# National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap) performance reporting

## Performance Reporting

This is the sixth *National Indigenous Reform Agreement* (NIRA) performance report prepared by the Steering Committee. This report (and the previous two reports) provide performance information for the revised NIRA performance indicator framework (COAG 2012).

The NIRA includes the performance categories of ‘performance indicators’ and ‘performance targets’. The Steering Committee provides information and available data for both these performance categories. The links between the objectives, outcomes and associated performance categories in the NIRA are illustrated in figure 1.

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| Figure 1 NIRA performance reporting**a, b** |
| |  | | --- | | **Objective**  *Working together with Indigenous Australians to Close the Gap in Indigenous disadvantage*  **Performance targets**  *eg. Close the life expectancy gap within a generation*  **Performance indicators**  *eg. Estimated life expectancy at birth*  **Outcomes**  *eg. Indigenous people remain healthy and free of preventable disease* | |
| a Shaded boxes indicate categories of performance information included in this report. b Although the NIRA has multiple outcomes, performance indicators, and performance targets, only one example of each is included in this figure for illustrative purposes. |
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## COAG reform agenda and additional contextual information

The overarching objective of the NIRA is to implement intergovernmental reforms to close the gap in Indigenous disadvantage. In December 2007 (COAG 2007) and March 2008 (COAG 2008) COAG announced six Closing the Gap targets:

* 1. closing the life expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031)
  2. halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade (by 2018)
  3. ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years (by 2013)
  4. halving the gap for Indigenous students in reading, writing and numeracy within a decade (by 2018)
  5. halving the gap for Indigenous students in year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates (by 2020)
  6. halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade (by 2018).

In May 2014, COAG agreed to a target to close the gap in school attendance between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and non-Indigenous children within 5 years (COAG 2014). The target has yet to be included in the NIRA and therefore is not included in this 2013-14 data collation report.

Reporting against COAG targets is provided in this report under the section on ‘Performance targets’.

COAG has recognised that overcoming Indigenous disadvantage will require long-term commitment across a range of strategic ‘Building Blocks’ that support the Closing the Gap targets [NIRA para. 8]. These Building Blocks are:

* 1. early childhood
  2. schooling
  3. health
  4. economic participation
  5. healthy homes
  6. safe communities
  7. governance and leadership.

Additional contextual factors that may influence Indigenous reform outcomes are available in previous NIRA performance reports (most recently the 2012-13 NIRA report [SCRGSP 2013]) and the Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators (OID) report, with the most recent OID report released in November 2014 (SCRGSP 2014a). The OID report measures the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians were actively involved in the development and production of the report. The report provides information about outcomes across a range of strategic areas, such as early child development, education and training, healthy lives, economic participation, home environment, and safe and supportive communities.

In December 2007, COAG committed to reporting transparently on expenditure on services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians Australians (COAG 2007). The Indigenous Expenditure Reports (IER) provide estimates of expenditure by the Australian Government and State and Territory governments, mapped to the COAG Building Blocks (as far as practicable). The most recent IER was released in December 2014 (SCRGSP 2014b).

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| Box 1 Key issues in reporting against the NIRA |
| **General comments**   * Measures for some of the indicators are not reliable for jurisdictions with small Indigenous Australian populations and/or changing levels of Indigenous identification. In particular, Indigenous mortality cannot be reported for Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT (performance target b and performance indicators 2 and 6). * The accuracy of Indigenous counts in administrative data is affected by the relatively large proportion of people for whom Indigenous status is recorded as not stated or, in some cases, recorded incorrectly as non-Indigenous. The ABS and AIHW are progressing work funded under schedule F of the NIRA to improve the quality of Indigenous identification in Census and administrative collections. In particular, a formal assessment of the extent of under-identification of Indigenous status in the National Perinatal Data Collection is required. This will identify whether the data require adjustment and contribute to improved reporting. * For this report, where Indigenous population data are required to calculate rates (performance targets b, c and performance indicators 2, 6 and 10), these data are based on the 2011 Census. Historical data for indicators 2 and 6 have been revised back to the baseline reporting year on a 2011 Census base. * Non-Indigenous population estimates are available for Census years only, and for other years the non‑Indigenous population has been calculated by subtracting the 2011 Census‑based Indigenous Projections from 2011 Census-based Estimated Resident Population. Such figures have a degree of uncertainty and should be used with caution, particularly as time from the base year of the projection series increases (performance targets b, c and performance indicators 2, 6 and 10). * Data for Indigenous Australians are available from the core component of the 2012-13 Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (including the NATSIHS and NATSINPAS components) resulting in revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 (performance targets e, f and performance indicators 3, 5 12, 14 and 15). For the previous report, data for Indigenous Australians were only available from the NATSIHS component. Data for non‑Indigenous Australians from the core component of the Australian Health Survey were included in the 2012-13 NIRA report, but have also been included in this report for completeness. * Multiple data sources have been used to construct measures for some indicators. Comments on the comparability of different data sources within a measure have been provided where applicable. * The National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection is currently under review. Its ongoing collection is critical as the only nationally comparable and comprehensive collection of data on preschool programs in Australia.   (Continued next page) |
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| Box 1 (continued) |
| Performance targets   * Data for all performance targets are sourced from related performance indicators. * Data for three out of six performance targets could be updated for this report (targets b, c and d). Revised historical data are reported for two performance targets (targets e and f). * Schedule G of the NIRA provides indicative national level baseline data and trajectories. However, for benchmark (b), on child mortality rates, revised population data on a 2011 Census basis have been incorporated, leading to a change to the baseline data. A revised national child mortality trajectory may be required.   Performance indicators   * Data for eight of the 15 performance indicators could be updated for this report (indicators 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13). Revised historical data are reported for nine indicators (indicators 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14 and 15). * For three indicators, both multiple year aggregate data and single year data are reported (performance indicators 2, 6 and 7). Multiple year aggregates are provided to enable disaggregation by State and Territory — the most recent aggregate years’ data should be used for current period analysis. However, multiple year aggregates make it difficult to determine trends over time, as each reporting year incorporates the previous years. Following an assessment of the reliability of the data, single year data are provided for time series analysis. * Mortality rates for children aged 1–4 and 0–4 years (performance indicator 6) are calculated on a new denominator base to account for an anomaly in the count of babies in the 2011 Census (undercount for 0<1 year olds). Previously, the denominator was a single year (either matching the numerator for single year data, or the midpoint year for aggregate year data). For this report, the denominator is the average of three years with the reference year as the midpoint. Revised times series data back to baseline have been provided. * The standard population used for calculating age-standardised rates for mothers (performance indicators 8 and 9) has been amended to align with the standard Australian population used for other indicators (limited to females). Revised time series data back to baseline have been provided. * Data are reported for the first time by State and Territory for children enrolled and attending preschool in the year before full time schooling (performance indicator 10). Data are also reported for the first time on a 2011 Census population base, but historical data have not been revised as the child counts for year before full time schooling are not available for all jurisdictions. |
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## Changes from the previous National Indigenous Reform Agreement performance report

Table 1 details changes to indicator specifications, measures and data from the previous NIRA performance report.

Table 1 Changes from the previous NIRA performance report

| Change | Performance information category |
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| Historical single year data have been resupplied to incorporate new ABS Indigenous population projections based on the 2011 Census | NIRA performance indicator 2 NIRA performance target (b) and related performance indicator 6 |
| Historical data have been resupplied for the Indigenous population from the core component of the 2012-13 AATSIHS (data for the previous report were only available from the NATSIHS component of the AATSIHS) | NIRA performance indicator 3 NIRA performance indicator 5 NIRA performance target (e) and related performance indicator 12 NIRA performance target (f) and related performance indicator 14 NIRA performance indicator 15 |
| Historical data have been resupplied due to a change in the standard population for age standardisation | NIRA performance indicator 8 NIRA performance indicator 9 |
| Additional disaggregation of State and Territory data | NIRA performance indicator 10 |

In addition to the changes to performance information, the 2013-14 NIRA report has been streamlined, with:

* a condensed section on the framework for NA reporting and NA reporting roles and responsibilities
* replacement of the context section with reference to the previous NIRA performance reports and the 2014 Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators (OID) report (SCRGSP 2014a)
* replacement of detailed technical Data Quality Statements (DQS) with a general reference to their availability in previous reports (any key changes for this cycle have been included in the ‘Comments on data quality’ boxes under each indicator). Where updated DQSs were provided for the 2013-14 NIRA data collation, these have been provided to the AIHW for upload to its METeOR system which is publically accessible (performance indicators 2, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11).

## Performance targets

COAG has agreed to the following NIRA targets:

* 1. close the gap in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians by 2031
  2. halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five by 2018
  3. ensure access to all early childhood education for all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities by 2013
  4. halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievement for Indigenous children by 2018
  5. halve the gap in year 12 or equivalent attainment rates for Indigenous young people by 2020
  6. halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians by 2018 (COAG 2012).

In May 2014, COAG agreed to a target to close the gap in school attendance between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and non-Indigenous children within 5 years (COAG 2014). The target has yet to be included in the NIRA and therefore is not included in this 2013-14 data collation report.

Schedule G of the NIRA discusses the magnitude of the improvement necessary to meet each of the Closing the Gap targets and provides national level trajectories. State and Territory trajectories were developed by the National Indigenous Reform Agreement Performance Information Management Group (NIRA PIMG), a sub-committee of the [then] COAG Working Group on Indigenous Reform. The State and Territory trajectories were provided to the CRC in December 2010. Following revisions by the ABS to the   
2005-2007 Indigenous life expectancy estimates (baseline for NIRA target (a)) in 2013, the trajectory for the life expectancy target was amended and was included in the CRC’s 2012‑13 NIRA report (CRC 2014).

The trajectory for the child mortality target may require amendment, as the baseline data used have recently been revised (see performance target (b) in this report for revised data).

This report includes the most recent available data for each target. However, any assessment of performance relative to the trajectories is outside the scope of this report.

Data for the performance targets in this report are presented in attachments identified in references throughout this report by a ‘NIRA’ prefix.

### Performance target (a) — close the gap in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians by 2031

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | This target is unchanged from previous NIRA report. |
| Outcome: | The aim of the target is to close the life expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031) |
| Measure: | The average number of years new born babies could expect to live, if they experienced the age/sex specific death rates that applied at their birth throughout their lifetimes by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:  Direct estimation of the life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non‑Indigenous Australians using the average number of deaths in the relevant three–year period and the estimated resident population at the mid-point of that three-year period, with adjustments for incomplete identification by Indigenous status |
| Related performance indicators: | Performance indicator 1: Estimated life expectancy at birth |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* — ABS experimental Indigenous and non‑Indigenous life tables (Life tables). Data are calculated for three year periods and reported every five years |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | No new data available for this report. Data for 2010–2012 and revised data for 2005–2007 were provided for the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
| Baseline: | The baseline for the target is 2006 using the three-year average of 2005–2007 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | Nil |

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| Box 2 Comment on data quality |
| No new data were available for this report. Data from the 2011 Census and revised data from the 2006 Census were included in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  All-cause mortality rates (provided for performance indicator 2) are used as an inter-censal proxy for life expectancy estimates. |
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### Performance target (b) — halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five by 2018

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Single year historical data have been resupplied (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012) due to new ABS Indigenous population projections data. |
| Outcome: | The aim of the target is to halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five by within a decade (by 2018) (10 years from 2008 — the baseline period) |
| Measure: | Mortality rates for children aged less than five years, by leading cause of death (ICD-10 chapter level), by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* – number of deaths among children aged 0–4 years * *Denominator* – total population of children aged 0–4 years   presented as a *rate per 100 000 population* |
| Related performance indicators: | Performance indicator 6: Child under five mortality rate by leading cause |
| Data source: | *Numerator* — ABS Death Registrations Collection.  *Denominator* — ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for total population. ABS Estimates and Projections for Indigenous population. Non-Indigenous population estimates are calculated by subtracting Indigenous population projections from the total population estimates. For comparisons of Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, all data will be 2011 Census based. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | 2013 — Death registrations  30 June 2013 (revised 2012 to 2006) (based on 2011 Census) — Population data |
| Baseline: | The baseline for the target is 2008 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | (Single year) National, by:  Indigenous status |

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| Box 3 Results |
| For this report, new data for this target are available for 2013.   * Data for single year mortality rates are presented in table NIRA.6.1 (including revised data for 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012).   Additional data are available under performance indicator 6. |
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| Box 4 Comment on data quality |
| Details are included in the comment on data quality for performance indicator 6. |
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### Performance target (c) — ensure access to early childhood education for all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities by 2013

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Indigenous population data for the denominator are based on the 2011 Census (previously based on the 2006 Census). Historical data are not revised as they are not comparable with the current year of reporting. |
| Outcome: | The aim of the target is to ensure all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years (by 2013) (5 years from 2008 – the baseline year) |
| Measures: | There are two measures for this target:  Measure (a): the proportion of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years who are enrolled in a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — The number of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years as at 1 July of the collection year, who are enrolled in a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness * *Denominator* — Estimated number of Indigenous children aged 4 years, by remoteness   and is presented as a *rate per 100 population*  Measure (b): the proportion of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years who are attending a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — The number of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years as at 1 July of the collection year, who are attending a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness * *Denominator* — Estimated number of Indigenous children aged 4 years, by remoteness   and is presented as a *rate per 100 population* |
| Related performance indicators: | Performance Indicator 10: The proportion of Indigenous children, who are enrolled in (and attending, where possible to measure) a preschool program in the year before formal schooling |
| Data source: | Numerator — National Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Data collection  Denominator — ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for total population. Estimates and Projections for Indigenous population. Non-Indigenous population estimates are calculated by subtracting Indigenous population projections from the total population estimates. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | 2013 — ECEC data collection  30 June 2013 (based on 2011 Census) — Population data. |
| Baseline: | The baseline for the target is 2011 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | For measures (a) and (b):  National by remoteness areas (Major cities; Inner/Outer regional areas; Remote/Very remote areas) |

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| Box 5 Results |
| For this report, new data are available for this target for 2013.   * Data for children enrolled in a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.10.1 * Data for children attending a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.10.2.   Additional data are available under performance indicator 10. |
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| Box 6 Comment on data quality |
| Details are included in the comment on data quality for performance indicator 10. |
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### Performance target (d) — halve the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievement for Indigenous children by 2018

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | This target is unchanged from the previous NIRA report. |
| Outcome: | The aim of this target is to halve the gap for Indigenous students in reading, writing and numeracy within a decade (by 2018) |
| Measure: | The measure is defined as the proportion of students at or above the national minimum standard for reading, writing and numeracy, in years 3, 5, 7 and 9, by Indigenous status  [Note: National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) reports the percentage of students who achieved at or above the national minimum standard. The complex process by which student scores are arrived at and distributed across the national achievement bands (using the Rasch model, a recognised analysis model for educational measurement) are agreed by states, territories and the Australian Government and endorsed by the then NAPLAN Expert Advisory Group. Due to the complexities of the methodology, it is not possible (with the data currently provided) to give a simple computation of the precise number of students at or above the national minimum standard, which is best reported in the bands designed for that purpose] |
| Related performance indicators: | Performance indicator 11: Percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard in reading, writing and numeracy for years 3, 5, 7 and 9 |
| Data source: | ACARA National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Data are collected annually |
| Data provider: | ACARA |
| Data availability: | 2014 — NAPLAN |
| Baseline: | The baseline for the target is 2008 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | For each year level (3, 5, 7 and 9 — reported individually), by:  learning domain (reading, writing and numeracy — reported individually), by:  State and Territory, by  Indigenous status |

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| Box 7 Results |
| For this report, new data for this indicator are available for 2014.   * Data for students at or above the national minimum standard by State and Territory, by Indigenous status, are presented in tables NIRA.11.1–16   Data for 2013 are available in the 2012-13 NIRA report, data for 2012 are available in the 2011‑12 NIRA report, data for 2011 and 2010 are available in the 2010-11 NIRA report and data for 2009 and 2008 are available in the 2009-10 NIRA report.  Additional data are available under performance indicator 11.  Apparent differences may not be statistically significant and relevant confidence intervals may be requested directly from the data provider. Different confidence intervals are required depending on the type of analysis. Confidence intervals for comparing data within years across jurisdictions are different from confidence intervals for comparing data across years within and across jurisdictions. |
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| Box 8 Comment on data quality |
| Details are included in the comment on data quality for performance indicator 11. |
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### Performance target (e) — halve the gap in year 12 or equivalent attainment rates for Indigenous young people by 2020

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 have been supplied from the core component of the AATSIHS (the supplementary data source for this target). |
| Outcome: | Halve the gap for Indigenous people aged 20–24 in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates (by 2020) (14 years from 2006 – the baseline period) |
| Measure: | Proportion of the 20−24 year old population having attained at least a Year 12 or equivalent or Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificate level II or above, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — people aged 20–24 years who have completed year 12 or equivalent or whose level of highest non-school qualification is at AQF Certificate II or equivalent or above * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 20–24 years   and is presented as a *rate per 100 population*  People whose level of education was inadequately described are excluded from the calculation (numerator and denominator).  [Specific inclusions are subject to the use of Census or survey data — see indicator 12 for further details] |
| Related performance indicators: | Performance indicator 12: Attainment of Year 12 or equivalent |
| Data source: | Main data collection  *Numerator and denominator* — (Indigenous status) Census of Population and Housing (Census count of population). Data are available every 5 years.  Supplementary data collection  *Numerator and denominator* —  (Indigenous) ABS National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) and core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS) — Data are available on a rotating 3-yearly cycle.  (Non-Indigenous) ABS Survey of Education and Work (SEW) – Data are available annually. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | Main data collection  No new data available [2011 Census data provided for the 2011-12 NIRA report].  Supplementary data collection  2012-13 (Indigenous) —core component of the AATSIHS  2012 (non-Indigenous) — SEW  [Note: Non-Indigenous data from the SEW were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA performance report but are included in this report for completeness] |
| Baseline: | The baseline for the target is 2006 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State and Territory, by:   * Indigenous status |

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| Box 9 Results |
| For this report, revised supplementary data are available for 2012-13 for the Indigenous population by State and Territory, presented in table NIRA.12.1.  Supplementary data for 2008 were reported in the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report.  Data from the main source (Census) were reported in the 2011-12 NIRA report (2011 Census data) and the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report (2006 Census data). |
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| Box 10 Comment on data quality |
| Details are included in the comment on data quality for performance indicator 12. |
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### Performance target (f) — halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians by 2018

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 have been supplied from the core component of the AATSIHS. |
| Outcome: | The aim of the target is to halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians within a decade (by 2018) (10 years from 2008 — the baseline period) |
| Measure: | Employment to population ratio for the working age population, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of people aged 15–64 years employed * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 15–64 years   presented as a *rate per 100 population*  [Specific inclusions are subject to the use of Census or survey data — see indicator 14 for further details] |
| Related performance indicator/s: | Performance indicator 14, measure (a): Employment to population ratio, for the working age population (15–64 years) |
| Data source/s: | Main data source  *Numerator and denominator* —  (Indigenous) National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) and the core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the AATSIHS. Data are collected on an alternating three-yearly cycle  (Non-Indigenous) Survey of Education and Work (SEW). Data are available annually.  Supplementary data source  *Numerator and denominator* (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) — Census of Population and Housing (Census). Data are collected every five years. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | Main data source  2012-13 (Indigenous) — core component of the AATSIHS  2012 (non-Indigenous) — SEW  [Note: Non-Indigenous data from the SEW were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA performance report but are included in this report for completeness]  Supplementary data source  No new data available [2011 Census data provided in the 2011-12 NIRA report]. |
| Baseline: | The baseline for the target is 2008 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State and Territory, by:   * Indigenous status |

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| Box 11 Results |
| For this report revised data are available for 2012-13 for the Indigenous population.   * Data on the proportion of working age population employed by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.14.1.   Historical data for 2008 were reported in the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report.  Historical supplementary data (Census) were reported in the 2011-12 NIRA report (2011 Census) and the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report (2006 Census). |
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| Box 12 Comment on data quality |
| Details are included in the comment on data quality for performance indicator 14. |
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## Performance indicators

This report covers all ‘performance indicators’ included in the NIRA performance indicator framework (table 2). For performance indicators where data quality and/or completeness is an issue, a number of supplementary measures are provided and are identified as such in the text.

Data for the performance indicators in this report are presented in attachments identified in references throughout this report by a ‘NIRA’ prefix.

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| Table 2 Performance indicators in the National Indigenous Reform Agreementa |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Performance indicators | Page no in this report | | 1. Estimated life expectancy at birth | 20 | | 1. Mortality rate by leading cause | 21 | | 1. Rates of current daily smokers | 24 | | 1. Levels of risky alcohol consumption | 26 | | 1. Prevalence of overweight and obesity | 27 | | 1. Under 5 mortality rate by leading cause | 30 | | 1. Proportion of babies born of low birthweight | 34 | | 1. Tobacco smoking during pregnancy | 37 | | 1. Antenatal care | 40 | | 1. The proportion of Indigenous children, who are enrolled in (and attending, where possible to measure) a preschool program in the year before formal schooling | 43 | | 1. Percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard in reading, writing and numeracy for years 3, 5, 7 and 9 | 46 | | 1. Attainment of year 12 or equivalent | 49 | | 1. Attendance rates year 1 to year 10 | 52 | | 1. Level of workforce participation | 54 | | 1. Proportion of Indigenous 20 to 64 year olds with or working towards post school qualifications in AQF Certificate III or above | 58 | |
| a Performance indicators are presented in this table using the direct wording for the performance indicators in the revised NIRA (COAG 2012b). This does not necessarily reflect the measures used in this report to report against the indicators.. |
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### Indicator 1: Estimated life expectancy at birth

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | This indicator is unchanged from previous NIRA report |
| Target: | Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031) |
| Measure: | The average number of years new born babies could expect to live, if they experienced the age/sex specific death rates that applied at their birth throughout their lifetimes, by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:  Direct estimation of the life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non−Indigenous Australians using the average number of deaths in the relevant three-year period and the estimated resident population at the mid−point of that three-year period, with adjustments for incomplete identification by Indigenous status. |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* — ABS experimental Indigenous and non-Indigenous life tables (Life tables). Data are calculated for three year periods and reported every five years |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | No new data available for this report. |
| Cross tabulations provided: | Nil |

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| Box 13 Comment on data quality |
| No new data were available for this report. Data from the 2011 Census and revised data from the 2006 Census were included in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  All-cause mortality rates (provided for performance indicator 2) are used as an inter-censal proxy for life expectancy estimates. |
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### Indicator 2: Mortality rate by leading causes

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Single year data have been resupplied due to:   * new ABS Indigenous population projections data (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and (all cause deaths only) 2012) * revised ABS Causes of Death data (2010 and 2011) |
| Target: | Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031) |
| Measure: | Mortality rates for Australians by the leading cause of death (ICD-10 chapter level), by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of deaths * *Denominator* — total population of all people   presented as a *rate per 100 000 persons*  Crude rates are calculated for Indigenous Australians.  Age standardised rates are calculated for comparing Indigenous and  non-Indigenous Australians using:   * the direct method * five year age groups from 0–4 years to 75 years and over * total persons in the Australian population as at 30 June 2001 as the standard.   [Note: The measure refers to ‘leading cause of death’. Data are provided for ‘selected causes of death’ according to the ICD-10 codes used for ‘leading cause of death’ in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework].  Rate ratios and rate differences are calculated for comparing Indigenous: non-Indigenous Australians.  Causes are listed from highest to lowest Indigenous crude numbers for the most recent 5 year combined period. The top 5 causes need to be re assessed each reporting period. If a change is identified, data may be backcast to the baseline year for the most recent set of top 5 causes to ensure a consistent time series  Variability bands are to be calculated for rates (single year data and national data for five years combined) using the standard method. |
| Data source: | *Numerator* — ABS Cause of Death collection and ABS Death Registrations Collection. Data are available annually  *Denominator* — ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for total population. ABS Estimates and Projections for Indigenous population.  Non-Indigenous population estimates are calculated by subtracting the Indigenous population projections from the total population estimates.  For comparisons of Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, data are 2011 Census based. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | 2012 — Causes of death (revised for 2011 and 2010 single year)  2013 — Death registrations (for all-cause totals only)  30 June 2013 (based on 2011 Census) — Population data (revised for 2012 to 2006) |
| Cross tabulations provided: | Data are reported individually by jurisdiction of residence by Indigenous status for NSW, Queensland, WA, SA and the NT only. These 5 states and territories have been included due to there being evidence of sufficient levels of identification and sufficient numbers of deaths to support mortality analysis. Each table by jurisdiction will also include a 'national' total made up of these 5 jurisdictions only.  For Indigenous only (crude rates and crude percentages):   * Five year aggregate data, by State and Territory, by selected causes of death * Five year aggregate data, national only, by sex, by selected causes of death * Five year aggregate data, by State and Territory, by all cause total   For Indigenous and non-Indigenous (age-standardised rates):   * Single year data, by State and Territory, (all-cause total) * Single year data, national only, by sex, (all-cause total) * Single year data, by State and Territory, (selected causes of death) * Five year aggregate data, by State and Territory, (selected causes of death) * Five year aggregate data, by State and Territory, by sex, (selected causes of death) * Five year aggregate data, by State and Territory, (all cause total) |

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| Box 14 Results |
| For this report, new data for this indicator are available for 2012. This results in new aggregate year data for 2008–2012.   * Data for Indigenous mortality rates and proportions (crude) by State and Territory are presented in tables NIRA.2.1–2.2 * Data for Indigenous mortality rates and proportion (crude) by sex are presented in tables NIRA.2.3–2.4. * Data for single year mortality rates (age standardised) by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.2.5 * Data for mortality rates (age standardised) by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.2.11 * Data for mortality rates (age standardised) by State and Territory, by sex are presented in table NIRA.2.13.   Data for all-cause mortality (not disaggregated by cause of death) are available for 2013. This results in new aggregate year data for 2009–2013.   * Data for mortality rates (crude) by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.2.14 * Data for single year mortality rates (age standardised) by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.2.15 * Data for single year mortality rates (age standardised) by sex are presented in table  NIRA2.16 * Data for mortality rates (age standardised) by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.2.17.   Revised rates for single year data for 2012 (all cause total), 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 are provided to maintain a comparable time series, presented in tables NIRA.2.5–2.12. The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 15 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * The data provide relevant information on mortality by selected causes of death. Data by Indigenous status are reported for NSW, Queensland, WA, SA and NT. Only these five jurisdictions have evidence of a sufficient level of Indigenous identification and significant numbers of Indigenous deaths to support mortality analysis, and do not have other significant data quality issues. * Annual data are available. The most recent available data are for 2012 (all-cause mortality data for 2013 are also included, but are not available disaggregated by cause of death). * Causes of death data for 2010 and 2011 included in the 2012-13 NIRA performance report have been revised, as coroner certified deaths for these years have been updated. * Rates for single year historical data in previous NIRA reports have been revised with the new ABS Indigenous population projections released in April 2014. * Indigenous mortality rates should be used with caution (although the data are considered comparable across jurisdictions and over time): * although most deaths of Indigenous people are registered, it is likely that some are not accurately identified as Indigenous and the Indigenous mortality rate may be underestimated * non-Indigenous population estimates are available for Census years only. In the intervening years, population estimates are only available for the total population and the Indigenous population, with non-Indigenous population estimates derived by subtracting the projected Indigenous population from the total population. For this report the non‑Indigenous population denominator has been calculated by subtracting the 2011 Census based Indigenous Projections from the 2011 Census based Estimated Resident Population. Such figures have a degree of uncertainty and should be used with caution, particularly as the time from the base year of the projection series increases. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. Additional data from the data sources are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * The NIRA PIMG has advised that single year data should only be used for time series analysis. Current period analysis should refer to the most recent aggregate years data. * Variability bands accompanying mortality data should be used for comparisons within a jurisdiction either at point in time or over time. They should not be used for comparisons across jurisdictions, as the variability bands (and underlying mortality rates) do not take into account differences in under-identification of Indigenous Australians in deaths data across jurisdictions. * Mortality rates disaggregated by Indigenous status and remoteness are not available for this cycle of reporting. The ABS has advised that further analysis is required to determine what data adjustments may be required for performance reporting purposes. While the ABS has published some unadjusted data in Deaths Australia (Cat. no. 3302.0), these data should be used with caution, as the under-identification of Indigenous status in deaths registrations increases as remoteness decreases.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 3: Rates of current daily smokers

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 have been supplied from the core component of the AATSIHS. |
| Target: | Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031) |
| Measure: | Proportion of adults who are current daily smokers, by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — people aged 18 years or over who smoke tobacco every day * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 18 years and over   presented as a *rate per 100 persons (per cent).* |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* —  (Indigenous) National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) and the core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS) for Indigenous data. Data are collected on an alternating three-yearly cycle.  (Non-Indigenous)core component (NHS plus NNPAS) of the Australian Health Survey (AHS) for non-Indigenous data. Data are collected every three years. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | 2012-13 (Indigenous data) —core component of the AATSIHS  2011-12 (non-Indigenous data) — core component of AHS  [Note: Non-Indigenous data from the AHS were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report but are included in this report for completeness] |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State and Territory, by:   * Indigenous Australians (crude rates) * Indigenous Australians by remoteness (crude rates) (based on ASGS) * Indigenous status (age standardised rates) * Indigenous status by remoteness (age standardised rates) (based on ASGS) |

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| Box 16 Results |
| For this report, revised data are available for 2012-13 for the Indigenous population.   * Crude rates for Indigenous persons, by State and Territory, are presented in table NIRA.3.1 * Crude rates for Indigenous persons, by State and Territory, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.3.2 * Age standardised rates, by Indigenous status, by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.3.3 * Age standardised rates, by Indigenous status, by State and Territory, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.3.4.   Historical data for 2008 were included in the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report. Additional data for 2008 disaggregated by remoteness were presented in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 17 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * The data provide relevant information on the proportion of adults who are current daily smokers, by Indigenous status. Data are available by State and Territory. * Data for Indigenous people are available from the core component of the AATSIHS, and data for non-Indigenous comparisons are available from the core component of the AHS. * The AATSIHS is conducted every six years with the most recent available data for 2012-13 (data alternating with the NATSISS on a 3-yearly rotating cycle). The AHS is conducted every three years with the most recent available data for 2011-12 [2012-13 core component AATSIHS data are available for the current report (previously only NATSIHS component data were available); 2011-12 core component AHS data were included in the previous report but are re-presented in this report for completeness]. * Data on the non-Indigenous population from the AHS do not include people living in very remote areas, which affects the comparability of the NT results. * Data are of acceptable accuracy. Relative standard errors for some disaggregations are greater than 25 per cent and these data should be used with caution. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. * Additional data from the data source are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * The size of some standard errors means that the survey data may not be adequate for measuring change over time. Small year to year movements may be difficult to detect if the size of the standard errors is large compared to the size of the difference between estimates.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 4: Levels of risky alcohol consumption

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | This indicator is unchanged from previous NIRA report |
| Target: | Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031) |
| Measure: | Proportion of Australians who consume alcohol at risky/high risk levels, by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — people aged 18 years or over assessed as having risky or high-risk alcohol consumption * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 18 years or over   presented as a *rate per 100 persons (per cent)*.  Risky or high risk alcohol consumption is measured by the concept of ‘Lifetime risk of alcohol harm’ which is based on the 2009 National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines. According to these guidelines, the consumption of 2 or more standard drinks on any day increases the lifetime risk of harm for both men and women. This has been operationalised as: for both males and females, an average of more than 2 standard drinks per day in the last week. |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* —  (Indigenous) The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS) component of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS) for Indigenous data. Data are collected every six years.  (non-Indigenous) The National Health Survey (NHS) component of the Australian Health Survey (AHS) for non-Indigenous data. Data are collected every three years. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | No new data available for this report |
| Cross tabulations provided: | Nil |

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| Box 18 Comment on data quality |
| No new data were available for this report. Data from the 2012-13 NATSIHS component of the AHS were included in the 2012-13 NIRA report (data for this indicator were not collected as part of the core component so no revisions are required). Historical data for 2004‑05 were provided in the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report, and 2004-05 data based on the 2009 NHMRC guidelines by remoteness were included in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 5: Prevalence of overweight and obesity

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 have been supplied from the core component of the AATSIHS |
| Target: | Closing the life expectancy gap within a generation (by 2031) |
| Measure: | Prevalence of overweight and obesity among Australians, by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — people aged 18 years or over with a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30 (obese) and with a BMI of 25.0-29.9 (overweight) * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 18 years or over for whom height and weight measurements were taken   presented as a *rate per 100 persons (per cent)*  Data are also reported for people with a BMI of 18.5–24.9 (normal weight); and with a BMI of less than 18.5 (underweight)  BMI calculated as weight (in kilograms) divided by the square of height (in metres). For adults, obesity is defined as a BMI of greater than or equal to 30 and overweight is defined as a BMI of 25.00–29.99. |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* —  (Indigenous) core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS) for Indigenous data. Data are collected every six years.  (non-Indigenous) Australian Health Survey (AHS) for non-Indigenous data. Data are collected every three years |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | 2012-13 (Indigenous) — core component of the AATSIHS  2011-12 (non-Indigenous) — core component of the AHS  [Note: Non-Indigenous data from the core component of the AHS were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA performance report but are included in this report for completeness ] |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State and Territory, by:   * Indigenous status (age standardised rates) * Indigenous status by remoteness (age standardised rates) (based on ASGS) * Indigenous status by BMI category (obese, overweight, normal weight and underweight) (age standardised rates) * Indigenous persons (crude rates) * Indigenous persons by remoteness (crude rates) (based on ASGS) |

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| Box 19 Results |
| For this report, revised data are available for 2012-13 for the Indigenous population.   * Age standardised rates of overweight and obesity by State and Territory by Indigenous status are presented in table NIRA.5.1 * Age standardised rates of overweight and obesity by State and Territory by Indigenous status, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.5.2 * Age standardised rates against BMI categories by State and Territory by Indigenous status are presented in table NIRA.5.3 * Crude rates for Indigenous persons by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.5.4 * Crude rates for Indigenous persons by State and Territory, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.5.5.   Additional data for 2004-05 disaggregated by remoteness were included in the  2012-13 NIRA report. Additional baseline (other than remoteness) data for 2004-05 were included in the 2011-12 NIRA report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 20 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * The data provide relevant information on the proportion of people who are overweight and obese. Data are available by State and Territory. * Data for Indigenous people are available from the core component (NATSIHS and NATSINPAS) of the AATSIHS, and data for non-Indigenous comparisons are available from the core component of the AHS. * The AATSIHS is conducted every six years with the most recent available data for 2012-13. The AHS is conducted every three years with the most recent available data for 2011-12 [2012-13 core component AATSIHS data are available for the current report (previously only NATSIHS component were available); 2011-12 core component AHS data were included in the previous report but are presented again for completeness]. * Non-Indigenous data from the AHS do not include people living in very remote areas, which affects the comparability of the NT results. * Data are of acceptable accuracy. * 2011–13 BMI is calculated from measured height and weight and may differ from 2004-05 BMI, which was calculated from height and weight ‘as reported’ by respondents. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. * Additional data from the data source are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues.   * AATSIHS data are only available every six years. An assessment of the relative speed of change in results for this indicator is required to determine whether more regular data collection is necessary. Subject to cost–benefit analysis, it is recommended that relevant questions be included in both the AATSIHS and the NATSISS, to provide data on a rotating three yearly cycle across the two collections. * The size of some standard errors means that the survey data may not be adequate for measuring change over time. Small year to year movements may be difficult to detect if the size of the standard errors is large compared to the size of the difference between estimates.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 6: Under 5 mortality rate by leading cause

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Single year historical data have been backcast for infant and child mortality rates due to new ABS Indigenous population projections data (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and [all cause deaths only] 2012) |
| Target: | Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade (by 2018) |
| Measure: | Mortality rates for children aged less than five years, by leading cause of death (ICD-10 chapter level), by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:  Perinatal   * *Numerator* — number of perinatal deaths (fetal and neonatal) * *Denominator* — number of all live births and stillbirths   presented as a *rate per 1000 of all births (including live births and stillbirths of at least 20 completed weeks of gestation or with a birth of at least 400 grams)*  Infant   * *Numerator* — number of deaths among children less than one year * *Denominator* — number of live births   presented as a *rate per 1000 live births*  Child 1−4 years   * *Numerator* — number of deaths among children 1-4 years * *Denominator* — total population of children aged 1-4 years   presented as a *rate per 100 000 population*  Child 0−4 years   * *Numerator* — number of deaths among children aged 0-4 years * *Denominator* — total population of children aged 0-4 years   presented as a rate per 100 000 population.  Rates are calculated for children 1-4 and children 0-4 years on the following basis:   * Rates for single year use single year for numerator and the average of three years of ERP for Indigenous (with reference year as middle year) for denominator. For non-Indigenous the average of three year denominator uses two years of ERP and one year of projections for the total population. * Rates for 5 years combined use average of 5 years for numerator and average of 5 years ERP for Indigenous and non-Indigenous denominator.   Rates for infant (0<1 years) and perinatal mortality are calculated on the following basis:   * Rates for single year use single year numerator and single year denominator * Rates for 5 years combined use average of five years for numerator and a single year midpoint ( live births for infants or live births and still births for perinatal) for the denominator.   [Note: ABS selected causes of death equate to the CoD codes used for leading cause of death in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework].  'Perinatal mortality' is defined in the ABS Perinatals Collection as death of a baby within 28 days of birth (neonatal death) or of a fetus (unborn child) of at least 20 completed weeks of gestation or with a birthweight of at least 400 grams.  Rate ratios and rate differences are calculated for comparing Indigenous: non-Indigenous Australians.  Variability bands are calculated for rates (single year and national data for five years combined) using the standard method.  Causes are listed from highest to lowest Indigenous crude numbers for the most recent 5 year combined period. The top 5 causes need to be re assessed each reporting period. If a change is identified, data may be backcast to the baseline year for the most recent set of top 5 causes to ensure a consistent time series |
| Data source: | Perinatal *Numerator* — ABS Perinatal Deaths Collection  Perinatal *Denominator* — ABS Births Collection and ABS Perinatal Deaths Collection  Infant *Numerator* — ABS Death Registrations Collection  Infant *Denominator* — ABS Births Collection  Child *Numerator* — ABS Death Registrations Collection.  Child *Denominator* — ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for total population. ABS Estimates and Projections for Indigenous population. Non-Indigenous population estimates are calculated by subtracting Indigenous population projections from the total population estimates.  For comparisons of Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, data are 2011 Census based.  All data available annually. |
| Data provider: | ABS |
| Data availability: | 2012 — Perinatal deaths  2012 — Causes of Death  2013 — Deaths collection  2013 — Births collection  30 June 2013 (revised 2012 to 2006) (based on 2011 Census) — Population data |
| Cross tabulations provided: | Data are reported individually by jurisdiction of residence by Indigenous status for NSW, Queensland, WA, SA and NT only. These 5 states and territories have been included due to there being evidence of sufficient levels of identification and sufficient numbers of deaths to support mortality analysis  Single year data are reported for time series analysis at the national level (2012 for perinatal and 2013 for infant and child 0−4). Five-year aggregated data reported for current year analysis (2008−2012 for perinatal, 2009−2013 for infant, child 1−4 and child 0−4).  For Indigenous and non-Indigenous:   * Single year data, national, by age (perinatal, infant, child) * Single year data, national, by age group (infant mortality and child level 0−4 years only) * Five year aggregate data, by State and Territory, by age group (perinatal, infant, child 1−4 and child 0−4), by all-cause total * Five year aggregated data, national, by selected causes of death, by age group (perinatal, infant, child 1−4 and child 0−4). |

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| Box 21 Results |
| For this report, new data are available for this indicator for 2012 (perinatals — including by cause of death), and 2013 (infant and child mortality — 2012 by cause of death). This results in new aggregate year data for 2008–2012 and 2009–2013.   * Data for single year mortality rates are presented in table NIRA 6.1 (including revised data for children 0–4 years for 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012) * Data for perinatal mortality rates, by State and Territory are presented in tables NIRA.6.2 and NIRA.6.6 * Data for infant mortality rates, by State and Territory are presented in tables NIRA.6.3 and NIRA.6.7 * Data for child mortality (aged 1−4 years) rates by State and Territory are presented in tables NIRA.6.4 and NIRA.6.8. * Data for child mortality (aged 0−4 years) rates by State and Territory are presented in tables NIRA.6.5 and NIRA.6.9.   The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 22 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * The data provide relevant information on child under five mortality rates by leading cause of death. Data are presented for perinatal, infant and young child mortality, by leading cause of death and all cause totals. Data are available by State and Territory, but are not of sufficient quality for reporting for Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT. * Annual data are available. The most recent available data (excluding perinatal mortality which is lagged by one year) are for: 2013 — all cause total; and 2012 — by selected causes of death. Data by cause of death are presented as five year combined data at the State and Territory level, due to the volatility of the small numbers involved. Single year data are only reliable by cause of death for combined states and territories, or for all cause totals. * Rates data for children aged 1–4 and 0–4 years have been amended to account for: * new ABS Indigenous population projections released in April 2014 (including revised single year time series for 0–4 year olds) * an anomaly in the count of babies in the 2011 Census (undercount for 0<1 year olds). Previously, the denominator was a single year (either matching the numerator for single year data, or the midpoint year for aggregate year data). For this report, the denominator is the average of three years with the reference year as the midpoint (including revised single year time series for 0–4 year olds). * Indigenous mortality rates should be used with caution (although the data are generally considered comparable across jurisdictions and over time): * Although most deaths of Indigenous people are registered, it is likely that some are not accurately identified as Indigenous and the Indigenous mortality rate may be underestimated. * Denominators for child mortality use population data. Non-Indigenous population estimates are available for Census years only. In the intervening years, population estimates are only available for the total population and the Indigenous population, with non-Indigenous population estimates derived by subtracting the projected Indigenous population from the total population. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. Additional data from the data source are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues.   * The NIRAPIMG has advised that single year data should only be used for time series analysis. Current period analysis should refer to the most recent aggregate years data. * Variability bands accompanying mortality data should be used for comparisons within a jurisdiction either at point in time or over time. They should not be used for comparisons across jurisdictions, as the variability bands (and underlying mortality rates) do not take into account differences in under-identification of Indigenous Australians in deaths data across jurisdictions. * Mortality rates disaggregated by Indigenous status are not available by remoteness. The ABS advised that further analysis is required to determine the adjustments required for performance reporting. The ABS has published some unadjusted data in *Deaths Australia* (Cat. no. 3302.0), but these data should be used with caution, as the under‑identification of Indigenous status in deaths registrations increases as remoteness decreases.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 7: Proportion of babies born of low birthweight

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | This indicator is unchanged from previous NIRA report |
| Target: | Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade (by 2018) |
| Measure: | The incidence of low birthweight among live-born babies, of mothers by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of low birthweight live-born singleton infants * *Denominator* — number of live-born singleton infants with known birthweight   presented as a *rate per 100 infants*  'Births' excludes multiple births and stillbirths  'Low birth weight' is defined as: less than 2500 grams  Rate ratios and rate differences are calculated for comparing Indigenous: non−Indigenous Australians  Indigenous status of infants based on the Indigenous status of the mother only, was available in previous cycles. From 2011 data onwards, Indigenous status of infants is also available from NSW, Victoria, Queensland and the NT.  Variability bands are calculated for rates (single year data and for national data for three years combined) using the standard method |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* — AIHW National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC). Data are available annually |
| Data provider: | AIHW |
| Data availability: | 2012 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State and Territory, by:   * Indigenous status (of the mother) * Indigenous status (of the mother), by remoteness (based on ASGS) * Indigenous status (of the infant, selected jurisdictions only) * Indigenous status (of the infant, selected jurisdictions only), by remoteness (based on ASGS)   Three-year aggregated data reported for current year analysis (2010−2012) (Indigenous status of the mother). |

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| Box 23 Results |
| For this report, new data for this indicator are available for 2012. This results in new aggregate year data for 2010–2012.   * Single year data by State and Territory (Indigenous status of the mother) are presented in table NIRA.7.1. * Single year data by State and Territory by remoteness (Indigenous status of the mother) are presented in table NIRA 7.2. * Single year data by State and Territory (Indigenous status of the infant) are presented in table NIRA.7.3. * Single year data by State and Territory by remoteness (Indigenous status of the infant) are presented in table NIRA 7.4. * Aggregate year data by State and Territory (Indigenous status of the mother) are presented in table NIRA.7.5. * Aggregate year data by State and Territory, by remoteness (Indigenous status of the mother) are presented in table NIRA.7.6.   Data for 2011 and remoteness data for 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 (Indigenous status of the mother only) are presented in the 2012-13 NIRA report. Data for 2007 to 2010 are available in the 2011-12 NIRA report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 24 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * The data provide relevant information on the proportion of babies born of low birthweight. Data are available by State and Territory. * Data are collected and published annually. The most recent available data are for 2012. Data are presented as three-year combined data due to the volatility of the small numbers involved. Single year data are reported for time series comparisons (State and Territory, by Indigenous status). * Indigenous status of the baby was included as part of the mandatory National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC) from 2012, with data in this report for all jurisdictions (previously data were available for limited jurisdictions). * Data for Indigenous status are influenced by the quality of Indigenous identification of mothers and babies in the NPDC, which is likely to differ across jurisdictions. In 2012, approximately 0.2 per cent of mothers who gave birth had missing Indigenous status information and less than 1 per cent of babies had missing information. * Data are reported by remoteness and Indigenous status of both the mother and the infant. Remoteness data for 2010 and previous years are not directly comparable to data for 2011 and 2012, due to the application of the new ABS remoteness areas based on the 2011 Census. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. * Additional data from the data source are available online, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * A formal assessment of the extent of under-identification of Indigenous status in the NPDC by jurisdiction is required. This will identify whether the data require adjustment and contribute to improved reporting. * Data are relatively old and may not be representative of current outcomes. Further work is required to ensure availability of more timely data. * The NIRA PIMG has advised that single year data should only be used for time series analysis and reporting. Current period analysis should refer to the most recent aggregate year data.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 8: Tobacco smoking during pregnancy

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Historical data have been resupplied due to a change in the standard population used for age standardisation |
| Target: | Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade (by 2018) |
| Measure: | Proportion of mothers who smoked during pregnancy, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of women who smoked during pregnancy * *Denominator* — total number of women who gave birth   presented as a *rate per 100 of the relevant population*  Rate ratios and rate differences are calculated for comparing Indigenous: non-Indigenous Australians  The data excludes pregnant women whose smoking status during pregnancy is unknown or not stated.  Age standardised rates are calculated for comparing Indigenous and  non-Indigenous Australians using:   * the direct method * five year age groups from 15–19 years to 40–44 years * the 30 June 2001 Australian female Estimated Resident Population (ERP) based on the 2001 Census as the standard population. |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* — AIHW National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC). Data are available annually |
| Data provider: | AIHW |
| Data availability: | 2012 (2011,2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 data resupplied for age standardised rates only) |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State and Territory, Indigenous (crude rates), by :   * smoking status * smoking status by remoteness (based on ASGS)   State and Territory, by Indigenous status (age standardised rates), by:   * smoking status * smoking status by remoteness (based on ASGS) |

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| Box 25 Results |
| For this report, new data for this indicator are available for 2012.   * Crude rates for Indigenous females by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.8.1 * Crude rates for Indigenous females by State and Territory, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.8.2 * Age standardised rates, by State and Territory, by Indigenous status are presented in table NIRA.8.3. * Age standardised rates, by State and Territory, by Indigenous status, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.8.4.   Revised age standardised rates for 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA.8.3. Revised age standardised rates for 2011 disaggregated by remoteness are presented for in table NIRA.8.5.  Data for 2011 crude rates are available in the 2012-13 NIRA performance report. Data for 2010 crude rates are available in the 2011-12 NIRA performance report. Data for 2009 crude rates are reported in the 2010-11 NIRA performance report and data for 2007 and 2008 crude rates are reported in the 2009-10 NIRA performance report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 26 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * Data provide relevant information on the rate of tobacco smoking of mothers during pregnancy. Data are available by State and Territory. * Data for this indicator are available annually. The most recent available data are for 2012. * Data on females who smoked during pregnancy includes those who quit smoking during pregnancy. * From 2012, all States and Territories reported against the standardised data items on smoking during pregnancy included in the Perinatal National Minimum Data Set. For previous reports, lack of consistent smoking questions affected comparability across jurisdictions. * Changing levels of Indigenous identification over time and across jurisdictions may affect the accuracy of time series data. * Nationally in 2012, smoking status was not stated for 3.5 per cent of Indigenous mothers. * Data are reported by remoteness for this indicator. Remoteness data for 2010 and previous years are not directly comparable to data for 2011 and 2012, due to the application of the new ABS remoteness areas on the 2011 Census base. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. * Additional data from the data source are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * For this report the standard population used for calculating age-standardised rates for mothers was amended from Australian female population who gave birth in each reporting period to the Australian Estimated Resident Population as at 30 June 2001. Data have been revised back to the baseline reporting year. * A formal assessment of the extent of under-identification of Indigenous status in the National Perinatal Data Collection by jurisdiction is required. This will identify whether the data require adjustment, and contribute to improved reporting. * Data are relatively old and may not be representative of current outcomes. Further work is required to ensure availability of more recent data.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 9: Antenatal care

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Historical data have been resupplied due to a change in the standard population used for age standardisation. |
| Target: | Halving the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade (by 2018) |
| Measure: | There are two measures for this indicator, both to be reported by Indigenous status:  Measure (9a): Number of women who gave birth, where an antenatal visit was reported in the first trimester, as a proportion of women who gave birth  Measure (9b): Number of women who gave birth, where five or more antenatal visits were reported, as a proportion of women who gave birth  ‘Age standardised rates are calculated for Indigenous and non−Indigenous Australians using:   * the direct method * five year age groups from 15–19 years to 40–44 years * the 30 June 2001 Australian female Estimated Resident Population (ERP) based on the 2001 Census as the standard population.   Rate ratios and rate differences are calculated for comparing Indigenous: non−Indigenous Australians  Variability bands accompanying perinatal data should be used for the purposes of comparisons over time and for national estimates at a point in time for Indigenous/non-Indigenous comparisons. |
| Measure (9a): | Number of women who gave birth, where an antenatal visit was reported in the first trimester, as a proportion of women who gave birth, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of women who gave birth who attended at least one antenatal visit in the first trimester (up to and including 13 completed weeks), for at least one live or stillborn baby. * *Denominator* — total number of women who gave birth, for at least one live or still born baby (where gestation at first antenatal visit is known)   presented as a *rate per 100 of relevant population* |
| Measure (9b): | Number of women who gave birth, where five or more antenatal visits were reported, as a proportion of women who gave birth, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of women who gave birth who attended five or more antenatal visits for pregnancy of 32 or more weeks gestational age, for at least one live or stillborn baby * *Denominator* — total number of women who gave birth to a baby of 32 weeks or more gestation, for at least one live or still born baby (where number of antenatal visits is known)   presented as a *rate per 100 of relevant population* |
| Data source (9a and 9b): | Numerator and denominator — AIHW National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC) |
| Data provider (9a and 9b): | AIHW |
| Data availability (9a and 9b): | 2012 (2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 data resupplied for age standardised rates only) |
| Cross tabulations provided (9a and 9b): | State and Territory, by:   * Indigenous (crude rates) * Indigenous by remoteness (measure (a) only) (crude rates) (based on ASGS) * Indigenous status (age standardised rates) * Indigenous status by remoteness (age standardised rates) (based on ASGS)   [Three jurisdiction total has been added for the comparison of baseline year data]. |

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| Box 27 Results |
| For this report, new data for this indicator are available for 2012.   * Crude data for Indigenous women by State and Territory are presented in tables NIRA.9.1 and NIRA.9.3 * Crude data for Indigenous women by State and Territory, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.9.2 * Age standardised data by State and Territory, by Indigenous status are presented in tables NIRA.9.4 and NIRA.9.10 * Age standardised data by State and Territory, by Indigenous status, by remoteness are presented in tables NIRA.9.16 and NIRA.9.18.   Revised age standardised data by State and Territory for 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 are presented in tables NIRA.9.5–9.9 and NIRA.9.11–9.15. Revised data by State and Territory, by Indigenous status, by remoteness for 2011 are presented in tables NIRA.9.17 and NIRA.9.19.  Historical crude rate data for 2011 are presented in the 2012-13 NIRA report and for 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 are presented in the 2011-12 NIRA report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 28 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on the data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * Data provide relevant information on the proportion of women who attended an antenatal visit in the first trimester (measure 9a) and the proportion of women who attended at least five antenatal visits (measure 9b). * Data for measure 9(a) are available for all states and territories from 2011. For measure 9(b), data are not available for Victoria. * Annual data are available. The most recent available data are for 2012. * Antenatal care definitions and response rates differ across jurisdictions and comparisons should be made with caution. * Changing levels of Indigenous identification over time and across jurisdictions may affect the accuracy of time series data. * Data are reported by remoteness for this indicator. Remoteness data for 2010 and previous years are not directly comparable to data for 2011 and 2012, due to the application of the new ABS remoteness areas on the 2011 Census base. * Additional information is available on-line, or on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * For measure 9(b), reporting of data for Victoria is a priority to enable nationally comparable reporting by all jurisdictions. * For this report the standard population used for calculating age standardised rates for mothers was amended from the Australian female population who gave birth in each reporting period to the Australian female Estimated Resident Population as at 30 June 2001. Age standardised data have been revised back to the baseline reporting year. * A formal assessment of the extent of under-identification of Indigenous status in the National Perinatal Data Collection by jurisdiction is required. This will identify whether the data require adjustment and contribute to improved reporting. * Data are relatively old and may not be representative of current outcomes. Further work is required to ensure availability of more recent data.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 10: The proportion of Indigenous children, who are enrolled in (and attending, where possible to measure) a preschool program in the year before formal schooling

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Data for this indicator are reported for the first time by State and Territory. Population data are now available based on the 2011 Census (previously based on the 2006 Census). |
| Target: | Ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years (by 2013) |
| Measure: | There are two measures for this indicator:  Measure (10a): the proportion of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years who are *enrolled* in a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness  Measure (10b): the proportion of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years who are *attending* a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness |
| Measure (10a): | The proportion of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years who are enrolled in a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — The number of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years as at 1 July of the collection year, who are enrolled in a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness * *Denominator* — Estimated number of Indigenous children aged 4 years, by remoteness   and is presented as a *rate per 100 population* |
| Measure (10b): | The proportion of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years, who are attending a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness  The measure is defined as:   * *numerator* - The number of Indigenous children aged 4 and 5 years as at 1 July of the collection year, who are attending a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, by remoteness * *denominator* - Estimated number of Indigenous children aged 4 years, by remoteness   and is presented as a *rate per 100 population* |
| Data source (10a and 10b): | *Numerator* — National Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Data collection  *Denominator* — ABS Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for total population. ABS Estimates and Projections for Indigenous population. Non-Indigenous population estimates are calculated by subtracting Indigenous population projections from the total population estimates.  For comparisons of Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, data are 2011 Census based. |
| Data provider (10a and 10b): | ABS |
| Data availability: | 2013 — ECEC data collection  30 June 2013 (based on 2011 Census) — Population data |
| Cross tabulations provided: | For measures (a) and (b):   * State and Territory by Indigenous status * National by remoteness areas (Major cities; Inner/Outer regional areas; Remote/Very remote areas, based on ASGS) |

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| Box 29 Results |
| For this report new data for this indicator are available for 2013.   * Data for children enrolled in a preschool program in the year before full time schooling are presented in tables NIRA.10.1 and NIRA.10.3 * Data for children attending a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, are presented in tables NIRA.10.2 and NIRA.10.4   Data for 2012 are presented in the 2012-13 NIRA performance report, data for 2011 are presented in the 2011-12 NIRA performance report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 30 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * Data provide relevant information on the proportion of Indigenous children enrolled in, and attending, a preschool program in the year before full time schooling, at the national level by remoteness area, and by State and Territory. * The National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection was conducted for the fourth time in 2013. * Data are available for the first time by State and Territory (following the reporting of unit record data by all States and Territories). However, caution should be used in making comparisons across jurisdictions as not all jurisdictions were able to align their collection methods directly with the standards set out in the Early Childhood Education and Care National Minimum Data Set. In 2013: * a small number of children in Queensland and WA were supplied as aggregate data. The use of aggregate data may result in a small overcount of children within these two states * imputation was used for some data in Queensland to produce child level counts * attendance data have been used as a proxy for enrolment data in WA. * Data for 2013 are reported based on the new 2011 Census-based population and incorporate the remoteness classification in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard. Historical data are not revised as counts of children in preschool in the year before full time schooling have improved each year resulting in data not being comparable over time. * Where no address details were collected against a child record, or there was no unit record level information, remoteness was assigned using the address of the service at which the child is enrolled. * Additional information is available on-line or on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * The National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection is currently under review. Its ongoing collection is critical as the only nationally comparable and comprehensive collection of data on preschool programs in Australia. * Data development activities to improve both collection, coverage and data quality are a priority.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 11: Percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard in reading, writing and numeracy for years 3, 5, 7 and 9

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | This indicator is unchanged from the previous NIRA report |
| Target: | Halving the gap in for Indigenous students in reading, writing and numeracy within a decade (by 2018) |
| Measure: | There are two measures for this indicator:  Measure (11a): the proportion of students at or above the national minimum standard for reading, writing and numeracy, in years 3, 5, 7 and 9, by Indigenous status  Measure (11b): the rates of participation in NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests — years 3, 5, 7 and 9 , by Indigenous status |
| Measure (11a): | Percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard for reading, writing and numeracy, in years 3, 5, 7 and 9, by Indigenous status  [Note: NAPLAN reports the percentage of students who achieved at or above the national minimum standard. The complex process by which student scores are arrived at and distributed across the national achievement bands (using the Rasch model, a recognised analysis model for educational measurement) are agreed by states, territories and the Australian Government and endorsed by the then NAPLAN Expert Advisory Group. Due to the complexities of the methodology, it is not possible (with the data currently provided) to give a simple computation of the precise number of students at or above the national minimum standard, which is best reported in the bands designed for that purpose] |
| Measure (11b): | Rates of participation in NAPLAN reading writing and numeracy tests — years 3, 5, 7 and 9, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of assessed and exempt students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9, by Indigenous status * *Denominator* — total number of students (including those absent and withdrawn) in years 3, 5, 7 and 9, by Indigenous status   and is presented as a *rate per 100 population* |
| Data source (11a and 11b) | National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Data are collected annually |
| Data provider (11a and 11b): | ACARA |
| Data availability (11a and 11b): | 2014 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | Measure (11a): For each year level (3, 5, 7 and 9 — reported individually), by learning domain (reading, writing and numeracy — reported individually), by  State and Territory, by  Indigenous status, by  Geolocation (MCEETYA geographical location classification)  Measure (11b): For each year level (3, 5, 7 and 9 — reported individually), by learning domain (reading, writing and numeracy — reported individually), by  State and Territory, by  Indigenous status, by  Geolocation (MCEETYA geographical location classification) |

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| Box 31 Results |
| For this report, new data for this indicator are available for 2014.   * Data for students at or above the national minimum standard by State and Territory, by Indigenous status, by geolocation, are presented in tables NIRA.11.1–16 * Data for rates of participation by State and Territory, by Indigenous status, by geolocation, are presented in tables NIRA.11.17–20 * Data for student exemptions, absences and withdrawals by State and Territory, by Indigenous status, are presented in tables NIRA.11.21–23.   Data for 2013 are available in the 2012-13 NIRA report, data for 2012 are available in the 2011‑12 NIRA report, data for 2011 and 2010 are available in the 2010-11 NIRA report and data for 2009 and 2008 are available in the 2009-10 NIRA report.  Apparent differences may not be statistically significant and relevant confidence intervals may be requested directly from the data provider. Different confidence intervals are required depending on the type of analysis. Confidence intervals for comparing data within years across jurisdictions are different from confidence intervals for comparing data across years within and across a jurisdiction.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 32 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on the data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * The data provide relevant information on the literacy and numeracy participation and achievement of year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in national testing for the learning domains of reading, writing and numeracy. * All data are collected annually. The most recent data available are for 2014. * Data are available by State and Territory by Indigenous status by geolocation. * Students are classified in four ways: assessed, exempt, absent and withdrawn. Exempt students are not assessed and are deemed not to have met the national minimum standard. Absent and withdrawn students are not assessed and are not included in the calculation. Data are provided on the proportion of students who were exempt, absent and withdrawn. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in interpretation. * Additional data from the data source are available on-line.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues.   * In 2011 there was a break in the time series for writing achievement results. Data for 2011 to 2014 inclusive are comparable but not to previous years (2008 to 2010). * Relevant confidence intervals should be considered when interpreting the data in this report. Confidence intervals have not been provided with this report, as different confidence intervals are relevant to different analyses.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 12: Attainment of Year 12 or equivalent

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 have been supplied from the core component of the AATSIHS |
| Target: | Halving the gap for Indigenous people aged 20-24 in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates (by 2020) |
| Measure: | There are two measures for this indicator:  Measure 12(a): Proportion of the 20−24 year old population having attained at least a Year 12 or equivalent or Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificate level II or above, by Indigenous status  Measure 12(b): Year 12 certification, by Indigenous status |
| Measure 12(a) | Proportion of the 20–24 year old population having attained at least a Year 12 or equivalent or AQF Certificate II or above , by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — people aged 20–24 years who have completed year 12 or equivalent or whose level of highest non-school qualification is at AQF Certificate II or equivalent or above * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 20–24 years   and is presented as a *rate per 100 population*  Census and SEW data: People whose level of attainment is determined to be certificate level but is not able to be further defined (ie, Certificate nfd) are assumed to have attained below Certificate level II and are therefore excluded from the numerator  SEW data: people whose highest level of attainment cannot be determined are assumed to have attained below Certificate II and are therefore not included in the numerator  Census data: People who did not state if they had a non-school qualification (or whose level of education was inadequately described) and did not have Year 12, are excluded from the calculation (numerator and denominator). People who did not state their highest year of school and did not have a qualification at certificate II level or above, are also excluded. |
| Measure 12(b) | Measure yet to be developed |
| Data source  (Measure 12(a)): | Main data collection  *Numerator and denominator* — (Indigenous status) Census of Population and Housing (Census count of population). Data are available every 5 years.  Supplementary data collection  *Numerator and denominator* —  (Indigenous) ABS National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) and the core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS) – Data are available on a rotating 3-yearly cycle.  (Non-Indigenous) ABS Survey of Education and Work (SEW) — Data are available annually. |
| Data provider (measure 12(a)): | ABS |
| Data availability (measure 12(a)): | Supplementary data collection  2012-13 (Indigenous) — core component of the AATSIHS  2012 (non-Indigenous) — SEW  [Note: 2012 non-Indigenous data from the SEW were previously reported in the  2012-13 NIRA performance report but are included in this report for completeness] |
| Cross tabulations provided (measure 12(a)): | State and Territory, by:   * Indigenous status   National, by:   * Indigenous status by remoteness (based on ASGS) |

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| Box 33 Results |
| For this report, revised supplementary data are available for measure (a) for 2012-13 for the Indigenous population.   * Data by State and territory, by Indigenous status are presented in table NIRA.12.1 * Data by Indigenous status, by remoteness are presented in table NIRA.12.2   Historical supplementary data for 2008 were reported in the 2008-09 baseline NIRA report, with disaggregation by remoteness reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report (Indigenous only).  Data for the main data collection (Census) are reported in the 2011-12 NIRA performance report (2011 Census) and baseline 2008-09 NIRA report (2006 Census), with disaggregations by remoteness reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 34 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * Data provide relevant information on the proportion of 20–24 year olds who have completed year 12 or equivalent or AQF Certificate II or above (measure (a)). Data are available by State and Territory. * The most recent data for Indigenous people are for 2012‑13 from the core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the AATSIHS (data alternating with the NATSISS on a 3‑yearly rotating cycle). These data replace previously provided 2012-13 Indigenous data from the NATSIHS component of the AATSIHS reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report. * The most recent data for non-Indigenous people are for 2012 from the SEW (available annually). These data were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report (included in this report for completeness). * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. * Additional data from the data source are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * The wording of the indicator in the NIRA lists the qualifications to be considered as year 12 or equivalent or AQF Certificate II. The Steering Committee received advice from the [then] MCTEE National Training Statistics Committee (NTSC) that the intention of the indicator was to consider the proportion of people with year 12 or equivalent or AQF Certificate II or above (the intention being to determine the proportion of the population with at least (but not limited to) year 12 or equivalent). The reported data support this interpretation of the measure. * Survey data are generally not directly comparable to Census data when measuring change over time. * The size of some standard errors means that AATSIHS and SEW data may not be adequate for measuring change over time. Small year to year movements may be difficult to detect if the size of the standard errors is large compared to the difference between the estimates. * Development of measures of year 12 certification is occurring through the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority in consultation with key education and training agencies and data providers.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 13: Attendance rates year 1 to year 10

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | This indicator is unchanged from the previous NIRA report |
| Target: | Halving the gap for Indigenous people aged 20–24 in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment rates (by 2020) |
| Measure: | The attendance rates for students in years 1 to 10, by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — aggregate number of actual days in attendance in the collection period, for children in years 1–10 (children enrolled full time only) * *Denominator* — aggregate number of possible days for attendance in the collection period, for children in years 1–10 (children enrolled full time only)   presented as a *rate per 100 possible days of attendance* |
| Data source: | *Numerator and denominator* — National Schools Attendance Collection (NSAC). Data are collected annually |
| Data provider: | ACARA |
| Data availability: | 2013 |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State and Territory (no national total), by  Indigenous status, by  Year level (1–10 individually — not able to be aggregated), by  School sector (government, Catholic, independent — not able to be aggregated) |

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| Box 35 Results |
| For this report, new data for this indicator are available for 2013.   * Data by State and Territory, by Indigenous status are presented in tables NIRA.13.1–13.3.   Data for 2012 are available in the 2012-13 NIRA report, data for 2011 are available in the 2011‑12 NIRA report. Data for 2010 and some 2008 data are available in the 2010-11 NIRA report. The remaining 2008 and 2009 data are available in the baseline 2008-09 and 2009-10 NIRA reports respectively.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 36 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * The data provide an indicative measure of student attendance in years 1–10 within an individual school sector within a State or Territory. * Annual data are available. The most recent available data are for 2013. * The data are of acceptable accuracy for individual school sectors within a State or Territory. State and Territory and national totals are not available, Data are not comparable across States and Territories, or across school sectors, due to differences in collection and reporting processes. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist interpretation of results.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * Some States and Territories do not separately report the rates for ungraded students, which may affect the interpretation of year level data. * Data comparability issues limit the usefulness of these data. From the 2014 year onwards, nationally comparable student attendance data will be collected, as set out in the National Standards for Student Attendance Data Reporting. All jurisdictions and sectors have agreed to provide student attendance data that comply with these standards, with the non‑government sectors (independent and Catholic schools) to comply with these standards from 2013 onwards; government schools in all jurisdictions except NSW, from 2014; and NSW government schools from 2015.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 14: Level of workforce participation

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 have been supplied from the core component of the AATSIHS. |
| Target: | Halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non−Indigenous Australians within a decade (by 2018) |
| Measure: | There are three measures for this indicator:  Measure 14(a) (direct measure): Employment to population ratio for the working age population, by Indigenous status  Measure 14(b) (supporting measure): Unemployment rate, by Indigenous status  Measure 14(c) (supporting measure): Labour force participation rate, by Indigenous status  As this indicator is used for reporting against the employment outcomes target the following is also required. For all three measures Census data are reported in two ways:   * as per the measures below * as per the measures below but excluding people living in non-private dwellings, members of the permanent defence forces and members of foreign representation (this second presentation is to align with the survey data used for this indicator)   For all three measures the SEW data for the baseline are averaged over the 2008 and 2009 collections to align with the 2008 NATSISS collection period. |
| Measure (14a): | Proportion of the working age population who are employed, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of people aged 15–64 years employed excluding those whose Indigenous status and labour force status were not stated and overseas and temporary visitors * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 15–64 years excluding those whose Indigenous status and labour force status were not stated and overseas and temporary visitors   presented as a *rate per 100 population* |
| Measure (14b): | Proportion of the labour force aged 15–64 years who are unemployed, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of people unemployed aged 15–64 years excluding those whose Indigenous status and labour force status were not stated and overseas and temporary visitors * *Denominator* — total number of people in the labour force aged 15–64 years excluding those whose Indigenous status and labour force status were not stated and overseas and temporary visitors   presented as a *rate per 100 population* |
| Measure (14c): | Proportion of the working age population who are in the labour force, by Indigenous status  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — number of people aged 15–64 years in the labour force excluding those whose Indigenous status and labour force status were not stated and overseas and temporary visitors * *Denominator* — total number of people aged 15–64 years excluding those whose Indigenous status and labour force status were not stated and overseas and temporary visitors   presented as a *rate per 100 population*. |
| Data sources (14a, 14b, 14c): | Main data collection  (Indigenous) National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) and the core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS). Data are collected on an alternating three yearly cycle  (Non-Indigenous) Survey of Education and Work (SEW). Data are available annually  Supplementary data collection  Numerator and denominator (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) — Census of Population and Housing (Census). Data are collected every five years |
| Data provider (14a, 14b, 14c): | ABS |
| Data availability (14a, 14b, 14c): | 2012-13 – AATSIHS (Indigenous)  2012 – SEW (non-Indigenous)  [Note: 2012 non-Indigenous data from the SEW were previously reported in the  2012-13 NIRA report but are included in this report for completeness] |
| Cross tabulations provided (14a, 14b, 14c): | State and Territory, by   * Indigenous status * Indigenous status by remoteness (based on ASGC)   *(Measure 14a only)*  (Indigenous persons only) State and Territory, by type of employment (CDEP, non-CDEP) |

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| Box 37 Results |
| For this report, revised data are available for 2012-13 for the Indigenous population.   * Data on the proportion of working age population employed, by State and Territory, are presented in table NIRA.14.1 and by remoteness in table NIRA 14.5 * Data on the proportion of Indigenous working age population employed, by State and Territory by CDEP status, are presented in table NIRA.14.2 * Data on the proportion of the labour force who are unemployed, by State and Territory, are presented in table NIRA.14.3 and by remoteness in table NIRA 14.6 * Data on the proportion of working age population who are in the labour force, by State and Territory, are presented in table NIRA.14.4 and by remoteness in table NIRA.14.7.   Historical data are reported for 2008 in the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report, with disaggregations by remoteness in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  Historical supplementary data (Census) are reported in the 2011-12 NIRA report (2011 Census) and the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report (2006 Census), with disaggregations by remoteness in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 38 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * Data provide relevant information on the level of workforce participation for 15–64 year olds (employment, labour force participation and unemployment). Data are available by State and Territory. * The most recent data for Indigenous people are for 2012‑13 from the core sample (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the AATSIHS (data alternating with the NATSISS on a 3‑yearly rotating cycle). These data replace previously provided 2012-13 Indigenous data from the NATSIHS component of the AATSIHS in the 2012-13 report. * The most recent data for non-Indigenous people are for 2012 from the SEW (available annually). These data were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report but are included in this report for completeness. * Supplementary data are available from the Census, available every five years. * While there are differences in methodologies between the AATSIHS/SEW and the Census, these differences do not affect their broad consistency for this measure. Supplementary data from the 2011 Census data were included in the 2011-12 NIRA performance report. Data were presented in two ways: according to the scope of the Census; and with scope comparable to the survey data (excluding people living in non‑private dwellings, members of the permanent defence forces and members of foreign representation). The latter set of Census data should be used if making comparisons with the survey data in this report. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. * Additional data from the data source are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * The size of some standard errors means that AATSIHS/SEW data may not be adequate for measuring change over time. Small year to year movements may be difficult to detect if the size of the standard errors is large compared to the difference between the estimates. * Data on CDEP participation[[1]](#footnote-1) are reported from the AATSIHS but are not directly comparable over time (data were collected for all areas in the 2008 NATSISS but only collected in remote areas in the 2012-13 AATSIHS).   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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### Indicator 15: Proportion of Indigenous 20 to 64 year olds with or working towards post school qualification in AQF Certificate III or above

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| Key amendments from previous cycle of reporting: | Revised Indigenous data for 2012-13 have been supplied from the core component of the AATSIHS |
| Target: | Halving the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non‑Indigenous Australians within a decade (by 2018) |
| Interim Measure: | Proportion of people aged 20–64 years with, or working towards, post school qualifications in Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificate level III or above by Indigenous status.  The measure is defined as:   * *Numerator* — People aged 20–64 years who have attained post school qualifications in AQF Certificate level III or above, or are currently studying a non-school qualification * *Denominator* — total population of people aged 20−64 years   presented as a *rate per 100 population*  Census and SEW:  For persons 'with' a non-school qualification:   * Persons whose level of highest non-school qualification cannot be determined are assumed to have attained a qualification below Certificate level III and are therefore excluded from the numerator for this indicator. * Measure excludes people whose level of highest non-school qualification is determined to be Certificate level but is not able to be further defined (ie Certificate nfd), as they are assumed to have attained a qualification below Certificate level III.   For persons ‘working towards’ a non-school qualification:   * Level of qualification is not available from the Census for people working towards a non-school qualification. To maintain consistency between the Census and SEW data, people working towards any non-school qualification are included in the SEW data for this indicator.   Census:  Total population excludes people whose level of non-school qualification or attendance status was not stated.  For persons 'with' a non-school qualification:   * Measure excludes people whose highest non-school qualification or attendance status is not stated or inadequately described if they fail to meet the criteria for either variable |
| Data sources | Main data source  *Numerator and denominator* — Census of Population and Housing (Census) —Data are collected every five years  Supplementary data source  *Numerator and denominator* —  (Indigenous) National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) and the core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS) — Data are collected on an alternating three yearly cycle.  (non-Indigenous) Survey of Education and Work (SEW) for the  non-Indigenous population comparator. Data are available annually |
| Data provider | ABS |
| Data availability: | Supplementary data source  2012-13 (Indigenous) – core component of the AATSIHS  2012 (non-Indigenous) – SEW  [Note: 2012 non-Indigenous data from the SEW were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report but are included in this report for completeness] |
| Cross tabulations provided: | State/territory by Indigenous status, by:   * completed study/currently studying, by * level of study (completed study only)   National by Indigenous status by:   * remoteness areas (based on ASGS) |

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| Box 39 Results |
| For this report, new supplementary data are available for 2012-13 for the Indigenous population.   * Data on the population with or working towards post-school qualification by State and Territory are presented in table NIRA 15.1 * Data on the population with or working towards post-school qualification by remoteness area are presented in table NIRA.15.2.   Historical supplementary data for 2008 are reported in the baseline 2008-09 NIRA report, with these data disaggregated by remoteness in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  Data for the main source (Census) are reported in the 2011-12 NIRA report (2011 and 2006 Census), and disaggregated by remoteness in the 2012-13 NIRA report.  The attachment table contents page provides a complete list of data tables for this indicator. |
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| Box 40 Comment on data quality |
| Key points on data quality for this indicator are summarised below.   * Data provide relevant information on the proportion of 20–64 year olds with a post school qualification at AQF III level or above or working towards a non-school qualification. Data are available by State and Territory. * The most recent data for Indigenous people are for 2012‑13 from the core component (NATSIHS plus NATSINPAS) of the AATSIHS (data alternating with the NATSISS on 3‑yearly rotating cycle). These data replace previously provided 2012-13 Indigenous data from the NATSIHS component of the AATSIHS in the 2012-13 NIRA report. * The most recent data for non-Indigenous people are for 2012 from the SEW (available annually). These data were previously reported in the 2012-13 NIRA report but are included in this report for completeness. * Detailed explanatory notes are publicly available to assist in the interpretation of results. * Additional data from the data source are available on-line, and on request.   The Steering Committee also notes the following issues:   * The size of some standard errors means that AATSIHS/SEW data may not be adequate for measuring change over time. Small year to year movements may be difficult to detect if the size of the standard errors is large compared to the difference between the estimates. * Survey data are generally not directly comparable to Census data when measuring change over time.   For detailed information on data quality please refer to Data Quality Statement for this indicator in the 2012-13 NIRA report. |
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## References

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CRC (COAG Reform Council) 2014, *Indigenous Reform 2012-13: Five years of performance*, COAG Reform Council, Sydney.

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## Acronyms and abbreviations

AATSIHS Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics

ACARA Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority

ACER Australian Council for Educational Research

ACT Australian Capital Territory

AHS Australian Health Survey

AIHW Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

ASGC Australian Standard Geographical Classification

ASGS Australian Statistical Geography Standard

BMI body mass index

CDEP Community Development Employment Projects

Census Census of Population and Housing

COAG Council of Australian Governments

CRC COAG Reform Council

DQS Data quality statement

ECEC Early childhood education and care

ERP Estimated Resident Population

FTE Full time equivalent

ICD-10 International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Conditions, 10th Edition

ICD-10-AM International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Conditions, 10th Edition, Australian Modification

IGA Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations

MCATSIA Ministerial Council of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

MCEECDYA Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs

NA National Agreement

NAPLAN National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy

NATSIHS National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey

NATSINPAS National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nutrition and Physical Activity Survey

NATSISS National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey

NHS National Health Survey

NIRA National Indigenous Reform Agreement

NMDS National Minimum Data Set

NP National Partnership

NPDC National Perinatal Data Collection

NSW New South Wales

NT Northern Territory

OID Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage

PIMG Performance Information Management Group

Qld Queensland

RJCP Remote Jobs and Communities Program

RSE Relative standard error

SA South Australia

SCFFR Standing Council for Federal Financial Relations

SD Statistical Division

SEW Survey of Education and Work

SPP Specific Purpose Payment

TAFE Technical and further education

Tas Tasmania

VET Vocational education and training

Vic Victoria

WA Western Australia

WHO World Health Organisation

## Glossary

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| **Aboriginal** | A person who identifies as being of Aboriginal origin. May also include people identified as being of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin. |
| **Age standardised rates** | Age standardised rates enable comparisons to be made between populations that have different age structures. Age standardisation is often used when comparing the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations because the Indigenous population is younger than the non‑Indigenous population. Outcomes for some indicators are influenced by age, therefore, it is appropriate to age standardise the data when comparing the results. When comparisons are not being made between the two populations, the data are not age standardised. |
| **Community Development Employment Projects** | Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) is an Australian Government grant funded program that provides projects and services to Indigenous people to develop work skills and assists them to move into employment.  Changes to the CDEP program implemented on 1 July 2009 allowed existing CDEP participants to remain on CDEP payments, which are called CDEP wages. CDEP participants that started after 1 July 2009 (and who were not active on the program on 30 June 2009), register with Centrelink and receive general income support payments, typically Newstart allowance.  The ABS in its labour market surveys classifies CDEP participants in receipt of CDEP wages as employed and those in receipt of income support as unemployed. However, since the main data sources currently used for the NIRA indicators on Indigenous employment are the 2006 Census and the 2008 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS), these two sources are not affected by the changed definitions that apply from July 1 2009. All CDEP participants should be classified as employed in the 2006 Census and 2008 NATSISS.  CDEP projects and services encompass a variety of sectors, including health care, community services, education and training.  The Remote Jobs and Community Program (RJCP) started on 1 July 2013 in 60 remote regions across Australia, replacing four previous employment services in remote Australia, including CDEP. |
| **International Classification of Diseases (ICD)** | ICD is the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO). It is primarily designed for the classification of diseases and injuries with a formal diagnosis. ICD-10-AM is the Australian modification of the tenth revision and was adopted for Australian use from 1 January 1999 (superseding ICD-9). |
| **Equivalised household income** | Equivalised household income adjusts the actual incomes of households to make households of different sizes and compositions comparable. It results in a measure of the economic resources available to members of a standardised household. |
| **Geographic location classification** | Geographic categorisation for non-ABS education data is based on the agreed MCEECDYA Geographic Location Classification which, at the highest level, divides Australia into three zones (the metropolitan, provincial and remote zones). A further disaggregation comprises five categories: metropolitan and provincial zones each subdivided into two categories, and the remote zone. Further subdivisions of the two provincial zone categories and the remote zone category provide additional, more detailed, classification options. When data permit, a separate very remote zone can be reported along with the metropolitan, provincial and remote zones, as follows:  A. Metropolitan zone  Mainland State capital city regions (Statistical Divisions (SDs)): Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth SDs.  Major urban Statistical Districts (100 000 or more population):  ACT–Queanbeyan, Cairns, Gold Coast–Tweed, Geelong, Hobart, Newcastle, Sunshine Coast, Townsville, Wollongong.  B. Provincial zone (non-remote)  Provincial city Statistical Districts plus Darwin SD.  Provincial city statistical districts and Darwin statistical division (50 000–99 999 population): Albury–Wodonga, Ballarat,  Bathurst–Orange, Burnie–Devonport, Bundaberg, Bendigo, Darwin, Launceston, La Trobe Valley, Mackay, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Wagga Wagga.  Provincial City Statistical Districts (25 000–49 999 population): Bunbury, Coffs Harbour, Dubbo, Geraldton, Gladstone, Shepparton, Hervey Bay, Kalgoorlie–Boulder, Lismore, Mandurah, Mildura, Nowra–Bomaderry, Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Warrnambool.  Other provincial areas (CD ARIA Plus score ≤ 5.92)  Inner provincial areas (CD ARIA Plus score ≤ 2.4)  Outer provincial areas (CD ARIA Plus score > 2.4 and ≤ 5.92)  C. Remote zone  Remote zone (CD ARIA Plus score > 5.92)  Remote areas (CD ARIA Plus score > 5.92 and ≤ 10.53)  Very remote areas (CD ARIA Plus score > 10.53) |
| **Hospitalisation** | Hospitalisations recorded in this report are called ‘hospital separations’ in many other publications using hospital statistics. A ‘separation’ refers to an episode of care, which can be a total hospital stay (from admission to discharge, transfer or death), or a portion of a hospital stay beginning or ending in a change of type of care (for example, from acute to rehabilitation). It is also defined as the process by which an admitted patient completes an episode of care by being discharged, dying, transferring to another hospital or changing type of care. For measuring a hospital’s activity, separations are used in preference to admissions because diagnoses and procedures can be more accurately recorded at the end of a patient’s stay and patients may undergo more than one separation from the time of admission. Admitted patients who receive same day procedures (for example, renal dialysis) are recorded in hospitalisation statistics. |
| **Income ranges** | See ‘quintiles’. |
| **Indigenous** | A person who identifies as, or who is identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. |
| **Indigenous status not stated/Indigenous status unknown** | Where a person’s Indigenous origin has either not been asked or not recorded. |
| **Infant mortality** | Deaths of children between birth and exactly one year of age. |
| **Inner regional** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |
| **Jurisdiction** | The Australian Government or a State or Territory Government and areas that it has legal authority over. |
| **Major cities** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |
| **Metadata** | Metadata is the underlying definition or structured description of the content, quality, condition or other characteristics of data. |
| **Non-Indigenous** | A person who is not identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. |
| **Non-school qualification** | Educational attainments other than pre-primary, primary or secondary school. |
| **Non-remote** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |
| **Other Australians** | Data with ‘not stated/inadequately described’ Indigenous status that have been combined with data for ‘non-Indigenous Australians’ are reported under the category ‘Other Australians’. See associated data quality statements for further information. |
| **Outer regional** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |
| **Perinatal mortality** | Death of a baby within 28 days of birth (neonatal death) or of a fetus (unborn child) of at least 20 completed weeks of gestation or with a birthweight of at least 400 grams. |
| **Preschool** | A preschool program is a structured, play-based learning program delivered by a degree qualified teacher, primarily aimed at children in the year or two before they commence full-time schooling, irrespective of the type of institution that provides it or whether it is government funded or privately provided. Programs may be delivered in a variety of service settings including separate preschools or kindergartens, long day care centres, in association with a school etc. Alternative terms currently used for preschool in some jurisdictions include ‘kindergarten’, ‘pre-prep’ and ‘reception’. |
| **Rate difference** | The rate difference is the rate for the Indigenous population minus the rate for the non-Indigenous population. |
| **Quintile** | A quintile refers to a division of an ordered population or sample into five equal subsets. |
| **Rate ratio** | The rate ratio is the rate for the Indigenous population divided by the rate for the non‑Indigenous population. See ‘relative Indigenous disadvantage’. |
| **Regional** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |
| **Relative Indigenous disadvantage** | Relative Indigenous disadvantage is measured by comparing the rate of Indigenous disadvantage (for example, the proportion of Indigenous people reporting they do not have a non-school qualification) with the rate for the non-Indigenous population. See ‘rate ratio’. |
| **Relative standard error (RSE)** | The relative standard error (RSE) of a survey data estimate is a measure of the reliability of the estimate and depends on both the number of people giving a particular answer in the survey and the size of the population. The RSE is expressed as a percentage of the estimate. The higher the RSE, the less reliable the estimate. Relative standard errors for survey estimates are included in the attachment tables. See also ‘statistical significance’. |
| **Remote** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |
| **Remoteness** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |
| **Remoteness areas** | Remoteness areas are defined in the Australian Statistical Geographical Standard (ASGS) developed by the ABS.[[2]](#footnote-2) The ASGS remoteness classification identifies a place in Australia as having a particular degree of remoteness. The remoteness of each place is determined using the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA). The ABS generates an average ARIA score for each location based on its distance from population centres of various sizes. Locations are then added together to form the remoteness areas in each State and Territory. Remoteness areas comprise the following six categories:  • major cities of Australia  • inner regional Australia  • outer regional Australia  • remote Australia  • very remote Australia  • migratory regions (comprising off-shore, shipping and migratory places).  The aim of the ASGS remoteness structure is not to provide a measure of the remoteness of a particular location but to divide Australia into five broad categories (excluding migratory regions) of remoteness for comparative statistical purposes. |
| **Statistical significance** | Statistical significance is a measure of the degree of difference between survey data estimates. The potential for sampling error — that is, the error that occurs by chance because the data are obtained from only a sample and not the entire population — means that reported responses may not indicate the true responses.  Using the relative standard errors (RSE) of survey data estimates, it is possible to use a formula to test whether the difference is statistically significant. If there is an overlap between confidence intervals for different data items, it cannot be stated for certain that there is a statistically significant difference between the results. See ‘variability bands’ and ‘relative standard error’. |
| **Torres Strait Islander people** | People identified as being of Torres Strait Islander origin. May also include people who identify as being of both Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal origin. |
| **Variability bands** | In the NAs a variability band gives a range of values which is very likely to contain the true unknown rate. Variability bands accompanying mortality data should be used for the purposes of comparisons at a point in time or over time (within a jurisdiction). They should not be used for comparing mortality rates at a single point in time across jurisdictions as the variability bands and mortality rates do not take into account differences in under-identification of Indigenous deaths across jurisdictions. |
| **Very remote** | See ‘remoteness areas’. |

1. The Remote Jobs and Communities Program (RJCP) started on 1 July 2013 in 60 remote regions across Australia, replacing four previous employment services in remote Australia, including CDEP. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The ASGS replaced the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) from 1 July 2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)