

Richmond-Tweed Bundjalung Nation

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Poverty & Demographics

	Richmond-Tweed	NSW
Poverty Rate	15.27%	13.4%
Single Parent Families	18.5%	15.8%
Median Household Income	\$1,329	\$1,829

Housing and Financial Stress



64%

people are living in housing stress.¹

38%

have gone without meals because they were short of money.

2nd highest

Byron Shire had the second highest increase in rough sleepers across NSW.³

Health



64%

One in three people went to ED because they could access a GP.²

51%

people went without a prescribed medication due to costs.

170%

The number of residents who have delayed or avoided seeing a GP due to cost has increased over 170% since 2020.

Children and Young People



16.2%

children are living in poverty at a cost of \$1.8 billion.⁴

93%

people couldn't afford extracurricular activities for their child, compared to the NSW average of 63%.⁶

9.8%

children are developmentally vulnerable in two or more domains.⁵

Local Challenges



Over 3000

homes across the region were damaged in the 2022 floods; 16% of people reported living in overcrowding.¹

Key Issues

Local communities have highlighted housing affordability and homelessness, mental health, financial hardship and inclusion.⁸

8th highest

Tweed Heads has the 8th highest number of pokies machines (per 1000 people) in NSW.⁷

¹ Impossible Choices: Decisions NSW families shouldn't have to make. Regional Snapshot. NSW Council of Social Service. Following statistics have come from the NCOSS Cost of Living report. ² Access Denied: Australians Locked Out of Quality Healthcare Patient Experience and Socioeconomic Disadvantage in NSW. NCOSS 2024/2024. ³ NSW Street Count results. NSW Government. ⁴ Lasting Impacts of Child Poverty. NCOSS. ⁵ Australian Early Development Census 2024. Data by SA4. ⁶ Trends in youth offending in NSW 2025. NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research. ⁷ Liquor and Gaming NSW. Electronic Gaming Machines by SA2. ⁸ Social Justice Stocktake 2025. Salvation Army. ⁹ SBS. (2023). Just 35 Per Cent of GP Clinics Bulk Bill New Patients. Here's How Your Area Compares. ¹⁰ Poverty rate is defined as 15.27% of households. Single parent families is defined as 18.5% of all families. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2022. 2021 Census Quickstats.