

Targets under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap

The National Agreement on Closing the Gap sets out targets to measure how governments are tracking against its objectives and outcomes.

Socio-Economic Targets

The Agreement establishes 19 socio-economic targets to measure progress in the outcomes experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people enjoy long and healthy lives

Close the Gap in life expectancy within a generation, by 2031.

2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are born healthy and strong Children thrive in their early years

By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies with a healthy birthweight to 91 per cent.

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

By 2025, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in Year Before Fulltime Schooling (YBFS) early childhood education to 95 per cent.

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

By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children assessed as developmentally on track in all five domains of the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) to 55 per cent.

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

By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (age 20-24) attaining year 12 or equivalent qualification to 96 per cent.

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

By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25-34 years who have completed a tertiary qualification (Certificate III and above) to 70 per cent.

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

By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth (15-24 years) who are in employment, education or training to 67 percent.

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

By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25-64 who are employed to 62 per cent.

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

Target 9a: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in appropriately sized (not overcrowded) housing to 88 per cent.

Target 9b: By 2031, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households:

- within discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities receive essential services that meet or exceed the relevant jurisdictional standard
- in or near to a town receive essential services that meet or exceed the same standard as applies generally within the town (including if the household might be classified for other purposes as a part of a discrete settlement such as a “town camp” or “town based reserve”).

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

By 2031, reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults held in incarceration by at least 15 per cent.

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

By 2031, reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (10-17 years) in detention by at least 30 per cent.

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

By 2031, reduce the rate of over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care by 45 per cent.

13. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and households are safe

A significant and sustained reduction in violence and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children towards zero.

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

Significant and sustained reduction in suicide of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people towards zero.

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

Target 15a: By 2030, a 15 per cent increase in Australia's landmass subject to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's legal rights or interests.

Target 15b: By 2030, a 15 per cent increase in areas covered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's legal rights or interests in the sea.

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

By 2031, there is a sustained increase in number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken.

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

Target 17: By 2026, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have equal levels of digital inclusion.

Two additional targets – community infrastructure and inland waters – will be developed over the next year to further strengthen the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.