



National Agreement on Closing the Gap

Approach and Method

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap was agreed upon in 2020 and builds on:

- Existing shared decision-making structures.
- The previous National Agreement.

The Agreement is unlike other national agreements.

- It is the first that includes a non-government signatory (the Coalition of Peaks).
- It is ambitious in the scale of change required.
- It calls for fundamental change in the way governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

There are four Priority Reforms in the Agreement

Priority Reform 1

Formal partnerships and shared decision-making

Priority Reform 2

Strengthening the community-controlled sector

Priority Reform 3

Transforming government organisations

Priority Reform 4

Shared access to data and information at a regional level

The Priority Reforms aim to drive achievement of the Agreement's 17 socio-economic outcomes and 19 targets. This first review focuses on assessing progress against the Priority Reforms.

Engagement

We engaged with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities from across the country and a wide range of sectors.

121 meetings were with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations from the 186 meetings we had.

15 submissions were from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations from the 32 submissions we received.

4 virtual roundtables were held with organisations in priority policy areas.

Our Engagement Principles

- Fairness and inclusivity
- Consistent and ongoing engagement
- Transparency and openness
- Reciprocity

We have assessed progress by:

- Measuring the progress of the specific commitments in the Agreement.
- Reviewing the actions governments have set out in their implementation plans.
- Noting where we can see progress has been made and where more work is needed.

[Read the draft report](#)