

# Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey Consultation



## HAVE YOUR SAY ON DATA INTEGRATION

The ABS is committed to early and ongoing conversations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to inform an upcoming health survey. We want to hear what you think about data integration.



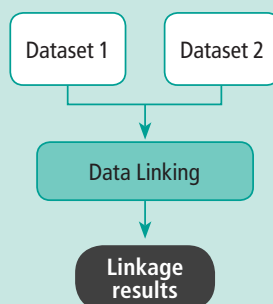
### What is data integration and what are the benefits?

Data integration is when you take two or more separate sets of data and put them together to show new information or improve our understanding of an issue.

We can use data integration to provide a better picture of Australian families, businesses and communities.

For example, combining results from the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey with information from the Census can help us to understand the relationship between people's health and their education and employment history. Information like this can inform planning for your community and ensure people get access to the services they need.

Data integration also reduces the number of surveys you need to complete because we can reuse the information you have already provided in other ways.



### Let's have a yarn

We want to know what you think about things like:

- Integrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander surveys with the Census and other surveys?
- Any things you are worried about in keeping your information safe?
- What consent and approval processes should we think about to allow health survey information to be integrated and accessed?

### Privacy and security

**The ABS takes data security very seriously and protecting your privacy is our priority.** We have a proud 100 year history of community trust in the way we handle personal information. We comply with the *Privacy Act 1988*, the Australian Privacy Principles and ABS legislation.

We are authorised to undertake data integration activities by law. Data is only combined where there is a clear public benefit and can only be used for statistical and research purposes. No one can ever see all of your data together at any point of the data integration process. For example, personal identifying information, like your name or address, is kept separate from other information, like the health services that you have used.

Some other ways the ABS make sure your information is safe and secure are:

- A secure physical and IT environment using first rate data security practices
- Regular reviews of security arrangements and ongoing security audits
- Staff security checks and restricted access to data
- Logging and monitoring of access and use
- Clear accountabilities and risk management processes
- Compliance with legislation requirements



For more information see the Consultation Discussion Paper available at <https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/mf/4740.0>