

Measuring Indigenous Disadvantage?

**Lawrence McDonald
Head of Secretariat
Review of Government Service Provision**

**Canberra Evaluation Forum
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- ROGS Indigenous Compendium
 - *Performance of mainstream services*
- National Agreement reporting to the CRC
 - *National Indigenous Reform Agreement*
- Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage
 - *Key indicators*
- Indigenous Expenditure Report
 - *Indigenous specific and mainstream expenditure*

Program evaluation

... the process of carefully collecting information about a program or service in order to make necessary decisions about the program

Indicators can provide structured information

Indicators can inform on ...

■ Objectives:

- *intended outcomes*

■ Inputs:

- *resources used to create outputs and outcomes.*

■ Outputs:

- *services delivered*

■ Outcomes:

- *impact on individuals or groups*

■ Effectiveness:

- *achieving objectives*
- *quality, appropriateness, access aspects*

■ Efficiency:

- *How well inputs are used*

■ Allocative efficiency

- *Best use of scarce resources*

■ Technical efficiency:

- *relationship of inputs to outputs.*

■ Cost effectiveness:

- *relationship of inputs to outcomes.*

■ Equity:

- *Horizontal equity*
- *Vertical equity*

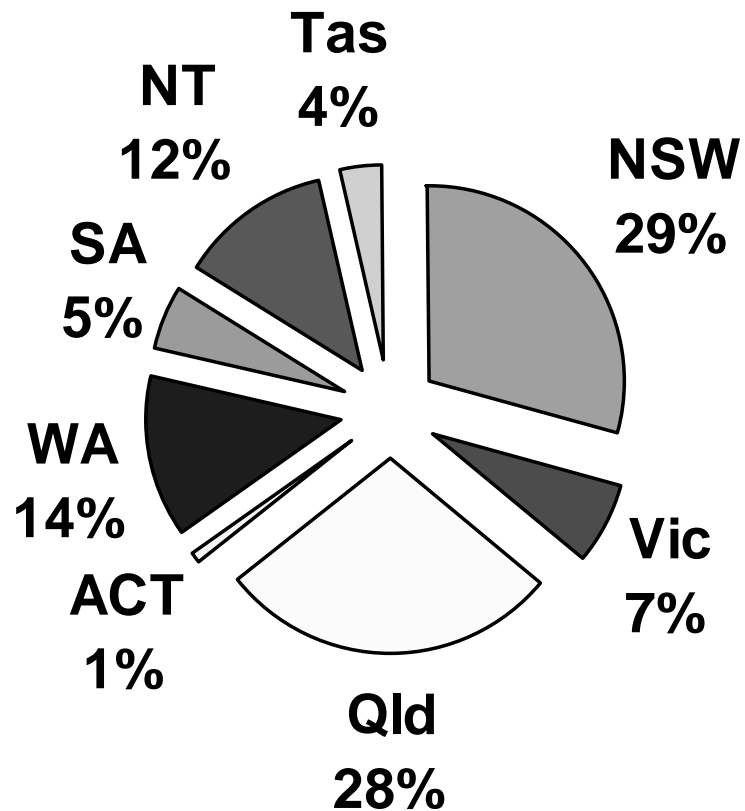
Indicators have limitations

- **Data rarely pure and never simple**
 - *Measurement issues can distract from policy issues*
 - *Can miss unintended consequences*
- **Indicators rarely inform on allocative efficiency**
 - *The best use of limited resources*
- **Indicators are only partial measures**
 - *Interpretation requires knowledge of context*
 - *Value in qualitative as well as quantitative information*
- **Risk of creating perverse incentives**
 - *Need comprehensive framework*
- **One size doesn't necessarily fit all**
 - *Need to customise for purpose or target population*

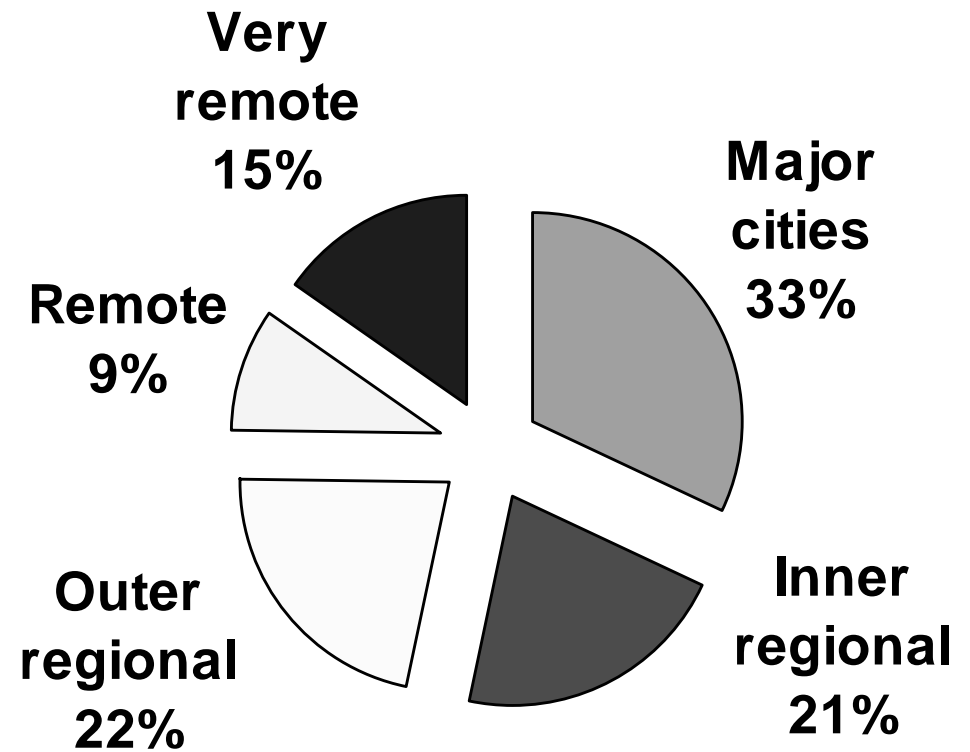
Indigenous demographics, 2006

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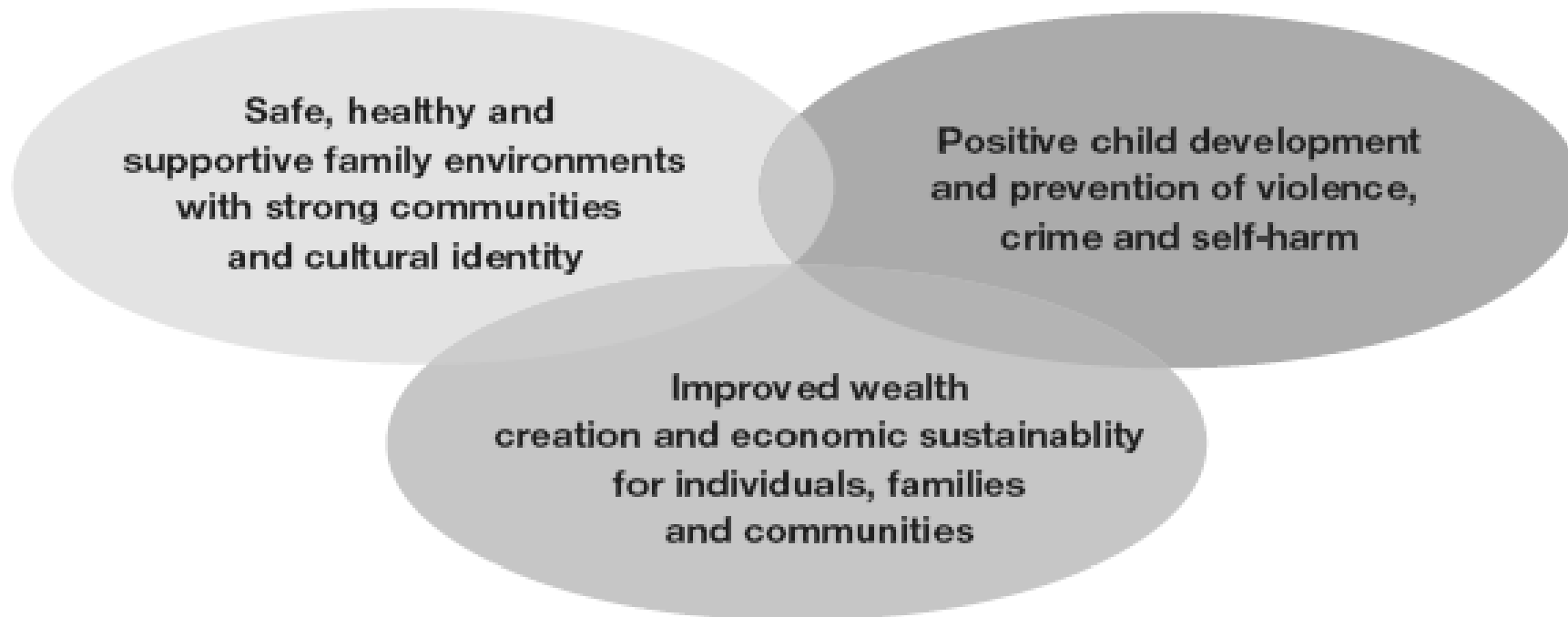
By jurisdiction



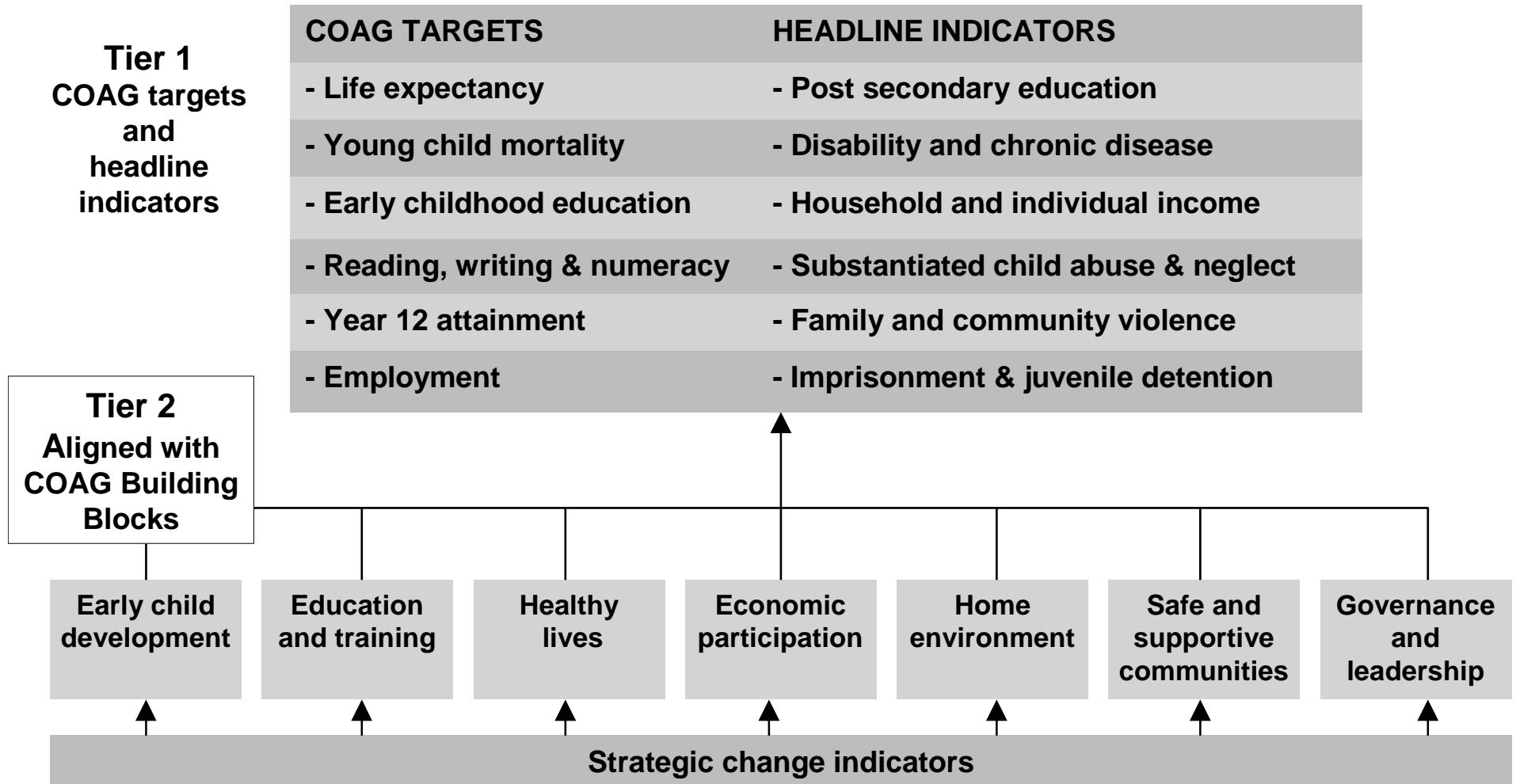
By remoteness



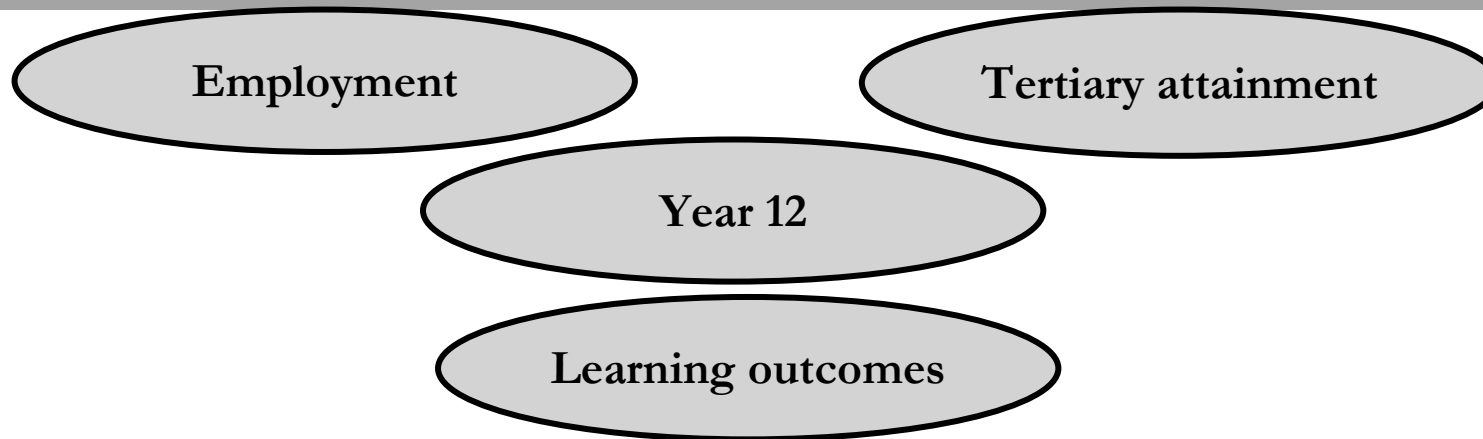
OLD priority outcomes



OID strategic framework



Multiple causes — economic



Education and training

- Years 9 and 10 attainment
- Enrolment and attendance

Early child development

- Basic skills for life and learning
- Hearing impediments

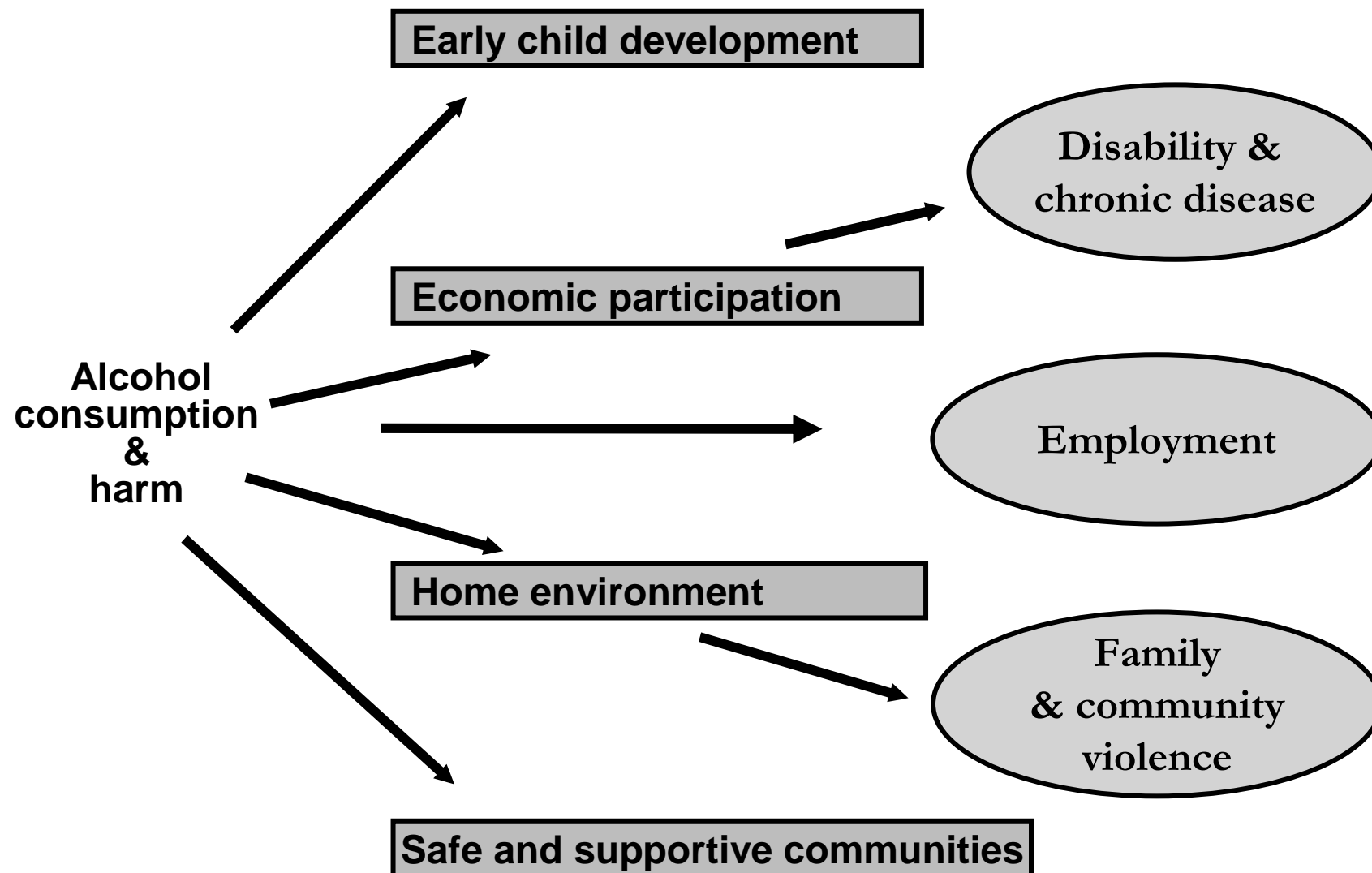
Home environment

- Overcrowding

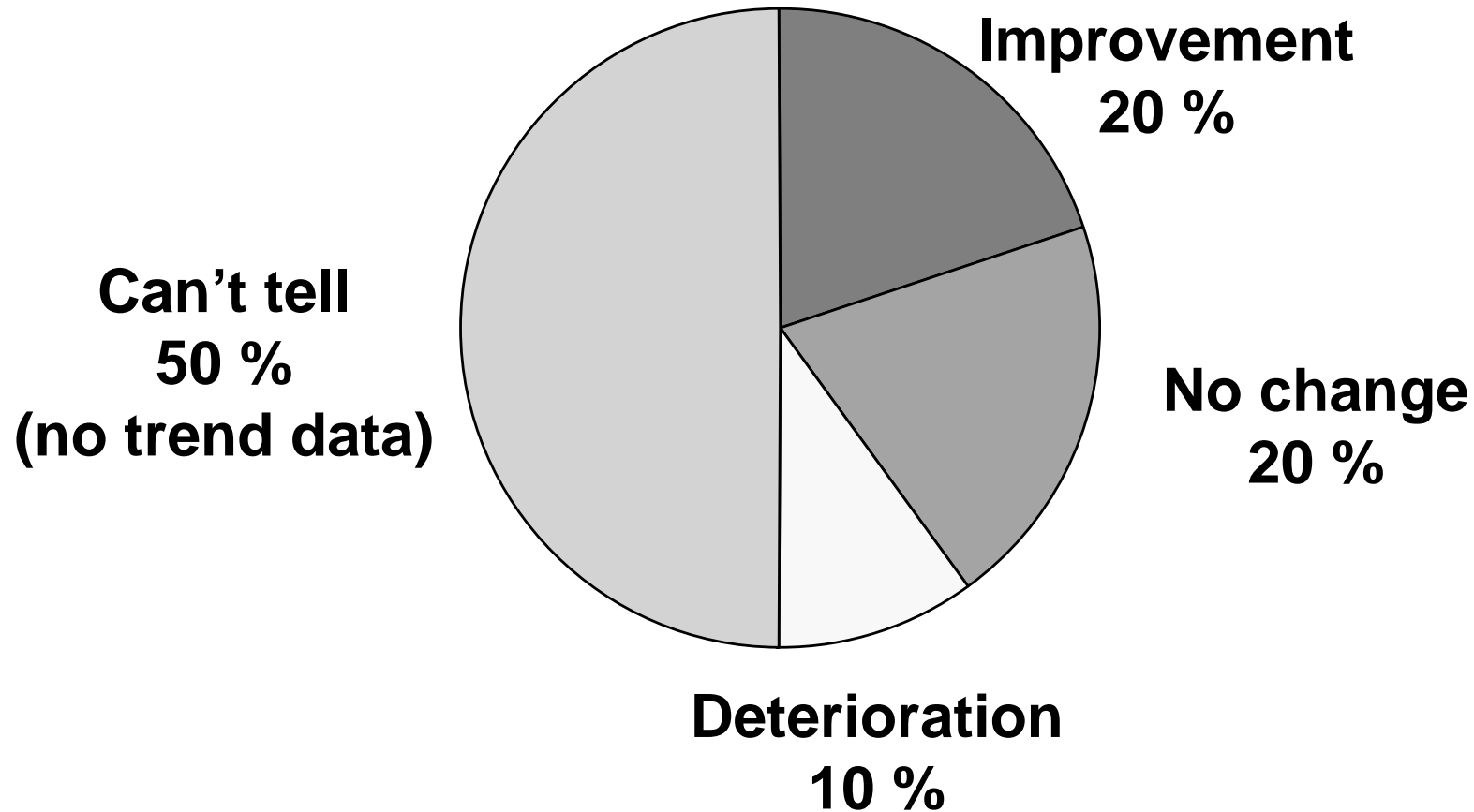
Safe and supportive communities

- Alcohol & drug consumption and harm
- Drug and substance use and harm

Multiple effects — alcohol



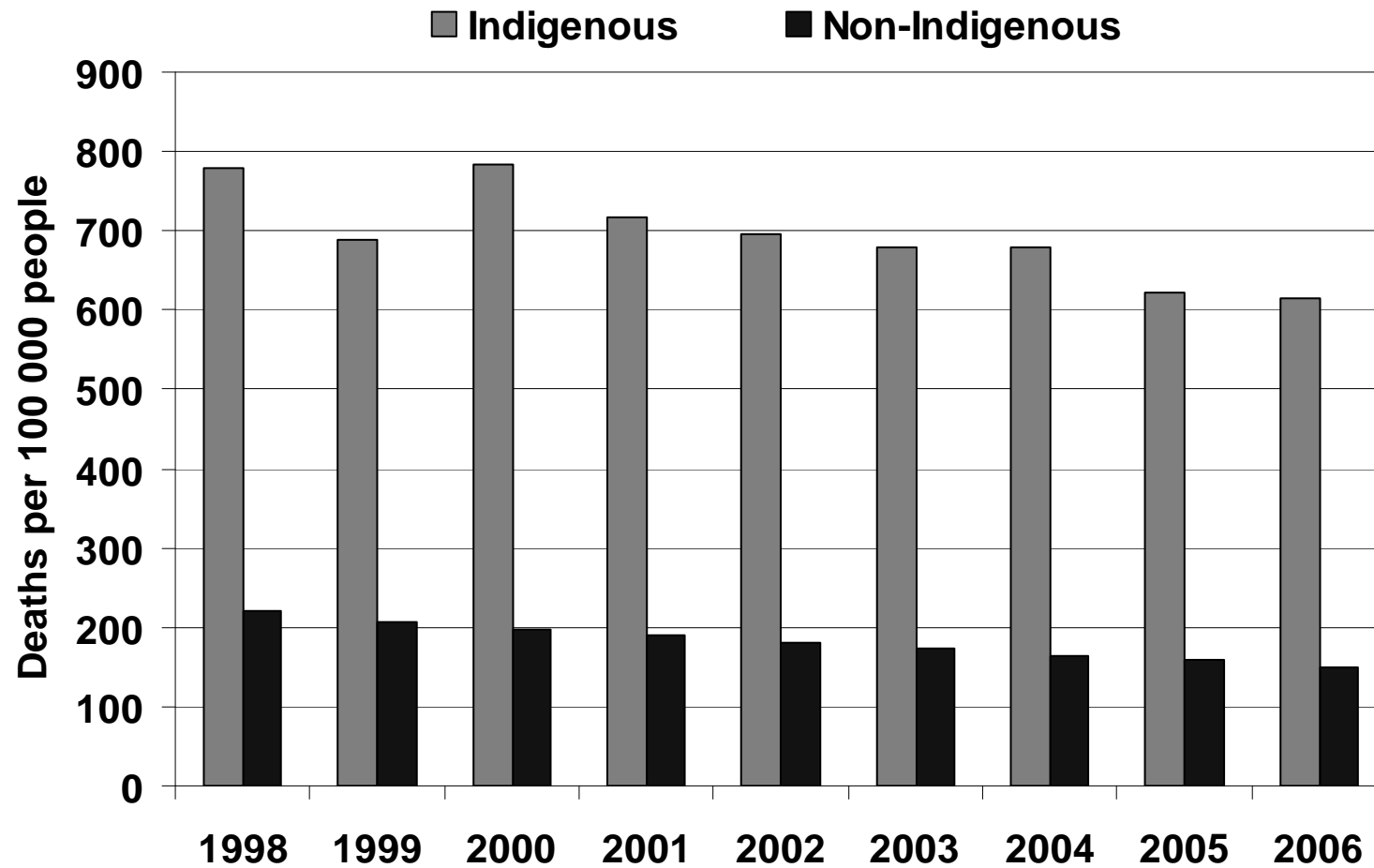
Snapshot of indicator changes



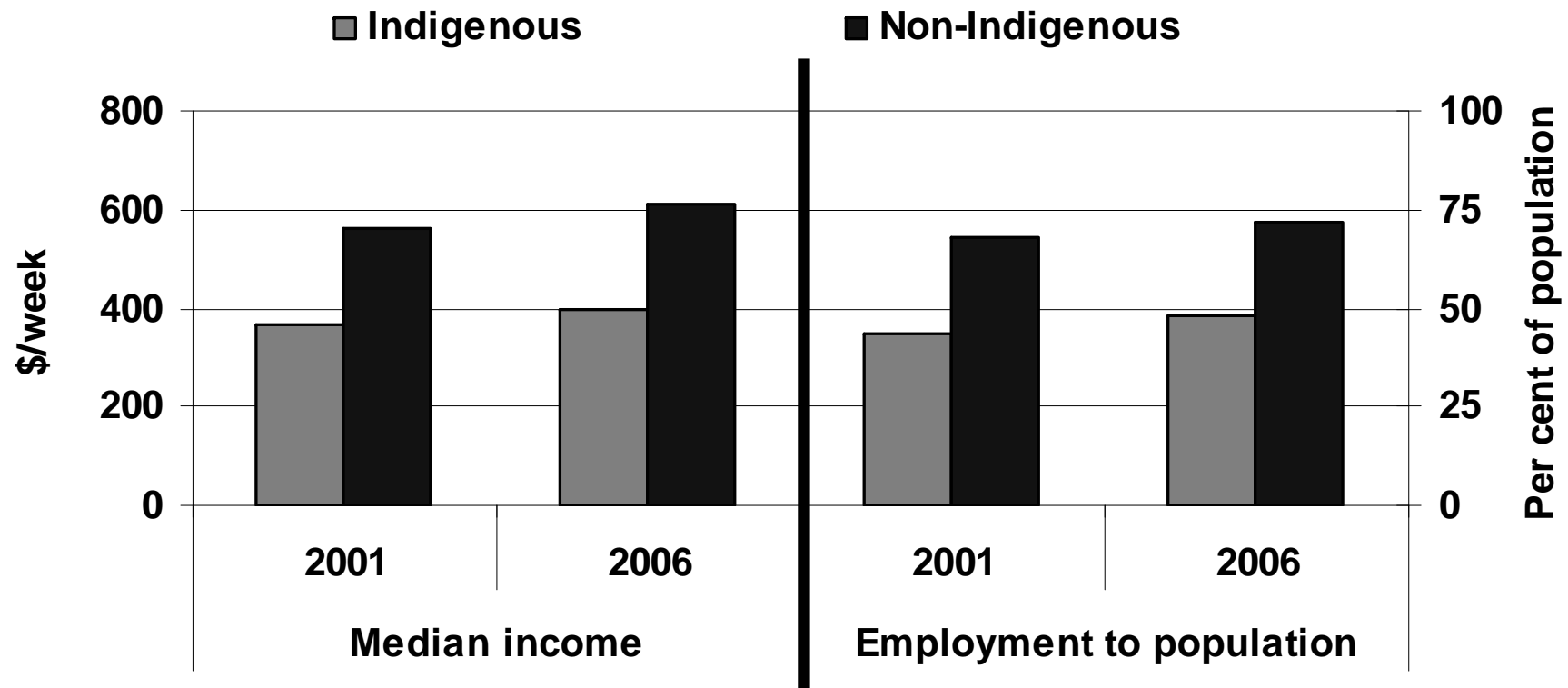
The life expectancy gap – smaller than was thought



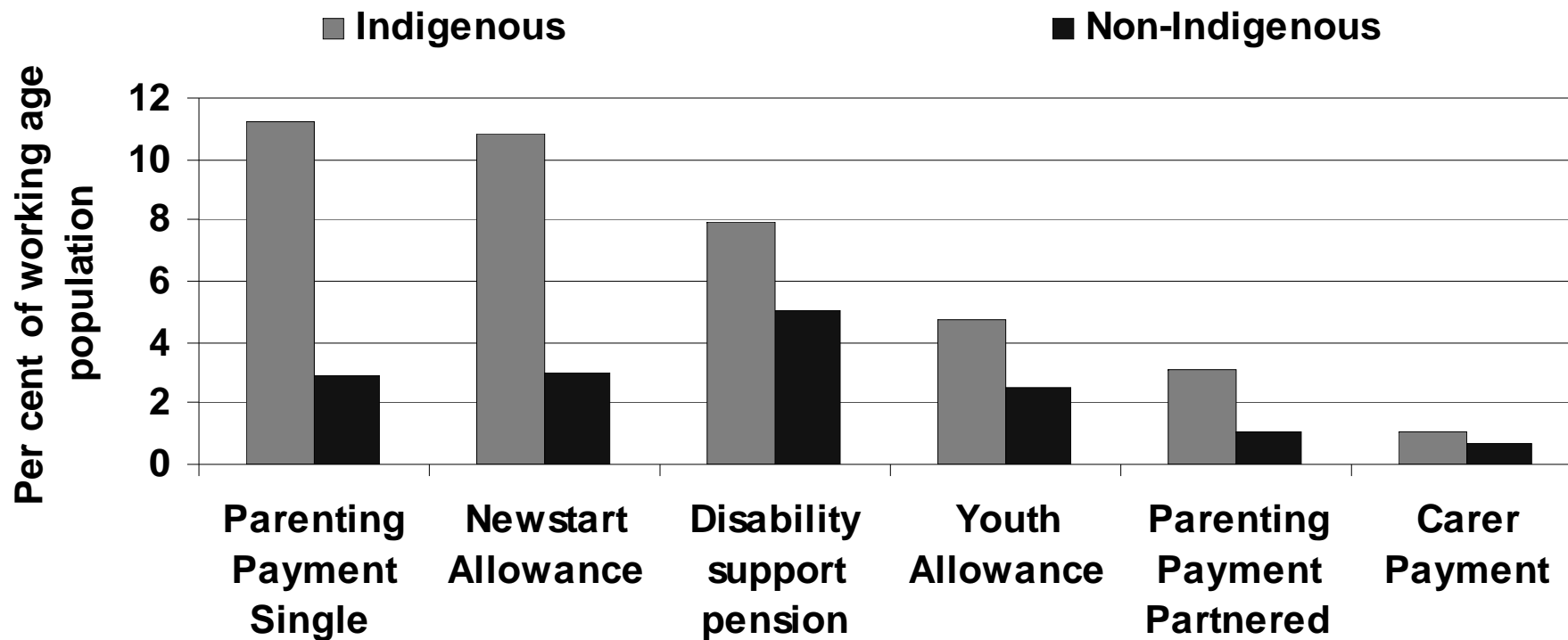
A decline in avoidable mortality



Some progress in 'economic' indicators

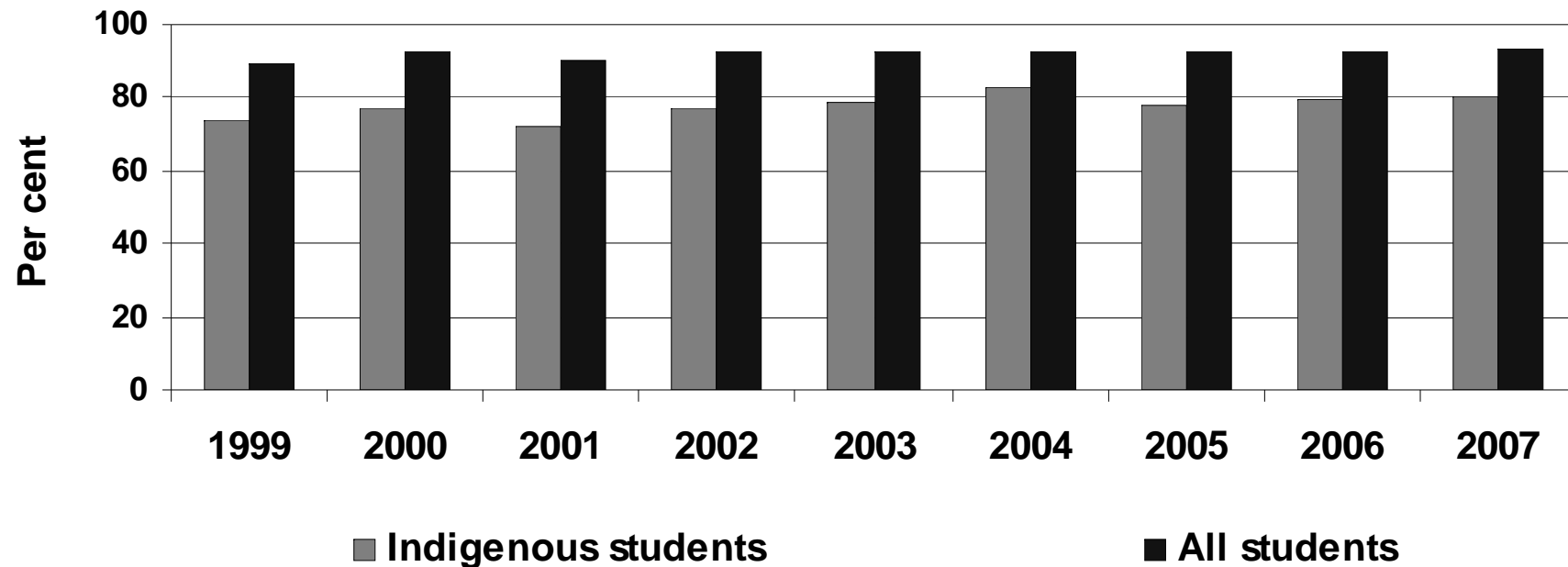


Extensive income support, 2006



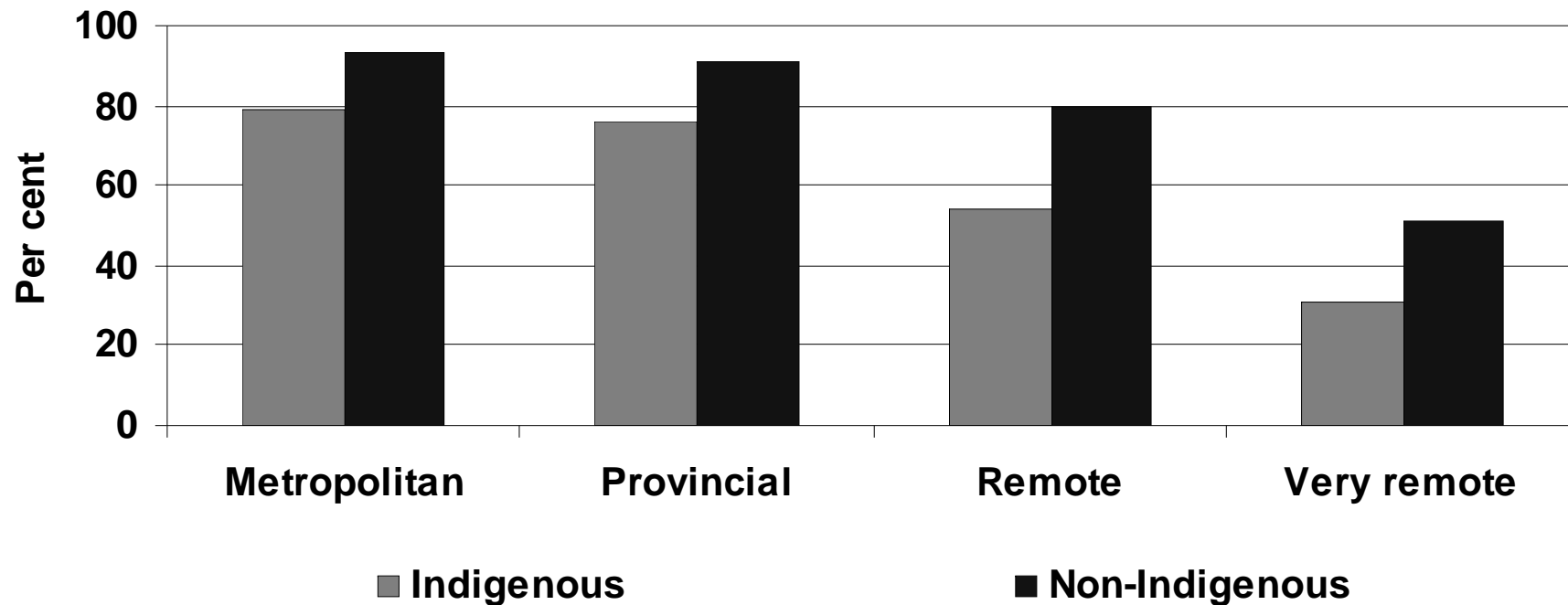
No change in learning outcomes

Year 3 students achieving national reading benchmark

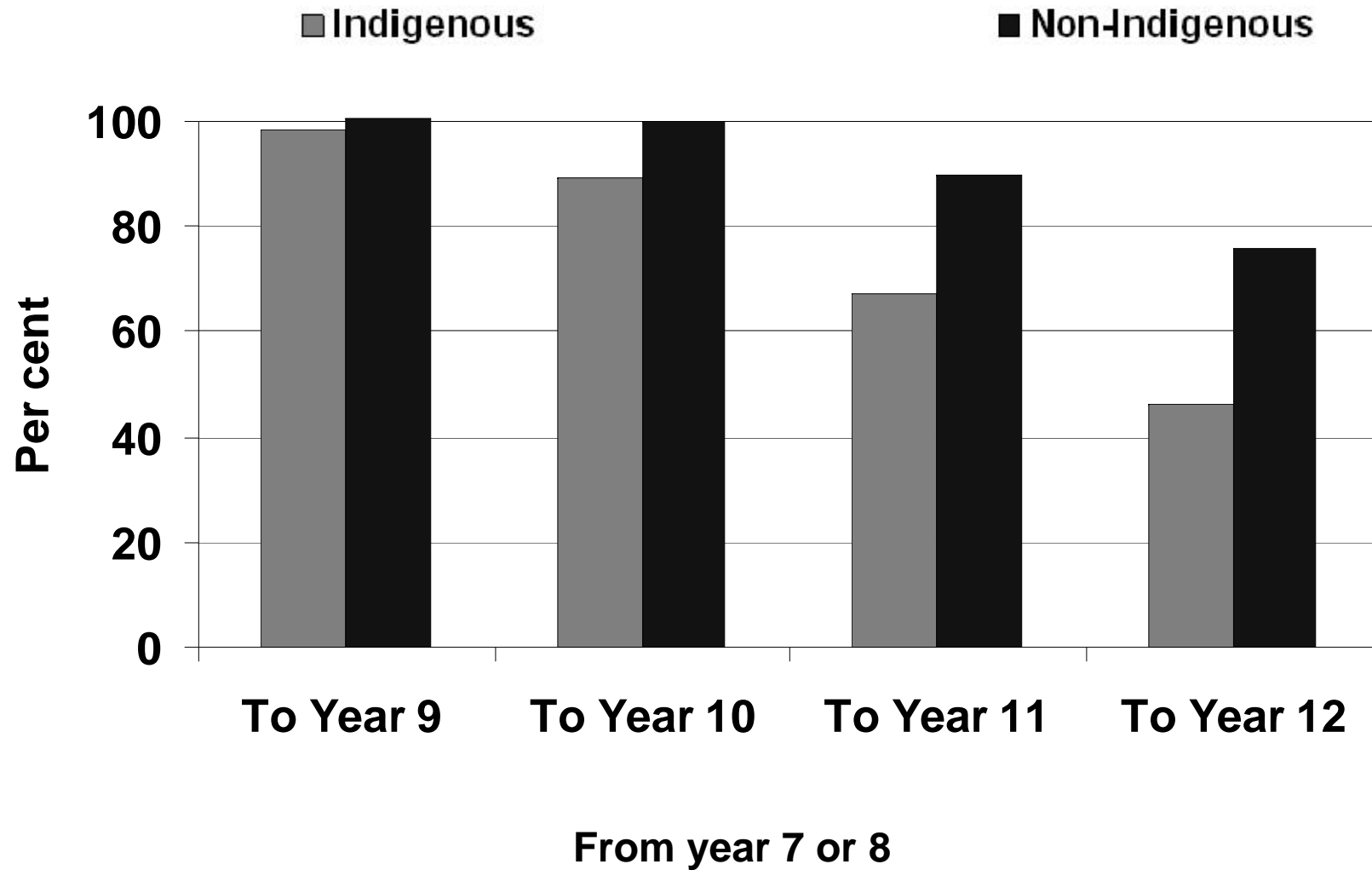


Learning outcomes decline with remoteness

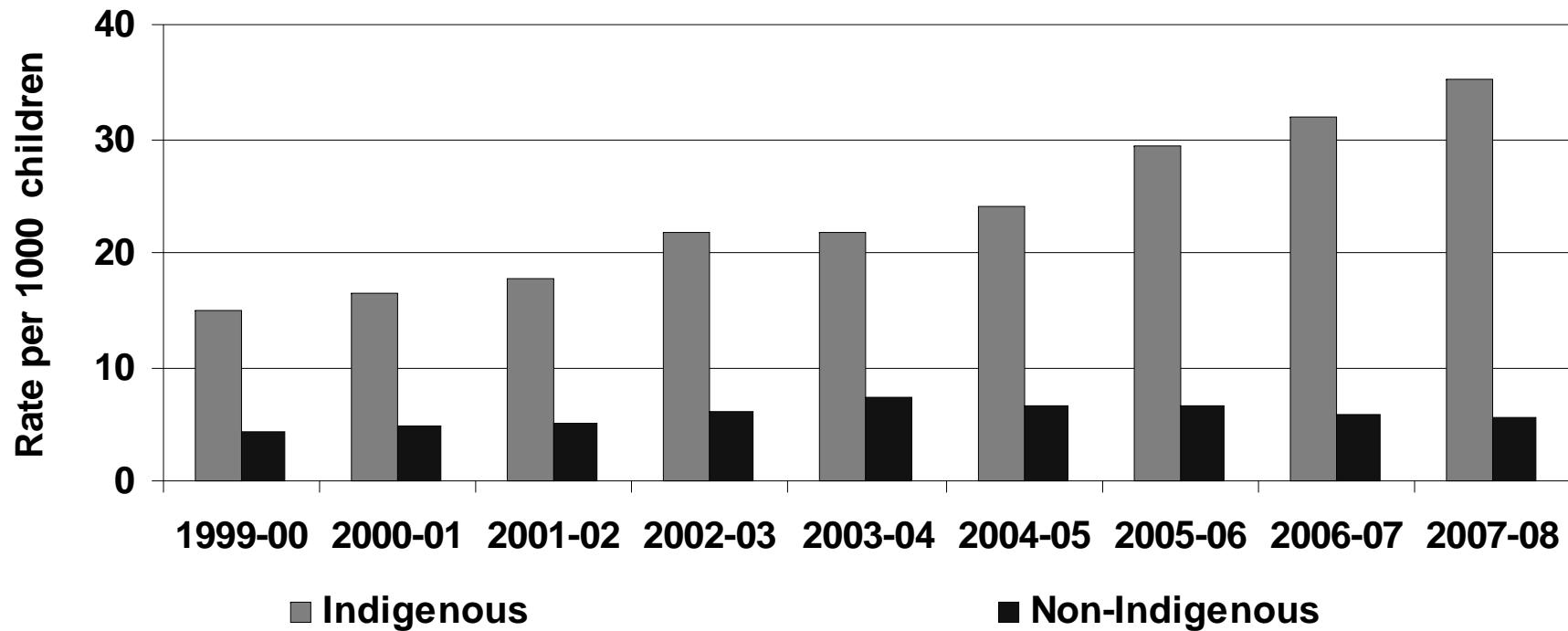
Year 3 students achieving national reading benchmark, 2008



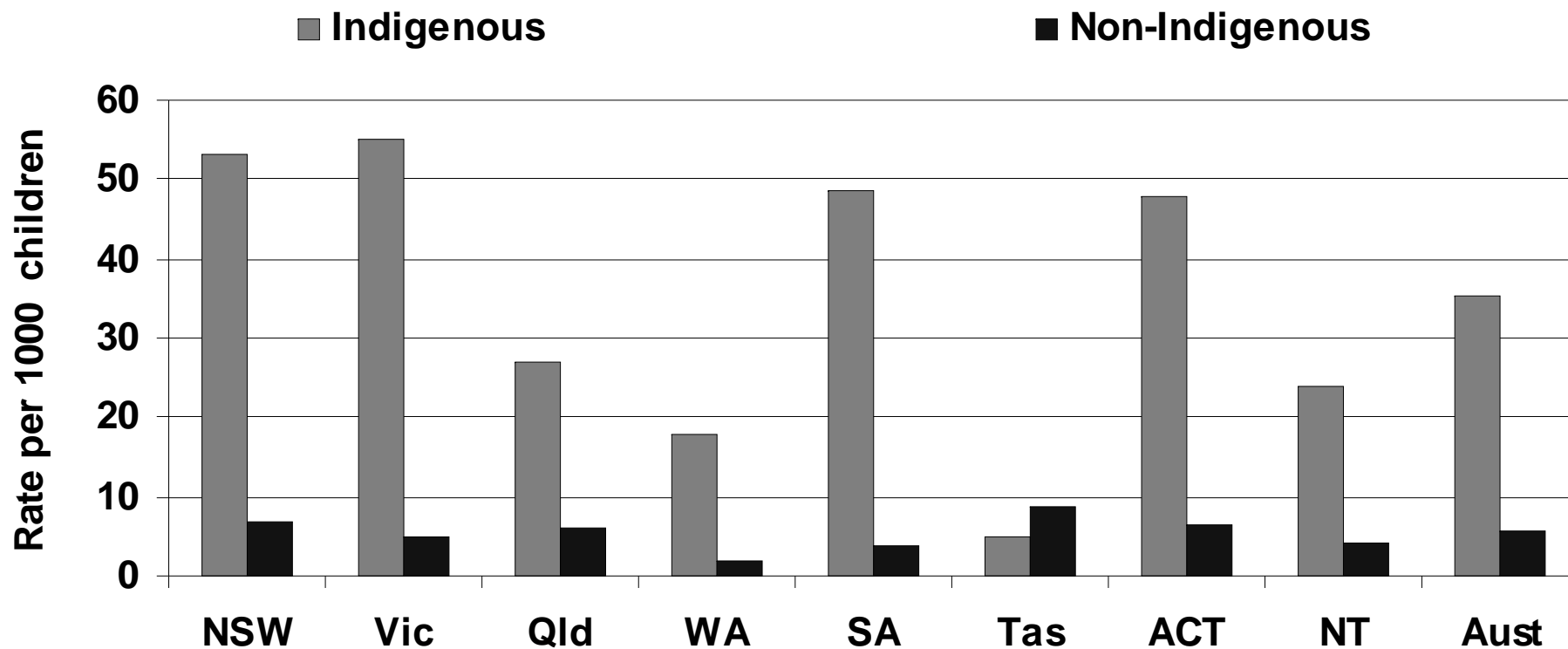
School retention falls fast, 2008



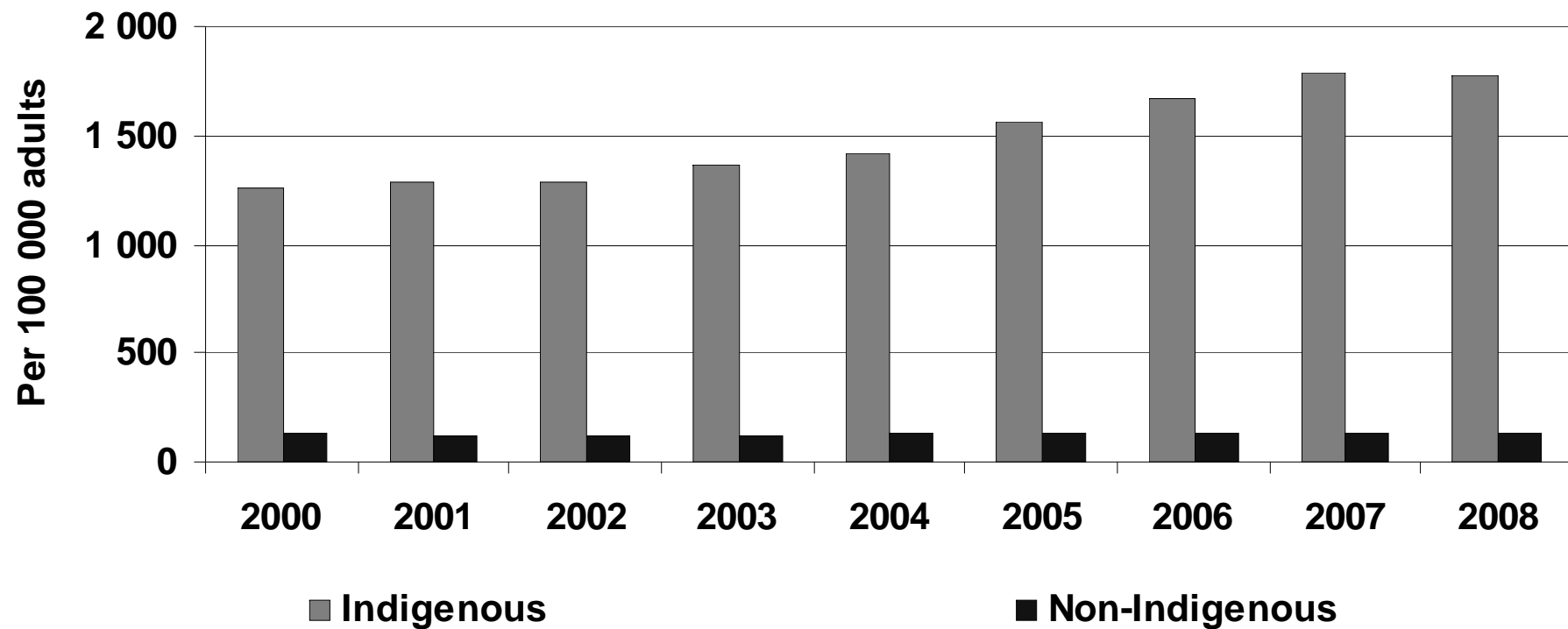
Substantiated child abuse and neglect continues to rise



Substantiated child abuse and neglect by jurisdiction, 2007-08

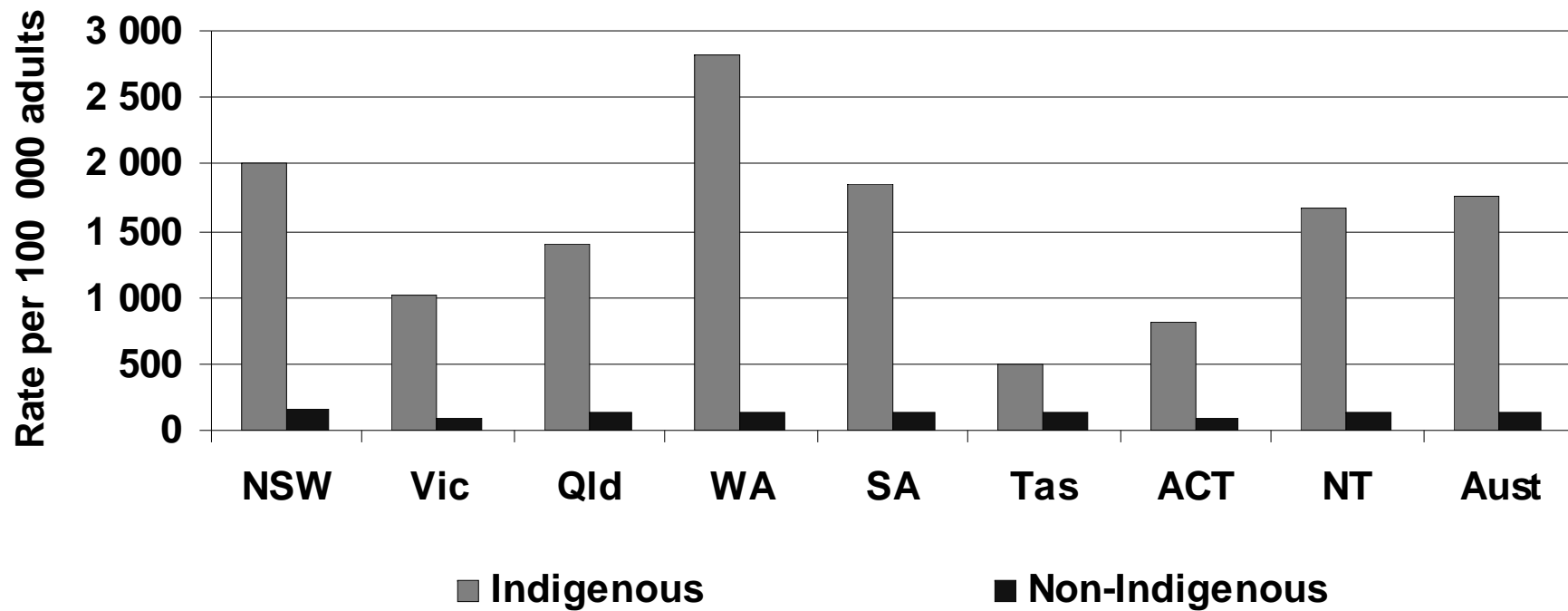


Imprisonment rates – have they finally peaked?

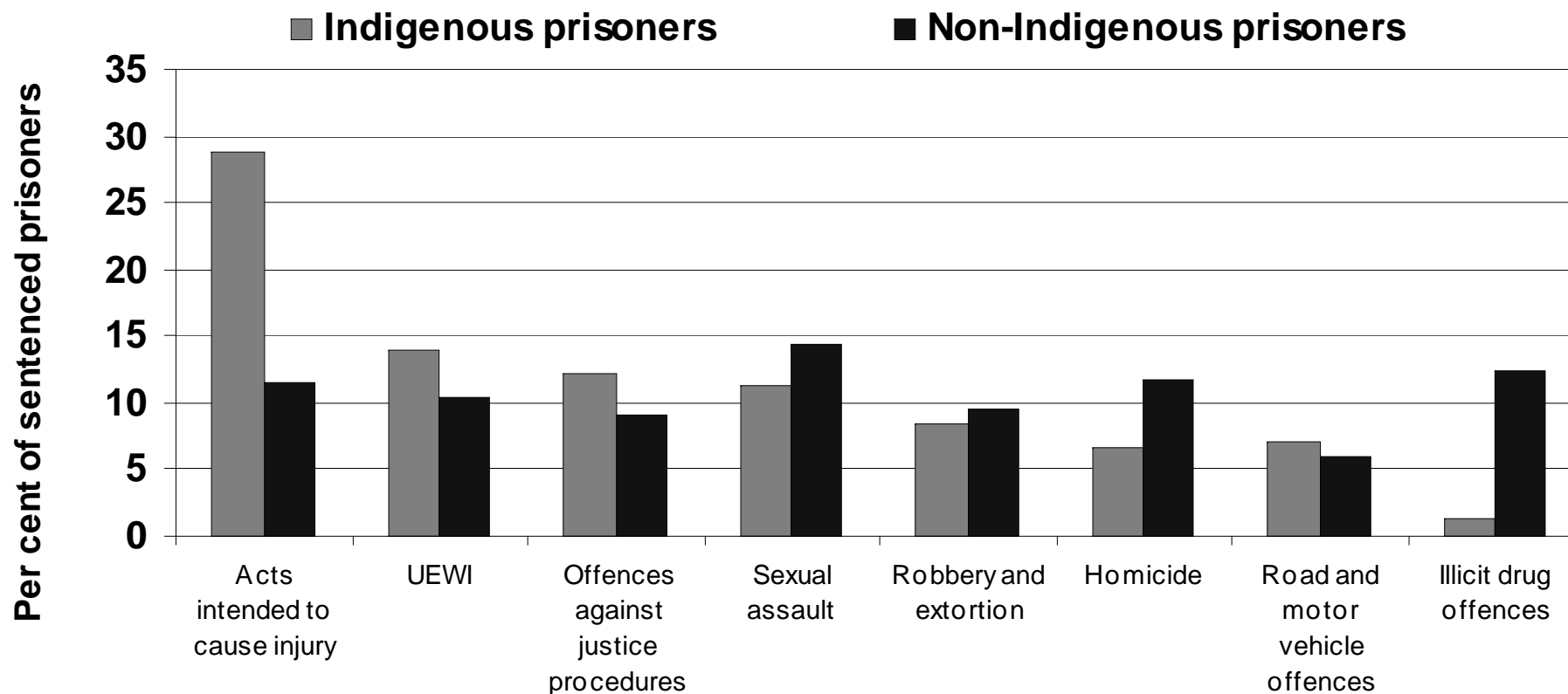


Imprisonment rates by jurisdiction, 2008

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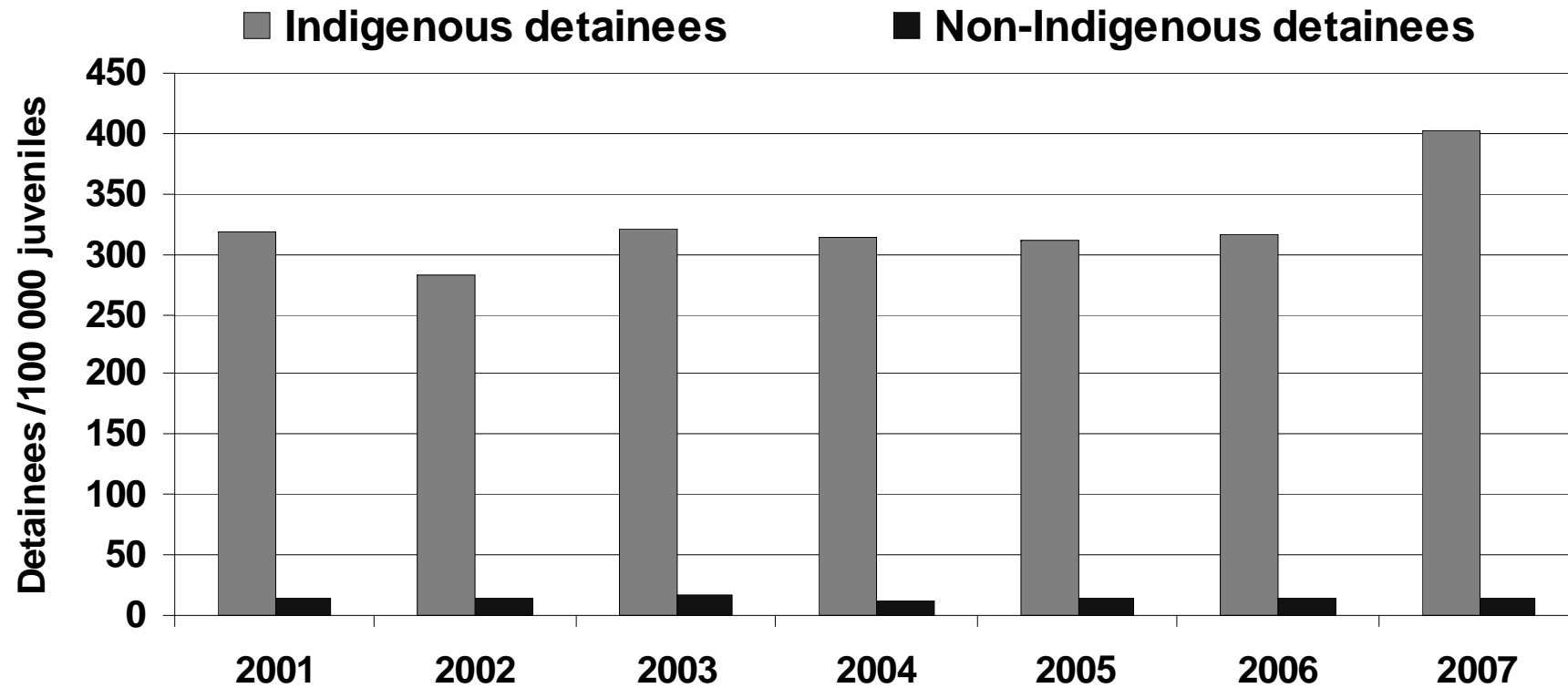


Imprisonment — most serious offence



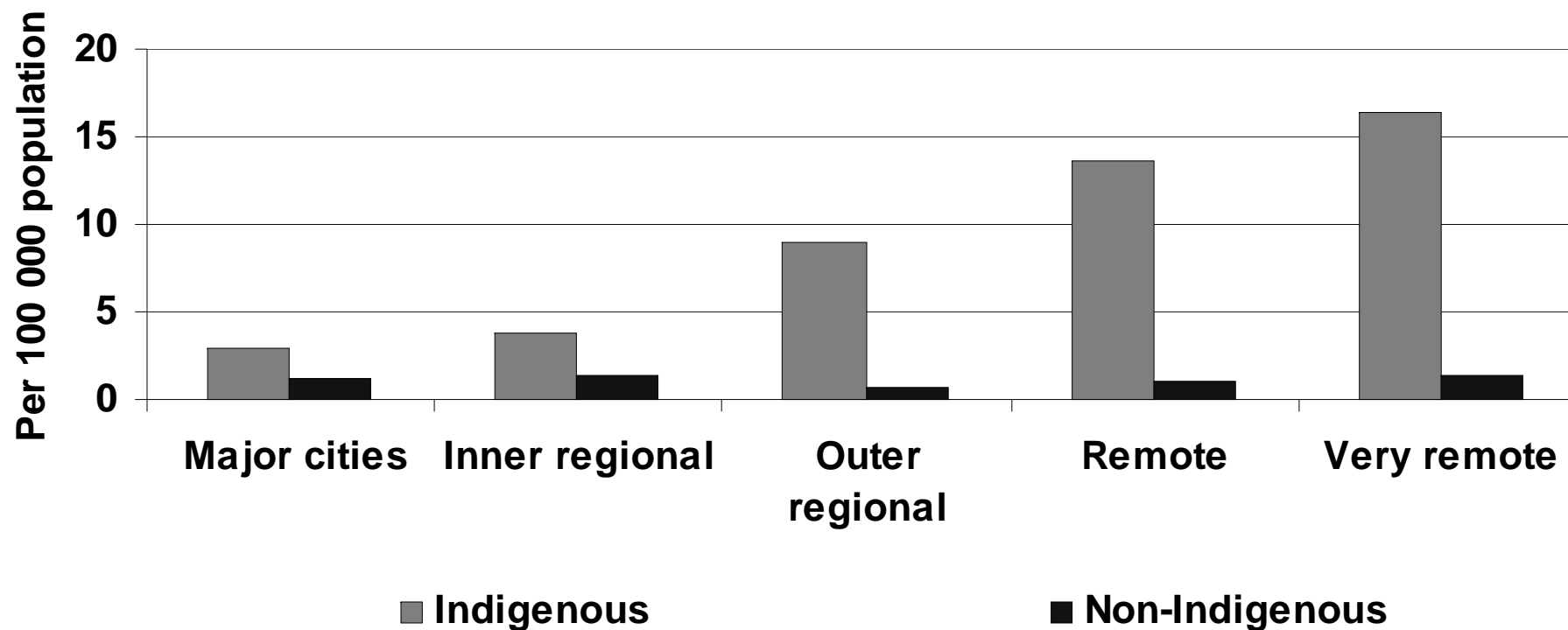
June 2008

Juvenile detention — no improvement

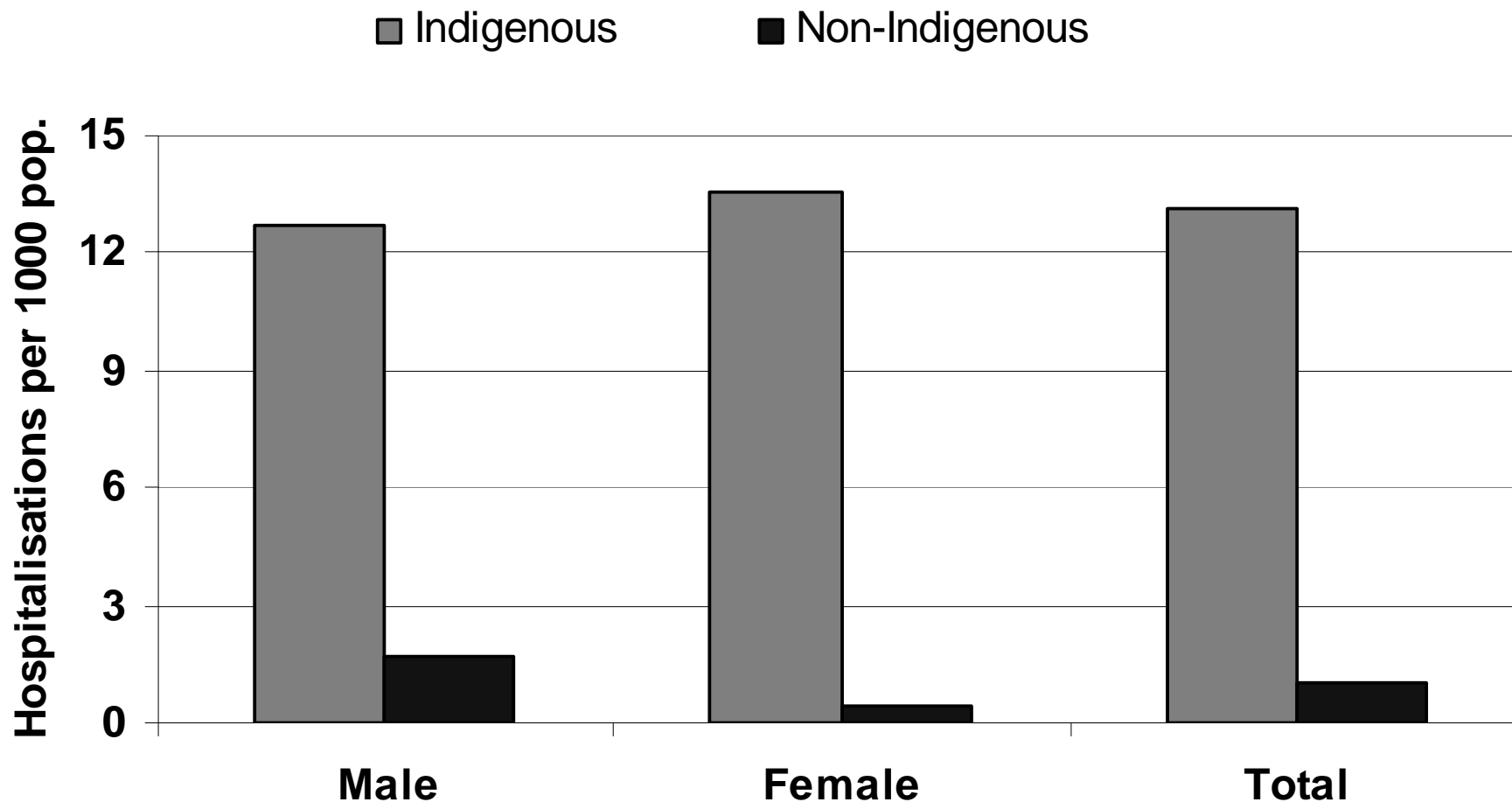


Community safety — homicides increase with remoteness

Data for 2002-03 to 2006-07



Community safety: very high rates of hospitalisation for assault, 2006-07



Determinants of good governance

- governing institutions
- leadership
- self-determination
- capacity building
- cultural match
- resources

Success factors:

- Cooperative approaches
- Bottom-up community involvement
- Ongoing support
- Good governance

Indigenous Expenditure Report

- Dec 2007 COAG agreement
- Feb 2009 Stocktake report
 - *Framework and methodology*
- Mid-2010 first data report to COAG
- Indigenous-specific & mainstream expenditure
 - *Share of mainstream modelled:*
 - *Unit cost x Service use x Cost differential*
- Aligned with:
 - *Government Financial Statistics*
 - *OID strategic areas*

- **‘High level’ monitoring: assessing progress**
 - *OID report*
 - *National Agreement reporting*
- **Expenditure on services: linked to outcomes**
 - *Indigenous Expenditure Report*
- **Program effectiveness: evaluation**
 - *ROGS Indigenous Compendium*
 - *Closing the Gap Clearing House*

- **Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage:
Key Indicators 2009**
- **Report on Government Services
Indigenous Compendium 2010**
- **Indigenous Expenditure Stocktake Report**

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