

This survey ... provides a picture of the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal adults, aged 15 years and over, living permanently, and temporarily in South Australia from November 2010 to October 2011. The information collected will be used to inform policy and improve health services provided for all Aboriginal South Australians as well as help to inform programs progressing the aims of the Closing the Gap initiatives.

Some of the information has already been used to feed into ongoing programs such as:

- ◆ 'Ever Felt Like Complaining' campaign;
- ◆ Tackling Smoking Closing the Gap programs;
- ◆ 'Give Up Smokes For Good' campaign;
- ◆ Aboriginal Well Health Checks programs;
- ◆ Road safety for Aboriginal persons;
- ◆ Safe driver's licensing practices; and
- ◆ Direction for the next survey.

The purpose of this booklet is to highlight the key findings from the chronic conditions data for the three regions: metropolitan Adelaide, rural SA, and remote communities.

Should you wish to explore these or other SAAHS data in more depth, please do not hesitate to contact Population Research and Outcome Studies (PROS) (see overleaf). Additionally, the complete report can be viewed on the PROS website by clicking the [2012 South Australian Aboriginal Health Survey](#) link under reports.



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

SAAHS

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL HEALTH SURVEY

Population Research and Outcome Studies
The University of Adelaide

Ph : +61 8 8313 1218

Fax : +61 8 8313 1228

e-mail: PROS@adelaide.edu.au

<http://health.adelaide.edu.au/medicine/pros/data/SAAHS>



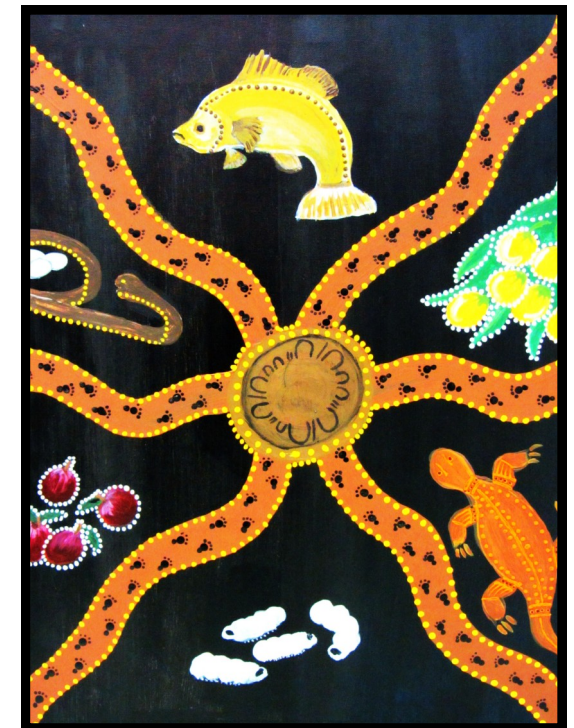
Government
of South Australia

SA Health

The art work depicts families coming together to share food collected from the bush (Artist: Mark Elliot/Trevorrow, Ngarrindjeri Elder).

South Australian Aboriginal Health Survey

CHRONIC CONDITIONS



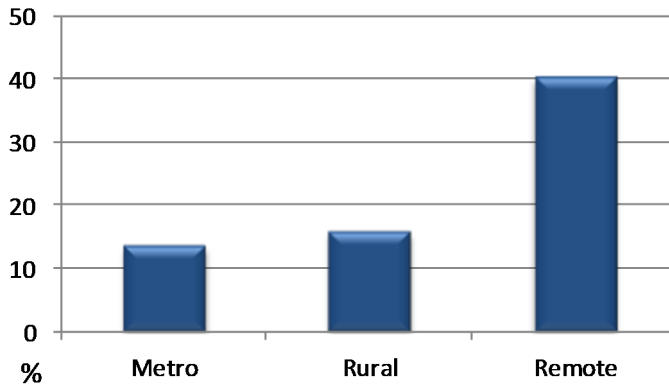
REGIONS OVERVIEW

Diabetes

Overall, 17% of SA Aboriginal adults in SA have doctor diagnosed diabetes or a 'touch of sugar'.

Those with diabetes are more likely to be:

- ◆ living in remote areas of SA (40%); and
- ◆ over the age of 45 years (43%).



Diabetes, by region

Asthma

Overall, 12% of SA Aboriginal adults in SA have been told by a doctor that they have asthma, and have experienced symptoms of asthma or have taken treatment for asthma, in the last 12 months.

There were no differences between the regions in those having asthma, having symptoms or asthma, or taking medication for asthma, and those who do not.

Those with current asthma (diagnosed, symptoms, or taking medication) are more likely to be female (19%) or over the age of 45 years (27%).

Kidney disease and hearing problem

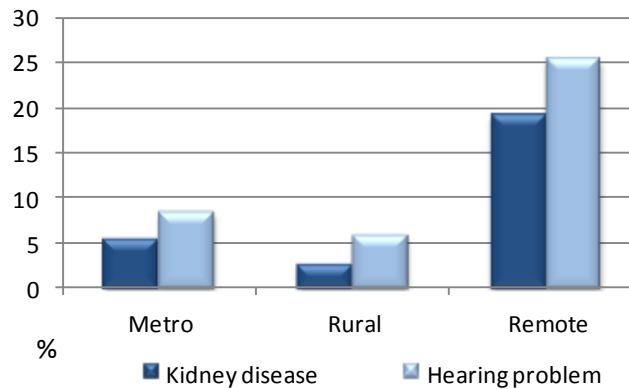
Overall, 6% of SA Aboriginal adults in SA have kidney disease and 9% have a hearing problem.

Those with kidney disease are more likely to be:

- ◆ living in remote areas of SA (19%);
- ◆ over the age of 45 years (11%); and
- ◆ female (9%).

Those with a hearing problem are more likely to be:

- ◆ Living in remote areas of SA (25%); and
- ◆ over the age of 45 years (23%).



Kidney Disease and Hearing problem, by region

Medicine

Overall, 30% of SA Aboriginal adults are currently taking medication.

Those currently taking medication are more likely to be:

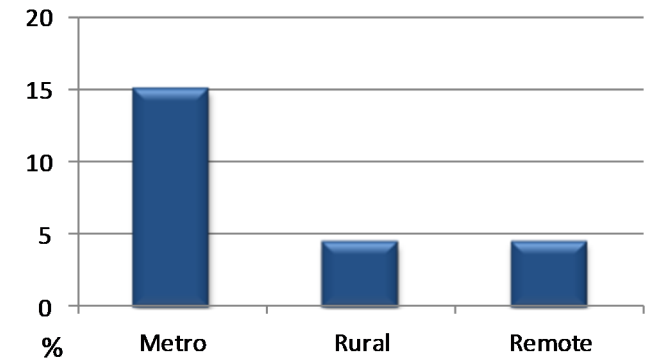
- ◆ female (40%); and
- ◆ aged 45 years and over (67%).

Mental Health

Overall, 10% of SA Aboriginal adults in SA have a mental health problem diagnosed by a doctor.

Those with a diagnosed mental health problem were more likely to be:

- ◆ living in metropolitan Adelaide (15%); and
- ◆ female (15%).



Mental health problem, by region

High Blood Pressure

Overall, 20% of Aboriginal adults in SA have high blood pressure.

One in eight people living in metropolitan Adelaide reported high blood pressure (18%); while those with high blood pressure were more likely to be living in a remote community (40%).

Note: All data reported are from the SAAHS 2010/11 for Aboriginal South Australians, 15 years of age and older.