
NEW AND REVISED BENCHMARKS FOR PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL

October 2009



Tasmania *Together* 2020

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NEW AND REVISED BENCHMARKS FOR PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL

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Background

Tasmania *Together* is:

- a long term social, environmental and economic plan for the State's development for a period of 20 years; and
- an overarching framework for planning, budgeting and policy priorities for the government and non-government sectors.

Tasmania *Together* was created in 2001, after extensive consultations around the State. It set out the vision and goals that Tasmanians want to achieve for themselves and their children. It also established benchmarks that measure progress towards achieving the community's wishes.

The Tasmania *Together* Progress Board is the custodian of Tasmania *Together*. It is the Board's responsibility to make sure it is responsive to changes in the community priorities and uses the best progress measures available. Under Section 12 (2)-(3) of the *Tasmania Together Progress Board Act 2001*:

- “(2) The Progress Board may at any time make recommendations to the Parliament on any addition to, or deletion or alteration of, the goals and benchmarks.
- (3) The Parliament may, by resolution passed by each House –
- (a) accept the Progress Board's recommendations and alter the goals or benchmarks accordingly; or
 - (b) refuse to accept the Board's recommendations.”

During 2005-06, the Progress Board undertook a Five Year Review which resulted in a number of changes and updates to Tasmania *Together*. The 2006 (revised) Tasmania *Together* document comprises 12 goals and 143 benchmarks, including a number of incomplete benchmarks where baselines and/or targets are to be established. It also includes a list of issues of public concern where further work is required to identify reliable data sources for benchmark development.

The Progress Board has since completed work on a number of these benchmarks. It has also revised existing benchmarks and developed new and replacement benchmarks in response to newly available data, discontinued data series and changed data sources.

Below is a summary, followed by the detail, of the Board's recommendations on these new and revised Tasmania *Together* benchmarks. These benchmarks are submitted for Parliamentary approval, as required under the *Tasmania Together Progress Board Act 2001*.

Summary of changes		
<i>Existing Benchmarks – new baselines</i>		
1.	12.3.2	<i>Proportion of water samples with pesticides exceeding national guidelines</i>
<i>Existing Benchmarks – new targets</i>		
2.	1.1.7	<i>Transport accessibility</i>
3.	3.2.1	<i>Proportion of persons (15-74) who are considered to be functionally literate</i>
4.	5.1.1	<i>Older persons and people with a disability living in households, whose need for assistance is fully met</i>
5.	6.3.2	<i>Number of schools integrating multicultural perspectives in the curriculum</i>
6.	10.7.2	<i>Food production value added</i>
<i>Existing Benchmarks – new baselines and targets</i>		
7.	5.5.3	<i>Participation of young people in community groups</i>
8.	5.6.3	<i>Teacher training in discrimination</i>
9.	8.1.1	<i>Proportion of people who think there are opportunities to have a real say on important issues</i>
10.	8.1.2	<i>Proportion of people participating in a decision-making process</i>
11.	8.1.4	<i>Involvement in community action to improve or protect local services or activities</i>
12.	8.2.2	<i>Performance of students against national benchmarks for civics and citizenship</i>
13.	8.4.3	<i>People who feel comfortable contacting someone in government for information</i>
14.	8.4.4	<i>Proportion of people who have difficulty accessing government services</i>
<i>Existing Benchmarks – various amendments</i>		
15.	1.1.8	<i>Proportion of retired Tasmanians who rely on government pensions or allowances as main source of income (Amended measure, baseline and new targets)</i>
16.	2.1.6	<i>Proportion of adult offenders convicted again within two years (Amended measure, baseline and new targets)</i>
17.	4.3.1	<i>Prevalence of problem gambling (Amended baseline and targets)</i>
18.	6.5.2	<i>Percentage of significant items conserved (Amended targets)</i>
19.	9.2.1	<i>Proportion of employees with family and community commitments who have flexible work arrangements</i>
20.	10.4.3	<i>Growth in the number of small businesses</i>
21.	10.8.4	<i>Exports of food, agriculture & fisheries (Amended reporting and amended targets)</i>
22.	11.4.3.2	<i>Reservation shortfall in hectares in relation to RFA targeted communities on private land (Amended baseline and targets)</i>
23.	12.1.2	<i>Percentage of Tasmania covered by native vegetation (Amended reporting and amended targets)</i>
24.	12.2.1	<i>Proportion of water measurement sites showing no increase in turbidity (Amended reporting, new baseline and amended targets)</i>
25.	12.4.1	<i>Levels of greenhouse gas emissions (megatonnes)</i>

<i>New indicators/benchmarks</i>		
26.	4.1.1.2	<i>Avoidable mortality – gap between high and low socio-economic groups</i>
27.	5.1.3	<i>Percentage of Tasmanians who are satisfied with their quality of life</i>
28.	5.1.4	<i>Percentage of Tasmanians who received support from their family, friends, neighbours or community services in the last 12 months and were satisfied with that level of support</i>
29.	5.1.5	<i>Percentage of Tasmanians who are satisfied with their opportunities to socialise with others outside their household</i>
30.	5.6.4	<i>Percentage of Tasmanians who agree that Tasmanians are accepting of people from different ethnic groups, religions and people's sexual orientation</i>
31.	8.3.3	<i>Percentage of Tasmanians who are satisfied that the state government both listens to and acts on the wishes of the community</i>
32.	10.8.5	<i>Gross value of agricultural and fish production</i>
33.	12.1.3	<i>Percentage of Tasmania covered by native vegetation</i>
<i>Replacement benchmarks</i>		
34.	3.2.2	<i>Overall student performance against national literacy and numeracy benchmarks</i>
35.	3.2.3	<i>Individual year group performance for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 against national literacy and numeracy benchmarks</i>

EXISTING BENCHMARKS – *new baseline***Benchmark 12.3.2 *Proportion of water samples with pesticides exceeding national guidelines***

Source Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

Rationale Community awareness of contamination levels should encourage reduction in environmentally harmful chemical use.

Note: a baseline has been established for this benchmark.

New Baseline During the year ending on the 30 June 2006, 1.0 per cent of water samples had pesticide levels exceeded Australian Drinking Water Guidelines values.

Dataset	2005-06	1.0%
	2006-07	0.5%
	2007-08	0.8%

Targets	2010	0%
	2015	maintain
	2020	maintain

EXISTING BENCHMARKS – *new targets*

Benchmark 1.1.7 *Transport accessibility*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	Access to affordable and reliable transport is important for accessing employment, services and recreation. Reporting against this benchmark will include young persons, older persons and persons with a disability.	
	Note: targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	In the year 2002 an estimated 87.5 percent of Tasmanians aged 18 and over could easily get to the places they needed to go.	
Dataset	2005	87.5%
	2006	88.1%
Targets	2010	90%
	2015	90%
	2020	90%

Benchmark 3.2.1 *Proportion of persons (15-74) who are considered to be functionally literate*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	Functional literacy is important for self-development and effective engagement in community life.	
	Note: targets have been established that encompass both indicators under this benchmark. In addition, quantitative literacy data is no longer available and has therefore been deleted from the benchmark.	
3.2.1.1	<i>Prose Literacy</i>	
Baseline	In 1996, an estimated 51.7 percent of Tasmanians aged 15-74 were assessed as having prose literacy skills at level 3 or higher.	
Dataset	1996	51.7%
	2006	51.0%

3.2.1.2 *Document Literacy*

Baseline	In 1996, an estimated 46.7 percent of Tasmanians aged 15-74 were assessed as having document literacy skills at level 3 or higher.	
Dataset	1996	46.7%
	2006	49.3%
Targets	<i>(for both indicators)</i>	
	2010	53.5%
	2015	56.0%
	2020	58.5%

Benchmark 5.1.1 *Older persons and people with a disability living in households, whose need for assistance is fully met*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Rationale	Support should be available for older Tasmanians and people with a disability who wish to remain living at home. “Need for assistance” covers the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for those with a disability – self-care, mobility, communication, cognition or emotion, health care; and • for all persons (regardless of disability) – paperwork, transport, housework, property maintenance or meal preparation. <p>Note: targets have been established for each indicator under this benchmark.</p>

5.1.1.1 *Persons with a disability needing assistance*

Baseline	In the year 2003, an estimated 62.2 percent of persons with a disability living in Tasmanian households who required assistance with one or more activity of everyday life, received assistance.	
Targets	2010	67%
	2015	72%
	2020	77%

5.1.1.2 *Ages 60 or more needing assistance*

Baseline	In the year 2003, an estimated 65.9 percent of persons aged 60 or more living in Tasmanian households who required assistance with one or more activity of everyday life, received assistance.	
Targets	2010	72%
	2015	78%
	2020	84%

Benchmark 6.3.2 *Number of schools integrating multicultural perspectives in the curriculum*

Source	Department of Education	
Rationale	Awareness of the benefits of a multicultural society should increase respect for our multicultural heritage.	
	Note: targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	As at 31st December 2004, 73 percent of Tasmanian public schools had integrated multicultural perspectives into their curricula.	
Dataset	2004	73%
	2005	78%
	2006	75%
	2007	79%
Targets	2010	80%
	2015	90%
	2020	100%

Benchmark 10.7.2 *Food production value added*

Source	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment	
Rationale	Employment in rural areas, as well as Tasmania's economy and reputation for high-quality food products, should be enhanced by quality processing and packaging occurring here rather than interstate or overseas.	
	Note: targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	In the year ending 30 June 2004, businesses engaged along the food production chain added an estimated \$2 091 million in value to the Tasmanian economy.	
Dataset	Year	\$m
	2003-04	\$2 091
	2004-05	\$2 103
	2005-06	\$2 300
	2006-07	\$2 458
Targets	2010	25% increase on 2005
	2015	25% increase on 2010
	2020	25% increase on 2015

EXISTING BENCHMARKS – *new baselines and targets*

Benchmark 5.5.3 *Participation of young people in community groups*

Source Australian Bureau of Statistics

Rationale If the proportion of young people who participate in community groups increases, it should reflect a greater input into the community and into decision-making processes.

Note: a baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark.

Baseline An estimated 62 percent of Tasmanians aged 18-24 had been actively involved in a social group, a civic group or a community support group at sometime during a twelve month period ending in 2006.

Targets	2010	65%
	2015	70%
	2020	75%

Benchmark 5.6.3 *Teacher training in discrimination*

Source Department of Education

Rationale Better qualified teachers in these areas should contribute to improved social outcomes.

Note: baselines and targets have been established that encompass both indicators under this benchmark.

5.6.3.1 *Race, gender and disability issues*

Baseline Over the three year period ending on the 31 December 2006, 55 percent of the reported teaching staff had undertaken professional development training on issues of race, gender and disability discrimination.

Dataset	2004-2006	55%
	2005-2007	54%

5.6.3.2 *Sexuality and identity*

Baseline Over the three year period ending on the 31 December 2006, 31% of the reported teaching staff had undertaken professional development training in sexual and identity related discrimination and harassment issues.

Dataset	2004-2006	31%
	2005-2007	37%
Targets	<i>(for both indicators)</i>	
	2010	75%
	2015	100%
	2020	100%

Benchmark 8.1.1 *Proportion of people who think there are opportunities to have a real say on important issues*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	People need to believe that they can have a say in decision-making processes before effective participation will occur.	
	Note: a baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	In 2006, an estimated 36.7 percent of the Tasmanian population aged 18 or more said they had opportunities to have a real say on important issues either all of the time or most of the time.	
Targets	2010	40%
	2015	45%
	2020	50%

Benchmark 8.1.2 *Proportion of people participating in a decision-making process*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	Participating in the decision-making processes should give people a better understanding of the issues involved and provides an incentive for people to help determine the future of their communities and contribute to realising that future.	
	Note: a baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	In 2006, an estimated 47.5 percent of the Tasmanian population aged 18 or more participated in decision-making processes.	
Targets	2010	50%
	2015	55%
	2020	60%

Benchmark 8.1.4 *Involvement in community action to improve or protect local services or activities*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	Involvement in community action should build stronger, more vibrant communities.	
	Note: a baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	In 2006, an estimated 28.2 percent of the Tasmanian population aged 18 or more had worked to provide a local area service or activity.	
Targets	2010	33%
	2015	35%
	2020	37%

Benchmark 8.2.2 *Performance of students against national benchmarks for civics and citizenship*

Source	Department of Education									
Rationale	The ability to participate in the democratic process in an informed way is a core competency which should be nurtured in the education system.									
	Note: baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark.									
Baseline	In October 2004, 48.1 percent of Grade 6 students achieved a proficient standard or better in the national civics and citizenship assessment.									
Dataset	Test year	TAS %	NSW %	VIC %	QLD %	SA %	WA %	NT %	ACT %	AUS %
	2004	48.1	56.6	57.7	37.3	43.0	38.5	40.6	60.5	50.0
	2007	52.5	64.2	58.6	41.2	43.4	39.6	27.7	59.9	53.4
Targets	2010	Achieve national average								
	2015	Within the top 3 performing states								
	2020	Within the top 3 performing states								

Benchmark 8.4.3 *People who feel comfortable contacting someone in government for information*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	The ease with which people are able to get information is one indicator of how open and accessible our government is.	
	Note: a baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	In 2006, an estimated 45.1 percent of the Tasmanian population aged 18 or more knew a State, Federal or local government representative or employee they felt comfortable contacting for information or advice.	
Targets	2010	48%
	2015	51%
	2020	55%

Benchmark 8.4.4 *Proportion of people who have difficulty accessing government services*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	Government services should be accessible for the people they are designed to serve.	
	Note: a baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark.	
Baseline	In 2006, an estimated 13.7 percent of the Tasmanian population aged 18 or more said they had difficulty accessing government service providers.	
Targets	2010	10%
	2015	6%
	2020	3%

EXISTING BENCHMARKS – *various amendments*

Benchmark 1.1.8 *Proportion of retired Tasmanians who rely on government pensions or allowances as a main source of income*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics		
Rationale	Retirement planning by Tasmania's ageing population will help achieve financial independence.		
	<p>Note: a change has been made to the way this measure is reported. The original baseline was measuring the primary source of income at the beginning of retirement and the amended baseline measures the current income during the year of survey. This provides a more accurate picture of the proportion of retirees relying on government pensions during a given year. Targets have also been established for this benchmark.</p>		
Baseline	During the year 2004-05 an estimated 67.9% of retired Tasmanians relied on government pensions or allowances as their main source of income. This compares with national average of 66.5%.		
Dataset		TAS	AUS
	2005	67.9%	66.5%
	2006	65.1%	65.5%
Targets	2010	1% below the national average	
	2015	1% below the national average	
	2020	1% below the national average	

Benchmark 2.1.6 *Proportion of adult offenders convicted again within two years*

Source	Department of Justice
Rationale	A reduction in re-offending is one measure of effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

Note: a change has been made to the way this measure is reported, from a single year measure to a three year rolling annual average. The baseline has been amended to reflect this change and new targets have been developed.

Baseline	During the three years to 30 June 2002, 2003 and 2004, the average annual rate of adult offenders released from prison or completing a community based corrections order who had returned to corrections again within two years was 22.4 percent.	
Dataset	2002-04	22.4%
	2003-05	22.3%
	2004-06	23.5%
Targets	2010	reduction on baseline
	2015	reduction on 2010
	2020	reduction on 2015

Benchmark 4.3.1 *Prevalence of Problem Gambling*

Source	Department of Health and Human Services	
Rationale	Problem gamblers can negatively affect themselves, their family and the community.	
	Note: there has been a change in the survey instrument used to collect problem gambling data, representing a break in the data series. The baseline and targets have been amended to incorporate the new data.	
Baseline	A survey conducted in October 2005, found that an estimated 1.7 percent of the adult population were problem gamblers or at risk of becoming problem gamblers.	
Dataset	2005	1.7%
	2007	1.4%
Targets	2010	1.3%
	2015	1.0%
	2020	0.8%

Benchmark 6.5.2 *Percentage of significant items conserved*

Source	Department of Education	
Rationale	There is a need to prevent the deterioration of important cultural heritage items.	
	Note: advice relied upon to amend targets during the Tasmania <i>Together</i> five year review in 2006 was incorrect. The original targets are recognised as being more reflective of the community's wishes for the future than those targets put into place in 2006. Therefore, it is proposed that the original targets are reinstated.	
Baseline	As at 30th June 2001, 20 percent of the significant items held by the State Library of Tasmania, the Archives Office of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery were conserved.	
Dataset	2001	20.0%
	2002	45.0%
	2003	51.0%
	2004	40.0%
	2005	54.0%
	2006	47.5%
	2007	48.3%
Targets	2005	25%
	2010	50%
	2015	75%
	2020	100%

Benchmark 9.2.1 *Proportion of employees with family and community commitments who have flexible work arrangements*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics	
Rationale	Tasmanians should have a good work/ leisure balance.	
	Note: A baseline and targets have been established for this benchmark. In addition, indicator wording has been amended from original " <i>Proportion of employees who have flexible work commitments</i> " to include " <i>with family and community engagements</i> " as this is what is measured in the source survey.	
Baseline	In 2006, an estimated 85.7 percent of employees that had family and community commitments also had flexible work arrangements.	
Targets	2010	89%
	2015	92%
	2020	95%

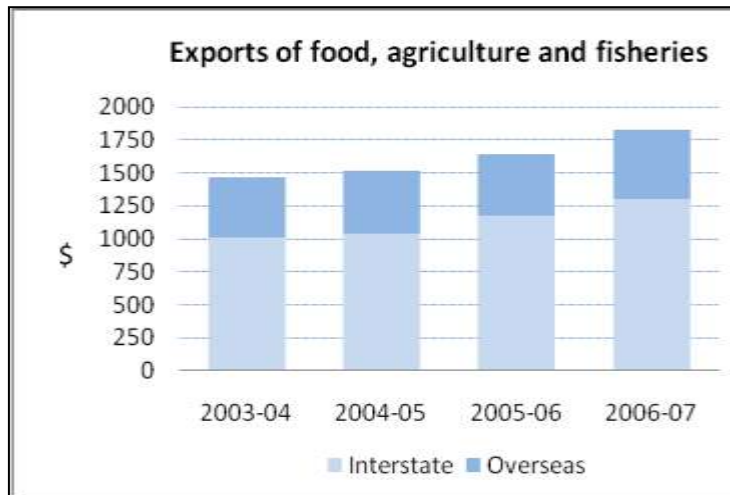
Benchmark 10.4.3 *Growth in the number of small businesses*

Source	Australian Bureau of Statistics		
Rationale	Small business is an important ingredient for economic and employment growth.		
	Note: the data series has changed due to discontinuation of the original Australian Bureau of Statistics source data. The baseline and dataset has been amended accordingly and new targets have been developed.		
Baseline	The three year rolling annual average growth in the number of small businesses operating in Tasmania from 2004 to 2006 was 1.9%. This compared with national growth of 1.6% for the same period.		
Dataset	Three year rolling annual average	TAS	AUS
	2004-2006	1.9%	1.6%
	2005-2007	1.9%	1.8%
Targets	2010	Achieve national average	
	2015	maintain	
	2020	maintain	

Benchmark 10.8.4 *Exports of food, agriculture and fisheries*

Source	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment		
Rationale	We should further develop the potential of our primary sector.		
	Note: this indicator is enhanced by disaggregating 'interstate' and 'overseas' components and the reporting has been amended accordingly. In addition, targets have been amended to better reflect the recent and expected level of growth in this industry.		
Baseline	During the 12 months ending on 30th June 2004, products of the Tasmanian food, agriculture and fisheries industry to the value of \$1 013.0 million were exported to the Australian mainland. In the same period, Tasmanian food, agriculture and fisheries industry goods worth \$453.1 million were exported to overseas markets.		

Graph and dataset



Year	Interstate exports \$m	Overseas exports \$m	Total exports \$m
2003-04	1 013.0	453.1	1 466.1
2004-05	1 035.0	476.4	1 511.4
2005-06	1 173.7	466.5	1 640.2
2006-07	1 303.7	522.4	1 826.1

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

Benchmark 11.4.3.2 *Reservation shortfall in relation to RFA targeted communities on private land*

Source Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment

Rationale Reservation means the area is managed formally to maintain natural heritage. An adequate reserve system for natural heritage is a major component of nature conservation.

Note: The original benchmark 11.4.3 was recently divided into two separate measures, 11.4.3.1 for public land and 11.4.3.2 for private land. The following baseline and targets have been developed to apply to the private land component of the indicator as they were not established at the time that the division was made.

Baseline As at April 2002, there was a shortfall of 85 000 hectares in reservation approvals to meet the 2012 target objectives of the Regional Forest Agreement for the protection of forest communities on private land.

Dataset	Apr-02	85.0 ha
	Apr-03	77.1 ha
	Apr-04	77.2 ha
	Apr-05	68.4 ha
	Apr-06	66.8 ha
	Jun-07	43.0 ha
	Jun-08	35.0 ha
Targets	2010	progress toward the 2012 RFA targets (zero shortfall)
	2015	maintain zero shortfall against 2012 RFA target
	2020	maintain zero shortfall against 2012 RFA target

Benchmark 12.1.2 *Threatened native vegetation communities*

Source	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
Rationale	<p>The retention of native vegetation is one indicator of sustainably managed natural resources.</p> <p>Note: The original benchmark 12.1.2 has been divided into two separate benchmarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12.1.2 <i>Threatened native vegetation communities</i> (containing two measures): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12.1.2.1 <i>extinguished communities</i>; - 12.1.2.2 <i>newly threatened communities</i>; and - 12.1.3 <i>Percentage of Tasmania covered by native vegetation</i> <p>The division was made in order to distinguish sustainable management of native vegetation from extinguished or newly threatened vegetation communities. Benchmark 12.1.3 represents a new benchmark and is included in the “New Benchmarks” section (refer page 22).</p> <p>Targets have been adjusted to suit amended benchmark 12.1.2 which includes the following components:</p>
12.1.2.1	<i>Extinguished vegetation communities</i>
Baseline	During the year to 30 June 2007, no native Tasmanian vegetation communities were extinguished.
Dataset	2006-07 0 2007-08 0
12.1.2.2	<i>Vegetation communities becoming threatened</i>
Baseline	During the year to 30 June 2007, no native Tasmanian vegetation communities were added to the existing list of 39 threatened communities.
Dataset	2006-07 0 2007-08 0

Targets	<i>(for both measures)</i>	
	2010	0
	2015	0
	2020	0

Benchmark 12.2.1 *Proportion of water measurement sites showing increase in turbidity*

Source Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

Rationale Turbidity is one measure of soil erosion.

Note: the measurement of this benchmark has changed. As a result the indicator wording for the benchmark has been amended from *Proportion of water measurement sites showing no increase in turbidity* to *Proportion of water measurement sites showing increase in turbidity*. A new baseline has been established and targets have been amended.

Baseline During the year ending 30 June 2008, 7.7 percent of Water Quality Monitoring Stations showed turbidity levels that exceed trigger values.

Dataset	2007-08	7.7%
	2008-09	5.9%

Targets	2010	no increase in exceedences
	2015	50% decrease on baseline
	2020	75% decrease on baseline

Benchmark 12.4.1 *Levels of greenhouse gas emissions (mega tonnes)*

Source Australian Greenhouse Office

Rationale Greenhouse gases can adversely impact the environment and our quality of life.

Note: the estimation methodologies used by the National Greenhouse Accounts have changed. The baseline and dataset have been amended to reflect this change and new targets have been developed.

Baseline During the year 2000, greenhouse gas emissions from Tasmania were estimated to be 8.1 mega tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

Dataset	2000	8.1 Mt
	2001	8.1 Mt
	2002	7.8 Mt
	2003	8.4 Mt
	2004	8.6 Mt
	2005	8.9 Mt
	2006	8.5 Mt
	2007	8.5 Mt
Targets	2010	6.9 Mt
	2015	6.3 Mt
	2020	5.7 Mt

NEW BENCHMARKS

Benchmark 4.1.1.2 *Avoidable mortality gap between high and low socio-economic status*

Source Department of Health and Human Services

Rationale If fewer people die from avoidable or preventable causes it should indicate healthier lifestyles.

Note: This new measure will provide an extra dimension to Tasmania *Together's* current benchmark 4.1.1.1 *Avoidable mortality*. A reduction in the gap in avoidable mortality between low and high socio-economic groups should indicate more effective interventions, better access to services and more equity in public policy.

Explanation of measure

The measure is the difference in the death rate between the highest and lowest socio-economic groups for those dying before the age of 75 from selected causes. All deaths from the selected causes are regarded as potentially avoidable through lifestyle modification, immunisation, cancer screening or medical interventions. The rate is a three year moving annual average per 100,000 in the population aged under 75. The selection of avoidable causes of death is based on disease codes and age groups as used by the New South Wales Department of Health.

Baseline During the three years 1999, 2000 and 2001, the average annual difference in the death rate between the highest and lowest socio-economic groups for those dying before the age of 75 from selected causes was 61.5 per 100,000.

Dataset

Avoidable mortality gap between highest and lowest socio-economic groups

3 year rolling annual average	Highest per 100,000	Lowest per 100,000	Gap per 100,000
1999-2001	194.6	256.1	61.5
2000-2002	186.8	255.3	68.5
2001-2003	174.8	259.2	84.4
2002-2004	158.3	254.4	96.1
2003-2005	157.9	243.8	85.9
2004-2006	156.8	235.9	79.1

Targets

2010	10 % reduction on 2005
2015	10 % reduction on 2010
2020	10 % reduction on 2015

Benchmark 5.1.3 *Percentage of Tasmanians who are satisfied with their quality of life*

Source	Tasmania <i>Together</i> Progress Board	
Rationale	Improved perception of quality of life for Tasmanians should indicate more vibrant and connected communities.	
Explanation of measure	The measure is derived from the Tasmania <i>Together</i> Community Survey and is an estimate of the proportion of Tasmanians who are satisfied with their quality of life. It combines the satisfaction levels of standard of living, current achievements in life, family relationships, other personal relationships and levels of happiness.	
Baseline	In the year ending August 2009, an estimated 69.8 per cent of Tasmanians felt satisfied with their quality of life.	
Targets	2010	75%
	2015	80%
	2020	85%

Benchmark 5.1.4 *Percentage of Tasmanians who received support from their family, friends, neighbours or community services in the last 12 months, and were satisfied with that level of support*

Source	Tasmania <i>Together</i> Progress Board	
Rationale	If more Tasmanians feel satisfied with the level of support they receive from family, friends, neighbours or community services, this should indicate a more supportive and connected community.	
Explanation of measure	The measure is derived from the Tasmania <i>Together</i> Community Survey and is an estimate of the proportion of Tasmanians who are satisfied with the levels of support provided by family, friends, neighbours and community services.	
Baseline	In the year ending August 2009, an estimated 83.4 per cent of Tasmanians felt satisfied with the level of support provided by their family, friends, neighbours or community services.	
Targets	2010	85%
	2015	87.5%
	2020	90%

Benchmark 5.1.5 *Percentage of Tasmanians who are satisfied with their opportunities to socialise with others outside their household*

Source Tasmania Together Progress Board

Rationale If more Tasmanians feel satisfied with their opportunities to socialise with others outside their household, this should indicate a more inclusive and connected community.

Explanation of measure

The measure is derived from the Tasmania Together Community Survey and is an estimate of the proportion of Tasmanians who are satisfied with their opportunities to socialise with others.

Baseline In the year ending August 2009, an estimated 82.9 per cent of Tasmanians felt satisfied with their opportunities to socialise with others outside their household.

Targets	2010	87%
	2015	90%
	2020	maintain

Benchmark 5.6.4 *Percentage of Tasmanians who agree that Tasmanians are accepting of people from different ethnic groups, religions and people's sexual orientation*

Source Tasmania Together Progress Board

Rationale An increase in the levels of acceptance of diversity should reflect greater tolerance and respect within our society.

Explanation of measure

The measure is derived from the Tasmania Together Community Survey and is an estimate of the proportion of Tasmanians who are accepting of people from different ethnic groups, religions and people's sexual orientation.

Baseline In the year ending August 2009, an estimated 41.3 per cent of Tasmanians agreed that Tasmanians are accepting of people from different ethnic groups, religions and people's sexual orientation.

Targets	2010	45%
	2015	60%
	2020	70%

Benchmark 8.3.3 *Percentage of Tasmanians who are satisfied that the State Government both listens to and acts on the wishes of the community*

Source Tasmania Together Progress Board

Rationale The number of Tasmanians that are satisfied that the State Government listens to and acts on the wishes of the community is an indicator of Government accountability.

Explanation of measure

The measure is derived from the Tasmania Together Community Survey and is an estimate of the proportion of Tasmanians who are satisfied that the State Government listens to and acts on the wishes of the community.

Baseline In the year ending August 2009, an estimated 25.0 per cent of Tasmanians were satisfied that the State Government listens to and acts on the wishes of the community.

Targets

2010	30%
2015	35%
2020	40%

Benchmark 10.8.5 *Gross value of agricultural and fish production*

Source Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment

Rationale We should further develop the potential of our primary sector.

Note: this new benchmark has been developed to report the gross production of wild fisheries, aquaculture and agriculture. It completes the value chain as it includes:

- farm/ beach;
- value added; and
- trade revenue components.

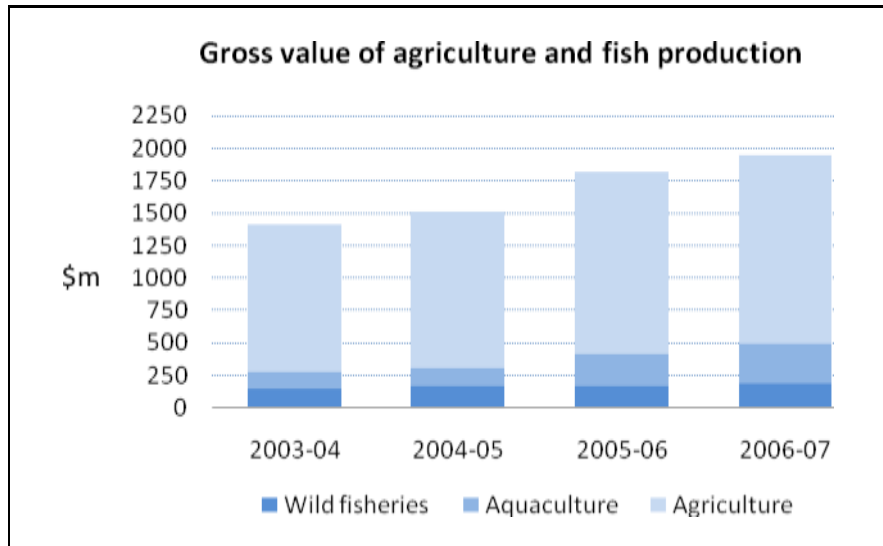
This information will assist in measuring food bowl and water development outcomes in Tasmania and will enhance current Tasmania Together measures on agriculture, food and fish production.

Explanation of measure

The measure is the estimated value of Tasmanian wild fisheries, aquaculture and agriculture during a year ending 30 June. Targets are based on growth in aquaculture and agriculture, with nil growth in the area of wild fisheries.

Baseline During the 12 months ending 30 June 2004, the estimated gross value of wild fisheries in Tasmania was worth \$142.3 million. In the same period, the estimated gross value of aquaculture in Tasmania was worth \$135.9 million and the estimated gross value of agriculture in Tasmania was worth \$856.9 million. This gives a total estimated gross value of agriculture and fish production in Tasmania of \$1 135.1 million.

Graph and dataset



	Wild fisheries \$m	Aquaculture \$m	Agriculture \$m	Total \$m
2003-04	142.3	135.9	856.9	1 135.1
2004-05	164.5	141.4	903.1	1 209.0
2005-06	169.7	245.2	986.5	1 401.4
2006-07	183.7	306.4	963.4	1 453.5

Targets

- 2010 25% increase on 2005 (nil growth for wild fisheries)
- 2015 25% increase on 2010 (nil growth for wild fisheries)
- 2020 25% increase on 2015 (nil growth for wild fisheries)

Benchmark 12.1.3 *Percentage of Tasmania covered by native vegetation*

Source	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment						
Rationale	<p>The retention of native vegetation is one indicator of sustainably managed natural resources.</p> <p>Note: The original benchmark 12.1.2 has been divided into two separate benchmarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 12.1.2 <i>Threatened native vegetation communities</i> (containing two measures):<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 12.1.2.1 <i>extinguished communities</i>;- 12.1.2.2 <i>newly threatened communities</i>; and- 12.1.3 <i>Percentage of Tasmania covered by native vegetation</i> <p>The division was made in order to distinguish sustainable management of native vegetation from extinguished or newly threatened vegetation communities.</p>						
Baseline	As at the 30th June 2005, approximately 73.5% of the land area of Tasmania was covered by native vegetation.						
Targets	<table><tr><td>2010</td><td>75%</td></tr><tr><td>2015</td><td>75%</td></tr><tr><td>2020</td><td>75%</td></tr></table>	2010	75%	2015	75%	2020	75%
2010	75%						
2015	75%						
2020	75%						

REPLACEMENT BENCHMARKS

Literacy & Numeracy Benchmarks

Source	Department of Education / National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
Rationale	Literacy and numeracy are fundamental to all areas of learning. Capacity to learn and to continue to be involved in learning throughout life depends upon proficiency in literacy.
Background	In May 2008, the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing regime was introduced across Australia, replacing the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) National Report on Schooling in Australia.

The current TT benchmark 3.2.2 *Student performance against national literacy & numeracy benchmarks* has nine indicators and reports on individual years 3, 5 and 7 in reading, writing and numeracy (source: MCEETYA).

It is proposed that two new benchmarks replace the current benchmark:

- **Benchmark 3.2.2 *Overall student performance against national literacy and numeracy benchmarks*** – to include two summary indicators which report combined results for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in Tasmania in reading and numeracy, as compared with national results (source: DoE); and
- **Benchmark 3.2.3 *Individual year group performance for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 against national literacy and numeracy benchmarks*** – to include eight detailed indicators reporting NAPLAN’s individual year group results in reading and numeracy for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in Tasmania, each state and territory and for Australia (source: NAPLAN).

Note: Preliminary NAPLAN results are available in September each year. The full NAPLAN report, which includes confidence intervals for each measure, is available each December. Confidence intervals are published alongside estimates to provide the range within which there is a 95% chance that the true value is likely to be found. As such, progress assessments cannot be made until confidence intervals are released in December each year.

Benchmark 3.2.2 *Overall student performance against national literacy and numeracy benchmarks*

3.2.2.1 *Proportion of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading*

Source Department of Education

Baseline In May 2008, 92.35 percent of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in Tasmania achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian average of 92.55 percent of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading.

Explanation of measure

In May each year, all Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students across Australia are tested on aspects of literacy and numeracy using a common test in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. Reading is considered the most reliable measure of overall literacy testing. A simple average of the proportion of students across Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading has been calculated for Tasmania and for Australia.

Dataset

Proportion of students achieving expected outcomes in reading

as at	Tas %	Aust %
May-08	92.35	92.55
May-09	91.85	92.90

Targets

- 2010** achieve national average
- 2015** exceed national average
- 2020** improvement on 2015

3.2.2.2 *Proportion of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy*

Source Department of Education

Baseline In May 2008, 94.08 percent of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian average of 94.18 percent of Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy.

Explanation of measure

In May each year, all Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students across Australia are tested on aspects of literacy and numeracy using a common test in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. A simple average of the proportion of students across Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy has been calculated for each State and for Australia.

Dataset

Proportion of students achieving expected outcomes in numeracy

as at	Tas %	Aust %
May-08	94.08	94.18
May-09	93.43	94.48

Targets	2010	achieve national average
	2015	exceed national average
	2020	improvement on 2015

Benchmark 3.2.3 *Individual year group performance for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 against national literacy and numeracy benchmarks*

Source National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Explanation of measure

In May each year, all Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students across Australia are tested on aspects of literacy and numeracy using a common test in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. Reading is considered the most reliable measure of overall literacy testing.

Interim NAPLAN results are provided in September each year, based on an estimate of the total population of each year group. Final estimates with confidence intervals are released in December. Assessment on progress cannot be made until confidence intervals are known.

Note: *95% confidence intervals* are published alongside estimates to provide the range within which there is a 95% chance that the true value is likely to be found.

Targets	<i>(for all 3.2.3 measures)</i>	
	2010	at or above national average
	2015	exceed national average
	2020	best performing State

3.2.3.1 *Proportion of Year 3 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading*

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 92.8 percent of Year 3 students in Tasmania achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 92.1 percent of Year 3 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset	Proportion of Year 3 students achieving expected outcomes in reading								
as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	92.8 ±1.0	95.1 ±0.3	95.2 ±0.2	87.1 ±0.7	89.4 ±0.8	91.5 ±1.0	94.4 ±1.5	62.7 ±6.5	92.1 ±0.3
May-09	93.3	95.6	95.2	92.0	91.2	93.6	94.7	68.6	93.8

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009

3.2.3.2 *Proportion of Year 5 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading*

Note: this benchmark has been selected as the headline indicator to represent the goal *High quality education and training for lifelong learning and a skilled workforce*. This indicator shows the first point of progress from Year 3 reading results and provides scope to correct a negative trend and potentially influence Year 7 and 9 results.

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 89.7 percent of Year 5 students in Tasmania achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 91.0 percent of Year 5 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset	Proportion of Year 5 students achieving expected outcomes in reading								
as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	89.7 ±1.4	93.5 ±0.4	93.7 ±0.3	86.9 ±0.7	89.1 ±0.9	89.9 ±1.1	94.8 ±1.2	62.5 ±6.6	91.0 ±0.3
May-09	90.4	93.6	94.3	89.0	89.0	91.1	94.2	65.8	91.7

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009

3.2.3.3 *Proportion of Year 7 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading*

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 93.9 percent of Year 7 students in Tasmania achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 94.2 percent of Year 7 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset	Proportion of Year 7 students achieving expected outcomes in reading								
as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	93.9 ±1.5	95.4 ±0.4	95.8 ±0.3	92.9 ±0.5	92.7 ±0.8	93.4 ±0.8	96.3 ±1.4	67.1 ±9.4	94.2 ±0.3
May-09	92.5	94.8	95.3	92.7	92.1	93.6	95.5	70.8	93.9

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009

3.2.3.4 *Proportion of Year 9 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading*

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 93.0 percent of Year 9 students in Tasmania achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 92.9 percent of Year 9 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in reading.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset	Proportion of Year 9 students achieving expected outcomes in reading								
as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	93.0 ±1.7	94.4 ±0.5	94.7 ±0.4	90.5 ±0.9	91.8 ±1.1	91.7 ±1.8	96.6 ±1.3	69.9 ±8.3	92.9 ±0.4
May-09	91.2	93.5	94.3	89.8	89.9	92.2	94.0	69.1	92.2

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009

3.2.3.5 *Proportion of Year 3 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy*

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 96.7 percent of Year 3 students achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 95.0 percent of Year 3 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset **Proportion of Year 3 students achieving expected outcomes in numeracy**

as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	96.7 ±0.6	96.9 ±0.2	96.5 ±0.2	92.0 ±0.6	94.5 ±0.6	93.8 ±0.9	96.4 ±1.2	77.0 ±5.6	95.0 ±0.2
May-09	93.7	95.6	95.6	92.3	92.4	92.6	94.7	70.6	94.0

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009

3.2.3.6 *Proportion of Year 5 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy*

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 92.1 percent of Year 5 students achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 92.7 percent of Year 5 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset **Proportion of Year 5 students achieving expected outcomes in numeracy**

as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	92.1 ±1.2	94.4 ±0.3	94.6 ±0.3	90.4 ±0.6	91.1 ±0.8	90.5 ±1.0	94.9 ±1.2	69.1 ±5.9	92.7 ±0.2
May-09	93.1	95.5	95.6	92.7	92.8	93.3	95.4	73.7	94.2

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009

3.2.3.7 *Proportion of Year 7 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy*

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 95.2 percent of Year 7 students achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 95.4 percent of Year 7 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset **Proportion of Year 7 students achieving expected outcomes in numeracy**

as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	95.2 ±1.3	96.0 ±0.4	96.5 ±0.3	94.9 ±0.4	94.7 ±0.6	94.5 ±0.8	97.1 ±1.2	75.9 ±7.2	95.4 ±0.2
May-09	93.1	95.1	96.1	94.5	93.6	94.2	95.4	75.1	94.8

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009

3.2.3.8 *Proportion of Year 9 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy*

Baseline In May 2008, an estimated 92.3 percent of Year 9 students achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy, as measured by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This compares to the Australian estimate of 93.6 percent of Year 9 students who achieved at or above the National Minimum Standard in numeracy.

This replaces the previous series taken from the MCEETYA National Report on Schooling in Australia.

Dataset **Proportion of Year 9 students achieving expected outcomes in numeracy**

as at	Tas %	NSW %	Vic %	Qld %	WA %	SA %	ACT %	NT %	Aust %
May-08	92.3 ±1.8	94.7 ±0.4	95.2 ±0.4	92.4 ±0.8	92.3 ±1.1	92.0 ±1.8	96.6 ±1.2	74.1 ±7.5	93.6 ±0.3
May-09	93.8	95.4	96.3	94.1	93.6	94.6	95.3	76.4	94.9

Note: No assessment can be made on progress until confidence intervals for May 2009 figures are released on 18 December 2009