Are things improving?

Progress in educational participation and attainment for disadvantaged youth

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This talk is based on work NCVER has done for the publication *How Young People are Faring 2013* which is published by the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA)
Today’s talk

- Importance of education
- Economic context
- Changes in participation and attainment by equity group
Context

- Good education is of fundamental importance
  - Leads to better employment outcomes
  - Less likely to be disengaged
  - Better social outcomes
  - Low education can be associated with poor social inclusion
Government policies

- National Partnership on Youth Attainment and Transitions
  - Focus on improved educational and employment outcomes for 15-24 year olds
    - Further focus on young people at risk and Indigenous young people
  - Contains a variety of elements

- Closing the gap initiative
Government policies

- Smarter Schools National Partnership for Low Socio-economic Status School Communities

- Previous research (see Anlezark, 2012) shows people from non-metropolitan areas are at risk of poorer outcomes
Full-time employment, 15-19 year olds

Cumulative % of employment - 15 to 64

Source: ABS census data 2011
Full-time employment, 20-24 year olds

Source: ABS census data 2011
Full-time employment, 25-29 olds

Cumulative % of employment - 15 to 64

Source: ABS census data 2011
Full-time education to population rates

Source: ABS labour force, detailed, cat. No. 6291.0.55.01, LM 3
Year 12 or equivalent attainment - 20-24 year olds

Economic context

- Full-time employment getting harder for young people partly due to GFC
  - Good education becomes even more important
Full-time employment to population ratios

Source: ABS Labour force, Australia, detailed, cat. No. 6291.0.55.01, data cube LM 2
Employment trends for young people not in full-time education

15-19 year olds

20-24 year olds

Source: ABS labour force, detailed, cat. No. 6291.0.55.01, LM 3
Unemployment rates

Source: ABS Labour force, Australia, detailed, cat. No. 6291.0.55.001, data cube LM 2
Changes in participation by equity group 2006-2011

- Indigenous
- Remote/very remote location
- Low socio-economic status area
- Speak a language other than English at home
- Census data rich source of point in time information
Participation in secondary school – 15-19 year olds

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data

Percentage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>35.9</td>
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<td>Remote area</td>
<td>34.3</td>
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<td>Non-English background</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low SES areas</td>
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<td>All Australia</td>
<td>48.6</td>
<td>50.7</td>
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</table>

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
Percentage Participation in VET (not at school) -15-19 year olds

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>All Australia</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
Participation in university - 15-19 year olds

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
Participation in VET -20-24 year olds

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
Participation in university – 20-24 year olds

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
Year 12 attainment – 20-24 year olds

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
VET certificate III and above attainment – 20-24 year olds

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
Bachelor degree and above attainment – 20-24 year olds

Source: 2006 and 2011 census data
Conclusion

- Educational participation and attainment has increased for disadvantaged groups but still lagging behind.
- A good education is critical to employment.