

# The facts – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

## Activity sheet

1. Use the table below and the material in *Face the Facts – Questions and Answers about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Before	During	After
Before you start reading – list important things you know about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	During reading – briefly note the new information you have learnt about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	After reading – write a summary of the new things you have learned

From your reading, write down three main questions or issues about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. These questions will be used later on during your research.

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....

2. Explore *Face the Facts – Questions and Answers about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* to find some statistics that relate to the questions/issues you identified above.

You may also wish to explore the statistics available online including: Australian Bureau of Statistics website at: <http://www.abs.gov.au/>

Write the statistics you have discovered below.

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....

3a. Statistics are a powerful tool and can be used to provide the basis of strong arguments for change. Governments, community groups and individuals can all use statistics to make decisions about how to: best allocate resources; to identify those groups most in need and provide effective services in the community; to propose change or development to address social issues; or simply to satisfy one's curiosity.

Now that you have located some statistical information about each of the questions/issues you have identified, **select one area to investigate further.** There are many issues/questions you could explore including:

- **Indigenous population:** how many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are there in Australia? Where do Indigenous people live?
- **Indigenous health:** compare statistics on the health of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.
- **Housing:** compare statistics on home ownership for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.
- **Employment:** compare statistics on the levels of unemployment of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

There are many other areas you could investigate. Use *Face the Facts – Questions and Answers about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* to identify other areas that interest you.



**3b.** Create a research report on your chosen topic. Is the data you have discovered sufficient to construct a report, based on the question/issue you have selected? If required, undertake additional research to fill in the gaps.

**4.** Write a report on your findings, using statistics and other facts to support your argument (additional paper may be necessary). Share your report with your classmates.

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