

QCOSS

Queensland Council
of Social Service

Indicators of Poverty and Disadvantage in Queensland



October 2013

Contents

Introduction	4
A framework to measure poverty and disadvantage	4
How is the report structured?	6
In summary - what do the indicators show?	6
Economic	8
Health.....	10
Education	12
Housing.....	15
Family and community.....	17
What next?	19
Economic.....	20
Poverty	21
Children in jobless households	22
Labour force participation	23
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander labour force participation	24
Unemployment	26
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander unemployment	27
Long-term unemployment.....	28
Underemployment	29
Financial stress	30
Financial exclusion	31
Health	32
Barriers to accessing health services.....	33
Mental and behavioural conditions	35
Long-term health conditions	36
Self-assessed health status.....	37
Obesity	38
Smoking	39
Exercise	41
Fruit and vegetable consumption.....	43
Low birthweight	44
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander low birthweight	45
Education.....	46
Early childhood education.....	47
Developmental vulnerability.....	49

Reading, writing and numeracy	50
School exclusions.....	52
Fully engaged in education or work	53
Year 12 or equivalent	54
Non-school qualifications.....	56
Housing.....	58
Housing tenure	59
Home ownership	60
Housing affordability	62
Housing stress.....	63
Social housing.....	64
Homelessness.....	65
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homelessness.....	66
Family and community	67
Volunteering	68
Social cohesion	69
Imprisonment.....	70
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander over-representation in the justice system	71
Crime victimisation	72
Child maltreatment	73
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child maltreatment.....	74
Suicide	76
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suicide.....	78
Youth suicide.....	79

Introduction

Queensland is a great state with great opportunities, but not everyone benefits from the opportunities on offer. There are thousands of people within Queensland who experience poverty and disadvantage on a day-to-day basis. This situation is concentrated in particular areas and among particular groups, resulting in individuals and families becoming entrenched in poverty and disadvantage for generations.

Reducing poverty and disadvantage in Queensland will benefit all Queenslanders. However finding the right solutions is not easy and much of the needed change will only come about through long-term and considered interventions. A strong evidence base is critical to developing and implementing policies, programs and interventions that are effective.

This report is a contribution to developing this evidence base, and an effort to raise awareness of both the extent of poverty and disadvantage in Queensland as well as the complexity and interrelated nature of the issues.

QCOSS will update this report annually, track progress over time, and use it to promote specific policies and investment by government that could bring about positive improvements in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Queenslanders for generations to come.

QCOSS recommends that the evidence in this report be considered as the Queensland Government develops its vision for the state through the Queensland Plan, and that appropriate evidence based measures and targets are incorporated into that plan in order to track the success of future strategies and investments.

A framework to measure poverty and disadvantage

Indicator frameworks are often used to measure social wellbeing and progress towards a predefined goal, such as closing the gap in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander disadvantage or reducing the level of social exclusion in the community. Indicator frameworks enable ongoing monitoring and development of an evidence base for change. They are useful in showing complex and interrelated issues in a dynamic and multifaceted way.

Examples of existing indicator frameworks include the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) Measures of Australia's Progress and the Productivity Commission's Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage. In 2011-12, QCOSS similarly trialled an approach to measuring community resilience to natural disasters using a set of community indicators and data collected through a community survey.¹

In this report the aim is to provide a multifaceted lens through which to view, understand and measure the extent of poverty and disadvantage in Queensland. To establish the framework, QCOSS analysed more than 300 potential indicators and associated measures of poverty and disadvantage. A careful process of interrogation and testing was done to arrive at the final 37 measures in the framework.

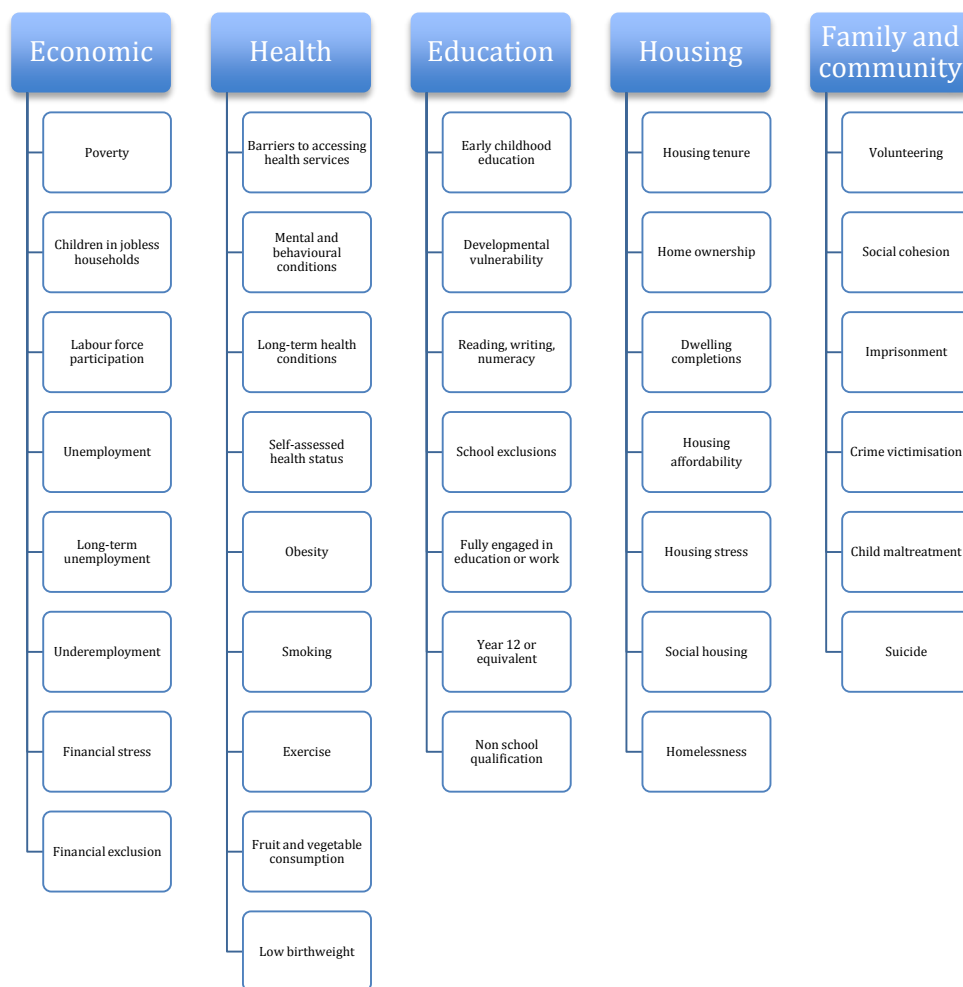
Measures chosen were typically ones that could provide clear information about the level, impact or experience of poverty and disadvantage. It also involved selecting data sets that were readily available and regularly updated, and which provided comparative data for other states and territories. There are however some data limitations for some of the measures. In some instances Queensland-specific data is unavailable, and in other cases the data may not be collected and reported on a consistent basis. They have nonetheless been included

in this report with the hope that such data will be collected and regularly reported in the future.

The indicators were organised into five domains:

1. Economic
2. Health
3. Education
4. Housing
5. Family and community

The final framework of indicators chosen is presented below:



The report presents data under this framework in a number of ways. Firstly, time-series data is provided for each of the measures to show trends in Queensland over time. Secondly, the most current data for Australian states and territories is provided to compare Queensland's standing. Where it is available and appropriate, time-series and state and territory data is also provided for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations and populations living in the most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas.

It is important to exercise some caution when interpreting both the state and territory comparisons and also the time-series information. Specific time selections for the trends can significantly alter the picture presented, and state rankings do not always provide useful information without further analysis and other contextual information. Attempts to distil or

summarise the data, as is done in the tables presented in this introduction, should not replace a more thorough examination of the data in the individual chapters. Indeed, the purpose of this report is to prompt that further exploration and to engage all stakeholders in discussion and analysis of issues that are of critical importance for our state.

What is the extent of poverty and disadvantage in Queensland? What does it look like? What are its causes and effects? How do various factors influence a person's experience of poverty and inequality, and where can we take action to make a difference? How will we know if those actions are improving things or not? These are important deliberations that we hope will be usefully informed by this and future reports.

How is the report structured?

The first chapter provides a summary of the data in each of the domain areas using a 'snapshot' table which lists each measure, the result, the trend between selected data periods, and where Queensland sits compared to other states and territories. A narrative summary is also provided.

The remainder of the report consists of five sections, organised around the five domain areas. In each domain chapter the reader will find a more detailed analysis of each of the measures supported by relevant graphs, longer-term trend information where available, and a rationale for the inclusion of each measure in the framework

In summary - what do the indicators show?

The data presented in this inaugural baseline report builds up a picture of the challenges faced by disadvantaged Queenslanders.

With one in eight people living in poverty, Queensland has much progress to make in terms of reducing income inequality and improving the economic opportunities for disadvantaged Queenslanders. While there has been a reduction in the proportion of Queenslanders who are long-term unemployed, almost 20 per cent of those unemployed have been unemployed for more than 12 months. Employment opportunities for Queenslanders are becoming slimmer as evidenced by worsening trends for a number of key indicators, including unemployment, underemployment and labour force participation.

In terms of education, improvements are being made. The proportion of children attending an early childhood education program, in particular, has dramatically improved, albeit from a low base. Unfortunately, there is evidence that children living in the most disadvantaged areas are less likely to be engaged in or doing well in the various educational opportunities open to them. This in turn places young people at risk of exclusion from other life opportunities such as further post school study and labour force participation.


While there have been improvements in a number of the health indicators, most notably the proportion of the population who are daily smokers and who undertake adequate levels of exercise, Queensland is going backwards on others, such as the proportion of people who are overweight or obese. The suite of health indicators used in this report paint a concerning picture for disadvantaged Queenslanders. Statistics confirm that the most disadvantaged people in society bear the greatest burden of ill health, including chronic health problems exacerbated by smoking, lack of exercise and limited access to healthy food. This can have a detrimental impact on an individual's quality of life and capacity to participate fully in society.

The capacity of Queenslanders to secure stable, appropriate and affordable housing is also an area of concern highlighted by this report. With home ownership becoming a distant dream for many households, low-income renters are increasingly finding themselves in housing stress (paying more than 30 per cent of their gross income on rent), with little left over to meet the rising cost of living. As the data shows, it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure affordable housing in Queensland due to an ongoing lack of supply of private rental accommodation and the limited number of social housing options available.

There are also significant challenges in the area of family and community. Reducing the number of children experiencing abuse and neglect is just one of the key areas requiring greater attention. Young Queenslanders affected by abuse and neglect are at risk of poor outcomes in terms of health, education and employment, which can entrench intergenerational poverty and disadvantage.

Economic

Indicator	Measure	Result	Progress over time	State and territory ranking
Poverty	Poverty rate in Queensland ²	12.5% in 2009-10	n/a	Average 4 th /6
Children in jobless households	Number of children in jobless households in Australia ³	528,900 in June 2012	n/a	n/a
Labour force participation	Labour force participation rate in Queensland ^{4,5}	65.0% in August 2013	1.1% ↓ decrease over 1 year	Average 4 th /8
	Labour force participation rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Queensland ⁶	63.1% in 2011	0.9% ↓ decrease over 1 year	High 2 nd /8
Unemployment	Unemployment rate Queensland ⁷	6.0% in August 2013	0.1% ↑ increase over 1 year	Low 6 th /8
	Unemployment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Queensland ⁸	19.5% in 2011	0.1% ↓ decrease over 1 year	Low Last /8
Long-term unemployment	Long-term unemployment ratio in Queensland ⁹	19.5% in August 2013	3.8% ↓ decrease over 1 year	Average 5 th /8
Underemployment	Underemployment rate in Queensland ¹⁰	7.8% in August qtr 2013	0.3% ↑ increase over 1 year	Average 5 th /8
Financial stress	Unable to pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time in Australia ¹¹	12.7% in 2009-10	n/a	Average 5 th /8
Financial exclusion	Proportion of the population excluded from affordable financial services in Queensland ¹²	13.4% in 2011	n/a	High 2 nd /7

 = of concern

While Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or Gross State Product (GSP) is often considered a key measure of economic success in modern economies, the indicators chosen for this framework focus on the extent to which Queenslanders are sharing the benefits of wealth and growth. Queensland data for the indicators above indicate there is some cause for concern and opportunities for improvement. Some 12.5 per cent or one in every eight Queenslanders live in poverty and while Queensland has modest income inequality (measured as the gap between the rich and poor) compared to other jurisdictions it has been steadily rising over the past 15 years.

The number of children living in jobless households has increased since the onset of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) in 2008. While there is no data readily available to show the

breakdown of the number of children in jobless households in each state and territory, nationally there were 529,000 children aged 0 to 14 living in jobless households and almost 315,000 jobless families with dependent children aged 0 to 14 in June 2012.

Labour force participation has been in decline during the past two years, coming off a peak in the participation rate between 2007 and 2011. Queensland's participation rate was 65 per cent in August 2013, slightly above the Australian average. While Queensland had the second highest workforce participation rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia in 2011, it was still 5.1 per cent below the rate for the non-Indigenous population at this time.


Queensland had the third highest rate of unemployment of any jurisdiction in August 2013 and the highest for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in 2011. Almost one in five, or 19.5 per cent, of unemployed people were unemployed for more than one year in 2011 and the rate of underemployment increased to 7.8 per cent in August 2013.

As the cost of essential services, such as electricity and gas, rise at a rate above the average Consumer Price Index (CPI), many Australians are experiencing financial stress.¹³ In 2011, 12.7 per cent of Queensland households and 14.4 per cent of low-income households could not pay an electricity, gas or phone bill on time. Financial exclusion, where people lack access to appropriate and affordable financial services and products, has been increasing nationally with 17.7 per cent of the population severely or fully excluded in 2012. More positively however, Queenslanders were the second least likely state or territory population to be excluded from financial services in 2011.

Overall, the economic data does not bode well for Queenslanders facing poverty and disadvantage. Unemployment and underemployment are increasing and the heat of the mining boom, which improved many indicators, is cooling. The focus in this area needs to be on creating job opportunities to improve outcomes for people facing poverty and disadvantage, and on ensuring adequate and targeted concessions and other supports for those experiencing unemployment, financial stress and exclusion.

Health

Indicator	Measure	Result	Progress over time	State and territory ranking
Barriers to accessing health services	Proportion of population deferring access to prescribed medication due to cost in Queensland ¹⁴	11.5% in 2011-12	0.1% ↑ increase over 1 year	Low 7 th /8
	Proportion of population deferring access to a GP due to cost in Queensland ^{15,16}	7.4% in 2011-12	2.5% ↓ decrease over 1 year	High 3 rd /8
Mental and behavioural conditions	Proportion of population with mental and behavioural conditions in Queensland ¹⁷	14.3% in 2011-12	2.7% ↑ increase over 4 years	Average 5 th /8
Long-term health conditions	Proportion of population with three or more long-term health conditions in Queensland ¹⁸	39.9% in 2011-12	1.7% ↑ increase over 4 years	Average 4 th /8
Self-assessed health status	Proportion of population with self-assessed health status as excellent/very good in Queensland ¹⁹	53.3% in 2011-12	2.0% ↑ increase over 4 years	Low Last /8
Obesity	Proportion of the population overweight or obese in Queensland ²⁰	65.4% in 2011-12	4.2% ↑ increase over 4 years	Low 6 th /8
Smoking	Proportion of the population smoking daily in Queensland ²¹	17.5% in 2011-12	4.1% ↓ decrease over 4 years	Low 6 th /8
Exercise	Proportion of the population with sedentary or low exercise levels in Queensland ²²	69.5% in 2011-12	5.7% ↓ decrease over 4 years	Low 7 th /8
Fruit and vegetable consumption	Proportion of the population with inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption in Queensland ²³	95.1% in 2011-12	0.1% ↑ increase over 4 years	Low 7 th /8
Low birthweight	Number of low birthweight babies in Queensland ²⁴	6.5 per 1,000 in 2009	n/a	Low 6 th /8
	Number of low birthweight babies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Queensland ²⁵	10.8 per 1,000 in 2009	n/a	High 2 nd /8

 = of concern

Overall, Queensland performs poorly compared to the rest of Australia when it comes to the suite of health indicators presented in this report.

The data shows that poverty and poor health are clearly linked. Research on the social determinants of health shows that the most disadvantaged people in society are more likely to have poor health outcomes. In 2006, 25 per cent of the burden of disease and injury in Queensland was associated with socioeconomic disadvantage.²⁶ On the flipside, poor

health is a risk factor for poverty and disadvantage. Clearly, without positive intervention this vicious cycle means greater costs for our health system and greater costs in human misery.

In terms of the barriers to accessing health services, the evidence is mixed. Queensland has one of the highest proportions of people deferring access to prescribed medication due to cost, with 11.5 per cent of the population deferring access in 2011-12. Queensland fares better on a similar measure of the proportion of the population deferring access to a General Practitioner (GP) due to cost. In 2011-12, 7.4 per cent of the Queensland population deferred seeing a GP due to cost, lower than in 2010-11. Cost related barriers to accessing health services are unwelcome as the lack of access may exacerbate the underlying condition increasing the severity of symptoms, the risk of secondary health problems and ultimately the cost of any subsequent treatment.

The proportion of the Queensland population who report experiencing mental and behavioural problems is increasing. In 2001, only nine per cent of Queenslanders reported experiencing a mental and behavioural problem compared to 14.3 per cent in 2011-12. Meanwhile, it has been estimated that in 2011-12, 39.9 per cent of the Queensland population had three or more long-term health conditions. While the proportion of Queenslanders with very good or excellent self-assessed health status has been relatively stable since 2001, Queensland is ranked last out of all other states and territories on this indicator. That is, in general, Queenslanders think they are less healthy than people in other states do.

On a positive note, the proportion of the Queensland population (age standardised) who are current daily smokers fell from 23.5 per cent in 2001 to 17.5 per cent in 2011-12. Unfortunately, though, smoking rates are much higher for people in low-socioeconomic areas. Twenty-three per cent of the population aged 18 or older living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage in 2011-12 in Queensland were current daily smokers compared to 19 per cent of the total population aged 18 and older (not age standardised).


Three specific social determinants of health that disproportionately affect low-income earners — being overweight or obese, undertaking low levels of exercise, and eating enough fruit and vegetables — continue to be of concern in Queensland. Obesity levels in Queensland are concerningly high and growing, with almost two-thirds of the population now considered overweight or obese. A higher proportion of the population living in the most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas have a sedentary lifestyle or undertake low levels of exercise compared to the general population, roughly four out of five people. Disadvantaged Queenslanders are overwhelmingly unlikely to be getting adequate nutrition with 97.3 per cent of people living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage failing to have adequate consumption of fruit and vegetables in 2011-12.

Another indicator that is linked to low-socioeconomic status is low birthweight. Birthweight is a key determinant of a baby's chances of good health and survival. In Queensland, babies living in the most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies were over-represented in the low birthweight statistics. It is noted however Queensland fared better than other states and territories in terms of this indicator for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

The overall picture presented in the health domain suggests there is much to be done to address the social determinants of poor health, and to close the gap in the outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. A comprehensive whole-of-government framework that acknowledges and addresses the social and economic conditions which contribute to poor health and support for the continued and sustainable growth of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health services would be positive steps forward.

Education

Indicator	Measure	Result	Progress over time	State and territory ranking
Early childhood education	Proportion of children enrolled in an early childhood education program in the year before school in Queensland ^{27,28}	77.0% in 2012	9.0% ↑ increase over 1 year	Low Last /8
	Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in an early childhood education program in Queensland ²⁹	52.0% in 2012	7.0% ↑ increase over 1 year	n/a
Developmental vulnerability	Proportion of children who are developmentally vulnerable in one or more indicator in Queensland ³⁰	26.2% in 2012	3.4% ↓ decrease over 3 years	Low 7 th /8
Reading, writing and numeracy	Proportion of the Year 3 population that do not meet the minimum standard for reading in Queensland ^{31,32}	3.5% in 2013	0.1% ↓ decrease over 1 year	Average 5 th /8
	Proportion of the Year 3 population that do not meet the minimum standard for writing in Queensland ^{33,34}	4.2% in 2013	0.6% ↓ decrease over 1 year	High 3 rd /8
	Proportion of the Year 3 population that do not meet the minimum standard for numeracy in Queensland ^{35,36}	2.7% in 2013	3.1% ↓ decrease over 1 year	Average 5 th /8
School exclusions	Number of school exclusions in Queensland ³⁷	1,331 in 2012	301 ↑ increase over 1 year	n/a
Fully engaged in education and work	Proportion of the population 15 to 19 years old who were fully engaged in education or work in Queensland ³⁸	83.1% in 2012	2.3% ↑ increase over 1 year	Low Last /8
Year 12 or equivalent	Proportion of the population 15 to 64 years old attaining a Year 12 or equivalent qualification in Queensland ³⁹	59.3% in 2012	3.2% ↑ increase over 1 year	Average 4 th /8
	Proportion of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population 15 years and older attaining a Year 12 or equivalent qualification in Queensland ⁴⁰	27.5% in 2008	n/a	High 2 nd /8
Non-school qualification	Proportion of the population 15 to 64 years old attaining a non-school qualification in Queensland ⁴¹	55.9% in 2012	0.8% ↑ increase over 1 year	Average 5 th /8
	Proportion of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population 15 to 64 years old attaining a non-school qualification in Queensland ⁴²	30.8% in 2008	n/a	Low 7 th /8

 = of concern

A positive and sustained education is important to both the individual and wider society. For many, a good education can provide a pathway out of disadvantage.

Success in education begins in early childhood, and there is strong evidence that participation in early childhood education programs has a positive impact on a person's entire life.⁴³ Enrolment in early childhood education programs in Queensland has increased significantly during the past three years. The proportion of children enrolled in an early childhood education program in 2012 was 77 per cent. Despite this improvement Queensland has the lowest enrolment rates in Australia. Enrolment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in early childhood education programs in Queensland is also lagging behind. In 2011, only 52 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were enrolled in an early childhood education program in the state.

Queensland is making headway on reducing the number of children with one or more developmental vulnerability, however it still ranks poorly against other states and territories. The proportion of Queensland children who were developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains in 2012 was 26.2 per cent, the second highest in Australia.

Queensland is also making good progress in improving the proportion of Year 3 children who meet the minimum standard for reading, writing and numeracy under the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The proportion of students who do not meet the minimum standard has decreased for each of the three areas. Queensland has made particularly good improvement in numeracy with only 2.7 per cent of the Year 3 population unable to meet the minimum standard in 2013.

Moving away from the early years and primary education, a key indicator of educational success and important for future employment and wellbeing⁴⁴ is the proportion of the population who have successfully completed Year 12 or an equivalent qualification. It is positive to see that the attainment rate for Year 12 or equivalent has been increasing over time and was 59.3 per cent in 2012 for Queenslanders aged 15 to 64. However the rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders is much lower. In 2008, 27.5 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders 15 years and older had attained Year 12 or an equivalent qualification, roughly half that of the total population.

Making the transition from school education to the workforce or non-school education can be challenging for young people. An unsuccessful transition can lead to long-term unemployment and a cycle of disadvantage.⁴⁵ Long periods outside the workforce or full-time education affects the development of a person's skills and important employment experiences.⁴⁶ The proportion of young people fully engaged in education or work in Queensland was 83.1 per cent in 2012. While this has increased during the past four years, it should be noted that the rate was higher in 2002 and between 2005 and 2008. It is also important to note that Queensland ranked last compared to the other states and territories in 2012 on this measure.


The proportion of Queenslanders with a non-school qualification (a certificate, diploma, degree or post-graduate qualification) grew steadily between 2006 and 2012. In Queensland 55.9 per cent of people have a non-school qualification, which is slightly lower than the Australian average. This is another area where there is a correlation between socioeconomic disadvantage and attainment. As the data shows, 66.2 per cent of the population with a non-school qualification live in areas of most advantage, compared to 48.1 per cent of the population living in areas of greatest disadvantage.

Data from 2008 on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population shows a much lower proportion of the population with a non-school qualification, at only 30.8 per cent in Queensland and 32.2 per cent nationally. In addition, the further away from an urban centre a person lived the less likely they were to have a non-school qualification, which is a significant issue for Queensland given the state's dispersed population and geography.

Clearly progress is being made in education, but more needs to be done. Further investment is needed in the provision of high quality early childhood education programs for disadvantaged communities to lift enrolments and ensure positive outcomes. Evidence suggests that there is a need to target assistance not just at young people who are the active participants in education interventions but also their families who have a strong influence on the quality of outcomes.⁴⁷

Housing

Indicator	Measure	Result	Progress over time	State and territory ranking
Housing tenure	Proportion of households who are renters in Queensland ⁴⁸	33.1% in 2011-12	1.2% ↑ increase over 1 year	Low 7 th /8
Home ownership	Price to income ratio in Queensland ⁴⁹	6.7 (unaffordable) in 2011	2.2 ↑ increase over 10 years	Average 4 th /8
Dwelling completions	Dwelling completions in Queensland	n/a	n/a	n/a
Housing affordability	Proportion of gross income spent on housing costs by low-income households in Queensland ⁵⁰	21.0% in 2011-12	3% ↓ decrease over 1 year	Average 5 th /8
Housing stress	Proportion of low-income households in housing stress (paying more than 30 per cent of income on housing) in Queensland ⁵¹	45.5% in 2011-12	3.2% ↑ increase over 2 years	Low Last /8
Social housing	Number of social housing dwellings in Queensland ⁵²	14.3 per 1,000 in 2011	0.5 ↑ increase over 1 year	Low 7 th /8
Homelessness	Proportion of the population who are homeless in Queensland ⁵³	0.5% in 2011	n/a	Low 6 th /8
	Proportion of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population who are homeless in Queensland ⁵⁴	3.1% in 2011	n/a	Average 4 th /8

 = of concern

Shelter is a fundamental human right, and equitable access to secure and adequate housing is an important factor enabling social and economic participation. It is clear that people on low incomes struggle to access affordable housing, which affects many other facets of their lives.

There are many documented benefits of home ownership which include building long-term financial wealth, security, control and stability.⁵⁵ It is unfortunate therefore that Queensland has the second highest proportion of renters compared to other states and territories, with 31.9 per cent of households being renters in 2011-12. While many Queenslanders hope to own their own home the reality is that home ownership is increasingly unaffordable. In 2011, housing was classified as 'not affordable' in Queensland using the price to income ratio. Ten years earlier housing was classified as affordable in Queensland using the same measure.

A significant factor in the lack of affordable housing is the overall lack of supply. This can be seen in the decline in the number of dwelling completions when compared to the increase in

the overall population. During the past 12 years dwelling completions have not kept pace with the increase in the Queensland population.

The burden of unaffordable housing is falling disproportionately on low-income households. In 2011-12, low-income households spent on average 21 per cent of their income on housing compared to 15 per cent for all other households. At the same time, a significant number of low-income households are defined as being in housing stress because they pay more than 30 per cent of their income on housing. In 2011-12, 45.5 per cent of low-income households in Queensland spent more than 30 per cent of their gross income on housing costs. This is the highest rate of any state or territory.

In this context the assistance provided by government in the form of social housing is critical. Although the number of dwellings available through social housing in Queensland has increased, this has not kept pace with population growth. The number of dwellings per 1,000 of the total population has actually declined from 2003 to 2011¹. Despite increased demand for social housing, Queensland recorded the second lowest ratio of social housing to population of social housing in Australia in 2011.

Soaring house prices, a limited supply of social housing, a tight private rental market and a disconnect between dwelling completions and population growth all combine to make affordable housing increasingly unattainable for Queenslanders on a low income. In these circumstances it is no surprise that many more people are finding themselves without adequate or stable accommodation and on the path to homelessness.


In 2011, 19,800 Queenslanders or almost half of one per cent of the total population were homeless. To put it in perspective, that's about the same number of people as the population of Gympie. Queensland had the third highest proportion of the total population who were homeless of all states and territories in 2011.

Generating improvements in access to housing and reducing homelessness will require an urgent and concerted effort to increase the supply of affordable housing. The extension of strategies such as the National Rental Affordability Scheme, investment in additional social housing in Queensland, and the continuation of state and federal partnership arrangements and investments to end homelessness is required.

¹ Per 1,000 of the resident population calculations rely on total population data supplied within the Report on Government Services published by the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision.

Family and community

Indicator	Measure	Result	Progress over time	State and territory ranking
Volunteering	Volunteering rate in Queensland ⁵⁶	35.4% in 2010	2.4% ↓ decrease over 4 years	Low 7 th /8
Social cohesion	Acceptance of minorities and newcomers in Australia ⁵⁷	78.6% in 2012	3.3% ↑ increase over 1 year	n/a
Imprisonment	Crude imprisonment rate in Queensland ⁵⁸	158.9 per 100,000 in 2012	1.1% ↑ increase over 1 year	Average 4 th /8
	Ratio of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander to non-Indigenous prisoners in Queensland ⁵⁹	11.3 in 2012	0.5 ↓ decrease over 1 year	High 2 nd /8
Crime victimisation	Rate of sexual assaults in Queensland ⁶⁰	0.2% in 2011-12	0.0% ↔ steady over 1 year	High 1 st /8
Child maltreatment	Rate of substantiations of neglect or harm (0 to 17 years) in Queensland ⁶¹	6.5 per 1,000 in 2011-12	0.9 ↑ increase over 1 year	High 3 rd /8
	Rate of substantiations of neglect or harm for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population (0 to 17 years) in Queensland ⁶²	28.0 per 1,000 in 2011-12	3.4 ↑ increase over 1 year	High 3 rd /8
Suicide	Suicide rate in Queensland ⁶³	12.7 per 100,000 in 2006-10	0.4 ↓ decrease over 5 years	Average 5 th /8
	Suicide rate for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Queensland ⁶⁴	22.5 per 100,000 in 2001-10	n/a	High 2 nd /5
	Youth suicide rate in Queensland ⁶⁵	1.8 per 100,000 in 2011-12	0.2 ↓ decrease over 1 year	n/a

 = of concern

The indicators included in this domain attempt to draw out key issues related to poverty and disadvantage for families and communities. One of the difficulties however, is that there is too little data available to measure the strength of families and communities, and much more data which indicates the problems families or communities are experiencing. This results in a 'deficit' approach to measuring the wellbeing of communities that perhaps understates levels of resilience and community spirit. New indicators have been developed to counter

this, but measurement relies on community surveys which have not, to date, been systematically undertaken.

Two of the more positive indicators of family and community wellbeing in this framework are volunteering and social cohesion. While we hold up images such as the Mud Army as representative of our state and how Queenslanders respond in exceptional circumstances, surprisingly Queensland had the second lowest rate of volunteering in Australia in 2010 at 35.4 per cent. This is a reality check for our visions of ourselves, and an area where there is potential for further development.

Social cohesion can be viewed as a positive indicator of wellbeing because high levels of this result in communities with shared goals, responsibilities and a readiness to co-operate with other community members.⁶⁶ Unfortunately, while we have included this measure in the framework, Queensland-specific data is not available. At a national scale it appears there is a growing challenge facing communities in the acceptance of minority groups and newcomers. While there was a small increase over the past year, the rate of acceptance fell significantly between 2007 and 2012.

A poor outcome for individuals, families and communities that is closely linked to poverty and disadvantage is imprisonment. Queensland recorded a small increase in the imprisonment rate between 2011 and 2012 with 158.9 prisoners per 100,000 of the population in 2012. This is disappointing as it is the first increase in many years on the back of a general decline since 2006. Even more disappointing is the over-representation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the prison population. The ratio of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners to non-Indigenous prisoners has been steadily increasing since 2002. For every non-Indigenous prisoner there were 11.3 Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander prisoners in 2012.

Looking at how well families are faring, sadly the rate of substantiations for child maltreatment in Queensland increased from 5.4 per 1,000 of the population in 2010-11 to 6.5 per 1,000 in 2011-12. This has come after a period of decline in the rate of substantiations between 2004-05 and 2010-11. In 2011-12, Queensland had the third lowest rate of substantiations of the eight states and territories. Unfortunately, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are over-represented at all stages of the child protection system, and this over-representation continues to increase. In Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are around five times more likely to be subject to a notification, six times more likely to be subject to a substantiation and almost nine times more likely to be living away from home.

The suicide rate in Queensland declined marginally during the period 2001-2010 from 13.1 per 100,000 suicides to 12.7 per 100,000. Queensland's rate was the fourth highest of the eight states and territories in the 2006-2010 period, making it higher than the national average. Suicide rates are excessively high in regional areas of Queensland and among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations of Queensland.

Early intervention and targeted family support services are critical to reducing the number of children who come into contact with the child protection system. This includes the provision of family support services that are culturally appropriate and targeted to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Essential to this is providing education and employment opportunities for the most disadvantaged in our communities to ensure they have the resources needed to avoid poverty and disadvantage.

What next?

QCOSS will use this report to advocate for improvements in policy and programs addressing issues for Queenslanders experiencing poverty and disadvantage. Our work going forward is to further develop and explore the links between indicators, to incorporate further evidence and recommendations about strategies and approaches which could be effective in achieving better outcomes, and to reassess the data to see what change is occurring at appropriate intervals.

We propose that the Queensland Government use this indicator framework as a tool to assess where their efforts should be focussed to ensure the great opportunities on offer in this state are accessible to all Queenslanders, and that poverty and disadvantage is tackled at every possible turn.

Economic

The economic wellbeing of individuals and households provides an important foundation for overall wellbeing by improving financial security and living standards, access to housing, health and education, and opportunities for social engagement. Conversely, and as will be evidenced through this report, individuals and families living in poverty or on low incomes are more likely to experience poorer outcomes across all these areas. Higher levels of income inequality in a community has also been shown to result in a range of poor social outcomes impacting not only the poor, but the whole community. The indicators chosen for this domain focus on the extent to which all Queenslanders are sharing the benefits of the state's economic prosperity and opportunities.

Indicators: poverty line; children in jobless households; labour force participation; unemployment; long-term unemployment; underemployment; financial stress; financial exclusion.

Poverty

The incidence of income poverty in a community is based on the proportion of people who live under the 'poverty line'. The poverty line is calculated as 50 per cent of disposable (after tax) median household income. Individuals earning below this level of income are viewed as being in poverty. The poverty line is calculated after accounting for housing costs, this excludes households who own their own home and have much lower housing costs.⁶⁷

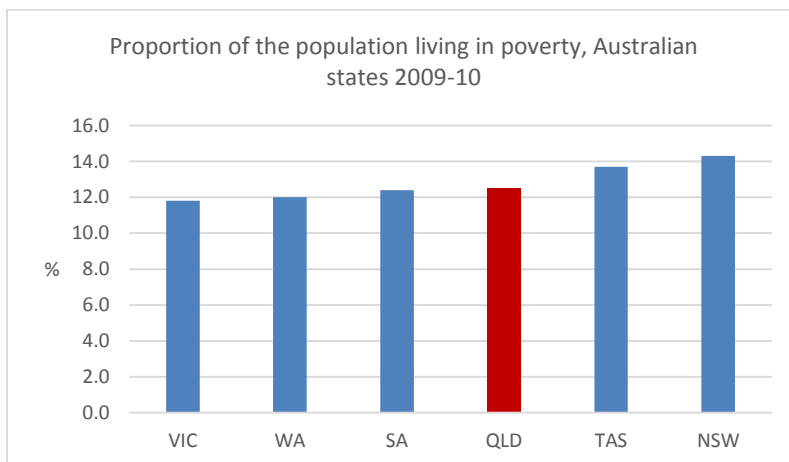
Why is this important?

While the poverty line is a relative indicator it is nevertheless important because it demonstrates the level of income inequality within society. Income equality is important for stable societies. When income inequality is high there is a greater divide between the rich and the poor. Greater income inequality has been shown to result in a range of poor social outcomes, including physical health, mental health, drug abuse, education, imprisonment, obesity, social mobility, trust and community life, violence, teenage pregnancies, and child wellbeing.⁶⁸

How are we faring?

In 2009-10, it was estimated that the poverty line for: a single person was \$358 per week; a couple with no children \$537 per week; a lone parent with two children \$573 per week; and a couple with two children \$752 per week.⁶⁹

While it is not possible to show Queensland's progress over time (as this is the first time this methodology has been used to estimate poverty) data shows that 431,000 people or 12.5 per cent of the Queensland population were living in poverty in 2009-10. Queensland ranked about average when compared to other states (territory data is not available).



Source: ACOSS 2012. *Poverty in Australia*.⁷⁰

Children in jobless households

Jobless households are households where no parent or dependent above the age of 15 is employed. In jobless households all members are either unemployed or not in the labour force.

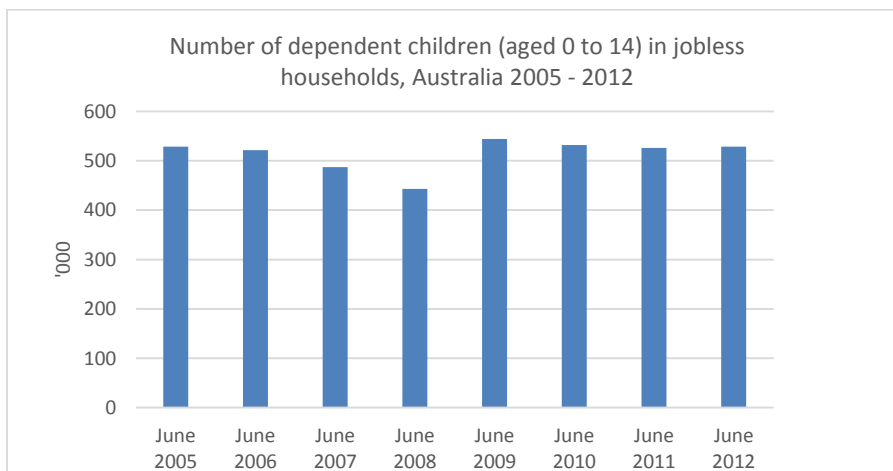
Why is this important?

In 2009, it was estimated that almost 70 per cent of poor children in Australia lived in jobless families.⁷¹ This is a significant issue facing society as the incidence of children in jobless households has both short and long-term negative impacts. Evidence suggests, for example, that family joblessness creates greater reliance and dependence on welfare and results in poor health and life satisfaction outcomes. There is also evidence to suggest that parental income and background has an impact on the welfare and life opportunities of children living in this situation, contributing to the likelihood of intergenerational poverty.⁷² It has also been suggested that an increase in the unemployment rate results in an increase in the number of children with behavioural or emotional problems.⁷³

How are we faring?

State and territory data on the number of children in jobless households is not readily available. It would be useful if this data was regularly collated and published as it is important to show the incidence of children in jobless families to reveal the extent of the problem.

Australian data shows there were approximately 528,900 children living in jobless households in 2012. While this number is roughly the same as it was in June 2005, it did decline to 443,400 in 2008 but has increased since.



Source: ABS 2012. *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6224.0.55.001⁷⁴

Labour force participation

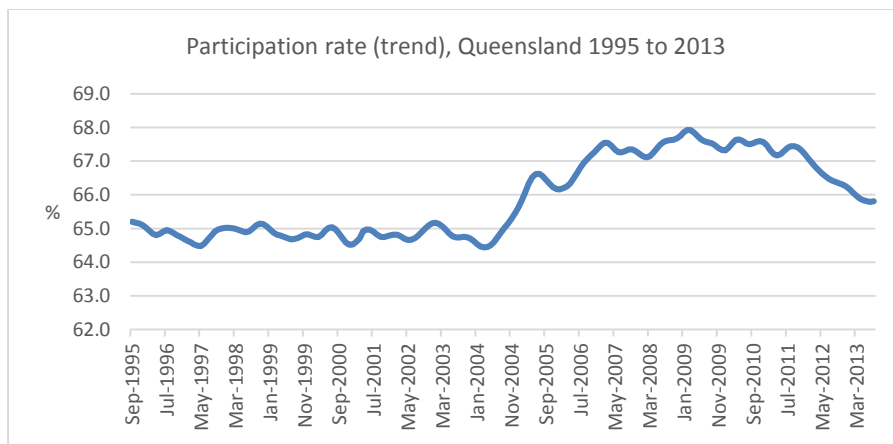
The labour force participation rate measures the proportion of the population engaged in or actively looking for paid work. It is the ratio of the total number of people employed plus unemployed people actively looking for work per the civilian population aged 15 and older.

Why is this important?

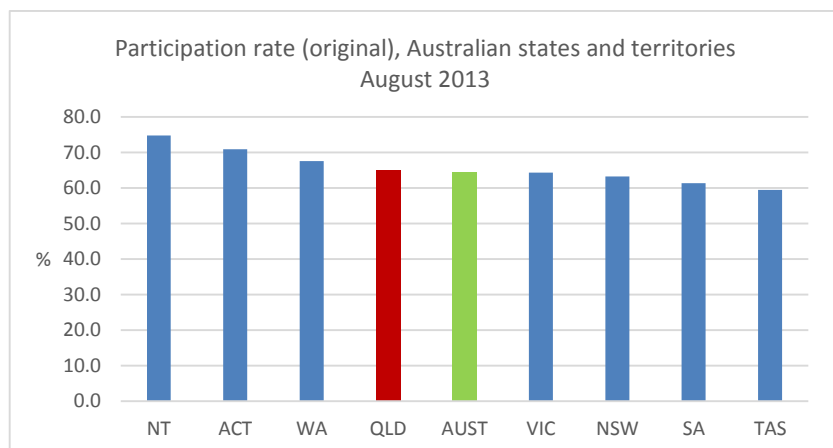
Greater labour force participation has positive impacts on the economy as it affects Australia's overall economic growth. When more people participate in the workforce this increases the total number of hours worked with potentially positive impacts on overall GDP.⁷⁵ Labour force participation also has important impacts on individuals. Participation can improve wellbeing by improving financial security, self-esteem and social engagement.⁷⁶ As Australia's population ages, it is expected that the labour force participation rate will fall, creating significant pressure on the government's ability to fund adequate services.⁷⁷

How are we faring?

The labour force participation rate has been in decline during the past two years coming off a peak between 2007 and 2011. Queensland's participation rate, which was 65 per cent in August 2013, ranked fourth out of the eight states and territories, slightly above the Australian average.



Source: ABS *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0⁷⁸



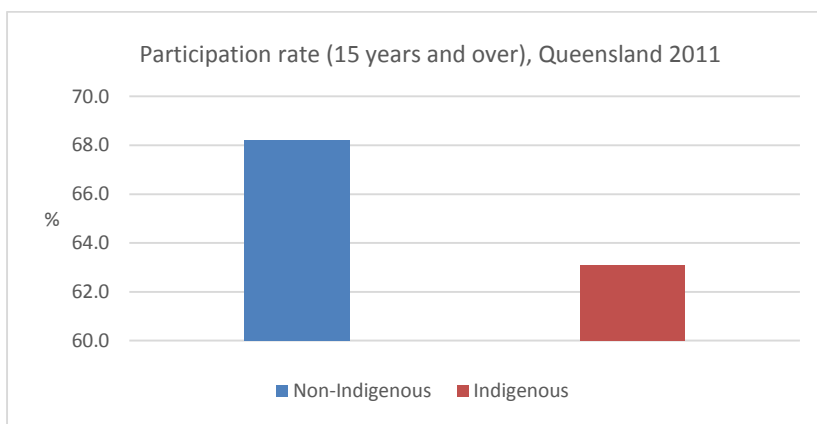
Source: ABS *Labour Force* cat. no. 6202.0⁷⁹

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander labour force participation

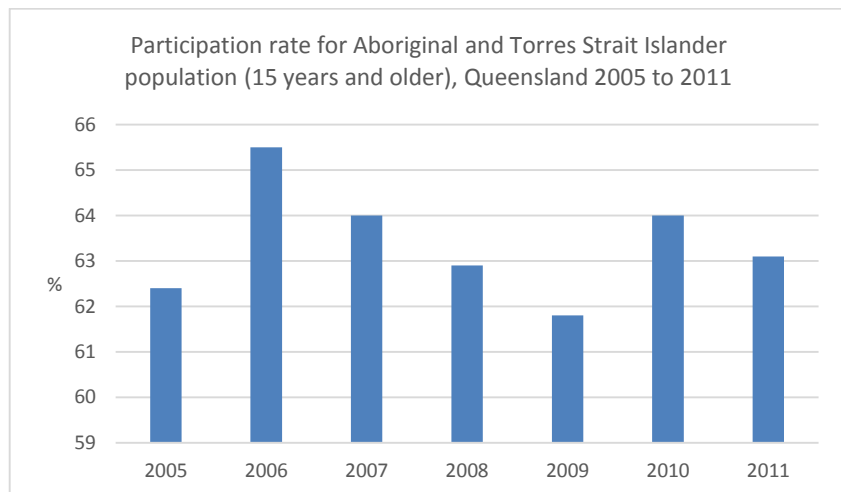
Given the positive impact of employment on economic and social wellbeing, it is important that labour force participation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is also adequate.

Labour force participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples lags behind the rate for the non-Indigenous population. Based on the most current data available⁸⁰ it has been estimated that the participation rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Queensland was 63.1 per cent compared to 68.2 percent for the non-Indigenous population in 2011. The participation rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Queensland over time is showing signs of decline.

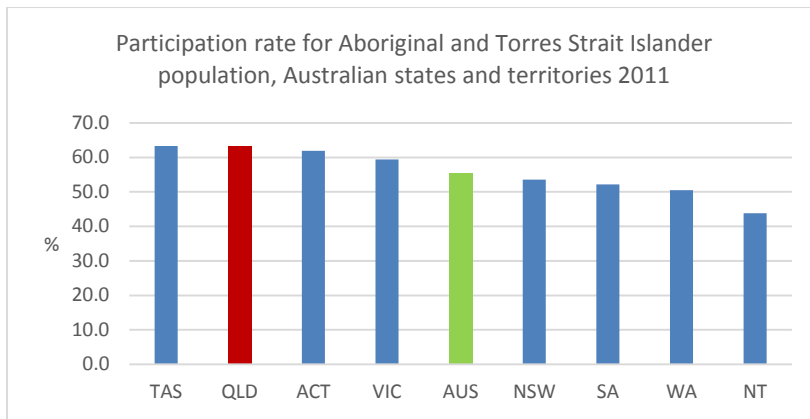
While the labour force participation rate for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is low in Queensland, when compared to all other states and territories, Queensland ranked well, second only to Tasmania in 2011.



Source: ABS *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians* cat. no. 6287.0⁸¹



Source: ABS *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians* cat. no. 6287.0⁸²



Source: ABS *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians* cat. no. 6287.0⁸³

Please note: Comparison of any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous labour market statistics within this report should always be done with caution as differences in age structure can provide misleading results. This is because the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population has a younger age structure. While it is possible to remove the effect of the differences in age structures through age-standardisation this data is not available.

Unemployment

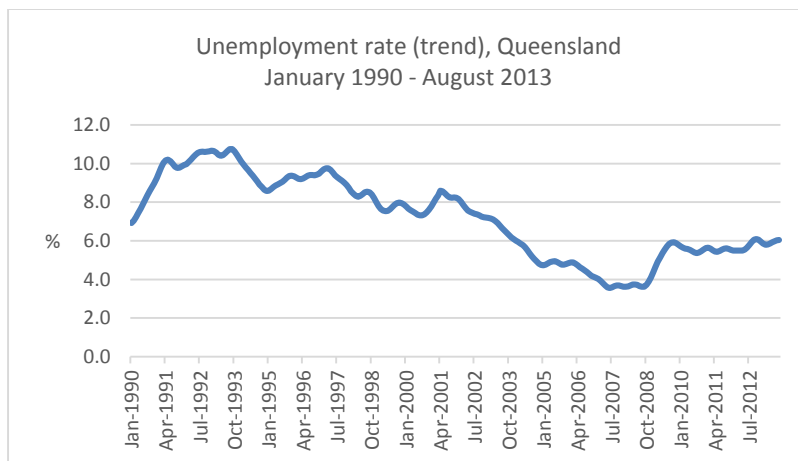
The unemployment rate is the proportion of the population 15 years and older who are not employed but are actively looking for and available for employment.⁸⁴

Why is this important?

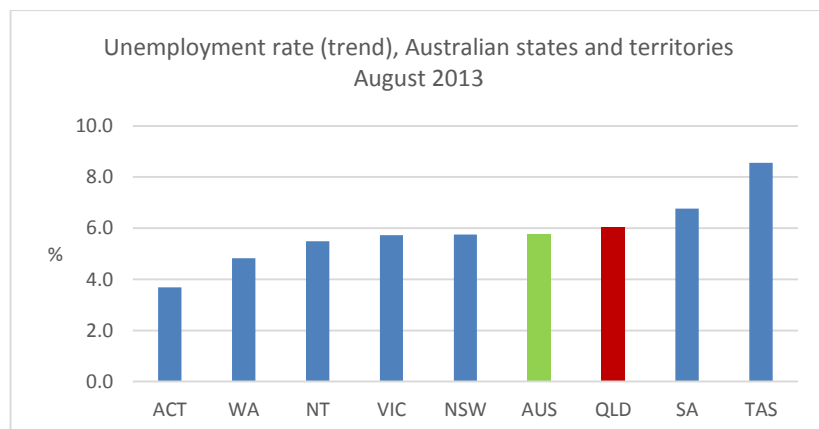
The unemployment rate is used to show the overall condition of the labour market. A low unemployment rate signifies high demand for labour and gives a general indication of how easy it may be for an individual to access employment at any given time. Individual and household unemployment has significant short and long-term impacts. Individuals who are unemployed are at greater risk of poverty and other detrimental impacts on their health and psychological wellbeing.⁸⁵ High unemployment also has important impacts on the economy, reducing GDP and public funds.

How are we faring?

Queensland's unemployment rate was six per cent in August 2013. Unemployment has increased sharply from record lows during the peak of the mining boom in 2007 when unemployment was around four per cent. Queensland has a relatively high unemployment rate compared to other states and territories. Only Tasmania and South Australia had higher rates of unemployment.



Source: ABS *Labour Force* cat. no. 6202.0⁸⁶

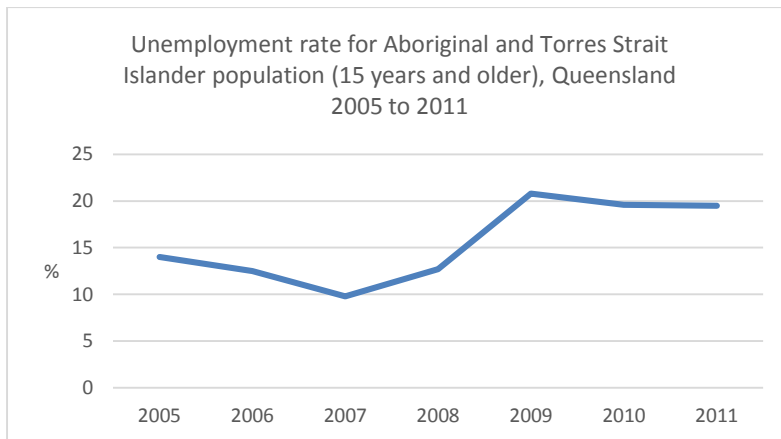


Source: ABS *Labour Force* cat. no. 6202.0⁸⁷

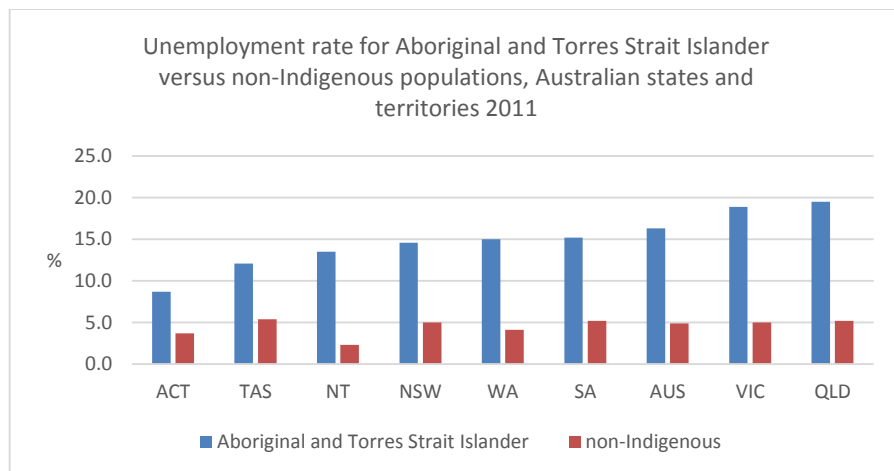
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander unemployment

The unemployment rate for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population exceeds that of the general population, fluctuating between 10 and 20 per cent in Queensland from 2005 to 2011. There has been a significant increase in the rate since 2007 when the level of unemployment was historically low.

Queensland ranked last out of all other states and territories in 2011 when comparing the unemployment rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples throughout Australia. It is unacceptable that the unemployment rate for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is almost four times that of the non-Indigenous population in Queensland.



Source: ABS Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians cat. no. 6287.0⁸⁸



Source: ABS Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians cat. no. 6287.0⁸⁹

Long-term unemployment

Long-term unemployment is a situation in which a job seeker has been looking for work and unemployed for more than 52 weeks. The long-term unemployment ratio measures the proportion of the unemployed population who have been looking for work for longer than this period.

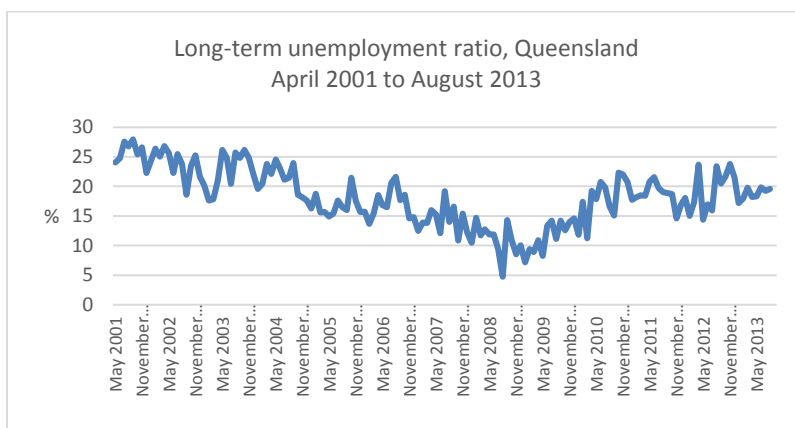
Why is this important?

Long-term unemployment is a significant issue. People experiencing long-term unemployment are more likely to experience economic hardship; are at greater risk of living in poverty; are more likely to become disconnected from the labour market; and are at a higher risk of becoming socially excluded. Continued unemployment is problematic because it contributes to an erosion of skills and social networks which are essential to gaining meaningful employment in the future. The longer individuals are unemployed the more entrenched they become in poverty and disadvantage.⁹⁰

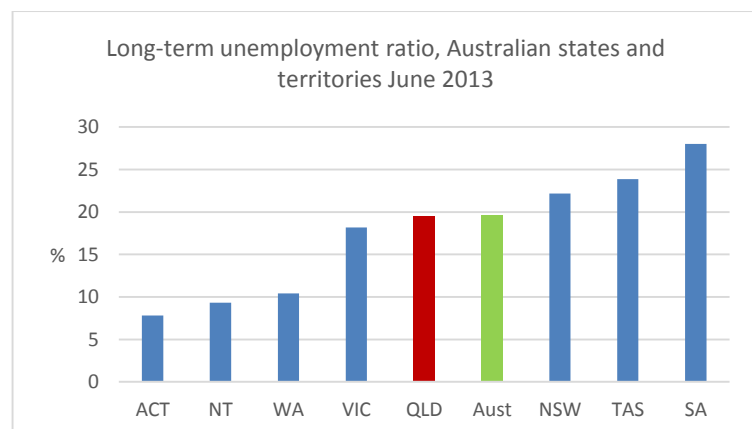
How are we faring?

The long-term unemployment ratio for Queensland in August 2013 was 19.5 per cent. This ratio has been increasing for the past five years after falling to a low of 3.7 per cent in August 2008.

Comparing across the eight states and territories, Queensland ranked fifth in regards to the proportion of the unemployed who were long-term unemployed in June 2013.



Source: ABS *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6291.0.55.001⁹¹



Source: ABS *Labour Force, Australia*, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001⁹²

Underemployment

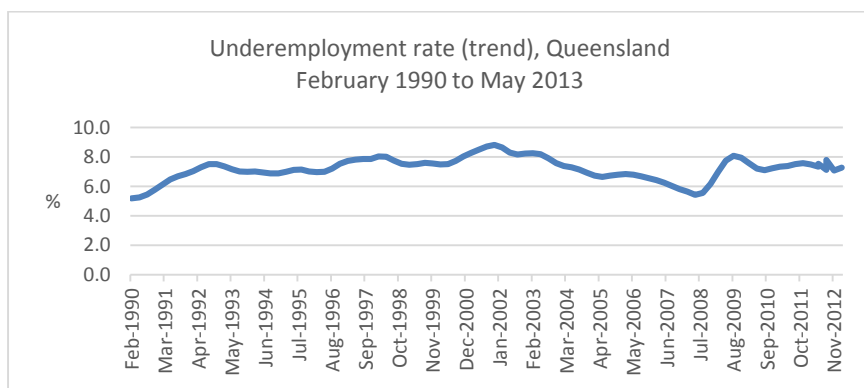
The underemployment rate is the proportion of the working population who want to and are available to work more hours than they currently do. This includes people employed part-time who want to work more hours and people employed full-time who work part-time for economic reasons, such as being stood down or because of insufficient work.⁹³

Why is this important?

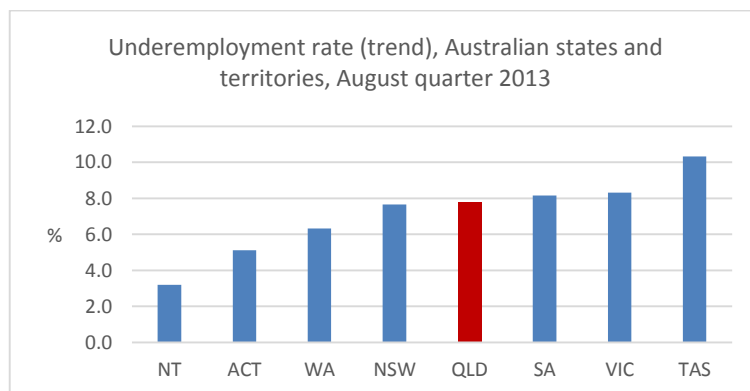
The underemployment rate measures labour underutilisation in the labour market. Underemployment provides a more nuanced view of labour demand than can be found in unemployment data because it shows if there is a general move away from full-time towards more part-time and casual employment.⁹⁴ While many people enjoy the flexibility that part-time and casual employment provides, a rising underemployment rate may reflect a situation in which individuals are not obtaining the hours or wages they require. Underemployment can have negative impacts for individuals and households, making it difficult to secure decent and appropriate housing.⁹⁵

How are we faring?

Queensland's underemployment rate declined to nearly five per cent at the height of the mining boom after a long period of steady increase. Since this time the underemployment rate increased sharply and was 7.8 per cent in the August quarter of 2013. When compared to other states and territories Queensland had an average underemployment rate.



Source: ABS *Labour Force* cat. no. 6202.0⁹⁶



Source: ABS *Labour Force* cat. no. 6202.0⁹⁷

Financial stress

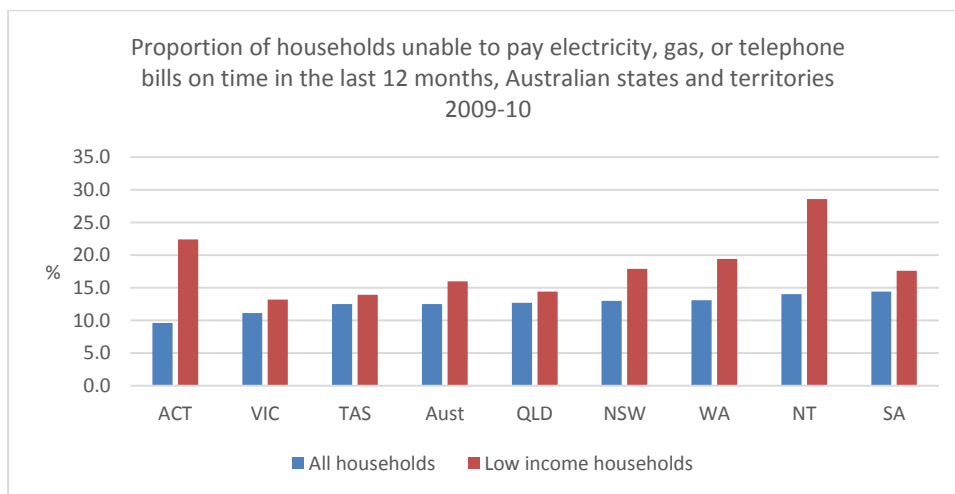
A number of measures can be used as a proxy for financial stress. QCOSS has chosen the proportion of the population unable to pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time as an indicator of financial stress.

Why is this important?

Financial stress indicators help us to understand the level of economic wellbeing in a community. Being able to pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time can indicate: if a person's income is adequate to meet living costs; whether an individual has access to resources, such as savings or assets to smooth out fluctuations in income and expenditure; or the level of financial literacy or money management skills held by an individual. When households struggle to pay bills on time, this can not only disrupt the delivery of vital services but also lead to extra costs associated with late payment fees and service disconnection and reconnection charges.

How are we faring?

Almost 12.7 per cent of the Queensland population reported that they were unable to pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time in a 12-month period in 2009-10. Low-income households in Queensland fared much worse with 14.4 per cent reporting they were unable to pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time in the same period. When compared with other states and territories Queensland ranks about average.



Source: ABS Household Expenditure Survey⁹⁸

Financial exclusion

This indicator is a measure of the proportion of the population excluded from accessing affordable financial services. Financial exclusion exists where people lack access to appropriate and affordable financial services and products – this includes a transaction account, general insurance and a moderate amount of credit.

Why is this important?

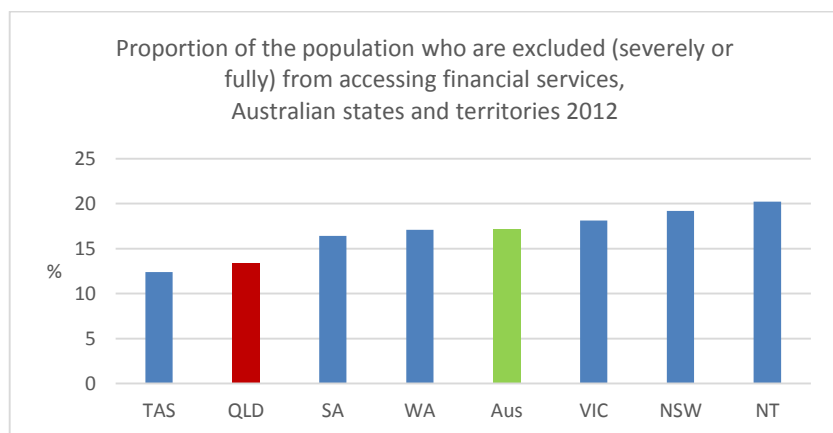
Affordable financial services are essential for economic participation and security. A transaction account is essential to managing day-to-day transactions, income and payments. Credit enables access to goods or services that are beyond the monthly budgets such as vehicles and furniture. The risk is that disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals will turn to alternative credit providers who charge significantly higher repayment rates for credit services. Insurance provides a means of protecting assets and managing risk.⁹⁹

How are we faring?

The level of financial exclusion in Australia has grown between 2008 and 2012, with 17.7 per cent of the population severely or fully excluded from accessing financial services in 2012. While data for states and territories is not reported on an ongoing basis¹⁰⁰, data from the 2012 report shows that Queensland fares quite well when compared to the rest of Australia with regard to the proportion of the population severely or fully excluded from accessing financial services.



Source: CSI and NAB Measuring Financial Exclusion in Australia.¹⁰¹



Source: CSI and NAB Measuring Financial Exclusion in Australia¹⁰²

Health

Poverty and ill health are clearly linked. Research on the social determinants of health shows that the most disadvantaged in society bear the greatest burden of ill health. That is, the more disadvantaged you are, the more likely you are to have one or more health issues.¹⁰³ Subsequently, poor health is a risk factor for poverty and disadvantage. Compared to those who have social and economic advantages, disadvantaged Australians are more likely to have shorter lives, greater health risks (caused by smoking more and higher rates of obesity) and a greater burden-of-disease.¹⁰⁴ In 2006 in Queensland, 25 per cent of the burden of disease and injury was associated with socioeconomic disadvantage.¹⁰⁵

Indicators: barriers to accessing health services; mental and behavioural conditions; long-term health conditions; self-assessed health status; obesity; smoking; level of exercise; fruit and vegetable consumption; low birthweight.

Barriers to accessing health services

Cost can be a barrier to accessing health-related goods and services. This indicator is measured in two ways in this report - the proportion of the population putting off the purchase of prescribed medication due to cost and the proportion who defer a visit to a GP due to cost.

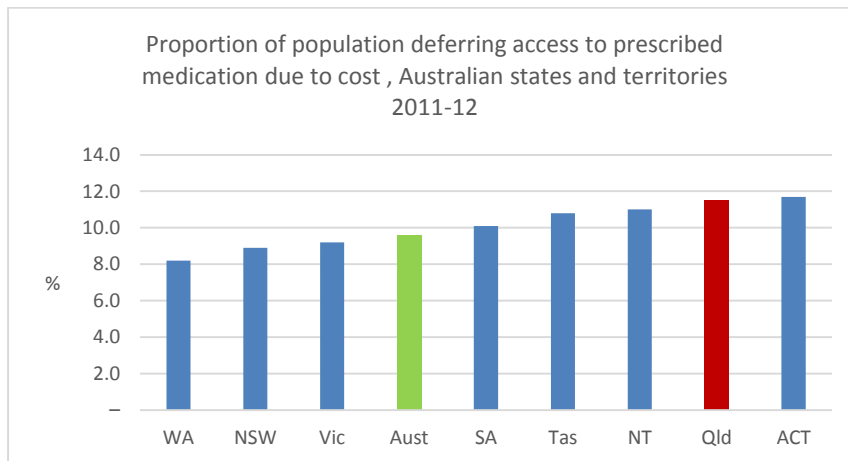
Why is this important?

Equitable access to affordable health care is important for promoting wellbeing and reducing future health care costs. Many health conditions or illnesses require early intervention and ongoing monitoring. Some people miss out on health services or access them too late for effective preventative intervention or treatment. This leads to high usage and health care costs at the acute end of the health care continuum. If the socially excluded and those at risk accessed hospitals at the same (lower) rate as the average Australian, it would mean savings of nearly a quarter of the total public hospital budget (\$1.22 billion for the socially excluded and \$773 million for at risk groups).¹⁰⁶

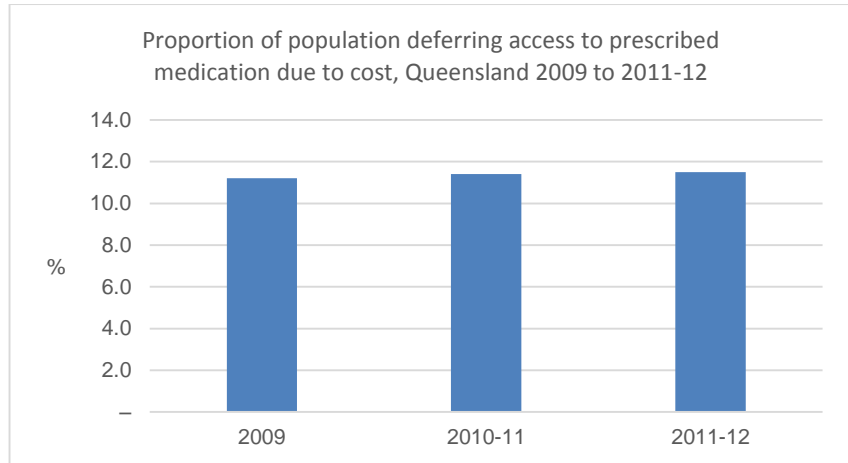
How are we faring?

Queensland has one of the highest proportions of people who deferred access to prescribed medication due to cost in 2011-12, with only the ACT having a higher proportion. Over time there has been a slight increase in the proportion of the Queensland population deferring access to prescribed medication, with some 11.5 per cent of the population deferring in 2011-12.

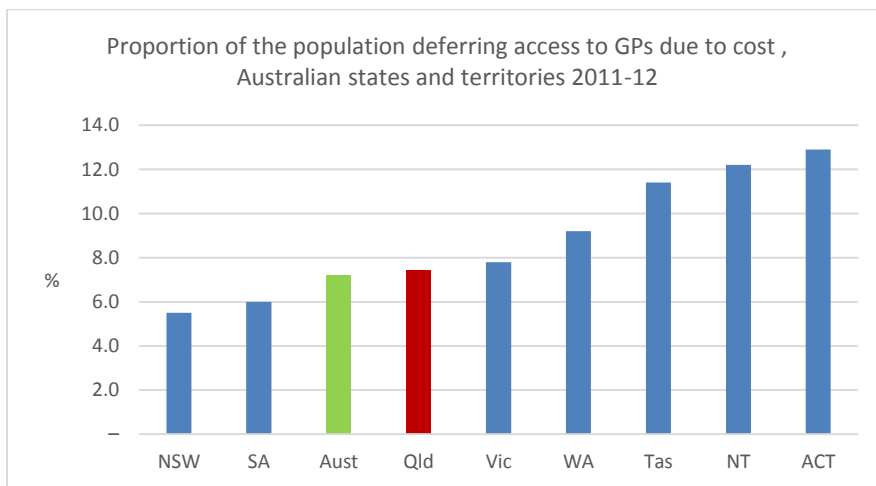
Queensland fares better when compared to the other states and territories with regard to deferring access to a GP due to cost. In 2011-12, 7.4 per cent of the Queensland population deferred seeing a GP due to cost, which was lower than the 9.9 per cent who reported doing so in 2010-11.



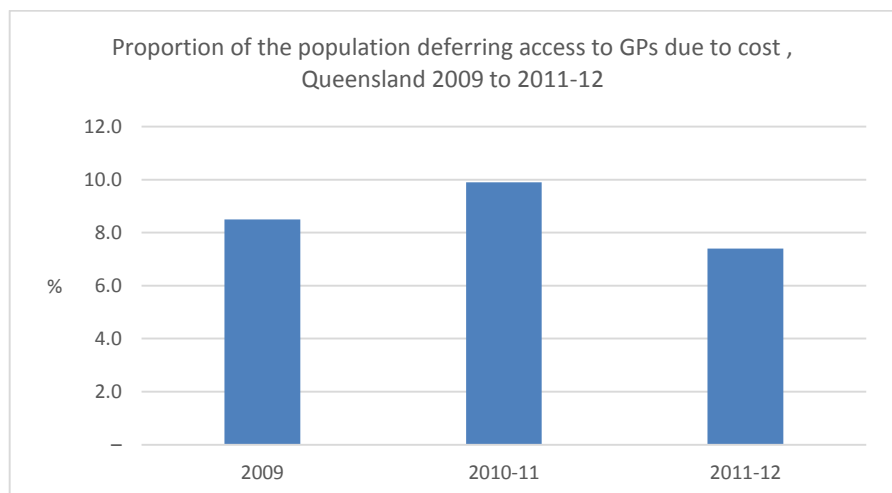
Source: *Productivity Commission Report on Government Services*¹⁰⁷



Source: Productivity Commission Report on Government Services¹⁰⁸



Source: Productivity Commission Report on Government Services¹⁰⁹



Source: Productivity Commission Report on Government Services¹¹⁰

Mental and behavioural conditions

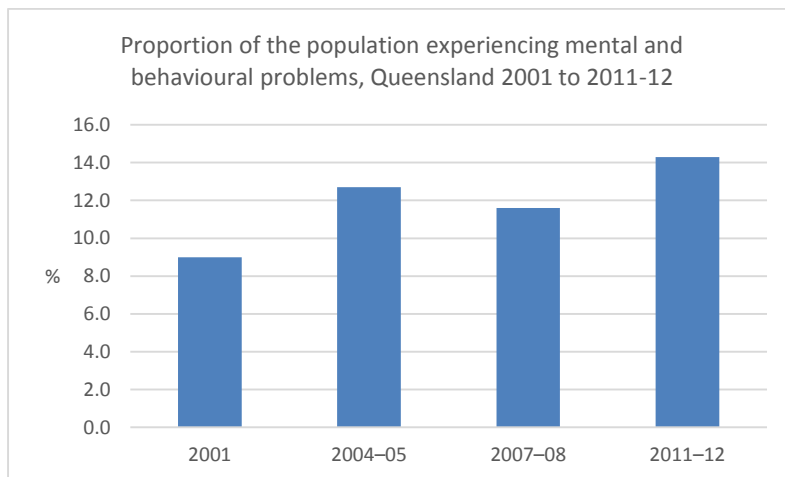
Mental and behavioural conditions comprise a broad range of disorders, including depression, anxiety disorders, dementia and substance abuse, as well as other psychological, emotional and behavioural conditions.¹¹¹

Why is this important?

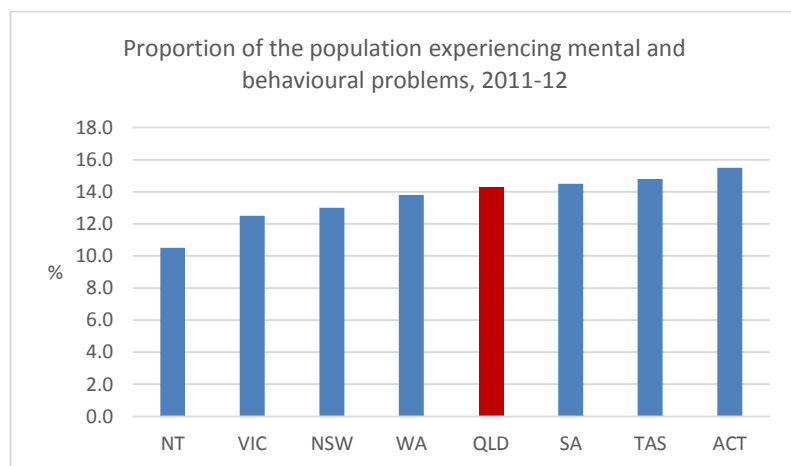
Research has shown a link between mental and behavioural conditions, and poverty.¹¹² In 2011-12, three million Australians reported having a mental and behavioural condition. These conditions affect almost every aspect of people’s lives, including family and relationships, employment, housing, and physical health.

How are we faring?

The proportion of Queenslanders experiencing mental and behavioural problems increased to 14.3 per cent in 2011-12 from only nine per cent in 2001. Queensland is one of four states and territories where the proportion of the population experiencing mental and behavioural problems exceeds 14 per cent.



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹¹³



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹¹⁴

Please note: Data from the ABS Australian Health Survey was conducted from a sample of approximately 15,600 private dwellings across Australia. Importantly, very remote areas of Australia and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities were excluded from this survey. These exclusions have significant impact on the results in the Northern Territory and as such caution must be used in comparing between states and territories.

Long-term health conditions

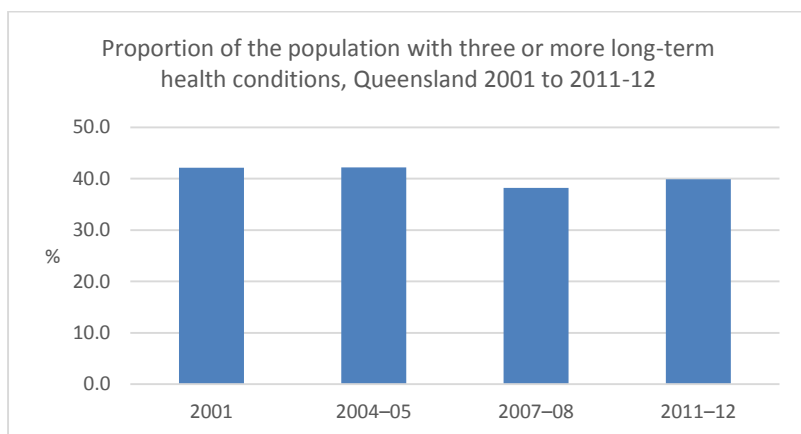
In this measure we report the proportion of the population with three or more long-term health conditions. A long-term health condition is an illness, injury or disability which has lasted, or the respondent expects will last, for at least six months. This includes asthma, arthritis, cancer, osteoporosis, diabetes, sight problems, rheumatic heart disease, heart attack, angina, heart failure and stroke.

Why is this important?

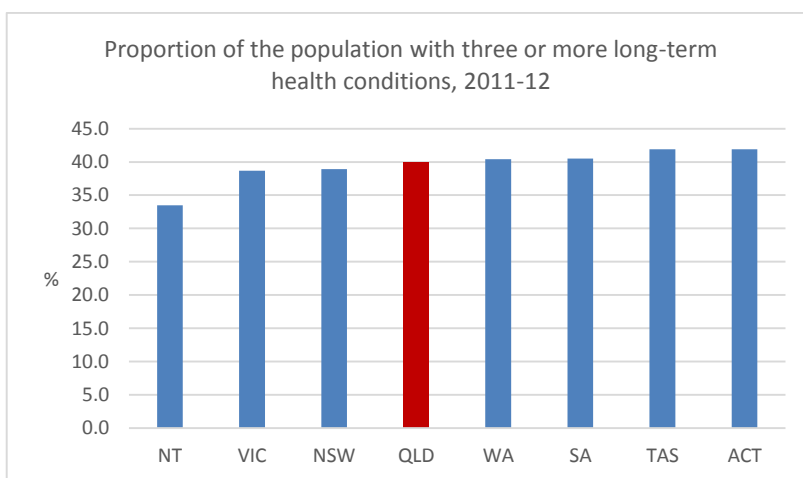
There is a clear link between poverty and chronic health conditions. In 2006 in Queensland, 25 per cent of the burden of disease and injury was associated with socioeconomic disadvantage.¹¹⁵ Along the same lines, the risk factors for a range of long-term health conditions are ones that people in poverty are proportionally more affected by. For example, about a third of the burden of disease and injury in Queensland in 2007 was due to 13 environmental, social, physiological and lifestyle risk factors, such as high body mass and physical inactivity, which disproportionately affect people with lower-socioeconomic status.¹¹⁶ Reducing the effect of chronic long-term health conditions in Queensland would have a significant economic benefit.¹¹⁷

How are we faring?

In 2011-12, it was estimated that 39.9 per cent of the Queensland population had three or more long-term health conditions - a slight decline of two per cent since 2001.¹¹⁸ Queensland's rate is average when compared to the rest of Australia.



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹¹⁹



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹²⁰

Self-assessed health status

This measure is based on people’s general assessment of their own health on a five point scale. Data is collected from respondents aged 15 years and older, on the question: "In general, would you say your health is: excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?".

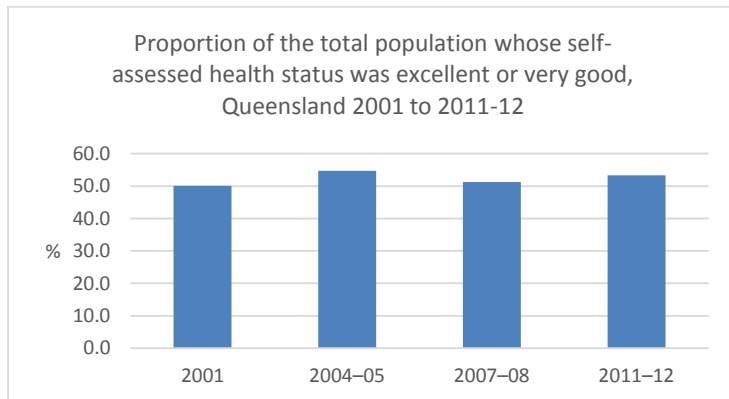
Why is this important?

This is a commonly used measure of health status and is often conceived as a proxy measure of actual health status. While not the same as health status assessed by a medical professional, it gives information about people’s perceptions of their health, and is also a valid predictor of mortality and morbidity. There is a correlation between lower-socioeconomic status and the proportion of people reporting fair or poor health. People in employment generally report higher levels of self-assessed health than those out of employment.¹²¹

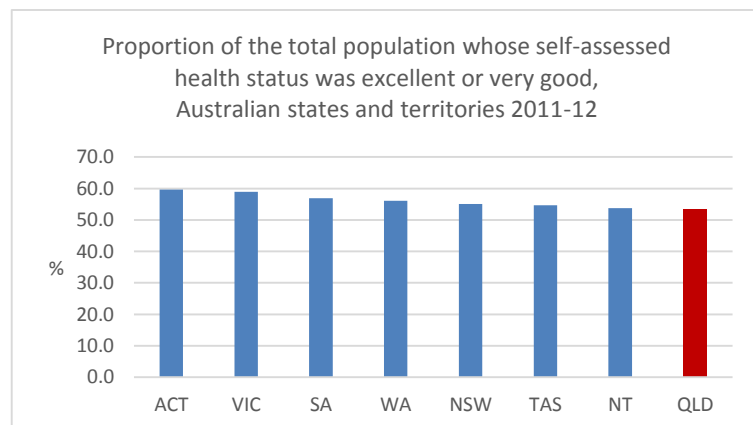
How are we faring?

The proportion of Queenslanders with very good or excellent self-assessed health status has been relatively stable since 2001. In 2011-12, 53.3 per cent of the Queensland population assessed their health as being excellent or very good up from 50.1 per cent in 2001. Queensland is behind all other states and territories on this indicator.

This same question was asked of approximately 30,000 adult Queenslanders in 2011-2012 as part of a separate survey. The results of this survey demonstrate the significant difference in health outcomes for people living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage. Adults living in areas of most socioeconomic advantage were 11 per cent more likely to report excellent or very good health.¹²²



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹²³



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹²⁴

Obesity

Body Mass Index (BMI) is used to define whether a person is underweight, normal weight, overweight or obese. While not a perfect measure, BMI provides a simple index calculated from height and weight information. A BMI of more than 25 is classified as overweight, while more than 30 is considered obese.

Why is this important?

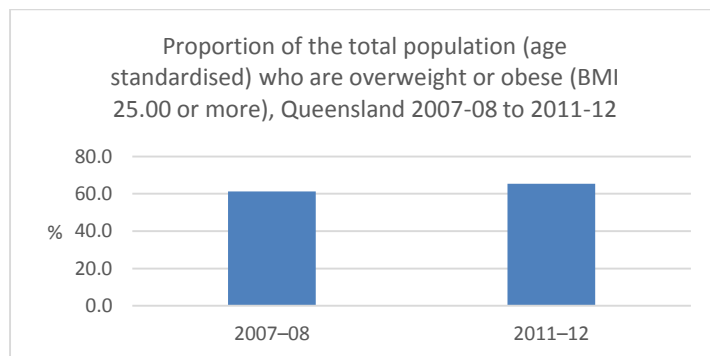
Being overweight or obese is the single biggest contributing risk factor for disability and premature death in Queensland, reducing life expectancy and increasing the risk of heart problems, high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes and certain cancers. It also affects quality of life, with a greater chance of respiratory, chronic musculoskeletal and fertility problems.¹²⁵

Research shows a link between poverty and obesity, with the highest rates occurring in population groups with the highest poverty rates and the lowest education.¹²⁶ In Queensland, obesity rates are roughly 70 per cent higher in disadvantaged areas.¹²⁷ In 2008, the total cost of obesity to Queensland was estimated at \$11.6 billion.¹²⁸

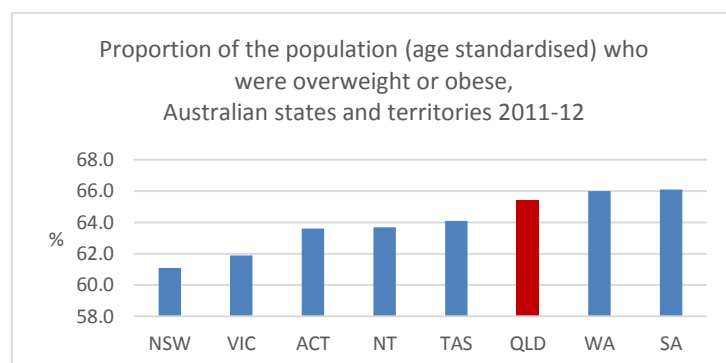
How are we faring?

Obesity levels in Queensland are concerningly high and growing. The proportion of the population overweight or obese has increased from 61.2 per cent in 2007-08 to 65.4 per cent in 2011-12. Queensland ranks poorly when compared to other states and territories with only Western Australia and South Australia having higher rates.

Queensland based surveys have shown that people living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage are more likely to be overweight or obese. Adults living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage were found to be 30 per cent more likely to be overweight, and 71 per cent more likely to be obese.¹²⁹ Children living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage were found to be more than twice as likely to be obese.¹³⁰



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹³¹



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹³²

Smoking

Smoking refers to regular tobacco smoking, which includes packet and roll-your-own cigarettes as well as cigars and pipes. It does not include chewing tobacco and smoking non-tobacco products. It is based on how often the respondent was smoking at the time of interview, and is categorised as current daily smoker, current smoker—other (for example smokes less than daily), ex-smoker and never smoked.

Why is this important?

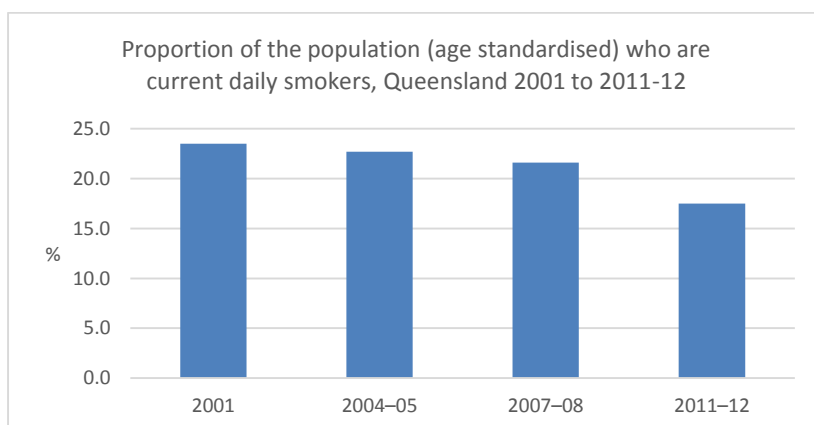
Research shows a link between higher smoking rates and low-socioeconomic status.¹³³ Smoking is a key chronic disease risk factor and there are a range of tobacco-related chronic illnesses adding to the burden of disease in Queensland. The avoidable death rate in Queensland is 74 per cent higher in the most socioeconomically disadvantaged areas compared to the most advantaged.¹³⁴ One third of the excess deaths are smoking related.¹³⁵

In 2004-5, the total cost to Queensland society of smoking was estimated at about \$6,140 million, which includes intangible costs associate with loss of life (\$3,790 million), net labour costs from reduced employment and loss of productivity and the net effect on households of premature death and smoking-related illness (\$2,280 million) and healthcare costs (\$62 million).¹³⁶

How are we faring?

There has been a significant decline in the proportion of the Queensland population (age standardised²) who are current daily smokers with rates falling from 23.5 per cent in 2001 to 17.5 per cent in 2011. While the smoking rate in Queensland is falling, it is still high compared to other states and territories. In 2011-12, 17.5 per cent of the population (18 years and older) were current smokers, placing Queensland sixth out of the eight states and territories.

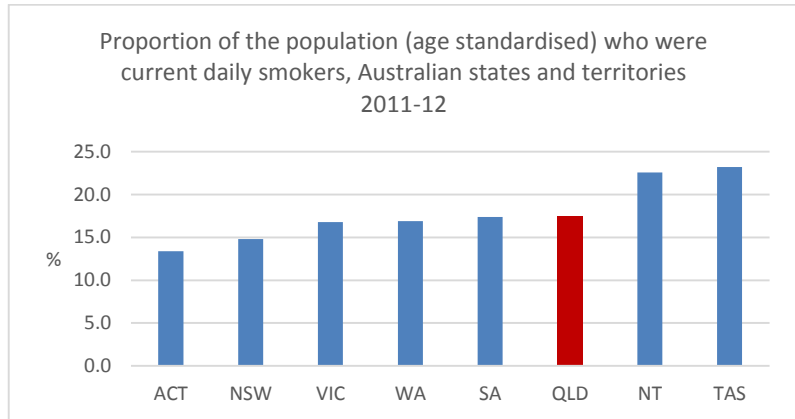
Unfortunately smoking rates are higher for people living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage. Twenty-three per cent of the population³ in the most disadvantaged areas in 2011 were current daily smokers compared to 19 per cent of the total population. This is supported in a recent Queensland survey, which found that adults living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage were twice as likely to smoke daily as those living in areas of most advantage.¹³⁷



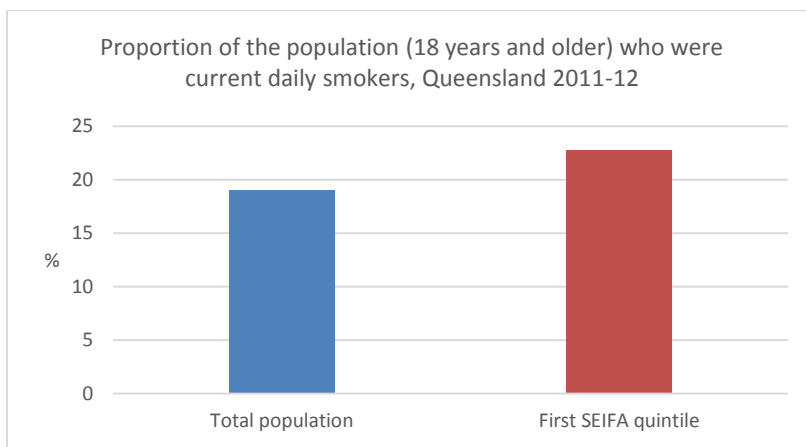
² Proportions have been age standardised to the 2001 Australian population to account for differences in the age structure of the population over time.

³ Age standardised rates are not available for Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) data.

Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹³⁸



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹³⁹



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹⁴⁰

Exercise

This indicator measures the proportion of the population with sedentary or low levels of exercise. Survey respondents were classified as having sedentary, low, moderate or high levels of exercise. The level is determined by the frequency, intensity and duration of exercise.

Why is this important?

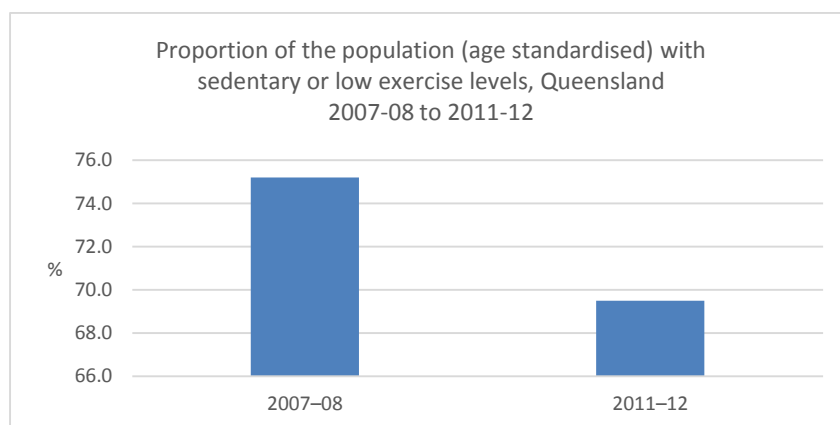
Exercise is used as an indicator of general physical activity, which is an important preventative health mechanism for long-term conditions such as heart disease, stroke and high blood pressure. It is also important for maintaining overall health and wellbeing. As noted elsewhere in this report, there is a link between obesity and socioeconomic disadvantage. One cause of obesity is low levels of physical activity. Sedentary or low exercise is also a risk factor for a number of longer term health conditions.¹⁴¹

How are we faring?

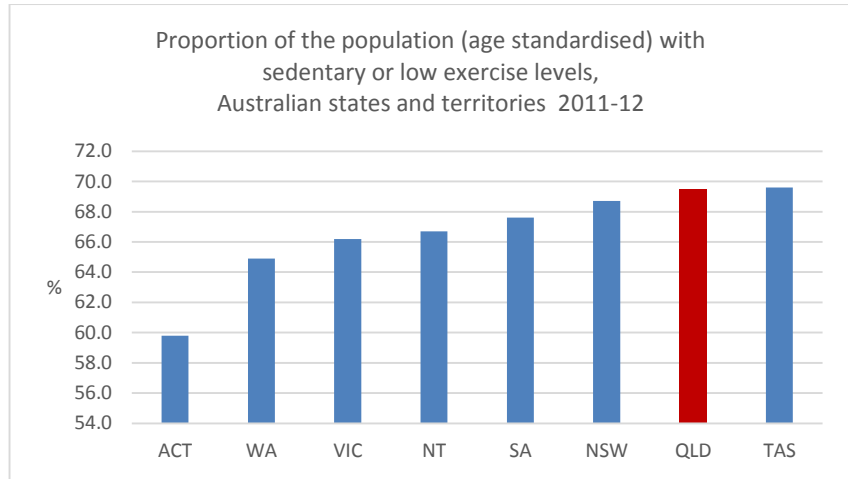
While Queensland improved slightly between 2007-08 and 2011-12, with sedentary and low exercise levels falling almost six per cent to 69.5 per cent, there are still seven out of 10 Queenslanders with low levels of physical activity. Only Tasmania has a higher proportion of its population with sedentary or low exercise levels.

There is a higher proportion of the population living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage with a sedentary or low level of exercise compared to the general population. In Queensland, 79.8 per cent of the population living in areas of most disadvantage had sedentary or low exercise levels compared to 69.3 per cent of the total population.

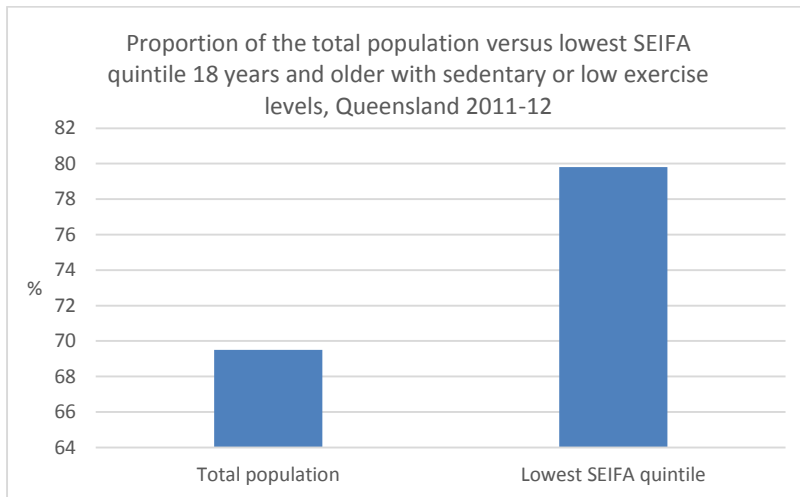
These findings are supported in two Queensland-based surveys. A survey of approximately 30,000 adult Queenslanders in 2011-2012 found that adults living in areas of most socioeconomic advantage were 21 per cent more likely to meet the national physical activity guidelines than those living in most disadvantaged areas.¹⁴² In a proxy-reported survey of approximately 2,500 children aged 5 to 17 in 2011 it was found that children living in areas of most advantage were 41 per cent more likely to have completed at least one hour of physical activity per day than those living in areas of most disadvantage.¹⁴³



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹⁴⁴



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹⁴⁵



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹⁴⁶

Fruit and vegetable consumption

This indicator measures the proportion of the population with inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption. Survey respondents were asked to report on their usual daily fruit and vegetable consumption.¹⁴⁷

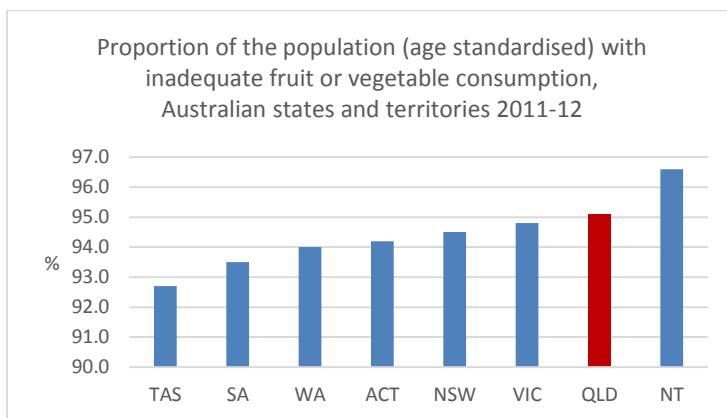
Why is this important?

National Health and Medical Research Council recommends adults eat at least two serves of fruit and five serves of vegetables a day for good nutrition and health. Access to nutritious food is a serious issue for people with lower incomes. Research shows that having a varied diet and consuming fresh produce generally means higher food costs. Nutrition professionals have noted that lower-socioeconomic groups tend to have diets based on cheaper, high-fat, high-sugar, energy-dense foods including cereals, potatoes and meat and not much vegetables, fruit or whole grains. Low-income earners in remote and regional areas face additional challenges due to higher food costs because of transport costs.

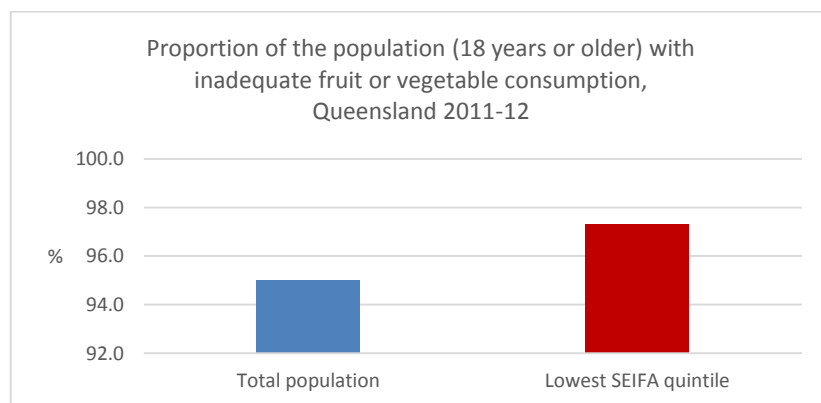
How are we faring?

Slightly less than five per cent, or only one in 20 Queenslanders consumed an adequate amount of fruit and vegetables in 2011-12, which is marginally less than in 2007-08. Queensland also ranks poorly in terms of being healthy eaters when compared to other states and territories, ahead of only the Northern Territory. The results are more dramatic for people living in low-socioeconomic areas with 97.3 per cent of people in the first quintile of Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) failing to have adequate consumption of fruit and vegetables in 2011-12.

In a similar survey of 30,000 adult Queenslanders in 2011-12, it was found that adults living in areas of most socioeconomic advantage consumed eight to 13 per cent more fruit than adults living in areas of most disadvantage.¹⁴⁸



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹⁴⁹



Source: ABS Australian Health Survey cat. no. 4364.0.55.001¹⁵⁰

Low birthweight

Low birthweight comprises three categories. Low birthweight is less than 2,500 grams, very low birthweight is less than 1,500 grams and extremely low birthweight is less than 1,000 grams.

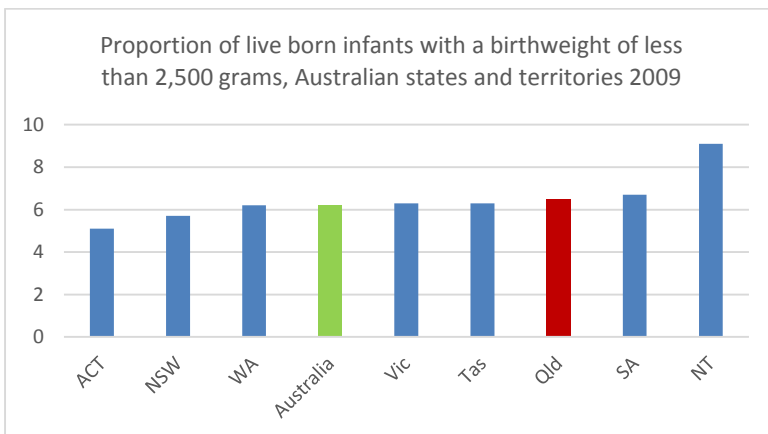
Why is this important?

Birthweight is a key determinant of a baby’s chances of good health and survival. There are a range of health risks arising from low birthweight, not only at birth but throughout the person’s life. These include increased risk of neurological and physical disability, psycho-social and educational difficulties, Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and metabolic and cardiovascular diseases later in life.¹⁵¹

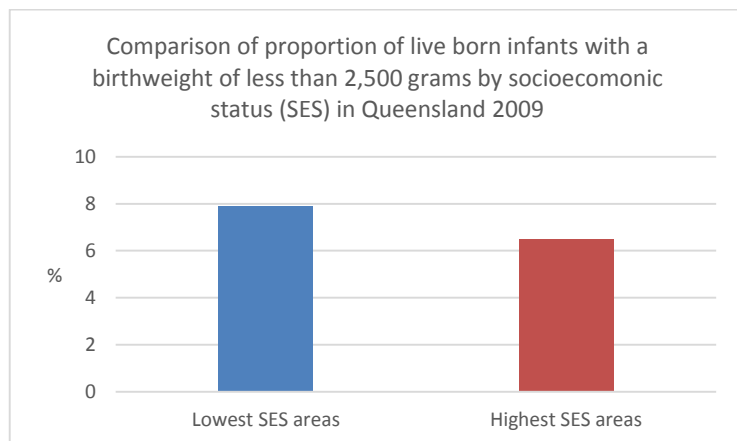
Factors contributing to low birthweight include low-socioeconomic status, the age and medical history of the mother, and behavioural risk factors such as smoking, excessive alcohol consumption and poor antenatal nutrition and care. Many of these risk factors are disproportionately faced by particular population groups, and can be effectively addressed by intervention.

How are we faring?

While data is not available to track Queensland’s progress over time, a comparison of states and territories shows that Queensland ranks poorly in terms of the proportion of babies born with a low birthweight. In 2009 Queensland had the third highest proportion of low birthweight infants out of the eight jurisdictions. Babies from low-socioeconomic areas are over-represented in the low-birthweight statistics, at 7.9 per cent compared to 6.5 per cent in high socioeconomic areas.



Source: AIHW Children’s headline indicators¹⁵²



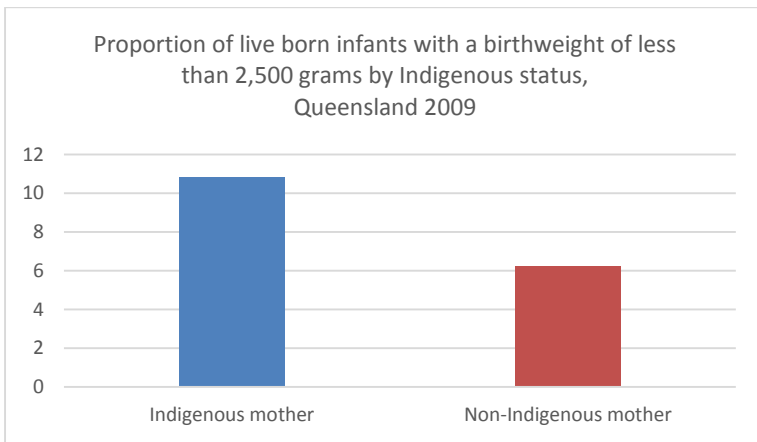
Source: AIHW Children’s headline indicators¹⁵³

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander low birthweight

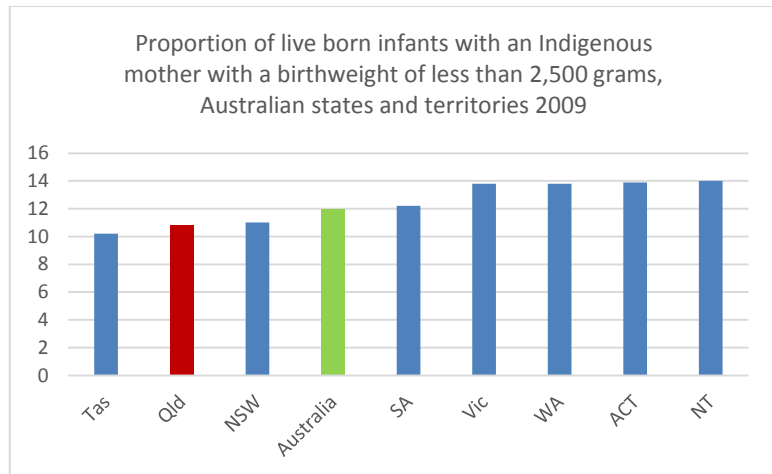
Most concerning is the over-representation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in terms of the proportion of babies born with a low birthweight.

In 2009, 10.8 per cent of children with mothers identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander were born with a low birthweight compared to 6.2 per cent of babies born to non-Indigenous mothers.

While there remains a significant gap in health outcomes between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the non-Indigenous population, it is encouraging to note that Queensland has the second lowest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies born with a low-birthweight of the eight states and territories.



Source: AIHW Children's headline indicators¹⁵⁴



Source: AIHW Children's headline indicators¹⁵⁵

Education

This domain encompasses early childhood through to attainment of higher education qualifications. Successful positive and sustained educational attainment is of great importance to both the individual and wider society. For many Australians, a good education can provide a pathway out of disadvantage.

Indicators: early childhood education enrolment; developmental vulnerability; reading, writing and numeracy; school exclusions; fully engaged in education or work; Year 12 or equivalent attainment; non-school qualifications attainment.

Early childhood education

This indicator measures enrolment in quality early childhood education programs in the year before school under the National Partnership Agreement for Early Childhood Education.¹⁵⁶

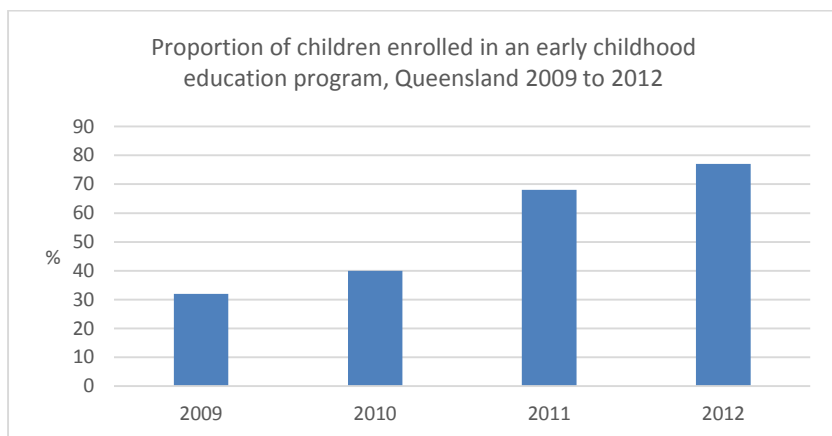
Why is this important?

A child's participation in a quality early childhood education program lays the foundation for their future success in learning and life.¹⁵⁷ There is strong evidence that participation in early childhood learning improves school readiness, strengthens educational outcomes^{158,159} and contributes to improved outcomes in employment, health and other areas.^{160,161} Universal access should be provided to all children regardless of their circumstances, where they live or their family's financial means.

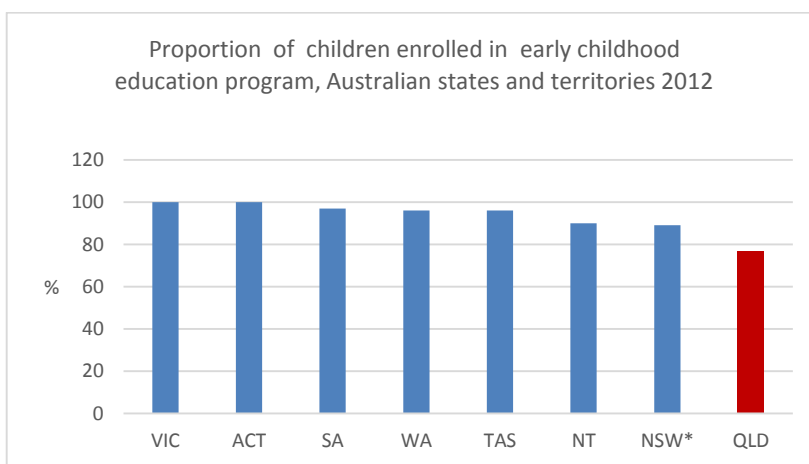
How are we faring?

Enrolment in early childhood education programs in Queensland has increased significantly during the past four years, albeit from a low base. The proportion of children enrolled in a quality early childhood education program in 2012 was 77 per cent. However, Queensland is the poorest performing state or territory in this measure.

Enrolment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in an early childhood education program in Queensland lags behind the rate for the total population. In 2012, only 52 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were enrolled in an early childhood education program in Queensland.

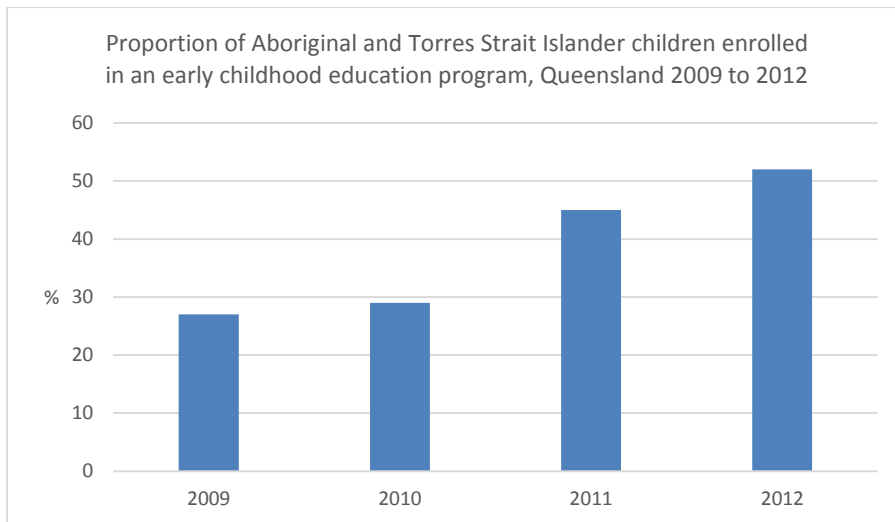


Source: DETE 2012 *Queensland 2012 Annual Report*¹⁶²



Source: DEEWR 2013 Snapshot of preschool participation in Australia¹⁶³

* 2011 data used for NSW as 2012 data not available at time of printing.



Source: DETE 2012 *Queensland 2012 Annual Report* ¹⁶⁴

Developmental vulnerability

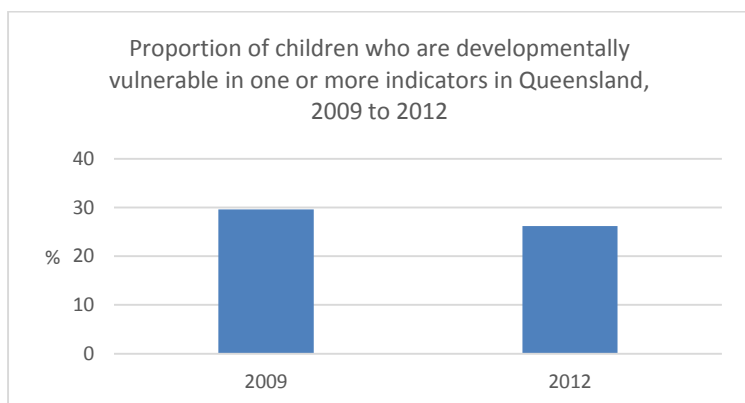
The Australian Early Development Index measures how children have developed by the time they start school across five areas of early childhood development: physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills (school-based), and communication skills and general knowledge. Children who fall in the lowest 10 per cent are considered developmentally vulnerable.¹⁶⁵

Why is this important?

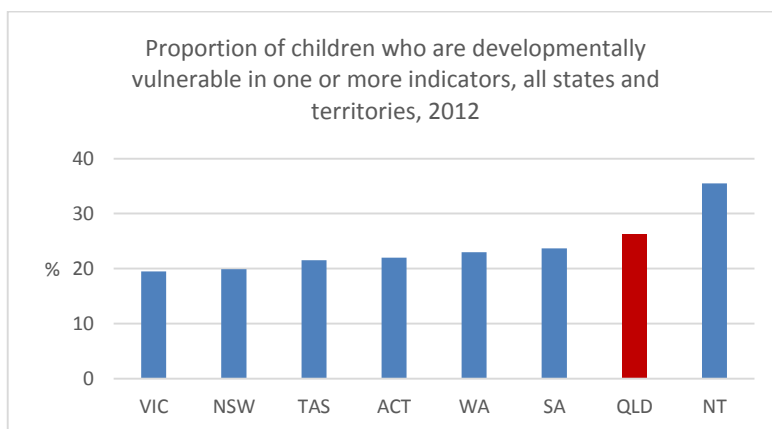
There is clear evidence from Australia and overseas that the early years of a child's life have a profound impact on their future health, development, learning and wellbeing. Research shows that investing resources to support children in their early years of life brings long-term benefits to them and to the whole community. Early childhood development outcomes are important markers of the welfare of children, and can predict future health and human capital outcomes.¹⁶⁶

How are we faring?

Queensland is making progress with regard to reducing the proportion of children with one or more developmental vulnerabilities. The proportion of children who were developmentally vulnerable in one or more domains in Queensland was 26.2 per cent in 2012, a decrease from 29.6 per cent in 2009. Nationally, Queensland ranks poorly with the second highest proportion of children who are developmentally vulnerable in one or more indicators in 2012.



Source: Australian Government 2013 *A Snapshot of Early Childhood Development in Australia 2012*¹⁶⁷



Source: Australian Government 2013 *A Snapshot of Early Childhood Development in Australia 2012*¹⁶⁸

Reading, writing and numeracy

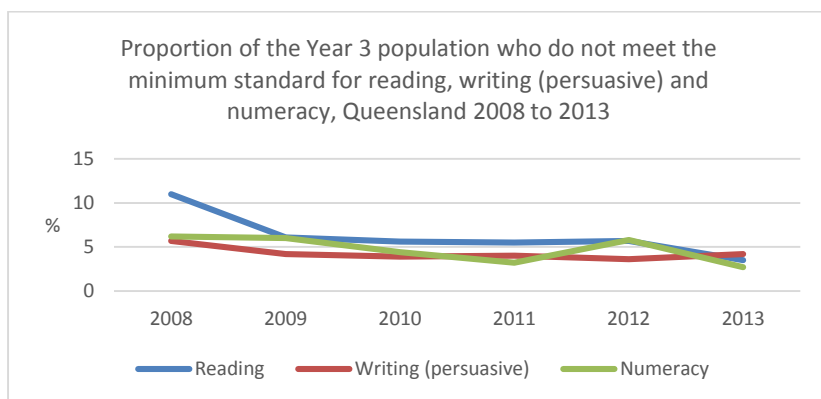
NAPLAN tests are conducted in May each year for all students across Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. This report uses test results for Year 3 students in the assessment domains of reading, persuasive writing and numeracy as indicators of educational outcomes.¹⁶⁹

Why is this important?

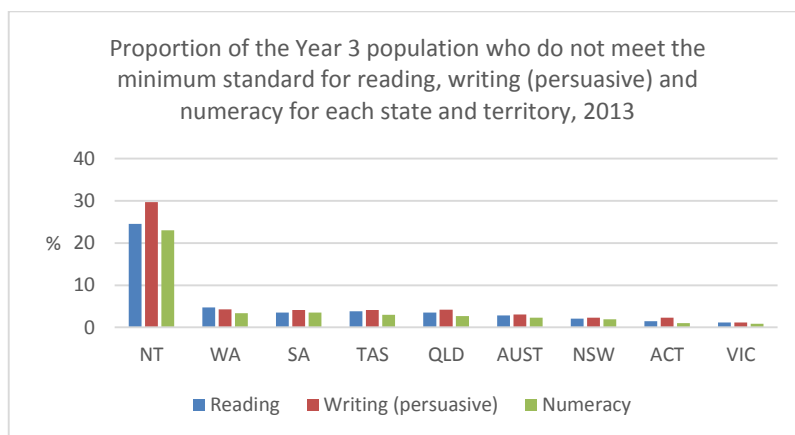
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools and the community can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes. NAPLAN tests provide useful nationally-comparable evidence about student achievement. Benefits of the NAPLAN tests include helping to drive improvements in student outcomes and providing increased accountability for the community on educational outcomes for young Australians.¹⁷⁰

How are we faring?

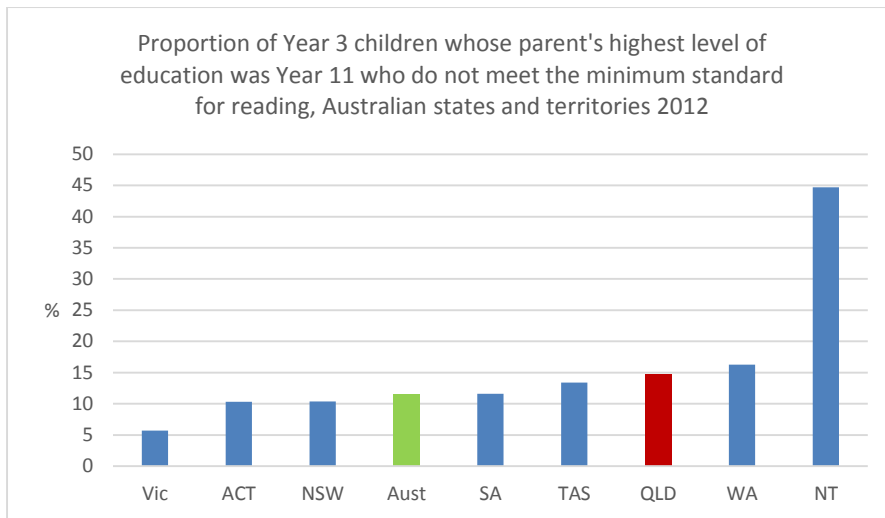
There has been ongoing improvement during the past six years in the proportion of Year 3 students able to meet the minimum standard for reading, writing and numeracy in Queensland. Unfortunately, NAPLAN data suggests that children from disadvantaged backgrounds are less likely to meet the NAPLAN minimum standards. In 2012¹⁷¹, for example, 14.7 per cent of Year 3 children with a parent or guardian who completed Year 11 as the highest level of education did not meet the minimum standard for reading in Queensland compared to 3.5 per cent for the total Year 3 population.



Source: ACARA 2012 *National Report 2008,2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012 and Summary Report 2013*¹⁷²



Source: ACARA 2013 *Summary Report 2013*¹⁷³



Source: ACARA 2012 National Report 2012 ¹⁷⁴

School exclusions

Exclusion occurs where student behaviour is so serious that suspension is deemed inadequate to resolve the behaviour. Exclusion prohibits a student from attending one or more state educational institutions for a nominated period of not more than 12 months or permanently.¹⁷⁵

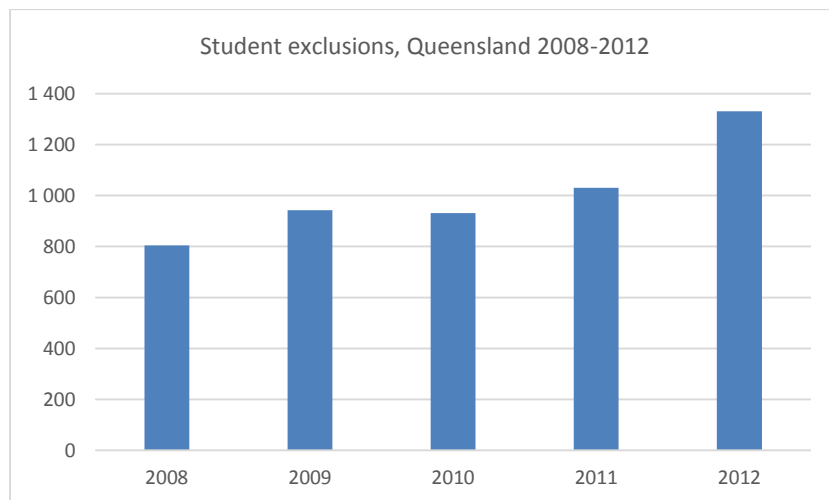
Why is this important?

Research has indicated that permanent exclusion from school can “trigger a complex chain of events” that serve to “loosen the person’s affiliation and commitment to a conventional way of life”. This transition can be characterised by “the loss of time structures; a re-casting of identity; a changed relationship with parents and siblings; the erosion of contact with pro-social peers and adults; closer association with similarly situated young people; and heightened vulnerability to police surveillance”.¹⁷⁶

Exclusion from school is also most likely to impact upon the most vulnerable young people in the community. Research has shown that young people who are excluded from school often suffer from pervasive social and educational disadvantage. This includes child sexual abuse, frequent shifts between homes, parental violence, bereavement and homelessness.

How are we faring?

In 2012, 1331 students were excluded from Queensland schools. The rate of exclusions in Queensland has increased from 804 in 2008 to 1331 in 2012. There is no data to compare across states and territories. This data would be enhanced by the publication of student population numbers to enable the data to be more meaningfully presented as a proportion of the population and by the release of data showing the incidence of exclusions in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage. It is hoped that the Queensland Government’s commitment to open data will precipitate the release of such information.



Source: DETE 2013 *School Disciplinary Absences by Region 2008-2012*¹⁷⁷

Fully engaged in education or work

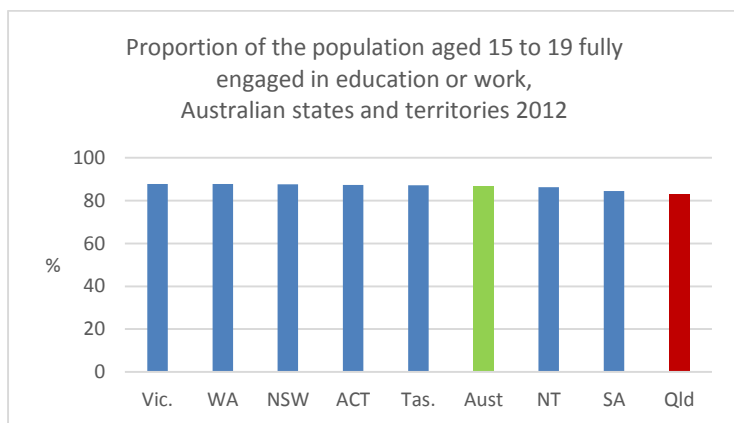
This measure relates to young people aged 15 to 19 and whether they were engaged in either education or work.

Why is this important?

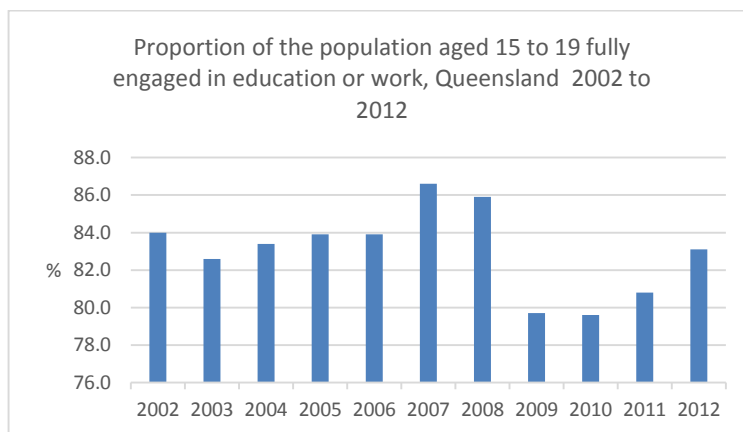
Making the transition from school education to the workforce or non-school education can be challenging for young people. An unsuccessful transition can lead to long-term unemployment and a cycle of disadvantage.¹⁷⁸ Long periods outside the workforce or full-time education affects the development of a person's skills and important employment experiences.¹⁷⁹

How are we faring?

In 2012, 83.1 per cent of young Queenslanders aged 15 to 19 were fully engaged in education, training or work. While this has increased during the past four years, it should be noted that the rate was higher in 2002 and between 2005 and 2008. It is also important to note that Queensland ranked last compared to the other states and territories in 2012 on this measure.



Source: ABS 2012 *Education and Work, Australia* cat.no. 6227.0 ¹⁸⁰



Source: ABS 2012 *Education and Work, Australia* cat.no. 6227.0 ¹⁸¹

Year 12 or equivalent

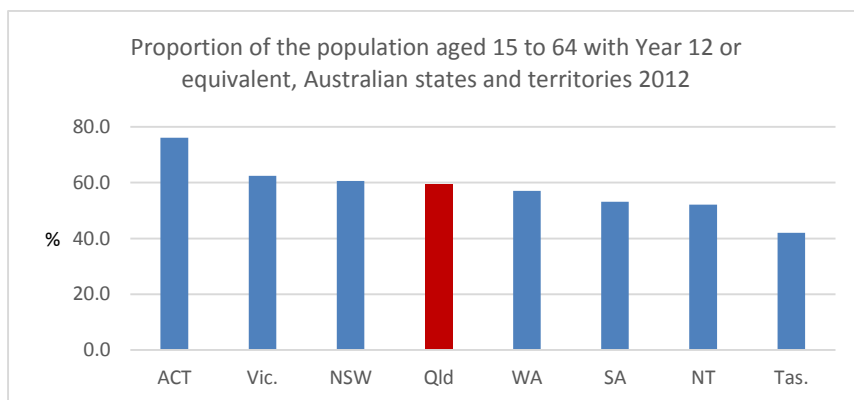
This measure relates to the proportion of the population aged 15 to 64 who have graduated from Year 12 or acquired an equivalent level of education.

Why is this important?

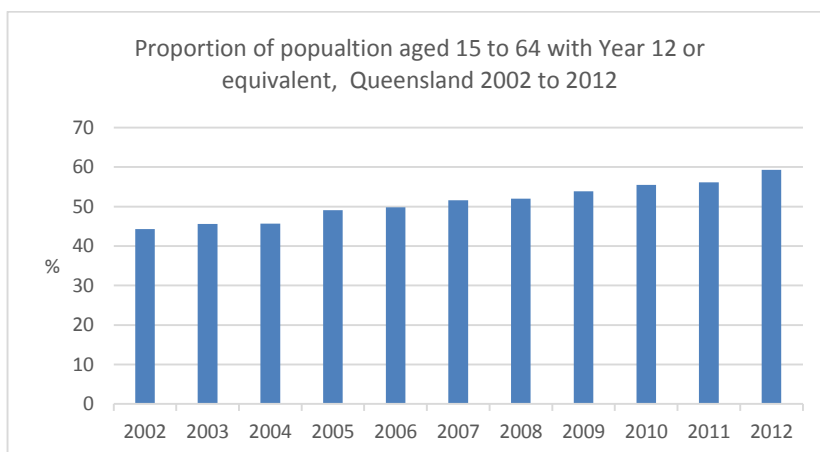
Completion of Year 12 or an equivalent qualification is important for future employment and wellbeing.¹⁸² Within Australia, Year 12 attainment is regarded as a key factor in the formal development of an individual's skills and knowledge. Individuals who have completed Year 12 have a greater likelihood of continuing with further study, particularly in higher education, as well as entering into the workforce.¹⁸³ Year 12 attainment contributes to the development of a skilled workforce, and in turn, to ongoing economic development and improved living conditions.¹⁸⁴

How are we faring?

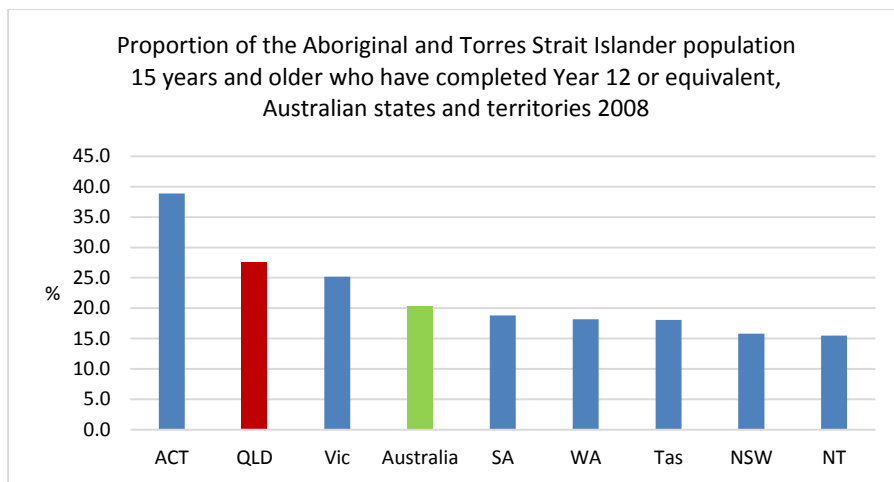
The rate of Year 12 or equivalent attainment for Queensland has been increasing over time. In 2012, the rate of Year 12 or equivalent attainment for Queensland was 59.3 per cent. While Queensland is one of the best performing state or territories with regard to the proportion of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population aged 15 and older with Year 12 or equivalent qualification, the rate is far below that attained by the general population at 27.5 per cent.



Source: ABS 2012 *Education and Work, Australia* cat. no. 6227.0.55.003 ¹⁸⁵



Source: ABS 2012 *Education and Work, Australia* cat. no. 6227.0.55.003 ¹⁸⁶



Source: ABS 2008 *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey* cat.no. 4714.0 ¹⁸⁷

Non-school qualifications

Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at the postgraduate degree, master degree, graduate diploma and graduate certificate, bachelor degree, advanced diploma and diploma, and certificates I, II, III and IV levels.

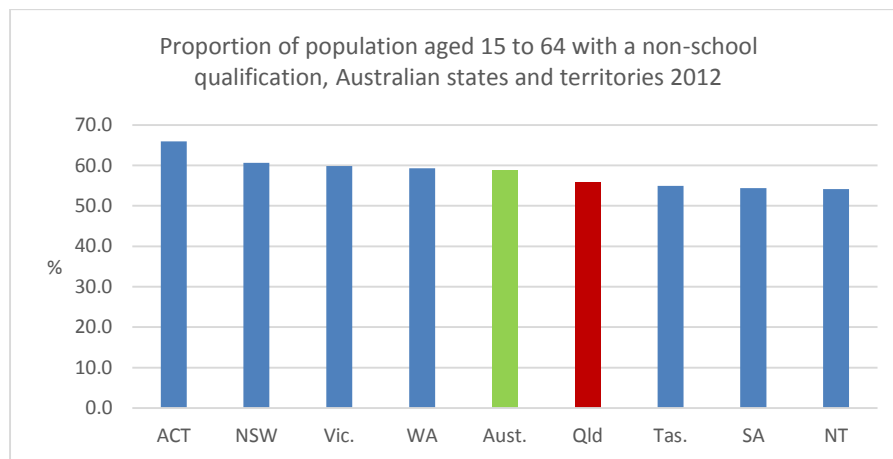
Why is this important?

This indicator measures access to, and take up of, further education and training opportunities. It reflects the range of educational opportunities available and people’s awareness of the skills needed to increase their ability to contribute productively to society. Successful positive and sustained educational attainment is of great importance to both the individual and wider society. The level of non-school qualifications provides an important indication of the strength of the labour force and the ability of the further education sector to provide non-school qualifications.¹⁸⁸ For many Australians, a good education can provide a pathway out of disadvantage.¹⁸⁹

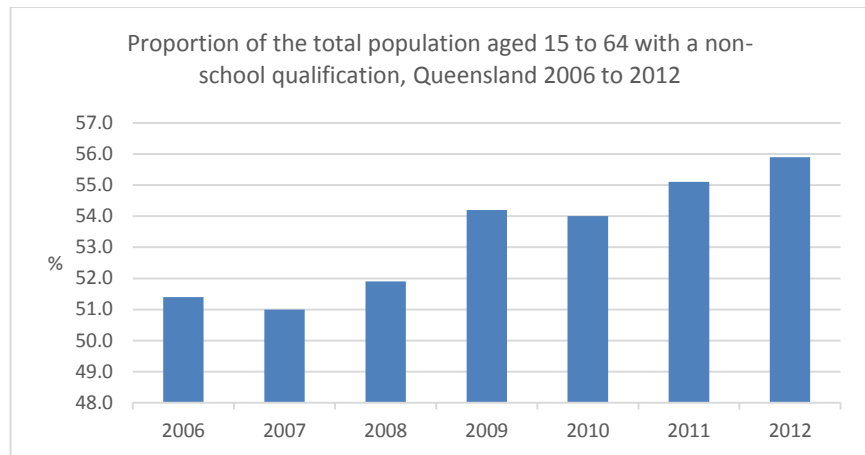
How are we faring?

In 2012, 55.9 per cent of the Queensland population had a non-school qualification, a rate that has been increasing since 2006. Unfortunately, the level of non-school qualification attainment is lower among disadvantaged populations. In 2012, only 48.1 per cent of the population living in areas of most socioeconomic disadvantage had a non-school qualification.

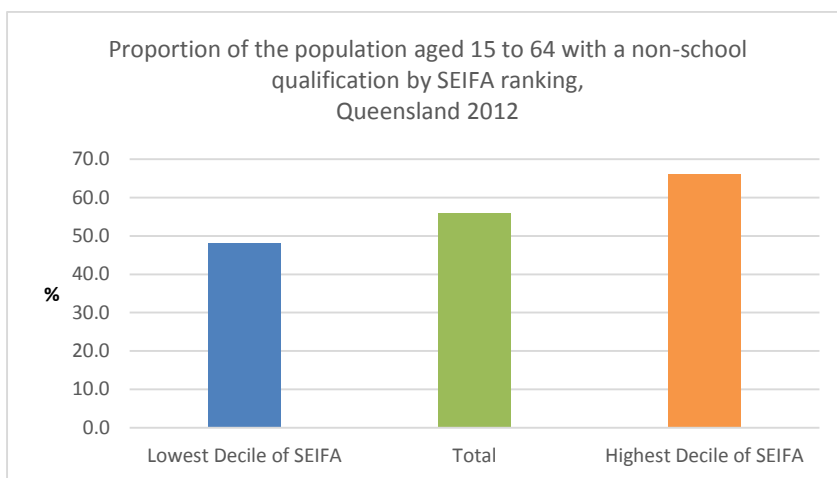
Data also shows that a much lower proportion of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population have attained a non-school qualification. In 2008, only 30.8 per cent of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Queensland had obtained a non-school qualification.



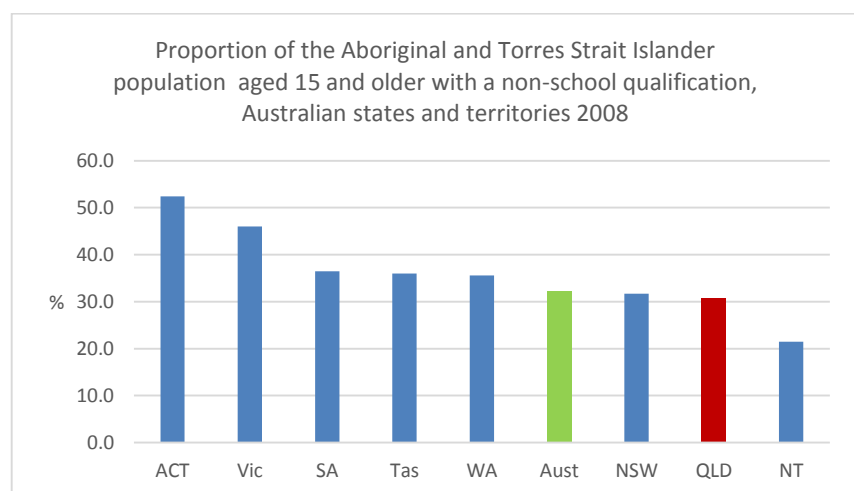
Source: ABS 2012 *Education and Work, Australia* cat 6227.0 ¹⁹⁰



Source: ABS 2012 *Education and Work, Australia* cat. no. 6227.0 ¹⁹¹



Source: ABS 2012 *Education and Work, Australia* cat. no. 6227.0 ¹⁹²



Source: ABS 2008 *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey* cat 4714.0 ¹⁹³

Housing

Shelter is a fundamental human right, and equitable access to secure and adequate housing is an important part of ensuring social inclusion. It is clear that people on low incomes struggle to access affordable housing, which affects many other facets of their lives. This domain include themes of housing availability, security and affordability.

Indicators: housing tenure; home ownership; dwelling completions; housing affordability, housing stress, social housing; homelessness.

Housing tenure

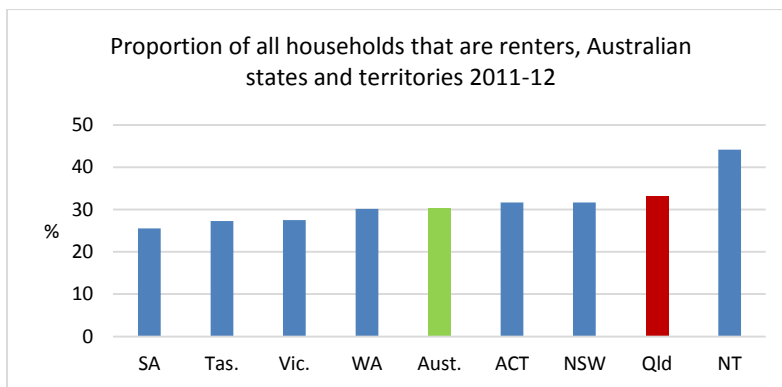
This measure examines the proportion of households that are renters. There are three main types of tenure: households that own a dwelling outright, households that own a dwelling with a mortgage and households who pay rent to live in a dwelling. In general, households either rent from the private rental market, state or territory housing authorities or community housing providers.¹⁹⁴

Why is this important?

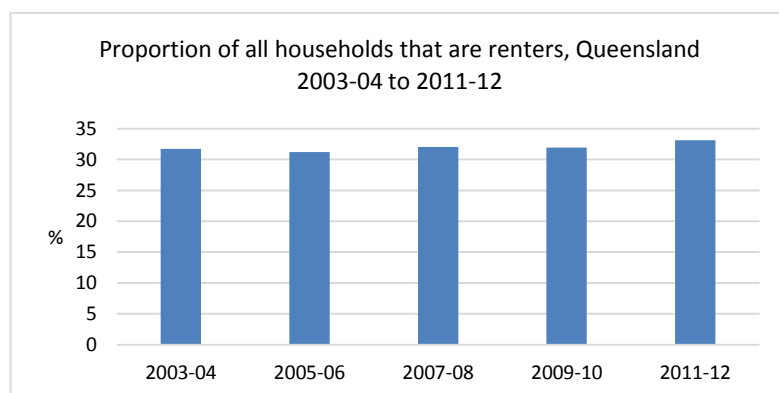
Low and moderate-income households are finding it harder now to buy a home than in the past and are facing increased financial risks in trying to do so. Yet there are many benefits of home ownership, including the building of long-term financial wealth, security, control and stability.¹⁹⁵ Home ownership acts as a form of wealth that can be drawn on to smooth out consumption over time, especially in times of low income.¹⁹⁶ Home ownership is also believed to confer a range of positive social impacts. These include “improved mental and physical health, better educational outcomes for children, lower rates of poverty among older home owners, safer and more stable neighbourhoods, inclusive and cohesive residential areas, and a more active and responsible citizenry”.¹⁹⁷

How are we faring?

Queensland has a higher proportion of renters than all other states and territories with 33.1 per cent of households renting in 2011-12. This proportion has been on the rise since 2003-04 when the rate was 31.7 per cent. Consequently, Queensland also has low levels of home ownership compared to other states and territories.



Source: ABS Household Income and Income Distribution cat. no. 6523.0¹⁹⁸



Source: ABS Household Income and Income Distribution cat. no. 6523.0¹⁹⁹

Home ownership

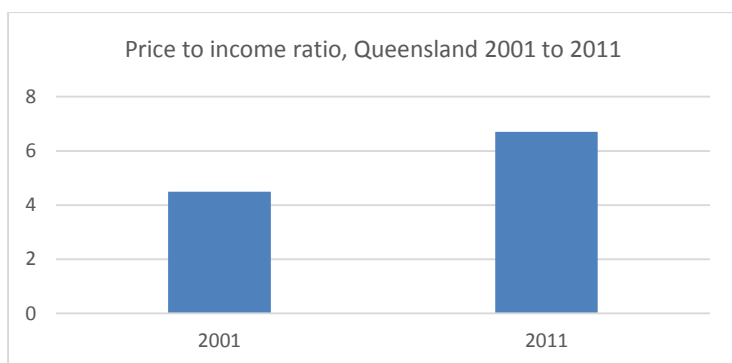
The price-to-income ratio shows the number of years' worth of income required to purchase a typical dwelling outright, using median household income. This is an international measure for housing affordability, which shows how easy or difficult it may be to gain entry into the housing market. A ratio of less than five is 'affordable'; five to six is 'moderately unaffordable'; six to seven is 'not affordable'; and seven or higher is 'severely unaffordable'.²⁰⁰

Why is this important?

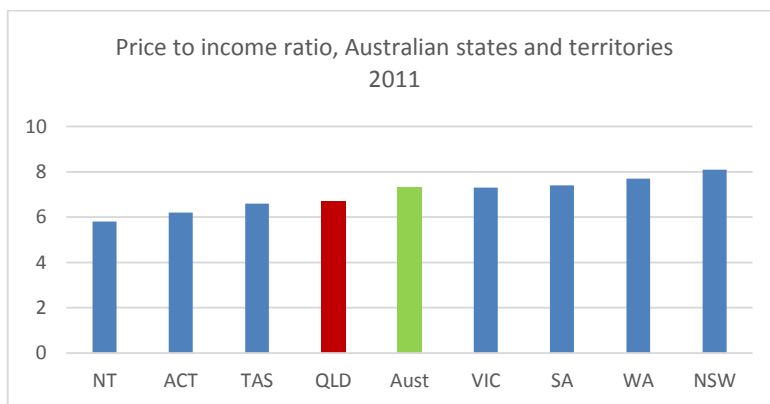
Many Australians aspire to own their own home. For low to moderate income households, home ownership confers the benefits of security, control and stability as well as benefits in terms of building long-term financial wealth.²⁰¹ But owning a home has become less attainable for many Australians during the past 10 years. Also, the higher the price to income ratio, the more likely low and moderate-income earners will be paying off mortgages after retirement age. This has implications for not only housing policy but also across a range of policy areas including retirement incomes.²⁰²

How are we faring?

Housing affordability in Queensland is declining. In 2011, home ownership was classified as 'not affordable' as it would take 6.7 years' worth of median income to buy a home. This is in stark contrast to 2001 when home ownership was classified as 'affordable' and would have taken 4.5 years' worth of income. Despite being 'not affordable', Queensland fared relatively well compared to other states and territories in 2011.



Source: AMP.NATSEM Income and wealth report ²⁰³



Source: AMP.NATSEM Income and wealth report ²⁰⁴

Dwelling completions

To assess whether the supply of housing meets the demand for housing the number of new dwellings built (completed) is compared with the increase in the resident population using quarterly dwelling completion and population statistics.

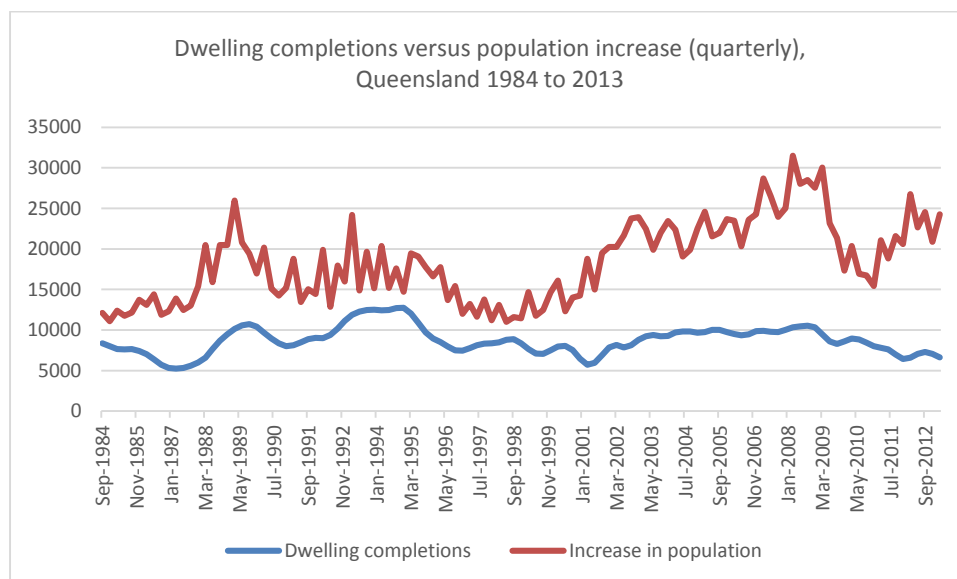
Why is this important?

Dwellings completed is a measure of housing supply and also a measure of economic activity. New dwellings are required to keep pace with growing population rates and to avoid an undersupply of housing. Housing construction has a large impact on employment and economic growth. Further, supply is critical to understanding housing markets. High housing prices are the result of a complex interplay of factors including limited supply.²⁰⁵

The relationship between dwelling completions and population growth has implications for disadvantaged Queenslanders. When supply is limited and demand is high this negatively impacts on the overall affordability within the housing market.

How are we faring?

As it is shown below, housing supply has not kept pace with population growth in Queensland. Dwelling completions remained relatively in-sync with population growth between 1984 and 2000. Since this time the number of dwelling completions has not kept pace with the increase in population growth in Queensland.



Source: ABS Building Approvals, Australia cat. no. 8731.0 and Australian Demographic Statistics cat. no. 3101.0²⁰⁶

Housing affordability

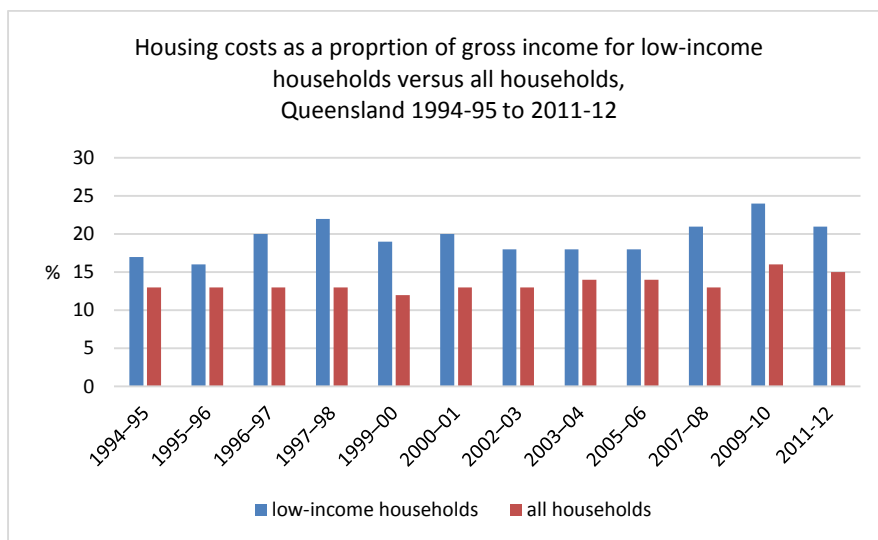
This indicator shows housing affordability for low-income households by measuring the proportion of gross income that low-income households spend on housing costs.²⁰⁷ This includes both home owners and renters.

Why is this important?

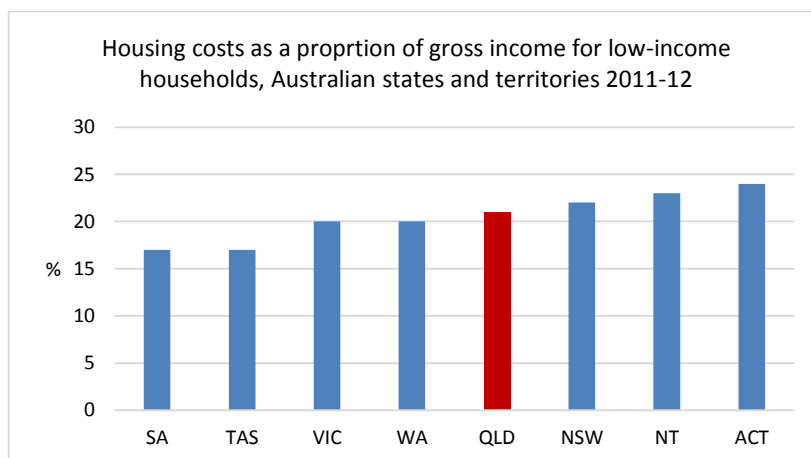
Households that spend a large proportion of their income on housing have less money for other essential items such as food, transport, health, utilities education and other non-essential items. When housing costs are high as a proportion of income, households may be forced to reduce their spending on other goods and services to meet these costs.²⁰⁸ Specifically, low-income families often make sacrifices to meet their housing costs, such as going without food, or children missing out on school activities.²⁰⁹

How are we faring?

Low-income households consistently spend a much higher proportion of their gross income on housing costs when compared to all households in Queensland. In 2011-12, low-income households spent 21 per cent of their income on housing compared to 15 per cent for all households.



Source: ABS Housing occupancy and costs cat. no. 4130.0 ²¹⁰



Source: ABS Housing occupancy and costs cat. no. 4130.0 ²¹¹

Housing stress

Housing stress is a well-recognised measure of housing affordability. Households in housing stress are those in the bottom 40 per cent of household income paying more than 30 per cent of their gross income on housing costs.

Why is this important?

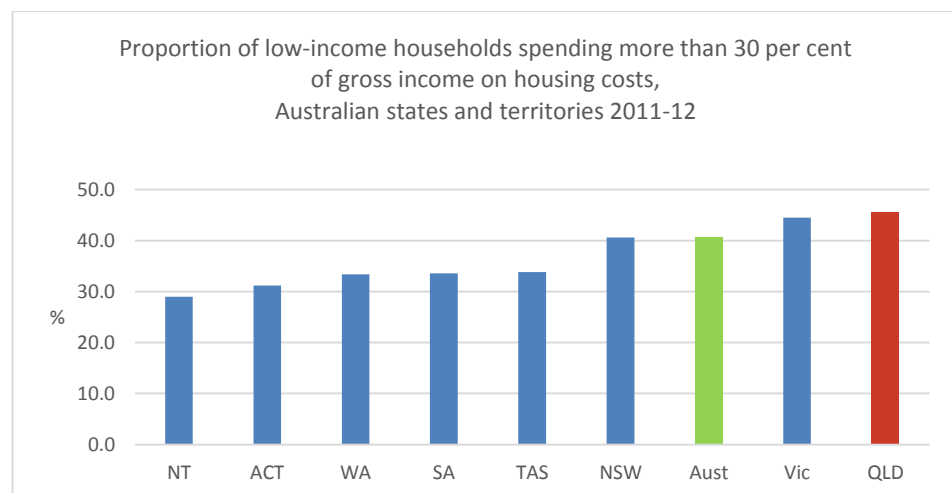
As stated in the previous measure, households that spend a large proportion of their income on housing have less money for other essential items. When housing costs are high as a proportion of income, households may be forced to reduce their spending on other goods and services to meet these costs.²¹² Specifically, low-income families often make sacrifices to meet their housing costs.²¹³

How are we faring?

In 2011-12, 45.5 per cent of low-income households spent more than 30 per cent of their gross income on housing costs. This is the highest rate of any state or territory. The proportion of low-income households in housing stress has grown dramatically since 2007-08. In 2007-08, only 36.1 per cent of low-income households spent more than 30 per cent of their gross income on housing.



Source: ABS Housing occupancy and costs cat. no. 4130.0 ²¹⁴



Source: ABS Housing occupancy and costs cat. no. 4130.0 ²¹⁵

Social housing

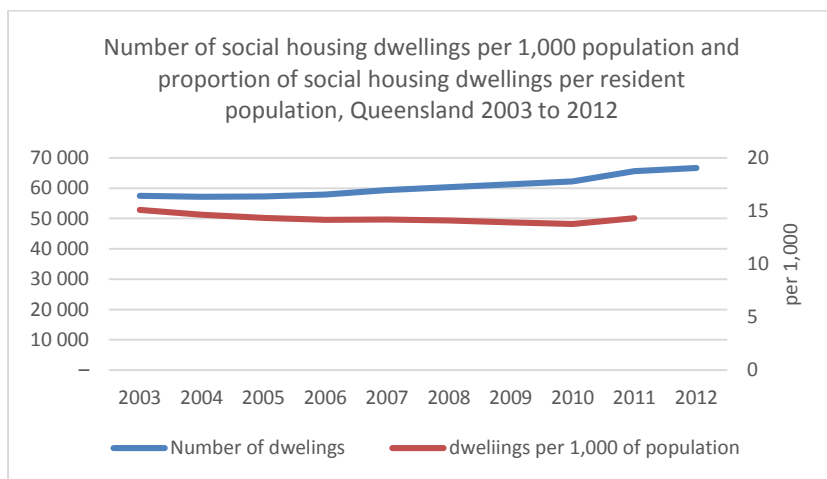
Social housing is secure and affordable rental housing for low to moderate-income families and individuals, in particular those who have difficulties accessing housing in the private rental market.²¹⁶ Social housing broadly encompasses public housing, state owned and managed Indigenous housing (SOMIH), community housing and Indigenous community housing.

Why is this important?

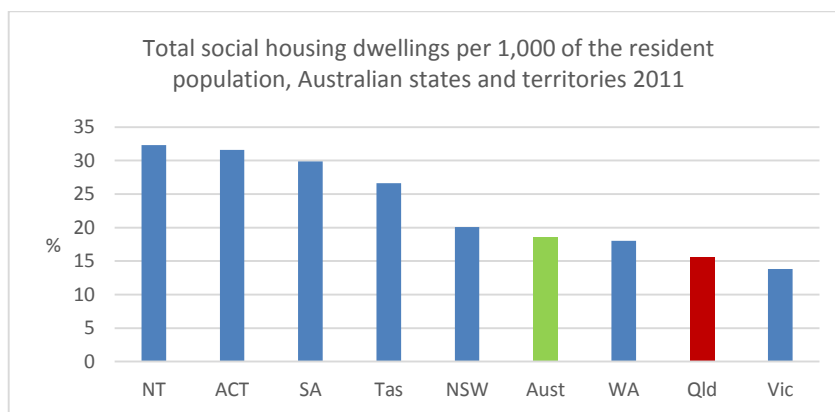
Shelter is a fundamental human need, and housing assistance plays an important role in enabling social and economic participation. This assistance is an important element of governments' social policy and welfare frameworks. Ultimately, social housing provides accommodation to individuals and families who struggle to meet the costs of renting in the private rental market. Social housing is particularly important when there is a lack of the affordable housing as it provides an affordable option for those at risk of becoming homeless.

How are we faring?

Although the number of social housing dwellings available in Queensland has increased over time, the overall number has failed to keep pace with population growth. The number of dwellings per 1,000 of the total population has declined from 2003 to 2011. Despite great demand for social housing, Queensland recorded the second lowest ratio of social housing to population in Australia in 2011.



Source: Productivity Commission Review of Government Services²¹⁷



Source: Productivity Commission Review of Government Services²¹⁸

Homelessness

The ABS defines someone as homeless if they do not have suitable accommodation alternatives and their current living arrangement:

- is in a dwelling that is inadequate
- has no tenure, or if their initial tenure is short and not extendable
- does not allow them to have control of, and access to space for social relations.

A person is also homeless if they live in ‘severely’ overcrowded conditions.²¹⁹

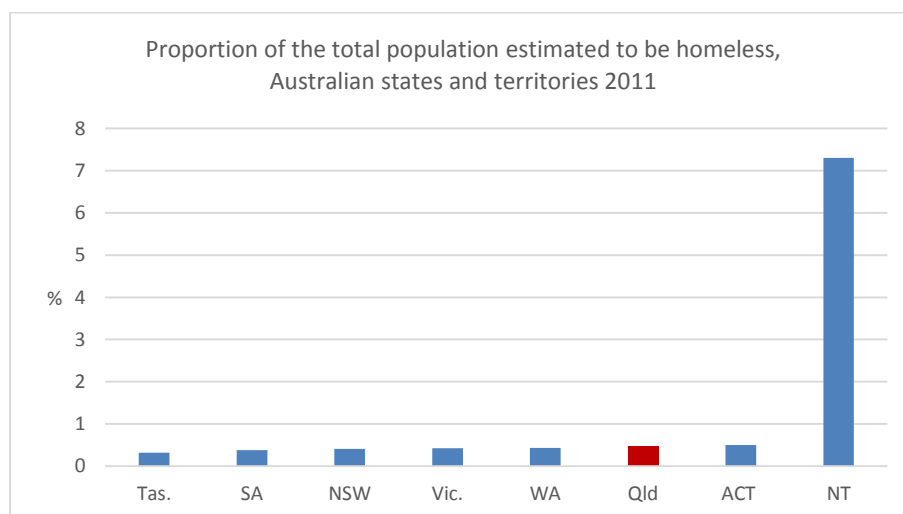
Why is this important?

Homelessness is not a choice. Homelessness is one of the most potent examples of disadvantage in the community, and one of the most important markers of social exclusion.²²⁰ Domestic violence and a shortage of affordable housing are the two greatest causes of homelessness.²²¹ Unemployment, mental illness, family breakdown and drug and alcohol abuse all contribute to the level of homelessness in Australia.²²²

Homelessness has a devastating impact on people’s lives causing instability and insecurity. The homeless person may lose their possessions and job. They may lose their relationships with friends and family, and links to their community including their relationships with GPs, teachers, or sporting clubs. The experience of homelessness has a serious impact on health, education and wellbeing. These impacts include higher rates of anxiety, emotional and behavioural issues and mental illness.²²³

How are we faring?

In 2011, there were an estimated 105,000 people who were homeless across Australia. In Queensland there were 19,800 people who were homeless. The single largest group of people who were homeless were people living in severely overcrowded dwellings. Queensland had the third highest proportion of the total population who were homeless in 2011 behind the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.



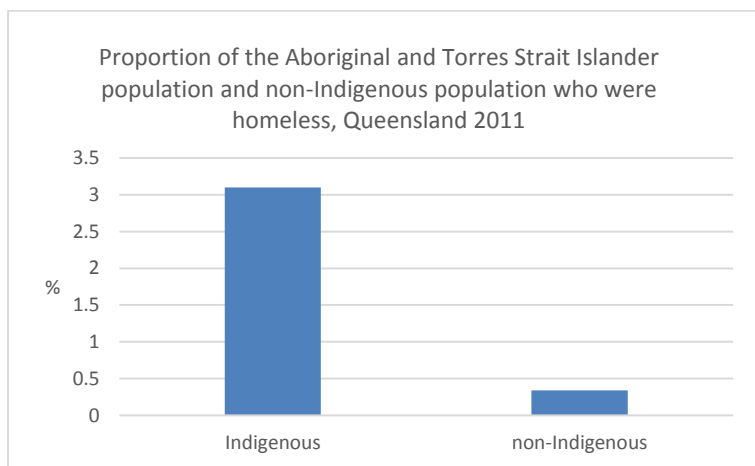
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness cat. no. 2049.0²²⁴

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homelessness

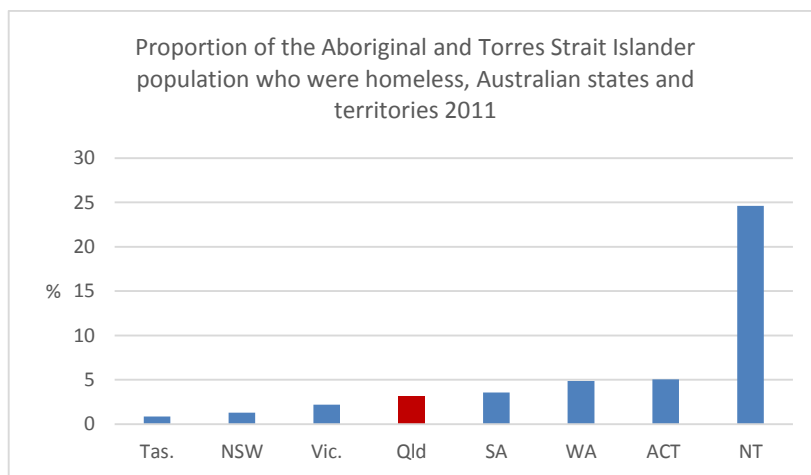
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are severely over-represented in the homeless population of Australia. While Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples accounted for only 2.5 per cent of the Australian population in 2011, they equated to 25 per cent of all persons who were homeless.

A significant proportion of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homeless population are living in severely overcrowded conditions. There is research to suggest that overcrowding contributes to poorer outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, particularly educational outcomes.²²⁵

Given the significant impact that homelessness has on a person's life, and the flow-on effects that result from homelessness, decreasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homelessness is critical.



Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness cat. no. 2049.0 ²²⁶



Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness cat. no. 2049.0²²⁷

Family and community

This domain includes themes of social cohesion, justice and community safety, child safety and suicide. Research shows a link between poverty and disadvantage and increased levels of social exclusion, both in terms of poverty leading to social exclusion and social exclusion being a risk factor for poverty.

Indicators: volunteering; social cohesion; imprisonment; crime victimisation (sexual assault); child maltreatment; suicide.

Volunteering

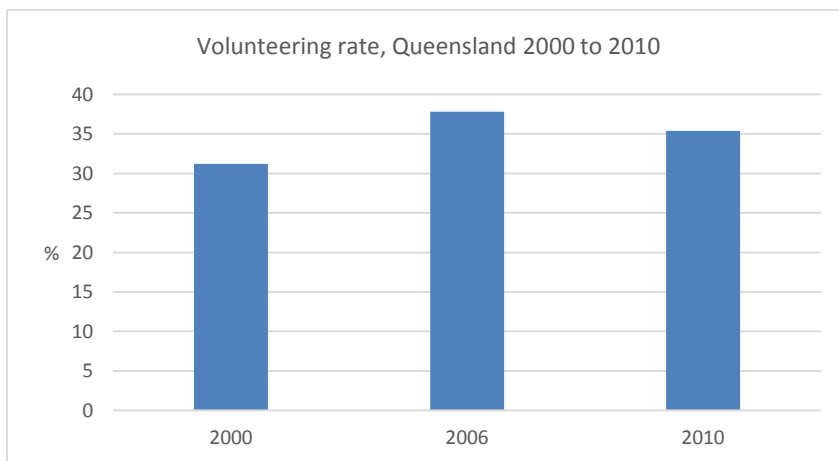
This indicator uses the volunteering rate to measure the incidence of volunteering. The ABS defines unpaid voluntary work as the 'provision of unpaid help willingly undertaken in the form of time, service or skills, to an organisation or group, excluding work done overseas'.²²⁸

Why is this important?

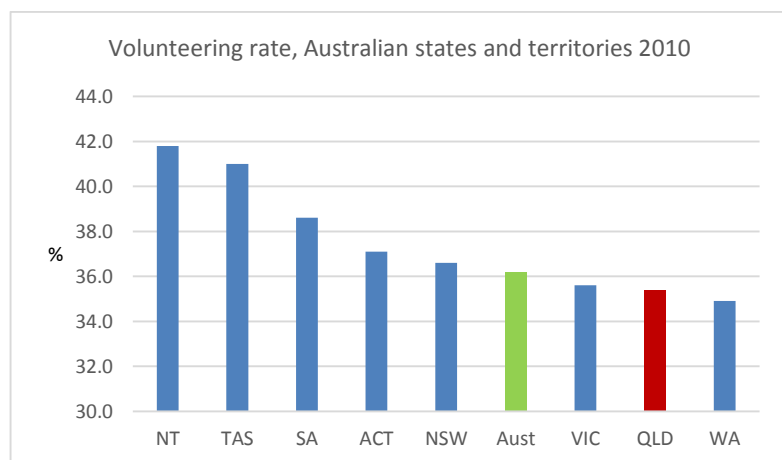
Unpaid voluntary work is of growing importance to the community. Volunteering provides a service of enduring social, cultural and economic value. Australian volunteers are essential to society, and many community organisations would struggle to survive without the support of their volunteers. According to Volunteers Australia, Australian volunteers contributed more than 700 million hours of community service to many areas of society in 2012, including community health care, heritage and arts, environment conservation, emergency services, education, social justice and sports.²²⁹

How are we faring?

The volunteering rate for Queensland in 2010 was 35.4 per cent. This is a decrease from 37.8 per cent in 2006 but an increase from 31.2 per cent in 2000. In 2010, Queensland had one of the lowest rates of volunteering in Australia, ahead of only Western Australia.



Source: ABS 2010 Voluntary Work, Australia cat. no. 4441.0²³⁰



Source: ABS 2010 Voluntary Work, Australia cat. no. 4441.0²³¹

Social cohesion

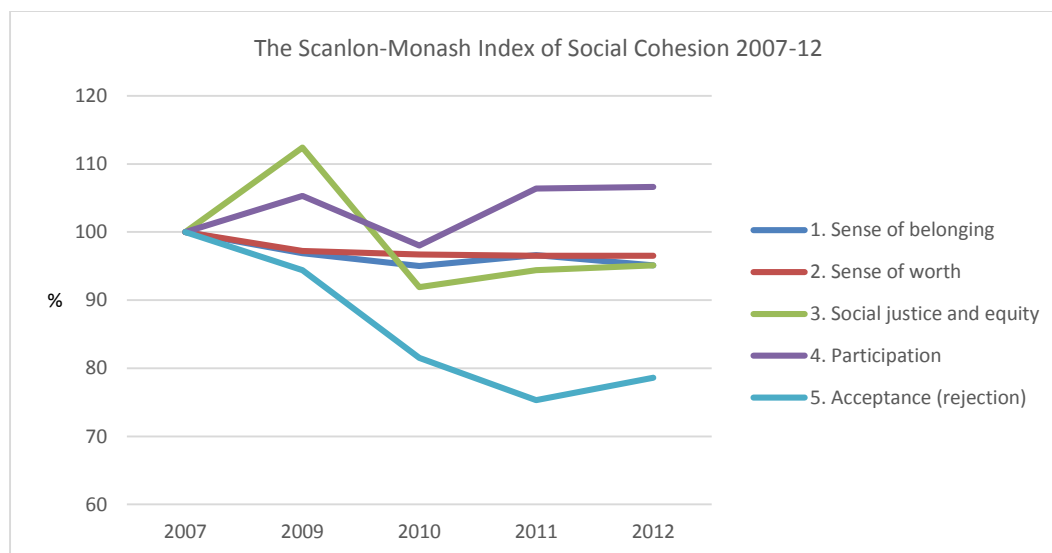
The Scanlon-Monash Index of Social Cohesion (SMI) provides a series of detailed surveys on social cohesion, immigration and population issues. The SMI provides five core domains of social cohesion: belonging; worth; social justice and equity; participation; and acceptance and rejection, legitimacy. This report uses the domain of acceptance and rejection, legitimacy of minorities and newcomers to show trends in social cohesion.

Why is this important?

Weak societal cohesion increases the risk of social disorganisation, fragmentation and exclusion, potentially manifesting itself in violent conflict.²³² A high level of social cohesion results in communities with shared goals, responsibilities and a readiness to co-operate with other community members.²³³

How are we faring?

Unfortunately, data specifically for Queensland and the other states and territories is not readily available. While the level of acceptance or rejection of minorities and newcomers increased slightly between 2011 and 2012, the level of acceptance and rejection was far below the baseline in 2007. Acceptance of minorities and newcomers appears to be the greatest social cohesion challenge for Australia.



Source: Monash University 2012 Mapping social cohesion²³⁴

Imprisonment

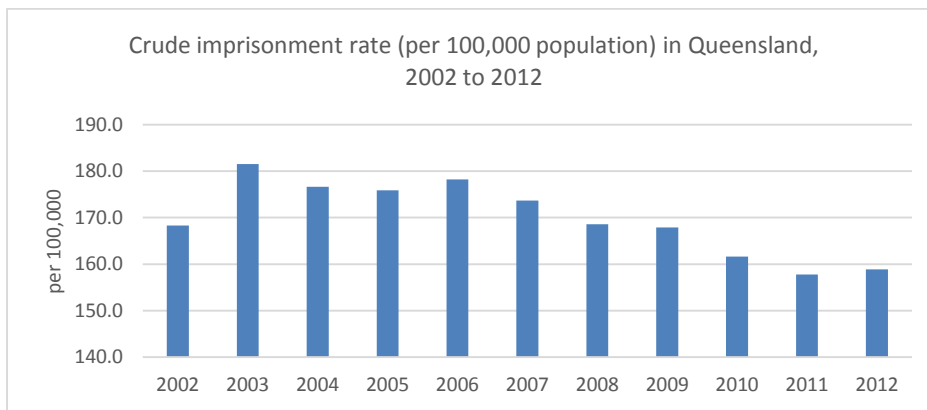
The crude imprisonment rate measures the number of prisoners per 100,000 people at 30 June each year.

Why is this important?

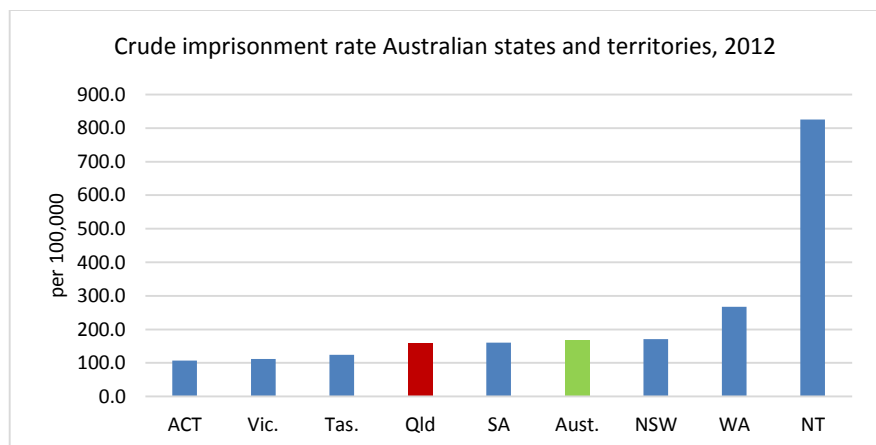
Incarceration is often the end result of a failure to address issues such as poverty, health, homelessness and inequality. Studies of people who have been in prison have found that for many, their lives prior to incarceration were characterised by unstable living arrangements, childhood abuse and neglect, difficulties with education and finding employment, poverty, alcohol and drug use, mental illness, non-supportive personal relationships, and poor relationships with government and other support agencies.²³⁵

How are we faring?

At 30 June 2012 there were 158.9 prisoners per 100,000 of the population in Queensland. This equates to 5,593 prisoners or 19 per cent of the 29,381 prisoners in Australian prisons at this time. While there was a slight increase in the crude imprisonment rate between 2011 and 2012, Queensland's crude imprisonment rate has been steadily decreasing since 2006.



Source: ABS 2012 Prisoners in Australia, 2012 cat. no. 4517.0²³⁶



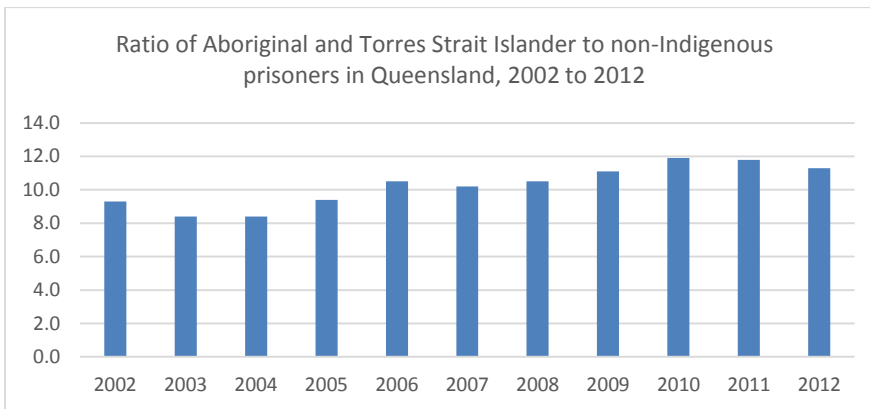
Source: ABS 2012 Prisoners in Australia, 2012 cat. no. 4517.0²³⁷

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander over-representation in the justice system

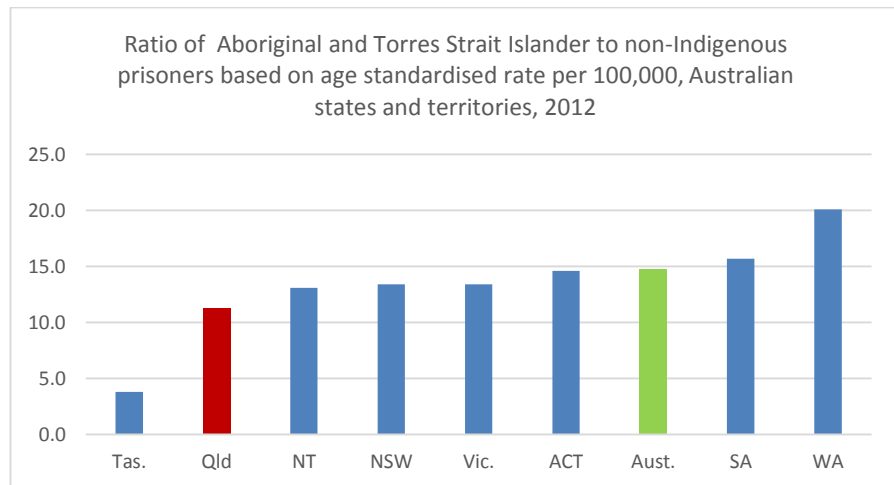
According to Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (ANTaR)²³⁸ the effects of prison on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population exacerbate the already poor health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This is intensified by the individual's disconnection from community and country which plays an integral part in their cultural identity.

The ratio of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners to non-Indigenous prisoners has been steadily increasing since 2002. For every non-Indigenous prisoner there were 11.3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners in 2012.

While Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are significantly over-represented in the justice system, Queensland ranks ahead of most of the other jurisdictions with the second lowest ratio of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander to non-Indigenous prisoners.



Source: ABS 2012 Prisoners in Australia, 2012 cat. no. 4517.0²³⁹



Source: ABS 2012 Prisoners in Australia, 2012 cat. no. 4517.0²⁴⁰

Crime victimisation

This report uses the rate of sexual assaults as a proxy indicator for crime victimisation. The ABS defines sexual assault as ‘[a]n act of a sexual nature carried out against a person’s will, through the use of physical force, intimidation or coercion, or the attempt to carry out these acts.’

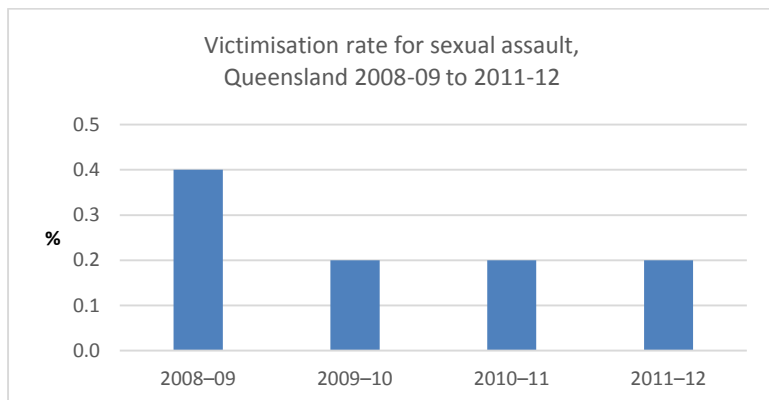
Why is this important?

Poverty is a risk factor which contributes to sexual violence victimisation and perpetration. People living in poverty are more likely to experience sexual assault. Poverty is also a risk factor for perpetration of sexual assault, which is more prevalent in economically disadvantaged communities.²⁴¹

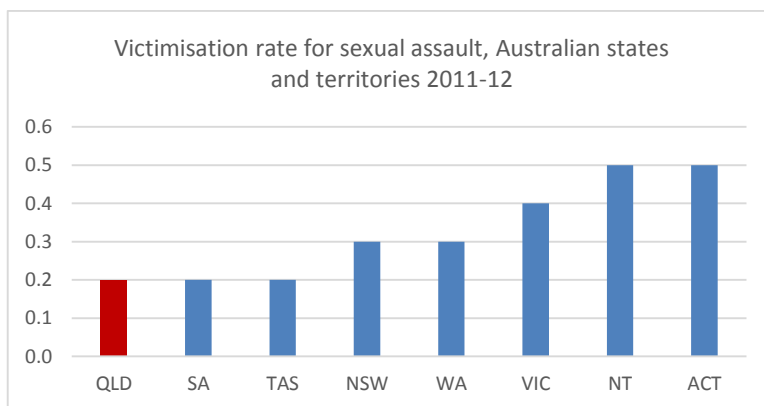
The impacts of victimisation are many and varied. Victimization impacts victims, secondary victims (people close to victims, particularly children), communities and society as a whole. The effect of sexual assault can be psychological, emotional, physical, social, interpersonal and financial.²⁴² Impacts can be short, medium and long term. Sexual assault also impacts on the way the victim interacts with those close to them and impacts the community as a whole.

How are we faring?

According to the ABS Crime Victimization Survey the rate of sexual assault in Queensland declined between 2008-09 and 2009-10 and has been steady since this time. Survey results show Queensland as recording the lowest rate of sexual assault of all of the states and territories.²⁴³



Source: ABS 2012 Crime Victimization, Australia cat. no. 4530.0²⁴⁴



Source: ABS 2012 Crime Victimization, Australia cat. no. 4530.0²⁴⁵

Child maltreatment

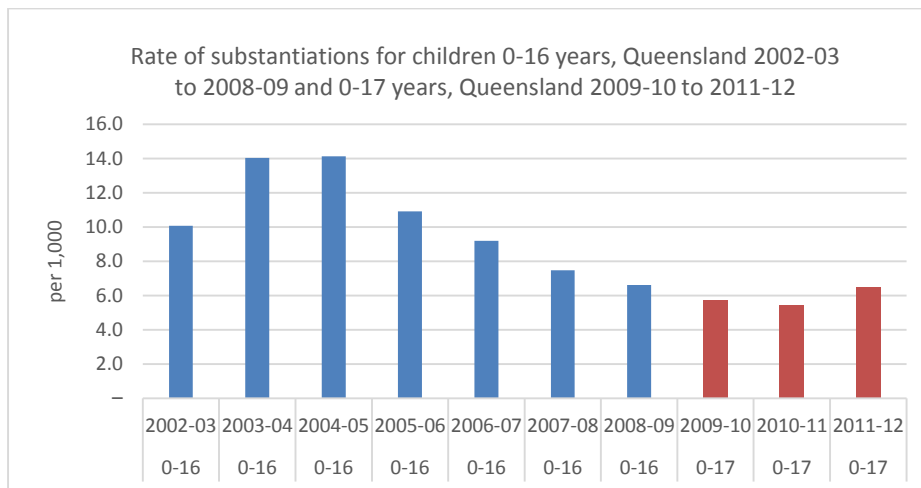
This report uses the rate of substantiations of neglect or harm for children aged 0 to 16 per 1,000 of the population as a measure of child maltreatment.²⁴⁶

Why is this important?

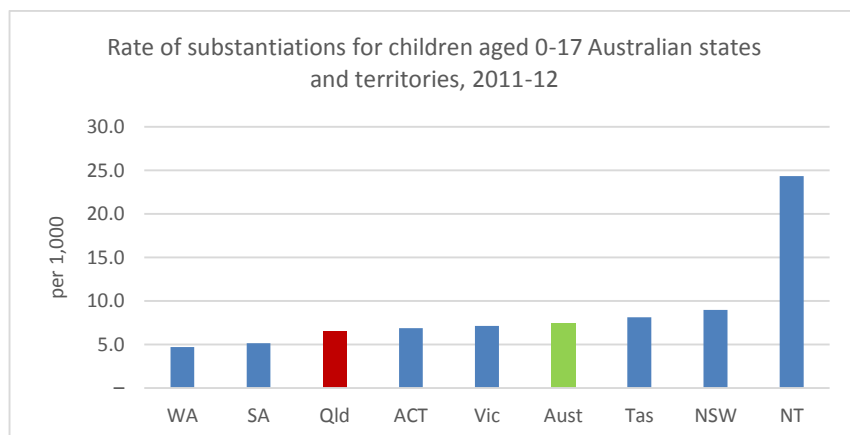
Child maltreatment is a significant issue and can lead to a range of physical, psychological and behavioural problems including suicide, eating disorders, drug and alcohol misuse, and aggression and can contribute to teenage pregnancy and homelessness.²⁴⁷ Children who have had a claim substantiated are at risk of being taken away from their parents and into out-of-home care. At 30 June 2011, there were 8,063 children in Queensland living in out-of-home care.²⁴⁸

How are we faring?

While a recent change in the reporting age from 0-16 to 0-17 makes it difficult to track change over time, data suggests there has been a period of decline in the rate of substantiations between 2004-05 and 2010-11. Data from the latest 12-month period has seen an increase in the substantiation rate from 5.4 per 1,000 of the population to 6.5 per 1,000. In 2011-12, Queensland had the third lowest rate of substantiations in Australia.



Source: SCRGSP 2013 Report on Government Services²⁴⁹



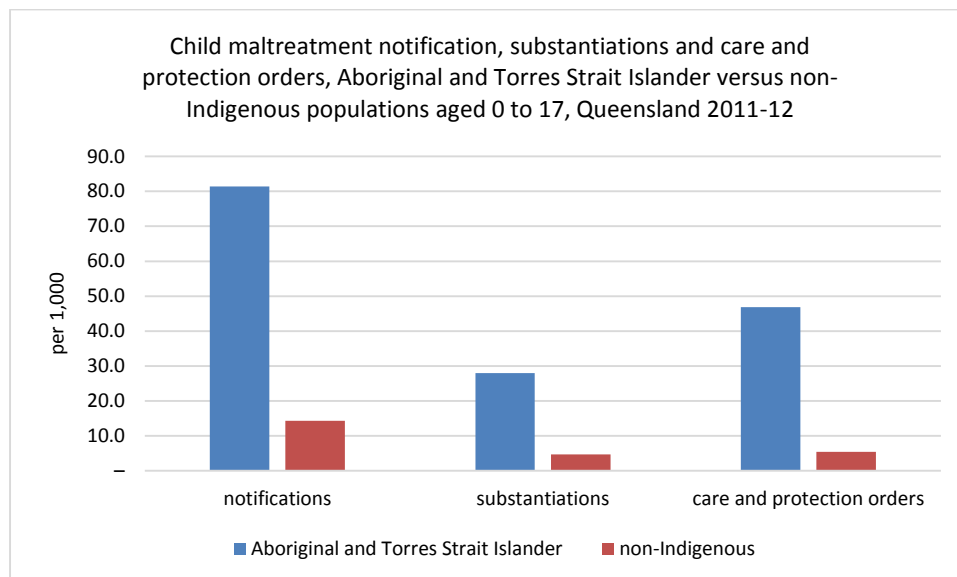
Source: SCRGSP 2013 Report on Government Services²⁵⁰

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child maltreatment

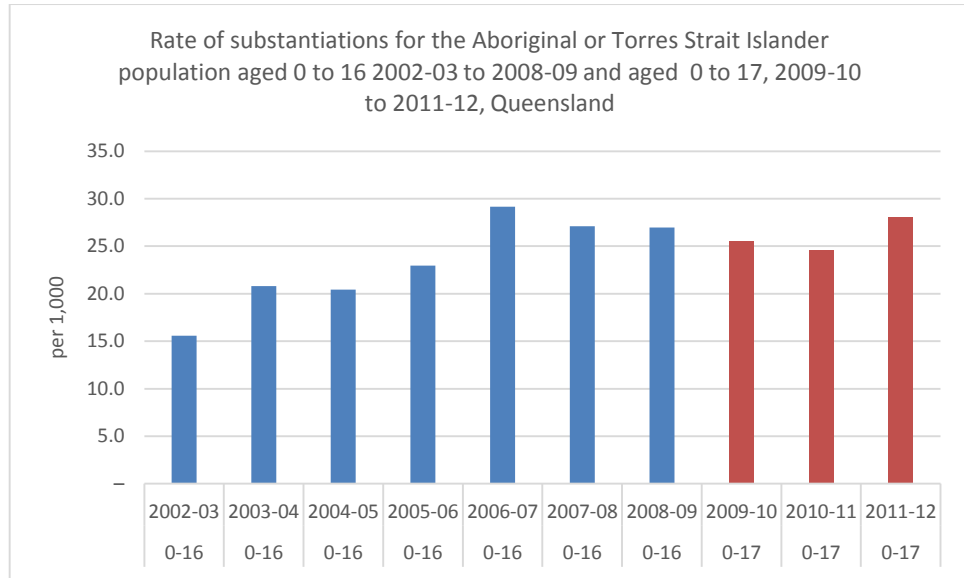
Studies have highlighted the high incidence of child abuse and neglect within some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities compared with non-Indigenous communities. While studies have acknowledged the presence of multiple risk factors in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, including lack of adequate housing, financial security and education, they also acknowledge the possession of a number of protective factors that can safeguard children and families from psychological distress, such as spirituality and connection to land, family and culture.²⁵¹

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are over-represented at all stages of the child protection system, and this number continues to rise. In Queensland, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are nearly five times more likely to be subject to a notification, six times more likely to be subject to a substantiation and almost nine times more likely to be living away from home.

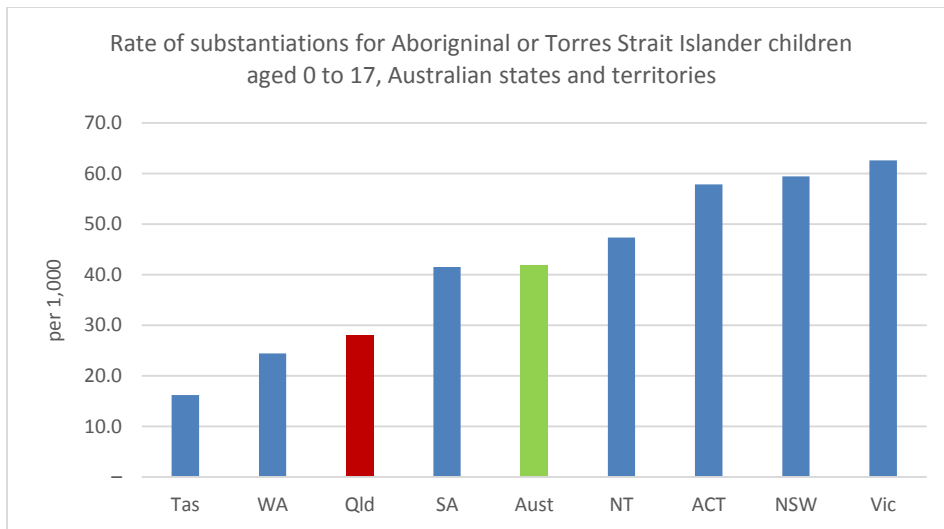
The rate of substantiations per 1,000 for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population aged 0 to 17 is alarmingly high. In 2011-12 the substantiation rate was 28 per 1,000 of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait population in Queensland. In comparison, the rate for the non-Indigenous population was only 4.6 per 1,000. While a change in the reporting age from 0-16 to 0-17 makes it difficult to examine change over time, it does appear that the rate of notifications for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is increasing.



Source: SCRGSP 2013 Report on Government Services²⁵²



Source: SCRGSP 2013 Report on Government Services²⁵³



Source: SCRGSP 2013 Report on Government Services²⁵⁴

Suicide

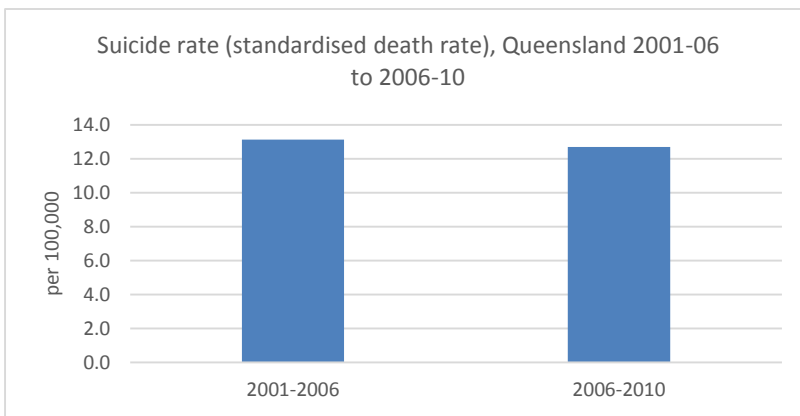
The rate of suicide is represented using the standardised death rate per 100,000 people.²⁵⁵

Why is this important?

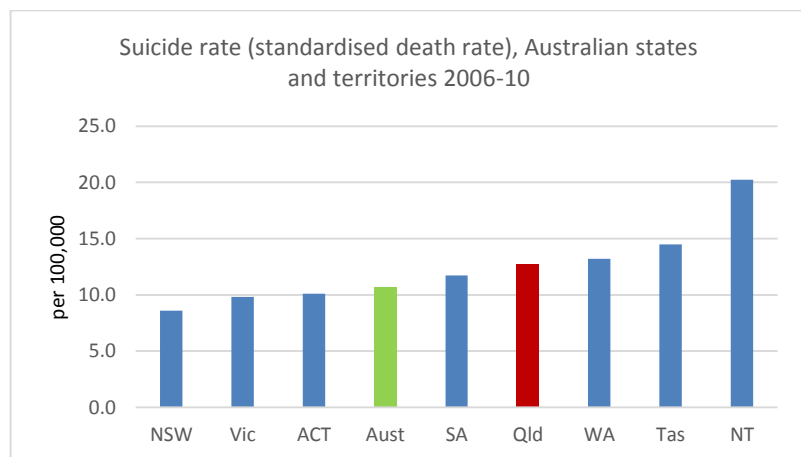
Suicide is a major public health issue. Although death by suicide is relatively uncommon (approximately 1.6 per cent of all deaths), the human costs are substantial and can impact broadly across communities. Suicide and suicidal behaviour arise from complex social, situational, biological and other individual causes²⁵⁶ such as alcohol and drug use, socioeconomic disadvantage, social fragmentation, unemployment, inequity, chronic illness, pain and mental illness.²⁵⁷

How are we faring?

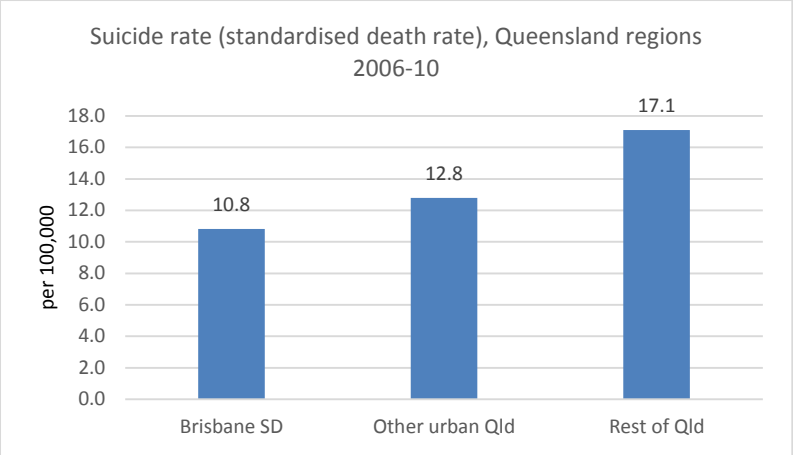
The suicide rate in Queensland has declined marginally from 2001-2006 to 2006-2010 from 13.1 per 100,000 to 12.7 per 100,000. The suicide rate in the 2006-2010 period was significantly higher in regional areas of Queensland. It was the fourth highest of the eight states and territories in the 2006-2010 period, higher than the national average.



Source: ABS 2010 Suicides, Australia cat. no. 3309.0²⁵⁸



Source: ABS 2010 Suicides, Australia cat. no. 3309.0²⁵⁹

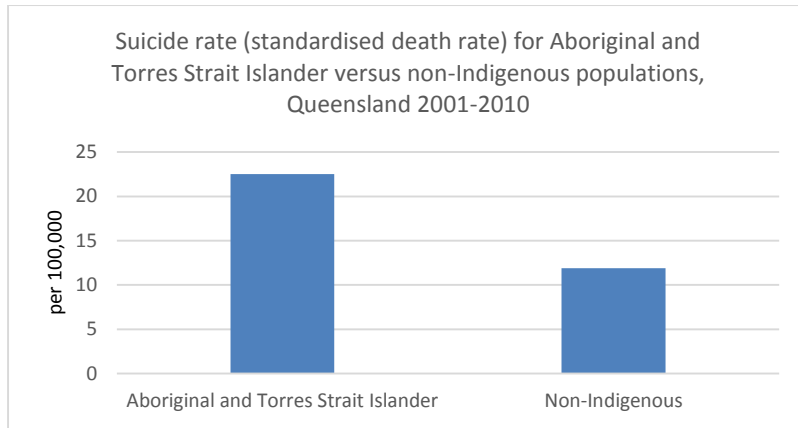


Source: ABS 2010 Suicides, Australia cat. no. 3309.0²⁶⁰

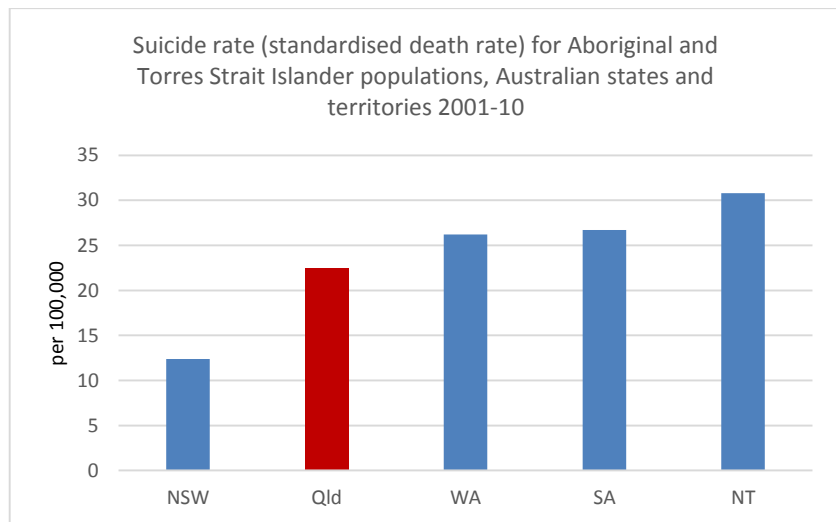
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suicide

Suicide among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is higher than for the non-Indigenous population. The high rates of suicide among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are commonly attributed to a complex set of factors. This includes disadvantage and risk factors shared by the non-Indigenous population. It also includes a broader set of social, economic and historic factors that impact on the social and emotional wellbeing, and mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.²⁶¹

The suicide rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the period 2001-2010 was almost twice that of non-Indigenous people in Queensland. When comparing available data, Queensland had the second lowest rate out of five states and territories.



Source: ABS 2010 Suicides, Australia cat. no. 3309.0²⁶²



Source: ABS 2010 Suicides, Australia cat. no. 3309.0²⁶³

Youth suicide

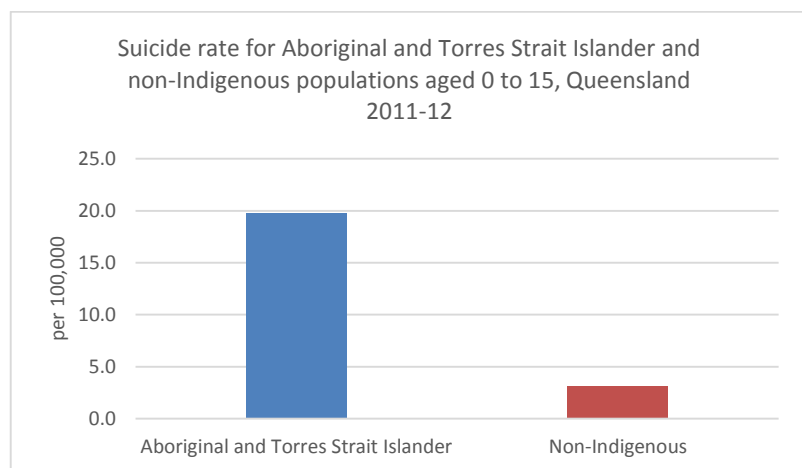
Although suicide is a tragedy at any age, youth suicide generates extreme levels of distress and loss in Australian communities. In 2007-08, there were 9,203 hospital separations for suicide attempts and intentional self-harm for people aged under 24 years.²⁶⁴ A report by Mission Australia (2009) indicated that 26.3 per cent of youth considered suicide to be a major concern for them; second only to drugs (26.8 per cent).

Twenty young people between the ages of 0 and 17 years committed suicide in Queensland in 2011-12. This equates to a suicide rate of 1.8 per 100,000 of the population. This is a small decline from the previous year.

In 2011-12, six young people aged 0 to 17 years of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent committed suicide. While the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suicides among young people is lower than that recorded for the non-Indigenous population, proportionately it is considerably higher. In 2011-12, the suicide rate for non-Indigenous young people aged 0 to 17 was 3.1 per 100,000 compared to 19.8 per 100,000 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.



Source: CCYCPG 2012 *Analysis of Deaths of Children and Young People*²⁶⁵



Source: CCYCPG 2012 *Analysis of Deaths of Children and Young People*²⁶⁶

-
- ¹ Queensland Council of Social Service 2012. *Resilience Profiles Project: Final report June 2012*. <http://communityindicatorsqld.org.au/sites/default/files/Resilience%20Report%20Final.pdf>.
 - ² Australian Council of Social Service 2012. *Poverty in Australia*. <http://www.acoss.org.au/policy/poverty/>
 - ³ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Jun 2012*. cat. no. 6224.0.55.001
 - ⁴ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 Table 6
 - ⁵ *Ibid.* Table 12
 - ⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey* cat. no. 6287.0 Table 3.
 - ⁷ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 Table 6.
 - ⁸ *Ibid.*
 - ⁹ Australian Bureau of Statistics *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery* cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 Canberra 2011 Super Table UM3.
 - ¹⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 Table 23
 - ¹¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Summary of Results 2009-10* cat. no. 6530.0 Canberra Table 30
 - ¹² The Centre for Social Impact: National Australia Bank; *Measuring Financial Exclusion in Australia* June 2013; <http://cr.nab.com.au/what-we-do/research-and-advocacy>
 - ¹³ Queensland Council of Social Service 2013. *Cost of Living Report, Issue 3*. <http://www.qcross.org.au/cost-living-report-issue-3-2013-0>
 - ¹⁴ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013. *Report on Government Services 2013*. Productivity Commission, Canberra Tables 11A.34
 - ¹⁵ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013. *Report on Government Services 2013*. Productivity Commission, Canberra Tables 11A.38
 - ¹⁶ *Ibid.*
 - ¹⁷ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 1.3 <http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4364.0.55.001Main+Features12011-12?OpenDocument>
 - ¹⁸ *Ibid.*
 - ¹⁹ *Ibid.*
 - ²⁰ *Ibid.* Table 6.3
 - ²¹ *Ibid.* Table 7.3
 - ²² *Ibid.* Table 1.3
 - ²³ *Ibid.* Table 10.3
 - ²⁴ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2013. *Children's headline indicators* <http://www.aihw.gov.au/chi/>
 - ²⁵ *Ibid.*
 - ²⁶ Queensland Health. 2012. *The health of Queenslanders 2012: advancing good health*. Fourth report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Brisbane.
 - ²⁷ Department of Education, Training and Employment 2012. *Queensland 2012 Annual Report* <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
 - ²⁸ Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations 2013. *Snapshot of preschool participation in Australia*. <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
 - ²⁹ Department of Education, Training and Employment 2012. *Queensland 2012 Annual Report* <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
 - ³⁰ *Ibid.* Table 3.2
 - ³¹ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2013 *NAPLAN Summary Report: Preliminary results for achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy*. ACARA, Sydney <http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/national-reports/national-reports.html>

-
- ³² Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2012. *NAPLAN Achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy: National Report for 2012*, ACARA, Sydney.
- ³³ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2013 *NAPLAN Summary Report: Preliminary results for achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy*. ACARA, Sydney <http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/national-reports/national-reports.html>
- ³⁴ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2012. *NAPLAN Achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy: National Report for 2012*, ACARA, Sydney.
- ³⁵ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2013 *NAPLAN Summary Report: Preliminary results for achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy*. ACARA, Sydney <http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/national-reports/national-reports.html>
- ³⁶ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2012. *NAPLAN Achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy: National Report for 2012*, ACARA, Sydney.
- ³⁷ Department of Education, Training and Employment 2013. *School Disciplinary Absences by Region*. Released April 2013
<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/statistics/absences.html>
- ³⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Education and Work, Australia – Additional data cubes* cat.no. 6227.0.55.003 Year 12 (or equivalent), persons aged 15–64 years
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6227.0.55.003May%202012?OpenDocument>
- ³⁹ *Ibid.*
- ⁴⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2008. *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008* cat. no. 4714.0 Table 3
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4714.02008?OpenDocument>
- ⁴¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Education and Work, Australia* cat.no. 6227.0 Education and Work, 2012
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6227.0.55.003May%202012?OpenDocument>
- ⁴² Australian Bureau of Statistics 2008. *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008* cat. no. 4714.0 Table 3
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4714.02008?OpenDocument>
- ⁴³ Department of Education, Training and Employment 2012. *Queensland 2012 Annual Report* <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
- ⁴⁴ Australian Government 2012. *Social Inclusion in Australia: How Australia is Faring 2nd Edition*. Social Inclusion Board: Canberra
- ⁴⁵ South Australian Parliament 2013. Second Session, Fifty-Second Parliament; 'Workforce and Education Participation: Final Report Eightieth Report of the Economic and Finance Committee. Ordered to be Published 18 June 2013
- ⁴⁶ Australian Government; *Social Inclusion in Australia: How Australia is Faring 2nd Edition*; Social Inclusion Board; Canberra; 2012
- ⁴⁷ Homel, R., Freiberg, K., Lamb, C., Leech, M., Carr, A., Hampshire, A., Hay, I., Elias, G., Manning, M., Teague, R. and Batchelor, S. *The Pathways to Prevention Project: The first five years 1999 – 2004*. Sydney: Mission Australia and the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance, Griffith University.
- ⁴⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. *Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia, 2011-12* cat.no. 6523.0 Table 17a <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6523.0>
- ⁴⁹ AMP.NATSEM 2011. *The Great Australian Dream - Just a Dream? Housing affordability trends for Australia and our largest 25 cities* AMP.NATSEM Income and wealth report July 2011
- ⁵⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013 *Housing Occupancy and Costs, 20011-12* cat. no. 4130.0 State and territory data, 1994–95 to 2011–12
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4130.02009-10?OpenDocument>
- ⁵¹ *Ibid.* Additional tables – low-income rental households
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4130.02009-10?OpenDocument>

-
- ⁵² Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013 *Report on Government Services*. Productivity Commission: Canberra - Estimate of dwellings per 1,000 of the resident population is based on calculations using population data found within the Report on Government Services report.
- ⁵³ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. *Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness* cat. no. 2049.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/2049.02011>
- ⁵⁴ *Ibid.*
- ⁵⁵ Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute 2012. *What are the benefits and risks of home ownership for low-moderate income households?* AHURI Research & Policy Bulletin Issue 149 January 2012.
- ⁵⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. *Voluntary Work, Australia, 2010* cat. no. 4441.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4441.02010?OpenDocument>
- ⁵⁷ Monash University 2012 *Mapping Social Cohesion: The Scanlon Foundation surveys 2012*. Monash University: Caulfield East <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/mapping-population/social-cohesion-report.php>
- ⁵⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Prisoners in Australia, 2012* cat. no. 4517.0 Prisoner characteristics - states and territories
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4517.0Main+Features12012?OpenDocument>
- ⁵⁹ *Ibid.*
- ⁶⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics. 2013. *Crime Victimisation, Australia 2011-12* cat no. 4530.0 Queensland <http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4530.02011-12?OpenDocument>
- ⁶¹ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013 *Report on Government Services*. Productivity Commission: Canberra
- ⁶² *Ibid.*
- ⁶³ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. *Suicides, Australia, 2010* cat. no. 3309.0 Suicide Summary Statistics, Australia, 2001-2010 and Suicide and Geography, Australia, 2001-2010
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/3309.02010?OpenDocument>
- ⁶⁴ *Ibid.*
- ⁶⁵ Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian 2012. *Analysis of Deaths of Children and Young People, Queensland, 2004-05 to 2011-12*
<http://www.cycopq.qld.gov.au/resources/statistics/index.html>
- ⁶⁶ Mapping Social Cohesion: The Scanlon Foundation Surveys National Report 2012; Professor Andrew Markus; Monash University; 2012
- ⁶⁷ Australian Council of Social Service 2012. *Poverty in Australia*.
<http://www.acoss.org.au/policy/poverty/>
- ⁶⁸ Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett (2009), *The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone*, Penguin Books: London
- ⁶⁹ Australian Council of Social Service 2012. *Poverty in Australia*.
<http://www.acoss.org.au/policy/poverty/>
- ⁷⁰ *Ibid.*
- ⁷¹ Whiteford, P. 2009. *Family Joblessness in Australia*. A paper commissioned by the Social Inclusion Unit of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Commonwealth of Australia.
- ⁷² Hérault, N., Kalb, G. and Zakirova, R. 2011. *Dynamics of Household Joblessness: Evidence from Australian Micro-Data 2001-2007*. Melbourne Institute Working Paper Series Working Paper No. 10/11 Accessed 10 July 2013
http://www.melbourneinstitute.com/downloads/working_paper_series/wp2011n10.pdf
- ⁷³ Gray, M., Taylor, M. and Edwards, B. 2011. 'Unemployment and the Wellbeing of Children aged 5-10 years' in *Australian Journal of Labour Economics*. 14, 2, pp. 153-172.
- ⁷⁴ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Jun 2012*. cat. no. 6224.0.55.001
- ⁷⁵ Productivity Commission 2006. *Workforce Participation Rates – How Does Australia Compare?* Accessed 18 July 2013
http://www.pc.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/60479/workforceparticipation.pdf
- ⁷⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. 'Labour Force Participation' in *Measures of Australia's Progress* cat. no. 1370.0 Accessed 18 July 2013
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/bb8db737e2af84b8ca2571780015701e/1bd3d2e71f6892e3ca25779e001c479d!OpenDocument>

-
- ⁷⁷ Australian Treasury 2010. *Australia to 2050: future challenges*. Accessed 18 July 2013
http://archive.treasury.gov.au/igr/igr2010/report/pdf/IGR_2010.pdf
- ⁷⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 Table 6
- ⁷⁹ *Ibid.* Table 12
- ⁸⁰ *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey* cat. no. 6287.0 from which this data is taken will not be updated to include 2012 or 2013 data until September 2014.
- ⁸¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey* cat. no. 6287.0 Table 7
- ⁸² *Ibid.* Table 3
- ⁸³ *Ibid.* Table 7
- ⁸⁴ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. 'Chapter 6: Unemployment' in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2013* cat. no. 6102.0.55.001
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6102.0.55.001Chapter162013>
- ⁸⁵ Saunders, P. 2002. *The Direct and Indirect Effects of Unemployment on Poverty and Inequality*. SPRC Discussion Paper No. 118, December 2002.
<https://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/SPRCFile/DP118.pdf>
- ⁸⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 Table 6.
- ⁸⁷ *Ibid.* Tables 4 – 11.
- ⁸⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey* cat. no. 6287.0 Table 7.
- ⁸⁹ *Ibid.*
- ⁹⁰ Australian Social Inclusion Board 2009. *A Compendium of Social Inclusion Indicators: How's Australia Faring?* Canberra. Accessed 16 July 2013
<http://www.socialinclusion.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/compendium-of-social-inclusion-indicators.pdf>
- ⁹¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery* cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 Canberra 2011 Super Table UM3.
- ⁹² *Ibid.*
- ⁹³ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. 'Underemployment' in *Australian Social Trends, Jun 2010* cat. no. 4102.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4102.0Main+Features60Jun+2010>
- ⁹⁴ Campbell, I., Parkinson, S. and Wood, G. 2013. *The housing security consequences of underemployment*. AHURI Positioning Paper No. 152, April 2013.
- ⁹⁵ *Ibid.*
- ⁹⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Labour Force, Australia* cat. no. 6202.0 Table 23
- ⁹⁷ *Ibid.*
- ⁹⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Household Expenditure Survey, Australia: Summary of Results 2009-10* cat. no. 6530.0 Canberra Table 30
- ⁹⁹ Connolly C, Georgouras M, Hems L, 2012 *Measuring Financial Exclusion in Australia*, Centre for Social Impact (CSI) – University of New South Wales for National Australia Bank.
- ¹⁰⁰ It is hoped that state based data on financial exclusion, as it was provided in the 2012 report, will be included in future reports.
- ¹⁰¹ The Centre for Social Impact: National Australia Bank; *Measuring Financial Exclusion in Australia* June 2013; <http://cr.nab.com.au/what-we-do/research-and-advocacy>
- ¹⁰² *Ibid.*
- ¹⁰³ Diaz, P., Stahl, J., Lovis-McMahon, D., Kim, S., and Kwan, V. 2013. 'Pathways to Health Services Utilization: Overcoming Economic Barriers through Support Mechanisms' in *Advances in Applied Sociology*. Vol.3, No.4, 193-198.
- ¹⁰⁴ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013. *Report on Government Services 2013*. Productivity Commission, Canberra
- ¹⁰⁵ Queensland Health. 2012. *The health of Queenslanders 2012: advancing good health*. Fourth report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Brisbane.
- ¹⁰⁶ Mangan, J. 2009. *Implications for the Queensland Economy from current world economic conditions*. University of Queensland (on behalf of QCOSS).
- ¹⁰⁷ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013. *Report on Government Services 2013*. Productivity Commission, Canberra Tables 11A.34
- ¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*

-
- ¹⁰⁹ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013, *Report on Government Services 2013*. Productivity Commission, Canberra Tables 11A.38
- ¹¹⁰ *Ibid.*
- ¹¹¹ This data was part of the ABS National Health Survey which was conducted from a sample of approximately 15,600 private dwellings across Australia. Importantly, Very Remote areas of Australia and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities were excluded from this survey. These exclusions have the greatest impact on the Northern Territory.
- ¹¹² For example, Costello, J., Compton, S., Keeler, G. and Angold, A. 2003. "Relationships Between Poverty and Psychopathology: A Natural Experiment." *JAMA*, 290, pp. 2003-2029
- ¹¹³ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 1.3
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4364.0.55.001Main+Features12011-12?OpenDocument>
- ¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*
- ¹¹⁵ Queensland Health. 2012. *The health of Queenslanders 2012: advancing good health*. Fourth report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Brisbane.
- ¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*
- ¹¹⁷ For more detail on the cost of particular health conditions to the Queensland economy, see Queensland Health 2012. *The health of Queenslanders 2012: advancing good health*. Fourth report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Brisbane. p66.
- ¹¹⁸ It is important to note that the proportion of the population with three or more long-term health conditions is likely to increase as the population ages.
- ¹¹⁹ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 1.3
- ¹²⁰ *Ibid.*
- ¹²¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2007. *Self-assessed Health in Australia: A Snapshot, 2004-05* cat. no. 4828.0.55.001
- ¹²² Department of Health 2013. *Self reported health status 2011–12. Health indicators: chronic disease and behavioural risk factors, local government areas*. Department of Health, Queensland Government: Brisbane.
- ¹²³ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 1.3
- ¹²⁴ *Ibid.*
- ¹²⁵ <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/epidemiology/documents/overweight-2011-fs.pdf>
- ¹²⁶ Drewnowski A, Specter SE., Poverty and obesity: the role of energy density and energy costs. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2004 Jan;79(1):6-16.
- ¹²⁷ Queensland Health. 2012. *The health of Queenslanders 2012: advancing good health*. Fourth report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Brisbane.
- ¹²⁸ *Ibid.*
- ¹²⁹ Department of Health 2013. *Self reported health status 2011–12. Health indicators: chronic disease and behavioural risk factors, local government areas*. Department of Health, Queensland Government: Brisbane.
- ¹³⁰ Queensland Health 2011. *Child health survey 2011: Queensland report*. Queensland Health: Brisbane.
- ¹³¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 1.3
- ¹³² *Ibid.* Table 6.3
- ¹³³ Haustein, K. 2006. *Smoking and poverty*. *Eur J Cardiovasc Prev Rehabil*. June 13, 3, pp. 312-8.
- ¹³⁴ Queensland Health. 2012. *The health of Queenslanders 2012: advancing good health*. Fourth report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Brisbane.
- ¹³⁵ Queensland Health 2008. *The Health of Queenslanders 2008: Prevention of Chronic Disease*. Second Report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland, Queensland Health. Brisbane.
- ¹³⁶ Queensland Health. 2012. *The health of Queenslanders 2012: advancing good health*. Fourth report of the Chief Health Officer Queensland. Brisbane.
- ¹³⁷ Department of Health 2013. *Self reported health status 2011–12. Health indicators: chronic disease and behavioural risk factors, local government areas*. Department of Health, Queensland Government: Brisbane.

-
- 138 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 7.3
- 139 *Ibid.* Table 1.3
- 140 *Ibid.* Table 7.3
- 141 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. 'Health Risk Factors' in *Year Book Australia, 2012* Cat no. 1301.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/1301.0~2012~Main%20Features~Health%20risk%20factors~233>
- 142 Department of Health 2013. Self reported health status 2011–12. Health indicators: chronic disease and behavioural risk factors, local government areas. Department of Health, Queensland Government: Brisbane.
- 143 Queensland Health 2011. *Child health survey 2011: Queensland report*. Queensland Health: Brisbane.
- 144 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 1.3
- 145 *Ibid.*
- 146 *Ibid.*
- 147 This data was part of the ABS National Health Survey which was conducted from a sample of approximately 15,600 private dwellings across Australia. Importantly, Very Remote areas of Australia and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities were excluded from this survey. These exclusions have the greatest impact on the Northern Territory
- 148 Department of Health 2013. Self reported health status 2011–12. Health indicators: chronic disease and behavioural risk factors, local government areas. Department of Health, Queensland Government: Brisbane.
- 149 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012 *Australian Health Survey: First Results* cat. no. 4364.0.55.001 Canberra Table 10.3
- 150 *Ibid.* Table 1.3
- 151 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2011. *Headline Indicators for children's health, development and wellbeing 2011*. cat. no. PHE 144. Canberra: AIHW.
- 152 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2013. *Children's headline indicators*
<http://www.aihw.gov.au/chi/>
- 153 *Ibid.*
- 154 *Ibid.*
- 155 *Ibid.*
- 156 Council of Australian Governments 2013. *National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education*.
http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/npa/education/early_childhood_education/early_childhood_education.pdf
- 157 Department of Education, Training and Employment 2012. *Queensland 2012 Annual Report* <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
- 158 The Abecedarian Project in North Carolina, which is an early child development program for children from four months of age had positive outcomes on children's language and mathematics skills. Campbell, F. A., Ramey, C. T., Pungello, E. P., Sparling, J.J, and Miller-Johnson, S. 2002. 'Early childhood education: Young adult outcomes from the Abecedarian Project' in *Applied Developmental Science*, 6, pp. 42-57.
- 159 According to Mustard (2007:16) 'Countries with early child development programs that begin in the very early years (birth to age two) have the highest population scores in literacy and numeracy.' Mustard, F. *Investing in the Early Years: Closing the gap between what we know and what we do*. Adelaide: Department of Premier and Cabinet
http://www.thinkers.sa.gov.au/lib/pdf/Mustard_Final_Report.pdf
- 160 According to Viljoen (2010:3) "Current thinking about early intervention increasingly accepts that early childhood experience crucially determines health and wellbeing and the attainment of competences at later ages, and that investment in the early years will be reflected in improved education, employment, and even national productivity. Viljoen, R. 2010 'Prevention and early intervention – the Helping Out Families Initiative', *CDFVRe@der*. 9, 1, September, pp. 3-4.
<http://www.noviolence.com.au/public/reader/readersep2010.pdf>
- 161 According to a recent PwC Australia (2012:13) report 'For governments, early intervention through the provision of early childhood services is an important instrument for reducing the negative developmental impacts of disadvantage, and disrupting patterns of poverty

- and inequality that begin in early childhood.' PwC Australia 2011 *A practical vision for early childhood education and care*. PwC Australia http://www.pwc.se/sv_SE/se/offentlig-sektor/assets/a-practical-vision-for-early-childhood-education-and-care.pdf
- ¹⁶² Department of Education, Training and Employment 2012. *Queensland 2012 Annual Report* <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
- ¹⁶³ Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations 2013. *Snapshot of preschool participation in Australia*. <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
- ¹⁶⁴ Department of Education, Training and Employment 2012. *Queensland 2012 Annual Report* <http://deewr.gov.au/annual-reports-and-evaluation-reports-under-previous-national-partnership-agreement-early-childhood>
- ¹⁶⁵ Australian Government 2013. *A Snapshot of Early Childhood Development in Australia 2012*. Australian Government; Canberra http://www.rch.org.au/aedi/Resources/National_Report/
- ¹⁶⁶ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.* Table 3.2
- ¹⁶⁸ *Ibid.* Table 2.6
- ¹⁶⁹ National Assessment Program 2013. *NAPLAN*. <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/naplan.html>
- ¹⁷⁰ National Assessment Program 2013. *Why NAP?* <http://www.nap.edu.au/about/why-nap.html>
- ¹⁷¹ Data for 2013 for educational attainment of parent/guardian was not available at time of publication.
- ¹⁷² Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2008 to 2012. *NAPLAN Achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy: National Report*, ACARA, Sydney. and Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2013 *NAPLAN Summary Report: Preliminary results for achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy*. ACARA, Sydney <http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/national-reports/national-reports.html>
- ¹⁷³ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2013 *NAPLAN Summary Report: Preliminary results for achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy*. ACARA, Sydney <http://www.nap.edu.au/results-and-reports/national-reports/national-reports.html>
- ¹⁷⁴ Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority 2012. *NAPLAN Achievement in Reading, Persuasive Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy: National Report for 2012*, ACARA, Sydney.
- ¹⁷⁵ Queensland Department of Education, Training and Employment 2013. *School Disciplinary Absences by Region*. Released April 2013 <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/statistics/absences.html>
- ¹⁷⁶ Berridge, D., Brodie, I., Pitts, J., Porteous, D., & Tarling, R.; *The independent effects of permanent exclusion from school on the offending careers of young people*; RDS Occasional Paper No 71; Home Office; London, United Kingdom; 2001. Page vi. <http://troublesofyouth.pbworks.com/f/occ71-exclusion.pdf>
- ¹⁷⁷ Department of Education, Training and Employment 2013. *School Disciplinary Absences by Region*. Released April 2013 <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/statistics/absences.html>
- ¹⁷⁸ South Australian Parliament 2013. *Workforce and Education Participation: Final Report*. Eightieth Report of the Economic and Finance Committee. Second Session, Fifty-Second Parliament.
- ¹⁷⁹ Australian Government 2012. *Social Inclusion in Australia: How Australia is Faring* 2nd Edition; Social Inclusion Board: Canberra. <http://www.socialinclusion.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/haif-report-2012.pdf>
- ¹⁸⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Education and Work, Australia – Additional data cubes* cat.no. 6227.0.55.003 Year 12 (or equivalent), persons aged 15–64 years <http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6227.0.55.003May%202012?OpenDocument>
- ¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁸² *Ibid.*
- ¹⁸³ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. *Australian Social Trends*. cat. no. 4102.0 <http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/C822971247C9CAD1CA2578BD0013DAEC?opendocument>
- ¹⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

- 185 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Education and Work, Australia – Additional data cubes* cat.no. 6227.0.55.003 Year 12 (or equivalent), persons aged 15–64 years
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6227.0.55.003May%202012?OpenDocument>
- 186 *Ibid.*
- 187 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2008. *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008* cat. no. 4714.0 Table 3
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4714.02008?OpenDocument>
- 188 ACT Government. *Measuring our Progress*
http://www.measuringourprogress.act.gov.au/an_educated_and_skilled_act/people_with_post-school_qualifications
- 189 Australian Government 2012. *Social Inclusion in Australia: How Australia is Faring* 2nd Edition; Social Inclusion Board: Canberra.
<http://www.socialinclusion.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/haif-report-2012.pdf>
- 190 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Education and Work, Australia* cat.no. 6227.0 Education and Work, 2012
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6227.0.55.003May%202012?OpenDocument>
- 191 *Ibid.*
- 192 *Ibid.*
- 193 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2008. *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, 2008* cat. no. 4714.0 Table 3
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4714.02008?OpenDocument>
- 194 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. *Household Income and Income Distribution Australia 2011-12* cat. no. 6523.0 <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6523.0>
- 195 Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute 2012. *What are the benefits and risks of home ownership for low-moderate income households?* AHURI Research & Policy Bulletin Issue 149 January 2012.
- 196 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. 'Life on Struggle Street' in *Australian Social Trends, March quarter 2012* cat. no. 4102.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4102.0Main+Features10March+Quarter+2012>
- 197 Hulse, K. and Burke, T. 2009. *The benefits and risks of home ownership: disaggregating the effects of household income.* AHURI Positioning Paper No. 120
- 198 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. *Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia, 2011-12* cat.no. 6523.0 Table 17a
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6523.0>
- 199 *Ibid.* 2003-04 (Table 16), 2005-06 (Table 16a), 2007-08, 2009-10 and 2011-12 (Table 17a)
- 200 AMP.NATSEM 2011 *The Great Australian Dream - Just a Dream? Housing affordability trends for Australia and our largest 25 cities* AMP.NATSEM Income and wealth report July 2011 Table 6
- 201 Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute 2012. *What are the benefits and risks of home ownership for low-moderate income households?* AHURI Research & Policy Bulletin Issue 149 January 2012.
- 202 *Ibid.*
- 203 AMP.NATSEM 2011. *The Great Australian Dream - Just a Dream? Housing affordability trends for Australia and our largest 25 cities* AMP.NATSEM Income and wealth report July 2011 Table 6
- 204 *Ibid.* Table 6
- 205 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2005 'Housing Stock: Supply of Housing' in *Australian Social Trends, 2005.* cat. no. 4102.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/2f762f95845417aeca25706c00834efa/9d4e11e2d52cace4ca25703b0080cccb!OpenDocument>
- 206 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013 *Building Approvals, Australia, April 2013* cat. no. 8731.0 Table 38 and Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013 *Australian Demographic Statistics, Mar 2013* cat. no. 3101.0 Table 4.
- 207 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013 *Housing Occupancy and Costs, 20011-12* cat. no. 4130.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4130.0Explanatory%20Notes12011-12?OpenDocument>

- 208 Yates J and Gabriel M (2006) *Housing Affordability in Australia*, National Research Venture 3: Housing Affordability for Lower Income Australians Research Paper 3, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute.
- 209 Burke, T., Pinnegar, S., Phibbs, P., Neske, C., Gabriel, M., Ralston, L. and Ruming, K. (2007) *Experiencing the housing affordability problem: blocked aspirations, trade-offs and financial hardships*, National Research Venture 3: Housing affordability for lower income Australians, Research Paper No. 9, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute.
- 210 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013 *Housing Occupancy and Costs, 20011-12* cat. no. 4130.0 State and territory data, 1994–95 to 2011–12
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4130.02009-10?OpenDocument>
- 211 *Ibid.*
- 212 Yates J and Gabriel M (2006) *Housing Affordability in Australia*, National Research Venture 3: Housing Affordability for Lower Income Australians Research Paper 3, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute.
- 213 Burke, T., Pinnegar, S., Phibbs, P., Neske, C., Gabriel, M., Ralston, L. and Ruming, K. (2007) *Experiencing the housing affordability problem: blocked aspirations, trade-offs and financial hardships*, National Research Venture 3: Housing affordability for lower income Australians, Research Paper No. 9, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute.
- 214 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013 *Housing Occupancy and Costs, 20011-12* cat. no. 4130.0 Additional tables - low income rental households
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4130.02009-10?OpenDocument>
- 215 *Ibid.*
- 216 Biddle, N. and Yap, M. 2010. *Demographic and Socioeconomic Outcomes Across the Indigenous Australian Lifecourse*. CAEPR No. 31; Australian National University: Canberra.
- 217 Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013 *Report on Government Services*. Productivity Commission: Canberra - Estimate of dwellings per 1,000 of the resident population is based on calculations using population data found within the Report on Government Services report.
- 218 Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013 *Ibid.*
- 219 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Information Paper - A Statistical Definition of Homelessness*. Cat. no. 4922.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/4922.0Main%20Features22012?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=4922.0&issue=2012&num=&view=>
- 220 Department of Human Services Victoria 2002. *Victorian Homelessness Strategy: Action Plan and Strategic Framework*. Victoria, Melbourne.
- 221 Homelessness Australia 2010. *Factsheet on Homelessness and Families*.
<http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/UserFiles/File/Fact%20sheets/Homelessness%20and%20Families%202010-2011%20LR.pdf>
- 222 Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs 2008. *The Road Home: A National Approach to Reducing Homelessness*. FaHCSIA; Canberra.
<http://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/housing-support/programs-services/homelessness/the-road-home-the-australian-government-white-paper-on-homelessness-0>
- 223 Homelessness Australia 2010. *Factsheet on Homelessness and Families*.
<http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/UserFiles/File/Fact%20sheets/Homelessness%20and%20Families%202010-2011%20LR.pdf>
- 224 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013. *Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness* cat. no. 2049.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/2049.02011>
- 225 Dockery, A., Ong, R., Colquhoun, S., Li, J. and Kendall, G. 2013. *Housing and children's development and wellbeing: evidence from Australian data* AHURI Final Report No. 201
- 226 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2013 *Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness* cat. no. 2049.0 Table 1 to 9
- 227 *Ibid.*
- 228 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. *Flexible Working Arrangements in Queensland, Oct 2010*. Category Number 6342.0.80.002
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/6342.0.80.002Main%20Featur>

- [es7Oct%202010?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=6342.0.80.002&issue=Oct%202010&num=&view=](#)
- 229 Volunteering Australia 2012 *Annual Report 2011-2012*
http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/files/18YNART6T0/05112012_VA_Annual_Report_2012.pdf
- 230 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. *Voluntary Work, Australia, 2010* cat. no. 4441.0
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4441.02010?OpenDocument>
- 231 *Ibid.*
- 232 Colletta, N. and Cullen, M. *The Nexus Between Violent Conflict, Social Capital and Social Cohesion* World Bank Social Capital Initiative Working Paper No. 23, September 2000
<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTSOCIALCAPITAL/Resources/Social-Capital-Initiative-Working-Paper-Series/SCI-WPS-23.pdf>
- 233 Monash University 2012 *Mapping Social Cohesion: The Scanlon Foundation surveys 2012*. Monash University: Caulfield East <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/mapping-population/social-cohesion-report.php>
- 234 *Ibid.*
- 235 Grunseit, A., McCarron, E., and Forell, S. (2008). *Taking Justice into Custody: the legal needs of prisoners* Access to Justice and Legal Needs Vol. 5. Sydney: Law and Justice Foundation of New South Wales and Bell, A. (2008). *Sharing Stories: Lived Experience in the Criminal Justice System*.
http://www.ucareqld.com.au/SocialJustice/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=177
- 236 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Prisoners in Australia, 2012* cat. no. 4517.0 Prisoner characteristics - states and territories
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4517.0Main+Features12012?OpenDocument>
- 237 *Ibid.*
- 238 Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation Queensland 2012. *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and Justice Reinvestment – Discussion Paper* February 2012
<http://antarqld.org.au/node/198>
- 239 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012. *Prisoners in Australia, 2012* cat. no. 4517.0 Indigenous prisoner characteristics
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4517.0Main+Features12012?OpenDocument>
- 240 *Ibid.*
- 241 Greco, D. and Dawgert, S. 2007. *Poverty and Sexual Violence: Building Prevention and Intervention Responses*. Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape: Pennsylvania
- 242 Boyd, C. 2011. *The impacts of sexual assault on women*; Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault Resource Sheet, April 2011.
<http://www.aifs.gov.au/acssa/pubs/sheets/rs2/>
- 243 While national surveys, such as the ABS Crime Victimization survey, provide the most reliable information about the prevalence and extent of sexual assault in Australia, it is important to remember that the survey design excludes the experiences of the most vulnerable members of our community; for example, children and young people, very remotely situated Australians, prisoners, people in residential care and other institutional settings. These people are acknowledged in research and sexual assault literature as being at greater risk of sexual assault.
- 244 Australian Bureau of Statistics. 2013. *Crime Victimization, Australia 2011-12* cat no. 4530.0 Queensland
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4530.02011-12?OpenDocument>
- 245 Australian Bureau of Statistics. 2013. *Crime Victimization, Australia 2011-12* cat no. 4530.0 New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/4530.02011-12?OpenDocument>
- 246 Substantiations of neglect or harm are instances where an investigation is concluded and there is reasonable cause to believe that the child has been, is being or is likely to be abused, neglected or otherwise harmed. The five main types of child maltreatment are: physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional maltreatment, neglect, and witnessing domestic violence. Institute of Family Studies 2010. *Effects of child abuse and neglect for children and adolescents* NCPC Resource Sheet, April 2010.

-
- ²⁴⁷ Lamont, A. 2010. *Effects of child abuse and neglect for children and adolescents*. National Child Protection Clearinghouse Resource Sheet, April 2010.
<http://www.aifs.gov.au/nch/pubs/sheets/rs17/rs17.html>
- ²⁴⁸ Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian 2012. *Snapshot 2012: Children and Young People in Queensland*
<http://www.ccypcg.qld.gov.au/resources/publications/snapshot/snapshot12.html>
- ²⁴⁹ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013 *Report on Government Services*. Productivity Commission: Canberra
- ²⁵⁰ *Ibid.*
- ²⁵¹ Bamblett, M., Bath, H. and Roseby, R. 2010, *Growing them Strong, Together: Promoting the safety and wellbeing of the Northern Territory's children*, Report of the Board of Inquiry into the Child Protection System in the Northern Territory 2010, Northern Territory Government, Darwin
- ²⁵² Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013 *Report on Government Services*. Productivity Commission: Canberra
- ²⁵³ Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision 2013 *Report on Government Services*. Productivity Commission: Canberra
- ²⁵⁴ *Ibid.*
- ²⁵⁵ Data is sourced from the ABS and based on data sourced from the state and territory Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages and supplemented by information from the National Coroners Information System.
- ²⁵⁶ Suicide Prevention Australia 2013. *Nine Principles for Suicide Prevention* Accessed 24 July 2013 <http://suicidepreventionaust.org/about/>
- ²⁵⁷ Suicide Prevention Australia 2013 *Position Statements* Accessed 24 July 2013
<http://suicidepreventionaust.org/resources/>
- ²⁵⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. *Suicides, Australia, 2010* cat. no. 3309.0 Suicide Summary Statistics, Australia, 2001-2010 and Suicide and Geography, Australia, 2001-2010
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/3309.02010?OpenDocument>
- ²⁵⁹ *Ibid.*
- ²⁶⁰ *Ibid.*
- ²⁶¹ Department of Health and Ageing 2013. *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy* May 2013
[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/E058F9C4A0DE6850CA257B73001D8862/\\$File/Indigenous%20Strategy.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/E058F9C4A0DE6850CA257B73001D8862/$File/Indigenous%20Strategy.pdf)
- ²⁶² Australian Bureau of Statistics 2010. *Suicides, Australia, 2010* cat. no. 3309.0 Suicide Summary Statistics, Australia, 2001-2010 and Suicide and Geography, Australia, 2001-2010
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/3309.02010?OpenDocument>
- ²⁶³ *Ibid.*
- ²⁶⁴ Suicide Prevention Australia 2013 *Position Statements* Accessed 24 July 2013
<http://suicidepreventionaust.org/resources/>
- ²⁶⁵ Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian 2012. *Analysis of Deaths of Children and Young People, Queensland, 2004–05 to 2011–12*
<http://www.ccypcg.qld.gov.au/resources/statistics/index.html>
- ²⁶⁶ *Ibid.*