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## **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework 2006 Report**

### **Abstract:**

While Australians in general are one of the healthiest populations of any developed country, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are generally the least healthy of all Indigenous populations within comparable developed countries. Although the health status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is improving, large disparities still persist when compared to other Australians. In response, the Australian, State and Territory Governments established the National Strategic Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (NSFATSIH) to support a comprehensive and coordinated effort both across and beyond the health sector to address the complex and inter-related factors that contribute to current health outcomes.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework (HPF) has been developed under the auspice of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC). The HPF is designed to measure the impact of the NSFATSIH and inform policy analysis, planning and program implementation.

The HPF has approximately 70 measures in three groups:

- Health status and outcomes
- Determinants of health including socioeconomic and behavioural factors, and
- Health system performance.

The first Report against the Framework was endorsed by AHMAC in October 2006 and the Australian Health Ministers' Conference in November 2006. It reports on 64 of the 70 measures and finds that there are some areas of improvement, such as: mortality and infant mortality rates, deaths caused by cardiovascular disease, education and employment, but several areas of continuing concern, such as: chronic disease, low birth weight, sexually transmissible infections and overweight and obesity.