

OFFICIAL

Data Development Plan – 2022-2030

Introduction

Data will be critical to the successful implementation of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap 2020 (National Agreement). Data provides insights into important aspects of the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and holds all governments and the Coalition of Peaks (Parties to the National Agreement) to account in the delivery of Closing the Gap Priority Reforms and Socioeconomic Outcomes.

There is already baseline data available against most Closing the Gap Socioeconomic Outcomes. However, the quality and quantity of this data varies, as has historical levels of engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations in the production and interpretation of data.

The Data Development Plan (DDP) outlines and prioritises the data development actions under each Socioeconomic Outcome. The DDP is intended to facilitate a richer array of high quality data sources attached to all Socioeconomic Outcomes over the life of the National Agreement.

The progress and prioritisation of data development for the Priority Reforms is being considered through a separate Partnership Working Group process, with the potential for that work to be incorporated into the DDP in the future.

The DDP does not specify the method by which items should be progressed, or timeframes for their completion. This is a matter for the implementing Parties. Parties to the National Agreement will be required to provide updates against the DDP in their Implementation Plans.

All work undertaken in relation to the DDP must be consistent with ethical collection, treatment, access to, and use of data in order to give effect to the partnership principles in the

National Agreement. The following key elements are outlined in the DDP.

1. Implementation of the DDP

Monitoring and accountability for the ongoing development and delivery of the DDP.

2. Guiding principles for data development prioritisation over the life of the National Agreement

These principles should be considered by Parties to the National Agreement in the setting of data development agendas. The Principles are:

1. Ethical use of data, in particular acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led work about Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance
2. Partnership and shared decision-making with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
3. Prioritising data development which will promote Closing the Gap objectives
4. Leveraging broader data development agendas
5. Commitment to data sharing and collaboration

OFFICIAL

3. Prioritisation of data development items

This section outlines the method used by the Data and Reporting Working Group to prioritise data development items. This method can be applied by Parties to the National Agreement in setting future data development agendas. Attachment A shows the ratings in each Socioeconomic Outcome. *NOTE: items are labelled alphabetically for ease of reference. This does NOT reflect relative importance of items within the same rating category.*

Why was the DDP developed?

The National Agreement was developed in partnership between Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments, the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations (Coalition of Peaks) and the Australian Local Government Association.

At its centre are four Priority Reforms that focus on changing the way governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They are:

1. **Formal Partnership and shared decision-making:** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are empowered to share decision-making authority through formal partnership arrangements with governments to accelerate policy and place-based progress on Closing the Gap.
2. **Building the community-controlled sector:** There is a strong and sustainable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled sector delivering high quality services to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the country.
3. **Transforming government organisations:** Governments, their organisations and their institutions are accountable for Closing the Gap and are culturally safe and responsive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including through the services they fund.
4. **Shared access to data and information at a regional level:** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to, and the capability to use, locally-relevant data and information to set and monitor the implementation of efforts to close the gap, their priorities and drive their own development.

Clauses 92-94 of the National Agreement also commits the Parties to establish a DDP:

The Parties will establish a data development plan for data development actions identified in Table A and Table B, for endorsement by Joint Council within 2 years of this Agreement commencing. The data development plan will:

- a) be developed in partnership and jointly agreed by all Parties
- b) prioritise data development actions over the life of this Agreement
- c) outline clear timeframes for actions to be delivered and which Party will be responsible for each action
- d) be reviewed by Joint Council at the same time as it reviews the Productivity Commission and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led reviews, at which time Joint Council may consider changes to the plan.

OFFICIAL

The Parties acknowledge that within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population there are cohorts that are likely to experience greater levels of disadvantage and where it may be more difficult to close the gap. Where possible, data disaggregation of outcomes includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stolen generation survivors; people with disability; and LGBTQI¹status to make sure that progress on Closing the Gap can be monitored for these more vulnerable groups. Where this has not been possible due to data limitations, the Parties agree to consider how this data can be developed as part of the data development plan.

In recognition of the role of cultural determinants in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing, spanning across a range of outcome areas, the Parties commit to identifying appropriate contextual indicators and information to aid reporting.

The Joint Council can make changes to indicators in the outcomes framework where data development activities indicate that changes are necessary.'

The DDP delivers this commitment, in line with the Strong Partnership Elements outlined in the National Agreement (Clause 32). A Data and Reporting Working Group (DRWG) was established to oversee the development of the DDP for endorsement by Joint Council. The DRWG is co-chaired by the National Indigenous Australians Agency and the Coalition of Peaks, and includes Community data custodians and Commonwealth and State and Territory agencies.

¹ Note that while the National Agreement uses the acronym LGBTQI – the DDP uses the inclusive acronym LGBTQIA+SB (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Sistergirl and Brotherboy)

1. Implementation of the DDP

The DDP does not specify the method by which items should be progressed. The timings proposed are understood to be realistic options for the commencement of work on each item. The conceptual and analytical work required to action the data development items is the responsibility of the implementing Parties. This will be a significant body of work to be undertaken over the life of the National Agreement.

All Parties to the National Agreement are responsible for incorporating actions under the DDP as part of the governance of their ongoing Closing the Gap Implementation Plans (Clause 106 of the National Agreement). The inclusion of data items within Implementation Plans should reflect the responsibilities for the delivery of Closing the Gap outcomes.

The implementation and review of the DDP will be assisted by a refresh of the current Data and Reporting Working Group (DRWG) which will be conducted following Joint Council endorsement of the DDP. This will include the review of the current Terms of Reference (TOR) and the membership, as the founding TOR were focused on delivery of the DDP. The updated TOR and membership will include and reflect roles and responsibilities that provide a mechanism to monitor, support, and advise on the progress of the agreed priorities and initiatives at a strategic and jurisdictional level.

To support parties in the monitoring and undertaking of data development items, the DRWG will aim to provide a traffic light report with the status of all items under the DDP by the second Joint Council of each year. This report can assist parties in considering updates to their implementation plans, and keep the Partnership Working Group (PWG) informed on progress against items and assist with joint Council's consideration of implementation progress at its last meeting each year.

It is anticipated that there will be a body of work between the endorsement of the plan and the first traffic light report in 2023 to identify ongoing work and leading parties for items. Where there are no clear leading parties for items, the DRWG may seek to bring together relevant parties to facilitate discussions about the best way to bring forward significant items.

The National Agreement specifies that the DDP be reviewed by Joint Council every three years at the same time as it reviews the Productivity Commission and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led reviews. This process will provide an opportunity to consider whether the items proposed at Attachment A continue to be fit for purpose. Other data development items could be added to the plan, with regard to the criteria outlined at section 3 (type of item, how it relates to the Priority Reforms, the necessity of the item to demonstrate progress against the outcome, and Community data opportunities). The first three-yearly reviews are anticipated to be before the end of 2023.

If any items at Attachment A are not being progressed per the recommendations in this plan, or there are suggestions for additional or alternative measures, the DRWG will provide information to the PWG with recommendations for action.

2. Guiding principles for the prioritisation of data development activities

Data refers to any information capable of being communicated, analysed or processed (whether by an individual, computer or other automated means)². Closing the Gap data has typically included information from large national collections, government administrative data, data from research and program evaluation, and other forms of data. The National Agreement states Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations will be supported to achieve the Priority Reforms by:

- Participating as equal partners with government, with equal access to all processes and information to support shared decision-making.
- Driving their own development by making evidence-based decisions on the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs for their communities in order to develop local solutions for local issues.
- Measuring the transformation of government organisations operating in their region to be more responsive and accountable for Closing the Gap.

Parties to the National Agreement have significant work ahead to ensure there is data of a sufficient quantity and quality to provide an accurate picture of progress against the Closing the Gap Priority Reforms and Socioeconomic Outcomes including for young people, older people, gender diverse people and people with disability where possible. Data collection is vital to understand the result of interventions and make more targeted investments in the future. Relevant data should be planned for at the outset of the implementation of any new measures.

Meaningful and efficient data development agendas will be key to success over the life of the National Agreement. At an organisational and project level, these agendas must be consistent with:

1. Ethical use of data, in particular acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander- led work about Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance
2. Partnership and shared decision-making with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
3. Prioritising data development which will promote Closing the Gap objectives
4. Leveraging broader data development agendas
5. Commitment to data sharing and collaboration

As a living document, further detail on these principles and their practical application could be incorporated into the DDP over the life of the National Agreement.

² This is consistent with the definition used in the Australian Data Strategy - <https://ausdatastrategy.pmc.gov.au/>

1. Ethical use of data, in particular acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led work about Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance

All work undertaken for the DDP should comprise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations participating as equal partners with government, with equal access to all processes and information to support shared decision-making (Clause 69.a of the National Agreement). This includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people having access to, and the capability to use, locally-relevant data and information to set and monitor the implementation of efforts to close the gap, their priorities and drive their own development (Clause 17.d of the National Agreement).

Priority Reform Four is also consistent with ethical collection, treatment, access to, and use of all data.

Concerns regarding the ethical use and access to data have informed the development of international definitions of Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance. All Parties to the National Agreement acknowledge the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led work on these concepts.

The principles of Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance underpin the ability of communities, and Community Controlled Organisations, to engage as equal partners. It is recognised that governments will need to continue to collect and retain data about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. However, this should be done with the involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people — in development, stewardship, analysis and dissemination of data.

Some Government Parties are already considering the incorporation of international and Australian Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles for data collection and use. Government Parties currently implementing Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles are supported to continue to do so.

To meet this guiding principle, other Government Parties commit to focusing on the practical intersection of objectives of the Australian Indigenous Data Sovereignty movement with public sector-held data. In particular Government Parties will:

- Consider how the CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance (i.e. Collective benefit, Authority to control, Responsibility, and Ethics) and FAIR Data Principles (i.e. Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) can inform Government practices relating to Indigenous data.
- Identify opportunities to embed Indigenous priorities and strengths-based approaches into the creation, collection, access, analysis, interpretation, management, dissemination and reuse of Indigenous data.
- Understand data priorities, and issues of relevance and importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including through existing Indigenous-led and on the ground projects.
- Identify barriers to improving Indigenous access to and use of government-held data.
- Support the capability building priorities of Indigenous communities related to receiving and utilising government-held data.

OFFICIAL

'Community data' is data that is collected by and owned by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and groups for their benefit. 'Community data' is not data about Indigenous communities collected by government. Indigenous peoples have full sovereign rights over their own Community data, collected by community for community use. ,

Principles of Community data include:

- Data must be driven by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and what they consider to be priorities in their community. Whilst this may coincide with the needs and interest of other stakeholders, it is to be driven by the interest of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities are the custodians of the data and they control the narrative that emerges from the data; the story it tells, and who has permission to tell the story; and what outcomes that they want to achieve.
- Community data supports the exercise of self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in place-based decision-making that is responsive to the local communities to which the Community data relates.
- Access to Community data is embodied in place-based and local decision-making agreements.

The first commitment made to Community data comes with the establishment of the six Community data projects under Clauses 74-77 of the National Agreement. Projects are currently being developed in conjunction with communities and all Parties to the National Agreement.

The data projects will provide functional examples of how Community data sharing and capacity building can work within a range of communities, servicing their interests. Parties to the National Agreement should look to the progress and learning of these projects while considering the use of Community data in setting data development agendas.

The use and development of Community data should not be limited to the developments in the Community data projects. Parties to the National Agreement should also consider where data collected for and by communities may already exist, or where Community data could inform new projects and policies impacting the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. However, just as government agencies are custodians of data collections, so are Indigenous communities and access to Community data by government agencies should not be assumed. Permission to use Community data must always be sought from the relevant community.

Some data development items identified at [Attachment A](#) note established or developing Community data opportunities.

2. Partnership and shared decision-making with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Priority Reform One outlines the importance of the partnership commitments under the National Agreement. In addition, Clause 71 of the National Agreement outlines key data and information sharing elements to support the implementation of Priority Reform Four – Shared Access to Data and Information at a Regional level:

- a. *There are partnerships in place between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives and government organisations to guide the improved collections, access, management and use of data to inform shared decision-making for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.*
- b. *Governments agree to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations access to the same data and information on which any decisions are made, subject to meeting privacy requirements, and ensuring data security and integrity.*
- c. *Governments collect, handle and report data at sufficient levels of disaggregation, and in an accessible and timely way, to empower local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to access, use and interpret data for local decision-making.*
- d. *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations are supported by governments to build capability and expertise in collecting, using and interpreting data in a meaningful way.*

All data development activities undertaken in relation to the implementation of Closing the Gap measures and broader data development agendas will consider these elements.

3. Prioritising data development which will promote Closing the Gap objectives

The National Agreement is a commitment from all governments and the Coalition of Peaks to a fundamentally new way of developing and implementing policies and programs that impact on the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

A commitment to the collection of relevant data will be embedded in all Closing the Gap initiatives.

In addition to the monitoring of specific Closing the Gap measures, non-Indigenous data development agendas should also incorporate, where appropriate, identification of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The National Agreement acknowledges that within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population there are cohorts that are likely to experience greater levels of disadvantage and where it may be more difficult to close the gap. Where possible, data disaggregation of outcomes should include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stolen generation survivors; women, people with disability; young people, older people and LGBTQIA+SB status to make sure that progress on Closing the Gap can be monitored for these groups.

4. Leveraging broader data development agendas

There is significant work underway around the generation and sharing of data across Governments.

At outcomes-based levels, there is ongoing data collection that happens as part of business as usual across Governments and other organisations which may report against Closing the Gap measures, or identify Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations in mainstream data sets.

Key data custodians nationally and jurisdictionally have established data collections which are core to Closing the Gap reporting. A number of the data development items at Attachment A may result in the expansion of such sources, or the development of new ones.

The Productivity Commission Closing the Gap dashboard has, and will, synthesise and present much of this information however the landscape is changing.

At a national level, the overarching Australian Data Strategy includes the National Data Sharing Work Program that improves data sharing in agreed priority areas, such as Closing the Gap measures. The Australian Data Strategy acknowledges that there is an opportunity to improve the cultural appropriateness and accessibility of public and private data collection to better reflect the needs, priorities and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Digital Economy Strategy 2030 includes the development of the Indigenous Digital Inclusion Plan considering the needs of access, digital ability and affordability for Indigenous Australians living in regional and remote areas. Data sharing is also a key aspect of a number of other activities, such as the Local and Regional Voice, the Community data projects, the Sector Strengthening Plans and the NSW Accord processes. Parties should ensure all relevant data sources be considered, to avoid duplication and ensure that focus and funding is aimed at the most pressing data needs.

Parties to the National Agreement will seek to ensure that where possible mainstream data development agendas and activities work to generate data which would assist in Closing the Gap monitoring.

5. Commitment to data sharing and collaboration

Recent years have found a shift towards data sharing as default to improve policy and program outcomes. As above, this includes the Australian Data Strategy and the National Data Sharing Work Program. This work program includes a potential future priority area focusing on Closing the Gap Data.

The Intergovernmental Agreement on data sharing between Commonwealth and State and Territory governments³³ commits all jurisdictions to share public sector data as a default position, where it can be done securely, safely, lawfully and ethically. The agreement recognises data as a shared national asset and aims to maximise the value of data to deliver outstanding policies and services for all Australians. The agreement came into effect on 9 July 2021, when it was signed by the National Cabinet.

This approach will benefit Closing the Gap data agendas, however there are sensitivities specific to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people which must be considered.

There is a history in Australia of data being used to perpetuate racist and deficit discourses and

³ <https://federation.gov.au/about/agreements/intergovernmental-agreement-data-sharing>

OFFICIAL

interventions which have disadvantaged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. International discussions in relation to Indigenous Data Sovereignty reflect the desire for a redefining of relationships to data and the use of data to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

This context must guide data sharing activities where they relate to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Many of the items at Attachment A will rely on the open collaboration of national and jurisdictional data custodians to ensure the alignment and comparability of data being collected. Private sector organisations also have great capacities for the generation and analysis of data. Breaking down barriers will improve the quality and quantity of data available and must be prioritised in meeting those items.

Ethical collection, treatment, access to, and use of data must be fully understood and incorporated into data sharing plans.

At a process level, this may include special consideration of data privacy decided in partnership with the relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. A higher level of consideration must be given to the possibility of re-identification of de-identified data where small populations are concerned.

3. Prioritisation of Socioeconomic Outcome data development items

Clause 92c specifies that the DDP must prioritise data development actions over the life of the National Agreement with clear timeframes for actions to be delivered. Responsibility for actions is also required – this is considered in 'Implementation of the DDP' at section 1.

There were approximately 150 data development items recommended in the National Agreement Tables A & B. Note that the progress and prioritisation of data development for the Priority Reforms (Table A) is being considered through a separate Partnership Working Group process, with the potential for that work to be incorporated into the DDP in the future.

Items have been given a prioritisation rating of high, medium or low along with recommendations for the time periods within which development of items should commence (Short-term (2022-24) medium-term (2025-27) long-term (2028-2030)). The work to be commenced will depend on the current progress of the item identified, and may range from building conceptual understanding of the parameters of the item, to data collection activities. There are no recommendations regarding when items should be completed, beyond the commitment to progress them over the life of the National Agreement. Parties to the National Agreement will seek to progress data solutions as soon as possible.

When considering the prioritised lists, the following factors are most relevant:

1. Development of data items should be concurrent and commenced at the earliest opportunities, so that overall progress is not delayed by complications on a single item.
2. Items that need conceptual work to clarify the intent of the item, its definitions or parameters should be considered earlier (see Category 3 below). While some of the resulting data may be of a lower priority, a significant amount of preliminary work or discussion prior to data collection activities may mean items will not be implemented in the life of the National Agreement.
3. Lists should be dynamic, with new items added or adjusted during the life of the DDP, specifically during the three yearly review processes (see *Implementation of the DDP at section 1*).

Data items under each Socioeconomic Outcome were considered using the method outlined below. The process identified:

- The type of data required (data category)
- Connections to Priority Reforms, centrality and Community data opportunities
- The current status of items.

Members of the DRWG and other Parties included in the process also proposed new data development items for consideration under the Socioeconomic Outcomes. New items have been identified in the 'notes' column under each prioritised list at Attachment A. Note also that some items have been combined during the prioritisation process for ease of presentation due to overlapping data aims or sources.

The elements in the method outlined below could assist Parties to the National Agreement in setting future data development Agendas.

Method

The items under each outcome have been prioritised by having regard to:

- Type of data item and work required to progress (Data Category- see below). These categories relate to the type of work which will need to be undertaken, which may reflect the time or process needed to complete work.
- Priority Reforms: Items should be elevated if they contribute to the measurement or principles of the Priority Reforms noting Parties may need to consider additional jurisdiction-specific Priority Reforms as appropriate.
- Centrality: the necessity of the item for demonstrating progress against an outcome should be a primary consideration. Conversely, deprioritising items which would not add new insights or are duplicative of other data items.
- Community data opportunities: Does the item prioritise or further the use of Community data – reflecting the importance of Priority Reform Four
- Ongoing or highly developed items: Items status will impact its timing, and may reflect its priority.

Data categorisation

CATEGORY	Potential actions	Example
1. Established data sources: Consistently collected, defined and measurable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek opportunities for data disaggregation 	3A. Rate of enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander three-year-olds (two years before full-time schooling) in early childhood education: ABS National Childhood Education and Care collection (subject to quality checks)
2. Inconsistently defined or collected data: Data items are defined or collected inconsistently differently across data sources (e.g. states and territories)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonise definitions where appropriate • Align methods for data collection 	5D. Proportion studying Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) eligible Year 12 program and ATAR score: S/T data on Year 12 students by Indigenous status eligible for an ATAR, by ATAR score (data sourced from individual jurisdictions and published in the OID report, section 4.6)
3. Conceptual development: Under-developed data sources in need of conceptual development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify purpose of data to be collected and who is the data custodian • Develop definitions • Reconcile conflicting methodologies, interpretations • Use qualitative data and research to help inform common understanding of data requirements 	1B. A broader measure of access to services compared to need to include availability and distance travelled, affordability, client preferences and cultural safety and its inhibitors

OFFICIAL

CATEGORY	Potential actions	Example
4. Community data sources: 'Community data' is data that is collected by and owned by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and groups for their benefit. A number of items in this category will also fall into other categories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See the Community data guiding principle for key considerations in the development, collection and use of Community data	14G. Rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who feel a strong connection to culture and community: some conceptual work needed, but Community data likely to be a particularly valuable source of information

Attachment A: Data Prioritisation by Socioeconomic Outcome

NOTE: items are labelled alphabetically for ease of reference. This does NOT reflect relative importance of items within the same rating category.

OUTCOME 1: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy long and healthy lives

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander life expectancy estimates by all states and territories; and at more frequent intervals	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
High	B. A broader measure of access to services compared to need to include availability and distance travelled, affordability, client preferences and cultural safety and its inhibitors	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
Medium	C. Burden of disease related to a broader range of health risk factors; and at more frequent intervals	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
Low	D. Broader measures of wellbeing	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3/4	

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 2: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are born healthy and strong

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Mother/family mental health—i.e., risk and protective factors for serious psychological distress—how many adverse life events women have experienced, as well as the protective factors they have experienced such as cultural cohesion, connection to land and language and sense of wellbeing and resilience.	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 2	New proposal – not in National Agreement
High	B. Other risk factors such as alcohol use during pregnancy in National Perinatal Data Collection which is linked to birthweight and preterm birth. Further discussions on the suitability of collecting information on drug use could be considered	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Alcohol use: Category 1 Drug use: Category 3	
High	C. Role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men in parenting	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	Moved from Outcome 2
Medium	D. Access to culturally appropriate antenatal care for mothers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies based on location	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
Medium	E. Incorporation of First Nations women’s knowledge into maternal supports and midwifery training	Medium-term (2025-2027)		New proposal – not in National Agreement Relates to item 2.D

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 3 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are engaged in high quality, culturally appropriate early childhood education in their early years

Rating	Data item to be developed	Timing	Data Categorisation	Notes
High	A. Rate of enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander three-year-olds (two years before full-time schooling) in early childhood education	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
High	B. Proportion of early childhood education facilities attended by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children meeting or exceeding National Quality Standard	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
High	C. Access to culturally appropriate early childhood education programs	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	Needs definitional work or agreement to define 'culturally appropriate'.
High	D. Access to bilingual education	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	Linked to DI 3.C & 4.A
Medium	E. Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early years' service providers	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
Medium	F. Barriers to attendance (including out-of-pocket costs, access to services, transport, housing)	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 2	
Medium	G. Health and disability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Medium	H. Parental education, health and disability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Low	I. Access to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teachers in early education—how many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff are in supporting or teaching roles or are being trained to become teachers?	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 2	New proposal – not in National Agreement
Low	J. Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in poverty	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	New proposal – not in National Agreement Overlap with DI 4.A, 4.D and 3.H

OFFICIAL

Rating	Data item to be developed	Timing	Data Categorisation	Notes
Low	K. Educational status of parents of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	Moved from Outcome 2

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 4 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children thrive in their early years

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Culturally-appropriate childhood development, such as the provision of early childhood education by community-controlled organisations	Short to Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
High	B. Health of children	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
High	C. Proportion of children who have regular health and development check-ups	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
High	D. Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in poverty	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 3	
Medium	E. Proportion of children in out-of-home care	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1 or 2	New item – not in National Agreement
Medium	F. Rates of access to nurse home visiting programs	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 3	
Low	G. Barriers that stop children from attending early years education:	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	New item – not in National Agreement

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 5 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieve their full learning potential

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Barriers to attendance and support required to complete Year 12 (for those who have not completed Year 12)	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
High	B. Year 12 completions, based on school administrative records	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
High	C. Student experiences of racism	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
High	D. Proportion studying ATAR eligible Year 12 program, and Australian Tertiary Admission Rate (ATAR) score	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
High	E. Completion of Certificate II and III or higher by those who do not have Year 12, based on Vocational Education and Training (VET) administrative records	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Medium	F. Disability status (severe/profound disability status) and disability type (physical, cognitive, sensory, social/emotional)	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 1	
Low	G. English as an Additional Language/Dialect student	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
Low	H. Parent highest level of education, and employment status	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 6 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students reach their full potential through further education pathways

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Costs and barriers to tertiary enrolment and completions, students in receipt of scholarship/s	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
High	B. Student health status	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
Medium	C. Proportion of students who are first in their family to undertake higher education	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	
Medium	D. Proportion of school-leavers going into higher-level VET and Higher education, by qualification level	Medium/Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	Time depending qualification level
Medium	E. Access to pathways from school to training programs	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	New item – not in National Agreement
Medium	F. Access to bridging programs from school to higher education	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	New item – not in National Agreement
Low	G. Proportion of students able to access culturally secure mentoring and career advice	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 2	New item – not in National Agreement
Low	H. Student disability status.	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 3	New item – not in National Agreement

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 7 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are engaged in employment or education

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Barriers to youth engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• caring responsibility• financial limitations• long term health condition• mental health or psychological distress• lack of transport• homelessness• family and domestic violence• discrimination• substance misuse• incarceration and recidivism	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 1 & 3	

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 8 - Strong economic participation and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses including: number and as a proportion of all businesses growth and revenue sectors and industries	Short-term (2022-2024) for definitional and conceptual work, medium term (2025-2027) for commencement of data delivery	Category 3	
High	B. Employment security (permanent or casual)	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
High	C. Barriers to labour market participation including health and disability	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Medium	D. Long term unemployment and welfare dependency	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2 or 3	
Medium	E. Underemployment among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 2	
Medium	F. Median personal income from employment	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 9 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Levels of overcrowding specific to Australian conditions	Short-term (2022-2024)	Categories 1 & 3	
High	B. Affordable living (including cost of electricity, transport costs, etc.)	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 3	
Medium	C. Social housing, including: transfers from social housing to private rental and/or home ownership satisfaction of social housing tenants with amenities, location, and maintenance services social housing dwellings as a proportion of all dwellings	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1 or 3	
Low	D. Proximity to services (in addition to the ABS' current remoteness structure reporting)	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Categories 1 & 3	
Low	E. Environmental health outcomes (e.g. rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease)	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 2	
Low	F. Environmental health activities (e.g. programs, services and partnerships)	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	
Low	G. Family and kin obligations that lead to overcrowding (temporary or permanent)	Timeframe will need to be determined by community	Category 4	

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 10: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Access to services in police custody rehabilitation and reintegration support, alcohol and other drug treatment services, and building cultural strength	Short-term (2022-2024)	Categories 3 & 4	Community data Opportunities relating to community-controlled legal services 'Alcohol and other drugs' new addition-not in National Agreement
High	B. Access to services in police custody Aboriginal community-controlled legal services, including data on police use of custody notification systems cultural competency training completed by police	Short-term (2022-2024)	Categories 3 & 4	Community data Opportunities relating to community-controlled legal services
High	C. Police data on caution, diversion, arrests and stops by Indigeneity, including multiple instances of contact, and deaths in police custody	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 2	
Medium	D. Access to services in prison (disaggregated by sentenced/un-sentenced prisoners) availability of and participation in culturally safe health and mental health services, including health and disability assessment on entering prison support provided to prisoners who are parents to keep engaged with family cultural competency training completed by corrections staff availability of and participation rates for prison-based programs, including vocational training, behavioural and specialist programs such as addiction	Medium-term (2025-2027)		
Medium	E. Data linkages to identify long term outcomes after incarceration (employment, education)	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Categories 1 & 3	
Medium	F. Data disaggregation by age at first contact with the criminal justice system	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Categories 1 & 3	

OFFICIAL

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
Medium	G. Access to healing on-country programs as prevention and diversion	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 4	New item – not in National Agreement Relevant Community data may already exist
Low	H. Proportion of offenders denied bail/parole by type of offence and reason for denial (including lack of accommodation)	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 2	
Low	I. Victims of violence whilst incarcerated – disaggregated by factors including disability.	Long-term (2028-2030)	Categories 2 & 3	New item – not in National Agreement
Low	J. Access to education and time spent in lessons while in detention	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	New item – not in National Agreement

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 11: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Disaggregation of police contact by caution, charges, prosecution, and diversion (by type)	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
High	B. Access to services at first interaction with criminal justice system, by type and availability	Short-term (2022-2024)	Categories 3 & 4	Community data Opportunities relating to community-controlled legal services
High	C. Training provided and undertaken by police and workers engaging with youth, including cultural safety and trauma-informed practice	Short-term (2022-2024)	Categories 2 & 3	
High	D. Consistent definitions of youth detention and recidivism across jurisdictions	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Medium	E. Detentions by offence type	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 1	
Medium	F. Access to services in detention (health, trauma, mental health and wellbeing, cultural engagement and support of young people in detention)	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
Medium	G. Rates of death in prison custody of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth prisoners, by cause of death	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 2	
Medium	H. Access to healing on-country programs as prevention and diversion	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 4	New item – not in National Agreement Community data opportunity

OFFICIAL

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
Low	I. Reasons for young people being placed on remand	Long-term (2028-2030)	Categories 2 & 3	
Low	J. Disaggregation of data by: disability status, including prevalence of neurodevelopmental impairment and foetal alcohol spectrum disorder geographic area of residence/offending	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	
Low	K. Proportion of young people in detention who had: experienced domestic and family violence, abuse/neglect received alcohol and other drug treatment services (ongoing reporting) received specialist homelessness services experienced mental health issues been expelled or suspended from school access to culturally secure services and programs while in detention, by type and timing of service	Long-term (2028-2030)	Categories 3 & 4	JPP - High. These are key drivers.
Low	L. Access to education and time spent in lessons while in detention	Long-term (2028-2030)	Category 3	New item – not in National Agreement

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 12 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are not overrepresented in the child protection system

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	<p>A. Measures of culturally competent child protection response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Compliance Framework for the ATSI CPP that is consistent with indicators being developed by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), in collaboration with the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC), Child and Family Services (CAFS) Strategic Information Group (SIG) and Children and Families Data Network (CAF DAN), across jurisdictions, to fully measure the five elements of the ATSI CPP: prevention, placement, partnership, participation and connection. 	Short-term (2022-2024)	Categories 1,2 & 3	Expected to involve a 3-5 year work plan to achieve reporting of all 22 indicators
High	B. Proportion of children 0-17 discharged from out-of-home-care due to ageing out that are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Medium	C. The prevalence of child maltreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children linked to the Australian Child Maltreatment Study	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 1	Data expected from the Australian Child Maltreatment Study (ACMS).
Medium	D. Rates of re-substantiation of a notification by type of abuse, including emotional abuse, neglect, physical abuse and sexual abuse	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Low	E. Rates of children and families accessing family support services and intensive family support services	<p>Short-term (2022-2024) – immediate reporting of available IFSS data</p> <p>Medium-term (2025-2027)</p>	Categories 1 & 3	

OFFICIAL

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
Low	F. Proportion of children and families accessing family support services and intensive family support services that are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Short-term (2022-2024) – immediate reporting of available IFSS data	Categories 1 & 3	
		Medium-term (2025-2027)		
Low	G. Self-reported safety and wellbeing in out-of-home care, including perceived: safety in placement, mental health and wellbeing connection to family, community and culture	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Categories 2 & 3	Standards for Out-of-home Care

OUTCOME 13 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and households are safe

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Rate of prevalence of all forms of family violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, by disability status	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
High	B. Consistency in identification, capturing and counting procedures between different data sets across jurisdictions	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 3	
High	C. Perpetrators of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children by Indigenous status	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	
Medium	D. Rate of prevalence of non-physical forms of family violence and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women - including coercive control, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse and technological abuse, by disability status	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Categories 2 & 3	
Medium	E. Nationally consistent data from administrative sources on access to support services (e.g. rates of access to family support and intensive family support services including mainstream family violence services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific services, such as Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS) and Family Advocacy and Support Services (FASS))	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Medium	F. Improved capture of cause of injury in national emergency department data	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Low	G. Consistent data on rates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families' engagement with the family law system	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Categories 2 & 3	
Low	H. Estimates of over-representation rate for violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, and when parity can be achieved	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 2	

OFFICIAL

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
Low	I. Long term pathways, impacts and outcomes for perpetrators, survivors and their children	Medium to long-term (2025-2027)	Category 3	

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 14: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy high levels of social and emotional wellbeing

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Improve the quality of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identification in deaths data, to support reporting of mental health-related mortality data including self-harm mortality data for all states and territories, and at regional/community levels	Medium-term (2025-2027) ongoing	Category 3 / 4	Linked to 14.B
High	B. Mental and behavioural mortality data including self-harm mortality data for all states and territories, and at regional/community levels	Medium-term (2025-2027) ongoing	Category 1	Linked to 14.A
High	C. Main factors leading to suicide by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	Short-term (2022-2024)	Categories 2 & 3	
High	D. Explore measures of suicide ideation, particularly among youth	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
Medium	E. Barriers to accessing mental health services	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Categories 3 & 4	Linked to 14.F and also work under 1.B
Medium	F. Prevalence of racist attitudes against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people held by the Australian community	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 1	Linked to 14.G and 14.E and also work under 1.B
Medium	G. Rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who feel a strong connection to culture and community	Medium-term (2025-2027)	Category 1	Linked to 14.F and 14.E and also work under 1.B
No data development required	H. Mental health related Medicare services by GPs, Psychologists and Psychiatrists	N/A	Category 1	
No data development required	I. Specialised mental health care services	N/A	Category 1	
N/A	J. Alternative measure of psychological distress (preferably non-survey based)	N/A	N/A	

OFFICIAL

OUTCOME 15 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people maintain a distinctive cultural, spiritual, physical and economic relationship with their land and waters

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Indicators for land use and development	Short-term (2022-2024)	Category 3.	

OUTCOME 16 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and languages are strong, supported and flourishing

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	<p>A. Measures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being taught/transmitted/spoken in Aboriginal community settings and organisations, including Language Centres</p> <p>B. Measures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages spoken in Aboriginal community settings, particularly in family life</p> <p>C. Other demographic measures of people who speak an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language</p>	Short- term (2022-24)	<p>Category 2 and Category 4</p> <p>Category 2</p> <p>Category 3</p>	<p>Combines some separate items from National Agreement – reflecting common sourcing</p> <p>Community data opportunities</p> <p>Definitional work on Indigenous languages</p>
High	D. Measures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being taught in early-learning, primary and secondary schools	Short- term (2022-2024)	Categories 2 & 3.	Potential Category 4 (Community data)
Medium	E. Other economic opportunities that arise for people who speak an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language	Short- term (2022-2024)	Needs development work on data sets	

OFFICIAL

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
Medium	F. Measures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages used in media	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 3 - Item needs clear definitional work, conceptual development.	
Medium	G. Definition and measures of cultural enterprises that are associated with language growth and development	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 3 - Needs more definitional work and conceptualisation	Aligned with economic opportunities item
Low	H. Alternative indicators that demonstrate growth and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 3 - item will need a lot of work to measure and conceptualise	
Low	I. Number of people employed as translators for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages	Medium- term (2025-2027)	Category 3 - item will need a lot of work to measure and conceptualise	
Low	J. Numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a disability accessing AUSLAN or other indigenous deafness languages.	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 3 - item will need a lot of work to measure and conceptualise	New item – not in National Agreement

OUTCOME 17 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to information and services enabling participation in informed decision-making regarding their own lives

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
High	A. Proportion of regional and remote communities with access to infrastructure to enable broadcast and telecommunication services.	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
High	B. Measures relating to proportion of Government communications material produced and distributed by First Nations media organisations (Media buying agencies)]	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 2	
High	C. Ongoing development of regional and remote reporting of the Australian Digital Inclusion Index	Short- term (2022-2024)	Categories 1, 2 & 3	
High	D. Percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with access to home phone, mobile and/or internet	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 1	
High	E. Progress towards parity	Short- term (2022-2024)		
Medium	F. Measures relating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in the media, in particular community-controlled media, including (but not limited to): Number of First Nations media and Community Controlled media organisations Audience growth for First Nations media and Community Controlled media organisations Sources of news content among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations Portrayal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in mainstream media Diversity of media content broadcast (including health, education, community service information) Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people work in mainstream media across all levels of media operations (e.g. managers, media practitioners and technical).	Short- term (2022-2024)	Categories 2 & 4	Community data Opportunities

OFFICIAL

Rating	Data item to be developed	Proposed timing	Data categorisation	Notes
Medium	G. Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people receiving digital literacy training by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations, as well as numbers receiving training by non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander digital literacy educators	Short- term (2022-2024)	Category 4	Community data Opportunities