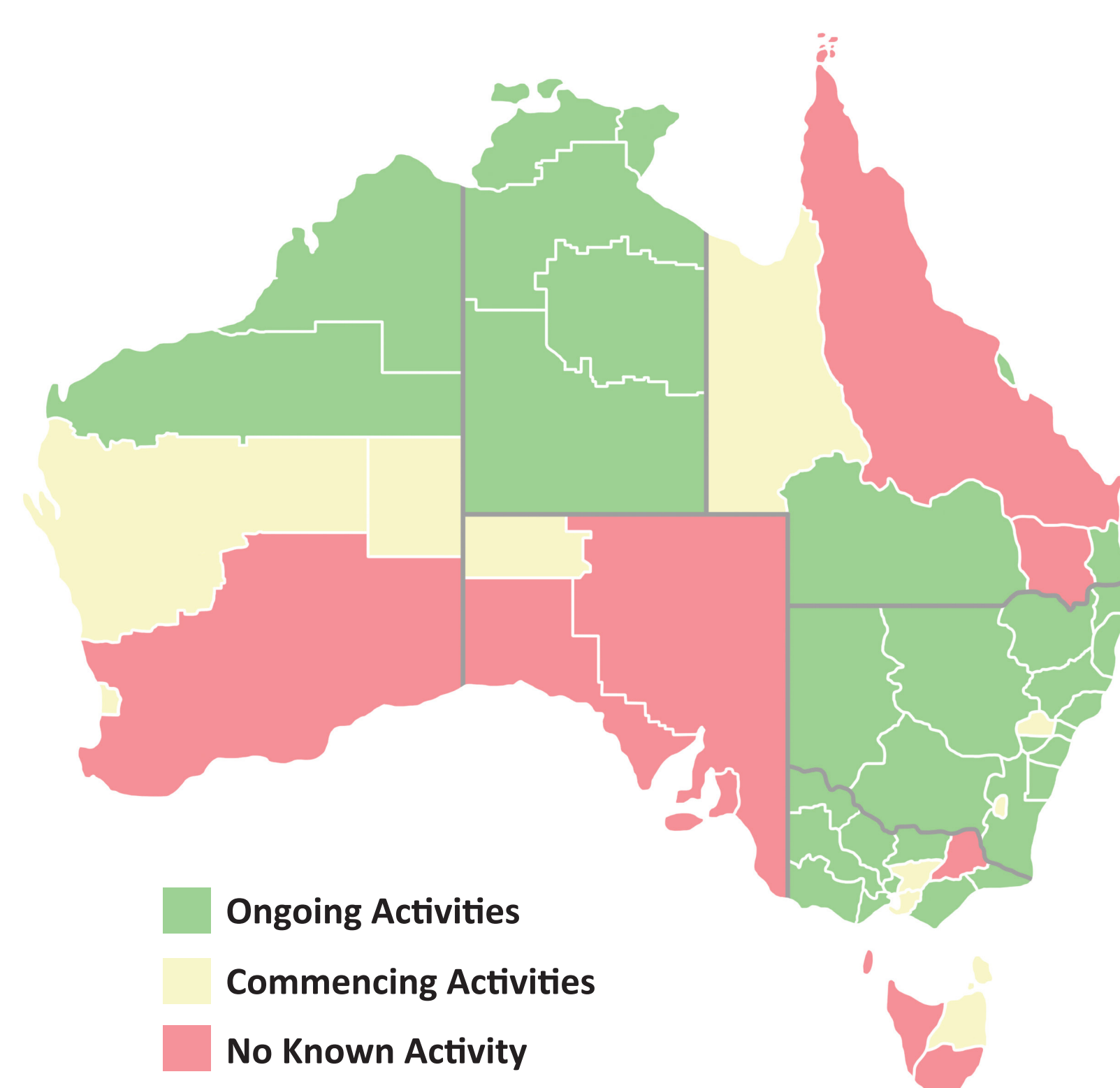


Background

- In 2008 the National Indigenous Eye Health Survey identified four eye conditions contributing to 94% of Indigenous vision loss – cataract, refractive error, diabetic retinopathy and trachoma
- The Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision (2012), comprises 42 sector-endorsed, evidence based policy recommendations to address this inequity through whole of system reform
- The Roadmap is implemented at a national, state and regional level and largely can be monitored through agreed indicators
- The recent National Eye Health Survey (2016) showed blindness rates have halved, from six times to three times higher in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples than other Australians
- Progress has been made but there is still more work to do!

Conclusion

- Roadmap policy successes include retinal photography item numbers for people with diabetes and eye examinations in primary care
- The Roadmap has been implemented in over 30 regions across the country, representing more than 60% of the Indigenous population
- Of the 42 recommendations, 16 have been fully implemented and two thirds of Roadmap steps actioned
- Regional collaborations to coordinate, reform and monitor services are key to the success of the Roadmap
- Cataract surgery and access to low-cost spectacles remain key challenges nationally
- The gap for vision will be closed by 2020 if we ramp up efforts and work together



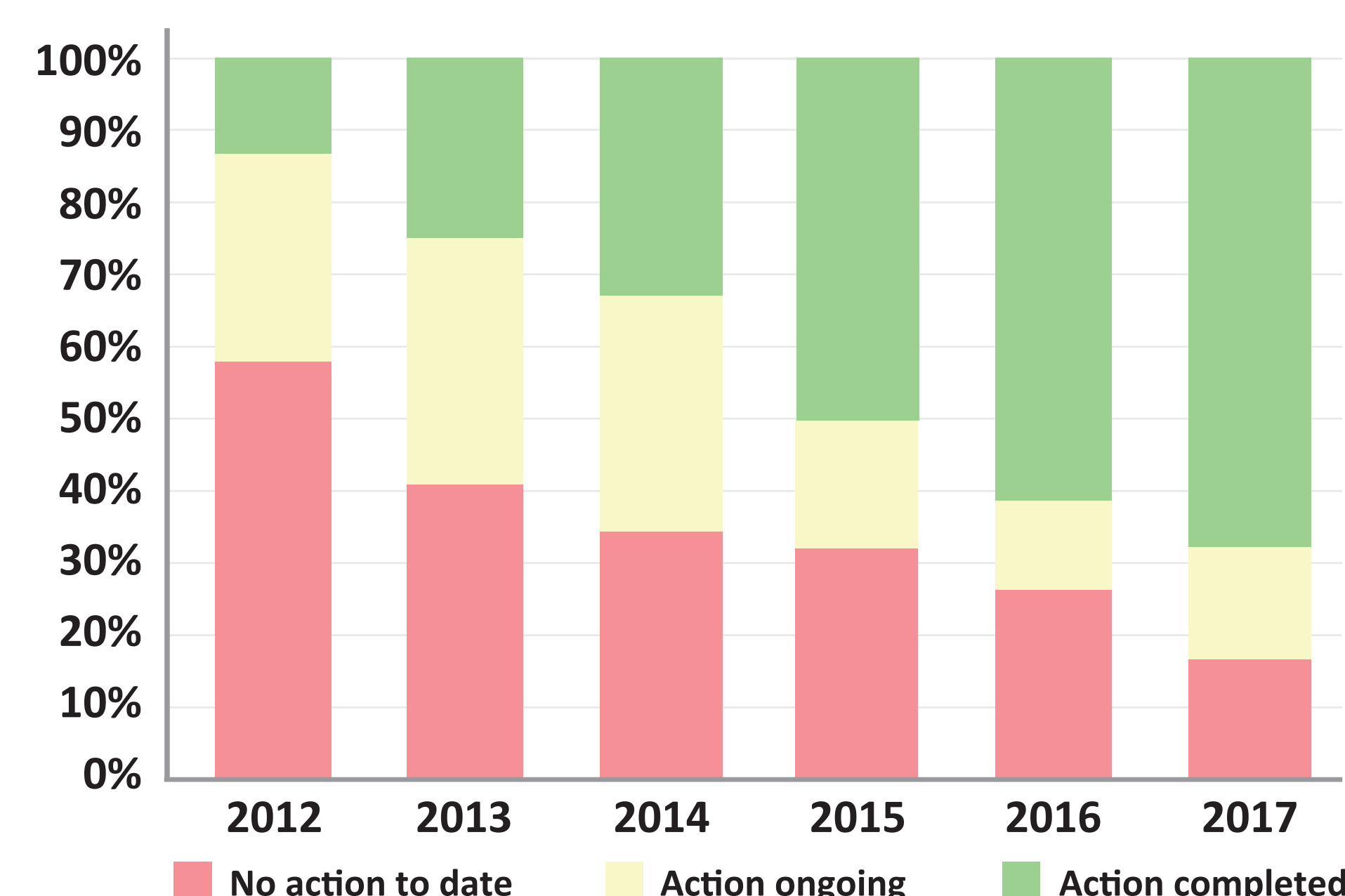
Roadmap Progress

Roadmap implementation includes community engagement and stakeholder involvement.

Roadmap implementation has started in all jurisdictions with eye health groups commenced in 6 of 8 jurisdictions.

Activity in 37 regions covering 60% of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

Roadmap Recommendation Progress



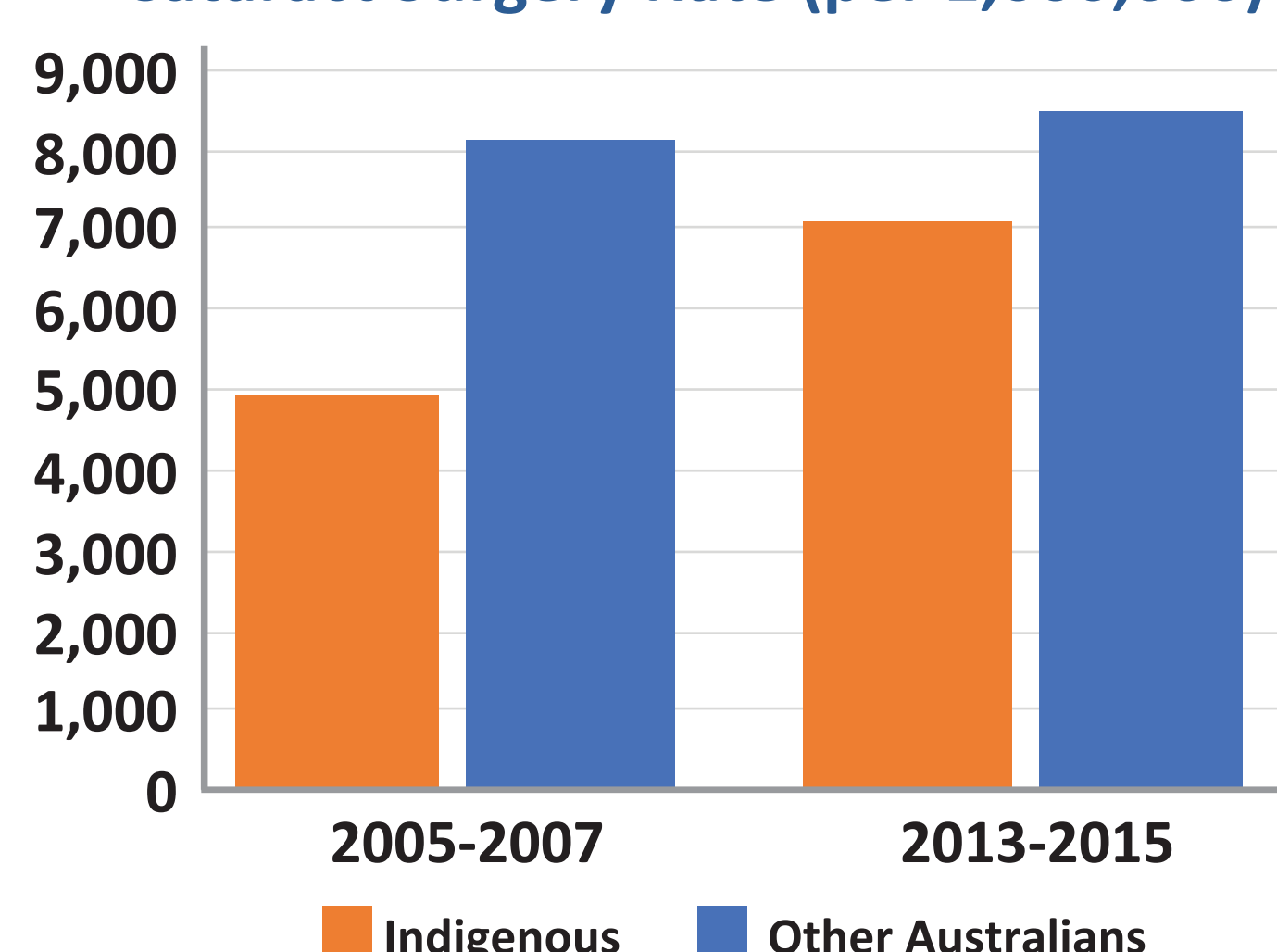
Cataract

Government funding including the Ear and Eye Surgical Support Services Program (EESSSP) has improved access to eye surgery for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

What needs to be done

Monitor surgical outcomes within 90 days (CS90) regularly for equitable service delivery

Cataract Surgery Rate (per 1,000,000)



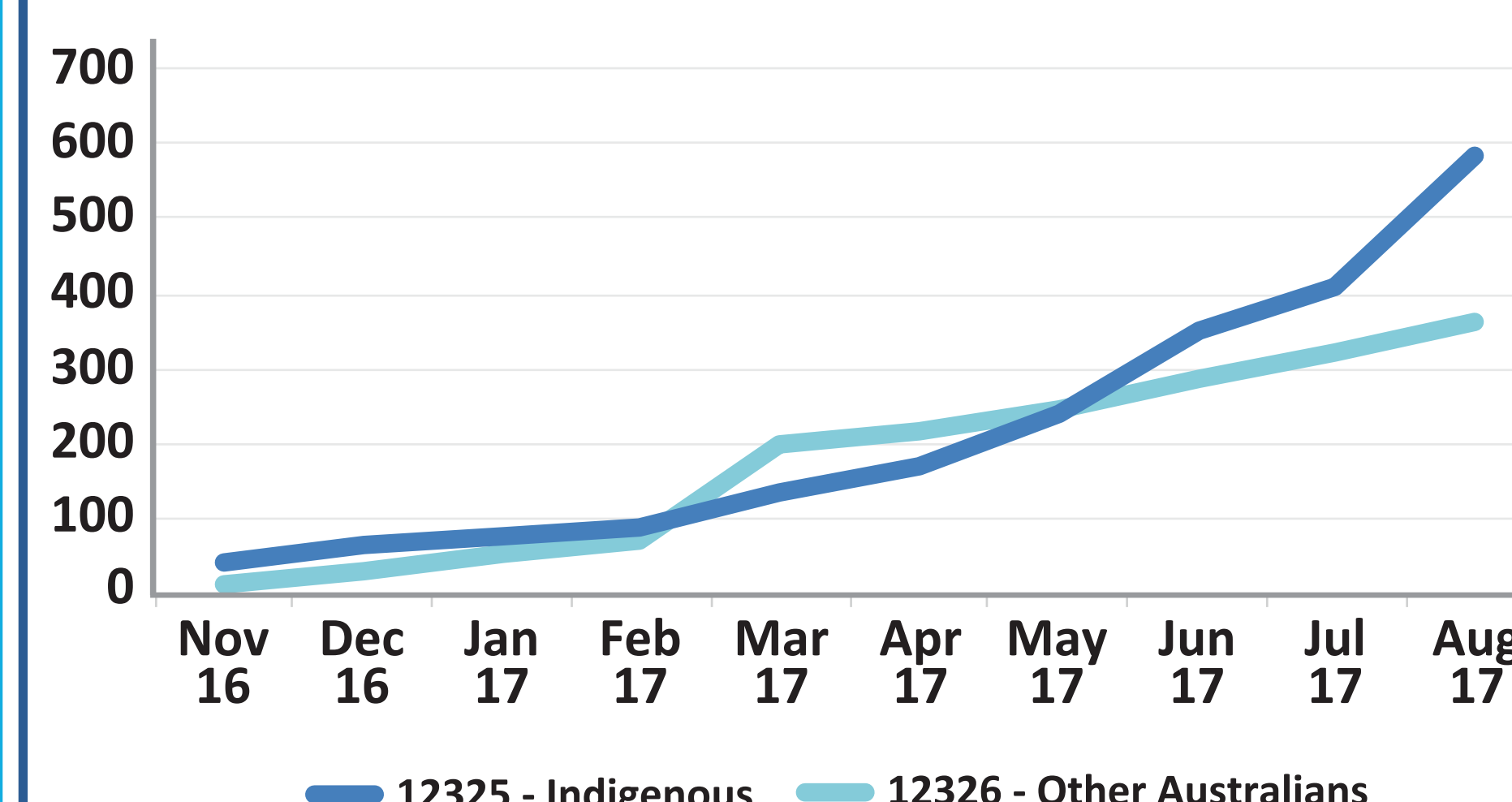
Diabetic Retinopathy

Uptake of the retinal photography item number is picking up

What needs to be done

Encourage all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with diabetes to have an annual retinal eye check

MBS Item Claims- Cumulative Total



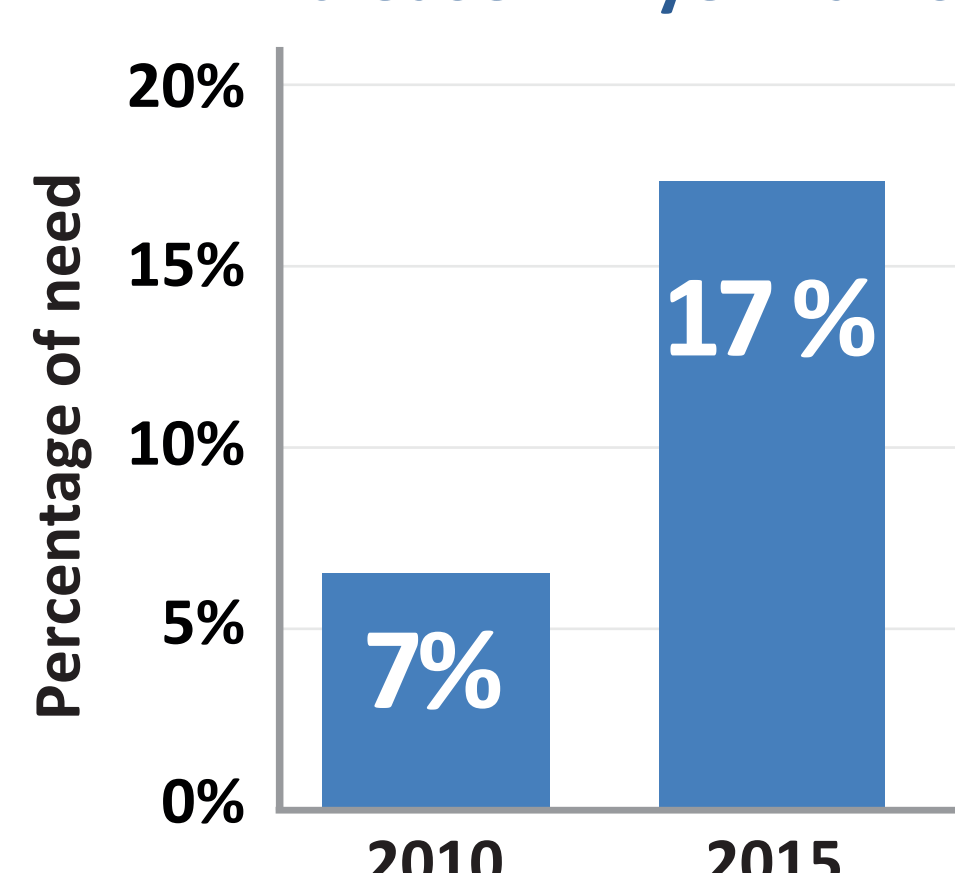
Refractive Error

Eye exams for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples under the Visiting Optometry Scheme (VOS) have tripled

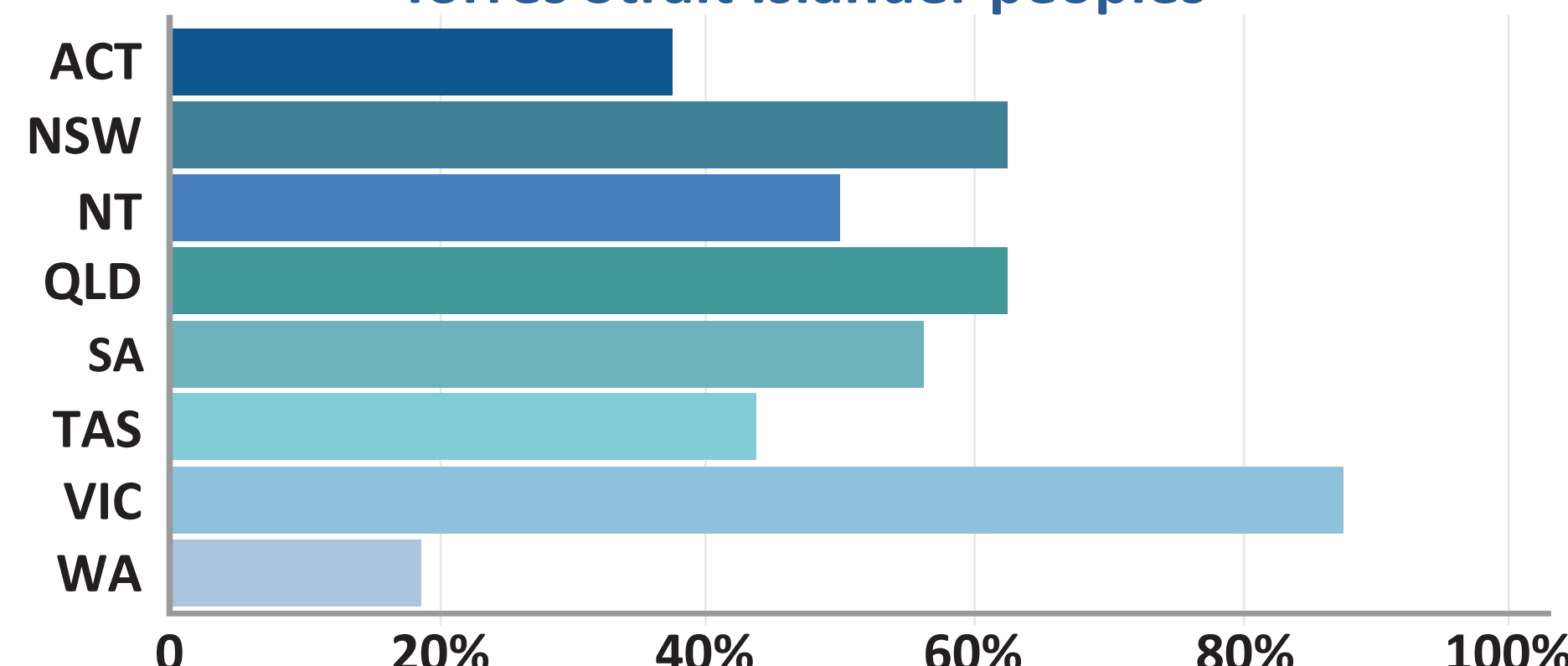
What needs to be done

Adopt nationally consistent subsidised spectacle schemes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Increase in Eye Exams



Low Cost Spectacle Scheme Rating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

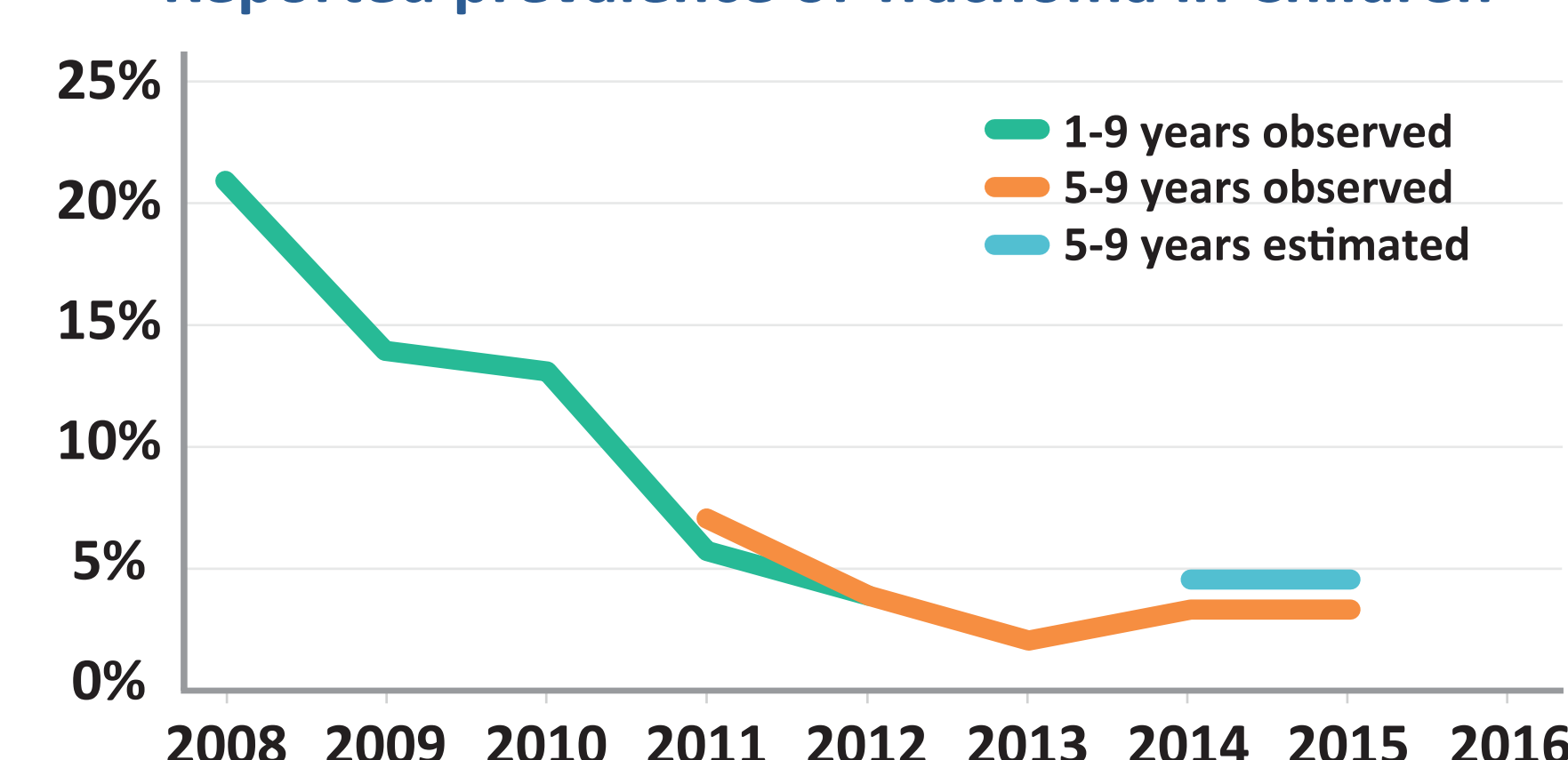


Trachoma

Trachoma rates have decreased from 14% in 2009 to under 5% in 2015

	2008	2015
Number of hotspots (>20%)	54	16
Number of communities without trachoma	27	75

Reported prevalence of Trachoma in Children



What needs to be done

More work required on the 'F' and 'E' components of the SAFE strategy to ensure elimination of trachoma by 2020