Why do we want to do this?

Western Australia has one of the highest rates of Aboriginal people in prison nationally with 3717 incarcerations per 100,000 population — about 60% above the national average rate for Aboriginal incarceration.

The overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in custody has a significant impact on the cultural, emotional and social wellbeing of those individuals, their families and communities.

A focus on prevention via a whole-of-government approach to address social disadvantage and access to necessary services will support this outcome.

Importantly, the WA Government will work in partnership with Aboriginal communities to enable and empower Aboriginal people to live healthy and prosperous lives.

Public sector agencies will collaborate across areas as diverse as health, education, transport, justice, housing and commerce to work together with Aboriginal-led organisations to bring about positive change.

Local government, business and community also have a significant role to play in achieving this target.

What do we want to achieve?

23%

the number of Aboriginal adults in prison

By 2028-29

By 2028-29, reduce the number of Aboriginal adults in prison by 23% from 2017-18 numbers.

Interpreting the results

The graph represents the Western Australian Aboriginal prisoner population (average daily number per year) as reported by the Department of Justice.

In 2017-18 there were 2591 adult Aboriginal people in prison in Western Australia.

Based on the proportion of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal population this means that Aboriginal adults are incarcerated at 16 times the rate of non-Aboriginal adults. There has been an upward trend in imprisonment of Aboriginal adults in WA over the past decade.

Aboriginal People Incarcerated

Election commitments

- Supporting Communities
- Law Reform Initiatives
- Target 120