

# 4 EVALUATE





**“Aboriginal people need to monitor and gauge success.”**  
Community forum participant, Swan Hill



## Governance and accountability

Government and government-funded organisations must be held to account for delivering services that meet the needs of communities. Too often government funding in Aboriginal affairs focuses on outputs – what activities, products or services it is providing and at what cost. We need to move from measuring outputs to measuring outcomes – what we are achieving for and with Aboriginal Victorians. Government must also be held accountable for changing its systems and structures to enable Aboriginal self-determination.

*Government should be held accountable on the outcomes they deliver – the numbers speak for themselves.*

Community forum participant, Morwell

## Aboriginal-led evaluation and review mechanism

Government alone cannot hold itself accountable for improving outcomes for Aboriginal Victorians. Government, Aboriginal organisations and government-funded organisations must be accountable to Aboriginal-led, independent and transparent oversight.

An Aboriginal-led evaluation and review mechanism will be established to track government's progress against the VAAF.

This will include quantitative and qualitative reporting on the goals, objectives and measures, including:

- efforts to progress the self-determination guiding principles
- implementation of the broad areas for action that support the four self-determination enablers.

The terms of reference for this mechanism, including its function, scope, membership and governance, will be developed in partnership with community.

## Data transparency and accountability

Open, transparent and meaningful data that is disaggregated at the local and regional level is a significant part of government accountability. It tells us what is working and where further action is needed. Furthermore, increasing Aboriginal ownership and control of data is a key enabler of self-determination. When community is adequately resourced to undertake this work, data can strengthen Aboriginal advocacy, sector planning and decision-making.

*Data sovereignty needs to be advanced. Research, evidence and data should be community owned and controlled. This is a key mechanism for community decision-making.*

Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) submission

## Next steps

Aboriginal Victorians have suggested a range of additional options to hold government accountable to community for its performance in Aboriginal affairs.

In the first instance, the Victorian Government commits to:

- commencing work immediately on the development of an Aboriginal-led evaluation and review mechanism
- publishing disaggregated VAAF data via a public data platform
- tabling an annual whole-of-government progress report on the VAAF in Parliament
- exploring potential legislative and policy options to ensure system-wide, whole-of-government adoption and application of the Aboriginal self-determination guiding principles.



# VAAF measures

\*All measures will be reported using Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal data where available unless specified as an Aboriginal-specific measure.



## Domain 1: Children, family & home



### Goal 1: Aboriginal children are born healthy and thrive

#### Objective 1.1 Improve maternal and infant health

- Measure 1.1.1** Rate of low birth weight
- Measure 1.1.2** Rate of preterm birth
- Measure 1.1.3** Rate of perinatal mortality
- Measure 1.1.4** Smoking during pregnancy

#### Objective 1.2 Children thrive in their first 1000 days

- Measure 1.2.1** Participation rates for Maternal and Child Health Key Ages and Stages Consultations
- Measure 1.2.2** Attendance at Koori Maternal Health Service
- Measure 1.2.3** Immunisation rate at 24 months and 60 months
- Measure 1.2.4** Participation in facilitated playgroup (0-3 years)



### Goal 2: Aboriginal children are raised by Aboriginal families

#### Objective 2.1 Eliminate the over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people in care

- Measure 2.1.1** Rate and number of children and young people in care
- Measure 2.1.2** Number of families engaged with family support and intensive family support services

#### Objective 2.2 Increase Aboriginal care, guardianship and management of Aboriginal children and young people in care

- Measure 2.2.1** Number and proportion of Aboriginal children and young people in care placed with **i)** relatives/kin and **ii)** other Aboriginal carers
- Measure 2.2.2** Number and proportion of Aboriginal children and young people in care with a Cultural Plan
- Measure 2.2.3** Number and proportion of Aboriginal children and young people in care on contractible orders managed by Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs)
- Measure 2.2.4** Number and proportion of Aboriginal children and young people on protection orders under the direct authority of an ACCO (Section 18)

**Objective 2.3** **Increase family reunifications for Aboriginal children and young people in care**

**Measure 2.3.1** Number of children and young people reunified with parent(s) within 12 months of admission to care as a proportion of all Aboriginal children and young people admitted to care

**Measure 2.3.2** Number of Aboriginal children and young people who exit care who do not return to care within 12 months as a proportion of all Aboriginal children and young people who exit care



**Goal 3: Aboriginal families and households thrive**

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**Objective 3.1** **Reduce the incidence and impact of family violence affecting Aboriginal families**

**Measure 3.1.1** Number and proportion of family incident reports involving an Indigenous other party; and proportion who were the subject of a previous family incident report

**Measure 3.1.2** Number and proportion of family incident reports involving an Indigenous affected family member; and proportion who were the subject of a previous family incident report

**Measure 3.1.3** Number and proportion of notifications to child protection for children and young people where family violence is identified

**Objective 3.2** **Increase income and housing security for Aboriginal households**

**Measure 3.2.1** Proportion of households who had reliable access to sufficient food in previous 12 months

**Measure 3.2.2** Proportion of households with less than 50 per cent median equivalised income

**Measure 3.2.3** Proportion of households experiencing rental stress

**Measure 3.2.4** Proportion of Victorians who are homeless and proportion of clients accessing homelessness services

**Measure 3.2.5** Proportion living in overcrowded dwellings



## Domain 2: Learning & skills



### Goal 4: Aboriginal children thrive in the early years

**Objective 4.1** Optimise early childhood development and participation in kinder

**Measure 4.1.1** Number and proportion of eligible children enrolled in a funded four-year-old kindergarten program in the year before school

**Measure 4.1.2** Number of children funded to participate in Early Start Kindergarten

**Measure 4.1.3** Proportion of children vulnerable on one or more domain on the Australian Early Development Census



### Goal 5: Aboriginal learners excel at school

**Objective 5.1** Bring Aboriginal achievement at school in line with learners' aspirations

**Measure 5.1.1** Percentage of students in top three bands – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9

**Objective 5.2** Increase the proportion of Aboriginal students who feel safe and connected at school

**Measure 5.2.1** Proportion of students who feel connected to their school

**Measure 5.2.2** Student attendance rates in government schools

**Descriptive Measure 5.2.3:** Number of Aboriginal people on school councils

**Measure 5.2.4:** Proportion of students who report experiencing bullying at school

**Descriptive measure 5.2.5:** Number and proportion of school-based Aboriginal education workers (principals, teachers, education support staff) across all government schools

**Descriptive measure 5.2.6:** Number of schools teaching an Aboriginal language

**Descriptive Measure 5.2.7:** Number and proportion of government schools having undertaken cultural understanding and safety training



## Goal 6: Aboriginal learners are engaged at school

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### Objective 6.1 Increase Year 12 or equivalent attainment

- Measure 6.1.1** Proportion of young people aged 20-24 with Year 12 or equivalent
- Measure 6.1.2** Apparent retention rates for students in Years 10 to 12
- Measure 6.1.3** Number of Aboriginal students who complete the VCE, VCAL or VET in Schools Certificate



## Goal 7: Aboriginal learners achieve their full potential after school

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### Objective 7.1 Increase the proportion of Aboriginal young people in work or further education and training

- Measure 7.1.1** Destinations of Year 12 completers
- Measure 7.1.2** Proportion of 17-24-year-old school leavers participating in full-time education and training and/or employment
- Measure 7.1.3** Tertiary education participation and completion:  
**7.1.3a:** VET participation rate  
**7.1.3b:** university participation rate  
**7.1.3c:** VET course completion rate  
**7.1.3d:** university course completion rate
- Measure 7.1.4** Proportion of 20-64 year olds with qualifications at Certificate III level or above
- Measure 7.1.5** Proportion of 20-64-year-old government-funded and total VET graduates employed and/or in further study after training
- Measure 7.1.6** Proportion of graduates and cadets employed in VPS; retention, progression and satisfaction



## Domain 3: Opportunity & prosperity



### Goal 8: Aboriginal workers achieve wealth equality

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**Objective 8.1**      **Increase Aboriginal household income in line with the Victorian median**

**Measure 8.1.1**      Median household income and median equivalised household income

**Objective 8.2**      **Increase Aboriginal home ownership in line with the Victorian average**

**Measure 8.2.1**      Proportion of home owners versus other tenure types (by age bracket)

**Objective 8.3**      **Increase Aboriginal business ownership and support Aboriginal entrepreneurs**

**Measure 8.3.1**      Number of Victorian business owner-managers who are Aboriginal

**Measure 8.3.2**      Aboriginal businesses that government enters into a purchase agreement with as a proportion of small to medium enterprises  
government enters into a purchase agreement with



### Goal 9: Strong Aboriginal workforce participation, in all sectors and at all levels

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**Objective 9.1**      **Increase Aboriginal workforce participation**

**Measure 9.1.1**      Employment to population ratio

**Measure 9.1.2**      Proportion employed in full-time versus part-time or casual employment

**Measure 9.1.3**      Aboriginal jobseekers supported into work

**Objective 9.2**      **Increase workforce participation for Aboriginal women**

**Measure 9.2.1**      Workforce participation of women (as measured at 9.1.2)

**Objective 9.3**      **Increase workforce participation for Aboriginal young people, people with a disability and people living in regional areas**

**Measure 9.3.1**      Workforce participation (as measured at 9.1.2) by age, disability status and regional versus metropolitan



**Objective 9.4**    **Increase Aboriginal leadership and representation across all sectors and levels**

**Measure 9.4.1**    Aboriginal employment by sector, industry and occupation; with analysis by growth industry

**Measure 9.4.2**    Proportion of Aboriginal people employed across the VPS (with 2 per cent target by 2022)

**Measure 9.4.3**    Number of Aboriginal people at VPS 6 level and above in the VPS

**Measure 9.4.4**    Number of Aboriginal people participating on government boards



**Goal 10: Aboriginal income potential is realised**

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**Objective 10.1**    **Increase Victoria's Aboriginal gross income and decrease the opportunity cost of Aboriginal income inequality**

**Measure 10.1.1**    Victoria's Aboriginal income as sum of all income earned by Aboriginal workers

**Measure 10.1.2**    Opportunity cost: Aboriginal gross income at parity minus actual



## Domain 4: Health & wellbeing



### Goal 11: Aboriginal Victorians enjoy health and longevity

**Objective 11.1** **Improve Aboriginal health status, quality of life and life expectancy**

- Measure 11.1.1** Life expectancy at birth, by sex
- Measure 11.1.2** Proportion reporting 'excellent or very good' health status, by sex
- Measure 11.1.3** Rate of daily smoking, by sex
- Measure 11.1.4** Rate of hospitalisations for potentially preventable causes (vaccine preventable, acute, chronic and all)
- Measure 11.1.5** Incidence of selected cancers
- Measure 11.1.6** Rate of emergency department presentations for alcohol or drug-related harm
- Measure 11.1.7** Specialist alcohol and other drug treatment services provided to Aboriginal Victorians



### Goal 12: Aboriginal Victorians access the services they need

**Objective 12.1:** **Improve access to health and community services for all Aboriginal Victorians**

- Measure 12.1.1** Proportion who received a health check or assessment, by age
- Measure 12.1.2** Participation rates for cancer screening
- Measure 12.1.3** Proportion and number accessing disability services and the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Measure 12.1.4** Number and proportion accessing aged care services
- Measure 12.1.5** Number and proportion of people aged 55 years or over who had an annual health assessment

**Descriptive measure 12.1.6** Services implement strategies, partnerships and campaigns, and offer care and support that is inclusive and addresses the needs of Aboriginal people who are LGBTI



## Goal 13: Health and community services are culturally safe and responsive

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### Objective 13.1 Increase the cultural safety and responsiveness of services

**Measure 13.1.1** Proportion reporting experiences of racism in the health system

**Measure 13.1.2** Proportion reporting positive client experience of GP services

**Measure 13.1.3** Hospitalisations where patients left against medical advice/ were discharged at own risk

**Descriptive measure 13.1.4** Number and proportion of Aboriginal people employed in the health or social services sector



## Goal 14: Aboriginal Victorians enjoy social and emotional wellbeing

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### Objective 14.1 Improve Aboriginal mental health and social and emotional wellbeing

**Measure 14.1.1** Proportion reporting 'high or very high' levels of psychological and psychosocial distress

**Measure 14.1.2** Rate of self-harm-related emergency department presentations (by 15-24 years old, and all)

**Measure 14.1.3** Proportion reporting strong social networks they can draw on in times of crisis

**Measure 14.1.4** Proportion of Aboriginal Victorians with a disability who have strong social support networks

**Measure 14.1.5** Number of Aboriginal Victorians receiving clinical mental health services



## Domain 5: Justice & safety



### Goal 15: Aboriginal over-representation in the justice system is eliminated

**Objective 15.1**      **Decrease the number and eliminate the over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people in the justice system**

**Measure 15.1.1**      Number, rate and age profile of unique youth (10-17 years) alleged offenders processed by police

**Measure 15.1.2**      Average daily number and rate of children and young people (10-17 years) under youth justice supervision in detention and the community

**Measure 15.1.3**      Proportion of first-time youth alleged offenders (10-17 years) cautioned by police

**Measure 15.1.4**      Proportion of youth (10-17 years) in detention on remand

**Objective 15.2**      **Decrease the number and eliminate the over-representation of Aboriginal women in the justice system**

**Measure 15.2.1**      Number and rate of unique adult female alleged offenders processed by police

**Measure 15.2.2**      Average daily number and rate of Aboriginal women under corrections supervision in prison and community corrections

**Measure 15.2.3**      Proportion of women who return to prison under sentence within two years of release

**Measure 15.2.4**      Proportion of women in prison on remand

**Objective 15.3**      **Decrease the number and eliminate the over-representation of Aboriginal men in the justice system**

**Measure 15.3.1**      Number and rate of unique adult male alleged offenders processed by police

**Measure 15.3.2**      Average daily number and rate of men under corrections supervision in prison and community corrections

**Measure 15.3.3**      Proportion of men who return to prison under sentence within two years of release

**Measure 15.3.4**      Proportion of men in prison on remand



## Goal 16: Aboriginal Victorians have access to safe and effective justice services

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**Objective 16.1** Increase Aboriginal participation in culturally safe and effective justice prevention, early intervention, diversion and support programs

**Measure 16.1.1** Number and proportion of Aboriginal youth receiving intensive bail support through the Koori Intensive Support Program

**Measure 16.1.2** Number and proportion of Aboriginal adults receiving intensive bail support

**Measure 16.1.3** Number of Aboriginal youth accessing community support programs through youth justice community services



## Goal 17: Aboriginal Victorians feel safe and connected

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**Objective 17.1** Increase community safety and trust in police and the justice system

**Measure 17.1.1** Proportion of police officers who have received Aboriginal cultural awareness training

**Measure 17.1.2** Proportion who feel safe/very safe walking alone at night in local area

**Measure 17.1.3** Proportion who have experienced any violence in the last 12 months

**Descriptive measure 17.1.4** Number and proportion of Aboriginal people employed across the justice system



## Domain 6: Culture & Country



### Goal 18: Aboriginal land, water and cultural rights are realised

**Objective 18.1** Increase the recognition and enjoyment of Aboriginal land, water and cultural heritage rights

- Measure 18.1.1** Area of Crown land with native title determinations and/or Recognition and Settlement Agreements
- Measure 18.1.2** Work of the State in advancing the treaty process
- Measure 18.1.3** Number of Registered Aboriginal Parties that have submitted a notice of intention to enter into an Aboriginal cultural heritage land management agreement
- Measure 18.1.4** Number of Whole of Country Plans published
- Measure 18.1.5** Number of Joint Management Plans and area of land covered
- Measure 18.1.6** Number of cultural burns conducted
- Measure 18.1.7** Number of formal partnership agreements for planning and management between Aboriginal communities and key water and catchment agencies



### Goal 19: Aboriginal culture and language are supported and celebrated

**Objective 19.1** Support the preservation, promotion and practice of culture and languages

- Measure 19.1.1** Participation in community events which celebrate Aboriginal culture
- Measure 19.1.2** Investment in Aboriginal language and culture revitalisation programs



### Goal 20: Racism is eliminated

**Objective 20.1** Address and eliminate racism

- Measure 20.1.1** Proportion of Aboriginal people who report having experienced racism in the previous 12 months
- Measure 20.1.2** Prevalence of racist attitudes against Aboriginal Victorians held by the Victorian community