

# Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage

Key Indicators 2014



## Fact Sheet #5

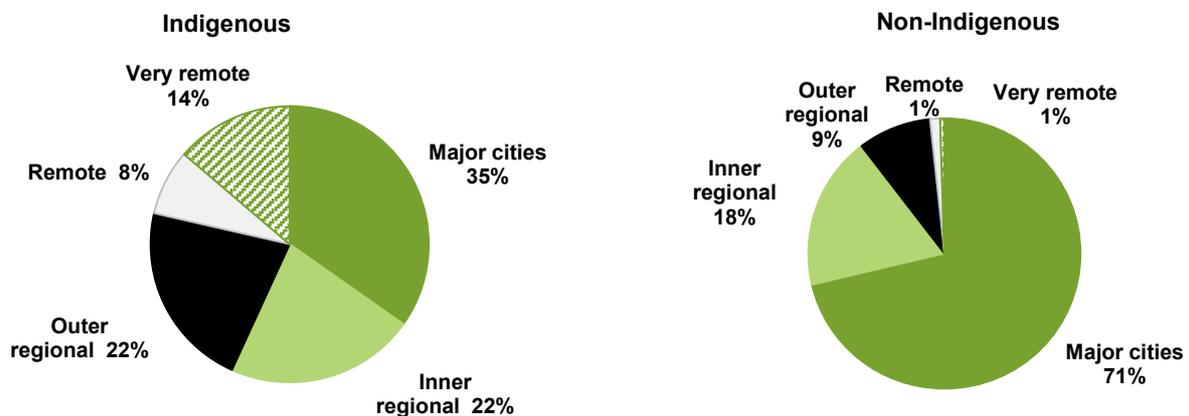
### Measuring outcomes across remoteness areas

The Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage (OID) report measures the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

This fact sheet includes selected measures from the strategic framework of indicators in the OID report where data are available and reported by remoteness and where there are notable differences between areas.

#### Where does Australia's population live?

As at 30 June 2011, most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians lived in major cities or regional areas, but significant proportions lived in more remote areas.

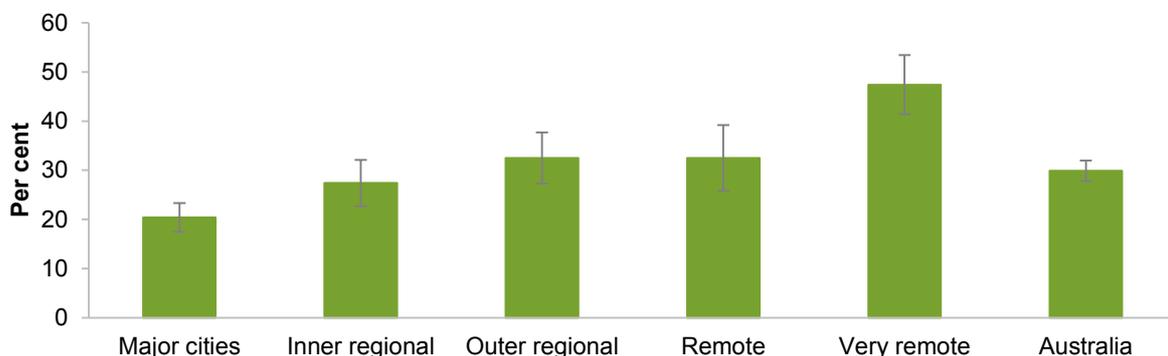


#### Many outcomes worsen as remoteness increases

##### Less engagement with services

In 2008, nearly half of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in very remote areas reported having problems accessing services in the previous year, for example, dentists (33 per cent), hospitals (19 per cent), banks and doctors (each 14 per cent) and legal services (12 per cent).

Indigenous people aged 15 years and over who had problems accessing services, 2008



# 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](http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp). For further information contact the Secretariat: (03) 9653 2100, [gsp@pc.gov.au](mailto: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.

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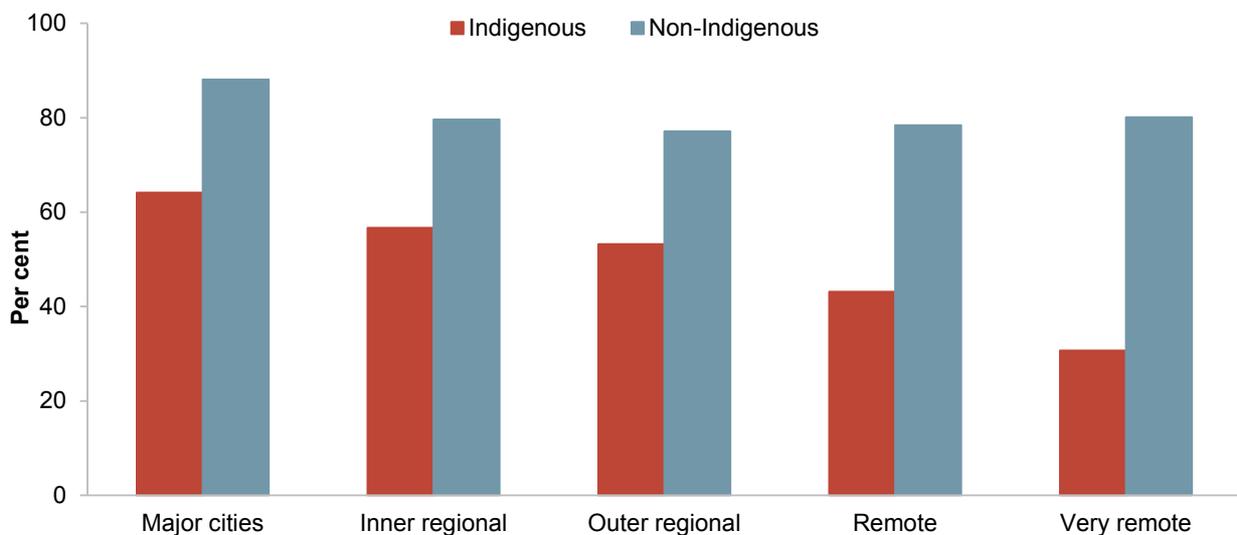
### Poorer learning outcomes

In 2013, 18 to 55 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieved national minimum standards in reading, writing and numeracy (years 3, 5, 7 and 9) in very remote areas, compared with 60 to 91 per cent achieving the standards in metropolitan areas. Proportions for non-Indigenous students were consistently higher, and did not show the same degree of variation by remoteness.

### Lower school completion rates

In 2011, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians aged 20–24 years who had completed year 12 or above ranged from 64 per cent in major cities down to 31 per cent in very remote areas. Proportions for non-Indigenous Australians were consistently higher, and did not show the same degree of variation by remoteness.

Proportion of 20-24 year olds who had completed year 12 or certificate II or above, 2011



### Smoking rates increase

In 2012-13, smoking rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults were higher in very remote areas (55 per cent) and remote areas (49 per cent) than major cities (40 per cent).

### Lower home ownership rates

In 2012-13, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults who lived in a home owned by a member of their household decreased as remoteness increased (from 38 per cent in major cities to 5 per cent in very remote areas).

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### Some outcomes improve as remoteness increases

#### Lower levels of high/very high psychological distress

In 2012-13, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults experiencing high/very high levels of psychological distress was higher in major cities and regional areas (around 32 per cent) than remote areas (around 23 per cent). Rates for non-Indigenous adults were similar across remoteness areas (around 11 per cent in 2011-12).

#### More people speaking an Indigenous language and taught culture

In 2008, almost half (49 per cent) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians aged 3 years and over in remote areas spoke an Indigenous language compared to 7 per cent in other areas.

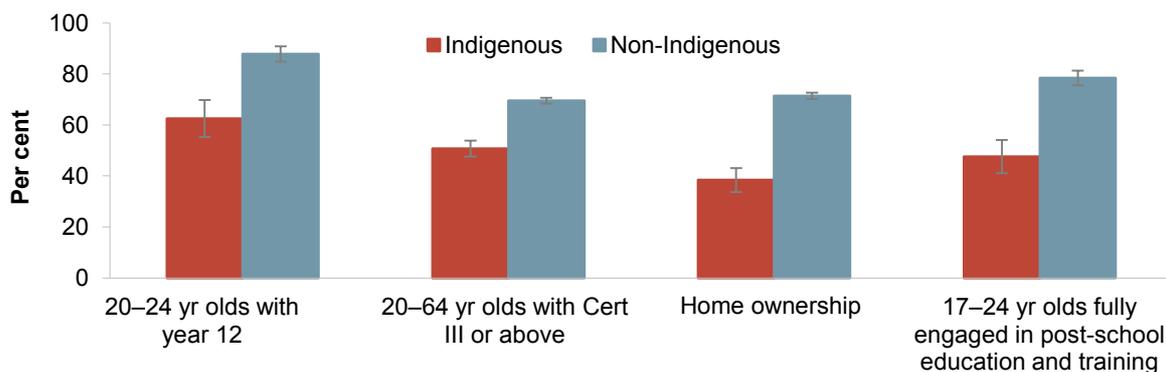
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians aged 15 years and over in remote areas were more likely to have been taught Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture at school or as part of further studies compared to other areas (52 per cent compared to 44 per cent).

### The bigger picture

The majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians do not live in remote areas. Regardless of location, on average, their outcomes are poorer than those of non-Indigenous Australians.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in cities and large regional towns are concentrated in neighbourhoods with low socioeconomic outcomes and tend to have poorer outcomes than non-Indigenous Australians in those same neighbourhoods.

Selected outcomes, major cities, 2011-13



This fact sheet summarises information about a selection of indicators from the OID report. The overview and main report include more detailed information. The OID report includes case studies of programs that are making a difference for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Case studies are not presented in this factsheet, as although there are programs operating in remote areas these are focused on improving outcomes for specific services rather than geographic areas.

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