National Indigenous Reform Agreement: P27b-Proportion of Indigenous 20–64 year olds with or working towards post school qualification in AQF Certificate III, IV, Diploma and Advanced Diploma (Survey data), 2010 QS

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Quality Statement

METEOR identifier: 396332

Registration status: Community Services (retired), Superseded 04/04/2011

Data quality

Institutional environment: These surveys are conducted under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. For

information on the institutional environment of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, see the ABS

Institutional Environment.

Timeliness: The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) is

conducted every six years. The 2008 survey was conducted from August to April

2009. Results were released in October 2009.

The Survey of Education and Work (SEW) is conducted annually in May as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Results from the 2008

survey were released in November 2008.

Accessibility: See National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008 (4714.0)

and Education and Work, Australia (6227.0). This measure is released as part of

a SEW Detailed Education Data cube. Specialised data tables and Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) are also available on request.

Interpretability: Information on how to interpret and use the data appropriately is available from the

2008 NATSISS User's Guide (4720.0) — due for release in 2010 — and

Education and Work Australia (6227.0).

Relevance: While Indigenous status is collected in the SEW, the survey sample and

methodology are not designed to provide output that separately identifies

Indigenous people. The SEW can, however, be used for providing non-Indigenous

comparisons.

The NATSISS and SEW collect information on current study and qualifications. While the SEW collects information on the level of current study, the NATSISS only collects information on whether or not a person is studying but not by level. To maximise consistency, the measures derived from both surveys were based on all

students, not just those studying for a Certificate III or above.

In the SEW, information may have been supplied by one household resident on behalf of another person. The person reporting may not know all details of the educational participation or attainment of the other. In the NATSISS and SEW answers to some questions were not supplied. Hence, judgement may be required

in classifying people for this measure.

Accuracy:

The NATSISS is conducted in all states and territories and includes remote and non-remote areas. The 2008 sample was 13,300 persons/6900 households, with a response rate of 82 per cent of households.

In the 2008 NATSISS there was a relatively large level of undercoverage when compared to other ABS surveys. As a consequence, the analysis undertaken to ensure that results from the survey were consistent with other data sources was more extensive than usual. Potential bias due to undercoverage was addressed by the application of a number of adjustments to the initial weights and an adjustment to geographical areas based on the density of the Indigenous population. As undercoverage can result in variances across population characteristics, as well as across data items, caution should be exercised when interpreting the survey results. For more information see the 2008 NATSISS Quality Declaration.

The SEW is conducted in all states and territories excluding very remote areas. This exclusion has a small impact only on national and state estimates, except for the Northern Territory, where such persons comprise over 20 per cent of the population. From 2009 the SEW will include remote areas but will exclude discrete Indigenous communities. As a consequence of this exclusion, comparisons between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in remote areas are not available. The 2008 SEW response rate was 96 per cent.

Both surveys are weighted to account for non-response. Since it is derived from sample surveys, this indicator is subject to sampling error which occurs because only a small proportion of the population is used to produce estimates that represent the whole population. Sampling error can be reliably estimated and is based on the statistical methods used to design surveys.

Overall, this indicator has a relative standard errror (RSE) of less than 25 per cent for all states and territories. Finer levels of disaggregation (e.g. by the inclusion of other cross classifying variables) may result in higher levels of sampling error.

Coherence:

The Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) has been used in all surveys with education items since 2001 and allows the education and training items between different surveys to be compared.

The data items used to construct the measures in the Census, NATSISS and SEW are consistent and comparable, and support assessment of change over time. While there are a range of differences between the scope, coverage, timing and collection methodologies of the collections, these issues do not affect their broad consistency for this measure.

Nevertheless, different collection techniques and treatment of 'Not Stated' responses should be considered when comparing surveys with the Census. This indicator uses different criteria for level of qualification (Certificate III or above) in comparison with that reported in the National Educating Agreement reports (Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma and Advanced Diploma). Both intend to report against the same National Indigenous Reform Agreement (NIRA) indicator, but the indicator specifications were modified after the first report.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

See also National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 15a-Proportion of Indigenous 20-64 year olds with or working towards a post-school qualification in Certificate level III or above, (Census data) 2013 QS

Indigenous, Superseded 25/06/2014

Indicators linked to this Data Quality statement:

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