

## National Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week takes place on 27 May to 3 June every year. This commemorates the successful [27 May 1967 referendum](#) in which 90% of Australians voted ‘Yes’ to counting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the census and giving them the same rights under the Australian Constitution as other Australians, including the right to vote and make their own decisions without state control. It also commemorates the [3 June 1992 High Court Mabo decision](#) in which the legal fiction of “terra nullius” (land belonging to no one) was rejected and continuing indigenous rights in their land was first recognized. This led soon after to the Native Title Act 1993.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) started as the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation in 1993 (the International Year of the World’s Indigenous Peoples) and was supported by Australia’s major faith communities. In 1996, the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation launched Australia’s first National Reconciliation Week. In 2001, Reconciliation Australia was established to continue to provide national leadership on reconciliation. In the same year, approximately 300,000 people walked across Sydney Harbour Bridge as part of National Reconciliation Week - and subsequently across bridges in cities and towns - to show their support for reconciliation. Today, National Reconciliation Week is celebrated Australia-wide.

### Some of the events during the week

[NRW Events Calendar 2024](#)

[Deakin University NRW Events 2024](#)

## Some of the actions throughout the year

**[Share our pride:](#)** A quick overview of a long history and a deep cultural tradition.

**[Narragunnawali \(reconciliation in education\):](#)** Narragunnawali supports schools and early learning services to foster knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions by creating a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP); teacher-led professional learning; and curriculum resources. Narragunnawali (*pronounced narra-gunna-wally*) is a word meaning *alive, wellbeing, coming together* and *peace* in the language of the Ngunnawal people, Traditional Owners of the land on which Reconciliation Australia's Canberra office is located.

**[Reconciliation Film Club:](#)** Reconciliation Film Club, a partnership between Reconciliation Australia, SBS and NITV, hosts downloadable screening kits, discussion guides and features articles and ideas to support a successful event.

**[Australian Reconciliation Barometer \(ARB\):](#)** The ARB is a national research study published biennial by Reconciliation Australia since 2008. The last study was the [2022 Australian Reconciliation Barometer summary and full report](#) and you may also take a look at the latest snapshot of where we are on our reconciliation journey: [2021 State of Reconciliation in Australia report](#)

**[Policy and research:](#)** Reconciliation Australia contributes research, advocacy, and policy and campaign support to better knowledge and understanding of, and action on, reconciliation.

**[Truth-telling:](#)** Telling the truth about our history not only brings to light colonial conflict and dispossession, but also acknowledges the strength and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures. Truth-telling has been central to reconciliation since the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation began its work 30 years ago. As the Australian Declaration Towards Reconciliation made clear: *Our nation must have the courage to own the truth, to heal the wounds of its past so that we can move on together at peace with ourselves.*

## **Further resources**

[Curriculum resources](#)

[Indigenous Governance Program](#)

[Indigenous governance toolkit](#)

[Join a webinar/workshop](#)

[Narragunnawali impact](#)

[Narragunnawali: Reconciliation in Education platform](#)

[National awards program](#)

[Professional learning resources](#)

[Read Narragunnawali news online](#)

[Resources – Books](#)

[Resources – Films](#)

[Resources – People](#)

[Start a Narragunnawali Reconciliation Action Plan](#)