

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-193

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander life expectancy by remoteness

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

Can the Department advise what the latest life expectancy figures are for the following population groups:

- a) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women in metropolitan areas; and
- b) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women in rural and remote areas.
- c) Can OATSIH advise the source for this data?

Answer:

a) to c)

The official life expectancy estimates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) are not disaggregated by remoteness categories. The ABS published life expectancy estimates for the period 2005-07 for the four jurisdictions with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations of sufficient size to calculate estimates and a total estimate for Australia including all jurisdictions (see Table 1).

Table 1: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander life expectancy at birth, by sex, for selected states and territories, 2005-07.

Jurisdiction	Males	Females
New South Wales	69.9	75.0
Queensland	68.3	73.6
Western Australia	65.0	70.4
Northern Territory	61.5	69.2
Australia (including all jurisdictions)	67.2	72.9

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2009), *Experimental Life Tables for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Australia*. ABS Cat. no. 3302.0.55.003, Canberra