



Western Australian Aboriginal Expenditure Review 2023-24: Community Guide

What is the Aboriginal Expenditure Review?

The Aboriginal Expenditure Review (AER) looks at how the WA Government spends money on programs and services for Aboriginal people and communities.

The AER is a yearly process. This guide explains the second AER report.

Why do we do the Aboriginal Expenditure Review?

The AER is part of the WA Government's commitment to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. It helps share information with Aboriginal people and organisations about the money that government spends on programs and services.

The review also shows how Aboriginal organisations deliver programs and services. This information helps the WA Government find ways to increase Aboriginal involvement and see if it is growing over time.

What does the review mean by 'expenditure'?

In the AER, expenditure means the amount of money that the WA Government spends on programs and services for Aboriginal people and communities. The report divides expenditure into two types:

- **Aboriginal specific expenditure** – Money spent only on programs and services for Aboriginal people.
- **Aboriginal predominant expenditure** – Money spent on programs and services used mostly by Aboriginal people.

What did we learn from this second Aboriginal Expenditure Review?

\$759.4m total Aboriginal expenditure

22.8% increase in total Aboriginal expenditure from previous year



403 programs for, or predominantly used by, Aboriginal people in 2022-23

In 2022-23, the WA Government spent \$577 million on 291 programs and services just for Aboriginal people and communities.

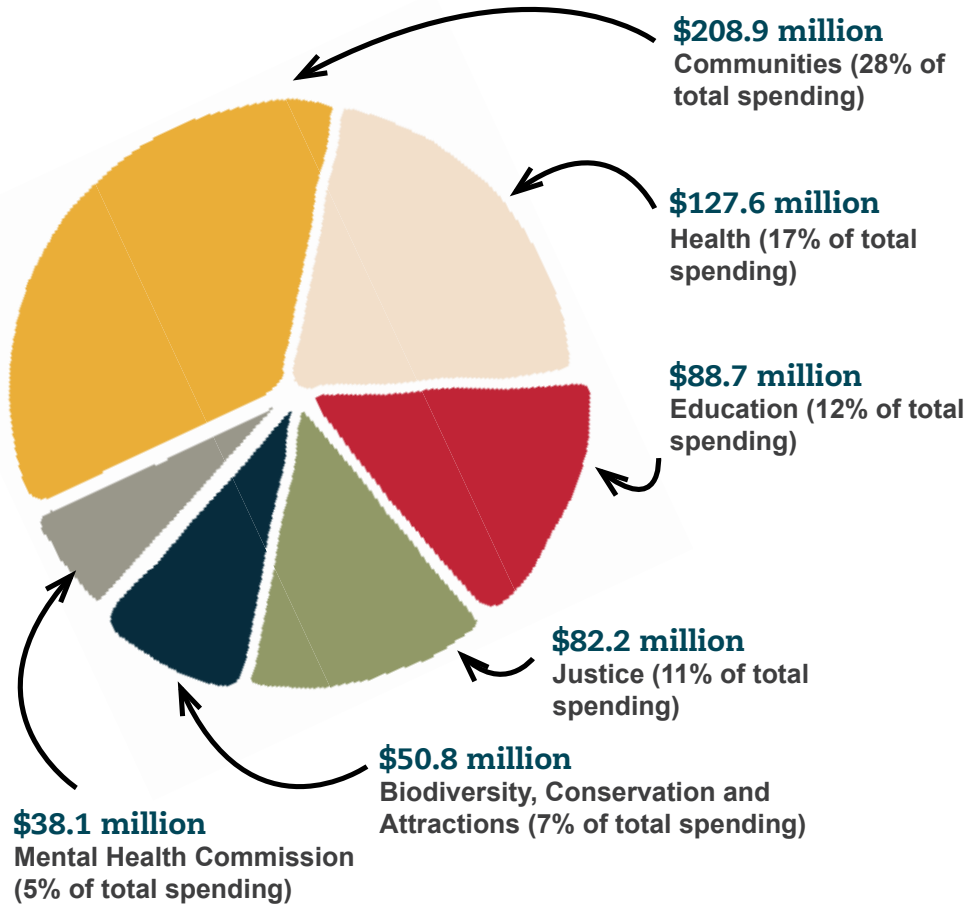
Example: The Government provides funding for Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisations to provide care for older Aboriginal people leaving hospital.

The Government also spent \$182 million on 112 programs and services where most users were Aboriginal people and communities, even though they were open to others.

Example: The Government funds the Kununurra, Halls Creek and Balgo Subsidised Public Air Service. Most of the people that use these travel services are Aboriginal people.

Which agencies spent the most on Aboriginal people and communities in 2022-23?

In 2022-23, these agencies spent the most money on programs and services for Aboriginal people and communities:

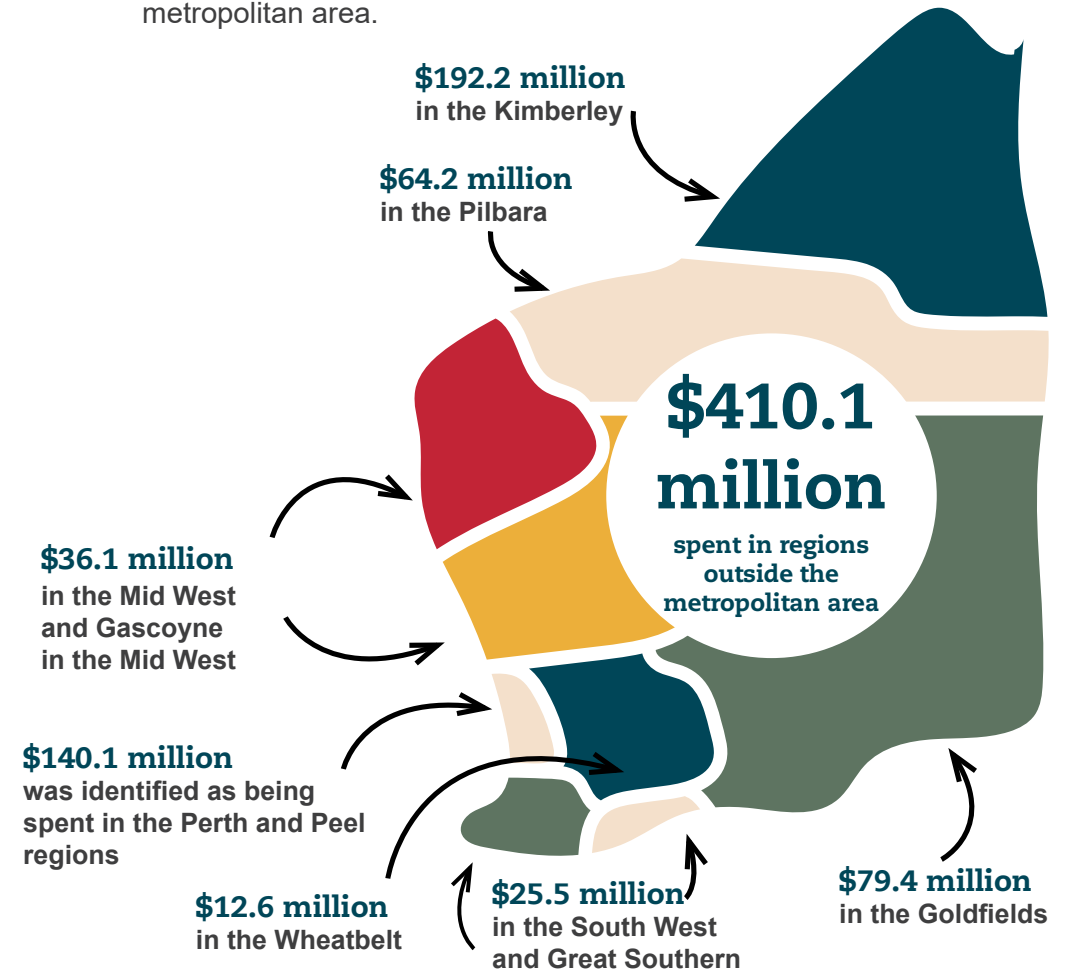


How were Aboriginal organisations involved?

In 2022-23, Aboriginal organisations helped deliver 174 programs and services. Sometimes they were the main provider, other times they worked together with other agencies or organisations. These programs cost over \$403 million in total.

How much did we invest in each region?

In 2022-23, \$550.2 million (72%) of Aboriginal expenditure was spent in specific regions. Of this, \$410.1 million was spent outside the Perth metropolitan area.



Delivering WA's Expenditure Review

The AER is run by the Aboriginal Affairs Coordination Unit in the Department of Treasury and Finance. Our unit provides financial advice and works with other agencies on Aboriginal Affairs issues, including Closing the Gap and Native Title.