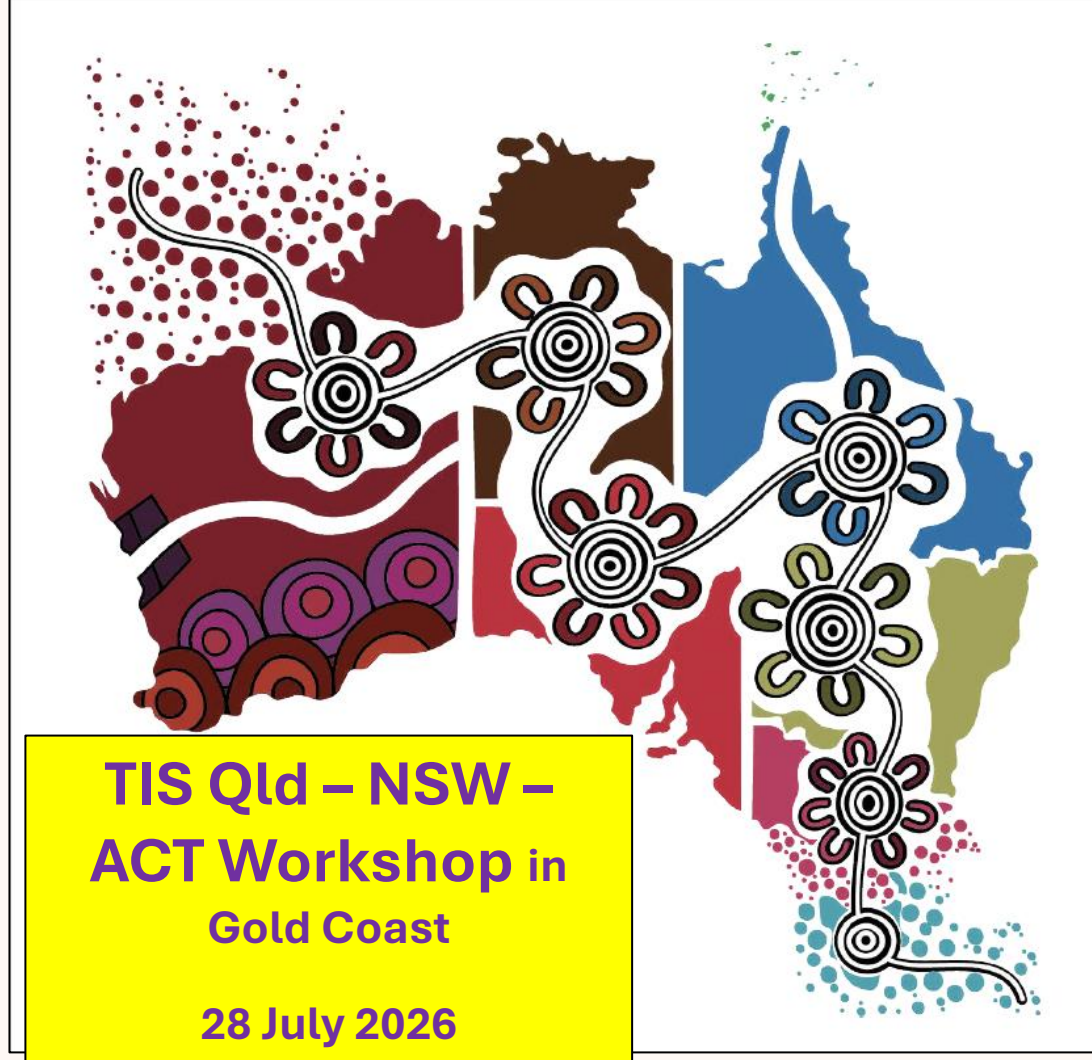




Evaluate and Prepare for 2027- 31 Funding Bid – Sharing & Celebrating?

Prof Tom Calma AO
National Coordinator Tackling Indigenous Smoking



I recognise the
Yugambah
people and *all*
Aboriginal and
Torres Strait
Islander
Peoples in
attendance
today

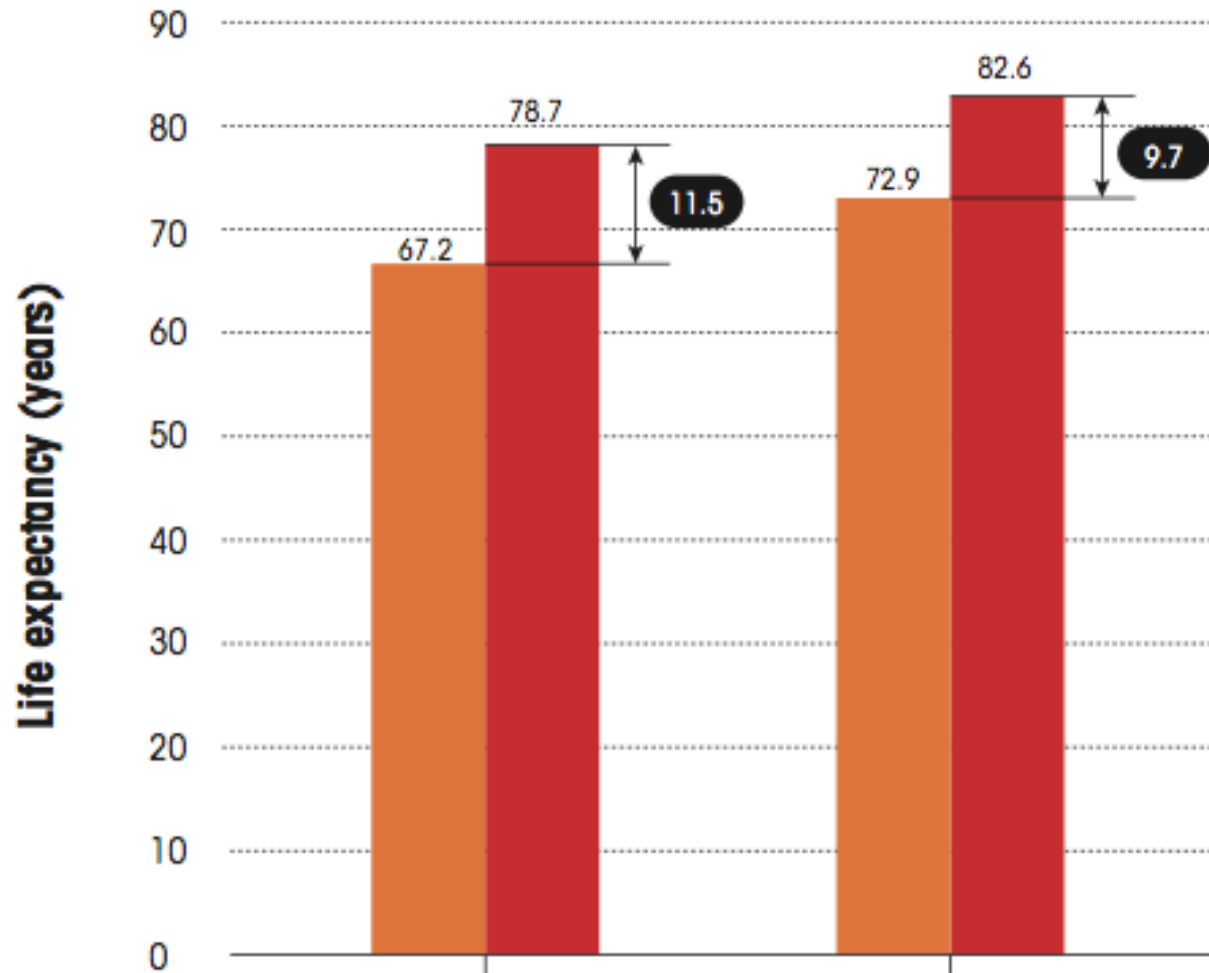
Evaluate and Prepare for 2027- 31 Funding Bid

Who's up for the challenge?

- Recap on the TIS Program
- Innovation
- Impact
- The CEO Workshop
- Challenges for next 11 months
- CELEBRATION
- **Don't slow down** – keep up your good work

Objective of TIS – to save lives

Figure 1: Life expectancy estimates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians



The life expectancy of indigenous Australians is 67.2 for males and 72.9 for females, based on 2005-2007 data

→ In order to achieve this target, the gap needs to be reduced to zero by 2031

Indigenous children born today can expect to live shorter lives - 11.5 years shorter if they are Indigenous males and 9.7 years shorter if they are Indigenous females

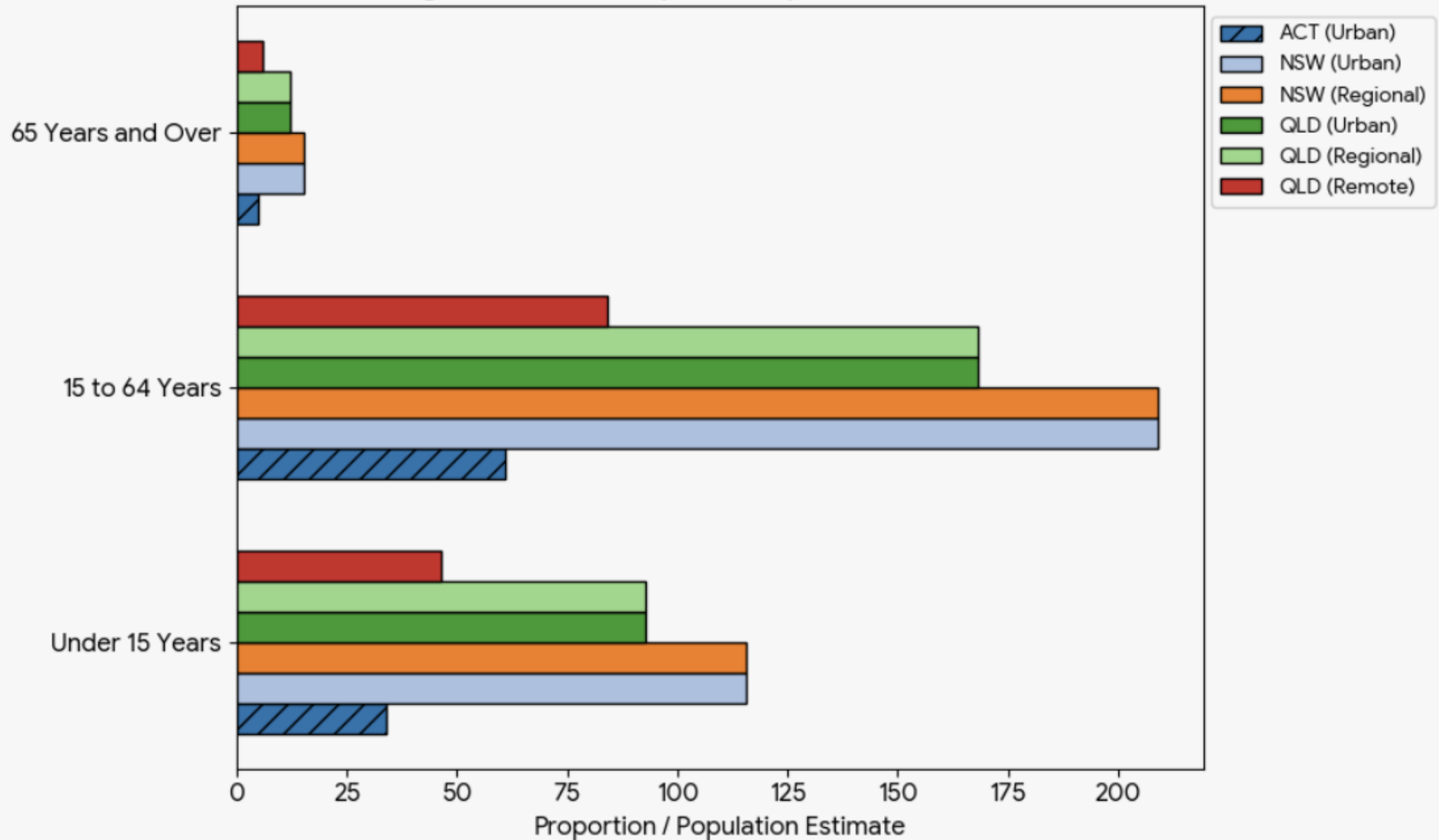
Indigenous
Non-Indigenous

Estimated population, Indigenous status – 30 June 2021
983,700 people, 3.8% of the Australian population



a. Includes Other Territories.

First Nations Age Structure Comparison by Remoteness (ACT, NSW, QLD)

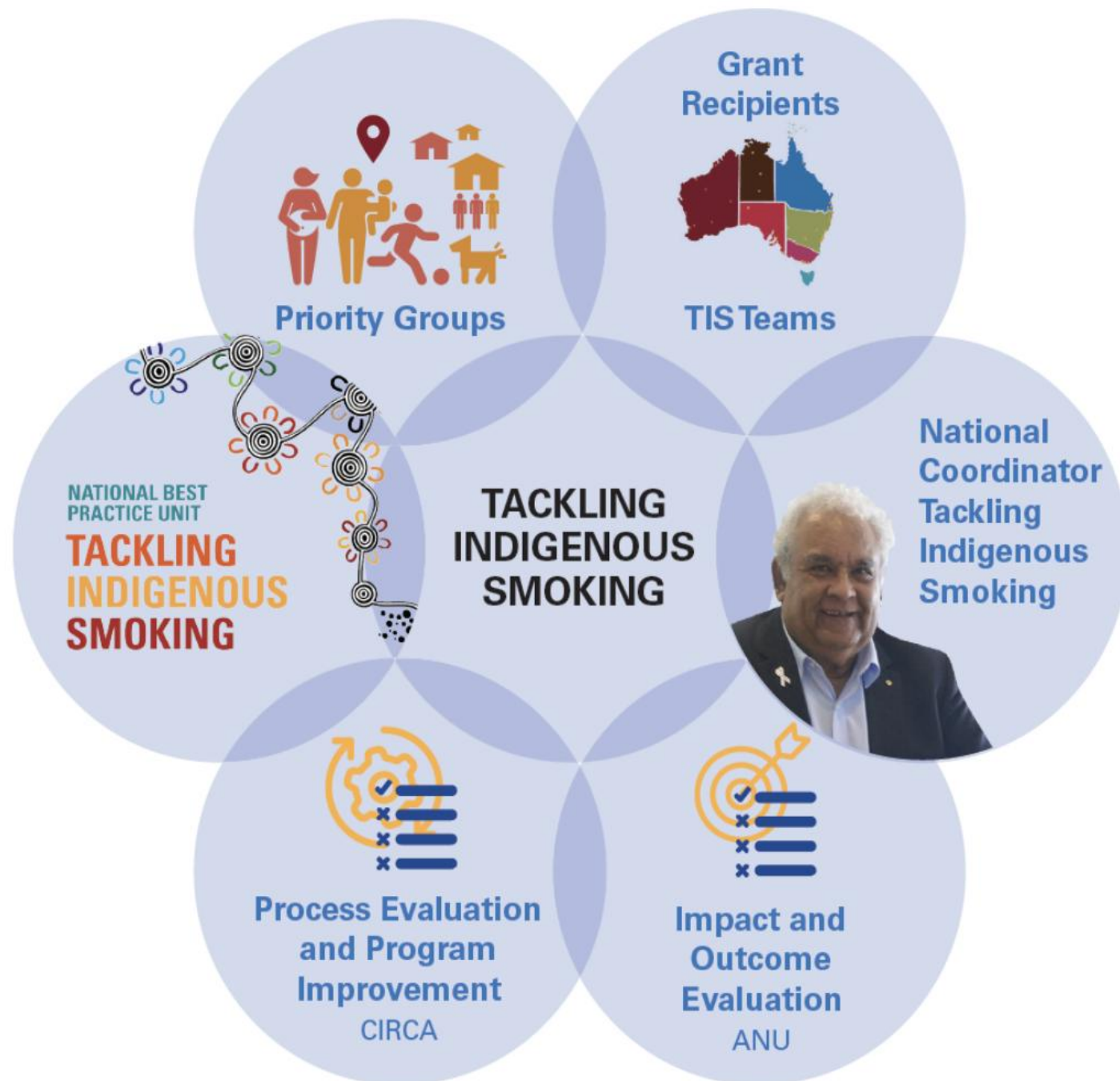


Why do we need an Indigenous specific program?

- Smoking causes **almost twice** as many deaths **as we previously realised**.
- Smoking causes **more than one-third of all** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths at any age
- **> 10,000 deaths** among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the **last 10 yrs**
- Focusing on older adults, we see that **smoking causes half of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths at age 45 years and over.**
- The deadly news is that there is even **more potential than we realised to improve health outcomes** by reducing tobacco use.
- Most smokers **want to give up** or have tried to give up.
- Many smokers **are not addicted** but are social smokers.
- **Health, Economic** impacts and **Environmental** impacts

The TIS Family

- TIS commenced in Jan 2010
- Maintained funding and growth under successive governments
- Consistent leadership NCTIS – 10 days per month
- Supported by a National Best Practices Unit
- 2 discrete evaluation system - CQI
- Population Health Program – do not run programs – we educate the community
- Clear Grant Operational Guidelines (GOGs)
- **16 July TIS moved to Mainstream Tobacco Branch**



5. What the grant money can be used for

Grant Operation Guidelines - GOGs

5.1 Eligible grant activities

To be eligible, your grant activity must:

- be delivered with a **preventive population health approach** that effectively achieves the required reach to all First Nations people within the IREG for which you are applying.
- **directly relate to the TIS RTCG Program**, which include:
 - community education and engagement (training, social activities, and events)
 - developing smoke free policies in social settings (workplaces, cars, homes, sporting, and community events)
 - mass media/social media campaigns (television, radio, print media, social media)
 - promotional resources (posters, pamphlets, smoke free signage)
 - community events (World No Tobacco Day, NAIDOC, fun runs)
 - anti-vaping and e-cigarette activities.

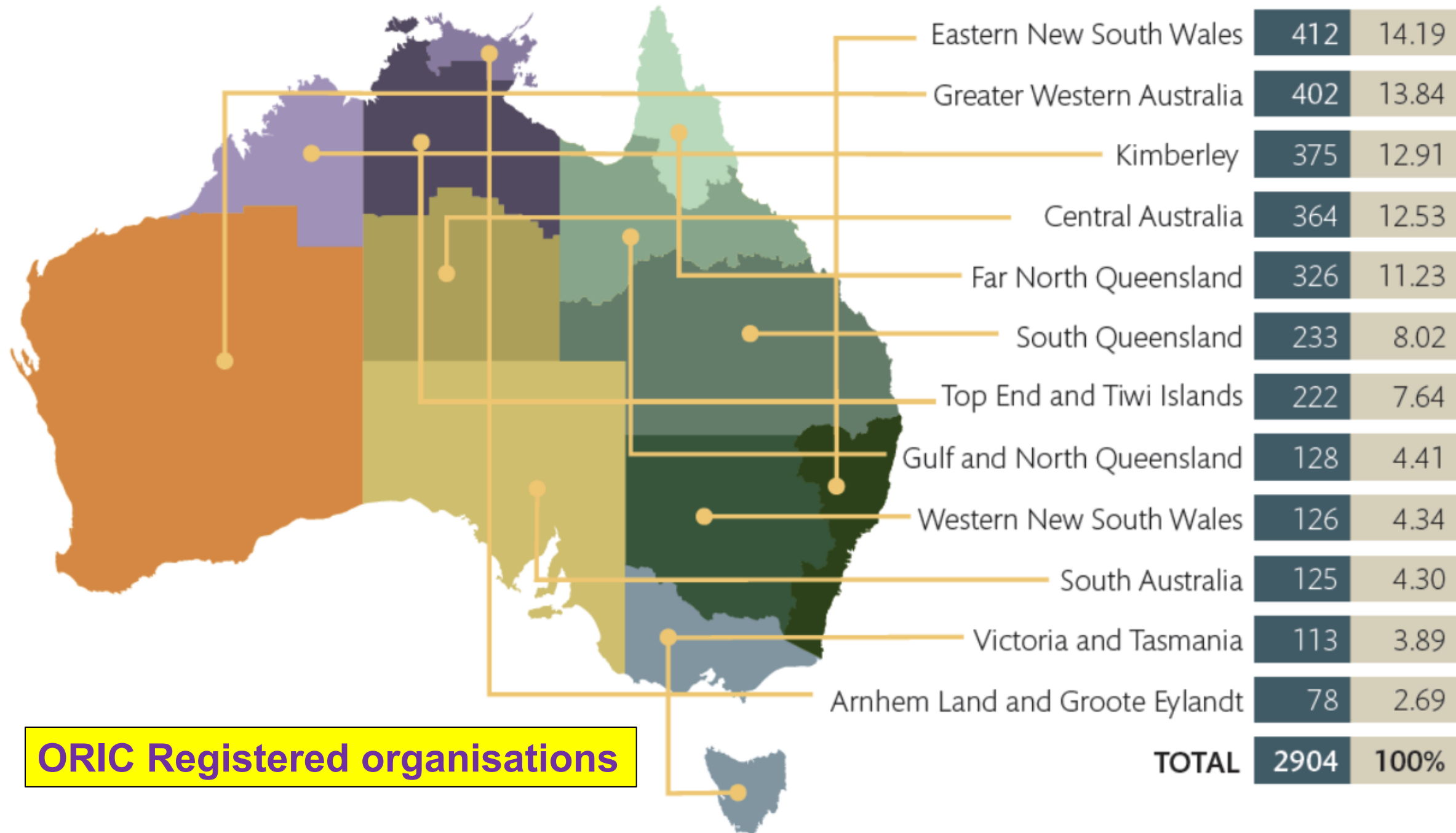
Eligible grant activities include:

- TIS Program workshop and intervention materials.
- TIS Program marketing, promotional activities and merchandise.
- in-person attendance at NBPU training sessions and TIS Program workshops for the jurisdiction where your nominated ABS IREG is geographically located.

Ineligible grant activities include:

Grant Operation Guidelines - GOGs

- wages, training, and travel costs for non-TIS Program staff
- sporting team sponsorships
- purchase of land
- major capital expenditure including vehicle purchase, major construction, capital works and temporary buildings
- retrospective costs of TIS RTCG Program activities
- costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation
- Nicotine Replacement Therapies (NRTs) or other smoking cessation products or services
- direct or indirect delivery of smoking cessation services
- international travel
- activities for which other Commonwealth, state, territory, or local government bodies have primary responsibility, including smoking cessation supports in correctional settings
- activities not directly related to the TIS RTCG Program.



Why is TIS considered successful?

2010 – 50+%

15 years of bi-partisan support and
for the past 8 years Funding and Policy stability

2018/9 – 37%

Challenge still remains Regional and Remote
and very remote residents

2030 – 27% Target

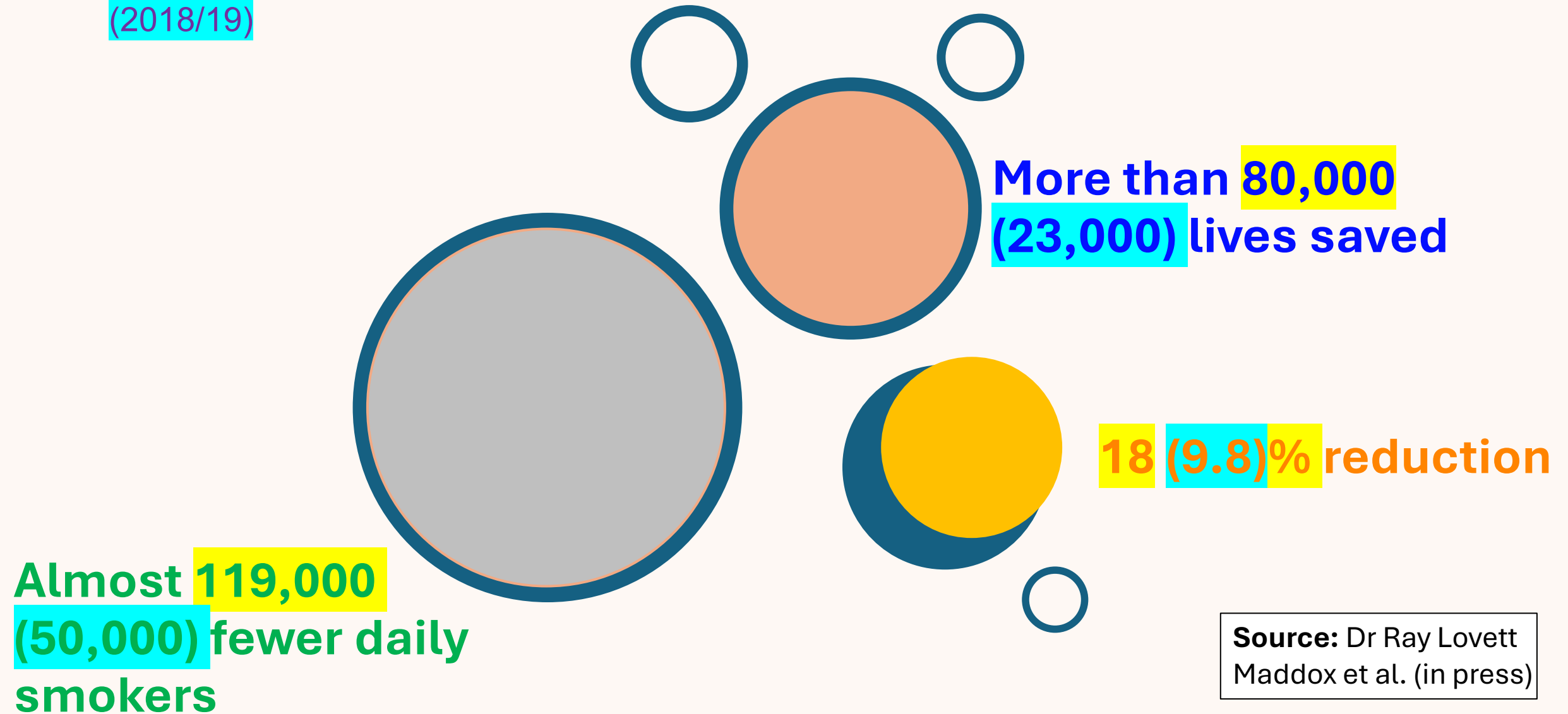
2024 – 29%

Population health and referral practice –
those who do not use an ACCHO

Ongoing **evaluations** and building the **capacity** of and **empowering**
local communities **to come up with the messaging and strategies**
that suit them.

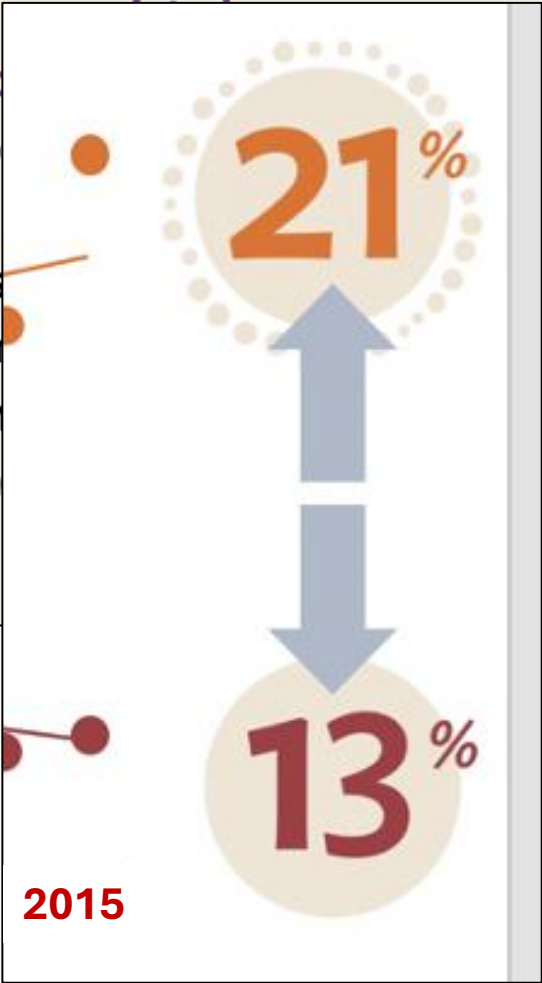
Why is TIS considered successful? From 2004 – 2022/23

(2018/19)

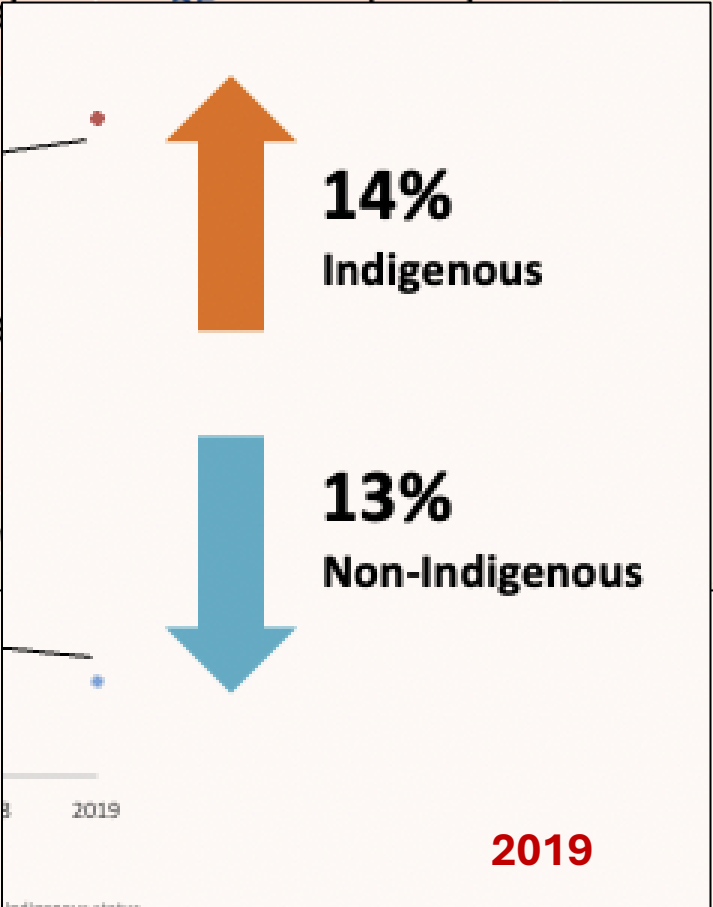
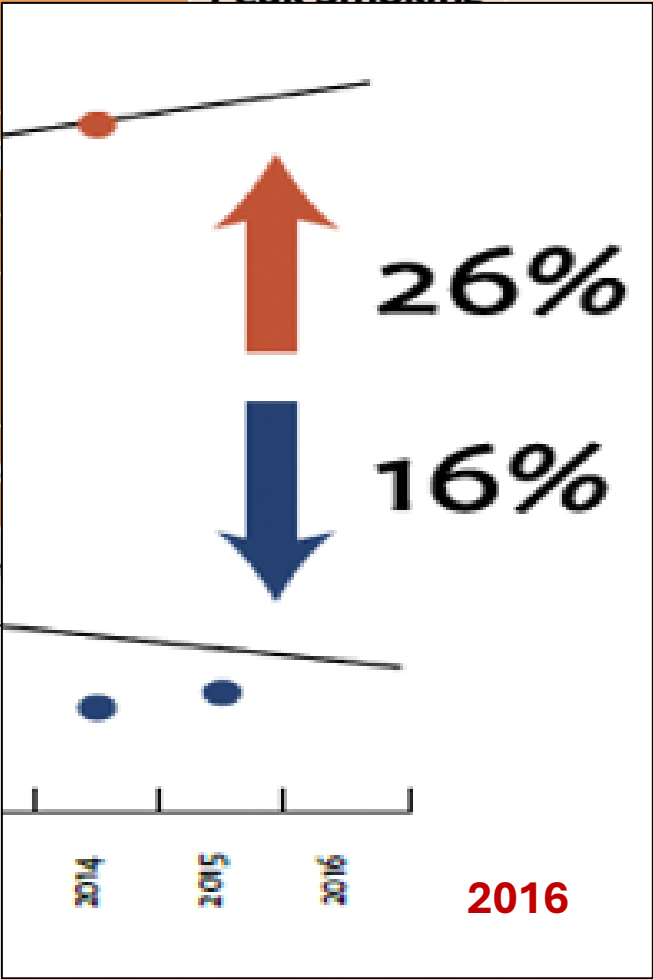


Cancer mortality post peak smoking by population group

There is a long delay
between smoking and its



Cancer Mortality			
	Peak Smoking	2012	2015
Non-Indigenous		Down 10%	
Indigenous		Up 16%	



Challenges

Maintain the momentum - build on successes & celebrate success

Be innovative - work with your community to get the messages across that they can understand

Partner with other agencies and people - environmental health workers

Get into schools or other areas where kids and youth congregate

Target homes, shops and common areas

Spend your money - but do it wisely and in conformance with the GOGS – no prize for not spending and ***a loss for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples***

Illicit Tobacco and e-cigarettes

<https://www.itec.gov.au>

Australia's state and territory penalties for selling illicit tobacco and vapes have reached historic highs, following sweeping legislative reforms designed to eliminate illegal storefronts. Across all jurisdictions, vapes (regardless of nicotine content) can now **only be sold lawfully through community pharmacies.**  [Chief Mi...](#) +4

Additionally, a major regulatory trend targeting commercial landlords who "turn a blind eye" to illegal operators on their premises is now active across Queensland and New South Wales.  [NSW Go...](#) +1

Direct Legislative Comparison

Metric / Feature	Queensland (QLD)	New South Wales (NSW)	Australian Capital Territory (ACT)
Max Prison Term	2 Years	7 Years	Covered under TGA/Poisons Acts
Max Corporate Fine	\$1,600,000	\$1,540,000	Subject to prosecution tiers
Landlord Liability	Yes (\$161,300 + 1 yr jail)	Yes (\$165,000 + 1 yr jail)	No specific lessor clause yet
Store Closure Limit	Up to 3 months	Up to 12 months (via court)	Immediate stock forfeiture

FLIP THE VAPE

JUST DITCH IT



PTHEVAPE X♦●✱♣ THE KOORI WAY #FLIPTHEVAPE READY TO BREATHE EASY, SAVE MONEY AND TAKE CONTROL? X♦●✱♣ #FLIPTHEVAPE

display a menu

<https://ftv.thekooriway.com.au/ftv#tools>



Digital repository

Tackling Indigenous Smoking



Postgraduate student Remy Lee Morris, a Kamilaroi woman currently studying a [Master of Public Health](#), was announced on Tuesday as the inaugural recipient of the Tom Calma Family Endowment Scholarship.



The ASK at the CEO workshop on 8 September 2026

The Department, NBPU, partners, evaluators and myself will update CEOs on the status of TIS beyond 30 June 2027 and encourage;

- CEOs and TIS Coordinators to **critically review their operations including the findings of the CIRCA evaluation for their region**
- Give TIS Coordinators **access to their budgets** and ensure they have **ready access to the NBPU**
- **Complete work plans and reports** on time and **review the feedback**
- Inform the community-controlled sector to **treat smoking and vaping interventions as a priority including implementing a workplace policy**
- **Be innovative and partner with third parties** especially in outer regional, remote and very remote regions
- Spend \$ legitimately – no reward for not spending.

TIS Family 2019



TIS Family 2023



TIS Family 2025

