A new More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Teachers Initiative (MATSITI) report provides a workplace profile of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSIs) teachers employed in Australian schools in 2012.

The report indicates that ATSIs are under-represented in Australian schools.

ATSIs represent 1.2% of the total school workforce in Australia.

This is a significant difference when compared to the 4.9% of school students in Australia who identified as ATSIs at enrolment in 2012.

4.9%  
95.1%  

ATSIs represent 1.2% of the total school workforce in Australia.

In comparison, 72% of all teachers are female.

77%  
23%  

A significant percentage of ATSIs are female.

In comparison, 72% of all teachers are female.

A larger percentage of ATSIs work in schools in the lowest SES quintile** compared to non-indigenous teachers.

**Quintiles are based on locations mapped against the ‘Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage’ from the ABS SEIFA indices.

0  
10  
20  
30  
40  

% of teachers in lowest SES quintile

ATSIs  
Non-Indigenous

23%  
54%  

A larger percentage of ATSIs work in schools in the lowest SES quintile compared to non-indigenous teachers.

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Over the last five years, 50-60% of ATSIs have been employed in teaching positions in schools.

19  
13  

Median number of years with an employer

ATSIs  
Total teacher workforce

Over the last five years, 50-60% of ATSIs have been employed in teaching positions in schools.

The median number of years ATSIs spend with an employer is similar to that of the total teaching workforce.

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The report also includes analysis of the demographics, qualifications, employment status and school types of ATSIs:

More ATSI teachers reported completion of a Bachelor degree than the total teaching workforce...

60%  
54%  

More ATSI teachers reported completion of a Bachelor degree than the total teaching workforce...

However, they are less likely to have completed postgraduate studies.

Median number of years with an employer

ATSIs  
Total teacher workforce

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