

Australia and its First Nations Peoples

Australia has two First Nations peoples. Aboriginal people are from the mainland but also includes Tasmania. Torres Strait Islander Peoples are from the Torres Strait Islands. Together they are called **Indigenous peoples of Australia** or **First Nations Peoples** because they have lived in Australia long before European arrived. It is estimated that they have been here for 60,000 years (AIATSIS 2020).

First Nations Peoples represent 3.3% of the total Australian population (ABS 2018).



Hi friends

Did you know that the Indigenous Australian map was created using 'The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia and attempts to show numerous boundaries identifying distinct and explicit language and tribal groupings?

For over 60,000 years, our First Nations' Peoples have occupied this continent as many different nations with diverse cultural relationships linking them to their own particular lands, waterways and seas.

Over 200 distinct languages, and countless dialects of them, were in use long before European colonisation began. While people in some areas continue to speak their own languages, many others are seeking to record and revive their own which were lost through the process of colonisation. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples retain their connection to their nation dependant on and regardless of where they live today.

The highly popular AIATSIS map of Indigenous Australia is now available in a compact, portable A3 size. Available flat or folded (packaged in a cellophane bag), it is the perfect take-home product for tourists and anyone interested in the diversity of Australia's first nations peoples. The handy desk size also makes it an ideal resource for individual student use.

Click on the "where to Buy" button for many options of where to buy. Indigenous maps that will suit all budgets and purposes. One would look great hanging in your Corps and in our social program buildings too. What a great way to connect with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities!

THE AIATSIS MAP OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA

AIATSIS

Compiled by David Horton

"Where to buy"

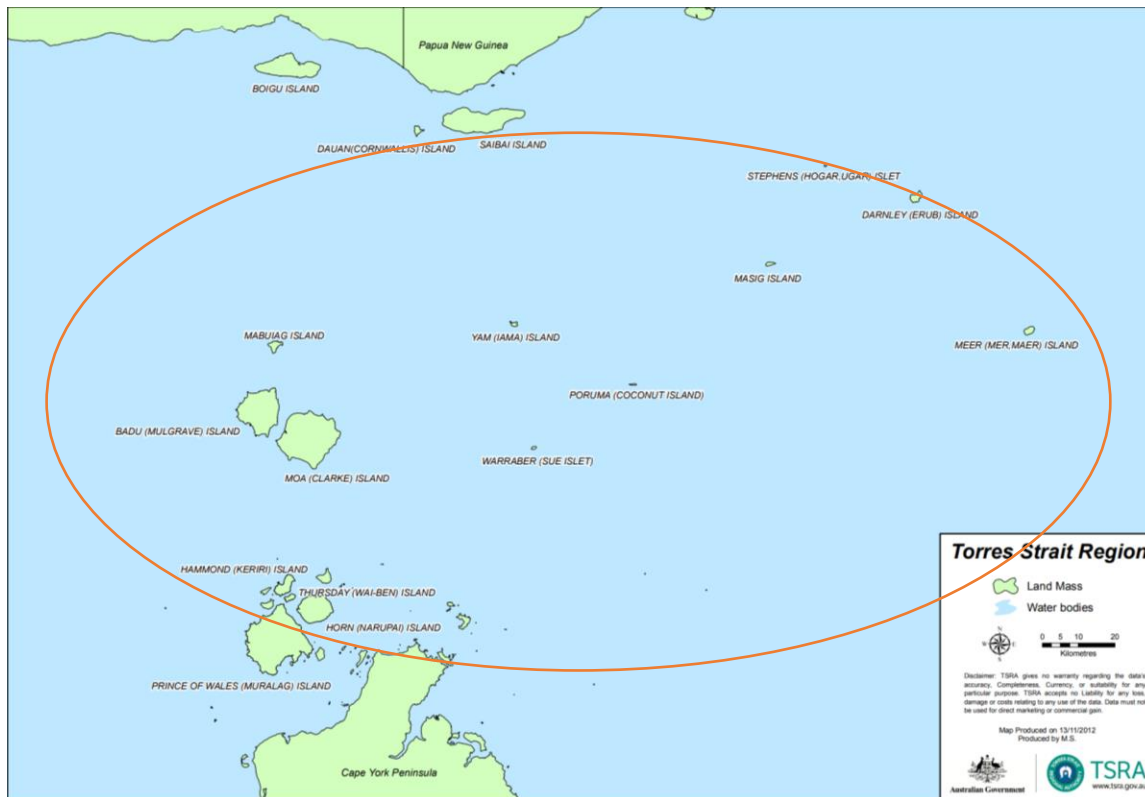
There are over 200 languages and countless dialects of the First Nations Peoples.

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) developed a map of Indigenous Australia showing the language groupings across Australia.

Buying a map is a great way to connect with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The image on the left is courtesy of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministry Team of the Salvation Army.

Source: <https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/australias-first-peoples>;
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples>;
<https://my.salvos.org.au/toolkit/resource/aboriginal--torres-strait-islander-ministry-team-resources/1412/>; <http://www.tsra.gov.au/the-torres-strait/regional-map>; <https://www.tsra.gov.au/the-torres-strait/community-profiles>



(Map from Torres Strait Regional Authority, www.tsra.gov.au)

Torres Strait Islander peoples are from the Torres Strait.

The Torres Strait consists of eighteen island and two Northern Peninsula Area communities. The islands are scattered over a geographic area of 48,000 square kilometres, from the tip of Cape York, north towards the borders of Papua New Guinea and Indonesia.

There are 5 island clusters in the Torres Strait – top western, western, central, eastern and inner islands.

Thursday Island is the main administrative centre of the Torres Strait.

(TSRA, 2020)

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