
NEW AND REVISED BENCHMARKS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

June 2010



Tasmania *Together* 2020

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NEW AND REVISED BENCHMARKS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Tasmania *Together* Progress Board invites comment on a number of proposed additions and revisions to specific Tasmania *Together* benchmarks. The Board is particularly interested in hearing your views on the usefulness of the data presented in these benchmarks, and the appropriateness of the targets. All comments will be considered by the Benchmarking Committee and the Board, prior to making final recommendation to Parliament.

Please return comments to: contact@tasmaniatogether.com.au. Queries can be directed to the email address above or to Sakura Oddie on 6232 7212.

Comments are requested by 25 June 2010.

SUMMARY

The Progress Board has developed three new indicators in response to the 2006 Tasmania *Together* Five Year Review:

4.1.5.3	<i>Proportion of Tasmanians aged 5 to 17 who are overweight or obese</i>	New benchmark
4.1.7.1	<i>Proportion of live born infants of low birth weight</i>	New benchmark
4.4.7.1	<i>Number of public dentists per 100,000 people</i>	New benchmark

The Board proposes to replace three existing benchmarks as a result of discontinued data sources or improved data presentation:

3.4.3.1	<i>Number of Tasmanians commencing apprenticeships and traineeships</i>	Replacement benchmark
6.1.1.1	<i>Contribution to Gross State Product by selected Arts industries</i>	Replacement benchmark
12.2.2.1	<i>Proportion of sampled river sites with a biological condition considered significantly or severely impaired</i>	Replacement benchmark

The Board has also completed amendments to a further three benchmarks as a result of newly available data, or to improve data presentation:

4.4.7.1	<i>Number of General Practitioners per 100,000 people</i>	Amended presentation, amended targets
5.1.2.1	<i>Hours of community usage of public education facilities</i>	New targets
11.1.3.1	<i>Proportion of work applications with positive or neutral impacts on heritage values</i>	Amended presentation

Reports on all current Tasmania *Together* benchmarks can be found at:

www.ttbenchmarks.com.au

NEW BENCHMARKS

Benchmark 4.1.5.3 *Proportion of Tasmanians aged 5 to 17 who are overweight or obese*

Background This benchmark was developed in response to Tasmania *Together's* Post Five Year Review Task 10, regarding childhood obesity.

Source Australian Bureau of Statistics

Why do we use this Measure?

The most long-term consequence of being overweight or obese in childhood is its persistence into adulthood, and its contribution to the early onset of chronic diseases such as Type 2 diabetes. Being overweight puts an enormous emotional burden on children. Obesity lowers self-image and self-esteem in children and adolescents. It also increases social isolation. Active living and healthy eating are critical elements in maintaining a healthy weight for all Tasmanians.

Explanation of measure

The measure is an estimate derived from the National Health Survey. It is an estimate of the proportion of the Tasmanian population aged 5 to 17 with a Body Mass Index of 25 or more.

Baseline Measurement

At the time of 2007-08 National Health Survey, an estimated 18.8% of the Tasmanian population aged 5 to 17 had a Body Mass Index of 25 or more.

Targets	2015	tbd
	2020	tbd

Targets for this measure will be considered after the next release of data in 2011.

Benchmark 4.1.7.1 *Proportion of live born infants of low birth weight*

Source Australia's Mothers and Babies, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

Background This benchmark was developed in response to Tasmania *Together's* Post Five Year Review Task 10, regarding childhood obesity.

Why we use this measure

Birth weight is a key indicator of infant health. Research shows that the effect of low birth weight can continue into adulthood, with an increased risk of Type 2 Diabetes, high blood pressure, metabolic and cardiovascular diseases, and possibly obesity in later life. Early identification of those at increased risk provides an important opportunity for disease prevention, as behavioural intervention can be effective in addressing these disorders.

Factors contributing to low birth weight include pre-term births, multiple births, maternal age, substance abuse, socioeconomic disadvantage and poor maternal health and lifestyle. Interventions such as good antenatal care and nutrition, control of infections and limiting substance abuse can effectively reduce these risk factors.

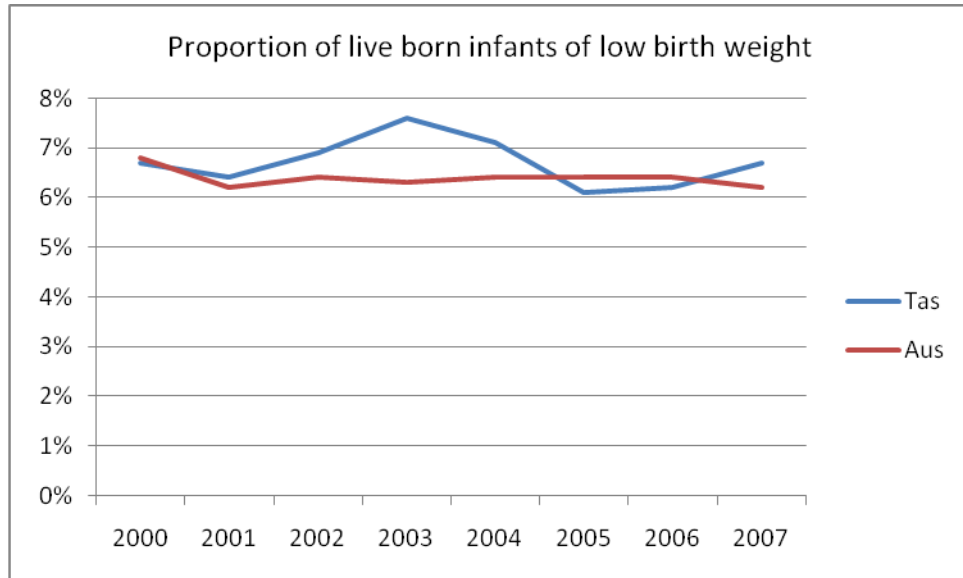
Explanation of measure

The measure is the Tasmanian proportion, compared to the Australian proportion, of live born infants with a birth weight of less than 2,500 grams during a year.

Baseline

During 2000, 6.7% of Tasmanian live born infants, compared with 6.8% of all Australian live born infants, were of low birth weight.

Graph and Dataset



Proportion of live born infants of low birth weight

Year	Tas	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	ACT	NT	Aus
2000	6.7	6.4	6.7	7.1	6.9	7.2	7.6	9.8	6.8
2001	6.4	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.7	8.7	6.2
2002	6.9	6.0	6.5	6.8	6.2	6.6	7.0	8.2	6.4
2003	7.6	5.8	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.5	9.7	6.3
2004	7.1	5.9	6.3	6.7	6.6	6.6	7.9	9.3	6.4
2005	6.1	5.9	6.4	6.6	6.5	7.0	7.3	9.6	6.4
2006	6.2	6.0	6.4	6.8	6.4	6.4	7.4	9.8	6.4
2007	6.7	5.7	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.4	7.2	7.9	6.2

Targets	2010	Below national proportion
	2015	Below national proportion
	2020	Below national proportion

Benchmark 4.4.7.1 *Number of Public Dentists per 100,000 people*

Source Report on Government Services (ROGS)

Background This benchmark was developed in response to Tasmania *Together's* Post Five Year Review Task 11, regarding access to dental care.

Why we use this measure

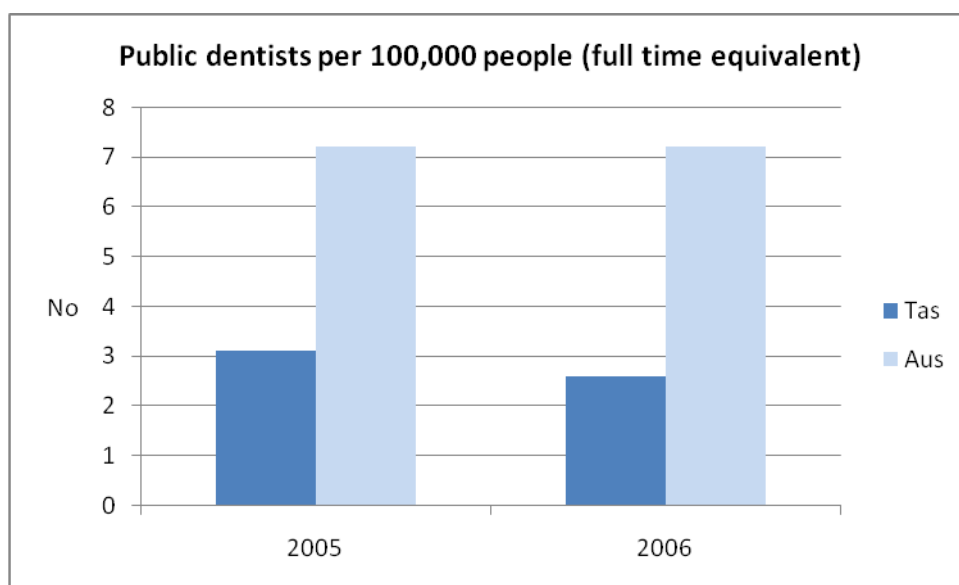
More public dentists per capita should increase access to basic dental services.

Explanation of measure

The measure is the number of full time workload equivalent public dentists in Tasmania per 100,000 people.

Baseline During 2005, there were 3.1 full time workload equivalent public dentists in Tasmania per 100,000 people.

Graph



Dataset

Availability of public dentists (per 100,000 people)

Year	Tas	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	ACT	NT	Aus
2005	3.1	6.6	5.6	9.3	7.8	10.4	6.4	6.8	7.2
2006	2.6	6.9	6.0	9.0	7.1	9.1	1.4	16.8	7.2

Note: 2007 data and 2008 data should be available in ROGS 2011, to be released in January 2011.

Targets

- 2010** Progress toward national value
- 2015** Progress toward national value
- 2020** National value

REPLACEMENT BENCHMARKS

Benchmark 3.4.3.1 *Number of Tasmanians commencing apprenticeship and traineeship contracts*

Source Skills Tasmania

Background Data for current Benchmark 3.4.3 *Number of Tasmanians commencing apprenticeships and traineeships* has been discontinued due to 2006 revisions to the Australia New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification system (ANZSIC). A replacement benchmark has been developed using a new data series which shows the number of Tasmanians commencing apprenticeship or traineeship contracts.

The data series has been disaggregated to provide a distinction between Certificates I & II and Certificate III + contract commencements.

Targets have been drafted around the number of Tasmanians commencing contracts for Certificate III + qualifications. Increasingly, it is recognised that completion of qualifications at or above Certificate III will significantly improve employment opportunities, with partial completion of Certificate I or II qualifications unlikely to improve employability.

Data has been recast to 2001 using the new ANZSIC system, ensuring that a robust time-series is still available for this replacement measure.

Why we use this measure

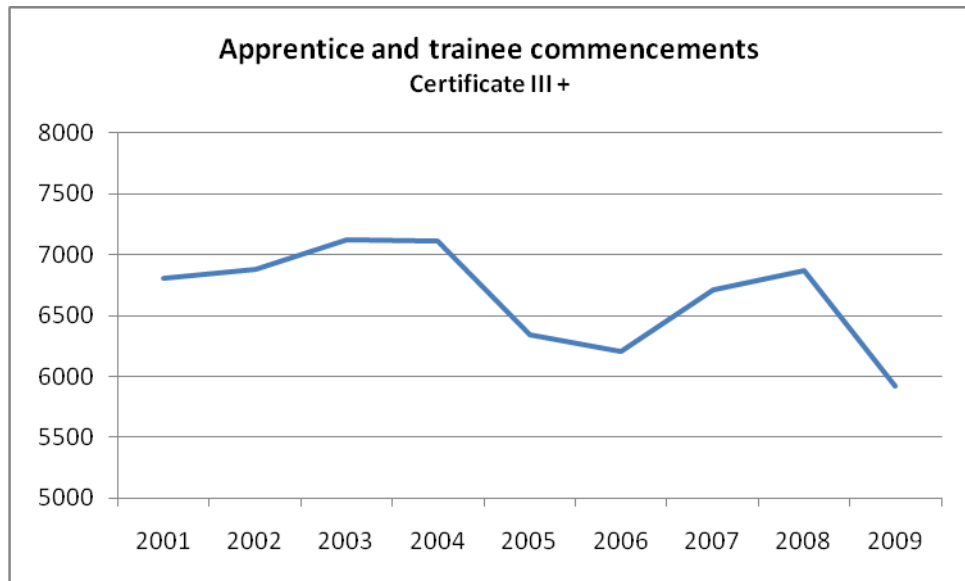
Apprenticeships and traineeships provide skills and opportunities to re-skill in order to gain long-term employment.

Explanation of measure

The measure is a count of the number of Tasmanians that entered a Certificate III level or higher apprenticeship or traineeship contract in a reference period, excluding those who entered into a new contract in the same qualification.

Baseline During 2001, 6 807 Tasmanians commenced a Certificate III level or higher apprenticeship or traineeship contract.

Graph



Dataset

Number of Tasmanian commencing apprentice or trainee contracts

Year	Certificate I & II No	Certificate III + No	Total No
2001	1 866	6 807	8 673
2002	1 978	6 885	8 863
2003	1 526	7 120	8 646
2004	1 618	7 115	8 733
2005	1 371	6 342	7 713
2006	1 406	6 205	7 611
2007	1 323	6 717	8 040
2008	1 459	6 874	8 333
2009p	1 073	5 926	6 999

Note 2009 data is preliminary and subject to change

Targets

Cert III+ commencements

- 2010** (no target set)
- 2015** 10% increase on 2010
- 2020** 10% increase on 2015

Benchmark 6.1.1.1 *Contribution to Gross State Product by selected Arts industries*

Source Australian Bureau of Statistics

Background Data for current benchmark 6.1.1 *Contribution to Gross State Product by selected cultural industries* has been discontinued due to National Accounts data reclassification. A replacement benchmark has been developed using the new *Arts and Recreation Services* subdivision of the National Accounts.

Libraries, motion picture, radio and television service and music and other sound recording activities are not included in the Arts subdivision, therefore the contribution by selected 'Arts industries' to Gross State Product is significantly lower than the previously measured contribution by selected 'Cultural industries'.

Under the new classification system, data has been recast back to 2000, therefore the new measure will still provide a valuable time series. Targets have been drafted accordingly.

Why we use this measure

If contribution to GSP increases it should indicate growth in this area.

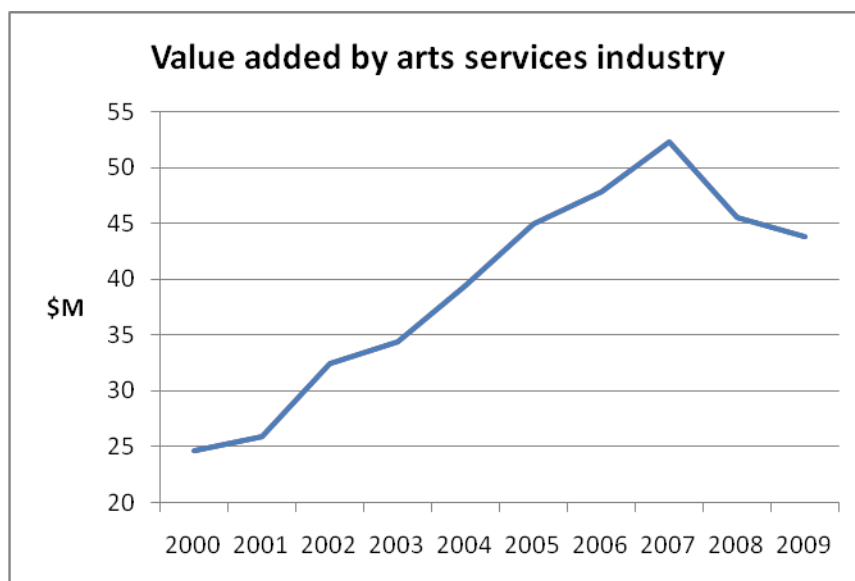
Explanation of measure

The measure is an estimate of the gross value added of the arts component of the Tasmanian arts and recreational services industry. The arts services component is estimated using an employment factor sourced from the Population Census. The factor is the arts services proportion of employment in the arts and recreational services industry.

Baseline

During the year ending on the 30th of June 2000, the estimated gross value added of the arts services industry in Tasmania was \$24.6 million.

Graph and dataset



Year ending 30 June	\$m
2000	24.6
2001	25.9
2002	32.5
2003	34.4
2004	39.4
2005	45.0
2006	47.8
2007	52.3
2008	45.5
2009	43.8

- Targets**
- 2010** \$45 M
 - 2015** 15 % increase from 2010
 - 2020** 15 % increase from 2015

Benchmark 12.2.2.1 *Proportion of sampled river sites with a biological condition considered significantly or severely impaired*

Source Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Wildlife and Environment

Background This benchmark has been developed to reduce the complexity of the current Benchmark 12.2.2 *Proportion of sampling sites in each AusRivAS band*. It is also better aligned with Departmental annual reporting. Targets are consistent with Departmental targets.

Note: Due to the technical nature of the measure, glossary items have been included. Underlining denotes a glossary item, as detailed below.

Explanation of measure

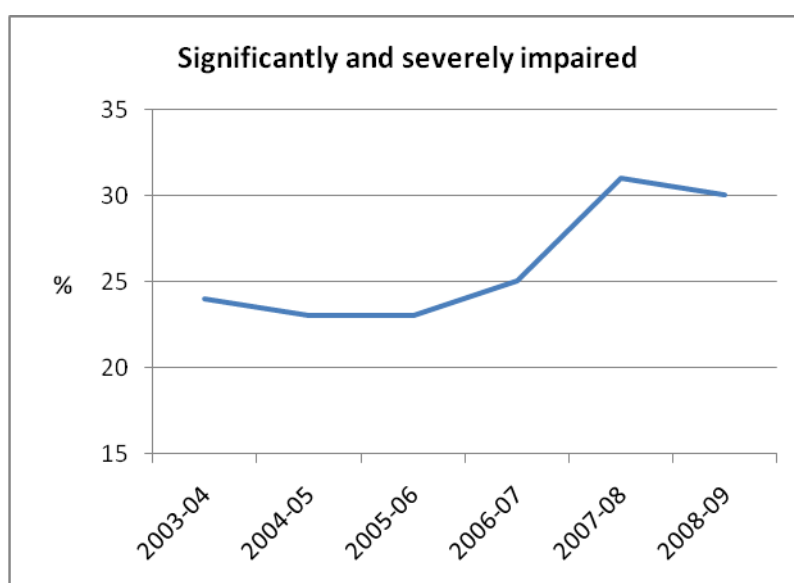
The measure is the proportion of sampled river sites with a biological condition that is significantly impaired or severely impaired, ie with fewer or considerably fewer macroinvertebrate families observed/collected, than predicted by the AusRivAS models.

The proportion of sampled river sites with a biological condition richer than reference, similar to reference or impoverished are also reported for context.

Amended Baseline

During 2003-04, 17% of sampled river sites were significantly impaired and 7% of sampled river sites were severely impaired.

Graph



Dataset

Biological condition in relation to reference site

	Richer than reference %	Similar to reference %	Significantly impaired %	Severely impaired %	Impoverished %
2003-04	5	68	17	7	0
2004-05	8	68	20	3	0
2005-06	5	72	23	0	0
2006-07	12	63	25	0	0
2007-08	7	62	28	3	0
2008-09	8	60	20	10	2

Targets

2010	<15% significantly/ severely impaired
2015	<12% significantly/ severely impaired
2020	<10% significantly/ severely impaired

Glossary items

To assist users of Online Benchmark Reports interpret information about healthy rivers, the following glossary items have been provided:

Macroinvertebrate families:

Animals without backbones (such as insects, snails and worms) which have been identified to the family level of biological classification.

Richer than reference:

Sites which have greater than expected levels of macroinvertebrate taxa compared to reference sites.

Similar to reference:

Sites which have macroinvertebrate taxa within the 80% central range of reference sites.

Significantly impaired:

Sites which have experienced a loss of 13% to 37% of macroinvertebrate taxa compared to reference sites.

Severely impaired:

Sites which have experienced a loss of 38% to 62% of macroinvertebrate taxa compared to reference sites.

Impoverished:

Sites which have experienced a loss of greater than 62% of macroinvertebrate taxa compared to reference sites.

AusRivAS models:

AusRivAS models essentially predict the aquatic macroinvertebrate fauna that would be expected to occur at a site in the absence of environmental stress such as pollution or habitat degradation. It does this by comparing a test site with a group of reference sites which are as free as possible of environmental impacts but have similar physical and chemical characteristics to those found at the test site.

One of the outputs of AusRivAS is a list of macroinvertebrates that would be expected to occur at a test site if there were no impacts (reference condition). The fauna expected to occur (Expected) is compared to those that are actually collected (Observed). The Observed/ Expected ratio (O/ E score) provides a measure of the degree to which the macroinvertebrate fauna at a test site departs from that found at reference sites. The O/ E scores can then be placed into categories or bands from which an inference can be made as to the condition or ecological health of the test site.

AMENDED BENCHMARKS

Benchmark 4.4.5.1 *Number of General Practitioners per 100,000 people*

Source Report on Government Services (ROGS)

Background Current Benchmark 4.4.5 *Number of General Practitioners per 100,000 people* only reports Tasmanian data. This benchmark has been amended to include data for all states to provide a more complete picture, with targets reflecting Tasmania's position relative to national performance on this measure.

This amendment is consistent with newly developed Benchmark 4.4.7 *Number of Public Dentists per 100,000 people* (refer page 6).

Why we use this measure

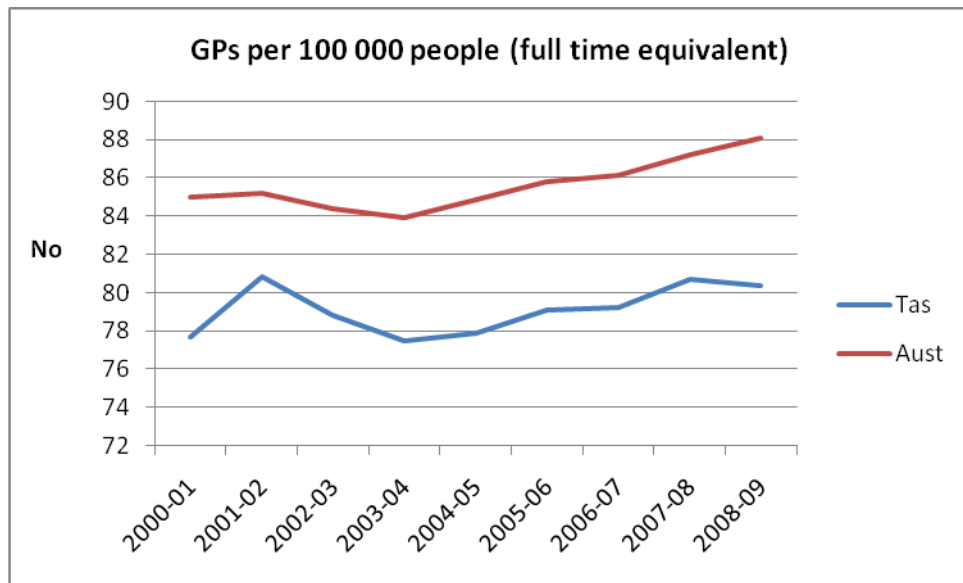
More general practitioners per capita should increase access to basic health services.

Explanation of measure

The measure is the number of full time workload equivalent general practitioners in Tasmania per 100,000 people as compared to the number of full time workload equivalent general practitioners in Australia per 100,000 people.

Baseline During 2000-01 there were 77.7 full time workload equivalent general practitioners in Tasmania per 100,000 people as compared with 85.0 full time workload equivalent general practitioners in Australia per 100,000 people.

Graph



Dataset

Year	Tas	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	ACT	NT	Aust
2000-01	77.7	87.8	85.2	87.5	74.8	89.1	68.7	47.0	85.0
2001-02	80.8	88.9	85.3	86.6	74.9	89.1	66.1	46.2	85.2
2002-03	78.8	89.2	84.3	83.7	74.7	88.8	62.8	48.5	84.4
2003-04	77.5	89.5	82.6	84.0	73.1	88.8	61.0	48.6	83.9
2004-05	77.9	91.7	82.8	85.6	72.3	88.5	61.5	47.2	84.9
2005-06	79.1	92.4	84.3	86.3	72.0	90.5	63.3	46.8	85.8
2006-07	79.2	94.1	84.7	85.4	71.4	89.5	66.8	48.3	86.1
2007-08	80.7	94.8	86.7	86.1	71.5	90.9	67.5	52.6	87.2
2008-09	80.4	95.9	87.5	87.7	70.4	93.2	67.0	51.7	88.1

Targets	2010	Progress toward national value
	2015	Progress toward national value
	2020	National value

Benchmark 5.1.2.1 *Hours of community usage of public education facilities*

Source Department of Education

Background Targets have been drafted based on time series data now available for this measure.

Why we use this measure

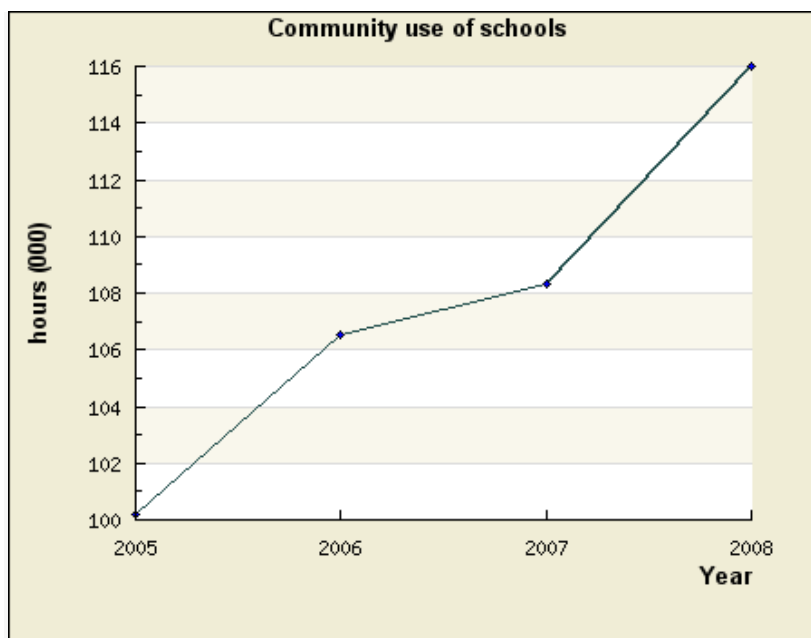
We need an environment that supports community activities, utilising existing public facilities for community education and recreation pursuits.

Explanation of measure

This measure is calculated by summing each hour that a public education facility is used for a community purpose. The total is the total hours for all education facilities for a year ending 31 December.

Baseline During the year 2005, there were 100,239 hours of community usage of public education facilities.

Graph



Dataset

Year	hours (000)
2005	100.2
2006	106.5
2007	108.3
2008	116.0

Targets	2010	25% increase on 2005
	2015	20% increase on 2010
	2020	15% increase on 2015

Benchmark 11.1.3.1 *Proportion of work applications with positive or neutral impacts on heritage values*

Source Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (Heritage Tasmania)

Background Current Benchmark 11.1.3 *Proportion of work applications with positive impacts on heritage values* only measures the number of work applications that have a positive impact on heritage values. This benchmark has been amended to include the positive impact, neutral impact and the sum of positive and neutral impacts on heritage values, as a means of providing a more accurate picture of heritage outcomes.

Why we use this measure

Our cultural heritage should be conserved because it is an integral part of Tasmania's identity.

Baseline During the year ending 30 June 2009, the proportion of works applications assessed for places on the Tasmanian Heritage Register with a positive or neutral impact on heritage values was 87 per cent.

Explanation of Measure

The data is the proportion of works applications with a positive or neutral impact on heritage values. It reflects the assessment of Heritage Advisors following their consideration of each works application during the nominated financial year. It does not take into account exclusions, ie applications that were not applicable or did not involve a heritage registered place; where there was no decision made on an application; or where the application was withdrawn for one reason or another.

Dataset (Note: this data was first collected on 1 January 2008.)

Year	Positive Impact	Neutral impact	Total
2008-09	14%	73%	87%

Targets Targets for this measure will be developed when at least one more year of data is made available.