




QUEENSLAND

CLOSING THE GAP

SNAPSHOT REPORT 2022 EDITION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



We pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors of this land, their spirits and their legacy. The foundations laid by these ancestors—our First Australians—give strength, inspiration and courage to current and future generations, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, towards creating a better Queensland.

We recognise it is our collective efforts and responsibility as individuals, communities and governments to ensure equality, recognition and advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders across all aspects of society and everyday life.

On behalf of the Queensland Government, we offer a genuine commitment to fearlessly represent, advocate for and promote the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders with unwavering determination, passion and persistence.

As we reflect on the past and give hope for the future, we walk together on our shared journey to reconciliation where all Queenslanders are equal.



STATEMENT ON USE OF TERMS

We recognise that Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples each have their own unique languages, beliefs, cultural practices, traditions and diversity within each culture.

This document includes a range of collective terms to reference and reflect the unique identity of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The primary term that has been used is Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples, with other terms used including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and First Nations people/s.

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1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

It is essential that we track progress, identify and build on strengths and successes, and inform areas of focus to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

INTRODUCTION

Taking effect on 27 July 2020, the National Agreement on Closing the Gap (National Agreement) is the first of its kind to be developed in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, represented by the national Coalition of Peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Organisations (Coalition of Peaks). The objective of this partnership approach to Closing the Gap is to improve the life outcomes and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The National Agreement includes four Priority Reforms designed to change the way governments work and engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to achieve progress in the 17 socio-economic Outcome areas, covering 18 Targets. The Priority Reforms are:

- strengthen and establish formal partnerships and shared decision-making
- build the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled sector
- transform government organisations so they work better for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- improve and share access to data and information to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to make informed decisions.

The Targets have embraced an ambitious agenda, along with a strengths-based approach, and most are set to expire in 2031. They cover a range of areas including health, education, early childhood, justice, child protection, employment, housing, language, culture, digital inclusion and land and waters.

Queensland's 2021 Closing the Gap Implementation Plan (Implementation Plan), available at www.qld.gov.au/ctg, documents how the Queensland Government is working to address the Priority Reforms and socio-economic Targets, and how our progress will be evaluated. This plan will be updated in 2022 to reflect the next iteration of Queensland's Closing the Gap Implementation Plan.

The Implementation Plan documents the ongoing significant, structural reforms that underpin how we share decision-making with Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples. These include:

Voice

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices are heard and influence decision-making on issues that matter the most to them. Aligned with the Queensland Government's commitment to reframing the relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders by doing things with, and not to, First Nations Queenslanders, a First Nations Consultative Committee has been established to co-design an Indigenous Voice model for Queensland that best meets First Nations Queenslanders' views and aspirations.

Co-design work will include investigating options for the establishment of a state-wide representative body and how this could link with local and regional voices provided through existing Queensland reform agendas such as Path to Treaty and Local Thriving Communities and the national Indigenous Voice reform.

Path to Treaty

The Treaty Advancement Committee was formed in 2021 to provide advice to government on options to implement the former Eminent Panel advice on the Path to Treaty, specifically on the design of key structures to take the reform forward. The Treaty Advancement Committee provided its advice to the Queensland Government on 12 October 2021 and the government response was released on 16 August 2022. The next steps include legislation to establish a Truth Telling and Healing Inquiry and set up an independent Treaty Institute to develop the treaty-making framework. An Independent Interim Body has also been announced to begin local and regional truth telling and healing initiatives.

Working in partnership with Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples to develop the Path to Treaty, with the ultimate aim to achieve a Treaty or treaties, is consistent with the National Agreement's aims to achieve self-determination and improvements to the wellbeing and lives of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This co-design approach is consistent with this Government's commitment to the National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap, which commits to improve engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and build structures to empower First Nations to share decision-making with governments.

Local Thriving Communities

The **Local Thriving Communities (LTC) Action Plan 2022–2024** is progressing the steps needed to ensure the Queensland Government continues its transition towards shared decision-making, shared accountability, and shared commitment with Local Decision Making Bodies (LDMBs). As communities determine how LTC can best work for them, Queensland Government agencies are undertaking actions that will ensure effective engagement and support for the success of LDMBs in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. This includes improving outcomes through the co-design and delivery of culturally safe, quality services that meet community needs and aspirations.

This provides for key closing the gap priority reforms to be achieved, including formal partnerships and shared decision making, data sharing, investment mapping and whole of government reform to bring decision making about investment in government services closer to community.

THIS REPORT

This 2022 edition of the Report Card examines baseline and historical data for each of the Targets, and measures progress against the baseline for Targets where data are available. Queensland published a snapshot report in 2019 and 2020 but not in 2021 due to the transition from the previous Closing the Gap agreement (the National Indigenous Reform Agreement with 7 targets) to the new National Agreement on Closing the Gap (with 17 socio-economic targets) and COVID-19 related impacts.

This is the second year of the National Agreement. The agreed Targets are national Targets, as are the published trajectories. Nevertheless, Queensland is committed to achieving the Targets and annual reporting will examine Queensland's progress against each Target. As this is only the second year of the new agreement, Queensland's progress against many of the Targets can only be examined from a historical perspective. Progress against Targets in 10 of the Outcome areas can be measured as additional data beyond baseline. Reporting in future years, once Queensland's Implementation Plan has been embedded, and data are incorporated from the 2021 Census of Population and Housing, will be more comprehensive reports on progress.

A key focus of the National Agreement is accountability and transparency. This snapshot fulfils Queensland's ongoing commitment to publish progress towards Closing the Gap, including information on supporting investment and actions. Also included in this snapshot is a short description of progress to date on efforts to implement the National Agreement's four Priority Reforms in Queensland.

DATA USED IN THIS REPORT

Like reporting against the previous NIRA, much of the data used in this report are drawn from nationally collated datasets, including administrative data, the Census of Population and Housing, and national survey collections.

For each Target, a primary measure and data source have been agreed to nationally, from which the baseline data and Target are sourced.

The primary data for each state and territory, where available, is published on a national dashboard currently available at <https://www.pc.gov.au/closing-the-gap-data/dashboard>. The dashboard will be updated annually with the most recently available data and will be maintained for the life of the National Agreement, until 2031.

Assessments as to whether Targets are on track can be made only using the primary data source. Where the primary data are not available annually, supplementary data sources may be used as a proxy for the primary data source. These supplementary data cannot be used to measure progress against the Target.

For most Targets, numerous drivers of progress have also been nominated in the National Agreement. These data are used to provide contextual information and a broader examination of outcomes.

For each measure, the most recent available data at the time of publication—whether primary, supplementary, or contextual—have been reported. Administrative data are generally available to be reported annually, while Census data are collected every five years (with the latest available data being for 2016, except for Target 9, appropriately-sized housing, for which 2021 Census data are now available). In addition, surveys may be collected at other intervals, for example, every three years. There will often be a time lag between finalisation of the collection and the release of data and, in some cases, the lag will be 12 months or more. Where possible, the latest available data for 2020–21 have been reported, however some measures rely on data from earlier years for the reasons noted above.

As data release dates are specific to the dataset in question and spread throughout the year it is likely that, between collation and publication of this report, new data may be published for some measures.

Lastly, estimates derived from data collected from sample surveys such as the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey are not directly comparable with estimates derived from data collected in the Census of Population and Housing, even where questions are similarly worded. This is due to their different collection methodologies.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Please note that data included in this report may be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in several ways, including restrictions related to COVID-19:

- Entry to remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities ('designated areas') in Queensland was restricted under the Commonwealth *Biosecurity Act 2015* from 27 March 2020 until 12 June 2020.
- From 13 June to 10 July 2020, some entry requirements, quarantine requirements and travel restrictions remained in place.
- Since then, various levels of restrictions and border closures in response to COVID-19 have also been in place for the broader community in Queensland and Australia.

In addition, there may have been methodological or practical changes to the way data have been collected and processed. Data impacted by COVID-19 in this report may include any statistics incorporating the period from 27 March 2020 to 30 June 2021.



THE TARGETS AND QUEENSLAND'S BASELINE

Baseline data
and progress
against target for
Queensland*

<p>Outcome 1: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy long and healthy lives</p> <p>Target 1: Close the gap in life expectancy within a generation, by 2031.</p>	<p>NOT ON TRACK</p> <p>Baseline: 2005–2007</p>
<p>Outcome 2: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are born healthy and strong</p> <p>Target 2: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies with a healthy birthweight to 91 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>ON TRACK</p> <p>Baseline: 2017 89.7% in 2019</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are engaged in high quality, culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years</p> <p>Target 3: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in Year Before Fulltime Schooling (YBFS) early childhood education to 95 per cent by 2025.</p>	<p>ON TRACK</p> <p>Baseline: 2016 95.1% in 2021</p> <p><i>Not significantly different from Target</i></p>
<p>Outcome 4: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children thrive in their early years</p> <p>Target 4: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children assessed as developmentally on track in all five domains of the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) to 55 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>NOT ON TRACK</p> <p>Baseline: 2018 33.8% in 2021</p>
<p>Outcome 5: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieve their full learning potential</p> <p>Target 5: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (age 20–24) attaining year 12 or equivalent qualification to 96 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2016 69.5%</p>
<p>Outcome 6: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students reach their full potential through further education pathways</p> <p>Target 6: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25–34 years who have completed a tertiary qualification (Certificate III and above) to 70 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2016 42.4%</p>
<p>Outcome 7: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are engaged in employment or education</p> <p>Target 7: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth (15–24 years) who are in employment, education or training to 67 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2016 55.4%</p>

<p>Outcome 8: Strong economic participation and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities</p> <p>Target 8: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25–64 who are employed to 62 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2016 52.1%</p>
<p>Outcome 9: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and needs</p> <p>Target 9: Increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in appropriately sized (not overcrowded) housing to 88 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>NOT ON TRACK, but increasing Baseline: 2016 81.2% in 2021</p>
<p>Outcome 10: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system</p> <p>Target 10: Reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults held in incarceration by at least 15 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>NOT ON TRACK Baseline: 2019 2,144 per 100,000 in 2021</p>
<p>Outcome 11: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system</p> <p>Target 11: Reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (10–17 years) in detention by at least 30 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>ON TRACK Baseline: 2018–19 32.8 per 10,000 in 2020–21</p>
<p>Outcome 12: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are not overrepresented in the child protection system</p> <p>Target 12: Reduce the rate of over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care by 45 per cent by 2031.</p>	<p>NOT ON TRACK Baseline: 2019 43.4 per 1,000 in 2021</p>
<p>Outcome 13: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and households are safe</p> <p>Target 13: The rate of all forms of family violence and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children is reduced at least by 50 per cent, as progress towards zero, by 2031.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2018–19 6.4% women reported violence or threatened violence</p>

<p>Outcome 14: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy high levels of social and emotional wellbeing</p> <p>Target 14: Significant and sustained reduction in suicide of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people towards zero.</p>	<p>NOT ON TRACK</p> <p>Baseline: 2014–2018</p> <p>28 per 100,000 in 2016–2020</p>
<p>Outcome 15: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people maintain a distinctive cultural, spiritual, physical and economic relationship with their land and waters</p> <p>Target 15a: A 15 per cent increase in Australia’s landmass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights or interests by 2030.</p> <p>Target 15b: A 15 per cent increase in areas covered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights or interests in the sea by 2030.</p>	<p>ON TRACK</p> <p>Baseline: 2020</p> <p>31.2% in 2021 Land</p> <p>19.9% in 2021 Sea</p>
<p>Outcome 16: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and languages are strong, supported and flourishing</p> <p>Target 16: There is a sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken by 2031.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2019</p> <p>No state data</p>
<p>Outcome 17: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to information and services enabling participation in informed decision-making regarding their own lives</p> <p>Target 17: By 2026, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have equal levels of digital inclusion.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2014–15</p> <p>76.1% accessed internet at home</p>

* At the time of the report’s compilation, there were no additional data beyond the baseline for Targets 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 16 and 17.

2. PRIORITY REFORMS

Central to the success of the National Agreement is the implementation of the four Priority Reforms. These four areas will guide a shift in how government develops and implements policies and programs and provide the foundation for a genuine partnership between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders and government.

For the Priority Reforms the term, 'This measure requires data development activity', is used. This refers to the fact that there are currently no measures/data that have been developed to track progression of the Priority Reforms. Work to develop measures/data to track progress is currently underway.

For further information on Queensland's initiatives to address the Priority Reforms, please read Queensland's Implementation Plan at www.qld.gov.au/ctg. The national Productivity Commission are leading the development of measures for the Priority Reforms.

Priority Reform 1: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are empowered to share decision-making authority with governments to accelerate policy and place-based progress on Closing the Gap through formal partnership arrangements.

Target: *There will be formal partnership arrangements to support Closing the Gap in place between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and governments in place in each state and territory enshrining agreed joint decision-making roles and responsibilities and where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have chosen their own representatives*

Measures

Partnerships reviewed (new or existing) meeting the 'strong partnership elements'.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Number of partnerships by function, such as decision-making or strategic.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Queensland has several existing partnership mechanisms with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including:

- Path to Treaty Independent Interim Body
- First Nations Consultative Committee
- Local Thriving Communities Joint Coordinating Committee
- Ministerial and Government Champions program
- Queensland First Children and Families Board
- First Nations Health Improvement Advisory Committee
- Queensland's Closing the Gap Partnership Committee
- Justice Policy Partnership
- Community Justice Groups
- Youth Interdepartmental Committee
- Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and Training Advisory Committee.

Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people reporting they are able to have a say in their community on issues important to them.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Proxy data from the 2014–15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey show that 21.0 per cent of people felt that they had a say on important community issues 'all' or 'most of the time', while 23.1 per cent reported 'some of time'.

Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people reporting improvements in their communities.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Priority Reform 2: There is a strong and sustainable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled sector delivering high quality services to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the country.

Target: Increase the amount of government funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs and services going through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations

Measures

Number of Aboriginal Community Controlled organisations (ACCOs) across the socio-economic outcome areas of the Agreement.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Number of government contracts awarded to ACCOs.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Number of sectors with elements of a strong sector, by element.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people reporting fewer barriers in accessing services.

Proxy data from the 2014–15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey show that of those who accessed services, 71.8 per cent reported that they did not have any problems with access.

Priority Reform 3: Governments, their organisations and their institutions are accountable for Closing the Gap and are culturally safe and responsive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including through the services they fund.

Target: Decrease in the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have experiences of racism

Measures

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people employed in government mainstream institutions and agencies.

- This measure requires data development activity.

In September 2021, 7,067 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were employed in the Queensland Public Service, equating to 2.5 per cent of the workforce, up from 2.0 per cent five years earlier.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation in governance positions in government mainstream institutions and agencies.

- This measure requires data development activity.
- The Queensland Department of the Premier and Cabinet is progressing work to collect consistent information on the diversity characteristics of all people appointed to boards to allow it to analyse the diversity of members and report publicly on how boards reflect the diversity in the broader community.

Number and proportion of government mainstream institutions and agencies with Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in place, by RAP type.

- This measure requires data development activity.

The Queensland Government recognises it is our collective efforts and responsibility that ensure equality, recognition, and advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders across all aspects of life. Our vision for reconciliation is to foster and maintain respectful, trusting and mutually beneficial relationships based on an understanding and acknowledgement of past hurts that Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples have endured and to move forward on a shared journey towards reconciliation where all Queenslanders are equal. Reconciliation is a long-term commitment to building a better future for all Queenslanders.

The RAP, first launched in May 2018, provides a unique opportunity to recognise and celebrate the major achievements towards reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders, and was developed in partnership with peak reconciliation bodies, Reconciliation Australia and Reconciliation Queensland Incorporated, to measure progress towards reconciliation as articulated in the actions and targets outlined in the RAP.

In implementing the RAP as an accountability framework to achieve reconciliation, it is essential that all departments, agencies and statutory authorities, local governments, and Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples continue to partner and share responsibilities.

Under Queensland's RAP, all agencies are committed to developing a Cultural Capability Action Plan to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural capability practices within policies, programs and services.

The new RAP being developed for 2023 will continue to include all Queensland government agencies and will be informed by the Evaluation Report on the 2020–2022 RAP, which is due to expire on 31 December 2022.

Government mainstream institutions and agencies reporting actions to implement the transformation elements.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people reporting experiences of racism.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who identify as feeling culturally safe in dealing with government mainstream institutions and agencies.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Priority Reform 4: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to, and the capability to use, locally-relevant data and information to set and monitor the implementation of efforts to close the gap, their priorities and drive their own development.

Target: Increase the number of regional data projects to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to make decisions about Closing the Gap and their development

Measures

Number of formal data sharing partnerships established between government agencies and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people/ organisations.

- This measure requires data development activity.

Number of comprehensive regional data profiles created.

- This measure requires further data development activity.

The Queensland Government currently hosts a range of regional profile tools:

- Know Your Community, a census profile tool containing data at a range of Queensland geographies including Indigenous Localities, Local Government Areas, State Electoral Districts and Statistical Areas 2
<https://statistics.qgso.qld.gov.au/datsip/profiles>
- Queensland Regional Profiles containing a mix of Census, demographic and administrative data
<https://statistics.qgso.qld.gov.au/qld-regional-profiles>
- Queensland Housing Profiles containing the latest housing, demographic, social and economic data
<https://statistics.qgso.qld.gov.au/hpw/profiles>

- StatShot provides targeted statistical reports covering a range of wellbeing outcomes to remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to facilitate engagement in local decision-making.

Number of government initiatives established to make data more accessible and usable for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations.

- This measure requires data development activity.

The Queensland Government Open Data Policy Statement and departmental strategies commit to release Queensland Government data to allow it to be freely used by the public. The Open Data Portal operationalises this commitment, containing almost 3,000 datasets. The Queensland Globe enables interaction with spatial data.

The Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Burden of Disease and Injury series provides statewide data about which conditions, age groups, and geographic areas contribute the most to the disease and injury burden experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland.

Number of government agencies working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations to build expertise in data collection and analysis.

- This measure requires data development activity.

3. LONG AND HEALTHY LIVES

DATA SNAPSHOT



Queensland is already close to meeting the healthy birthweight target

9 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies are born with a healthy birthweight.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are increasingly engaging with antenatal care

72 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women attend antenatal care in their first trimester of pregnancy (up 19 points in 8 years).



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults report positive wellbeing

While more than 9 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults report medium or high wellbeing levels, mental health remains an ongoing challenge—suicide rates continue to increase, reaching 28 per 100,000 over 2016–2020.

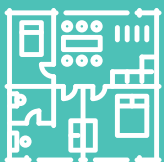
But most people who have a mental health condition sought help from a health service for it (73.2 per cent)



While Queensland is not on track to meet the life expectancy target, life expectancy has increased over time, reaching:

76.4 years for females

72 years for males



Most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders live in homes with enough bedrooms

8 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders live in appropriately sized housing.

Outcome 1: long and healthy lives

Target 1: close the gap in life expectancy within a generation by 2031—not on track

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders experienced the greatest improvement in life expectancy Australia wide in recent years. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander female life expectancy increased by 2.0 years, while male life expectancy improved by 3.3 years.

Life expectancy	2010–2012	2015–2017
Male	68.7 years	↑ 72.0 years
Female	74.4 years	↑ 76.4 years

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders, followed by diabetes. There are, however, signs of positive change. Between 2006 and 2018, mortality rates due to circulatory diseases, which includes heart disease, decreased significantly. Rates due to endocrine, nutritional and metabolic disorders, which includes diabetes, also decreased.

Mortality rate per 100,000 persons	2006	2018
Circulatory diseases	379.7	↓ 232.8
Endocrine, nutritional, metabolic disorders	163.2	↓ 81.8

Together, these two disease groups accounted for 36.6 per cent of the gap in mortality rates between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous Queenslanders in 2018.

Smoking rates, a risk factor for a range of health conditions, have been difficult to shift, falling by only 6.7 percentage points in almost 20 years. In 2018–19, 41.2 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders smoked every day.

Outcome 2: children are born healthy and strong

Target 2: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies with a healthy birthweight to 91 per cent by 2031—on track

A healthy and safe pregnancy, being born full-term and with a healthy birthweight gives babies the best chance of a healthy start to life. Almost 9 in 10 (89.7 per cent) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies in Queensland were born with a healthy birthweight in 2019, up slightly from 89.1 per cent in 2017.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are increasingly starting antenatal visits in their first trimester and attending more visits through their pregnancies. The proportion of women attending during their first trimester reached 72.0 per cent in 2021, after steadily increasing almost every year since 2012. Over the same period, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women attending at least five antenatal visits **increased** to 90.7 per cent Queensland wide, with higher rates in very remote areas of Queensland.

	2012	2020
Women who were at least 32 weeks pregnant attending 5 or more antenatal visits	85.6%	↑ 90.7%
Women who attended their 1st visit in their 1st trimester	52.7%	↑ 72.0%

Smoking during pregnancy is a risk factor for low birthweight babies. While smoking rates among pregnant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have fallen by 3.5 percentage points since 2012, there is room for further gains, with 45.2 per cent of women still smoking during their pregnancy. Notably, smoking rates increased with remoteness, reaching 54 to 55 per cent in remote and very remote areas.



Outcome 14: social and emotional wellbeing

Target 14: significant and sustained reduction in suicide of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people towards zero—not on track

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders report a high level of wellbeing. In 2018–19, 9 in 10 (92 per cent) adults in Queensland reported medium to high positive wellbeing, while 2 in 3 (69 per cent) reported low to moderate distress levels. This positive wellbeing can result from strong connections to family, land and culture, among other things. Nevertheless, a significant number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples experience emotional distress and mental health issues.

When looking at causes for men and women separately, suicide was the second most common cause of death among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men. Of the 70 people who lost their lives to suicide in 2020, 50 were men.

	2011–2015		2016–2020
Mortality rate due to suicide per 100,000 persons	22.6	↑	28.0

The rate of suicide among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders has been slowly increasing over time.

Outcome 9: the right housing

Target 9: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in appropriately sized (not overcrowded) housing to 88 per cent by 2031—not on track, but increasing

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households have more people, on average, than other households in Queensland. The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute notes that maintaining a large, open household is a core obligation for many who have an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander identity¹, with larger households providing a strong connection to family and support for sharing resources.

In 2021, just over 8 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples lived in homes that had an appropriate number of bedrooms for their family and household situation, up from around 7 in 10 in 2001. The proportion of people living in homes where no extra bedrooms were needed, increased 4.8 points between 2011 to 2016, then rose a further 1.8 percentage points over the five years to 2021.

Home ownership also increased over time, with the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households owning or mortgaging their home up by 9.5 points in the 20 years to 2021.

Housing	2001		2021
Enough bedrooms	69.7%	↑	81.2%
Owned or mortgaged	29.4%	↑	38.9%

For further information on Queensland’s initiatives to ensure First Nations Queenslanders have access to holistic, culturally safe, trauma-informed and responsive services, please read Queensland’s Implementation Plan at www.qld.gov.au/ctg.

¹ <https://www.ahuri.edu.au/research/ahuri-briefs/understanding-demand-sharing-of-indigenous-households>





4. THRIVING CHILDREN ACHIEVING THEIR POTENTIAL

DATA SNAPSHOT



Queensland is on track to meet the preschool education target

More than 9 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are enrolled in preschool in the year before they start school.



Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prep students are developing strong skills

3 in 5 demonstrated well or highly developed strengths in important aspects of their early childhood skills and wellbeing

In each domain, at least 3 in 5 children were on track—though only 1 in 3 were developmentally on track in all domains.



Queensland's young people are increasingly achieving year 12

7 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 20–24 year olds have achieved at least a Year 12 or equivalent education.

In 2020, 77.8 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 12 students were awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education.

Outcome 3: early childhood education

Target 3: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in early childhood education, in the year before full-time school, to 95 per cent by 2025—on track

Children who participate in early childhood education are given the opportunity to build a strong foundation for emotional, social, physical and mental wellbeing. Research consistently demonstrates a wide range of gains among children who attend preschool including language, literacy, numeracy, cognitive and problem-solving skills, and that these benefits support future academic achievement.²

In 2021, 95.1 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were enrolled in preschool in the year before starting school, up from 91.4 per cent in 2019. While the collection method has changed over time, the enrolment rate is up by more than 10 percentage points compared with 2016.

Queensland's enrolment rate in 2021 met the target.

	2016	2021
Preschool in the year before full-time school	82.2%	95.1%

Some children begin preschool programs at 3 years and may attend for two or more years before starting school. Children can gain significant benefits from early engagement in good quality preschool education and play. Overall, 8,735 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were enrolled in preschool in 2021.

Outcome 4: thriving children

Target 4: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children assessed as developmentally on track in all five domains of the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) to 55 per cent by 2031—not on track

In their first year of schooling in 2021, 3 in 5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Queensland demonstrated well or highly developed strengths in important aspects of their early childhood skills and wellbeing.

However, only 1 in 3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were assessed as being developmentally on track in all five domains of the Australian Early Development Census. These domains assess language and cognitive skills (school-based), social skills, emotional maturity and physical health and wellbeing.

Girls were more likely to be developmentally on track in all five domains than boys, reflecting the biological and developmental differences between males and females upon school entry³.

Developmentally on track in all 5 domains	2012	2021
All	32.3%	33.8%
Girls	40.1%	41.3%
Boys	24.3%	26.7%

While significant progress is needed to meet the target of 55 per cent developmentally on track in all five domains, children are showing **stronger results in individual domains**. Around 64.1 per cent of children were developmentally on track on the physical health and wellbeing domains and 63.8 per cent were developmentally on track on the emotional maturity domain. Similar levels were reported for the other three domains.

Outcome 5: students achieve their potential

Target 5: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (age 20–24) attaining year 12 or equivalent qualification to 96 per cent by 2031—no new data since 2016 baseline: (69.5 per cent)

There are lifetime benefits associated with completing year 12 or an equivalent qualification. These include increased employment and income opportunities and improved health and wellbeing⁴. In 2016, around 7 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 20–24 year olds in Queensland had at least a Year 12 or Certificate III and above qualification, well up from the 5 in 10, 15 years earlier.

	2001	2016
At least Year 12 or a Certificate III level qualification	50.9%	69.5%

To reach the 96.0 per cent target by 2031, an increase of almost nine percentage points every five years is needed.

2020 saw the first full prep-year cohort graduate Year 12. This was also the first cohort to complete their senior studies under the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) system. This cohort also faced completing their senior studies during the COVID-19 period, with lockdowns, remote learning and other associated restrictions. Of the 2,892 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students completing their senior studies in Queensland in 2020, 77.8 per cent were awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education. Around 1 in 5 were also eligible for an ATAR.

For further information on Queensland's initiatives to give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children a positive start and supporting them throughout their learning journey, please read Queensland's Implementation Plan at www.qld.gov.au/ctg.

² <https://search.informit.org/doi/pdf/10.3316/agispt.20151618>

³ <https://www.aedc.gov.au/resources/detail/gender-differences-in-the-aedc-and-into-the-school-years>

⁴ <http://handsonlearning.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/DAE-investing-in-preventing-ESL-September-2012-1.pdf>



5. STRONG ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT

DATA SNAPSHOT



Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young adults are increasingly engaging in higher education

More than 2 in 5 had completed a Certificate III or higher qualification—the rate **doubling** in 15 years.

The number of students commencing University studies more than **doubled** in 10 years.



Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are engaging in education, employment or training

2 in 3 were either fully engaged or partially engaged in 2016.



Apprenticeships and traineeships are increasing

3,900 young people in off-the-job vocational education at Cert III and above as part of their training in 2020—up from around 3,275 in 2016.



Employment rates for Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults continue to be a challenge

Around half were employed in 2016.

Outcome 6: learning pathways

Target 6: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25–34 years who have completed a tertiary qualification (Certificate III and above) to 70 per cent by 2031—no new data since 2016 baseline (42.4 per cent)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders are increasingly engaging in post school education, including vocational education and training (VET) and university courses, with levels **more than doubling** in 15 years.

	2001		2016
Certificate III or above qualifications	19.8%	↑	42.4%

To reach the 70 per cent target by 2031, the proportion will need to increase by at least nine percentage points every five years—a figure achieved between 2011 and 2016 (a 9.4 percentage points increase from 33.0 per cent to 42.4 per cent).

The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students commencing studies at Queensland universities has also more than doubled since 2009, reaching 2,445 in 2020. This brought the total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in university to 6,035 in 2020.

Participation in VET is also high, with 38,610 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enrolments in some form of VET in 2020, including 4,590 apprentices and trainees. VET graduates report positive outcomes from their studies, with 86.4 per cent of surveyed 2021 graduates reporting employment related benefits.

Outcome 7: fully engaged young people

Target 7: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth (15–24 years) who are in employment, education or training to 67 per cent by 2031—no new data since 2016 baseline (55.4 per cent)

In 2016, just over half of 15–24 year old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in Queensland were fully engaged in some form of education, employment, training, or a combination of these. Engagement was highest among 15 and 16 year olds, aligning with compulsory schooling ages.

	2001		2016
Fully engaged in education, employment or training	49.4%	↑	55.4%

While overall levels are up six percentage points since 2001, there has been little change in youth engagement over the 10 years 2006⁵ to 2016 for either Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people or non-Indigenous young people.

To reach the target of 67 per cent, the rate of improvement will need to be 11.6 percentage points over the 15 years from 2016 to 2031—almost double that seen over the previous 15 years.

Positive signs of more recent increased engagement are evident in vocational education and training (VET) data, with an increased number of 15–24 year olds engaged in off-the-job training as part of their apprenticeship or traineeship (Certificate III or higher qualification).

	2016		2020
Apprentices and trainees in off-the-job VET	3,275	↑	3,900

⁵ Caution should be used when looking at rates over time. Community development employment project (CDEP) participants in these data in 2006 and to a lesser extent in 2011, were classified as employed for statistical purposes. In contrast, those participating in employment programs that replaced CDEP were most likely classified as unemployed.



Outcome 8: economic participation and development

Target 8: increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25–64 who are employed to 62 per cent by 2031—no new data since 2016 baseline (52.1 per cent)

Around half (52.1 per cent) of 25–64 year old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders reported being employed in 2016. Of these:

- 63.9 per cent were working full-time
- 28.8 per cent were working part-time
- 7.3 per cent were employed but away from work.

There was little change in employment levels over the 15 years to 2016. To reach the target of 62.0 per cent, employment rates will need to increase by 10 percentage points by 2031.

Outcome 17: digital inclusion

Target 17: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have equal levels of digital inclusion by 2026—no state baseline data are available

This target is focused on improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's access to information and services to support people to make informed decisions about their lives. Digital inclusion forms the platform for improving access to information and services and includes affordability of and access to the internet, ability to use digital technologies, accessibility of online services, and the availability and use of culturally relevant media.

⁶ https://digitalinclusionindex.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/ADIL_Report-2019_.pdf

Reliable data which capture the various aspects of full digital inclusion are limited at present and are currently only available for 'internet access at home'. In 2014–15, an estimated 76.1 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders aged 15 years and over accessed the internet at home.

A small scale survey⁶ undertaken in Pormpuraaw in 2018 showed that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander respondents had a **high level of digital literacy**, being more likely than the average Australian to use the internet for shopping, banking, accessing government services, streaming media content, and general web surfing. In comparison however, **affordability was low** with most people relying on prepaid mobile plans for their internet access—only 2 of the 145 respondents had fixed broadband plans.

For further information on Queensland's initiatives to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' engagement in Queensland's economy, please read Queensland's Implementation Plan at www.qld.gov.au/ctg.





6. STRONG AND SAFE FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

DATA SNAPSHOT



Most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queensland children grow up in safe homes

Around 4.3 per cent are living in out of home care—around half of them were living with kin, relatives or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carers and almost all had a cultural support plan.



Youth in detention are likely to have a history of significant risk factors

In June 2021 60 per cent had been impacted by domestic violence; 40 per cent had parents who had been in custody; 84 per cent had used substances; 45 per cent had a mental health or behavioural disorder.



Most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders do not experience violence in their daily lives

Those who do are more likely to be female—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females accounted for 71.2 per cent of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims in 2019–20.



Adult imprisonment rates continue to increase

The rates trended up by 6.9 per cent per year since 2012, reaching 2,144 per 100,000 in 2021.

3,479 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons were in Queensland prisons on 30 June 2021.

Outcome 12: safe children

Target 12: reduce the rate of over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care by 45 per cent by 2031—not on track

The majority of Queensland’s children grow up in safe families and do not come to the attention of child safety services. Of the families that do come to the attention of Queensland’s child safety services, many are complex cases, with 59.0 per cent in 2020–21 experiencing four or more family risk factors. These families need extensive support and intervention to keep their children safe.

At 30 June 2021, 4,295 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queensland children (0 to 17 years) were living in out-of-home care. Around half of these children were living with relatives, Indigenous care givers or in Indigenous residential care.

At the same time, there were 1,072 identified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carer families in Queensland, up from 862 three years prior. This included 493 kinship carer families.

Almost all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care in 2019 and more recently in 2021, had a cultural support plan aiming to keep them connected with their culture, families and communities.

	2017	2021
Children in out-of-home care, per 1,000⁷	34.0	↑ 43.4

To achieve a 45 per cent reduction in over-representation, the rate of children in care will need to fall to at least 20.3 per 1,000 children by 2031, from the baseline of 37 per 1,000 in 2019.

⁷ These data are produced from the Child Protection National Minimum Data Set based on nationally agreed specifications and may not match Queensland figures published elsewhere.

Outcome 13: safe families

Target 13: by 2031, the rate of all forms of family violence and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children is reduced at least by 50 per cent, as progress towards zero—no new data since 2018–19 baseline (6.4 per cent)

Most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders do not experience physical violence in their day to day lives.

In 2018–19, 83.9 per cent reported they had not been threatened with physical harm in the previous 12 months, nor experienced physical harm through violence, including 91.9 per cent of women. An estimated 6.4 per cent of women reported experiencing violence or threatened violence.

For those that do experience harm, the majority are women. Queensland Police Service data show that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander females accounted for 10 per cent of all reported victims of an offence against the person in 2019–20, and 71.2 per cent of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims. Almost 6 in 10 female victims were offended against by a family member, including 36.7 per cent by a partner or ex-partner.



Outcome 11: young people in detention

Target 11: reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (10–17 years) in detention by at least 30 per cent by 2031—on track

To meet the target of a 30 per cent reduction in youth detention, the average daily detention rate will need to fall to 28.8 per 10,000 persons by 2031, from the baseline of 41.1 in 2018–19⁸.

On an average night in 2019–20, 136 young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were in Queensland's youth detention centres (or 32.1 per 10,000). Most were young males (88 per cent), and more than 8 in 10 were unsentenced.

Both the number and rate reported in 2020–21 remain relatively unchanged, at 140 young people in detention on an average day, and a rate of 32.8 per 10,000.

	2018–19	2020–21
Young people in detention, average daily rate per 10,000⁹	41.1	32.8

This stability in the average daily rate over the last two years occurred against a backdrop of COVID-19 pandemic impacts and amendments to the Youth Justice Act, 1992, which strengthened accountability and support for repeat offenders, and introduced limitations on bail eligibility.

Queensland's data show that 540 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 10 to 17 year olds were admitted to detention in 2020–21, relatively unchanged from the 537 admitted the previous year, and somewhat lower than the 626 admitted in 2017–18. Promisingly, the number of 10 to 16 year olds admitted to detention has fallen significantly in recent years, from 588 in 2017–18, to 421 in 2020–21.

Much like families encountering child safety services, young people in detention are likely to have experienced a range of challenging circumstances putting them at higher risk of offending and subsequent incarceration. For example, in 2021, 45 per cent of young people in custody had a least one mental health or behavioural disorder, 27 per cent were under a current child protection order, 2 in 5 had parents who had an imprisonment history, and at least 4 in 5 had used substances, including 41 per cent reporting methamphetamine use, including ice¹⁰.

⁸ The time series used for the target do not adjust for the transition of 17 year olds into the youth justice system in February 2018.

⁹ These data are produced from the Youth Justice National Minimum Data Set based on nationally agreed specifications and may not match Queensland figures published elsewhere.

¹⁰ <https://www.cyjma.qld.gov.au/resources/dcsyw/youth-justice/resources/census-summary-custody.pdf>

¹¹ <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-psychiatric-sciences/article/prevalence-of-psychiatric-disorders-for-indigenous-australians-a-populationbased-birth-cohort-study/EE128FE6D78B99C94D9F997B5569338A>

Outcome 10: adults in prison

Target 10: reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults held in incarceration by at least 15 per cent by 2031—not on track

To meet the target of a 15 per cent reduction from the 2019 baseline (1,815 per 100,000 persons), the imprisonment rate will need to fall to 1,542 per 100,000 persons by 2031—a level last seen in 2015.

On the night of 30 June 2021, 3,479 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults were in prison in Queensland.

Underlying factors for higher rates of offending include socio-economic disadvantage, substance abuse, homelessness and overcrowding, lack of education and physical and mental health issues. Attaining a qualification, or at least Year 12 education, and having a position of employment are generally protective factors against offending and incarceration.

The rate of imprisonment in Queensland has been increasing by an average of 6.9 per cent per year since 2012, presenting an increasingly difficult challenge in terms of the target, particularly when recent research shows that:

- almost 1 in 5 prisoners had a history of hospitalisation for mental illness¹¹
- more than 8 in 10 prisoners had not completed their secondary education
- 4 in 5 prisoners had a prior imprisonment.

	2012	2021
Imprisonment rate, per 100,000 persons	1,181	2,144

For further information on Queensland's initiatives to support strong and safe families and communities, please read Queensland's Implementation Plan at www.qld.gov.au/ctg



7. FLOURISHING CULTURES AND LANGUAGES

DATA SNAPSHOT



Queensland is on track to achieve a 15 per cent increase in Australia's landmass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's legal rights or interests by 2030.

In 2021, 538,652 square kilometres (31.2 per cent) of Queensland's landmass was under native title or was Indigenous estate.



Queensland is on track to achieve a 15 per cent increase in areas covered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's legal rights or interests in the sea by 2030.

In 2021, 19.9 per cent (24,341 square kilometres) of Queensland's sea country was under native title.

Outcome 15: land and waters

Target 15a: a 15 per cent increase in Australia’s landmass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights or interests by 2030—**on track**

Target 15b: a 15 per cent increase in areas covered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights or interests in the sea by 2030—**on track**

In 2021, 538,652 square kilometres (31.2 per cent) of Queensland’s landmass was under native title or was Indigenous estate. If the increasing trend in land under native title between 2016 and 2021 continues, Queensland will likely meet the 2030 target of a 15 per cent increase of land mass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s legal rights (609,666 square kilometres).

Additionally, 19.9 per cent (24,341 square kilometres) of Queensland’s sea country was under native title. A 15 per cent increase will mean that, by 2030, 27,724 square kilometres of sea country will need to be under native title.

¹² <https://www.arts.gov.au/what-we-do/indigenous-arts-and-languages/national-indigenous-languages-report>

¹³ <https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/living-languages>

Outcome 16: flourishing languages

Target 16: there is a sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken by 2031—no state baseline data are available

Being able to pass on language to future generations is central to keeping language, identity and culture strong¹². A 2020 report on first languages in Australia found widespread health, social and economic benefits associated with speaking an Indigenous language¹³.

In Queensland in 2016, around seven per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons spoke an Australian Indigenous language at home. Results varied widely across Queensland, with those in the Torres Strait regions (77.7 per cent) and Cape York (40.1 per cent) most likely to speak an Australian Indigenous language at home. The most widely spoken Australian Indigenous language groups in Queensland were:

- Yumplatok (Torres Strait Creole) (3.1 per cent)
- Kalaw Kawaw Ya/Kalaw Lagaw Ya (0.5 per cent)
- Guugu Yimidhirr (0.4 per cent).



8. SOURCES

All baseline and current target data have been sourced directly from the Closing the Gap dashboard hosted by the Productivity Commission, from the collections cited below. For more information, see www.closingthegap.gov.au/data. This Snapshot also contains data and information sourced from other reports and data sets as noted below.

Target	Target data source	Other sources
1	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Life tables for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2015–2017</i>	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Causes of death, Australia</i> Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, 2018–19</i>
2	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, <i>National Perinatal Data Collection</i>	Queensland Health, <i>Perinatal Data Collection</i>
3	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Preschool Education, Australia</i> (drawn from the National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection)	Hewitt, B. & Walter, M. <i>Preschool participation among Indigenous children in Australia, Family Matters 2014 No.95</i> https://aifs.gov.au/publications/family-matters/issue-95/preschool-participation-among-indigenous-children-australia
4	Australian Early Development Census	
5	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Census of Population and Housing</i>	Deloitte Access Economics 2012, <i>The socio-economic benefits of investing in the prevention of early school leaving</i> http://handsonlearning.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/DAE-investing-in-preventing-ESL-September-2012-1.pdf
6	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Census of Population and Housing</i>	Department of Education, Skills and Employment, <i>Higher Education Statistics</i> www.dese.gov.au/higher-education-statistics/student-data
7	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Census of Population and Housing</i>	National Centre for Vocational Education Research, <i>Student data</i> www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/visualisation-gallery/latest-vet-statistics National Centre for Vocational Education Research, <i>Student Outcomes Survey (SOS) DataBuilder</i> , https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/data/databuilder#student-outcomes-survey
8	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Census of Population and Housing</i>	
9	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Census of Population and Housing</i>	Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, <i>Understanding ‘demand sharing’ of Indigenous households</i>

Target	Target data source	Other sources
10	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Prisoners in Australia based on the National Prisoner Census</i>	
11	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, <i>Youth Justice National Minimum Data Set</i>	Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs, <i>Statistics</i> www.cyjma.qld.gov.au/youth-justice/resources
12	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, <i>Child Protection Collection</i>	Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs, <i>Our performance</i> www.cyjma.qld.gov.au/about-us/performance-evaluations/our-performance
13	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, 2018–19</i>	
14	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>Causes of Death</i>	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, 2018–19</i>
15	<i>Closing the Gap dashboard</i>	
16	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, <i>National Indigenous Languages Surveys</i>	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, <i>National Indigenous Languages Report</i> www.arts.gov.au/what-we-do/indigenous-arts-and-languages/national-indigenous-languages-report
17	Australian Bureau of Statistics, <i>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2014–15</i>	Thomas, J, Barraket, J, Wilson, CK, Rennie, E, Ewing, S, MacDonald, T, 2019, <i>Measuring Australia's Digital Divide: The Australian Digital Inclusion Index 2019</i> , RMIT University and Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, for Telstra

Population based rates and percentages

Population based rates and percentages in this report use population data published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in *Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006 to 2031*, released in July 2019. After a methodological review in mid-2021, the ABS re-released these data in July 2021, resulting in minor revisions to the previously published population estimates and projections. The ABS advise that impacts on rates will be very small.

