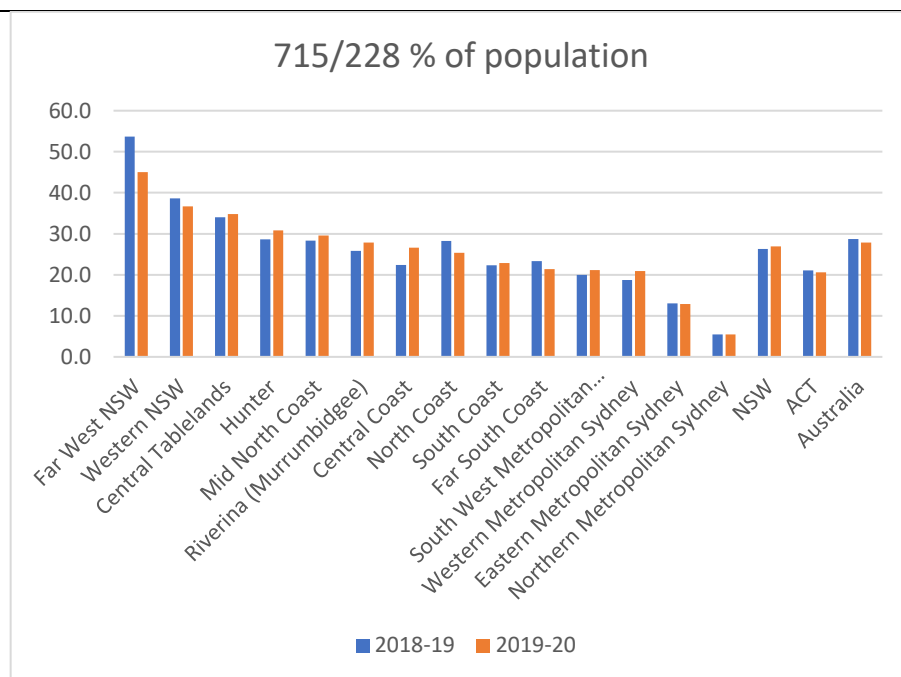


Indigenous Eye Health Measures – NSW/ACT snapshot 2021

This report packages current publicly data on key Indigenous eye health measures for South Australia. All underlying data in this report is from publicly accessible sources.

These measures cover the eye care pathway, and treatment for the conditions causing the highest rate of vision loss and blindness for First Nations Australians.

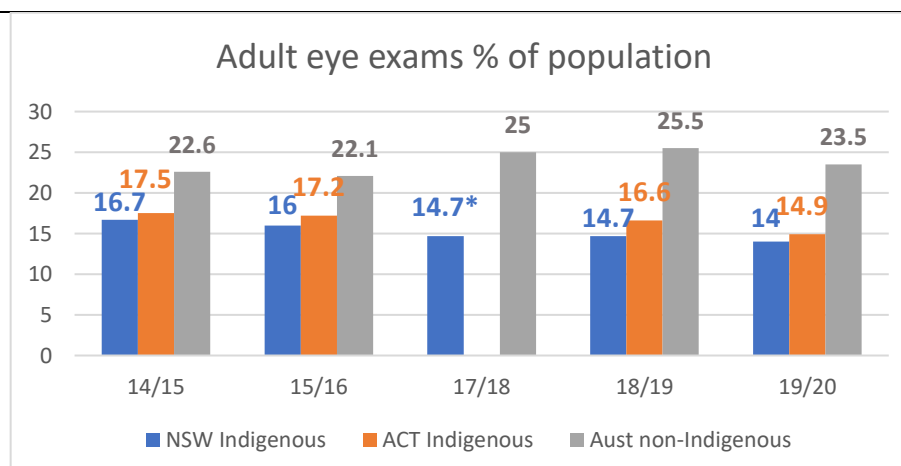
1. Eye examinations in primary care – 715/228 health checks¹²⁶



26.9% of the Indigenous population in NSW and 20.6 in ACT received an MBS 715 Health Check in 19/20. Regional analysis shows higher rates in regional and remote areas, and significantly lower rates in metro.

COVID impact: for the year of Mar 2020–Feb 2021, both NSW and ACT recorded about 15% less 715/228 claims compared with the previous year, similar to the national rate.

2. Eye examination rates¹²³⁴⁵

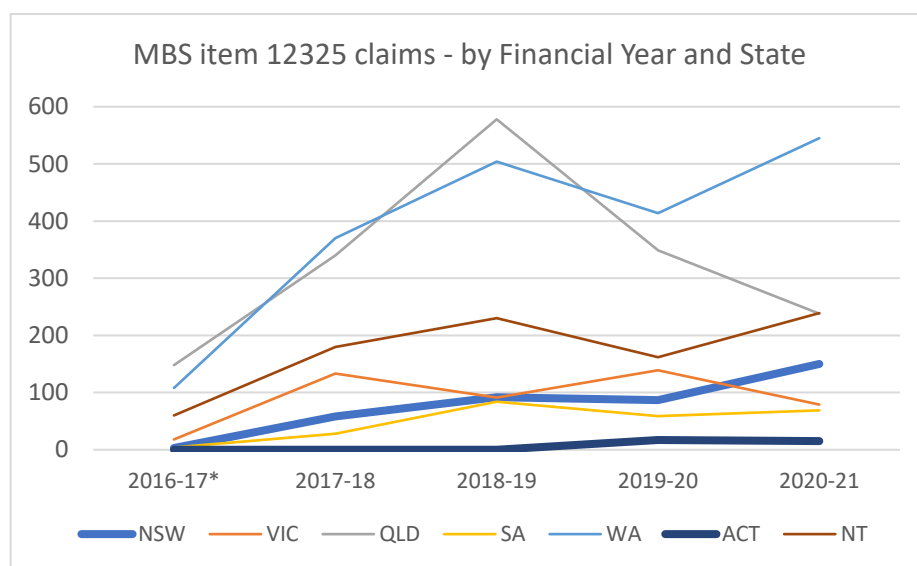


17/18 data combines NSW and ACT. 16/17 data missing.



In 2019-20, 14% of Indigenous adults in NSW and 14.9% in ACT had an eye exam, compared to 23.5% of non-Indigenous Australians. These rates were likely further impacted by COVID in 2020.

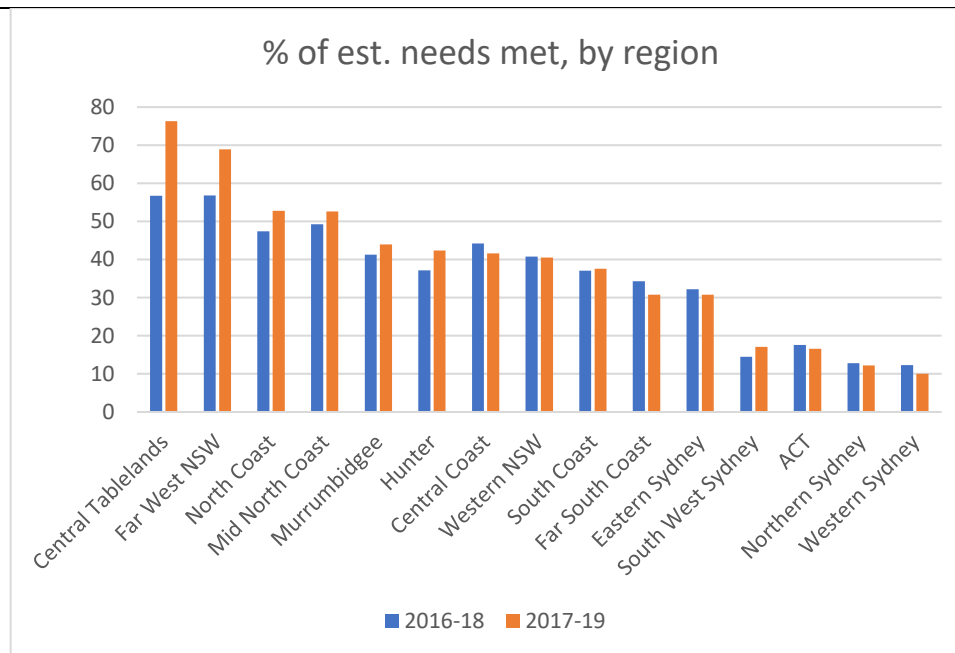
3. Annual eye examinations for patients with diabetes (MBS 12325)⁶



12325 claims (retinal screening in primary care for Indigenous Australians) per FY. NSW and ACT lines accented.

COVID impact: for the year of 03/20 – 02/21, NSW recorded about 14% reduction in 12325 claims compared with the prev 12 months, lower than the National rate reduction of 27%.

4. Access to cataract surgery^{1 2 6 7}



For the period of 2017-19, estimated rates of needs met for cataract surgeries for Indigenous patients varied significantly across NSW regions, with metro areas having significantly lower access rates.

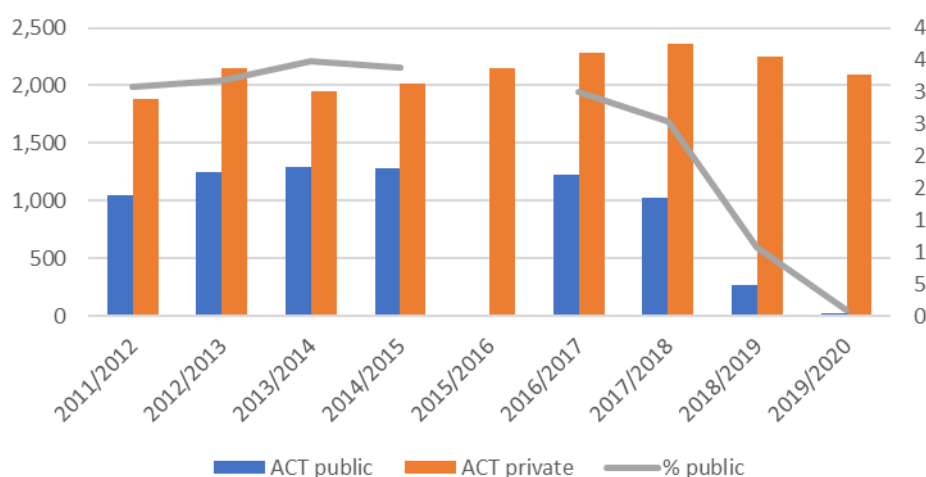
Cataract surgery in NSW (public+private)



Public-private divide:
Over the past decade, the public/private divide has remained similar, with around 30% of cataract surgeries performed in public (whole of population).

In the ACT, the number and rates of cataract surgeries performed in public has decreased considerably, from almost 40% to almost zero.

Cataract surgery in ACT (public+private)

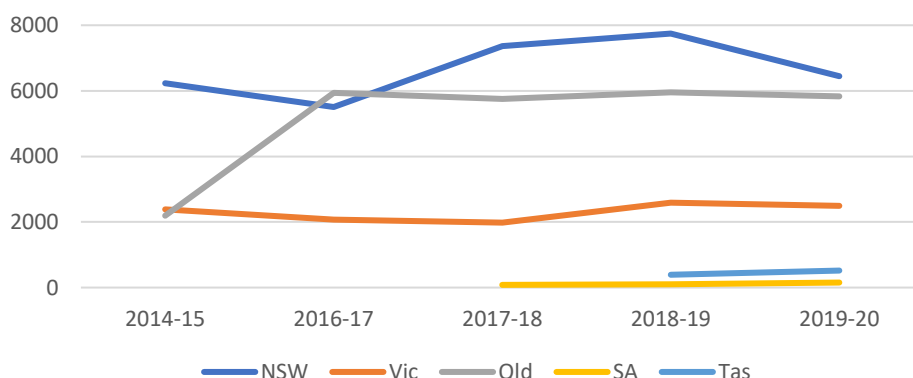


Ensuring an appropriate level of public access to surgery is important for achieving equity for Indigenous patients, given the rates of utilisation of the public system (70.4% of elective surgery for Indigenous patients performed in public in 18/19, compared with 33.5% for other Australians).

2015/16 ACT data not reported.

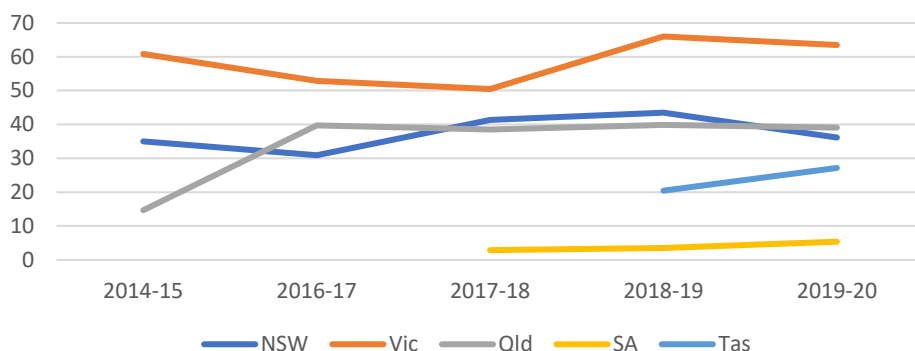
5. Subsidised spectacles^{1 2 3 4 5}

Indigenous clients receiving glasses under State scheme



The number of spectacles dispensed to Indigenous clients under the state program in NSW was 6,443 for 2019/20, representing just over 36% of

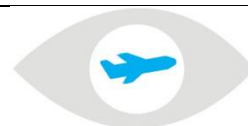
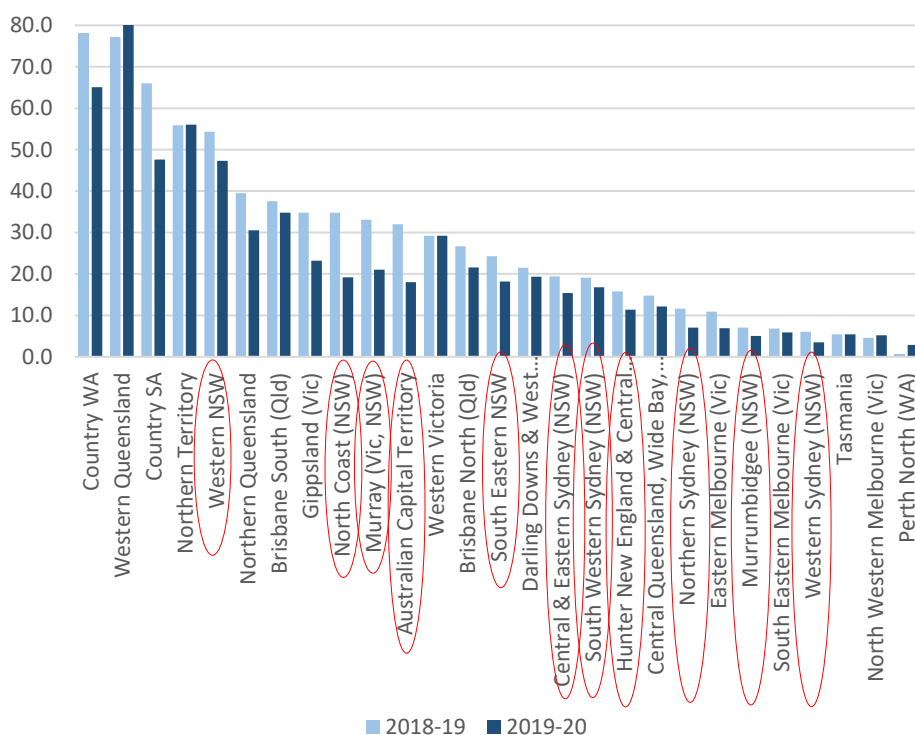
Indigenous clients receiving glasses under State scheme,
as % of estimated need



estimated need.

7. Visiting Optometry Scheme (VOS)¹²

VOS OOS for Indigenous Australians per 1,000 pop



In 19-20, Western NSW VOS provision for Indigenous Australians is estimated to have served 47 out of 1,000 Indigenous population, the highest in the State. Many regions saw a reduction in the rate for 19/20 compared with 18/19, which is likely to partially be impacted by COVID, which will likely show further reduction in 20/21.

Indigenous eye health calculator output for NSW and ACT combined^{8 9}

Delivery and coordination of eye care services report		Latest data
This report estimates for a given population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the annual requirements for delivery and coordination of eye care services. The calculations are first order estimates based on condition prevalence rates from the National Indigenous Eye Health Survey (2009) and models of service delivery developed in The Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision (2012). See http://www.iehu.unimelb.edu.au		
Region: NSW+ACT 1/1/2022 ABS estimation		
Population: 301219		
OPTOMETRY CONSULTATIONS	Number of patients	
Comprehensive eye examinations required each year	51207	
People over 40 requiring glasses each year	19266	
People over 40 with diabetes requiring annual retinal examination	28977	
OPHTHALMOLOGY CONSULTATIONS		
People requiring cataract referral consultations	2862	
People requiring trichiasis referral consultations	1096	
People requiring diabetic retinopathy referral consultations	3361	
Total people requiring ophthalmology consultations	7319	
HOSPITAL SURGERY		
People requiring cataract surgery	2862	
People requiring trichiasis lid surgery	1096	
Total people requiring hospital surgery	3958	
WORKFORCE	Workforce requirements	
Optometry days required	6401	
Optometry workforce required (EFT)	30.3	
Ophthalmology days required (consultation and surgery)	2218	
Ophthalmology workforce required (EFT)	10.5	
Coordination workforce required total (EFT)	250	
Region: NSW+ACT 1/1/2022 ABS estimation		

Prepared Indigenous Eye Health, University of Melbourne, September 2021.

Sources of data:

1. Australian Indigenous of Health and Welfare. 2021. Indigenous eye health measures 2021. Available from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/indigenous-australians/indigenous-eye-health-measures-2021/contents/prevalence/main-causes-of-vision-impairment-and-blindness>
2. Australian Indigenous of Health and Welfare. 2020. Indigenous eye health measures 2020. Available from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/indigenous-australians/indigenous-eye-health-measures-2020/summary>
3. Australian Indigenous of Health and Welfare. 2019. Indigenous eye health measures 2018. Available from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/indigenous-australians/indigenous-eye-health-measures-2018/contents/summary>
4. Australian Indigenous of Health and Welfare. 2018. Indigenous eye health measures 2017. Available from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/indigenous-australians/indigenous-eye-health-measures-2017/contents/summary>
5. Australian Indigenous of Health and Welfare. 2017. Indigenous eye health measures 2016. Available from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/indigenous-australians/indigenous-eye-health-measures-2016/contents/table-of-contents>
6. Services Australia. Medicare Statistics portal. Available from: http://medicarestatistics.humanservices.gov.au/statistics/mbs_item.jsp
7. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Elective surgery waiting times. Available from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/myhospitals/sectors/elective-surgery>