

# Macleean

## Community Profile

healthy  
towns  
NORTH COAST

### Current Population<sup>1</sup>

NSW  
7,480,228

Clarence Valley  
50,671

**Macleean**  
**2,628<sup>a</sup>**

### Demographics

**Macleean** is a rural town in the Clarence Valley Local Government Area. Economically, Macleean is a commercial fishing hub with significant port facilities, beef, sugar cane production, milling and major growth in tourism and housing. The traditional custodians of the Macleean area are the Yaegl people.

	Macleean	Clarence Valley	NSW
Median Age	56	49	38
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as % of population	8.4%	6.3%	2.9%
Population 0 – 14 years	12.3%	16.4%	18.5%
Population 65 years and older	37.9%	25.7%	16.2%
Median gross weekly household income	\$824	\$910	\$1,486
Population 15 & over - Year 12 highest education level attained	9.0%	9.8%	15.3%
Working population in full time employment	42.4%	48.9%	49.2%
Total households in rental housing stress*	17.4%	11.7%	12.9%

\* Rental stress: Households paying 30% or more of household income on rent

### Community assets

- Clarence River
- River (RSL) Club
- Bowling Club
- Hillcrest Hall
- Historical Museum
- Community associations
- Interest and service groups
- Sporting clubs
- Men's and Women's Shed
- Macleean Lookout
- CWA Hall
- Swimming Pool
- Council Chambers & Library
- Macleean High School Library
- Civic Hall
- Churches
- Macleean Indoor Sports Complex & Wherrett Park
- Showground

### Top 5 best things about living in Macleean<sup>2</sup>

1	Friendly people	76.1%
2	Lifestyle	70.8%
3	Natural environment	68.2%
4	History and heritage	34.5%
5	Shops and cafes	31.1%

### Community events

- Macleean Highland Gathering
- Macleean Community Monthly Markets
- Lower Clarence Music & Dance Eisteddfods
- Clarence River Arts Festival
- Macmarket Day
- Clarence Valley Plunge Festival
- Macleean Carols
- Gulmarrad School Carols and Musical
- Macleean High School Musical and Art Show

The Healthy Towns program is delivered by North Coast Primary Health Network in partnership with Northern NSW Local Health District and Bulgarri Ngaru Medical Aboriginal Corporation. The program is supported by funding from the Australian Government.

Bulgarri Ngaru  
Medical Aboriginal Corporation

NSW  
GOVERNMENT

Health  
Northern NSW  
Local Health District

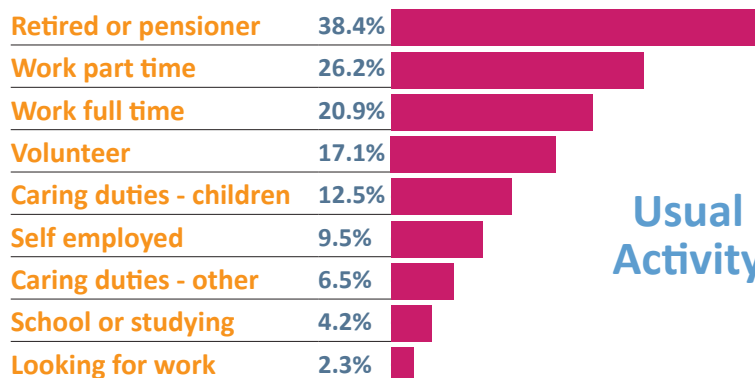
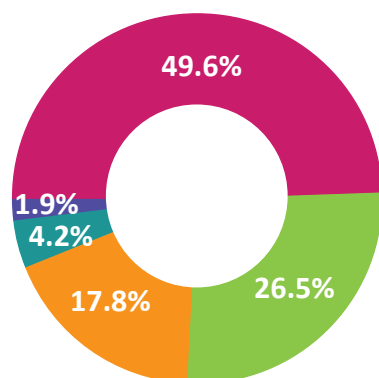
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NORTH COAST  
An Australian Government Initiative

# Healthy Towns Maclean Community Survey

## Who were our respondents?<sup>2</sup>

Age  
(years)

12-18  
19-24  
25-44  
45-64  
65-84  
85+



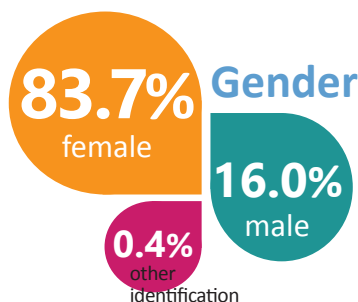
**264**

people participated in the Maclean Community Survey



**8.0%**

of survey respondents were of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent



## Health and wellbeing in Maclean

### Top 10 Issues (survey respondents)

1	Ageing issues	60.8%
2	Drug and alcohol misuse	55.0%
3	Mental health issues	49.5%
4	Diet and exercise	37.8%
5	Cost of living	36.0%

6	Housing affordability	32.9%
7	Transport	31.5%
8	Poor access to healthcare	23.9%
9	Cancer	23.4%
10	Social isolation and suicide	23.4%

On a scale of  
1 to 10

**82.7%**

survey respondents rated their overall life satisfaction above **7**

**81.4%**

survey respondents rated their health above **7**

## What people say about living in Maclean

### Survey respondents

87.5%	Really feel like they're part of this community
72.7%	Often participate in community activities
91.1%	Can get help from their friends, family and neighbours when needed
73.8%	Can access community and support groups that meet their needs
75.7%	Can get involved in local decision-making processes if they want to
69.2%	Haven't experienced racism or discrimination in this town

# What people think about the community of Maclean

## Survey respondents

95.9%	Feel proud to live in this community
91.7%	Think the community copes pretty well when faced with challenges
72.0%	Agree the town has good facilities like shops, childcare, schools and libraries
73.2%	Agree there is easy access to sports, recreational and leisure facilities
85.3%	Agree people here get involved in local issues and activities
94.6%	Agree this community is a safe place to live
69.7%	Agree all groups in this community are treated with respect
58.9%	Disagree that racism is a problem in our community
58.8%	Agree living costs are affordable here, e.g. food, petrol, housing

## Community ideas to improve health and wellbeing <sup>2,3</sup>

- Improve public areas: footpaths, cycling tracks, sports equipment and playgrounds
- Increase affordable health services
- Provide outreach services at appropriate locations and times
- More transport options
- Increase coordination between services to support vulnerable families
- More youth activities
- A community facility where community members can gather
- Better provision of mental health services and education
- Improved awareness of existing services
- More social connection especially for older people
- Mental health education and resources for young people
- Easier access to specialists and specialist treatment e.g. cancer and diabetes



## Access to services

### found it easy...

<b>76.8%</b>	To access a GP
<b>69.3%</b>	To access childcare

### found it difficult...

<b>65.3%</b>	To access a specialist doctor	<b>56.4%</b>	To access mental health services
<b>67.3%</b>	To access allied health (e.g. psychologist, speech therapist)	<b>56.0%</b>	To access aged care services
<b>64.3%</b>	To access alcohol and other drugs services	<b>55.3%</b>	To access education and training

## Services in Maclean

Service	Number
Aboriginal Medical Service*	1
Aged Care Services	4
Ambulance	1
Community Health Centre*	1
Court House	1
Dental	2
Disability Services	2
Fire/Rescue	4
General Practice	3
Hospital	1
Housing Cooperative	1
Land Council	1
Mental health service	1

Service	Number
Optical Surgeon	1
Optician	2
Pathology	2
Physiotherapy	4
Podiatry	1
Police Station	1
Psychology	0
Radiology	2
Residential Aged Care	2
Service NSW	1

\*A range of specialist, allied health and outreach services

Educational institutions	Number
Community Pre School	1
Primary School K – 6	4
High School 7 – 12*	2
NSW TAFE Campus	1
Childcare Centre	1
Family Day Care	1

\* Maclean High School has 12 feeder primary schools

Transport	Frequency/Availability
Bus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily return services to Grafton and Iluka</li> <li>Daily Trainlink coach to Grafton</li> <li>Daily Coach services to Sydney and Brisbane</li> </ul>
Health Transport	Provided by volunteers through Clarence Community Transport



## What else we know about Maclean community priorities

- Build proud and inviting communities with vibrant and welcoming town centres streets and meeting places. Beautify riverfronts, respect heritage, support and encourage community participation and volunteerism, support community organisations, encourage greater awareness of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. (Clarence Valley Council Community Plan Consultations 2014).
- Safe, active and healthy region that partners with health agencies and community organisations to promote healthy lifestyles and better health outcomes. Work with key partners and the community to lobby for adequate health services in our region. (Clarence Valley Council Community Plan Consultations 2014).
- Since March 2016 an extraordinary coordinated community/health and community services effort has been in place in the Clarence Valley, to address a higher than state average rate of suicide in the Grafton/Yamba/Maclean region since early 2015. The Plan has come from the grass roots and belongs to everybody in the community. Our Healthy Clarence is a unique model that brings community and organisations together in a constructive and sustainable way to improve the mental health and wellbeing of the Clarence Valley community.

### References:

- 1 Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016. Census of Population and Housing: QuickStats, [Online] Available at <http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/Census?OpenDocument&ref=topBar>
- 2 Healthy Towns Maclean Community Survey April 2018
- 3 Community Consultation interviews January 2018 - May 2018

The Healthy Towns program is delivered by North Coast Primary Health Network in partnership with Northern NSW Local Health District and Bulgarri Ngaru Medical Aboriginal Corporation. The program is supported by funding from the Australian Government.

### Notes:

- a Population of the State Suburb (SSC) of Maclean, not including other areas that may also be serviced by Maclean