

**REPORT ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES  
INDIGENOUS COMPENDIUM 2012**

The *Report on Government Services 2012* was released in January 2012. The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) has identified the performance of mainstream services in relation to Indigenous Australians as a particular focus of the Report, and an Indigenous Compendium collating relevant data from the main Report was released on 20 April 2012.

In April 2002, COAG commissioned the Review to produce a separate regular report on key indicators of Indigenous disadvantage. The Review released the fifth edition of this Report, *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2011*, in August 2011. The Review also collates performance data for the National Indigenous Reform Agreement, for analysis by the COAG Reform Council. Improvements in Indigenous reporting in the *Report on Government Services 2012* include reporting school education learning outcomes 'gain' by Indigenous status under the 'learning outcomes' indicator, and additional data on Indigenous VET graduates under the outcome indicator 'student employment and further study outcomes'.

As always, readers should exercise caution in interpreting data on services to Indigenous people. The likelihood of Indigenous people being identified as Indigenous in both surveys and administrative data collections can vary in different situations and over time, and surveys designed to report on the whole Australian population may not include sufficient numbers of Indigenous people to provide reliable data.

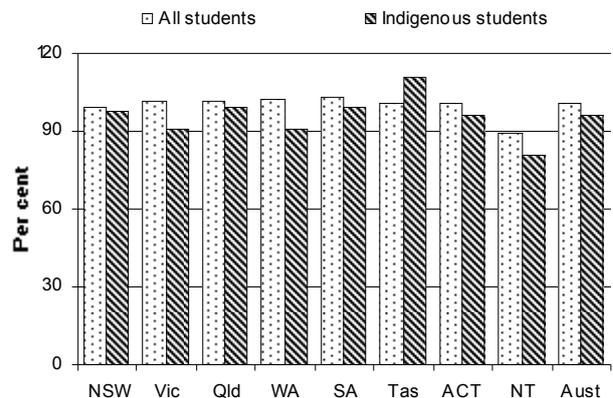
Footnote: Data and caveats for the following figures are available electronically from the Review of Government Service Provision website ([www.pc.gov.au/gsp/reports/rogs/2012](http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp/reports/rogs/2012)). Data may be subject to revision. The most recent data will be available on the Review website.

## Selection of results

**School education:** the proportion of Indigenous students achieving national minimum standards in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 reading, writing and numeracy was lower than for all students almost without exception in 2010 (2012 Report, pp. 4.43–49, pp. 4.53–60, p. 4.64; 2012 IC, pp. 68–74). Indigenous students are, on average, less likely to complete secondary education — the national apparent retention rate from the commencement of secondary school until year 10 for Indigenous students was 95.8 per cent, compared with 100.8 per cent for all students, in 2010 (2012 Report, pp. 4.25–26; 2012 IC, pp. 62–63). Also in 2010, the national apparent retention rate from year 10 until year 12 for Indigenous students was 52.5 per cent, compared with 78.5 per cent for all students. Indigenous retention from year 10 to year 12 for all schools has risen from 45.8 per cent in 2002 to 52.5 per cent in 2010, with the gap between Indigenous students and all students decreasing from 31.2 percentage points in 2002 to 26.0 percentage points in 2010 (2012 Report, pp. 4.29–30; 2012 IC, p. 67).

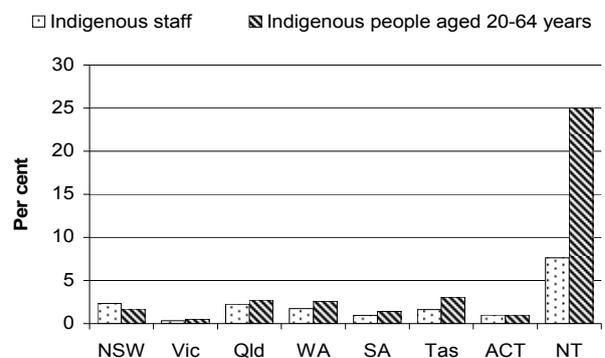
**Police services:** The proportion of police staff who self-reported as Indigenous in 2010-11 was similar to the representation of Indigenous people in the population for most jurisdictions except the NT, where Indigenous staff accounted for 7.6 per cent of total staff compared with Indigenous representation in the working age population of 25.0 per cent (2012 Report, pp. 6.10-11; 2012 IC, pp. 152–153 and table 6A.17).

Apparent rates of retention from year 7 or 8 to year 10, full time secondary students, all schools, 2010<sup>a</sup>



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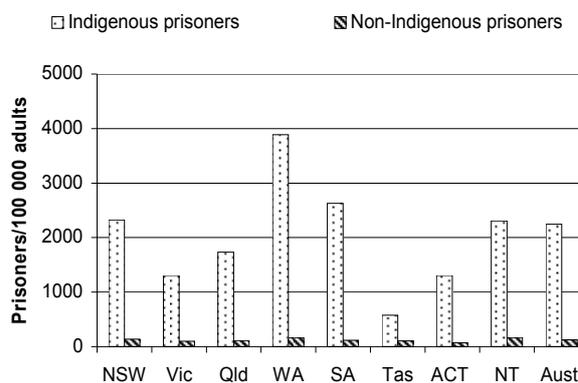
Proportion of Indigenous police staff in 2010-11 and Indigenous population aged 20–64 years<sup>a</sup>



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**Corrective services:** Indigenous people were far more likely to be in prison custody in 2010-11 than non-Indigenous people. The non-age standardised national imprisonment rate per 100 000 Indigenous adults was 2241.7, compared with a rate of 121.5 for non-Indigenous adults (2012 Report, p. 8.6; 2012 IC, p. 160). While imprisonment rates for Indigenous people are higher than those for non-Indigenous people, the majority of prisoners are non-Indigenous (72.3 per cent of all prisoners were non-Indigenous in 2010-11) (2012 Report, p. 8.8; 2012 IC, p. 162). Prisoner death rates from apparent unnatural causes

**Indigenous and non-Indigenous crude imprisonment rates, 2010-11<sup>a</sup>**



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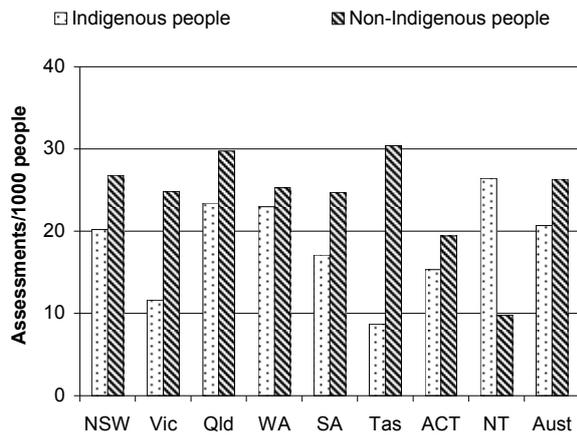
in 2010-11 (2012 Report, p. 8.16; 2012 IC, p. 166) and community corrections offender rates (2012 Report, pp. 8.8–11; 2012 IC, pp. 162–164) are also reported by Indigenous status.

**Health sector summary:** For NSW, Queensland, WA, SA and the NT combined, the overall rates of mortality for Indigenous people were almost twice as high as mortality rates for non-Indigenous people in 2005–2009 (2012 Report, pp. E.13–14; 2012 IC, pp. 185–186). Similarly, in 2006–2010, in those jurisdictions for which data are available, the average mortality rate for Indigenous infants was higher than for non-Indigenous infants (2012 Report, p. E.15; 2012 IC, p. 187). The Health sector summary also includes data by Indigenous status on health workforce, access to health services by health status, rates of obesity for adults and children, the proportion of daily smokers, the proportion of adults at risk of long term harm from alcohol, the incidence of selected cancers in the population, infant and child mortality rates, age standardised mortality rates and rate ratios by major cause of death, life expectancy, median age at death, age standardised mortality rates of potentially avoidable deaths and birth weight.

**Public hospitals:** The total number and proportion of Indigenous patients treated within national benchmarks for emergency department waiting times are reported for 2010-11 (table 10A.19). Nationally, waiting times for elective surgery in public hospitals at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile were 265 days for Indigenous people, compared with 252 days for non-Indigenous people, in 2010-11 (table 10A.23).

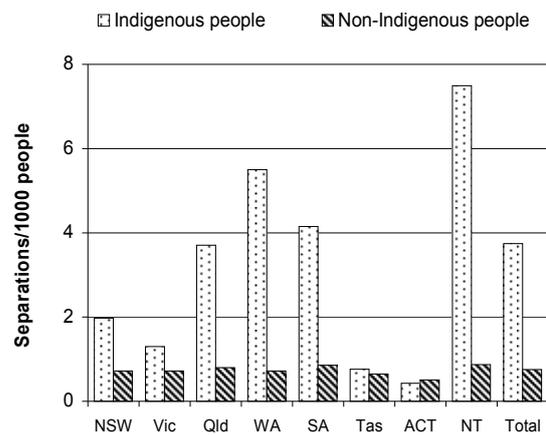
**Primary and community health:** The proportion of Indigenous older people who received a voluntary annual health assessment under Medicare was lower than for all older people in 2009-10 in most states and territories (2012 Report, pp. 11.23–27; 2012 IC, pp. 233–237). The age standardised hospital separation rate for vaccine preventable conditions was higher for Indigenous people than for non-Indigenous people in 2009-10, in most jurisdictions (2012 Report, p. 11.71; 2012 IC, p. 250).

Older people who received an annual health assessment by Indigenous status, 2010-11<sup>a</sup>



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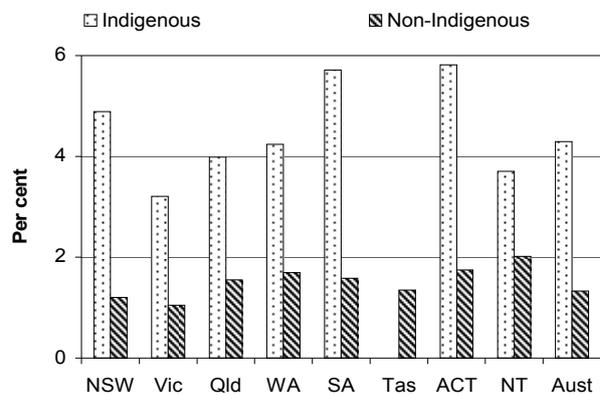
Separations for vaccine preventable conditions by Indigenous status, 2009-10<sup>a</sup>



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**Mental health management:** Nationally, in 2009-10, the proportion of the Indigenous population using State and Territory mental health services (4.3 per cent) was higher than for the non-Indigenous population (1.3 per cent) (table 12A.19).

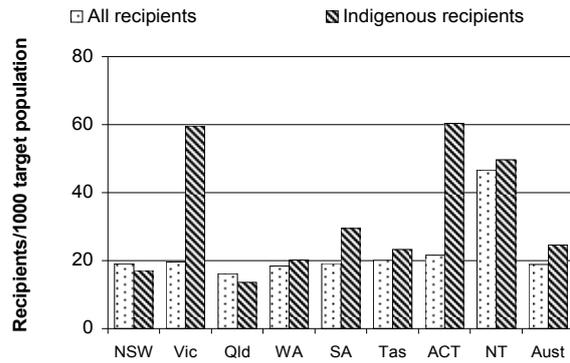
Population using State and Territory specialised public mental health services, by Indigenous status, 2009-10<sup>a</sup>



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**Aged care services:** Nationally, at 30 June 2011, Indigenous people aged 50 years or over had a lower rate of residential aged care use than the total target population for residential aged care (Indigenous people aged 50–69 years and all people aged 70 years or over). For Community Aged Care Packages (CACAP), Indigenous people had a higher rate of use than the total population (2012 Report, pp. 13.43-44; 2012 IC, pp. 290-291). Of those aged 50 years or over, Indigenous clients represented 2.2 per cent of all Home and Community Care (HACC) clients in 2010-11, but in this age group Indigenous people represented 1.1 per cent of the Australian population (table 13A.62).

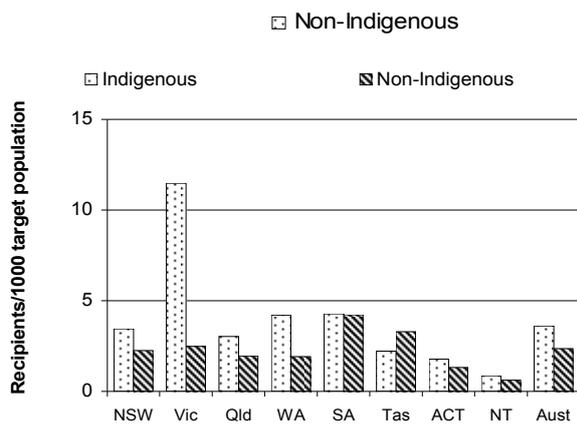
**CACP recipients per 1000 target population, 30 June 2011<sup>a</sup>**



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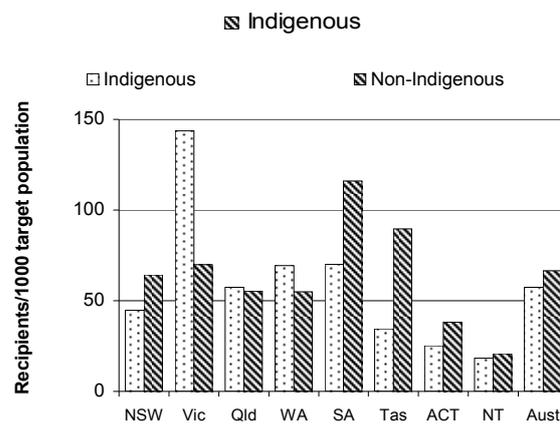
**Services for people with disability:** Nationally, in 2009-10, the proportion of the Indigenous population who used NDA funded community access services was 3.6 service users per 1000 population, higher than the proportion of the non-Indigenous population who used these services (2.4 service users per 1000 population). The proportion of the Indigenous potential population who used NDA funded community access services (57.4 service users per 1000 potential population) was lower than the proportion of the non-Indigenous potential population who used these services (66.6 service users per 1000 potential population) (2012 Report, p. 14.37; 2012 IC, p. 304).

**Users of community access services per 1000 people, by Indigenous status, 2009-10<sup>a</sup>**



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**Users of community access services per 1000 potential population, by Indigenous status, 2009-10<sup>a</sup>**



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**Protection and support services:** Nationally, 34.6 per 1000 Indigenous children aged 0–17 years were the subject of child protection substantiations in 2010-11, compared with 4.5 per 1000 for non-Indigenous children (2012 Report, p. 15.12; 2012 IC, p. 325). The Report also includes data on the Indigenous children in out-of-home care placed in accordance with the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle (2012 Report, pp. 15.36–37; 2012 IC, pp. 333–334). Nationally, at 30 June 2011, 52.5 per cent of Indigenous children in out-of-home care were placed with relatives/kin (39.0 per cent with Indigenous relatives/kin and 13.5 per cent with non-Indigenous relatives/kin). A further 16.7 per cent of Indigenous children in out-of-home care were placed with other Indigenous carers or in Indigenous residential care (2012 Report, p. 15.37; 2012 IC, pp. 334).

**Housing services:** The proportion of overcrowded households varied across social housing programs. Nationally, 10.3 per cent of State owned and managed Indigenous housing (SOMIH) were overcrowded, at 30 June 2011. By contrast, in public housing and community housing, the rates of overcrowding were 4.3 per cent and 1.8 per cent respectively (2012 Report, p. 16.42; 2012 IC, p. 416). The Housing chapter also includes data by Indigenous status on, for example, rent collection rate, net recurrent cost per dwelling and occupancy rates for both SOMIH and Indigenous community housing, and access to Commonwealth Rent Assistance.

**Data on other services to Indigenous people:** The Report also contains data on Indigenous people in relation to other service areas not covered in this factsheet.

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**Please do not approach other parties for comment before Friday, 20 April 2012.**

*The report can be accessed from [www.pc.gov.au](http://www.pc.gov.au).*

*Tables with a 'numberA' prefix (eg. table 15A.1) are in the attachments to the 2012 Report on Government Services and the 2012 Indigenous Compendium on the Review website.*