

# **National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 15b- Proportion of Indigenous 20-64 year olds with or working towards a post-school qualification in Certificate level III or above (survey data), 2019; Quality Statement**

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## Identifying and definitional attributes

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| Metadata item type:  | Data Quality Statement                           |
| METEOR identifier:   | 711093   |
| Registration status: | <a href="#">Indigenous</a> , Standard 07/02/2019 |

## Data quality

**Data quality statement summary:** Proportion of people aged 20-64 years with, or working towards, post-school qualifications in Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificate III or above by Indigenous status.

- Numerator: people aged 20-64 years who have attained post-school qualifications in AQF Certificate III or above, or are currently studying a non-school qualification.
- Denominator: total population of people aged 20-64 years, excluding persons who were not studying and had a level of non-school qualification that was not stated.

**Institutional environment:** The Survey of Education and Work (SEW) and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) were collected, processed and published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The ABS operates within a framework that includes the *Census and Statistics Act 1905* and the *Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975*. These ensure the independence from political influence and impartiality of the ABS and the confidentiality of respondents.

For more information on the institutional environment of the ABS, including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, see [ABS Institutional Environment](#).

**Timeliness:** The SEW is conducted annually in May as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Results from the 2014 survey were released in November 2014.

The 2014-15 NATSISS was conducted from September 2014 to June 2015. Results were released in April 2016. The previous NATSISS was conducted in 2008.

**Accessibility:** The data for the SEW are available from the ABS website in the publication *Education and Work, Australia* (ABS 2014). This measure is also released as part of a SEW detailed education data cube.

Additional data are available at cost upon request through the National Information Referral Service. The survey microdata are available through the TableBuilder product, *Microdata: Education and Work, Australia* (ABS 2015).

The data for the NATSISS are available from the ABS website in the publication *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2014-15* (ABS 2016a). Other information from the survey is available on request.

**Interpretability:** Information on how to interpret and use the data appropriately is available from the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey: User Guide, 2014-15* (ABS 2016a) and Explanatory Notes in *Education and Work, Australia* (ABS 2014).

**Relevance:** The SEW collects information on level of highest non-school qualification and level of current study. The classification of qualifications used is the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) 2001 (ABS 2001).

For some respondents, information is supplied by another household resident (referred to as 'Any Responsible Adult'), such as a parent, partner or unrelated adult. While this is a standard survey methodology, answers to some questions may occasionally differ from those that would have been supplied in a personal interview.

While Indigenous status is collected in the SEW, the survey sample and methodology are not designed to provide output that separately identifies Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. The SEW can, however be used for providing non-Indigenous comparisons.

**Accuracy:**

The SEW and NATSISS collect information on current study, level of current study and qualifications.

The 2014 SEW response rate was 92%, which constituted 39,100 completed interviews. The 2014 response rate was consistent with that in previous years.

The data for the SEW are collected from an ARA on behalf of other members of the household and are weighted for nonresponse. The 2014-15 NATSISS was conducted in all states and territories, including very remote areas. Non-private dwellings such as hotels, motels, hospitals, nursing homes and short-stay caravan parks were excluded from the survey. The final response rate for the 2014-15 NATSISS was 80.3%.

The NATSISS and the SEW are weighted to account for non-response.

As they are drawn from a sample survey, data for the indicator are subject to sampling error. Sampling error 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 as it is calculated based on the scientific methods used to design surveys. Rates should be considered with reference to their Relative Standard Error (RSE). Estimates with RSEs between 25% and 50% should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50% are generally considered too unreliable for general use.

**Coherence:** Both the numerator and denominator for non-Indigenous persons come from the SEW. Measures based on the 2014 SEW are consistent with those supplied for the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) reporting from previous cycles of this survey.

The SEW excludes people living in Indigenous communities. Since 2009, SEW has included people living in 'very remote' areas who are not in Indigenous communities. Prior to SEW 2009, all persons living in 'very remote' parts of Australia were excluded. Nationally, less than 1% of persons in scope of the SEW live in 'very remote' areas that are not Indigenous communities. In the Northern Territory, this proportion is higher, at around 8%.

Persons who are permanently unable to work were included in the scope of SEW for the first time in 2013. There were an estimated 491,170 people who reported being permanently unable to work in May 2014.

The Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (ABS 2001) 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 Census of Population and Housing and the Survey of Qualifications and Work (ABS 2016b) also provide information on educational attainment.

Both the numerator and the denominator for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander persons come from the NATSISS. Measures based on the 2014-15 NATSISS are consistent with those supplied for COAG reporting from previous cycles of this survey.

The data items used to construct the measures in the NATSISS and the 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.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Bureau of Statistics

**Origin:** For the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander population: the ABS) 2014-15 NATSISS.

For the non-Indigenous population: the ABS SEW data are available annually.

These surveys are weighted to benchmarks for the total in-scope population derived from the Estimated Resident Population (ERP).

**Reference documents:** ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2001. Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001. ABS Cat. no. 1272.0. Canberra: ABS.

ABS 2014. Education and Work, Australia, May 2014. ABS Cat. no. 6227.0. Canberra: ABS.

ABS 2015. Microdata: Education and Work, May 2014. ABS Cat. no. 6227.0.30.001. Canberra: ABS.

ABS 2016a. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey: User Guide, 2014–15. ABS Cat. no. 4714.0. Canberra: ABS.

ABS 2016b. Qualifications and Work, Australia, 2015. ABS Cat. no. 4235.0. Canberra: ABS.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**

Supersedes [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 15b-Proportion of Indigenous 20-64 year olds with or working towards a post-school qualification in Certificate level III or above \(survey data\), 2018; Quality Statement Indigenous](#), Superseded 07/02/2019

Has been superseded by [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 15b-Proportion of Indigenous 20-64 year olds with or working towards a post-school qualification in Certificate level III or above \(survey data\), 2020; Quality Statement Indigenous](#), Standard 06/02/2020

**Indicators linked to this Data Quality statement:**

[National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 15b-Proportion of Indigenous 20–64 year olds with or working towards a post-school qualification in Certificate level III or above \(survey data\), 2019](#)  
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 23/08/2019