

National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 12a- Attainment of Year 12 or equivalent (Census data), 2015-16; Quality Statement

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Quality Statement
METEOR identifier:	664698
Registration status:	Indigenous , Superseded 07/02/2018

Data quality

Institutional environment: The Census of Population and Housing is collected by the ABS under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

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

Timeliness: The Census is conducted every five years in August. Results from the 2011 Census were released in 2012 and 2013.

Accessibility: An extensive range of Census online products are available from the [Data & Analysis page](#).

If the Census information required is not available as a standard product or service, then ABS Consultancy Services can provide customised services. Contact 1300 135 070 from within Australia or +61 2 9268 4909 from overseas. Alternatively, email client.services@abs.gov.au.

Interpretability: The 2011 Census Dictionary (ABS 2011) is a comprehensive reference guide designed to assist users to determine and specify their data requirements, and to understand the concepts underlying the data. It provides details of classifications used and a glossary of definitions of Census terms.

A number of other resources can be accessed from the [Data quality page](#), including [data quality statements](#) for these data items and [Fact sheets](#).

Relevance: Census data are available by state and territory and by statistical areas. The Census collects data from all people in Australia on Census night, except foreign diplomats and their families. Norfolk Island is outside the scope of the Census.

The Census collects information on the highest year of school completed and highest level of non-school qualification for each individual aged 15 and over. The classification of qualifications used is the *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001* (ABS 2001).

Accuracy: The 2011 Post Enumeration Survey, which is run a month after each Census is completed, found a net undercount for the 2011 Census of 1.7%. This means over 98% of all people in Australia on Census night were counted; this was an improvement of 1% on the undercount from 2006. The Census is self-enumerated; respondents sometimes do not return a Census form or fail to answer every applicable question. While some data are imputed, the majority of output classifications include a 'Not stated' category to record the level of non-response for that data item.

This indicator uses two Census data items – Highest Year of School Completed (for Year 12) and Non-School Qualification: Level of Education (for AQF Certificate level II or above). Overall, the non-response rate for Highest Year of School Completed in the 2011 Census was 8.4% (down from 9.9% in 2006). An estimated 1% of responses were incorrect; in these cases responses are accepted in the order they appear on the form and extra responses are rejected. Non-response rate for the Non-School Qualification: Level of Education variable in the 2011 Census was 2.6% (down from 3.8% in 2006).

The Indigenous status item is used to ascertain Indigenous status of persons. The non-response rate for this variable was 4.9% (down from 5.7% in 2006).

For further information see specific [data quality statements](#) and the [non-response rate quality statement](#).

Coherence: It is important for Census data to be comparable and compatible with previous Censuses and also with other data produced by the ABS and wider community. The ABS, and the Census, use Australian standard classifications, where available and appropriate, to provide data comparability across statistical collections.

The Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (ABS 2001) has been used in all surveys with education items since 2001 and allows the education and training items between different surveys to be compared.

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey and Survey of Education and Work (ABS 2016) also provide information on educational attainment for this indicator.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Origin: ABS Census of Population and Housing

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

ABS 2011. Census Dictionary, 2011. ABS Cat. no. 2901.0. Canberra: ABS.

ABS 2016. Education and Work, Australia, May 2016. ABS Cat. no. 6227.0. Canberra: ABS.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 12a-Attainment of Year 12 or equivalent \(Census data\), 2014 QS Indigenous](#), Superseded 17/02/2016

Has been superseded by [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 12a-Attainment of Year 12 or equivalent \(Census data\), 2018: Quality Statement Indigenous](#), Superseded 07/02/2019

Indicators linked to this Data Quality statement: [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 12a—Attainment of Year 12 or equivalent \(Census data\), 2017 Indigenous](#), Superseded 06/06/2017