

National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 08-Access to health care compared to need, 2012

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National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 08- Access to health care compared to need, 2012

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	PI08-Access to health care compared to need, 2012
METEOR identifier:	438593
Registration status:	Indigenous , Superseded 13/06/2013
Description:	Interim measure: There are two measures for this indicator: (1a): Proportion of Australians accessing health care, by type of service and Indigenous status and (1b): Level of need for a health care service, by type of service and Indigenous status.
Rationale:	Comparing the rates of health service use and access to the need of Indigenous Australians will help to monitor unmet need and identify areas for improvement.
Indicator set:	National Indigenous Reform Agreement (2012) Indigenous , Superseded 13/06/2013
Outcome area:	Indigenous Australians achieve health outcomes comparable to the broader population Indigenous , Superseded 25/02/2024

Collection and usage attributes

Population group age from:	All ages except for: • Those who visited dentists or dental professional: from 2 years of age. • Disaggregation by self-assessed health status: from 15 years of age.
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Computation description: Crude rates are calculated for Indigenous Australians.

Age-standardised rates are calculated for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

95% Confidence intervals and relative standard errors are calculated for crude and age-standardised rates.

Rate ratios and rate differences are calculated for Indigenous: non-Indigenous.

Presentation: Number, rate per 100 persons (percentage), rate ratio, rate difference, confidence intervals, and relative standard error.

Definitions:

Types of services are: admitted hospitalisations; casualty/outpatients GP and/or specialist doctor consultations; consultations with other health professionals; and dental consultations.

For service type 'admitted hospitalisations', access is recorded based on the last 12 months. For all other services, access is recorded based on the last 2 weeks.

Categories for reasons did not visit a health care service are: cost, too busy, dislikes, waiting time too long or not available at time required, decided not to seek care, transport/distance, not available in area, felt it would be inadequate, discrimination/not culturally appropriate/language problems.

Categories for reporting self-assessed health status are excellent/very good/good and fair/poor.

Computation: Crude rate: $100 \times (\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator})$.

Age-standardised rate: calculated using the direct method with the 2001 Australian population as at 30 June as the standard. Ten year age groups are used from 0-4 to 55 years and over to be consistent with published estimates by the ABS.

Rate ratio: Indigenous age-standardised rate divided by non-Indigenous age-standardised rate.

Rate difference: Indigenous age-standardised rate minus non-Indigenous age-standardised rate.

Numerator: (1a): Number of persons who accessed a particular health services in the past 12 months (for hospital admissions) or 2 weeks (for other health services)

(1b): Number of persons who needed to access health care but did not.

Numerator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Persons admitted to hospital in the last 12 months

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Hospitalised in the last 12 months, not hospitalised in the last 12 months, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Persons who needed to go to the doctor in the last 12 months but didn't

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey](#)

[\(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Yes, no, not stated, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Persons who needed to go to another health professional in the last 12 months, but didn't

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Yes, no, not stated, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Persons who visited casualty/emergency or outpatients

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Visited casualty/emergency or outpatients, not visited casualty/emergency or outpatients, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—age, total years N\[NN\]](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—age, total years N\[NN\]](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set**Data Element**

Persons who consulted with a dentist or dental professional

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Consulted a dentist or dental professional, did not consult a dentist or dental professional, not applicable, not stated

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set**Data Element**

Persons who consulted with other health professional

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Consulted other health professional, did not consult other health professional, not known, not stated, not applicable.

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set**Data Element**

Persons who visited casualty/emergency or outpatients

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Visited casualty/emergency or outpatients, not visited casualty/emergency or outpatients, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set**Data Element**

People who needed to go to the dentist in the last 12 months, but didn't

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Yes, no, not stated, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set**Data Element**

Person who needed to go to hospital in the last 12 months, but didn't

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Yes, no, not stated, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Persons admitted to hospital in the last 12 months

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Hospitalised in the last 12 months, not hospitalised in the last 12 months, not applicable

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Persons who consulted other health professional

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Consulted other health professional, did not consult other health professional, not known, not stated, not applicable.

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Persons who consulted with a dentist or dental professional

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Consulted a dentist or dental professional, did not consult a dentist or dental professional, not applicable, not stated

Data source type: Survey

Denominator:

Measure 1a and 1b: Total population of all people except for:

- Disaggregation by self-assessed health status: population aged 15 years and over
- Persons visiting a dentist or dental professional: population aged 2 years and over

Denominator data elements:**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—age, total years N\[NN\]](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—age, total years N\[NN\]](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Disaggregation:

(1a): National and state and territory by:

Type of service, by self-assessed health status, by Indigenous status (age-standardised rates).

Type of service for Indigenous Australians (crude rates).

Type of service, by Indigenous status (age-standardised rates).

(1b): Indigenous only:

National and state/territory, by type of service, by reasons did not visit.

Non-remote and remote, by type of service, by reasons did not visit.

Disaggregation data elements:**Data Element / Data Set****Data Element**

General health status

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Excellent/very good/good, fair/poor

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—area of usual residence, geographical location code \(ASGC 2006\) NNNNN](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey](#)

[\(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

General health status

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: Excellent/very good/good, fair/poor

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Reason for not going to other health professional

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: cost, too busy, dislikes, waiting time too long, no time available when it is required, decided not to seek care, transport/distance, not available in area, felt it would be inadequate, discrimination/not culturally appropriate/language problems, other (not further defined), not applicable, not stated.

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Reason for not going to the dentist or dental professional

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: cost, too busy, dislikes, waiting time too long, no time available when it is required, decided not to seek care, transport/distance, not available in area, felt it would be inadequate, discrimination/not culturally appropriate/language problems, other (not further defined), not applicable, not stated.

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

Data Element

Reason for not going to the doctor

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: cost, too busy, dislikes, waiting time too long, no time available when it is required, decided not to seek care, transport/distance, not available in area, felt it would be inadequate, discrimination/not culturally appropriate/language problems, other (not further defined), not applicable, not stated.

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set**Data Element**

Reason for not going to the hospital

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data element codes: cost, too busy, dislikes, waiting time too long, no time available when it is required, decided not to seek care, transport/distance, not available in area, felt it would be inadequate, discrimination/not culturally appropriate/language problems, other (not further defined), not applicable, not stated.

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—area of usual residence, geographical location code \(ASGC 2006\) NNNNN](#)

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey

Comments:

NO NEW DATA FOR 2012 REPORTING.

Most recent data available: 2004-05 NATSIHS (Indigenous); 2004-05 NHS (non-Indigenous).

Indicator 3.12 specified in the 2008 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework can be used for this indicator until data development work is completed for this indicator.

Data were not collected on level of need for a health service in the National Health Survey (NHS), thus measure (1b) is currently unable to be reported for the non-Indigenous Australian population.

Data from the NATSIHS are available for remote and very remote areas. The NHS does not cover very remote areas.

This indicator meets two COAG specific outcome areas: Indigenous Australians achieve health outcomes comparable to the broader population and Indigenous people have ready access to suitable and culturally inclusive primary health and preventative services.

Baseline year for NIRA target (Close the life expectancy gap within a generation) is 2006; baseline year for this indicator is 2004-05; target year is 2031.

Representational attributes

Representation class: Percentage

Data type: Real

Unit of measure: Person

Format: N[N].N

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions: [Accessible](#)

Data source attributes

Data sources:

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey \(NHS\)](#)

Frequency

Every 3 years

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Data Source

[ABS 2004-05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey \(NATSIHS\)](#)

Frequency

Every 6 years

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements:	National Indigenous Reform Agreement.
Organisation responsible for providing data:	In the provision of data and quality statement the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) will have regard to the data quality assessments in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework (HPF) that are relevant to this indicator.
Further data development / collection required:	Specification: Interim. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) is currently undertaking work on the concept of access compared to need for Indigenous Australians to better define and measure this indicator in the future.

Source and reference attributes

Steward:	National Indigenous Reform Agreement Performance Information Management Group
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Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Supersedes National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 08-Access to health care compared to need, 2011 Indigenous , Superseded 01/07/2012 See also National Healthcare Agreement: PI 60-Access to services by type of service compared to need, 2012 Health , Retired 25/06/2013
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