

Hope Vale

Hope Vale is situated on the Cape York Peninsula and is 46 kilometres northwest of Cooktown. The estimated resident population of Hope Vale was about 830 people at 30 June 2007. Hope Vale recorded an average annual population decrease from 2002 to 2007 of 1.2 per cent.

The community includes 13 clan groups (traditional owners) and others, with many speaking Guugu Yimidhirr and other related languages as well as English.

Services to the community

Community services in Hope Vale include a health clinic and environmental health support, a police station, a child care centre, a shelter for women and children who are escaping family and domestic violence, Home and Community Care, a disability service, a community justice group, magistrates court services, child safety services and support, employment services, families, seniors and youth support services, a primary school and an arts centre.

There are four police officer positions at Hope Vale. The Queensland Government also provides funding support for alcohol and substance demand reduction programs, childcare services, recreation facilities and a Sport and Recreation Officer. Hope Vale residents also access a variety of services in nearby Cooktown.

The Family Responsibilities Commission has been in place in Hope Vale since July 2008, and conferences commenced in August 2008. As part of the Cape York Welfare Reform trial, school attendance case management and wellbeing services are in place.

An Alcohol Management Plan commenced in Hope Vale on 14 April 2004 (see table 1).

The Government Champion for Hope Vale is Michael Hogan, Assistant Director-General, Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy, Department of Communities.

Key initiatives

Hope Vale is one of the communities (together with Aurukun, Mossman Gorge and Coen) participating in the Cape York Welfare Reform trial over the next four years.



Service agreements have been established by The Department of Education, Training and the Arts, for non-school providers of pre-prep schooling in Hope Vale.

Twelve trainees of the Department of Main Roads' Remote Communities Services Unit completed 3.5 kilometres of bitumen seal on the Hope Vale access road.

Training was conducted by the Queensland Ambulance Service, with people from the community attaining certificates in applied first aid and/or CPR.

A 'Caring for Sea Country' marine turtle program was delivered by the Environmental Protection Agency. It was aimed at fostering better sea country management – around 50 people attended.

In November 2008, the government announced that revised alcohol restrictions have been regulated for Hope Vale to take effect on 2 January 2009. From that date, the maximum amount of alcohol a person can have in the Hope Vale Shire is 11.25 litres (1 x 30 can carton) of light or mid-strength beer or 750mls (one bottle) of non-fortified wine. The package of additional services to support alcohol reform in Hope Vale includes additional police, health treatment (drug and alcohol), and diversionary services. Men's and women's programs commenced in December 2008.

A Community Engagement event was held in Hope Vale in December 2008. The aim of the event was to bring all government departments together that service Hope Vale to showcase the work of respective agencies, and the resources available to support the community.

This event was also utilised to acknowledge the impacts of change in the community in 2008, for example, local government elections, Welfare Reform and Alcohol Reforms and CDEP amendments.

The Department of Natural Resources and Water is currently engaging with key stakeholders to provide information on the process for lease applications, the councils role in assessments and an Indigenous Land Use Agreement to enable leases to be issued. This process provides security of tenure for residents of Hope Vale, provides the trustee with a source of revenue and encourages economic development.

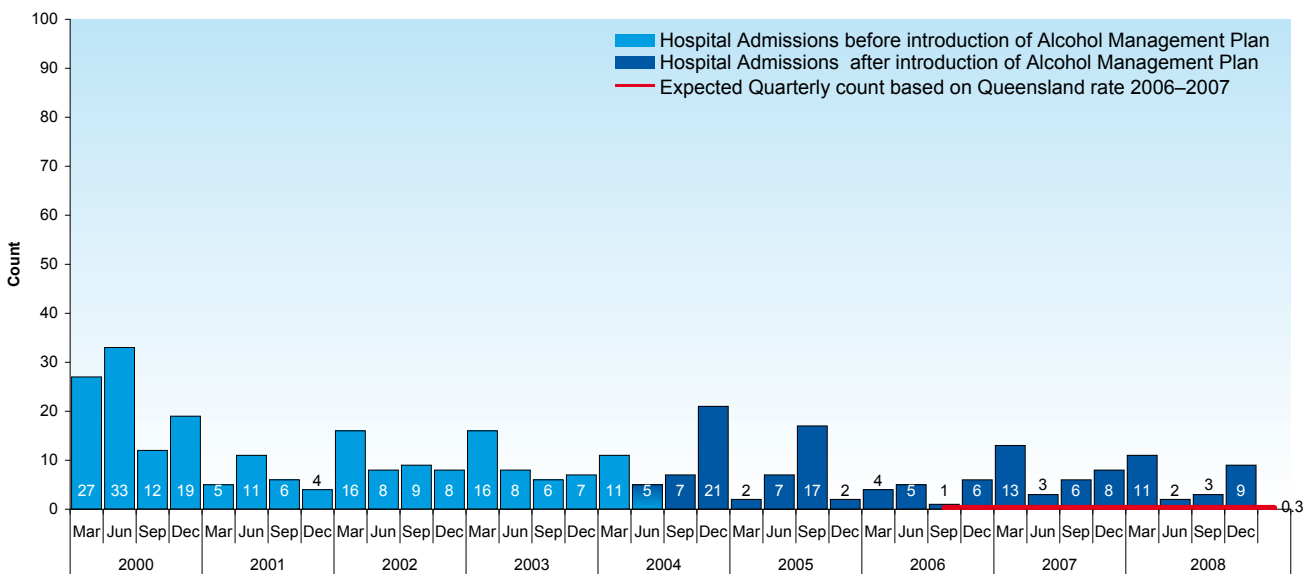
A Stylin' Up Regional Showcase was held in Hope Vale from 2 - 6 December 2008. These workshops encompass dance, music production, song writing, MCing and lyric writing. Over 50 young people participated in the workshops held at Cooktown High School, Hope Vale State School and the PCYC at Hope Vale.

Hospital Admissions for Assault

In the four years prior to the introduction of alcohol restrictions in Hope Vale, there was an average of 12.1 hospitalisations for assault reported per quarter. Over the 12 months to 31 December 2008 there was an average of 6.3

hospitalisations for assault reported per quarter for people from Hope Vale. This compares with an expected count of 0.3 per quarter (estimated by applying the 2006-07 Queensland rate to the population count of Hope Vale in 2007).

Figure 21: Quarterly number of hospital admissions for assault, March quarter 2000 to December quarter 2008, Hope Vale (a)

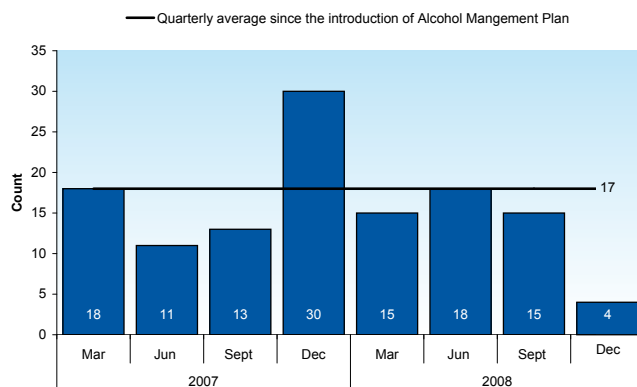


(a) These data are limited due to a range of factors. They must be read with reference to the notes at the end of this report.
Source: Queensland Health, unpublished data

Persons Convicted (breaches of section 168B of the *Liquor Act 1992*)

Since the introduction of the Alcohol Management Plan, there has been a total of 333 persons convicted of 490 breaches of alcohol carriage restrictions in Hope Vale. In the December quarter 2008, four persons were convicted (individuals convicted are not necessarily residents of the community).

Figure 22: Number of persons convicted for alcohol carriage offences, March quarter 2007 to December quarter 2008, Hope Vale.



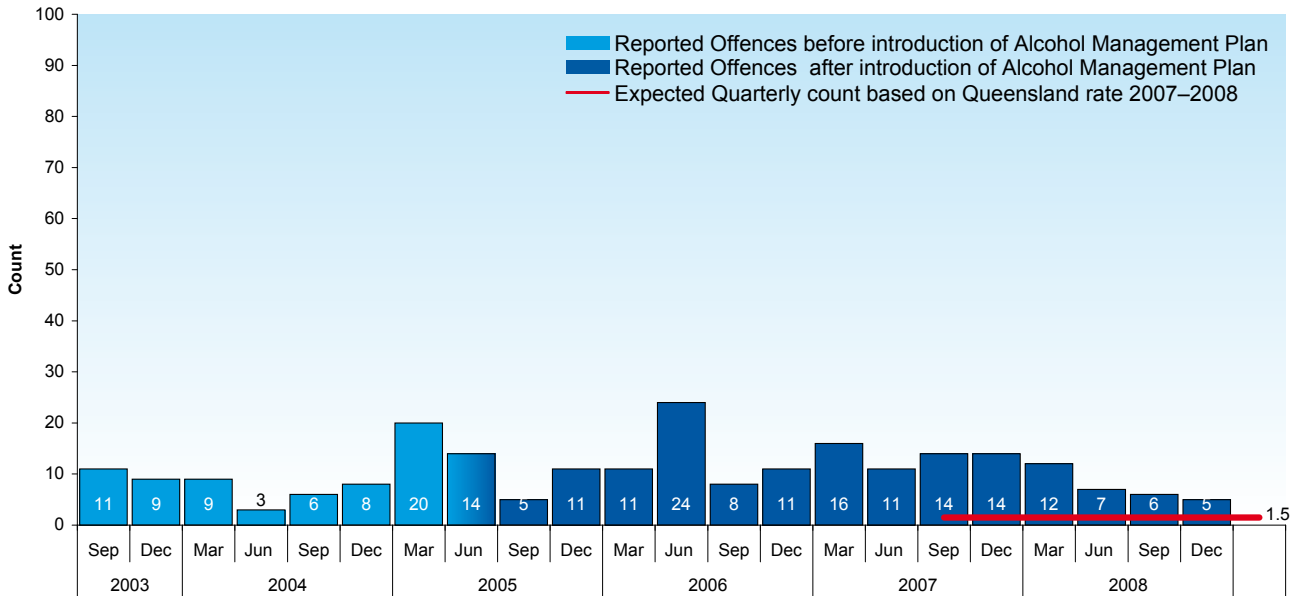
Source: Department of Justice and Attorney-General unpublished data. These data are limited by a range of factors. They must be read with reference to the notes at the end of this report.

Reported Offences Against the Person

In contrast to counts reported throughout 2007 and in the March 2008 quarter, counts for the latest three quarters were relatively low. There was an average of 7.5 offences against the person reported per quarter in Hope Vale over

the four quarters to 31 December 2008. This compares with an expected count of 1.5 per quarter (estimated by applying the 2007-08 Queensland rate to the population count of Hope Vale in 2007).

Figure 23: Quarterly number of reported offences against the person, September quarter 2003 to December quarter 2008, Hope Vale



(a) These data are limited due to a range of factors. They must be read with reference to the notes at the end of this report.

(b) Data for Hope Vale, Mapoon, Napranum and Wujal Wujal only available from September quarter 2003.

Source: Queensland Police Service, unpublished data

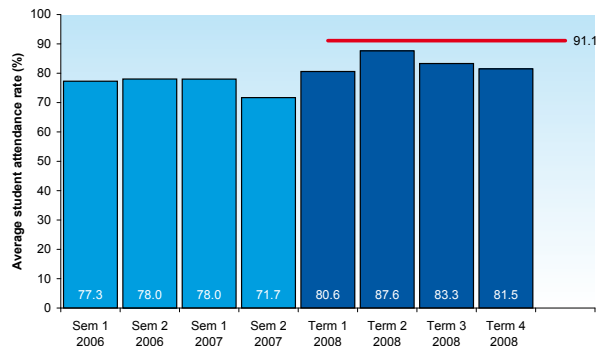
Child Safety

In the December quarter 2008, five Hope Vale children were subject to a substantiated notification of harm. In the December quarter 2008, less than five Hope Vale children were admitted to a finalised child protection order.

School Attendance

In term four 2008, the average student attendance rate at Hope Vale State School was 81.5 per cent which represented a slight decline on the term three 2008 rate of 83.3 per cent.

Figure 24: Average student attendance rate, preparatory to year 7, semester 1 2006 to term 4 2008, Hope Vale (a)



(a) These data are limited and must be read with reference to the notes at the end of this report. Source: Queensland Department of Education, Training and the Arts, unpublished data