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**Title:**

**Developing composite “estimated service populations” for Queensland’s  
Aboriginal and Islander Communities**

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**Abstract:**

The accurate enumeration of the population in Aboriginal and Islander Communities in Queensland is problematic. There is growing evidence that estimates derived solely from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Population and Housing Censuses have significantly under-enumerated many communities.

This paper describes alternative methods of enumeration using by-products of existing administrative datasets such as Queensland Education school enrolment data and Centrelink payments data to derive “Estimated Service Populations” by age and sex. These estimates will form the basis of denominators for use in measuring social trends as well as the planning and delivery of government services.