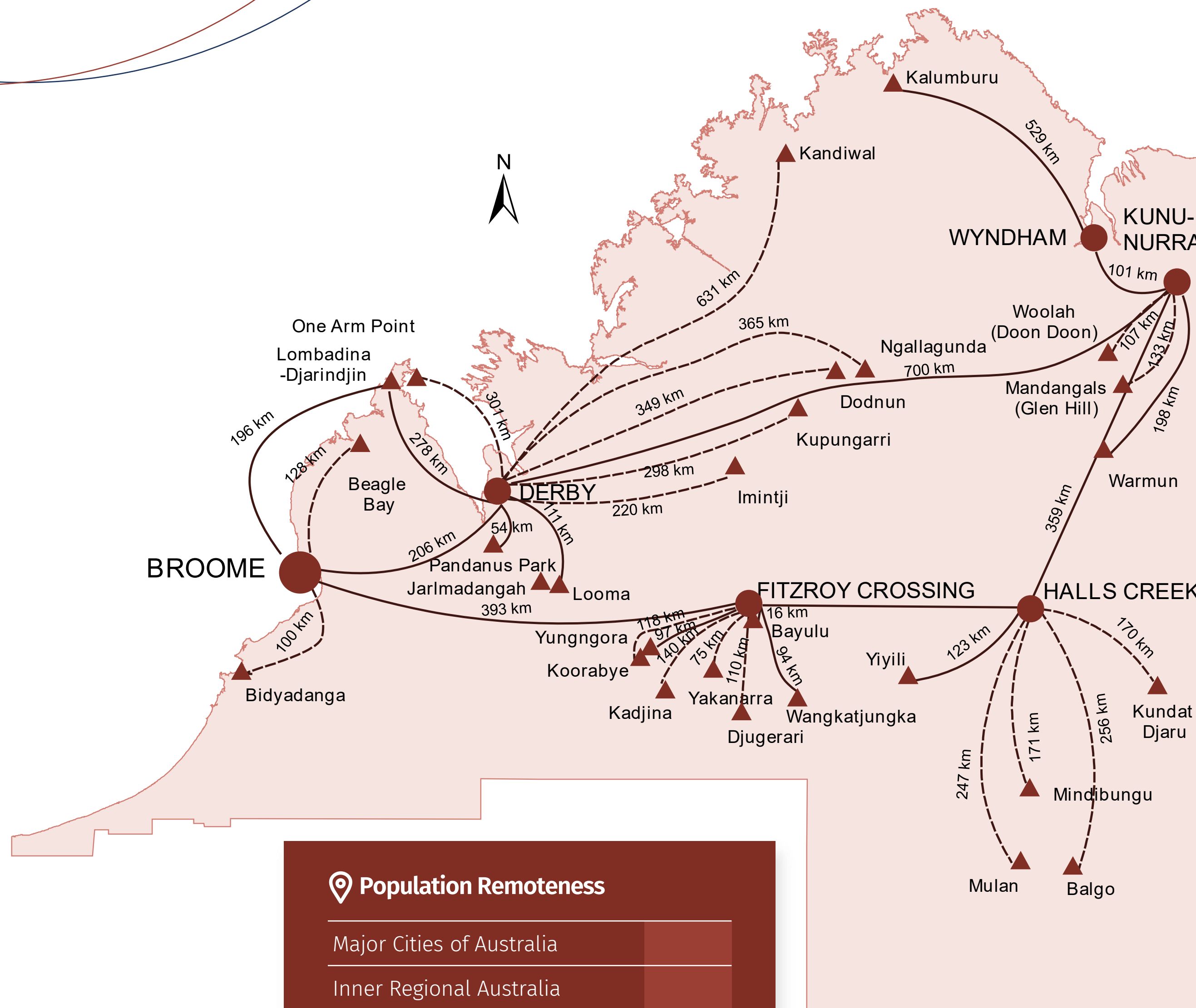
The Kimberley region had a population of 38,500 people in 2014 (representing 1.5% of the State's population). By 2025, the population is expected to reach almost 43,000 people. However, although the population will increase, the percentage of the State's population living in the Kimberley region is forecast to decrease to 1.3%. The age distribution of the Kimberley population is younger than the State average, with more than 30% under 15 years, compared to 19% for the State.

Aboriginal Population

In 2011, the Kimberley region had the highest number of Aboriginal people living there: approximately 16,400 people, representing 21.5% of all Aboriginal people in the State. It is forecast that the Aboriginal population in the Kimberley region will reach 24,800 people by 2025.

However, although the population will increase, the percentage of the State's Aboriginal population residing in the Kimberley region will decrease to 20.7%. By 2025, it is forecast that more Aboriginal people will live in the South Metropolitan area compared to the Kimberley region. There are more than 100 Aboriginal communities of various population sizes, scattered throughout the Kimberley region. Aboriginal people will represent 46% of the total population in the Kimberley by 2025, which is the highest proportion of Aboriginal people compared to non-Aboriginal people in any other region in the State.

Major centres	Population	Distance from Perth
Broome	16,961	2239 km
Wyndham (East Kimberley)	7494	3216 km
Derby (West Kimberley)	8345	2510 km
Halls Creek	3592	2855 km



Population Remoteness

Major Cities of Australia	
Inner Regional Australia	
Outer Regional Australia	
Remote Australia	42%
Very Remote Australia	58%



Kimberley Living in the Kimberley

Services & Facilities

You will find a range of every day services and facilities throughout the Kimberley 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 located in the region's main town centres of Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, Kununurra and Wyndham.

Schooling

The Kimberley region provides a range of government and non-government schooling options for primary, secondary and tertiary education.

Accommodation

The Kimberley offers a range of housing and rental options for those living in the region. The median house price for Broome is \$579,500 with the overall median weekly rental costing \$600 per week (Source: REIWA Market Update; November 2021).

Regional Development & Employment





Kimberley Sports & Recreation

Outdoor recreation, such as water skiing, fishing, camping, four-wheel driving and boating are popular in the Kimberley due to hot summers, warm winters and a vast array of natural attractions in the region. There are a number of clubs throughout the region, representing a range of recreational activities including football, cricket, rugby, athletics, basketball, netball, softball, theatre, horse racing and a pony club.

The Kimberley region hosts a number of events throughout the year, including community and night markets; film, comedy, writer's and music festivals; art exhibitions; cultural festivals; marathons; rodeos and horse races; agricultural shows; fishing competitions; dragon boat races; opera under the stars; and even an annual mud crab race.

As one of the remotest, wildest and most beautiful regions on earth, the Kimberley is also home to a vast array of natural attractions including El Questro Wilderness Park; Purnululu National Park – home of the Bungle Bungles; Cable Beach; Lake Argyle; Buccaneer Archipelago; Fitzroy River; Windjana Gorge National Park; Cape Leveque; and the Gibb River Road, along which are a number of sites where you can visit traditional rock art dating back 50,000-60,000 years.

Climate



The Kimberley is one of the hottest parts of Australia, with an average annual mean temperature of around 27°C. The hottest part of the year is just before the wet season's rain breaks (normally November), where temperatures often reach above 37°C on the coast and well above 40°C inland.

The Kimberley has a sub-tropical climate and is characterised by two distinct seasons – wet and dry.

During the wet season (typically from November to April), the Kimberley experiences high humidity and receives around 90% of its annual rainfall. Cyclones are common during this period (especially around Broome) and rivers will often flood, providing annual mobility and access challenges for people and businesses of the Kimberley.

In contrast, the dry season (May to October), is characterised by clear blue skies, easterly winds and balmy days and is a time of peak activity in the region, particularly for tourism.

Kimberley Health Services

There is a range of different health services available throughout the Kimberley region, most of which are part of the public health system.

While there are a number of private general practices and allied health services located in Broome, there are very few private practitioners throughout the rest of the region.

The region is home to a number of Aboriginal Medical Services that are mostly based in the region's major towns, with visiting services travelling out to smaller communities across the region.

Recent Health Infrastructure



Kununurra Primary Health
2016 - \$20.5 million

Primary health care facility providing a comprehensive, integrated primary health care service.



Broome Health Redevelopment
2016 - \$60 million

Redevelopment including commissioning of the 12-bed Acute Psychiatric Unit

Health Facilities

Hospitals	6
Nursing Posts & Health Centres	7
General Practices	55
Aboriginal Medical Services	10

Hospitals & Beds

Regional Hospitals

Broome Hospital	68
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District Hospitals

Derby Hospital	40
Kununurra Hospital	34

Small Community Hospitals

Fitzroy Crossing Hospital	12
Halls Creek Hospital	8
Wyndham Hospital	7

Kimberley Mental Health Services

Kimberley Mental Health and Drug Service (KMHDS) provide specialist community mental health and alcohol and drug services to the Kimberley and acute in-patient psychiatric care for referred patients from the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.

The service aims to deliver a comprehensive range of high-quality patient/client recovery focused mental health and alcohol and drug services and prioritises cultural safety. Our large team of Aboriginal Mental Health Workers and Liaison Officers across community and inpatient teams are integral to our service.

Adult Mental Health

The Broome Mental Health Inpatient Unit services the entire northwest of Western Australia, comprising of the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.

The community service is a hub and spoke model with resident CMHPs (Community Mental Health Professionals) based in the larger towns such as Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek and Kununurra. They travel to and cover other satellite sites. They undertake initial assessments, and the visiting psychiatrist/registrar provides secondary consultation to them. Team meetings are held face to face or by videoconference depending on your location. Consultant Psychiatrists are currently based in Broome and Kununurra.

Other adult services include

- Psychiatric liaison service based in Broome Hospital and providing after hours service to the entire Kimberley region
- Broome Recovery Centre
- Kununurra Safe Haven Café

Drug and Alcohol Services

Our Drug and Alcohol team is co-located with mental health workers at all sites. They are active in both individual counselling as well as prevention work and are supported by our medical team who provide clinical governance.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS)

This is a community-based service, similar in structure to the Adult Community Service (hub and spoke model)



Inpatient Mental Health

Broome Mental Health Unit

High Acuity Beds	0
Low Acuity Beds	12
Consultant Psychiatrist FTE	1
Registrars/SMP FTE	1
Interns/Resident FTE	1

Community Mental Health

Kimberley Mental Health & Drug Service

Main clinics located in Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek and Kununurra

Consultant Psychiatrist FTE	4
Registrars/SMP FTE	4
Interns/Resident FTE	1
Nursing Staff FTE	16.4
Allied Health FTE	21.9