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# **Reporting Framework for Social Inclusion**

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# Overview

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- ❑ What is social inclusion?
- ❑ The importance of evidence
- ❑ Developing a monitoring and reporting framework
- ❑ Future data requirements
  - Types of information considered most important to inform the social inclusion agenda

# Social inclusion

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- Being socially included means that people have the **resources** (skills and assets, including good health), **opportunities** and **capabilities** they need to:
  - Learn – participate in education and training
  - Work – participate in employment, unpaid or voluntary work including family and carer responsibilities
  - Engage – connect with people, use local services and participate in local, cultural, civic and recreational activities
  - Have a voice – influence decisions that affect them

## Social inclusion – importance of evidence

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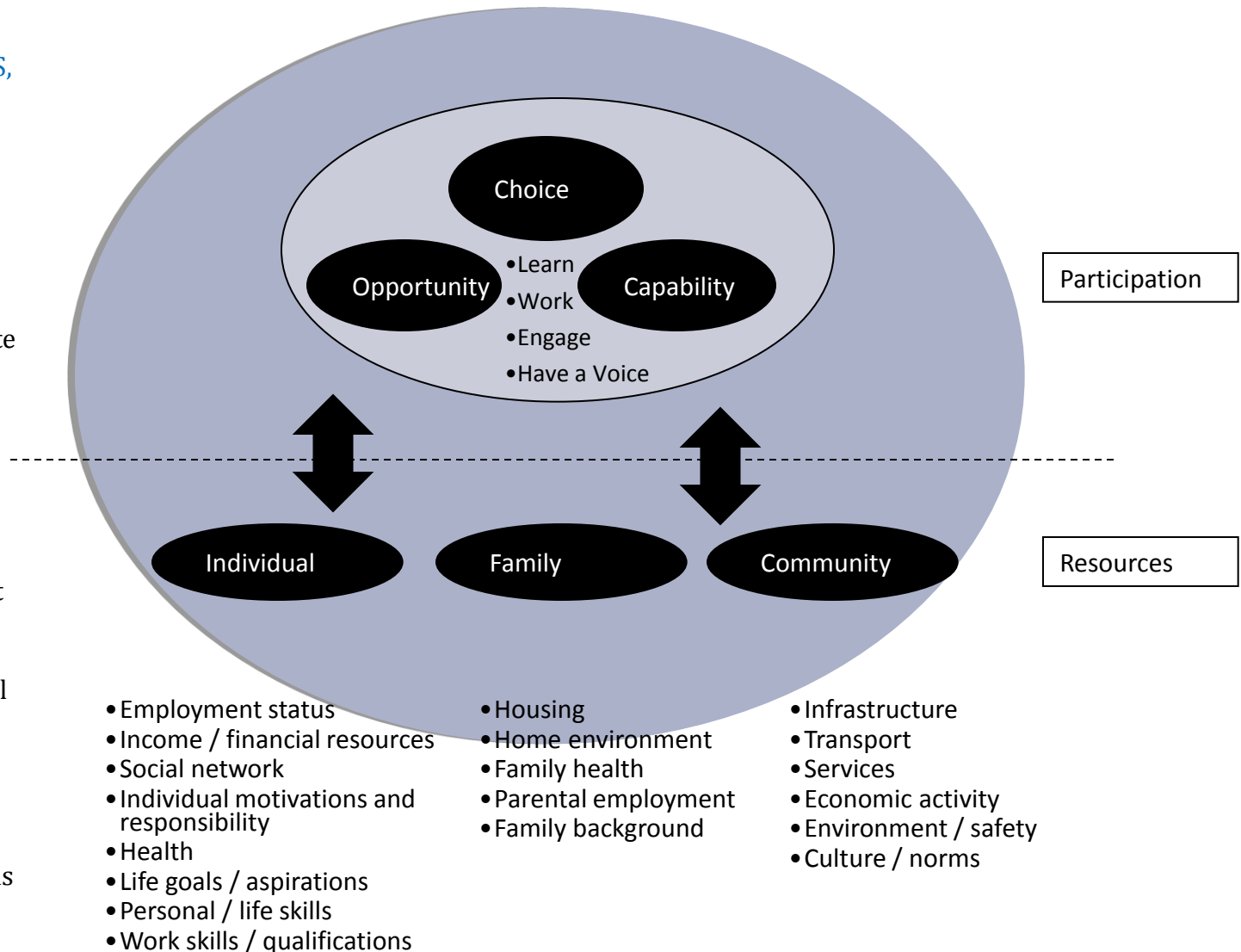
- ❑ National policy reforms are based on effective cross-government collaboration and depend upon strengthened measurement, reporting and accountability arrangements
- ❑ The social inclusion principles (see [www.socialinclusion.gov.au](http://www.socialinclusion.gov.au)) state the importance of evidence and integrated data to inform policy:
  - *It will also be important for government to report regularly on progress in social inclusion, using clear indicators and reporting from the perspective of the individual, the family, the neighbourhood or the community affected. Indicators should be responsive to effective policy interventions and identify the essence of the problem and have a clear and accepted interpretation.*

# Social inclusion conceptual framework

## SOCIAL INCLUSION:

Having the **RESOURCES**, **OPPORTUNITIES** and **CAPABILITIES** to:

- **LEARN** - participate in education and training;
- **WORK** - participate in employment, unpaid or voluntary work including family and carer responsibilities;
- **ENGAGE** - connect with people, use local services and participate in local cultural, civic and recreational activities; and
- **HAVE A VOICE** - influence decisions that affect them.



# Developing a monitoring and reporting framework for social inclusion – the indicator framework

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The process for developing the indicator framework has involved:

- ❑ Researching other frameworks for reporting social inclusion
- ❑ Wide consultation
  - Federal and state governments
  - Australian Social Inclusion Board
  - Researchers
  - Community
  - OECD, UK, and EU social inclusion experts
- ❑ Collaboration with federal government agencies through an Indicators sub-group of the Social Inclusion Consultative Forum
- ❑ Use of relevant indicators from other government reporting, such as COAG indicators

## The indicator framework can be used as a basis to tell a comprehensive story about social inclusion in Australia and how it is changing over time

- The social inclusion indicator framework has headline indicators for aspects of participation (work, learn, engage and have a voice) and underlying resources which can be analysed for selected population groups, especially at-risk population groups

	Population groups					
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	Jobless household	Long-term unemployed	Homeless	People with disability	And other population groups.....
<b>Participation</b>						
Work						
Learn						
Engage						
Have a voice						
<b>Resources</b>						
Material/economic resources						
Health and disability						
Education and skills						
Social resources						
Community and institutional resources						
Housing						
Personal safety						
<b>Multiple and entrenched disadvantage</b>						

# Types of indicators

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The proposed reporting framework includes indicators at a number of levels:

- **Headline indicators**

- A relatively small number of outcome indicators to monitor important social inclusion issues or identify particular at-risk population groups

- **Supplementary indicators**

- Outcome indicators that support the headline indicators and provide further detail in each of the domains

- **Strategic change indicators**

- Leading indicators of potential progress that show areas of government policy intervention which are expected to influence social inclusion outcomes. They could be risk factors for social exclusion, or outputs of government programs aimed at addressing social exclusion.



# DRAFT indicator framework

Domains	Headline indicators	Supplementary indicators
<b>PARTICIPATION</b>		
<b>Work</b>	Employment rate Jobless families with children Long term income support recipient	Persistent jobless families with children Jobless households Long-term unemployment
<b>Learn</b>	Young people not fully engaged in education or work Year 12 equivalent attainment	
<b>Engage</b> (Social and community participation)	Contacted family/friends Participation in community activities	Got together socially with family/friends Voluntary work Participation in community events
<b>Have a voice</b> (Political and civic participation)	Participation in citizen engagement activities	
<b>RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Material/ economic resources</b>	Low economic resources and financial stress/material deprivation Persistent low economic resources	Low economic resources Financial stress/material deprivation Real change in income for low income households Relative income inequality
<b>Health &amp; disability</b>	People with long term health conditions affecting their ability to participate in employment People with mental health conditions affecting their ability to participate in employment Self-assessed health	Life expectancy Subjective quality of life

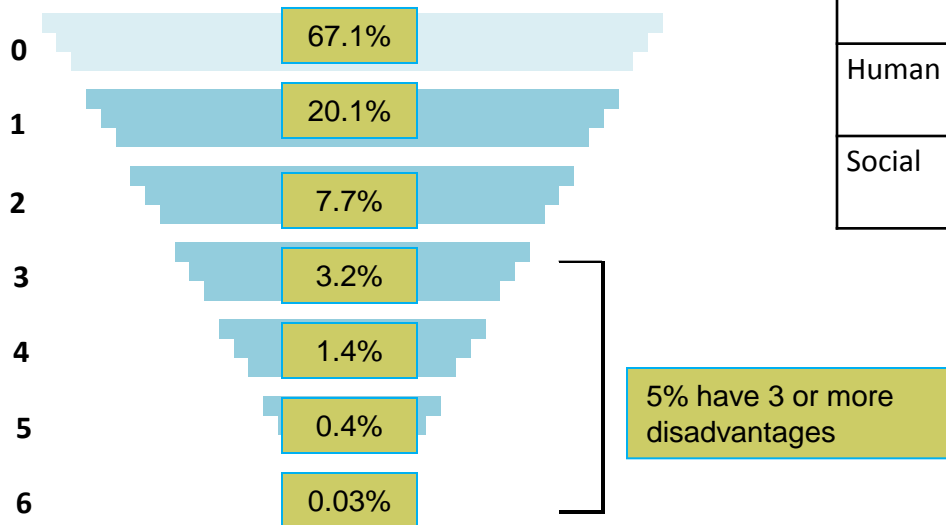
# DRAFT indicator framework (continued)

Domains	Headline indicators	Supplementary indicators
<b>RESOURCES (continued)</b>		
<b>Education and skills</b>	Literacy and numeracy Adult literacy/numeracy Early childhood development	Poor spoken English Non-school qualifications
<b>Social resources</b>	Support from family/friends in time of crisis Autonomy – having a voice in the community Access to Internet	Autonomy – having a voice in family
<b>Community &amp; institutional resources</b>	Access to public or private transport Access to health service providers	Access to justice services Access to service providers Tolerance of diversity
<b>Housing</b>	Homelessness Housing affordability	Housing affordability Repeat homelessness
<b>Personal safety</b>	Feelings of safety Children at risk/Child protection	Family violence Victim of personal violence Victim of household crime
<b>MULTIPLE AND ENTRENCHED DISADVANTAGE</b>		
<b>Multiple &amp; entrenched disadvantage</b>	Multiple disadvantage Entrenched disadvantage	Indicators of multiple disadvantage will be developed appropriate to several life stages, including: Children (early childhood and school age), Youth, Working age & Older persons

# People with multiple disadvantages

- Analysis by the Social Inclusion Unit of the 2006 ABS General Social Survey found that 5% of persons aged 18-64 years had 3 or more disadvantages based on 6 factors across 3 domains:

Proportions with multiple disadvantages:

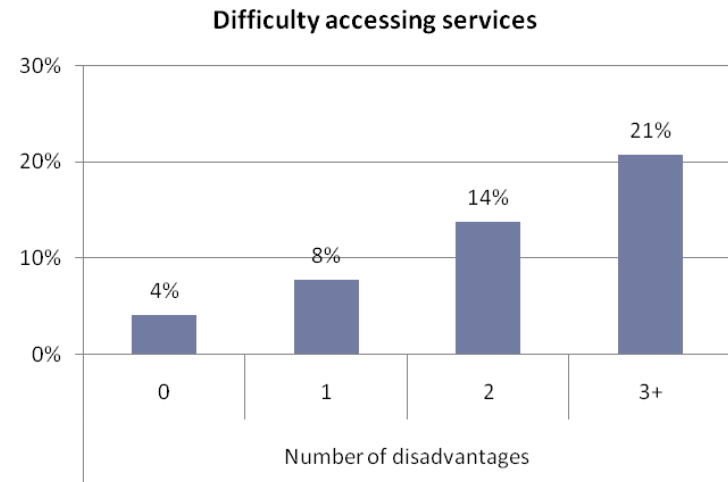
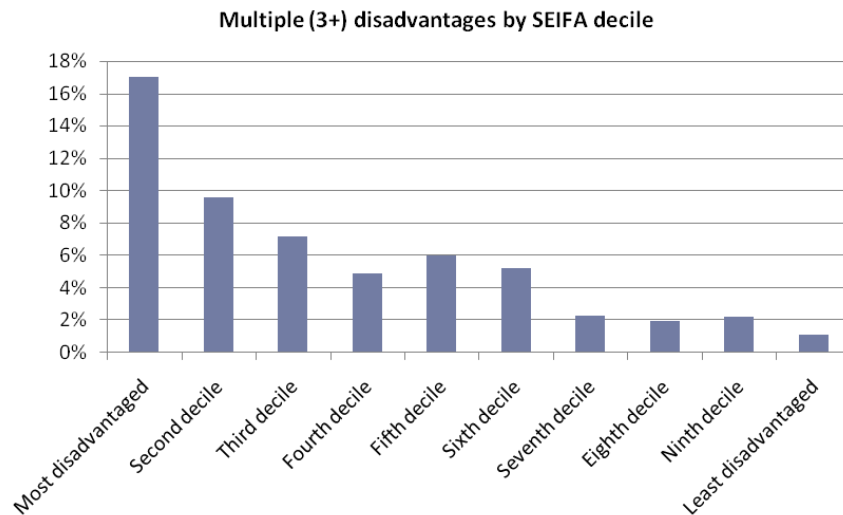


Incidence of selected types of disadvantage:

Domain:	Factor:	Incidence:
Economic	Low income and material deprivation	6.5%
	Low work (in jobless household)	11.5%
Human	Low health	12.6%
	Low education	9.6%
Social	Low safety	6.6%
	Low support	6.2%

# Multiple disadvantages

- People with multiple disadvantages:
  - Were concentrated in disadvantaged (low SEIFA) locations
  - Reported greater difficulty accessing services



- Longitudinal data sets such as HILDA and some administrative sources will be used to analyse entrenched disadvantage (including long-term joblessness and enduring low income)

# Reporting on social inclusion

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- The monitoring and reporting framework under development proposes regular and frequent reporting on progress on social inclusion.
  - A baseline report on against the indicator framework will be released by the Australian Social Inclusion Board in the next few months
  - Agencies will be required to report annually on headline and strategic change indicators in their areas of responsibility and initiatives designed to improve social inclusion outcomes
  - A major report on progress in social inclusion is planned for two years following the baseline report
  - Major evaluation studies are important in understanding whether programs and services designed to improve social inclusion are effective
  - Analysis reports will improve our understanding of particular population groups or issues, such as multiple disadvantage and mobility of people at-risk of disadvantage

# ASIB report on social inclusion - How is Australia faring?

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- ❑ The Australian Social Inclusion Board (ASIB) released a compendium publication on social inclusion in May 2009
- ❑ The compendium:
  - draws together statistics from a range of sources (principally Australian Bureau of Statistics and Eurostat) to help in understanding how Australia is faring compared to EU countries in relation to social inclusion using EU indicators, plus supplementary measures specific to Australia
  - was designed to promote discussion of social inclusion issues and generate debate about how best to measure disadvantage and social exclusion
  - was authored by the Board's social inclusion indicators working group, led by Professor Tony Vinson, with research support from the PM&C SIU

## Future data requirements - issues

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- ❑ There are good existing data sources for many of the resources and participation indicators, but some need further conceptual and data development
- ❑ New COAG reporting initiatives are helping to improve the availability of data in a number of areas
- ❑ Comprehensive longitudinal information about people experiencing or at risk of disadvantage would be ideal for rigorous analysis of pathways into and out of disadvantage
- ❑ Administrative data sources are likely to provide information for many of the strategic change indicators still to be developed
- ❑ Linked administrative data at the person and household level would be extremely valuable to understand aspects of social inclusion
- ❑ Aggregate small area geographic data is useful in understanding disadvantage and exclusion in locations (but less useful than the linked person level data)

## Next steps

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- Further work on the monitoring and reporting framework
  - Develop strategic change indicators
  - Develop indicators of multiple disadvantage for lifecycle groups
  - Agree the framework
- Undertake data development activity to assess the suitability of existing data sources to provide regular data on each of the indicators by population sub-groups
- Report on social inclusion in Australia based on the indicator framework
- Consider the feasibility summary reporting measures, such as an index of social inclusion