Trends in national outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

COAG targets and headline indicators

**COAG Targets**
- 4.1 Life expectancy
- 4.2 Young child mortality
- 4.3 Early childhood education
- 4.4 Reading, writing and numeracy
- 4.5 Year 12 attainment
- 4.6 Employment

**Headline Indicators**
- 4.7 Post-secondary education — participation and attainment
- 4.8 Disability and chronic disease
- 4.9 Household and individual income
- 4.10 Substantiated child abuse and neglect
- 4.11 Family and community violence
- 4.12 Imprisonment and juvenile detention

Strategic areas for action

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The main measure has shown progress
No significant change
The main measure has shown regress
Data Gap
Results are unclear
*Not applicable (for children only)

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.govau.gov.au. For further information contact the Secretariat on (03) 8655 2100, go.199.gov.au. Image by Wayne Quinn, courtesy of Reconciliation Australia and the 2012 Indigenous Governance Awards and Trustee Secretary of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care. CAUTION: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that the 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.