

Media Release – New publication supports the need for Closing the Gap Refresh initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

5 March 2019

The most recent indicators of the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are documented in the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet's authoritative publication, the *Overview of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health status 2018*

<https://healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/learn/health-facts/overview-aboriginal-torres-strait-islander-health-status/36501/?title=Overview%20of%20Aboriginal%20and%20Torres%20Strait%20Islander%20health%20status%2C%202018>

The annual *Overview* contains updated information across many health conditions. It shows that despite some improvements, there are still significant health disparities between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians, which supports the need for the broader refresh of the Closing the Gap targets. The *Overview* also includes a strengths based approach and highlights areas where improvements have been achieved or positive outcomes realised. It provides a comprehensive summary of the most recent indicators of the health and current health status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

HealthInfoNet Director, Professor Neil Drew, said 'The *Overview* is our flagship knowledge exchange resource as we summarise information from many publications into one document, ensuring those working in the sector receive a comprehensive update that is both accessible and timely'.

As part of the HealthInfoNet's commitment to knowledge exchange, there are other tools and resources to access this information including:

- A plain language *Summary* version of the *Overview*
<https://healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/learn/health-facts/summary-aboriginal-torres-strait-islander-health/36479/?title=Summary%20of%20Aboriginal%20and%20Torres%20Strait%20Islander%20health%20status%202018>
- PowerPoints that can be used as a teaching resource
<https://healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/key-resources/publications/36501/>

-END-

Spokesperson: Professor Neil Drew - HealthInfoNet Director

Tel: 08 9370 6155 Mob: 0418 901 468 Email: n.drew@ecu.edu.au

Media contact: Tara Hoyne – Tel: 08 9370 6109 Email: t.hoyne@ecu.edu.au

The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet is based at Edith Cowan University in Western Australia. The HealthInfoNet is a massive web resource that informs practice and policy in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health by making up to date research and other knowledge readily accessible via any platform. For over 21 years, working in the area of knowledge exchange with a population health focus, the HealthInfoNet makes research and other information freely available in a form that has immediate, practical utility for practitioners and policy-makers in the area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, enabling them to make decisions based on the best available evidence.
www.healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au