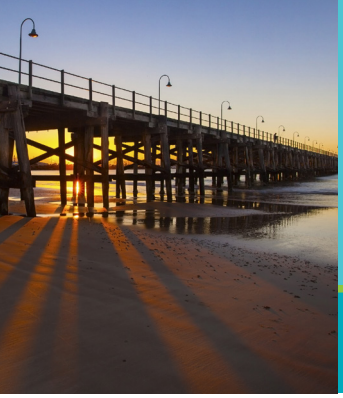
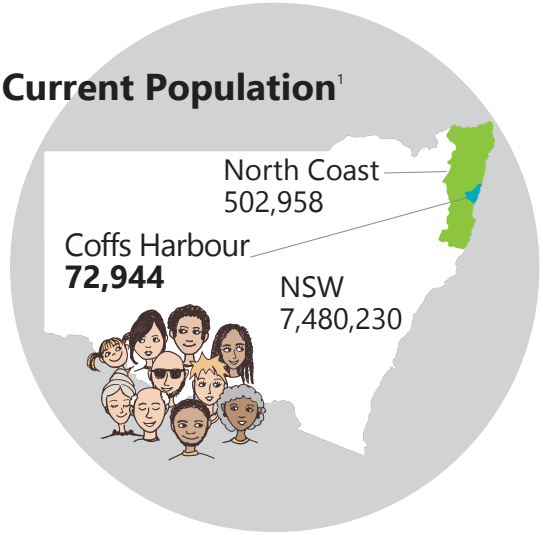


COFFS HARBOUR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (LGA)
Fact Sheet

A key role of North Coast Primary Health Network (NCPHN) is to identify health needs and service gaps and, based on this evidence, prioritise activity to address those needs. This fact sheet contains the most up-to-date health and service statistics and community perspectives.

Current Population[1]



Median Age

Coffs Harbour	North Coast	NSW
44	47	38

Aboriginal Population

Coffs Harbour	North Coast	NSW
5.0%	5.0%	2.9%

Children & Infants (0-14)

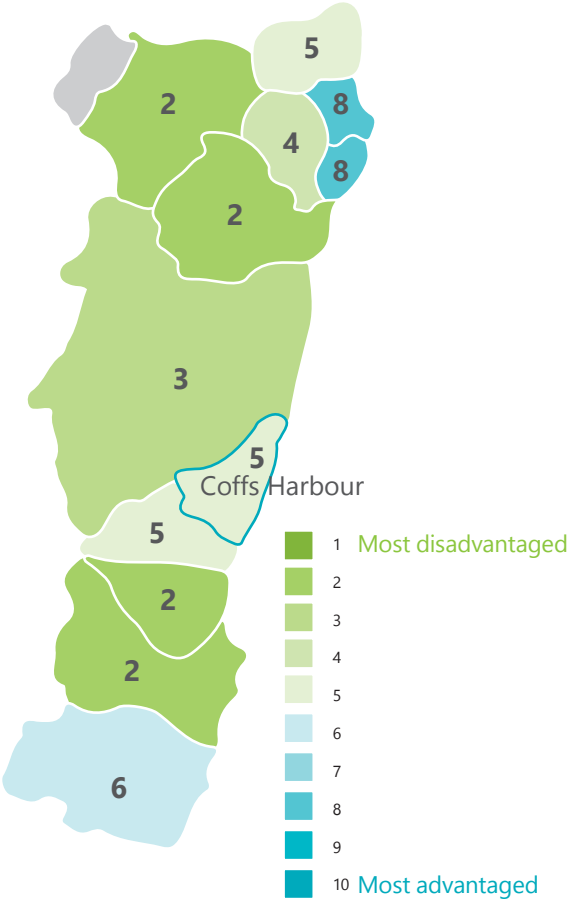
Coffs Harbour	North Coast	NSW
18.3%	17.1%	18.5%

Older People (65+)

Coffs Harbour	North Coast	NSW
21.1%	23.7%	16.3%

Socio-Economic Disadvantage[1]

Coffs Harbour LGA has not been identified as an area of socio-economic disadvantage overall. However, there are areas within the Coffs Harbour LGA that are in the most disadvantaged 10% in Australia.



Higher Rates of Hospitalisation per 100,000 population

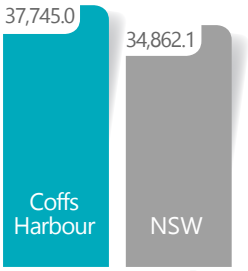
Coffs Harbour **879.3** NSW **748.7** — fall-related for all ages[2]

Coffs Harbour **908.1** NSW **670.8** — smoking attributable[3]

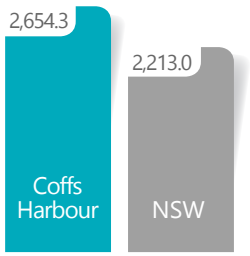
Coffs Harbour **74.1** NSW **52.8** — diabetes type 1[4]

Coffs Harbour **91.7** NSW **73.8** — interpersonal violence-related[5]

Coffs Harbour **2,356.8** NSW **1,663.4** — dementia as principle diagnosis[6]



All causes[7]



Potentially preventable[8]

Health and Access to Health Services

General Practitioners[9] (GPs)

	Coffs Harbour	North Coast
GP Full Time Equivalent (FTE) per 1,000 population	1.1	1.1
Practices	19	180
GPs (total number)	106	845
GP (FTE)	79.3	557.3

Immunisation Rates[10] in 2016-17

Arrows indicate trending below or above the 2015-16 rate.

1 year olds	Coffs Harbour*	90.9%	↓
	North Coast	90.1%	↑
	Australia	93.8%	↑
2 year olds	Coffs Harbour*	88.5%	↑
	North Coast	87.9%	↑
	Australia	90.9%	↑
5 year olds	Coffs Harbour*	90.9%	↑
	North Coast	90.6%	↑
	Australia	93.5%	↑

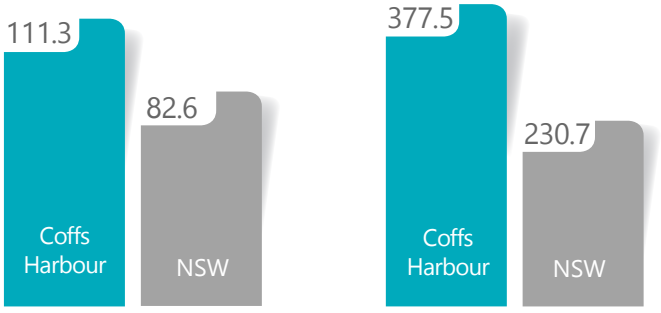
100%

Cancer per 100,000 population, age standardised<, Coffs Harbour SA3*[11]

	Incidence rate	Australia	Mortality rate	Australia
Breast	**124.6**	119.8	**22.9**	20.6
Bowel	**62.1**	60.1	**16.4**	15.6
Skin	**77.4**	49.3	**8.5**	5.9
Prostate	**199.1**	172.8	**34.6**	27.3
Lung	**54.2**	43.6	**38.8**	31.5

Alcohol and other drugs

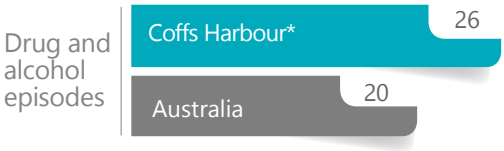
Crime[12] rate per 100,000



Possession and/or use of amphetamines

Possession and/or use of Cannabis

Hospitalisations[13] rate per 10,000



Allied Health Services

Health Professionals - FTE[14] per 1,000 population	Coffs Harbour	North Coast	NSW
ATSI> Health Practitioners	0.04	0.02	0.01
Chiropractors	0.14	0.16	0.19
Chinese Medicine Practitioners	0.07	0.15	0.18
Dental Practitioners	0.81	0.7	0.77
Medical Radiation Practitioners	0.81	0.51	0.52
Nurses and Midwives	14.65	12.44	10.83
Occupational Therapists	0.75	0.51	0.54
Optometrists	0.23	0.16	0.2
Osteopaths	0.07	0.14	0.06
Pharmacists	0.96	0.79	0.92
Physiotherapists	0.99	0.82	0.89
Podiatrists	0.18	0.15	0.15
Psychologists	1.14	0.82	0.96

* Coffs Harbour SA3 region includes the towns of Coffs Harbour, Sawtell, Bellingen, Woolgoolga, Urunga, Dorrigo and surrounds.
< Weighted average/age adjustment used to allow populations to be compared when the age profiles of the populations are quite different.
> ATSI: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

2018 Local Health Needs Community Survey[15]

455
Coffs Harbour Participants

NORTH COAST 3,372

7.7%
of respondents identified as of ABORIGINAL or TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER origin

8.4%
of respondents identified as LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL or QUEER

28.1%
of respondents said they wouldn't be able to get $2,000 for something important within a WEEK

44.0%
of respondents had PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE

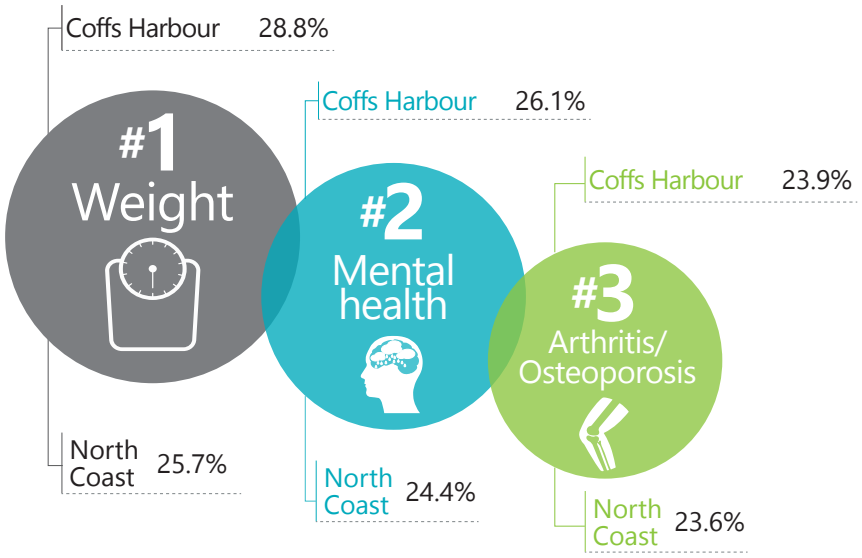
13.9%
of respondents were BORN OVERSEAS

7.0%
of respondents were AGED between 15-24 YEARS

18.0%
of respondents were AGED over 65 YEARS

31.3%
of respondents WORKED 35 or more HOURS a week

Participants were asked which health challenges they face...



Participants were asked what they think are the three most serious health concerns in their community...

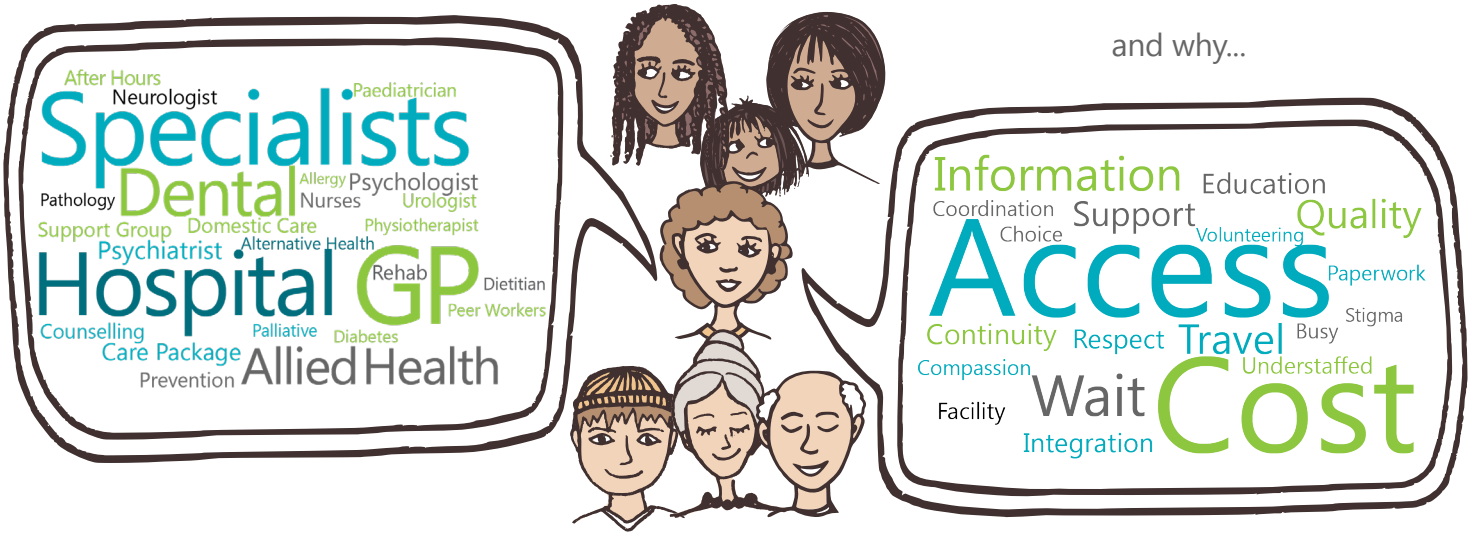
Coffs Harbour

1	Mental health issues	53.1%
2	Drug and alcohol misuse	51.4%
3	Ageing issues	40.2%

North Coast

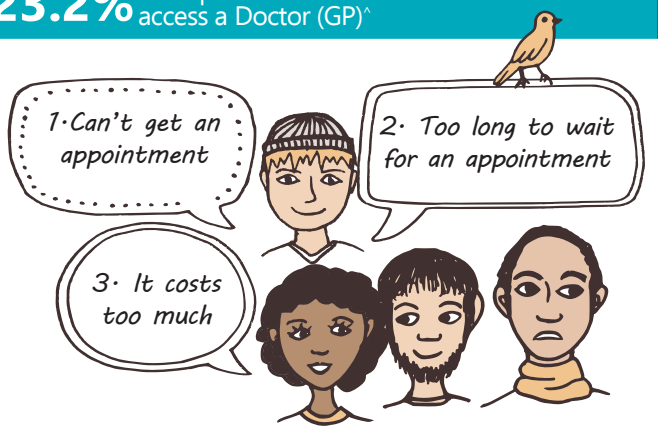
1	Drug and alcohol misuse	47.7%
2	Mental health issues	47.6%
3	Ageing issues	47.0%

Survey respondents told us which additional services are needed to meet health challenges in their community...



2018 Local Health Needs Community Survey[15]

23.2% of respondents said it was difficult to access a Doctor (GP)^



48.1% of respondents said it was difficult to access Specialists^

Difficult to access	Coffs Harbour	North Coast
1 Psychiatrist	**31.9%**	23.8%
2 General Surgeon	**23.3%**	15.1%
3 Cardiologist	**19.0%**	19.2%
4 Paediatrician	**16.1%**	12.1%
5 Radiologist	**14.7%**	10.0%

Top 3 Challenges:
1. Long wait - 62.4%
2. Cost - 57.7%
3. Lack of Specialists - 36.5%

24.1% of respondents said it was difficult to access Allied Health Professionals^

Difficult to access	Coffs Harbour	North Coast
1 Dentist	**37.4%**	38.1%
2 Psychologist	**26.2%**	29.6%
3 Physiotherapist	**19.0%**	20.6%
4 Dietitian/ Nutritionist	**15.1%**	11.1%
5 Pharmacist	**13.1%**	9.2%

Top 3 Challenges:
1. Cost - 59.0%
2. Not covered by Medicare - 46.5%
3. Long wait - 29.0%

53.7% of respondents said it was difficult to access Mental Health Services^

Difficult to access	Coffs Harbour	North Coast
1 Counselling	**48.6%**	45.2%
2 Doctor (GP) with knowledge in mental health	**43.7%**	38.0%
3 Psychiatry	**32.1%**	28.6%
4 NSW Health community mental health	**28.9%**	33.1%
5 Hospital	**21.0%**	14.8%

Top 3 Challenges:
1. Cost - 47.4%
2. Lack of services - 42.2%
3. Stigma/shame - 37.1%

57.4% of respondents said it was difficult to access Alcohol and Other Drug services^

Difficult to access	Coffs Harbour	North Coast
1 Rehab	**53.0%**	44.6%
2 Doctor (GP) with knowledge in alcohol and other drugs	**35.8%**	31.8%
3 Counselling	**31.1%**	42.2%
4 Psychiatrist	**29.6%**	25.3%
5 Detox	**28.3%**	39.4%

Top 3 Challenges:
1. Cost - 51.4%
2. Lack of services - 49.3%
3. Stigma/shame - 48.3%

52.9% of respondents said it was difficult to access Age-related Services^

Difficult to access	Coffs Harbour	North Coast
1 Care packages/funding	**45.7%**	45.6%
2 General wellness support/ social groups	**36.2%**	29.8%
3 Doctor (GP) with knowledge/ skills in aged care	**26.1%**	29.3%
4 Respite support for carers	**25.8%**	24.2%
5 In-home domestic support (e.g. cleaning, meals)	**25.7%**	36.9%

Top 3 Challenges:
1. Cost - 42.9%
2. Difficult to organise - 42.3%
3. Not sure what is available - 38.9%

^ Difficult to access = Respondents who had needed to access the health service/professional in the past 12 months reporting it was difficult or very difficult.

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