

## 2.02 Overcrowding in housing

The proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in overcrowded households

### Data sources

Data for this measure come from the 2001 and 2006 Census of Population and Housing, the 2004–05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, and the 2002 and 2008 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey.

#### National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey

The 2004–05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS) collected information from 10,439 Indigenous Australians of all ages. This sample was considerably larger than the supplementary Indigenous samples in the 1995 and 2001 National Health Surveys. The survey was conducted in remote and non-remote areas of Australia and collected a range of information from Indigenous Australians. This included information on health-related actions, health risk factors, health status, socioeconomic circumstances and women's health. The survey provides comparisons over time in the health of Indigenous Australians. It is planned to repeat the NATSIHS at 6-yearly intervals, with the next NATSIHS to be conducted in 2010–11. Selected non-Indigenous comparisons are available through the 2004–05 National Health Survey (NHS).

#### National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducted the 2002 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) between August 2002 and April 2003. The 2008 NATSISS was conducted between August 2008 and April 2009. The survey provides information about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations of Australia for a wide range of areas of social concern including health, education, culture and labour force participation. The 2008 NATSISS included for the first time children aged under 15. The NATSISS will be conducted every six years, with the next survey planned for 2013.

The 2008 NATSISS collected information by personal interview from 13,300 Indigenous Australians across all states and territories of Australia, including those living in remote areas. The sample covered persons aged 15 years and over who are usual residents in selected private dwellings. It collected information on a wide range of subjects including family and culture, health, education, employment, income, financial stress, housing, and law and justice.

#### Census of Population and Housing

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducts the Census of Population and at 5-yearly intervals, with 2006 being the most recent, and it is designed to include all Australian households. The Census uses the ABS standard Indigenous status question and it is asked for each household member.

Although the Census data are adjusted for under count at the person level to arrive at the estimated resident population, no such adjustment is done at the household level. This

affects the accuracy of the person counts at the household level to provide adjusted household estimates.

The 1996 and 2001 Census used the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, but the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations replaced this for the 2006 Census.

## Measures of overcrowding

There is no single standard measure of housing overcrowding in Australia. The Canadian National Occupancy Standard and the Proxy Occupancy Standard are commonly used to measure overcrowding and are described below.

### Canadian National Occupancy Standard

The Canadian National Occupancy Standard is most widely used in Australia. This standard specifies the number of bedrooms required in a dwelling based on the numbers, age, sex and relationships of household members. Households that require one more bedroom to meet the standard are considered to experience 'a moderate degree of overcrowding', whereas households requiring two or more additional bedrooms are said to experience a 'high degree of overcrowding'.

The Canadian National Occupancy Standard states that:

- there should be no more than two persons per bedroom
- a household of one unattached individual may reasonably occupy a bed-sit (that is, have no bedroom)
- parents or couples may share a bedroom
- children less than 5 years of age of different sexes may reasonably share a bedroom
- children 5 years of age or over of the opposite sex should not share a bedroom
- children less than 18 years of age and of the same sex may reasonably share a bedroom
- single household members aged 18 years or over should have a separate bedroom (AIHW 2005).

Most of the data presented for this indicator are based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

### Proxy Occupancy Standard

The Proxy Occupancy Standard has been used recently to assess the extent of overcrowding in Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement data collections for State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing, public housing and community housing. The Proxy Occupancy Standard has been endorsed by the Standing Committee on Indigenous Housing.

Households that require two or more bedrooms to meet the Proxy Occupancy Standard are considered overcrowded.

The Proxy Occupancy Standard specifies that:

- a single adult or group of adults should have one bedroom per adult
- a couple with no children should have two bedrooms
- a sole parent or couple with one child should have two bedrooms

- a sole parent or couple with two or three children should have three bedrooms
- a sole parent or couple with four children should have four bedrooms (AIHW 2005).

The Proxy Occupancy Standard does not require information on the age and sex of children and it is therefore easier to collect the data required. However, it allows for children to share bedrooms only in some cases, which may lead to an overestimation of overcrowding. In the *National housing assistance data dictionary version 3* (AIHW 2006), the Proxy Occupancy Standard has been modified to adequately specify needs for large or multi-family households.

The revised criteria are that for sole-parent or couple households with more than four children, the dwelling size in terms of bedrooms should be the same value as the total number of children in the household. Where more than one of the groups specified in the occupancy standard is present, the needs of the two or more groups should be added together. For example, a sole parent with one child living with the sole parent's parents (three generations) would require four bedrooms, that is, two bedrooms for the sole parent and child and two bedrooms for the married couple (AIHW 2006).

## Data analyses

### Comparison of NATSIHS, NATSISS and Census data

Both the NATSIHS and the Census collected information on the number of additional bedrooms required, based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard and the Proxy Occupancy Standard, as well as the number of usual residents per household for Indigenous and other Australians. The NATSISS collected information on the number of additional bedrooms required, based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard for Indigenous households only, as well as the number of usual residents per household.

When comparing the overcrowding data for Indigenous persons aged 18 years and over recorded in the Census with the NATSIHS, the results are similar. Both the 2004–05 NATSIHS and 2006 Census estimated that 25% of Indigenous persons aged 18 years and over lived in households that required one or more additional bedrooms as classified by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, and 13–14% lived in households that required two or more additional bedrooms. Data from the 2002 NATSISS also showed similar findings – 26% of Indigenous persons aged 15 years and over were estimated to be living in overcrowded households based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

This measure presents data included in the 2008 edition of this report for persons aged 18 years and over (2004–05 NATSIHS data) and for persons aged 15 years and over (2002 NATSISS data), and new data from the 2006 Census for persons aged 18 years and over. Data on overcrowding from the NATSIHS and NATSISS are presented first followed by data from the 2006 Census.

### NATSIHS and NATSISS data

The 2004–05 NATSIHS and the 2002 NATSISS collected information on the number of people and the number of bedrooms in each household. These data are presented in the following tables. Note that most tables in this measure show *total* figures for all additional bedrooms required ('one or more additional bedrooms required'), as well as figures for the 'high degree of overcrowding' ('two or more additional bedrooms required').

- The 2004–05 NATSIHS estimated that there were 62,924 Indigenous Australians aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households according to the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (one or more additional bedroom required). This represented 25% of all Indigenous people aged 18 years and over. There were around 650,000 other Australians living in overcrowded households in 2004–05, representing 4.4% of all other people aged 18 years and over (Table 2.02.1). Approximately 13% of Indigenous people were living in households that required two or more additional bedrooms compared with 0.8% of other people.
- The 2008 NATSISS estimated that there were 81,525 Indigenous Australians aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households according to the Canadian National Occupancy Standard. This represented 25% of all Indigenous people aged 15 years and over (Table 2.02.2).

### **Overcrowding by state/territory**

- In 2004–05, the Northern Territory had the highest proportion of Indigenous persons aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households (64%) and Victoria had the lowest (8.6%) (Table 2.02.1).
- In 2008, the Northern Territory had the highest proportion of Indigenous persons aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households (58%), followed by Western Australia (29%) and Queensland (26%). The Australian Capital Territory had the lowest proportion of Indigenous persons living in overcrowded households (6.3%) (Table 2.02.2; Figure 2.02.1).

**Table 2.02.1: Number and proportion of people aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and state/territory, 2004–05**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas and ACT	NT	Australia
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	6,848	1,392	18,906	10,189	3,290	1,134	21,166	62,924
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	9.3	8.6	26.9	27.5	22.7	9.7	63.8	24.5
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	270,971	212,798	76,008	37,791	33,375	12,174	7,026	650,143
% of other people living in overcrowded households	5.5	5.7	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.1	7.8	4.4
Rate ratio	1.7	1.5	9.9	10.3	7.8	4.7	8.2	5.6
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	1,639	503	8,690	4,903	1,851	328	15,918	33,831
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	2.2	3.1	12.4	13.2	12.8	2.8	48.0	13.2
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	56,972	23,049	14,323	10,950	6,747	903	687	113,631
% of other people living in overcrowded households	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.8	0.8
Rate ratio	1.9	5.1	24.1	17.1	21.7	18.2	62.8	17.1

(a) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

Note: Proportions calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: AIHW analysis of 2004–05 NATSIHS and 2004–05 National Health Survey.

**Table 2.02.2: Number and proportion of people aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and state/territory, 2008**

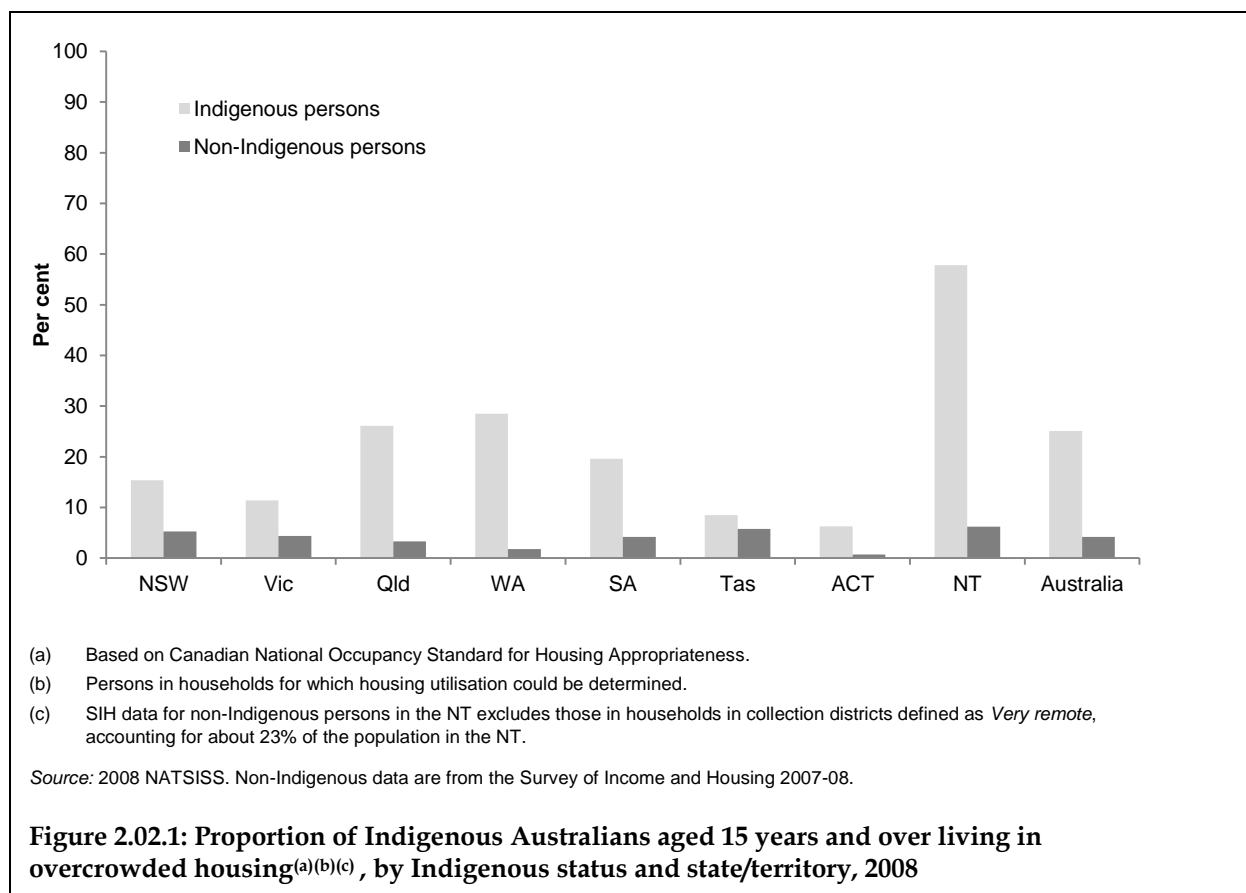
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT <sup>(b)</sup>	Australia
<b>Total requiring additional bedroom(s)</b>									
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	14,756	2,473	23,458	12,420	3,506	1,046 <sup>(c)</sup>	177 <sup>(c)</sup>	23,689	81,525
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	15.4*	11.4*	26.1*	28.5*	19.6*	8.5 <sup>(c)</sup>	6.3 <sup>(c)*</sup>	57.8*	25.1*
<b>Total number of Indigenous persons<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>96,030</b>	<b>21,611</b>	<b>89,943</b>	<b>43,630</b>	<b>17,851</b>	<b>12,344</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>40,953</b>	<b>325,158</b>
Estimated number of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	283,439	181,252	106,043	29,360 <sup>(c)</sup>	52,831	21,981	1,873 <sup>(e)</sup>	6,549 <sup>(d)</sup>	683,227
% of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	5.3*	4.4*	3.3*	1.8 <sup>(c)*</sup>	4.2*	5.8	0.7 <sup>(e)*</sup>	6.2 <sup>(c)*</sup>	4.2*
<b>Total number of non-Indigenous persons<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>5,390,485</b>	<b>4,157,001</b>	<b>3,211,850</b>	<b>1,611,762</b>	<b>1,250,778</b>	<b>377,275</b>	<b>268,674</b>	<b>105,462</b>	<b>16,373,287</b>
<b>Rate ratio</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>

\*Difference between Indigenous and non-Indigenous rates are statistically significant for this category.

- (a) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard for Housing Appropriateness.
- (b) SIH data for non-Indigenous persons excludes those in households in collection districts defined as very remote, accounting for about 23% of the population in the NT.
- (c) Estimate has a relative standard error between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution.
- (d) Persons in households for which housing utilisation could be determined.
- (e) Estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

Note: Data could not be provided as requested for state/territories due to high RSEs.

Sources: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2008 NATSISS and Survey of Income and Housing 2007–08.



### Overcrowding by remoteness

- In 2004–05, the proportion of Indigenous people aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households was much higher in *Remote* and *Very remote* areas (50%) than in *Major cities* (12%) where one or more additional bedrooms were required. For Indigenous Australians living in *Remote* and *Very remote* areas, 33% required two or more additional bedrooms (Table 2.02.3).
- In 2008, overcrowding also increased with remoteness with 58% of Indigenous people aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households in *Very Remote* areas, 33% in remote areas and only 17% in Non-remote areas (Table 2.02.4; Figure 2.02.2).
- For Indigenous Australians aged 18 years and older in 2008, overcrowding increased with remoteness, with 61% of Indigenous people in *Very remote* areas living in overcrowded households compared to 16% of Indigenous Australians in *Major cities* (Table 2.02.5).

**Table 2.02.3: Number and proportion of people aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and remoteness, 2004–05**

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote or Very remote <sup>(b)</sup>	Australia
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	9,548	5,439	12,012	35,925	62,924
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households <sup>(c)</sup>	12.2	10.6	21.9	49.6	24.5
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	507,443	86,640	48,320	7,740	650,143
% of other people living in overcrowded households <sup>(c)</sup>	5.0	3.0	3.1	4.3	4.4
Rate ratio	2.4	3.5	7.1	11.6	5.6
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	3,910	1,291	4,792	23,838	33,831
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households <sup>(c)</sup>	5.0	2.5	8.7	32.9	13.2
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	97,301	9,951	5,591	788	113,631
% of other people living in overcrowded households <sup>(c)</sup>	1.0	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.8
Rate ratio	5.2	7.3	24.3	75.3	17.1

(a) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

(b) The non-Indigenous sample does not contain the *Very remote* classification.

(c) Proportions calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: AIHW analysis of 2004–05 NATSIHS and 2004–05 National Health Survey.



**Table 2.02.4: Number and proportion of people aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and remoteness, 2008**

	Major Cities	Inner Regional	Outer Regional	Total non-remote	Remote	Very remote <sup>(b)</sup>	Total remote	Australia
<b>Total requiring additional bedrooms</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	13,895	11,759	16,360	42,014	9,672	29,839	39,511	81,525
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	13.3	17.5	22.5	17.2	32.6	58.2	48.8	25.1
<b>Total Indigenous people<sup>(c)</sup></b>	<b>104,186</b>	<b>67,306</b>	<b>72,743</b>	<b>244,235</b>	<b>29,684</b>	<b>51,239</b>	<b>80,923</b>	<b>325,158</b>
Not known (Indigenous only)	1,031	110	223	1,365	155	423	578	1,943
Estimated number of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	542,255	88,767 <sup>(d)</sup>	46,265 <sup>(d)</sup>	677,286	5,941 <sup>(d)</sup>	..	..	683,227
% of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	4.8	2.7 <sup>(d)</sup>	2.9 <sup>(d)</sup>	4.2	3.6 <sup>(d)</sup>	..	..	4.2
<b>Total number of non-Indigenous persons</b>	<b>11,285,722</b>	<b>3,347,412</b>	<b>1,573,742</b>	<b>16,206,875</b>	<b>166,412</b>	..	..	<b>16,373,287</b>
<b>Rate ratio</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>9.1</b>	..	..	<b>6.0</b>

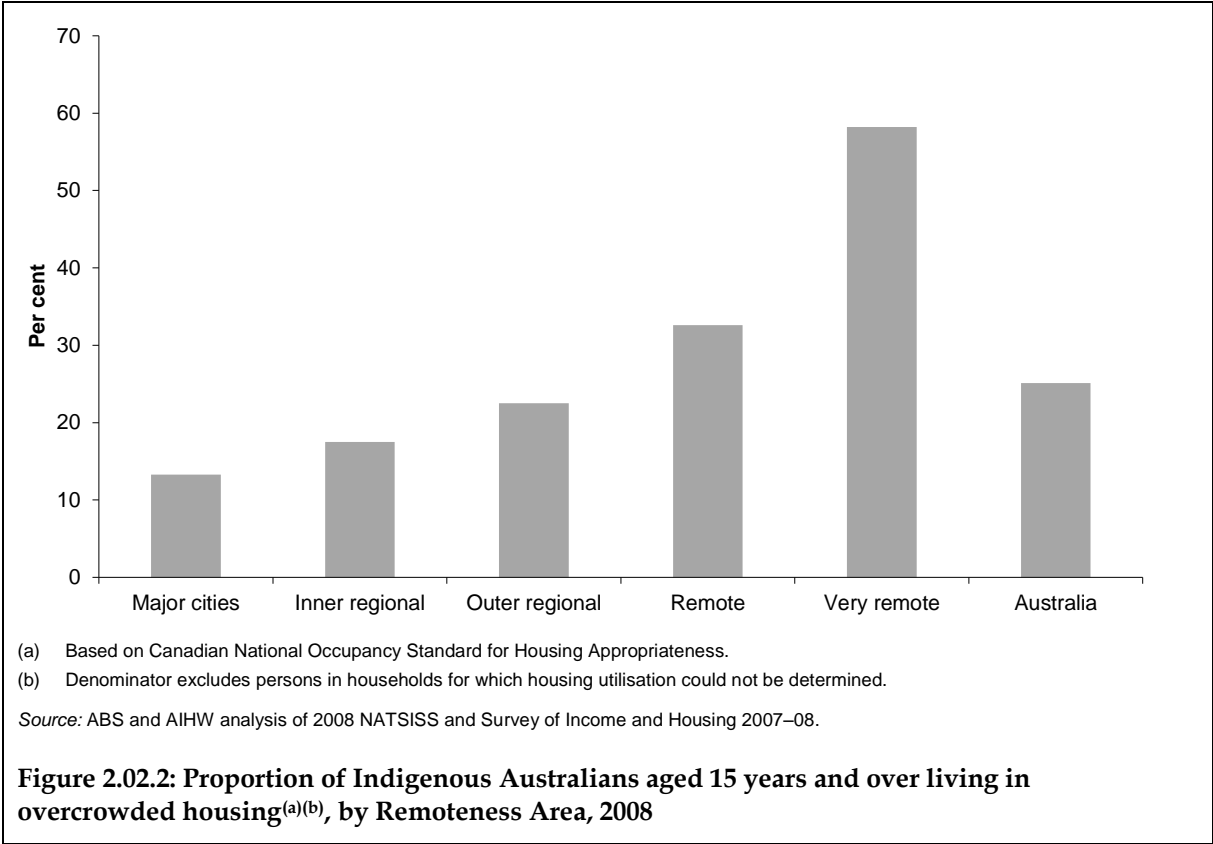
(a) Based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard for Housing Appropriateness.

(b) Persons in households for which housing utilisation could be determined.

(c) SIH data for non-Indigenous persons excludes those in households in collection districts defined as *Very remote*, accounting for about 23% of the population in the NT.

(d) Estimate has a relative standard error between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2008 NATSISS and Survey of Income and Housing 2007–08.



**Table 2.02.5: Number and proportion of people aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and remoteness area, 2008**

	Major Cities	Inner Regional	Outer Regional	Total non-remote	Remote	Very remote <sup>(b)</sup>	Total remote	Australia
<b>Total requiring additional bedrooms</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	25,674	21,582	29,291	76,547	17,860	47,700	65,560	142,107
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	15.5*	19.3*	25.7*	19.5*	37.5*	61	52.1	27.5*
<b>Total Indigenous people<sup>(c)</sup></b>	<b>165,473</b>	<b>112,040</b>	<b>114,118</b>	<b>391,631</b>	<b>47,607</b>	<b>78,210</b>	<b>125,817</b>	<b>517,448</b>
Not known (Indigenous only)	1,398 <sup>(d)</sup>	141 <sup>(e)</sup>	376 <sup>(e)</sup>	1,914 <sup>(d)</sup>	305 <sup>(d)</sup>	682 <sup>(d)</sup>	987 <sup>(d)</sup>	2,902
Estimated number of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	812,770	145,679 <sup>(d)</sup>	92,889 <sup>(d)</sup>	1,051,338	10,783*	..	..	1,062,120
% of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	5.8*	3.5 <sup>(d)*</sup>	4.7 <sup>(d)*</sup>	5.2*	4.7 <sup>(d)*</sup>	..	..	5.2*
<b>Total number of non-Indigenous persons</b>	<b>13,998,187</b>	<b>4,193,069</b>	<b>1,994,000</b>	<b>20,185,256</b>	<b>230,547</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>20,415,803</b>
<b>Rate ratio</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>5.3</b>

\* Differences between Indigenous and non-Indigenous rates are statistically significant for these categories.

(a) Based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard for Housing Appropriateness.

(b) SIH data for non-Indigenous persons excludes those in households in collection districts defined as *Very remote*, accounting for about 23% of the population in the NT.

(c) Persons in households for which housing utilisation could be determined.

(d) Estimate has a relative standard error between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution.

(e) Estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

Sources: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2008 NATSISS and Survey of Income and Housing 2007–08.

## Overcrowding by tenure type

- In 2004–05, of Indigenous households that were overcrowded, 83% were renters and 13% were home owners (Table 2.02.6).
- In 2008 there was a slight increase in Indigenous home owners living in overcrowded households (20%) while 79% of Indigenous overcrowded households were renters (Table 2.02.7).
- In 2008, the Northern Territory had the largest percentage of Indigenous Australian renters (93%) and lowest percentage of home owners (6%) who were living in overcrowded households (Table 2.02.7).
- In 2008, Tasmania had the lowest percentage (54%) of Indigenous Australian renters and highest percentage of home owners (46%) living in overcrowded households (Table 2.02.7).

**Table 2.02.6: Overcrowded Indigenous households using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, by state/territory and tenure type, 2004–05**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas and ACT	NT	Australia
Owner without a mortgage	1.5	7.2	3.4	0.7	2.3	1.5	0.4	2.0
Owner with a mortgage	18.8	13.6	15.8	5.1	4.5	24.6	2.4	11.1
Renter (excludes boarders)	79.7	71.7	78.6	84.9	85.6	70.8	94.0	83.2
Other	—	7.5	2.2	6.6	3.1	2.2	2.0	2.8
<b>Total<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes not stated.

Note: Non-Indigenous comparisons are not available as information on tenure type was not collected in 2004–05 NHS.

Source: AIHW analysis of 2004–05 NATSIHS.

**Table 2.02.7: Overcrowded Indigenous households using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard for Housing Appropriateness, by state/territory and tenure type, 2008**

	NSW/ACT <sup>(a)</sup>	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Australia
Owner/purchaser	31.3 <sup>(b)</sup>	21.2 <sup>(b)</sup>	15.7 <sup>(b)</sup>	18.7 <sup>(b)</sup>	29.0 <sup>(b)</sup>	45.8 <sup>(b)</sup>	5.6 <sup>(b)</sup>	19.6
Renter (excludes boarders)	67.1	78.3	83.9	80.5	69.8	54.2	93.0	79.4
<b>Total<sup>(c)(d)</sup></b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) ACT has been combined with NSW but this has had little effect on the NSW rate.

(b) Estimate has a relative standard error between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution.

(c) Total excludes not stated responses.

(d) Total includes other tenure types.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2008 NATSISS.

## Overcrowding by selected health and socioeconomic characteristics

- In 2004–05, Indigenous Australians aged 15 years and over were more likely to be living in overcrowded households if their household income was in the lowest (1st) quintile rather than the highest (5th) quintile (27% compared with 1.1%); if the highest year of school completed was Year 9 or below than if Year 12 was the highest year of school completed (28% compared with 15%); and if they were unemployed or not in the labour force than if they were employed (34% and 29% compared with 18%) (Table 2.02.8).
- In 2008, of Indigenous Australians aged 15 years and over who reported their household income was in the lowest (1<sup>st</sup>) quintile, 30% lived in an overcrowded household and 70% did not. Where the highest year of school completed was Year 9 for Indigenous Australians 29% lived in an overcrowded household, compared to 19% of Indigenous Australians who had completed school to Year 12 (Table 2.02.9b). Of those Indigenous Australians living in an overcrowded household, 47% were not in the labour force and 11% were unemployed (Table 2.02.9a).

**Table 2.02.8: Proportion<sup>(a)</sup> of people aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(b)</sup>, by Indigenous status, by selected population and socioeconomic characteristics, 2004–05**

	Indigenous Australians		Non-Indigenous Australians	
	Overcrowded	Not overcrowded	Overcrowded	Not overcrowded
<b>Self-assessed health status</b>				
Excellent/very good	20.7	79.3	4.3	95.7
Good	25.1	74.9	5.1	94.9
Fair/poor	21.6	78.4	6.0	94.0
<b>Household income</b>				
1st quintile (lowest)	26.9	73.1	7.0	93.0
5th quintile (highest)	1.1	98.9	2.1	97.9
<b>Highest year of school completed</b>				
Year 12	14.6	85.4	4.4	95.6
Year 9 or below	27.9	72.1	10.0	90.0
<b>Whether has non-school qualification</b>				
Has a non-school qualification	18.3	81.7	4.4	95.6
Does not have a non-school qualification	25.5	74.5	5.4	94.6
<b>Employment</b>				
Employed	18.3	81.7	4.1	95.9
Unemployed	34.4	65.6	6.2	93.8
Not in the labour force	29.0	71.0	7.0	93.0

(a) Proportions are age-standardised using the Australian 2001 standard population.

(b) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

Source: AIHW analysis of 2004–05 NATSIHS and 2004–05 National Health Survey.

**Table 2.02.9a: Proportion<sup>(a)</sup> of Indigenous persons aged 15 years and living in overcrowded households<sup>(b)</sup>, by selected population and socioeconomic characteristics, 2008**

	In overcrowded household	Not in overcrowded household
<b>Self-assessed health status</b>		
Excellent/very good	36.9	38.2
Good	35.2	33.5
Fair/poor	27.9	28.3
<b>Household income<sup>(c)(d)</sup></b>		
1st quintile (lowest)	69.5*	44.7*
5th quintile (highest)	1.7 <sup>(e)</sup> *	5.2*
<b>Highest year of school completed</b>		
Year 12	16.3*	24.0*
Year 9 or below	39.4*	32.2*
<b>Whether has non-school qualification</b>		
Has a non-school qualification	21.3*	36.0*
Does not have a non-school qualification	78.7*	64.0*
<b>Employment</b>		
Employed	42.1*	54.9*
Unemployed	11.0	9.9
Not in the labour force	46.8*	35.2*
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* For Indigenous persons, differences between rates for those in overcrowded households and in households that were not overcrowded are statistically significant for these categories.

- (a) Proportions of self-assessed health status only are age-standardised using the Australian 2001 standard population.
- (b) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.
- (c) Equivalised income of household.
- (d) Total excludes not known and not stated.
- (e) Estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

*Note:* Non-Indigenous data are not available.

*Source:* ABS and AIHW analysis of 2008 NATSISS.

**Table 2.02.9b: Proportion<sup>(a)</sup> of Indigenous persons aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(b)</sup>, Indigenous people, by selected population and socioeconomic characteristics, 2008**

	In overcrowded household	Not in overcrowded household	Total per cent	Total number
<b>Self-assessed health status</b>				
Excellent/very good	22.2*	77.8*	100.0	141,955
Good	23.6*	76.4*	100.0	110,913
Fair/poor	21.9*	78.1*	100.0	72,291
<b>Household income<sup>(c)(d)</sup></b>				
1st quintile (lowest)	29.8*	70.2*	100.0	130,290
5th quintile (highest)	8.0 <sup>(e)</sup> *	92.0*	100.0	11,579
<b>Highest year of school completed</b>				
Year 12	18.5*	81.5*	100.0	65,889
Year 9 or below	29.1*	70.9*	100.0	101,410
<b>Whether has non-school qualification</b>				
Has a non-school qualification	16.5*	83.5*	100.0	105,060
Does not have a non-school qualification	29.2*	70.8*	100.0	220,098
<b>Employment</b>				
Employed	20.4*	79.6*	100.0	168,109
Unemployed	27.2*	72.8*	100.0	33,104
Not in the labour force	30.8*	69.2*	100.0	123,945
<b>Total</b>	<b>25.1*</b>	<b>74.9*</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>325,158</b>

\* Differences between rates for Indigenous persons in overcrowded households and households that were not overcrowded are statistically significant for these categories.

(a) Proportions of self-assessed health status only are age-standardised using the Australian 2001 standard population.

(b) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

(c) Equivalised income of household.

(d) Total excludes not known and not stated.

(e) Estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

Note: Non-Indigenous data are not available.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2008 NATSISS.

## All persons overcrowding

- The 2004–05 NATSIHS estimated that there were 127,546 Indigenous Australians living in overcrowded households according to the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (one or more additional bedrooms required). This represented 27% of all Indigenous persons. There were around 1 million other Australians living in overcrowded households in 2004–05, representing 5.2% of all other persons (Table 2.02.10). Approximately 14% of Indigenous people were living in households that required two or more additional bedrooms compared with 0.9% of other people.
- In 2008, there were 142,107 Indigenous Australians living in overcrowded households according to the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (one or more additional bedrooms required). This represented 28% of all Indigenous persons. There were around 1 million other Australians living in overcrowded households in 2008, representing 5.2% of all other persons (Table 2.02.11).
- In 2004–05, the Northern Territory had the highest proportion of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households (65%); and New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory had the lowest (between 10% and 12%) (Table 2.02.10).
- In 2008, the Northern Territory had the highest proportion of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households (62%); and The Australian Capital Territory had the lowest (6.7%) (Table 2.02.11).
- In 2004–05, the proportion of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households was much higher in *Remote* and *Very remote* areas (53%) than in *Major cities* (14%) (Table 2.02.12).
- The proportion of Indigenous Australians 15 years and over living in overcrowded households decreased slightly from 26% in 2002 to 25% in 2008 (Figure 2.02.3).



**Table 2.02.10: Number and proportion of all persons living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and state/territory, 2004–05**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas and ACT	NT	Australia
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	16,579	3,355	37,577	23,140	6,550	2,302	38,041	127,546
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	11.9	11.4	28.9	33.6	24.6	10.4	65.3	26.9
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	412,163	331,962	122,118	55,346	57,950	18,846	12,306	1,010,690
% of other people living in overcrowded households	6.4	6.8	3.3	3.0	3.9	2.4	9.8	5.2
Rate ratio	1.9	1.7	8.7	11.3	6.3	4.2	6.7	5.1
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	4,347	837	17,374	10,794	3,463	589	28,083	65,487
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	3.1	2.8	13.4	15.7	13.0	2.7	48.2	13.8
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	83,955	32,397	19,459	14,264	10,425	1,693	2,960	165,154
% of other people living in overcrowded households	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.2	2.4	0.9
Rate ratio	2.4	4.3	25.3	20.5	18.5	12.1	20.4	16.1

(a) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

Source: AIHW analysis of 2004–05 NATSIHS and 2004–05 National Health Survey.

**Table 2.02.11: Number and proportion of all persons living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and state/territory, 2008**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT <sup>(b)</sup>	Australia
<b>Total requiring additional bedrooms</b>									
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	27,066	4,766	41,552	20,660	6,561	2,314	291 <sup>(c)</sup>	38,897	142,107
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	17.6*	14.0*	28.3*	30.0*	23.3*	12.1	6.7 <sup>(c)*</sup>	61.8*	27.5*
<b>Total number of Indigenous persons<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>153,626</b>	<b>34,025</b>	<b>146,580</b>	<b>68,772</b>	<b>28,121</b>	<b>19,049</b>	<b>4,358</b>	<b>62,917</b>	<b>517,448</b>
Estimated number of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	445,071	273,239	174,963	44,452 <sup>(c)</sup>	72,376	36,165	4,338 <sup>(e)</sup>	11,517 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,062,120
% of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	6.6*	5.3*	4.3*	2.2 <sup>(c)*</sup>	4.7*	7.6	1.3 <sup>(e)*</sup>	8.1 <sup>(c*)</sup>	5.2*
<b>Total number of non-Indigenous persons<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>6,720,240</b>	<b>5,144,608</b>	<b>4,049,183</b>	<b>2,018,355</b>	<b>1,535,690</b>	<b>473,415</b>	<b>331,976</b>	<b>142,336</b>	<b>20,415,803</b>
<b>Rate ratio</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>

\* Difference between Indigenous and non-Indigenous rates are statistically significant for this category.

- (a) Based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard for Housing Appropriateness.
- (b) SIH data for non-Indigenous persons excludes those in households in collection districts defined as very remote, accounting for about 23% of the population in the NT.
- (c) Estimate has a relative standard error between 25% and 50% and should be used with caution.
- (d) Persons in households for which housing utilisation could be determined.
- (e) Estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

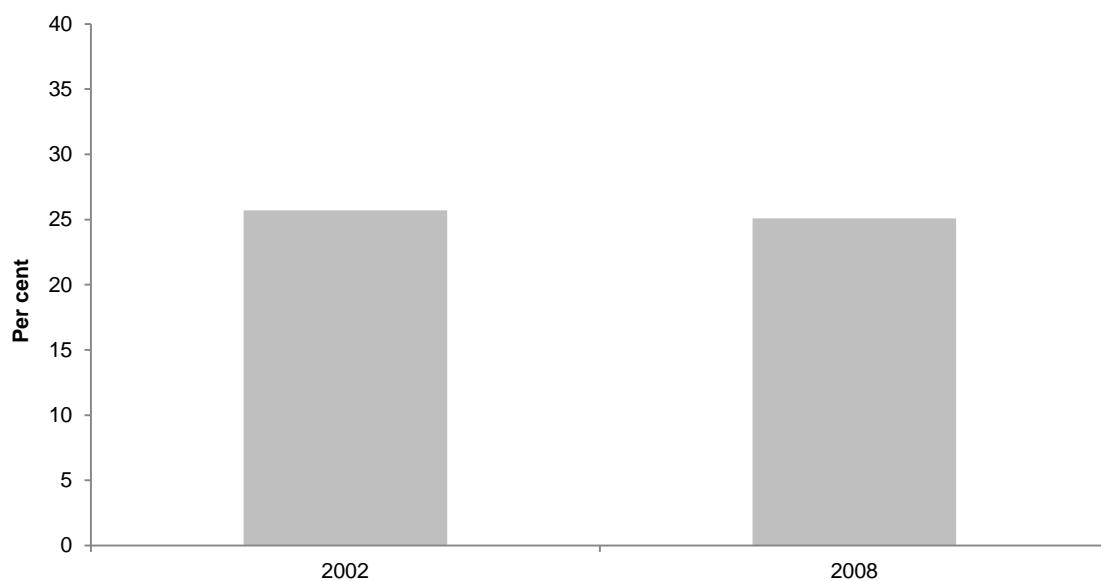
Sources: NATSISS 2008 and SIH 07–08.

**Table 2.02.12: Number and proportion of all persons living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and remoteness, 2004–05**

	Major cities	Inner regional	Outer regional	Remote or Very remote	Australia
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Number of Indigenous persons	20,632	13,230	27,513	66,170	127,546
Proportion	14.3	13.8	25.3	52.5	26.9
Number of other persons	760,953	152,683	85,480	11,574	1,010,690
Proportion	5.8	3.9	4.1	5.0	5.2
Rate ratio	2.5	3.5	6.1	10.5	5.1
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Number of Indigenous persons	7,852	3,412	11,559	42,664	65,487
Proportion	5.4	3.6	10.6	33.9	13.8
Number of other persons	135,218	16,256	11,620	2,060	165,154
Proportion	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.9
Rate ratio	5.3	8.6	18.9	37.9	16.1

(a) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

Source: AIHW analysis of 2004–05 NATSIHS and 2004–05 National Health Survey.



(a) Denominator excludes persons in households for which housing utilisation could not be determined.

Note: Based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard for housing appropriateness.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2002 and 2008 NATSISS.

**Figure 2.02.3: Proportion of Indigenous people aged 15 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status, 2002 and 2008**

## Census data

The majority of tables presented below are based on the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (one or more additional bedrooms required).

- The 2006 Census estimated that there were 50,515 Indigenous Australians aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households. This represented 25% of all Indigenous people aged 18 years and over. There were 608,846 other Australians living in overcrowded households in 2006, representing 4.9% of all other people aged 18 years and over (Table 2.02.13). Approximately 14% of Indigenous people were living in households that required two or more additional bedrooms compared with 1.0% of other people.

## Overcrowding by state/territory

- In 2006, the Northern Territory had the highest proportion of Indigenous persons aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households (64%) and Tasmania had the lowest (9.0%) (Table 2.02.13; Figure 2.02.4).
- Indigenous Australians were more likely than other Australians to be living in overcrowded households in all states and territories. The largest disparities were in Western Australia (rate ratio of 12) and the Northern Territory (rate ratio of 9.6) (Table 2.02.13).
- In 2006, the Northern Territory also had the highest proportion of Indigenous households which were overcrowded (39%) and Tasmania had the lowest (7.2%) (Table 2.02.14).

**Table 2.02.13: Number and proportion of persons<sup>(a)</sup> aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(b)</sup>, by Indigenous status and state/territory, 2006**

	NSW & ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Australia <sup>(c)</sup>
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	8,639	1,593	13,716	7,349	2,435	732	16,028	50,515
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	13.7	11.6	24.7	30.2	21.4	9.0	64.2	25.1
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	263,463	165,692	97,645	31,220	34,975	10,477	5,231	608,846
% of other people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	6.1	5.2	4.1	2.6	3.5	3.5	6.7	4.9
Rate ratio	2.2	2.2	6.0	11.6	6.1	2.6	9.6	5.1
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	2,397	397	6,619	4,128	1,173	166	12,571	27,468
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	3.8	2.9	11.9	17.0	10.3	2.0	50.3	13.7
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	56,893	34,691	18,923	5,781	6,369	1,768	1,234	125,686
% of other people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.6	1.0
Rate ratio	2.9	2.6	14.9	34.0	17.2	3.3	31.4	13.7

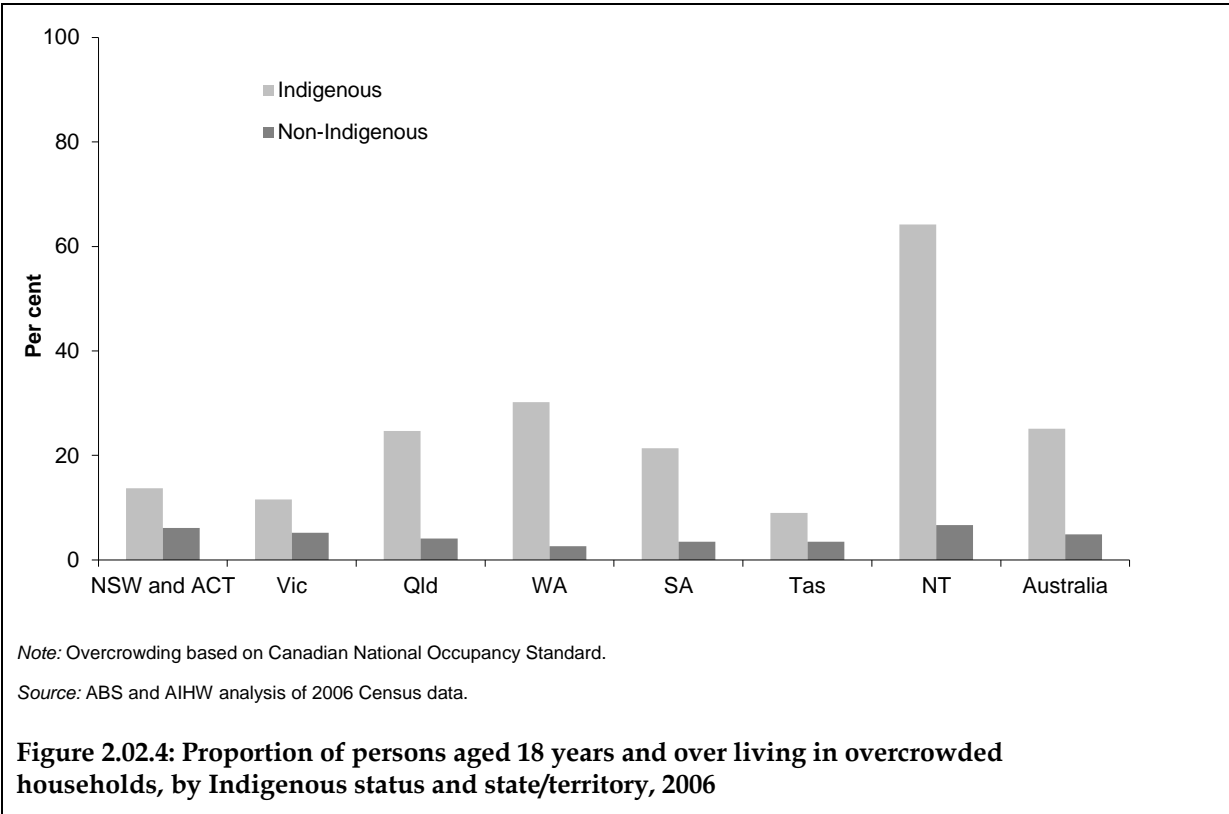
(a) Excludes visitors.

(b) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

(c) Includes other territories.

(d) Proportions calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.



**Table 2.02.14: Number and proportion of overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and state/territory, 2006**

	NSW & ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Australia <sup>(b)</sup>
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Number of overcrowded Indigenous households	5,336	1,170	6,227	2,615	1,061	532	3,777	20,725
% of Indigenous households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	9.9	9.1	14.8	16.1	11.8	7.2	38.6	13.7
Number of overcrowded other households	86,046	52,321	32,414	10,309	11,516	3,722	1,754	198,117
% of other households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	3.8	3.1	2.5	1.6	2.1	2.3	4.2	3.0
Rate ratio	2.6	2.9	5.9	10.1	5.6	3.1	9.2	4.6
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>								
Number of overcrowded Indigenous households	1,097	240	2,094	1,062	331	95	2,398	7,319
% of Indigenous households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	2.0	1.9	5.0	6.5	3.7	1.3	24.5	4.8
Number of overcrowded other households	14,532	8,685	5,100	1,565	1,698	515	331	32,428
% of other households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.5
Rate ratio	3.3	3.8	12.5	32.5	12.3	4.3	30.6	9.6

(a) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

(b) Includes other territories.

(c) Proportions calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.

## Overcrowding by remoteness

- In 2006, the proportion of Indigenous people aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households (one or more additional bedrooms required) was much higher in *Remote* and *Very remote* areas (54%) than in *Major cities* (13%) (Table 2.02.15; Figure 2.02.5).
- Indigenous Australians were more likely to be living in overcrowded households than other Australians across all remoteness categories. Rate ratios ranged from 2.3 in *Major cities* to 12 in *Remote* and *Very remote* areas (Table 2.02.15). The proportion of Indigenous overcrowded households was also much higher in *Remote* and *Very remote* areas (32%) than in *Major cities* (9.4%) (Table 2.02.16).

**Table 2.02.15: Number and proportion of persons<sup>(a)</sup> aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households<sup>(b)</sup>, by Indigenous status and remoteness, 2006**

	Major Cities	Inner Regional	Outer Regional	Remote or Very Remote	Australia <sup>(c)</sup>
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	8,480	5,884	8,776	27,374	50,514
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	12.6	13.9	21.2	54.2	25.1
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	480,036	79,575	40,846	8,389	608,846
% of other people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	5.4	3.3	3.7	4.4	4.9
Rate ratio	2.3	4.2	5.7	12.3	5.1
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Estimated number of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households	2,252	1,760	3,502	19,954	27,468
% of Indigenous people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	3.4	4.2	8.5	39.5	13.7
Estimated number of other people living in overcrowded households	102,044	13,741	7,914	1,985	125,684
% of other people living in overcrowded households <sup>(d)</sup>	1.2	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.0
Rate ratio	2.8	7.0	12.1	39.5	13.7

(a) Excludes visitors.

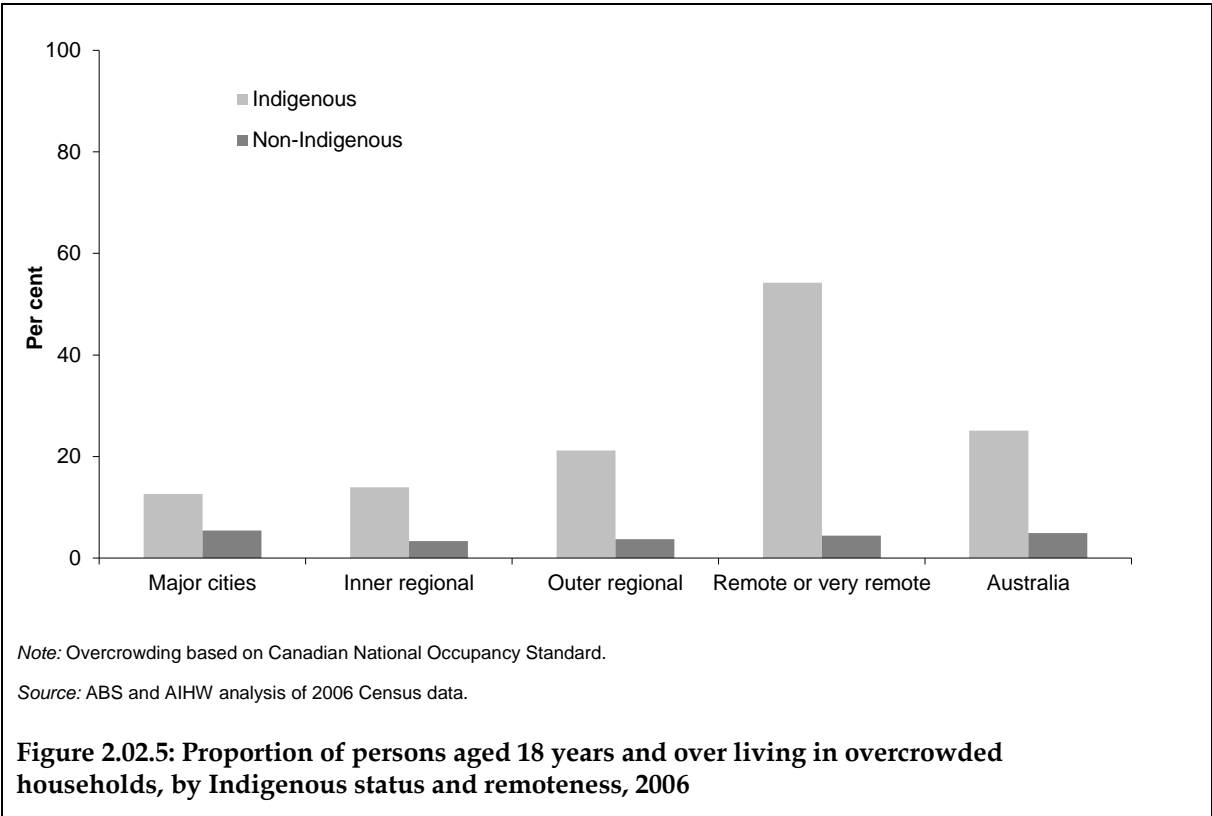
(b) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

(c) Includes migratory.

(d) Proportions calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.





**Table 2.02.16: Number and proportion of overcrowded households<sup>(a)</sup>, by Indigenous status and remoteness, 2006**

	Major Cities	Inner Regional	Outer Regional	Remote or Very Remote	Australia <sup>(b)</sup>
<b>One or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Number of overcrowded Indigenous households	5,705	3,726	4,268	7,033	20,725
% of Indigenous households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	9.4	10.0	13.4	32.3	13.7
Number of overcrowded other households	151,946	28,302	14,922	2,946	198,117
% of other households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	3.3	2.1	2.4	2.8	3.0
Rate ratio	2.8	4.8	5.6	11.5	4.6
<b>Two or more additional bedrooms required</b>					
Number of overcrowded Indigenous households	1,201	814	1,203	4,103	7,319
% of Indigenous households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	2.0	2.2	3.8	18.9	4.8
Number of overcrowded other households	25,358	4,103	2,461	508	32,428
% of other households overcrowded <sup>(c)</sup>	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5
Rate ratio	3.3	7.3	9.5	37.8	9.6

(a) Based on Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

(b) Includes migratory.

(c) Proportions calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.

## **Overcrowding by tenure type**

### **Canadian National Occupancy Standard**

- In 2006, household overcrowding varied by tenure type. Approximately 40% of Indigenous households in co-operative/community/church group housing, 16% of state/territory housing authority households, 11% of private and other renter households and 6.9% of home owners or purchaser households were classified as overcrowded according to the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (Table 2.02.17).
- Comparatively, 3.6% of non-Indigenous households in housing co-operative /community/church group housing, 4.9% of state/territory housing authority households, 5.6% of private renter households and 2.0% of home owners or purchaser households were classified as overcrowded according to the Canadian National Occupancy standard in 2006 (Table 2.02.17).
- In 2006, 32% of Indigenous Australians aged 18 years and over who were renters and 10% who were home owners/purchasers lived in overcrowded households according to the Canadian National Occupancy Standard. Comparatively, 8.9% of non-Indigenous Australians who were renters and 3.4% who were home owners/purchasers lived in overcrowded households (Table 2.02.18).

### **Proxy Occupancy Standard**

- In 2006, household overcrowding varied by tenure type with 31% of Indigenous households in co-operative/community/church group housing being overcrowded, 9.2% of state/territory housing authority households, 5.3% of private and other renter households and 4.5% of home owners or purchaser households were classified as overcrowded according to the Proxy Occupancy Standard. Comparatively, for other households, overcrowding did not vary much with tenure type, with 1.3–2.2% of other households classified as overcrowded for each tenure type according to the Proxy Occupancy Standard (Table 2.02.19).
- The proportion of Indigenous Australians aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households varied by tenure type in 2006 according to the Proxy Occupancy Standard; 54% of Indigenous Australians living in housing co-operative/community or church group housing, 18% of Indigenous Australians in state/territory housing authority housing, 8.7% of private or other renters and 7.0% of home owners/purchasers living in overcrowded households in 2006. Comparatively, the proportion of other Australians living in overcrowded households did not vary much by tenure type, with 2.5–4.9% for each tenure type living in overcrowded households (Table 2.02.20).

**Table 2.02.17: Number and proportion of overcrowded households, using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

Tenure type	NSW & ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of overcrowded Indigenous households</b>								
Home owner/purchaser	1,323	318	1,081	366	194	187	218	3,687
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	1,353	323	1,511	894	390	133	366	4,970
Housing co-operative/community/church group	478	50	1,253	811	223	6	2,743	5,567
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	1,930	411	1,997	392	198	174	232	5,337
Not stated	68	12	91	21	12	n.p.	26	233
<i>Total rented</i>	<i>3,829</i>	<i>796</i>	<i>4,852</i>	<i>2,118</i>	<i>823</i>	<i>316</i>	<i>3,367</i>	<i>16,107</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	138	40	246	109	31	22	163	752
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>5,339</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>6,232</b>	<b>2,615</b>	<b>1,064</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>3,775</b>	<b>20,734</b>
<b>Per cent of overcrowded Indigenous households<sup>(e)</sup></b>								
Home owner/purchaser	6.6	6.0	7.9	7.2	6.1	4.8	11.6	6.9
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	11.4	12.3	21.5	20.5	14.5	10.7	24.9	15.9
Housing co-operative/community/church group	17.9	15.6	33.0	41.7	36.9	8.7	60.8	39.9
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	11.0	10.1	12.8	9.5	9.1	9.2	16.4	11.4
Not stated	14.9	13.3	24.1	17.9	14.5	7.7	43.3	19.0
<i>Total rented</i>	<i>11.8</i>	<i>11.2</i>	<i>18.1</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>14.9</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>45.1</i>	<i>17.3</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	11.2	11.4	20.7	19.4	14.6	11.4	39.9	18.1
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>13.6</b>

(continued)

**Table 2.02.17 (continued): Number and proportion of overcrowded households, using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

Tenure type	NSW & ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of overcrowded non-Indigenous households</b>								
Home owner/purchaser	38,645	27,167	14,395	5,183	6,066	1,980	858	94,314
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	5,378	3,338	1,877	595	941	413	138	12,692
Housing co-operative/community/church group	539	199	215	35	153	34	13	1,188
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	38,008	19,276	14,355	3,921	3,826	1,135	610	81,134
Not stated	431	255	219	74	80	22	7	1,091
<i>Total rented</i>	<i>44,356</i>	<i>23,068</i>	<i>16,666</i>	<i>4,625</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>1,604</i>	<i>768</i>	<i>96,105</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	1,986	1,244	1,022	331	289	102	106	5,086
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>86,058</b>	<b>52,334</b>	<b>32,418</b>	<b>10,308</b>	<b>11,515</b>	<b>3,722</b>	<b>1,752</b>	<b>198,151</b>
<b>Per cent of overcrowded non-Indigenous households<sup>(e)</sup></b>								
Home owner/purchaser	2.5	2.2	1.7	1.1	1.6	1.7	3.7	2.0
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	5.3	6.7	4.9	2.6	2.6	4.8	5.0	4.9
Housing co-operative/community/church group	4.7	3.0	3.9	1.3	2.8	3.5	3.7	3.6
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	7.4	5.7	4.4	2.9	4.1	4.0	4.7	5.6
Not stated	7.1	7.0	5.7	4.8	4.9	4.3	5.9	6.3
<i>Total rented</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>4.5</i>	<i>2.8</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>4.2</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>5.5</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	4.2	3.8	3.5	1.9	2.1	2.6	5.4	3.5
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.0</b>

(continued)

**Table 2.02.17 (continued): Number and proportion of overcrowded households, using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

- (a) Includes other territories.
- (b) Includes dwellings being rented from a real estate agent, parent/other relative or other person, dwellings being rented through a 'Residential park (includes caravan parks and marinas)', 'Employer—government (includes Defence Housing Authority)' and 'Employer—other employer' (private).
- (c) Includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme, occupied rent-free, occupied under a life tenure type and other tenure type not further defined.
- (d) Includes tenure type not stated.
- (e) Proportions have been calculated on all occupied private dwellings excluding those where number of bedrooms was not stated. Includes not stated state/territory.

*Note:* Households are considered overcrowded if one or more additional bedrooms are required to satisfy the Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

*Source:* ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.

**Table 2.02.18: Number and proportion of persons aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households, using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

Tenure type	NSW & ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of Indigenous persons living in overcrowded households</b>								
Home owner/purchaser	1,987	406	1,696	752	305	286	479	5,911
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	2,413	525	3,676	2,286	826	184	991	10,901
Housing co-operative/community/church group	1,384	104	4,357	3,216	908	9	13,364	23,351
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	2,429	469	2,893	666	264	209	415	7,345
Not stated	136	21	204	67	31	n.p.	107	569
<i>Total renters</i>	<i>6,362</i>	<i>1,119</i>	<i>11,130</i>	<i>6,235</i>	<i>2,029</i>	<i>405</i>	<i>14,877</i>	<i>42,166</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	207	48	752	307	77	35	555	1,996
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>8,639</b>	<b>1,593</b>	<b>13,716</b>	<b>7,349</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>16,028</b>	<b>50,515</b>
<b>Per cent of Indigenous persons living in overcrowded households<sup>(e)</sup></b>								
Home owner/purchaser	8.5	7.0	10.7	12.3	8.4	6.3	19.7	9.6
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	17.0	18.4	34.0	32.6	23.1	14.3	41.3	25.9
Housing co-operative/community/church group	28.9	25.1	49.6	60.4	60.5	11.8	77.9	61.3
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	13.5	11.9	16.9	14.5	12.4	11.0	23.3	14.9
Not stated	20.9	21.4	34.2	33.7	25.8	7.7	65.6	30.5
<i>Total renters</i>	<i>16.9</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>29.9</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>27.7</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>69.2</i>	<i>32.1</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	14.7	12.2	38.6	34.8	28.2	16.2	62.5	33.1
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>25.1</b>

(continued)

**Table 2.02.18 (continued): Number and proportion of persons aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households, using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

Tenure type	NSW & ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of non-Indigenous persons living in overcrowded households</b>								
Home owner/purchaser	128,408	92,218	45,438	16,398	19,575	5,820	2,516	310,441
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	15,260	8,672	5,310	1,626	2,683	1,081	401	35,071
Housing co-operative/community/church group	1,442	501	669	114	394	89	76	3,285
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	104,005	54,393	40,311	10,898	10,330	2,906	1,704	224,554
Not stated	1,231	707	592	193	219	44	20	3,011
<i>Total renters</i>	<i>121,938</i>	<i>64,273</i>	<i>46,882</i>	<i>12,831</i>	<i>13,626</i>	<i>4,120</i>	<i>2,201</i>	<i>265,921</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	5,278	3,471	2,793	876	749	253	306	13,744
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>258,679</b>	<b>162,413</b>	<b>96,051</b>	<b>30,562</b>	<b>34,372</b>	<b>10,290</b>	<b>5,080</b>	<b>597,583</b>
<b>Per cent of non-Indigenous persons living in overcrowded households<sup>(e)</sup></b>								
Home owner/purchaser	4.2	3.8	2.7	1.9	2.7	2.6	5.6	3.4
Renter								
State or territory housing authority	9.8	11.8	9.1	5.0	5.3	8.4	9.4	9.0
Housing co-operative/community/church group	8.8	5.6	8.3	3.2	5.5	6.4	11.7	7.1
Private and other <sup>(b)</sup>	11.4	9.4	7.0	4.8	6.8	6.3	7.4	8.9
Not stated	12.9	12.6	9.7	8.5	9.4	6.3	10.1	11.3
<i>Total renters</i>	<i>11.1</i>	<i>9.6</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>6.7</i>	<i>7.8</i>	<i>8.9</i>
Other tenure types <sup>(c)</sup>	7.0	6.6	5.8	3.2	3.5	4.1	9.1	5.9
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>

(continued)

**Table 2.02.18 (continued): Number and proportion of persons aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households, using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

(a) Includes other territories.



- (b) Includes dwellings being rented from a real estate agent, parent/other relative or other person, dwellings being rented through a 'Residential park (includes caravan parks and marinas)', 'Employer—government (includes Defence Housing Authority)' and 'Employer—other employer' (private).
- (c) Includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme, occupied rent-free, occupied under a life tenure type and other tenure type not further defined.
- (d) Includes tenure type not stated.
- (e) Proportions have been calculated on all occupied private dwellings excluding those where number of bedrooms was not stated. Includes state/territory not stated.

*Note:* Households are considered overcrowded if one or more additional bedrooms are required to satisfy the Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

*Source:* ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.

**Table 2.02.19: Number and proportion of overcrowded households, using the Proxy Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of overcrowded households</b>									
<b>Indigenous</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	900	224	733	261	119	122	18	152	2,524
Renter—state or territory housing authority	698	150	1,027	601	249	48	22	255	3,046
Renter—housing co-operative/community/church group	305	31	930	629	174	5	—	2,410	4,480
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	866	176	1,030	242	110	66	9	140	2,643
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	66	27	175	76	14	11	—	121	497
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>2,860</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>3,928</b>	<b>1,818</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3,105</b>	<b>13,302</b>
<b>Other</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	24,571	18,171	9,021	3,249	3,793	1,105	496	435	60,848
Renter—state or territory housing authority	2,480	1,456	889	235	429	164	154	61	5,877
Renter—housing co-operative/community/church group	228	89	83	n.p.	49	15	7	9	490
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	15,031	7,373	5,498	1,449	1,402	392	199	230	31,586
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	900	586	450	170	124	38	10	35	2,322
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>43,805</b>	<b>28,198</b>	<b>16,116</b>	<b>5,191</b>	<b>5,879</b>	<b>1,732</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>102,603</b>

(continued)

**Table 2.02.19 (continued): Number and proportion of overcrowded households, using the Proxy Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Per cent of overcrowded households<sup>(e)</sup></b>									
<b>Indigenous</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	4.4	4.0	5.1	4.9	3.6	3.0	2.4	7.6	4.5
Renter—state or territory housing authority	5.8	5.5	13.7	12.8	8.7	3.7	4.6	16.0	9.2
Renter—housing co-operative/community/church group	11.0	9.0	23.7	32.0	28.4	6.7	—	53.4	31.4
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	4.7	4.1	6.2	5.5	4.7	3.3	1.9	9.0	5.3
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	5.2	7.3	14.1	12.8	6.2	5.3	—	28.5	11.4
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>Other</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.6	1.8	1.3
Renter State or territory housing authority	2.6	2.9	2.2	1.0	1.2	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.2
Renter Housing co-operative/community/church group	2.0	1.3	1.5	0.1	0.9	1.5	1.8	2.6	1.5
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	2.9	2.1	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.3	0.8	1.7	2.1
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	1.9	1.8	1.5	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	1.7	1.5
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>

(a) Includes other territories.

(b) Includes those renting privately with landlord not in same household and those renting from a real estate agent, relatives, employers, caravan park owners/managers and other landlords not elsewhere classified.

(c) Includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme, occupied rent-free, and occupied under a life tenure type and other tenure type not further defined.

(d) Includes tenure type not stated.

(e) Percentage calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.

**Table 2.02.20: Number and proportion of persons aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households, using the Proxy Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of persons living in overcrowded households</b>									
<b>Indigenous</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	1,472	304	1,295	608	219	206	26	400	4,533
Renter—state or territory housing authority	1,498	289	2,896	1,827	595	89	32	827	8,053
Renter—housing co-operative/community/church group	1,054	71	3,642	2,775	817	—	n.p.	12,561	20,934
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	1,364	222	1,893	547	175	86	6	366	4,659
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	139	31	638	257	53	28	n.p.	474	1,630
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>5,572</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>10,461</b>	<b>6,054</b>	<b>1,874</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14,738</b>	<b>40,128</b>
<b>Other</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	99,001	72,842	34,163	12,416	14,430	3,961	2,026	1,639	240,528
Renter—state or territory housing authority	8,562	4,752	3,101	878	1,496	551	517	229	20,133
Renter—housing co-operative/community/church group	815	258	366	47	165	47	13	105	1,816
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	53,116	26,485	19,040	5,013	4,727	1,218	723	850	111,189
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	3,086	2,079	1,585	584	401	130	40	163	8,077
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>166,789</b>	<b>108,302</b>	<b>58,875</b>	<b>19,174</b>	<b>21,473</b>	<b>5,973</b>	<b>3,358</b>	<b>3,008</b>	<b>387,080</b>

(continued)

**Table 2.02.20 (continued): Number and proportion of persons aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households, using the Proxy Occupancy Standard, by Indigenous status, tenure type and state/territory, 2006**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Per cent of persons living in overcrowded households<sup>(e)</sup></b>									
<b>Indigenous</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	6.2	5.0	7.8	9.3	5.8	4.4	3.2	15.5	7.0
Renter—state or territory housing authority	10.3	9.7	25.2	23.9	15.6	6.5	6.6	31.9	17.9
Renter—housing co-operative/community/church group	21.1	16.3	40.4	51.8	54.0	—	5.8	73.2	54.2
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	7.2	5.3	10.3	10.8	7.4	4.3	0.8	17.9	8.7
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	9.5	7.6	31.7	26.9	18.0	11.6	11.1	52.5	25.7
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>19.1</b>
<b>Other</b>									
Home owner/purchaser	3.2	2.9	2.0	1.4	1.9	1.7	1.3	3.4	2.5
Renter—state or territory housing authority	5.7	6.1	5.0	2.5	2.8	4.0	3.9	5.0	4.9
Renter—housing co-operative/community/church group	4.9	2.7	4.3	1.3	2.2	3.2	2.5	14.9	3.7
Private and other renter <sup>(b)</sup>	5.7	4.3	3.1	2.1	2.9	2.5	1.7	3.5	4.2
Other <sup>(c)</sup>	4.0	3.8	3.2	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.6	4.6	3.3
<b>Total<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.0</b>

(a) Includes Other Territories.

(b) Includes those renting privately with landlord not in same household and those renting from a real estate agent, relatives, employers, caravan park owners/managers and other landlords not elsewhere classified.

(c) Includes dwellings being purchased under a rent/buy scheme, occupied rent-free, occupied under a life tenure type and other tenure type not further defined.

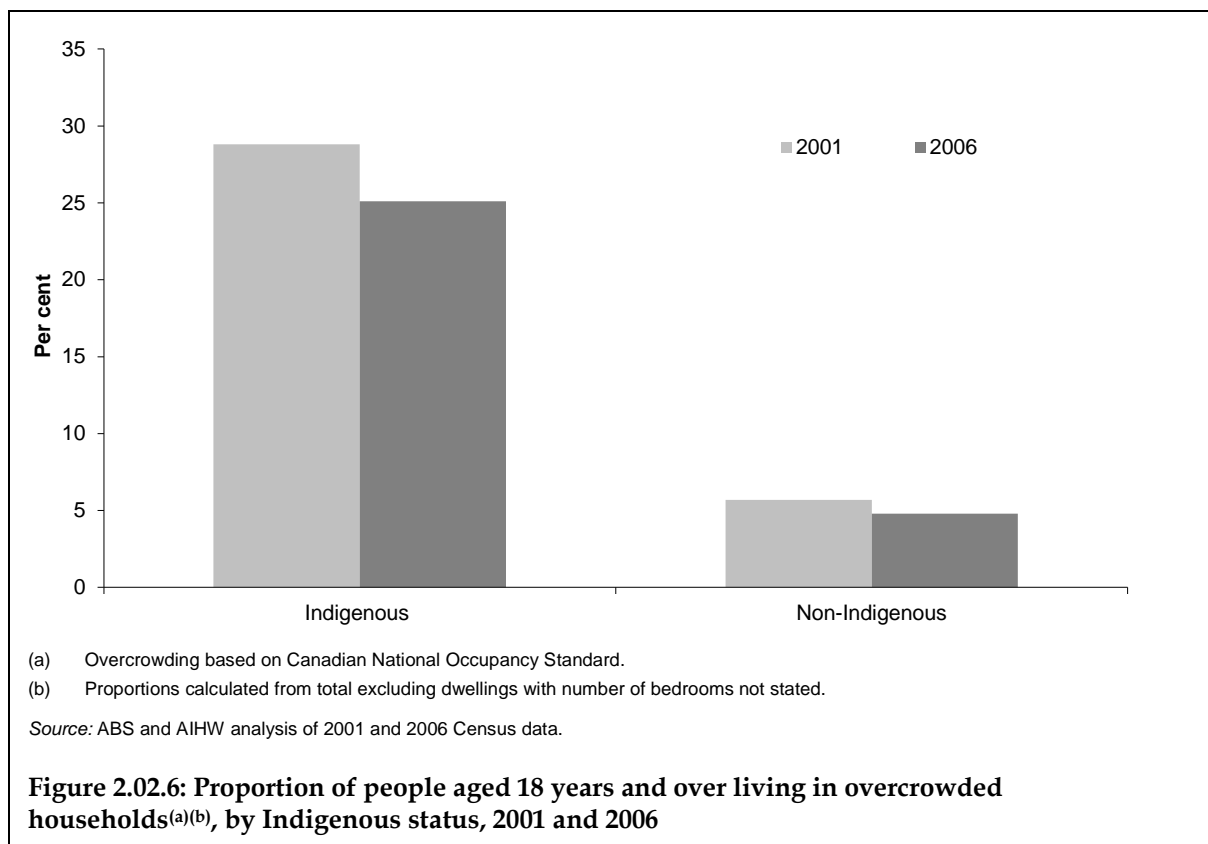
(d) Includes tenure type not stated.

(e) Percentage calculated from denominator excluding dwellings for which the number of bedrooms was not stated.

Source: ABS and AIHW analysis of 2006 Census data.

## Time series

- Between 2001 and 2006, the proportion of Indigenous people aged 18 years and over living in overcrowded households declined from around 29% to 25%. Over the same period, the proportion of non-Indigenous people living in overcrowded households also declined, from around 5.7% to 4.8% (Figure 2.02.6).



## **Data quality issues**

### **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS)**

The NATSIHS uses the standard Indigenous status question. The NATSIHS sample was specifically designed to select a representative sample of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. It therefore overcomes the problem inherent in most national surveys with small and unrepresentative Indigenous samples. As with other surveys, the NATSIHS is subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Calculations of standard errors and significance testing help to identify the accuracy of the estimates and differences.

Information recorded in this survey is essentially 'as reported' by respondents. The ABS makes every effort to collect accurate information from respondents, particularly through careful questionnaire design, pre-testing of questionnaires, use of trained interviewers and assistance from Indigenous facilitators. Nevertheless, some responses may be affected by imperfect recall or individual interpretation of survey questions.

Non-Indigenous comparisons are available through the National Health Survey (NHS). The NHS was conducted in *Major cities, Inner and outer regional areas* and *Remote and very remote areas*, but *Very remote* areas were excluded from the sample. Time series comparisons are available through the 1995 and 2001 NHS.

In *Remote and very remote* communities there were some modifications to the NATSIHS content in order to accommodate language and cultural appropriateness in traditional communities and help respondents understand the concepts. Some questions were excluded and some reworded. Also, paper forms were used in communities in remote areas and computer-assisted interview (CAI) instruments were used in non-remote areas. The CAI process included built-in edit checks and sequencing.

Further information on NATSIHS data quality issues can be found in the NATSIHS 2004–05 publication (ABS 2006).

### **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS)**

The NATSISS is conducted in all states and territories and includes remote and non-remote areas. The 2008 sample was 13,300 persons in 6,900 households, with a response rate of 82% of households. Up to three randomly selected Indigenous people were chosen from selected households to participate in the survey. Trained ABS interviewers conducted the survey using face-to-face interviews. In non-remote areas interviewers used a notebook computer to record responses, while in remote areas a paper questionnaire was used. Interviewers obtained the consent of a parent or guardian before interviewing those aged 15 to 17 years. Indigenous persons usually resident in non-private dwellings such as hotels, motels, hostels, hospitals, short-stay caravan parks, prisons and other correctional facilities were excluded.

The NATSISS uses the standard Indigenous status question. The NATSISS sample was specifically designed to select a representative sample of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

As with other surveys, the NATSISS is subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Care has been taken to ensure that the results of this survey are as accurate as possible. Trained ABS officers conducted all interviews. However, some factors may affect the reliability of the data.

Information recorded in this survey is 'as reported' by respondents, and therefore may differ from information available from other sources or collected using different methodologies.

Data on health-related indicators have been age-standardised to the 2001 total Australian population to account for differences in the age structures of the states and territories and the Indigenous and non-Indigenous population.

Time series comparisons for the 2008 survey are available through the 1994 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey and the 2002 NATSISS. However not all data elements align across the three (1994, 2001 and 2008) NATSISS surveys, hence care is required when reviewing results across the three surveys. There are no strictly comparable non-Indigenous results available for the 2008 NATSISS because the latest General Social Survey (which has been used in the past to compare with Indigenous results from the NATSISS) was run in 2006, with the next being run in 2010–11. Data from other ABS surveys run in 2008 may, however, be used to obtain rough non-Indigenous comparisons for some data items. Where possible, the ABS has provided recommendations for non-Indigenous data comparisons and these have been adopted in this report.

The 2008 NATSISS has a relatively large level of under-coverage when compared to other ABS surveys. There was also an increase in under-coverage compared to previous ABS Indigenous surveys. For example, the estimated under-coverage in the 2004–05 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS) was 42%. The overall under-coverage rate for the 2008 NATSISS is approximately 53% of the in-scope population at the national level. This rate varies across the states and territories (ABS 2010).

Further information on NATSISS data quality issues can be found in the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey: User's guide 2008* (ABS 2010).

### **Census of Population and Housing**

The Census uses the *National health data dictionary* standard Indigenous status question and it is asked for each household member. Measures that are drawn from Census data are subject to broad data concerns relating to the unexplainable growth in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population since the 1991 Census, and the limitations of self-identification. Other Census data issues relate to the accuracy of the Census count itself; for example, whether people are counted more than once, or are undercounted (ABS 1996).

For the 2002 NATSISS, it was estimated that there were 165,700 Indigenous households compared with 144,700 enumerated in the 2001 Census. Although the Census data are adjusted for undercounts at the person level to arrive at the estimated resident population, no such adjustment is done at the household level. This affects the accuracy of the person counts at the household level to provide adjusted household estimates.

## **List of symbols used in tables**

- n.a. not available
- rounded to zero (including null cells)
- 0 zero
- .. not applicable
- n.e.c. not elsewhere classified
- n.f.d. not further defined
- n.p. not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated



## References

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