

Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage

Key Indicators 2014



Fact Sheet #1

Trends in national outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

COAG targets and headline indicators

COAG Targets		Headline Indicators	
✓ 4.1	Life expectancy	✓ 4.7	Post-secondary education — participation and attainment
✓ 4.2	Young child mortality	— 4.8	Disability and chronic disease
? 4.3	Early childhood education	✓ 4.9	Household and individual income
— 4.4	Reading, writing and numeracy	? 4.10	Substantiated child abuse and neglect
✓ 4.5	Year 12 attainment	— 4.11	Family and community violence
? 4.6	Employment	✗ 4.12	Imprisonment and juvenile detention

Strategic areas for action

Governance, leadership and culture	Early child development	Education and training	Healthy lives	Economic participation	Home environment	Safe and supportive communities
5.1 Valuing Indigenous Australians and their cultures —	6.1 Antenatal care ∞	7.1 Year 1 to 10 attendance ∞	8.1 Access to primary health care ?	9.1 Employment by full time/part time status, sector and occupation ✓	10.1 Overcrowding in housing ✓	11.1 Alcohol consumption and harm —
5.2 Participation in decision making ∞	6.2 Health behaviours during pregnancy ✓	7.2 Teacher quality ∞	8.2 Potentially preventable hospitalisations ?	9.2 Indigenous owned or controlled land and business ✓	10.2 Rates of disease associated with poor environmental health ?	11.2 Drug and other substance use and harm —
5.3 Engagement with services ∞	6.3 Teenage birth rate ?	7.3 School engagement ∞	8.3 Potentially avoidable deaths ✓	9.3 Home ownership ✓	10.3 Access to clean water and functional sewerage and electricity services ✗	11.3 Juvenile diversions ∞
5.4 Case studies in governance*	6.4 Birthweight ✓	7.4 Transition from school to work ✓	8.4 Tobacco consumption and harm ✓	9.4 Income support ✓		11.4 Repeat offending —
5.5 Indigenous language revitalisation and maintenance ∞	6.5 Early childhood hospitalisations ?		8.5 Obesity and nutrition ?			11.5 Community functioning ∞
5.6 Indigenous cultural studies ∞	6.6 Injury and preventable disease ?		8.6 Oral health ∞			
5.7 Participation in community activities ?	6.7 Ear health ✓		8.7 Mental health ✗			
5.8 Access to traditional lands and waters —	6.8 Basic skills for life and learning ✓		8.8 Suicide and self-harm ✗			

- ✓ The main measure has shown progress
- No significant change
- ✗ The main measure has shown regress
- ∞ Data Gap
- ? Results are unclear

*Not applicable (case studies only)

2014

Information in this fact sheet is from Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2014, published by the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision. The report can be found on the Review website: www.pc.gov.au/gsp. For further information contact the Secretariat: (03) 9653 2100, gsp@pc.gov.au. Image by Wayne Quilliam, courtesy of Reconciliation Australia and the 2012 Indigenous Governance Awards and finalist Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care. CAUTION: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this publication may contain images of deceased people. No inference is intended that the people or communities shown are the subject of any issue raised in the report.



How have trends in outcomes been assessed?

The figure on the next page summarises changes in outcomes over time. The following approach was taken to assessing change over time:

- The key consideration was change over time in outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians NOT the gap to non-Indigenous Australians. It is important to acknowledge improvements in outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, even if improvements for non-Indigenous Australians mean that the gap has not narrowed.
- Change has been assessed by comparing latest available data to earliest available data for each indicator. Therefore, the time period may be different for different indicators.
- If apparent change was not statistically significant this was recorded as no change.
- The focus has been on the main measure/s identified for each indicator. Supplementary measures for some indicators may show different trends.
- No trend has been identified where it is not clear whether an observed change in the main measure is positive or negative, or where improvements to data collections have created a break in series.

Results have been summarised into the following five categories:

- **progress** — where the main measure for an indicator shows outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians improving over time
- **no significant change** — where the main measure for an indicator shows no meaningful change in outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians
- **regress** — where the main measure for an indicator shows a decline in outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians
- **data gap** — where no suitable trend data are available (this does not include indicators where improvements to data collections have created a break in series, which are labelled 'unclear')
- **unclear** — where it is not clear whether an observed change in the main measure is positive or negative, or where improvements to data collections have created a break in series. Results should be considered in the light of the contextual material in the relevant section of the report.

There are 52 indicators in this report. However, one indicator (5.4 Case studies in governance) is not designed to include quantitative measures.