### Trends from the AEDC

**National results from the 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018 data collections**

The AEDC is a measure of young children’s development at the start of their first year of full-time school. Census happened in:

- 2009
- 2012
- 2015
- 2018

>96% of children have been included. That’s almost **309,000** children in 2018.

#### Developmental vulnerability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language and cognitive skills</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication skills and general knowledge</td>
<td>steadily decreased</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical health and wellbeing</td>
<td>fluctuated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social competence</td>
<td>fluctuated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emotional maturity</td>
<td>fluctuated</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Language and cognitive skills

Significant gains have been made, with fewer children developmentally vulnerable over the four collections.

#### Communication skills and general knowledge

Developmental vulnerability has steadily decreased.

#### Physical health and wellbeing

Developmental vulnerability has fluctuated.

#### Social competence

Developmental vulnerability has fluctuated.

#### Emotional maturity

Developmental vulnerability has fluctuated.

Gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children is narrowing.

- Developmental vulnerability has steadily decreased for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
  - 2009: 47.4%
  - 2012: 43.2%
  - 2015: 42.1%
  - 2018: 41.3%

Find out more: For valuable AEDC resources visit [www.aedc.gov.au/resources](http://www.aedc.gov.au/resources)