

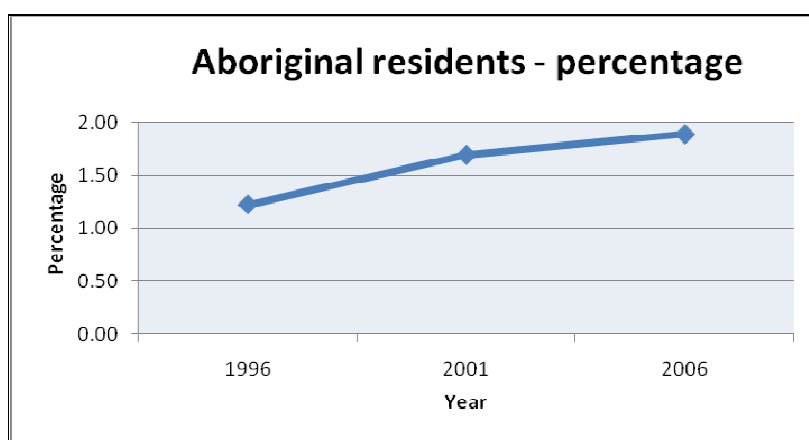
Population diversity

What are we monitoring?

The percentage of Aboriginal residents in the LGA

What is the trend?

The percentage of Blue Mountains residents who identify as Aboriginal is increasing. Over this same period the Blue Mountains Aboriginal population remained stable at 1.2% of the total population. While Australia as a whole has an ageing population, this trend is reversed for Aboriginal people. Children and young people form a large proportion of the Aboriginal population. In 2006 more than half of the Aboriginal population in the Blue Mountains were children and young people aged under 25 years of age. In comparison, children and young people make up just a third of the total Blue Mountains population.



ABORIGINAL RESIDENTS – BLUE MOUNTAINS LGA			
Year	1996 (%)	2001 (%)	2006 (%)
BMLGA	1.2	1.7	1.9
NSW	1.6	1.9	2.1

Why is monitoring this trend important?

Aboriginal residents form a very small proportion of the Blue Mountains population. As a community who values diversity and our Aboriginal heritage, ideally the local Aboriginal population would reflect, at a minimum, the state average.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006, 2001, 1996