Conclusion

The RCIADIC made 339 recommendations which focused on improving the interaction of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with police and the justice system, as well as other policies, such as health, education and self-determination, in recognition of the broader social issues leading to higher rates of incarceration.

This review was limited to whether actions had been taken to respond to each recommendation, not whether the actions had been successful in achieving the desired outcomes of the RCIADIC. We also did not undertake an assessment of the appropriateness of the recommendations, nor whether the recommendations of the RCIADIC are still relevant today.

Of the 339 recommendations, the review found that the Commonwealth had full responsibility for 29 recommendations, and joint responsibility with the States and Territories for 194 recommendations. The States and Territories were found to have sole responsibility for 116 recommendations. Our review found that across all the recommendations, 64% have been implemented in full, 14% have been mostly implemented, 16% have been partially implemented and 6% have not been implemented. The most action has been taken to respond to recommendations that relate to the justice system, prison safety, and reconciliation, land needs and international obligations. The least action has been taken to respond to recommendations that relate to non-custodial approaches and self-determination.