

This fact sheet includes selected measures from the strategic framework of indicators in the Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage report.

### WHAT IS LIFE LIKE FOR INDIGENOUS MEN AND WOMEN?

#### The Indigenous population



**The Indigenous population is growing ...**

There were 517 000 Indigenous people in Australia in 2006, up from 459 000 in 2001.

**NSW and Queensland have the most Indigenous people ...**

NSW (153 000 people) and Queensland (145 000 people) had the largest Indigenous populations in 2006.

**... but the proportions of Indigenous people differ across states and territories.**

In the NT, 30 per cent of the population were Indigenous, while in Victoria, 1 per cent of the population were Indigenous, in 2006.

Where did Indigenous people live in 2006?



**Many Indigenous people live in cities and regional areas ...**

In 2006, 32 per cent of Indigenous people lived in major cities and 43 per cent in regional areas. In comparison, 69 per cent of non-Indigenous people lived in major cities, and 29 per cent in regional areas.

**... but a large number live in remote areas.**

In 2006, 25 per cent of Indigenous people lived in remote and very remote areas, compared with 2 per cent of non-Indigenous people.

Information in this fact sheet is from *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2011*, 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](http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp). Printed copies of the report are available from Canprint Communications (ph: 1300 889 873 or email: [sales@infoservices.com.au](mailto:sales@infoservices.com.au)). For further information contact the Secretariat: (03) 9653 2100, [gsp@pc.gov.au](mailto:gsp@pc.gov.au).

Photos courtesy of Reconciliation Australia and Wayne Quilliam (Indigenous Governance Awards 2010). 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.

# INDIGENOUS MEN AND WOMEN

## Healthy lives

**On average, Indigenous men do not live as long as non-Indigenous men.**

Using 2005–07 data, average life expectancy at birth for Indigenous men was 67 years, compared with 79 years for non-Indigenous men — a gap of 12 years.

**And, on average, Indigenous women do not live as long as non-Indigenous women.**

Using 2005–07 data, average life expectancy at birth for Indigenous women was 73 years, compared with 83 years for non-Indigenous women — a gap of 10 years.

Life expectancy



**On average, Indigenous people have poorer health ...**

Indigenous people have higher rates of chronic disease and disability, partly due to lifestyle factors such as smoking and poor diet.

**... and higher rates of lifestyle factors associated with poorer health ...**

In 2008, on average, Indigenous people reported daily smoking rates that were more than twice those for non-Indigenous people — 46 per cent of Indigenous females and 50 per cent of Indigenous men reporting smoking on a daily basis.

In 2004-05, on average, obesity rates for Indigenous adults were twice as high as those for non-Indigenous adults — 37 per cent of Indigenous females and 30 per cent of Indigenous males were considered obese.

**... leading to a higher rate of hospitalisation for chronic disease.**

Indigenous people were hospitalised for chronic diseases at more than 5 times the rate for other people in 2008-09.

For end stage renal diseases, Indigenous men and women were hospitalised at 8 and 15 times the rate for other men and women, respectively.

**Many health services aim to address chronic health conditions.**

A range of programs address prevention, treatment and management of chronic conditions, such as diabetes, heart and kidney disease.

# INDIGENOUS MEN AND WOMEN

## Education and training

**Indigenous females are more likely than Indigenous males to stay in school.**

In 2010, around 50 per cent of Indigenous female students progressed to year 12, compared with 44 per cent of Indigenous male students. On average, year 12 completion rates for Indigenous 20–24 year olds (45 per cent) were around half those for non-Indigenous 20–24 year olds (88 per cent), in 2008.

**Lower proportions of Indigenous people had or were studying for post-school qualifications.**

In 2008, 34 per cent of Indigenous 20–64 year olds had or were studying for post-school qualifications, compared with 58 per cent of non-Indigenous 20–64 year olds.

- Similar proportions (around 34 per cent) of Indigenous males and Indigenous females had or were studying for post-school qualifications.
- A higher proportion of non-Indigenous males (62 per cent) than non-Indigenous females (54 per cent) had or were studying for post-school qualifications.

## Safe and supportive communities

**Indigenous men and women, on average, experience higher rates of violent assault ...**

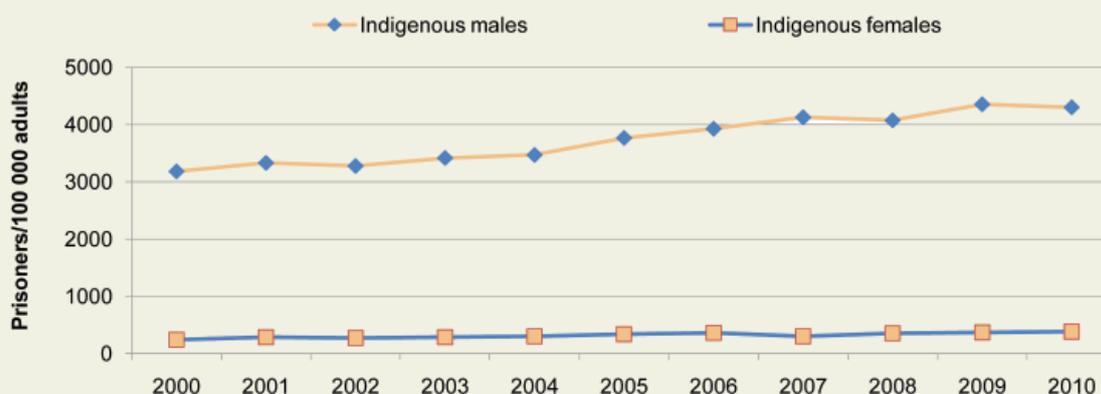
In 2008-09, Indigenous females were hospitalised due to family violence related assaults at 31 times the rate of non-Indigenous females. Indigenous males were hospitalised due to family violence related assaults at 25 times the rate of non-Indigenous males.

**... and higher imprisonment rates than non-Indigenous men and women.**

On average in 2010:

- Indigenous women were imprisoned at 21 times the rate of non-Indigenous women
- Indigenous men were imprisoned at 18 times the rate of non-Indigenous men
- Indigenous men were imprisoned at 11 times the rate of Indigenous women.

Adult imprisonment rate



# FACT SHEET

## INDIGENOUS MEN AND WOMEN

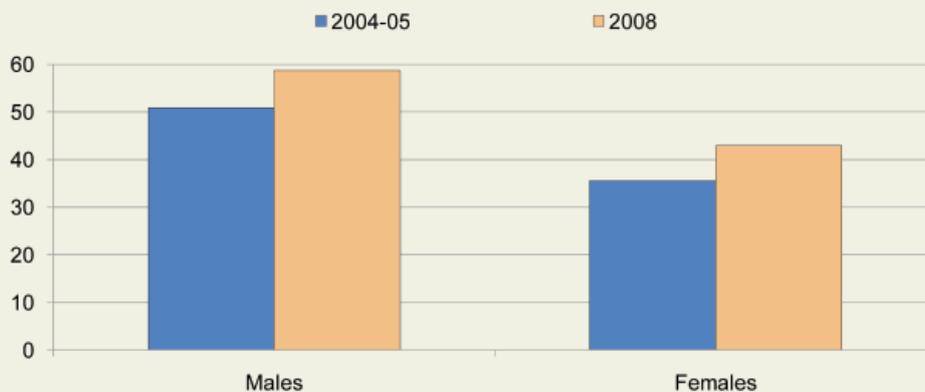
### Economic participation

**Non-CDEP employment has increased for Indigenous adults.**

Non-CDEP employment increased for Indigenous men (from 51 per cent to 59 per cent) and for Indigenous women (from 36 per cent to 43 per cent) between 2004-05 and 2008.

(Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) is an employment program for Indigenous people that provides an alternative to unemployment benefits).

Non-CDEP employment, Indigenous people aged 18–64 years



**Labour force participation has increased for Indigenous men and women ...**

Between 1994 and 2008, labour force participation increased for Indigenous men (from 75 per cent to 79 per cent) and for Indigenous women (from 42 per cent to 56 per cent). Labour force participation rates were still lower than for non-Indigenous men (87 per cent) and women (74 per cent) in 2008.

**... and median incomes have increased.**

Between 2004–05 and 2008, personal median weekly incomes for Indigenous adults increased from \$360 to \$400 (in 2008 dollars). Personal median weekly incomes for non-Indigenous people increased from \$583 to \$608 over the same period.

In 2008, Indigenous men and women had similar median weekly individual incomes.

**Indigenous people are less likely to live in a home owned by a member of the household.**

In 2008, 29 per cent of Indigenous people lived in a home owned or being purchased by a member of their household, compared with 65 per cent of non-Indigenous people.

# 2011

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