

# Improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander demographic statistics



Jill Charker

First Assistant Statistician (a/g)

PLIES

July 2011

# Overview

- Improvements to enumeration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the 2011 Census and Post Enumeration Survey
- Stakeholder collaboration
- Data quality and guidelines

# Improvements to enumeration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the 2011 Census and Post Enumeration Survey

# Indigenous Enumeration strategy

- Range of new approaches
  - Early engagement
  - Extra field staff for discrete communities, and urban and remote areas
  - Heightened focus on quality during the field operations
  - Enhanced collaboration between the ABS and the State/Territory governments

# Increasing the scope of the Post Enumeration Survey

- PES sample design finalised:
  - More communities selected (from 21 communities in 2006 to 28 in 2011)
  - More dwellings selected (from 348 dwellings in 2006 to 500 in 2011)
  - Additional design focus on 'high-density' Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander areas outside the communities
- Improved approach to matching survey responses between the survey and the Census
  - Use of Automated Data Linking

# Stakeholder collaboration

# Engagement on methodological issues

## Estimated Resident Population (ERP) Rebasing

- A special Population Estimates Technical Workshop (PETW) was held in May
- Feedback has been positive
- Next report on progress due at PETW in Melbourne later this year

## Several information papers are in preparation

- Detailing aspects of proposed method, and consultation process
- Overall focus on boosting information and consultation in this round of ERP rebasing

# Stakeholder consultation

- New round of consultation about Indigenous demographic statistics
  - Aimed to understand concerns about the quality and limitations of existing ABS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander demographic statistics with 2011 Census results
  - Stakeholders included Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and organisations as well as key policy stakeholders and data users
  - Report due July 2011



# Data quality and guidelines

# Administrative data quality – Identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

- Recent ABS study assessed the quality of birth and death registrations data and school enrolments data
- Focus group study – reasons people choose to identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander in administrative data collections
- Report has been circulated for comment through NIRAPIMG
- ABS is currently incorporating comments from key stakeholders

# Age Standardisation Workshop

- ABS organised a multilateral workshop (19 April 2011) to discuss technical issues around age standardisation
- General agreement reached about preferred method to support COAG, Health Performance Framework and CoAG Reform Council priorities in:
  - Measuring the gap in Indigenous mortality, and
  - Measuring changes in the gap over time
- Working group established to arrive at a set of principles for applying the methodology of direct age standardisation

Questions?