

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey

FACT SHEET FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

From July 2018, the Australian Bureau of Statistics will be visiting selected communities to carry out the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey.

Selected members of your community will be asked questions relating to their health, so that government and healthcare services can make informed decisions about ensuring your community members enjoy long, healthy lives.

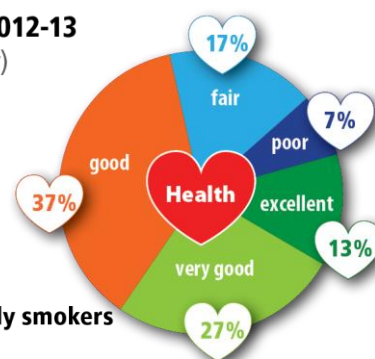
What is the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS)?

The NATSIHS collects information about the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people all over Australia.

The data collected will help governments and healthcare providers decide where to spend money on health services, health programs and education about healthy lifestyle choices to ensure people enjoy long and healthy lives. . Information provided by communities helps to ensure money is being spent where it's needed most.

Health rating 2012-13

(15 years and over)



Percentage of daily smokers

(15 years and over)



What is involved?

The focus of the NATSIHS is to gather information about health and lifestyle issues which affect your community. The questions in the NATSIHS include information on:

- Diet
- Exercise
- Culture
- Health problems such as diabetes



The NATSIHS will also include a voluntary section which includes measuring weight, height and blood pressure and taking a hearing test.

Is the NATSIHS compulsory?

Yes it is. Because the information gathered in the NATSIHS is so important, it is conducted under the authority of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. The legislation ensures that all information given to the ABS is confidential. The ABS is required by law to maintain the secrecy of all information. Individual people and communities cannot be identified in our data.

Hearing test

Participants aged 7 years and over will have the opportunity to complete a hearing test. This is first time that NATSIHS includes a hearing test. This test has been added as hearing impacts social, education and employment outcomes. The test will measure a participant's hearing using their responses to a series of beeps. The person will be given a record of the test, and if outside the normal range will be directed to a health care professional for follow-up.

