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**CHILD SAFETY COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
STATE OF QUEENSLAND
PROACTIVE STATEMENT NO. 4**

STATEMENT OF BERNADETTE HARVEY

I, **Bernadette Harvey**, of care of Crown Law, Level 11, 50 Ann Street, Brisbane, Acting Deputy Director-General, Commissioning in the State of Queensland state as follows:

1. My qualifications include a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology), Bachelor of Laws and an Executive Masters in Public Administration.
2. I have extensive experience with the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety (the Department) and other former Departments in their child protection and youth justice capacity dating back to 1992. I have held various roles for differing periods including Child Safety Officer, Team Leader, Senior Resource Officer, Manager, Director, Regional Director, Executive Director, Regional Executive Director, and A/Deputy Director General roles including 12 months as A/Deputy Director General Youth Justice. These roles have included delivering and overseeing child safety and youth justice (under previous departmental arrangements) service provision in Central Queensland, South West Queensland, North Queensland and Brisbane and Moreton Bay regions.
3. As Acting Deputy Director-General, Commissioning, Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety (the Department), I have responsibility for providing the strategic and operational leadership, management and engagement for the delivery of, and investment in, government and non-government organisations to deliver services for vulnerable Queenslanders including children, families, seniors and carers and to support victims and people impacted by domestic, family and sexual violence.
4. Prior to commencing as Acting Deputy Director-General, Commissioning I held the position of Regional Executive Director Brisbane and Moreton Bay Region. This is my substantive position and is a senior executive role where I have responsibility for child protection service delivery and investment in outsourced service delivery to children and families and people impacted by domestic, family, and sexual violence.

INTRODUCTION

5. This statement follows the proactive statement number 1 of the Director-General, to the Child Safety Commission of Inquiry (Commission of Inquiry).
6. This statement details the presenting needs of children and families in contact with Family and Child Connect (FaCC) services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Wellbeing Services, Intensive Family Support Services, and the statutory child protection system (i.e., Child Safety).
7. The information provided in this statement is based on:
 - a) Research undertaken by the Australian Childhood Maltreatment Study.
 - b) Corporate data from the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety (the Department) for the year ending 31 March 2025 extracted from the Advice, Referral and Case Management (ARC) system (**Annexure 1**). The ARC system was developed specifically for service delivery by non-government organisations and data extraction is available for FaCC services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Wellbeing Services and Intensive Family Support Services.
 - c) Corporate data on the presenting needs of parents in contact with the Department is extracted from the Department's Integrated Client Management System (ICMS) as at 30 June 2021 (**Annexure 2**);
 - d) Corporate data from the Department for the year ending 31 March 2025 is extracted from the Department's Integrated Child Management System (ICMS);
 - e) The 2024 Census of Children in Care (**Annexure 3**); and
 - f) The 2024 My Life in Care Survey (**Annexure 4**)¹.

CONTEXT/OVERVIEW

8. Caring for children and keeping them safe is a collective responsibility shared by families, government and non-government agencies and the community.
9. The Department funds a range of family support services, which aim to prevent escalation into statutory child protection services (i.e. the Department) and provide support to families as they exit departmental child protection intervention.
10. As outlined in the Commission of Inquiry's opening statement, demand for statutory child protection services has increased since the 2013 Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry (Carmody Inquiry).
11. Families accessing family support services and statutory child protection services face multiple and complex challenges including mental health issues, substance misuse and domestic and family violence.

¹ Results from the 2023 and 2022 My Life in Care Surveys can be found at: [Views of children in care | Our Performance](#)

12. Many children enter care having experienced significant trauma. A significant percentage of children in care also have a disability and mental health issues.
13. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are over-represented in Queensland's child protection system.

The Australian Child Maltreatment Study

14. The Australian Child Maltreatment Study is the first nationally representative study of the prevalence of child maltreatment in Australia. In the study, child maltreatment included emotional abuse, neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and exposure to domestic violence.
15. Published in April 2023, its primary outcomes found that child maltreatment experiences are widespread, with 62.2 per cent of the Australian population reporting at least one child maltreatment type. It also found that:
 - a) 25.4 per cent of young people aged 16 – 24 years surveyed had experienced three to five types of maltreatment with most maltreatment chronic, occurring multiple times or over a period of years
 - b) childhood exposure to domestic violence was the most prevalent maltreatment type identified and children exposed to domestic violence had a higher chance of experiencing other forms of maltreatment.
16. Childhood maltreatment was associated with severe mental health problems and behavioural harms both in the short and longer term:
 - a) 48 per cent of adults reporting experiences of childhood maltreatment met the criteria for a mental health disorder;
 - b) multi-type maltreatment resulted in the greatest impact on mental health outcomes;
 - c) Australians who experience child maltreatment are 4.5 times more likely to have attempted suicide and 3.9 times more likely to have self-harmed in the past years; and
 - d) sexual abuse and emotional abuse had the highest odds ratios for multiple health risks and were strongly associated with suicide attempts, self-harm, cannabis dependence, smoking and binge drinking.

CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS INVOLVED IN THE QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM

Families accessing family support services

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17. The data outlined in this section is provided in full at **Annexure 1**.

Family and Child Connect

18. FaCC services were established in response to the Carmody Inquiry to assist families and professionals navigate Queensland’s secondary family support system and connect families to the right service at the right time (recommendation 4.5).
19. FaCC services assess the information provided to them (by a referrer) about a family and provide resources, information, and advice about appropriate support options. FaCC services may actively engage with a consenting family to undertake a detailed needs assessment to identify the secondary and universal services required and facilitate the family’s engagement with appropriate services.
20. For the year ending 31 March 2025, 26,344 families were referred to FaCC services including 3346 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
21. For the same period, 15,050 families had commenced a service. This includes 2529 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and 12,521 non-Indigenous families. A service has commenced when the FaCC service opens a case and works with the family to assess their needs. (Refer paragraph 26 for other responses by FaCC services.)
22. Referral sources included:

Referral source	Referrals received	Families commencing a service
Child Safety	26.1%	40.4%
Education	13.0%	18.3%
Family and Child Connect	0.9%	0.7%
Health	7.0%	9.2%
Other non-prescribed entities ²	15.4%	8.6%
Other prescribed entities ³	1.3%	0.8%
Police	19.3%	14.0%
Self-referral	16.9%	8.1%

23. Noting that a family can have more than one presenting concern, presenting concerns were:

Presenting concern	Families referred	Families commencing a service
Child alcohol and/or drug misuse	2.8%	4.2%

² Other non-prescribed entities includes family members and friends, domestic and family violence services, early childhood education and care professionals.

³ Section 159M of the *Child Protection Act 1999* enables prescribed entities such as Child Safety, police, education, and health to make referrals to certain family support services without a family’s consent to offer help and support to a child or child’s family to stop the child becoming a child in need of protection.

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Presenting concern	Families referred	Families commencing a service
Child mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression, or self-harm	27.0%	41.5%
Child physical health including health conditions, disability	11.4%	17.7%
Child sexual abuse	1.2%	1.4%
Child wellbeing	56.6%	81.0%
Domestic and family violence	23.5%	33.0%
Family law or custody issues	3.1%	2.4%
Household relationships including conflict between parent/s and child/ren	31.4%	44.8%
Housing, food, clothing, budgeting, or basic household resources	19.6%	28.3%
Other	12.2%	12.0%
Parent/carer alcohol and/or drug misuse	9.6%	15.2%
Parent/carer mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression, or self-harm	25.7%	38.4%
Parent/carer physical health including health conditions, disability	5.6%	9.1%
Parenting skills	48.6%	70.8%
Social and/or community support network	30.6%	46.6%

24. There has been a slight increase in the average number of presenting concerns over time:

	Year ending 30 June 2019	Year ending 31 March 2025
Average number of presenting concerns for families referred	2.63	3.09
Average number of presenting concerns for families commencing a service	3.96	4.46

25. As presenting concerns are not defined, there may be differences in how they are identified by practitioners. Additional presenting concerns may also be identified following further assessment of the family's needs.

26. Enquires to FaCC services were closed by the following response types:

- a) supported referral/active engagement – 57.2 per cent;
- b) information and advice – 30.5 per cent;
- c) referral information for a specialist service – 7 per cent;

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- d) other e.g. not applicable or inappropriate referrals or where the family could not be located – 4.1 per cent; and
 - e) reported to Child Safety – 1.2 per cent.
27. This data indicates that just over half of the families referred to FaCC (i.e., 57.2 per cent) have a level of need that requires FaCC’s strongest service response i.e. supported referral or active engagement. Supported referral involves partnering with the referrer to facilitate the family’s access to a service and active engagement involves the FaCC service undertaking a needs assessment with the family and facilitating their access to services.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Wellbeing Services

28. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Wellbeing Services were established in response to Carmody Inquiry recommendation 11.1 to ensure families whose children are at risk of harm could access services without requiring prior contact with the department.
29. The services offer Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and families who may be experiencing vulnerability a range of services that build their capacity to safely care for and protect their children.
30. The services offered range from early intervention responses through to supporting children and families where ongoing child protection intervention is required.
31. The 2022 evaluation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Wellbeing Services noted the cases referred were very complex with many family members experiencing traumatic life experiences, and either addiction, domestic and family violence or incarceration.
32. For the year ending 31 March 2025, 5836 families were referred to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Wellbeing Services including 5762 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
33. Referral sources included:

Referral source	Referrals received
Child Safety	42.7%
Education	6.6%
Family and Child Connect	1.3%
Health	10.3%
Other non-prescribed entities	19.9%
Other prescribed entities	3.9%
Police	2.1%
Self-referral	13.2%

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34. Presenting concerns included:

Presenting concern	Families referred
Child alcohol and/or drug misuse	4.2%
Child mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression, or self-harm	27.9%
Child physical health including health conditions, disability	20.1%
Child sexual abuse	0.8%
Child wellbeing	74.4%
Domestic and family violence	40.3%
Family law or custody issues	1.6%
Household relationships including conflict between parent/s and child/ren	37.0%
Housing, food, clothing, budgeting, or basic household resources	46.3%
Other	17.9%
Parent/carer alcohol and/or drug misuse	23.7%
Parent/carer mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression, or self-harm	40.2%
Parent/carer physical health including health conditions, disability	15.3%
Parenting skills	61.1%
Social and/or community support network	57.2%

35. There has been a slight increase in the average number of presenting concerns over time:

	Year ending 30 June 2019	Year ending 31 March 2025
Average number of presenting concerns	4.16	4.68

Intensive family support services

36. Intensive family support services are targeted to families experiencing multiple and/or complex needs requiring case management to prevent children from experiencing abuse or neglect within their family, and where without intensive in-home family support, ongoing child protection involvement is likely to occur.
37. Multiple and complex needs include substance misuse, mental health issues, domestic and family violence, housing instability, financial concerns, unemployment, or parenting challenges.



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38. A statewide roll out of intensive support services was recommended by the Carmody Inquiry (recommendation 5.4) and implemented in tandem with the introduction of FaCC services.
39. Intensive family support services provide intensive and extended, but time-limited, in-home support to improve family functioning and safety for children by building the skills and capacity of parents/caregivers to a level that can be sustained by less intensive and more universally available services.
40. These services seek to actively engage hard-to-reach families, working with them in the community and at home. While some families may need a longer intervention, families will generally engage with these services for up to nine months.
41. For the year ending 31 March 2025, 6764 families were referred to intensive family support services including 1852 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
42. Referral sources included:

Referral source	Referrals received
Child Safety	26.8%
Education	16.8%
Family and Child Connect	5.8%
Health	16.1%
Other non-prescribed entities ⁴	24.5%
Other prescribed entities ⁵	6.2%
Police	0.7%
Self-referral	3.1%

43. Presenting concerns included:

Presenting concern	Families referred
Child alcohol and/or drug misuse	4.2%
Child mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression, or self-harm	41.6%
Child physical health including health conditions, disability	28.1%
Child sexual abuse	2.0%
Child wellbeing	78.4%
Domestic and family violence	40.4%
Family law or custody issues	2.5%

⁴ Other non-prescribed entities includes family members and friends, domestic and family violence services, early childhood education and care professionals.

⁵ Section 159M of the *Child Protection Act 1999* enables prescribed entities such as Child Safety, police, education, and health to make referrals to certain family support services without a family's consent to offer help and support to a child or child's family to stop the child becoming a child in need of protection.

Presenting concern	Families referred
Household relationships including conflict between parent/s and child/ren	48.5%
Housing, food, clothing, budgeting, or basic household resources	40.5%
Other	4.4%
Parent/carer alcohol and/or drug misuse	15.9%
Parent/carer mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression, or self-harm	53.1%
Parent/carer physical health including health conditions, disability	16.7%
Parenting skills	75.7%
Social and/or community support network	53.7%

44. The average number of presenting concerns to intensive family support services has remained stable over time:

	Year ending 30 June 2019	Year ending 31 March 2025
Average number of presenting concerns	5.01	5.06

45. The 2018 evaluation of intensive family support services found that alcohol and other drug issues, domestic and family violence and parental mental health issues were very common presenting issues and often co-occurred.
46. Staff of the intensive family support services involved in the evaluation reported that these risks often contribute to other parental needs and issues including parenting issues; child social, emotional and behavioural difficulties; poverty and unemployment; social isolation; issues with child education including school attendance; legal issues; and concerns regarding health and nutrition.
47. The evaluation noted that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families experienced similar presenting needs, compounded by the impact of intergenerational trauma and the loss of traditional culture, language, and community.

Families in contact with statutory child protection services

48. Current corporate data on the characteristics of families involved with Child Safety is not readily available from the Department’s case management systems (i.e., ICMS or Unify).
49. In the past, this information was extracted from the Structured Decision Making Family Risk Assessment tool. In 2021, the eight Structured Decision Making tools were reviewed with three risk assessment tools replaced with practice and procedural guidance.


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50. Further information on Structured Decision Making and its review is included in the statement number 2 of Victoria Vanhoudt.

Parental risk factors

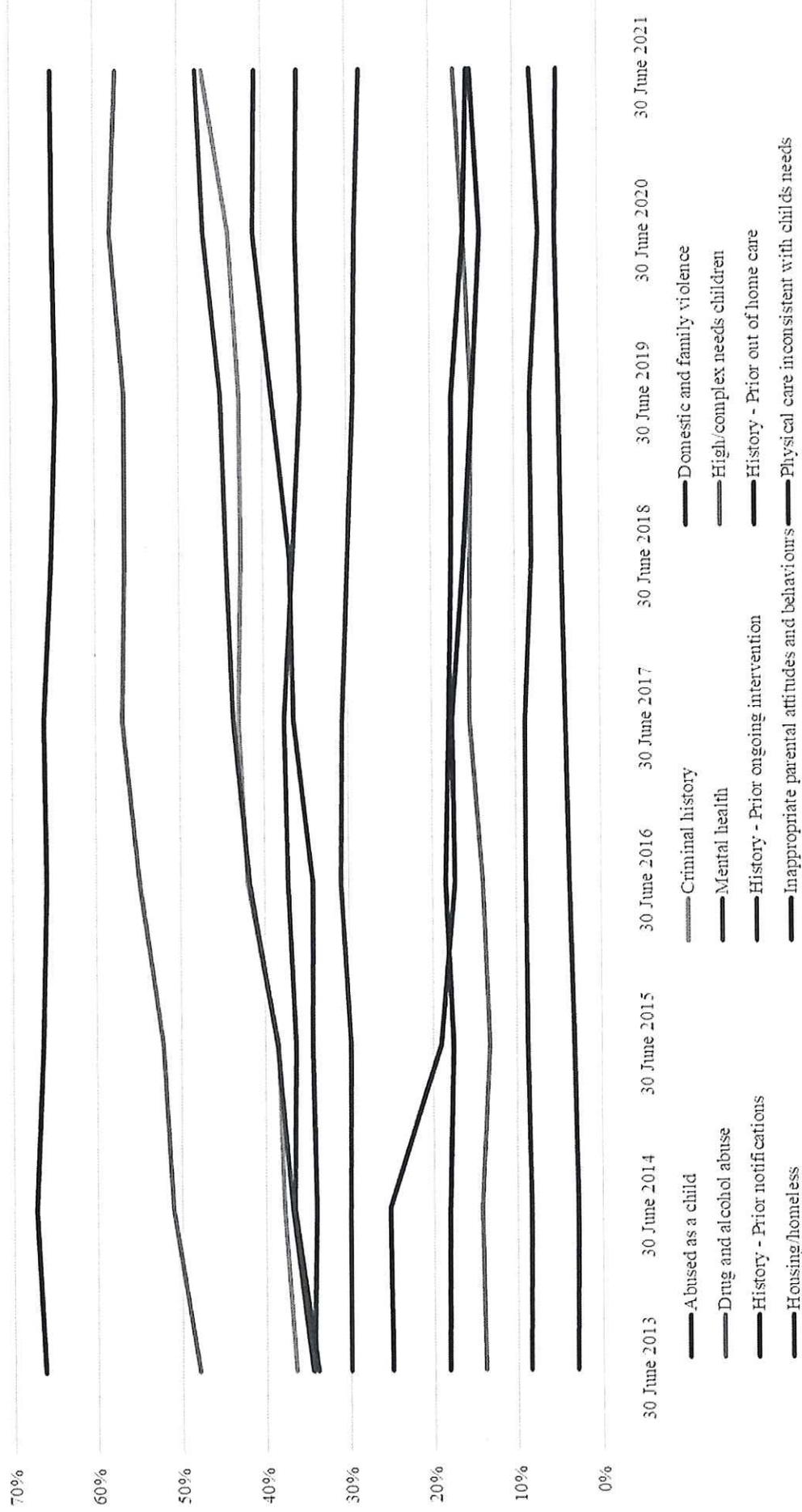
51. The data outlined in this section is corporate data that has been extracted from the Family Risk Assessment tool from 2013 to 2021. This data is provided in full at **Annexure 2**.
52. **Figure 1** outlines family risk factors identified for households where the Department had completed an investigation and assessment.

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Figure 1: Prevalence of risk factors in households



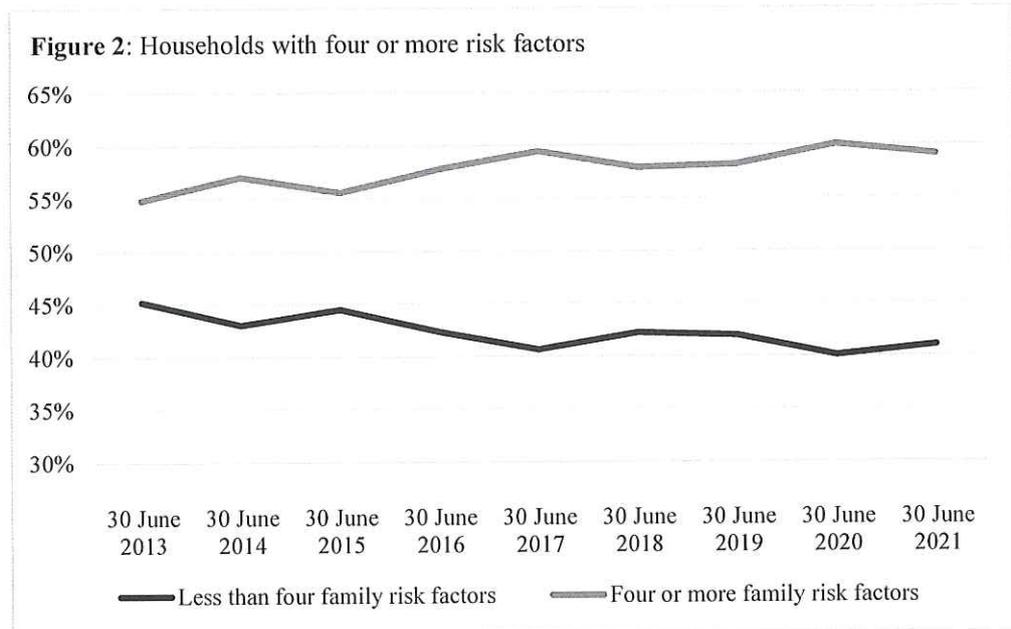
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53. This data shows a 13-percentage point increase in mental health as a family risk factor in these households (from 35 per cent in 2013 to 48 per cent in 2021); followed by criminal history (from 36 per cent to 47 per cent), drug and alcohol use (from 48 per cent to 57 per cent) and domestic and family violence (from 34 per cent to 41 per cent). Over this period, inappropriate parental attitudes and behaviours decreased as a family risk factor by 10 percentage points (from 25 per cent in 2013 to 15 per cent in 2021).
54. **Figure 2** outlines that four or more family risk factors were identified in over half of the households where the Department had completed an investigation and assessment.

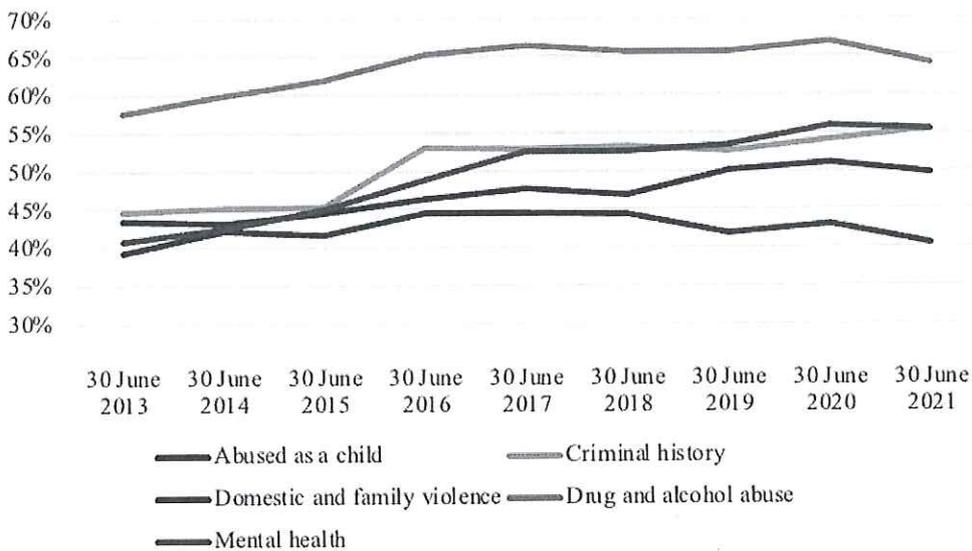


55. Over time, this data shows a decrease in households with less than four family risk factors (from 45 per cent in 2013 to 41 per cent in 2021) and an increase in households with four or more family risk factors (from 55 per cent in 2013 to 59 per cent in 2021).
56. **Figure 3** outlines the prevalence of parental risk factors in households where harm was substantiated following an investigation and assessment.

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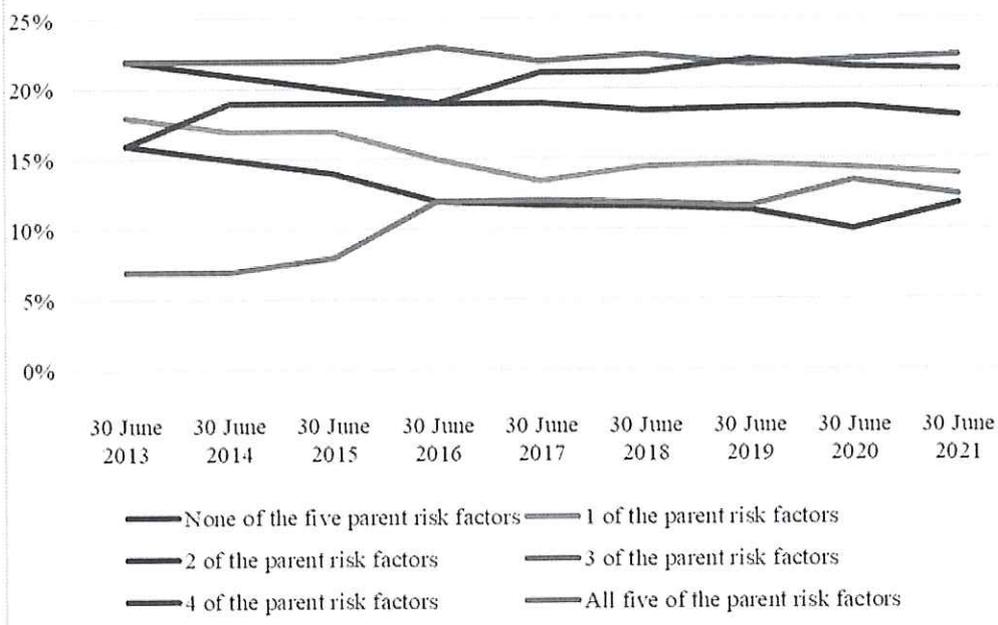
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Figure 3: Prevalence of parental risk factors in substantiated households



57. This data shows a 14 percentage point increase in mental health as a parental risk factor (from 41 per cent in 2013 to 55 per cent in 2021) followed by criminal history (from 45 per cent to 55 per cent), domestic and family violence (from 43 per cent to 50 per cent), drug and alcohol abuse (from 58 per cent to 64 per cent) and abuse as a child (from 39 per cent to 40 per cent).
58. **Figure 4** outlines the number of parental risk factors identified in households where harm was substantiated following an investigation and assessment.

Figure 4: Number of parental risk factors



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59. This data shows the households where four or all five parental risk factors were identified has increased and households with two or less parental risk factors were identified has decreased over time.
60. **Figure 5** outlines the family risk factors identified in households where the outcome of the investigation and assessment was that a child was in need of protection.

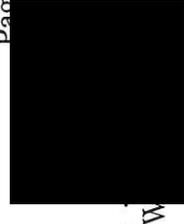
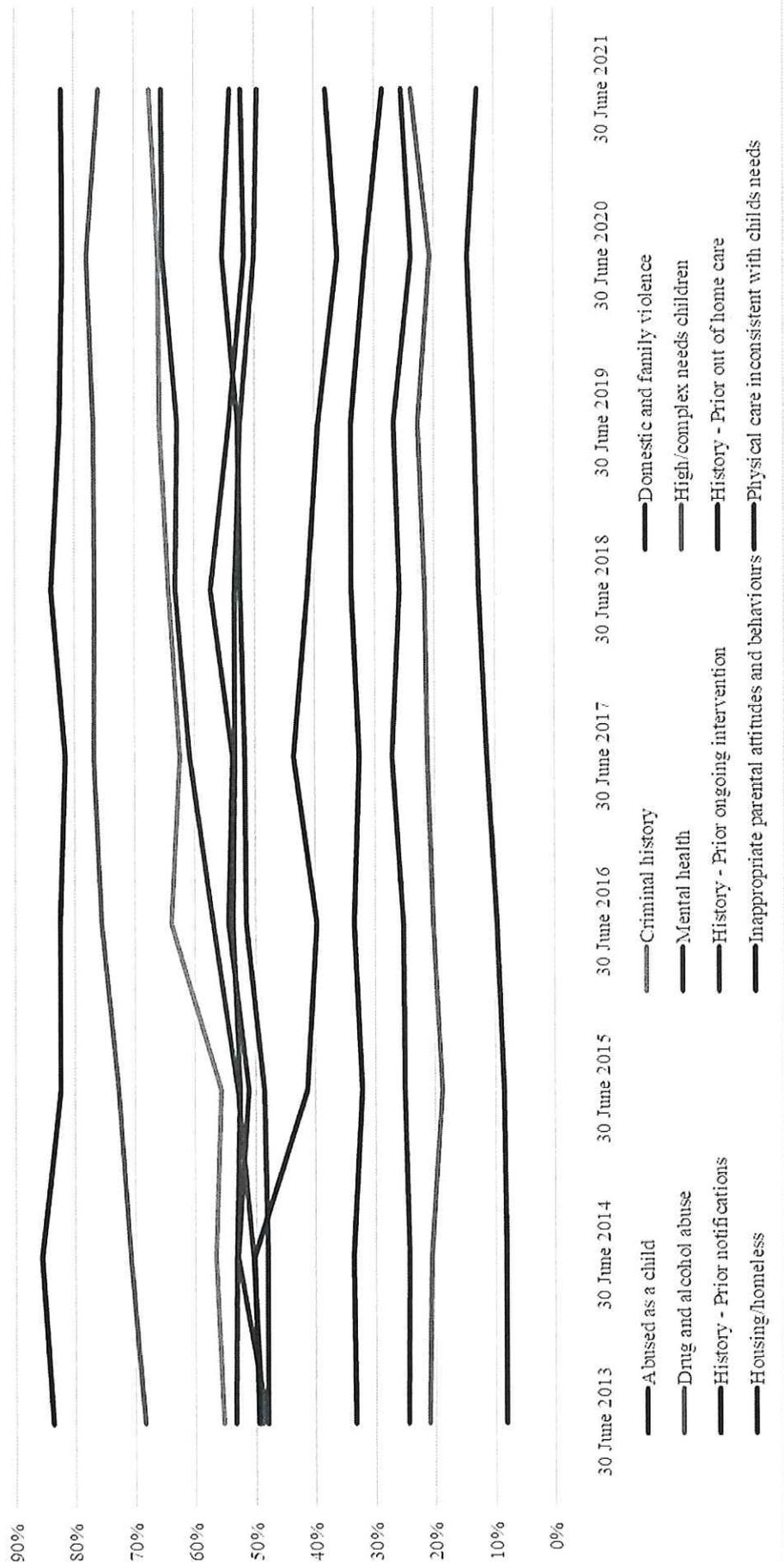
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Figure 5: Prevalence of risk factors in households with a child in need of protection



61. This data shows a 17-percentage point increase in mental health as a family risk factor in these households (from 49 per cent in 2013 to 66 per cent in 2021); followed by criminal history (from 55 to 67 per cent), drug and alcohol use (from 68 per cent to 76 per cent) and domestic and family violence (from 48 per cent to 54 per cent). Over this period, inappropriate parental attitudes and behaviours decreased as a family risk factor by 11 percentage points (from 49 per cent in 2013 to 38 per cent in 2021).

Characteristics of children receiving statutory child protection services

62. As at 31 March 2025, 15,582 children were subject to ongoing statutory child protection intervention. This comprised:
- a) 2,246 (14.4 per cent) children subject to an Intervention with Parental Agreement; and
 - b) 13,336 children subject to a child protection order.
63. Of the children subject to a child protection order:
- a) 1,569 children were subject to a long-term order to other suitable persons; and
 - b) 441 children subject to a permanent care order.
64. In conjunction with seeking a child protection order, the Department may place a child in care to ensure their ongoing safety. As at 31 March 2025:
- a) 12,705 children were in out-of-home care including 4328 children with foster carers; 6119 children with kinship carers; and 2258 children in residential care; and
 - b) a further 863 children were in other living arrangements such as youth detention centres, boarding schools, hospitals, disability facilities and independent living.

Over-representation

65. While most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in Queensland live safely at home with family, connected to community and culture, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children continue to be disproportionately represented in the child protection system.
66. As at 31 March 2025, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children comprised 47.8 per cent of all children in care, compared to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children comprising 9.4 per cent of the 0–17-year-old Queensland population (based on 2023 population estimates).
67. Further information on the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system is included in the statement number 7 of Victoria Vanhoudt.

68. The over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in child protection services is the result of a complex combination of factors. The impact of colonisation and past government policies including the Stolen Generation, poverty and disadvantage, racism and ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma have all contributed to the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care.

Census of children in care

69. Since 2022, the Department has compiled a profile of children and young people who had been living away from home for more than three months. This profile is known as the Census of Children in Care (census).
70. To gather this information, child safety officers completed surveys in relation to children on their caseload.
71. For the 2024 census (**Annexure 3**), a total sample of 3122 children was identified with 2612 surveys completed. The sample size is representative of the in-care population at the statewide level.
72. As non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in residential care were over-represented in the census, a survey balancing process was applied. Responses from the over-represented subgroups were randomly selected for removal, resulting in a final balanced sample of 2413 surveys. This ensured the 2024 census provided a representative picture of Queensland children in care.
73. Key findings from the census are outlined below.

Pre-care experiences

74. Prior to entering care:
- a) 88 per cent of children had experienced neglect;
 - b) 83 per cent of children had experienced emotional abuse;
 - c) 68 per cent of children had been exposed to domestic and family violence;
 - d) 46 per cent of children had experienced physical abuse; and
 - e) 11 per cent of children had experienced sexual abuse.
75. Of these children, 69 per cent had experienced, or were at risk of experiencing, three or more abuse types prior to entering care.

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76. The census found that:
- a) Emotional abuse, neglect and exposure to domestic and family violence were more likely to be recurring or chronic prior to entering care, compared to physical and sexual abuse.
 - b) Children who experienced sexual or physical abuse had higher levels of complexity compared to children who had experienced emotional abuse and/or neglect and/or exposure to domestic and family violence.
 - c) Children who had experienced sexual abuse were much more likely to have a mental illness, be self-harming⁶ and be in non-family-based care. They were also more likely to be aged five and over when they first entered care.
77. Just over half of all children in care were under three years of age when they first entered care (53 per cent).
78. Children who first entered care at 10 years of age and over (15 per cent) had experienced higher rates of sexual abuse, physical and/or emotional abuse prior to entering care. These children were more likely to have a mental illness and be self-harming but less likely to be diagnosed with an intellectual impairment or disability.
79. Children in residential care were more likely to have entered care at 10 years of age or older.

In care demographics

80. Girls in care had experienced higher rates of sexual abuse prior to entering care and were more likely to be self-harming (10 years and over) than boys in care.
81. Boys in care were more likely to have an intellectual impairment and have a diagnosed or suspected disability than girls in care. They were also more likely to have been excluded and/or suspended from an education facility in the past.
82. The census did not reveal any notable differences between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children across a range of indicators.

Placement profile

83. Children in residential care had experienced higher rates of sexual, physical and/or emotional abuse prior to entering care than children in kinship and foster care. They were more likely to have first entered care at an older age, have experienced more placements, including reunification attempts and, of those aged 10 years and over, are much more likely to have self-placed at least once than children in kinship and foster care.

⁶ Counting for self-harming included self-harming now or in the past or suspected to be self-harming.



84. Compared to children in kinship and foster care, children in residential care are more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness and be self-harming (10 years and over) and be much more likely to have been excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past.
85. Children who have been in care for longer periods of time in total have experienced more placements, including reunification attempts. They are more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness or disability.
86. Self-harming behaviour, including attempted suicide in children aged 10 years and over who have been in care for more than five years is lower than children who have been in care for less than five years.
87. Children who experienced more placements have higher levels of complexity than children who have experienced fewer placements. Children who have experienced more placements have experienced higher rates of abuse prior to entering care and are more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness and be self-harming (10 years and over).
88. Children aged 10 years and over who have self-placed at least once have higher levels of complexity than children who have never self-placed. These children who have self-placed are much more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness, be self-harming and to have been excluded or suspended from an education facility in the past.
89. Children aged 10 years and over who self-place were more likely to be self-placing from non-family based care and have entered care for the first time at an older age. Most children who had self-placed in the past month had done so for more than five days at a time and were self-placing with family.

Needs of children in care

90. The census found that 41 per cent of children in care had a diagnosed or suspected disability including:
 - a) attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (53 per cent);
 - b) intellectual disability (38 per cent);
 - c) autism (35 per cent);
 - d) sensory/speech challenges (29 per cent);
 - e) foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (20 per cent);
 - f) a physical disability (14 per cent); and
 - g) attention deficit disorder (13 per cent).

91. Of these children, 54 per cent received support from the National Disability Insurance Scheme and 22 per cent had unmet support needs in relation to their disability.
92. The census found that 20 per cent of children had a diagnosed or suspected mental illness including:
 - a) anxiety (65 per cent);
 - b) post-traumatic stress disorder (41 per cent);
 - c) depression (29 per cent);
 - d) reactive attachment disorder (21 per cent);
 - e) attachment disorder (20 per cent);
 - f) oppositional defiance disorder (18 per cent); and
 - g) an eating disorder (7 per cent).
93. Of these children, 64 per cent received some form of support for their mental illness and 31 per cent had unmet support needs in relation to their mental illness.
94. For children 10 years and older, 28 per cent had self-harmed now or in the past, and 12 per cent had attempted suicide.
95. Children who are, have or are suspected to be self-harming are more likely to have entered care at an older age, be in non-family based care and have experienced more placements including reunification attempts. They have experienced higher rates of sexual, physical, and emotional abuse prior to entering care; and were much more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness, have self-placed at least once and have been excluded or suspended from school or education.
96. Census findings also indicated that 28 per cent of children in care displayed heightened emotional responses that limited their participation in:
 - a) school and education (68 per cent);
 - b) recreational activities (40 per cent);
 - c) work (22 per cent); and sport (21 per cent).
97. For young people 15 years and over who are transitioning to adulthood in the next 12 months, 40 per cent displayed emotional responses that limited their functioning. Of these, 82 per cent said it limited their participation in school, while 66 per cent said it limited their participation in work.

98. The census found that 33 per cent of school age children (6 to 16 years) had been excluded from an education facility in the past.
99. These children had experienced high rates of physical abuse prior to entering care and were more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness and/or disability, be self-harming and have an intellectual impairment.

Experiences of children in care

100. The annual *My Life in Care* survey (the survey) (**Annexure 4**) asks children in care their views of the care system, including their placement and different aspects of their lives such as family and relationships.
101. The survey aims to ensure the voices and views of children are heard and used in the design and delivery of services.
102. The first survey of children in care was conducted during September to November 2022.
103. In 2024, two surveys were conducted – one for young people aged 10 - 18 years of age (the 10 - 18 survey) and one for children aged 5 - 9 years of age (the 5 - 9 survey).
104. Children who are not able to pass the competency test for the 10 - 18 survey can be supported by their child safety officer to take the 5 - 9 survey. The 5 - 9 survey was administered by a child safety officer or community visitor.
105. In 2024, 1079 children and young people responded to the survey resulting in 991 completed 10 – 18 surveys and 88 completed 5 – 9 surveys. As at 31 December 2024, there was around 9,700 children aged 5 to 17 years in care in Queensland.
106. Findings from the 10 - 18 survey include:
 - a) 83 per cent of young people said they always or most times have the privacy they need;
 - b) 85 per cent of young people said they always or most times have the things they need to live comfortably;
 - c) 86 per cent of young people said they always or most times feel safe and secure;
 - d) 76 per cent of young people said they always or most times feel at home;
 - e) 79 per cent of young people said they always or most times feel people care about them; and
 - f) 73 per cent of young people said they always or most times can tell the people who look after them when they are worried; and

g) 95 per cent of young people said they have someone in their life that they trust.

107. In addition, the 10 - 18 survey found:

- a) 48 per cent of young people had lived in different placement types;
- b) 30 per cent of young people have self-placed;
- c) 27 per cent of young people had been bullied at school; 10 per cent had been bullied at home; and 14 per cent had someone make them feel unsafe/uncomfortable online;
- d) 58 per cent of young people rated their mental health as good or excellent, 26 per cent rated their mental health as okay and 16 per cent rated their mental health as poor or very poor;
- e) 75 per cent of young people had accessed therapy since entering care, which 58 per cent found to be quite a bit/very helpful;
- f) 27 per cent of young people said they did have a disability and 12 per cent said they were unsure;
- g) of those young people who said they had a disability, 72 per cent said they get help with their disability most times or always at home and 55 per cent of young people said they get help with their disability most times or always at school;
- h) 21 per cent of young people said they use substances a lot including vaping (78 per cent); cigarettes (46 per cent); marijuana (46 per cent); and alcohol (30 per cent); and
- i) 76 per cent of young people said they go to school and of those who said they did not go to school, 83 per cent were over 15 and 16 per cent were currently expelled or suspended.

108. The survey findings by placement type show that children in residential care are not as positive as children in kinship and foster care across most indicators.

109. Noting the findings from the 5 – 9 survey should be interpreted with caution due to small sample size, it found:

- a) 89 per cent of children said the people they are living with now look after them a lot;
- b) 93 per cent of children said they feel safe;
- c) 94 per cent of children said they have a grown-up they can talk to when scared or worried;

- d) 68 per cent of children said they get to do the things they like a lot (e.g. watching a movie or playing games or sport); and
- e) 95 per cent of children said that in the past week they had had fun; 94 per cent said they had felt happy; and 77 per cent of children had a good night's sleep.

I make this statement of my own free will believing its contents to be true and correct.

Dated this 29th day of August 2025.

[Redacted Signature]

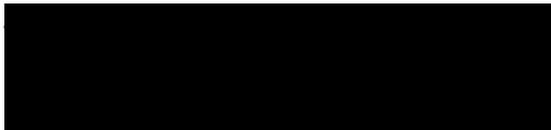
Bernadette Harvey

[Redacted Signature]

Witness

List of annexures

- Annexure 1** Corporate data – Family support services statistics from ARC system
- Annexure 2** Corporate data on the profiles of parents extracted from ICMS as at 30 June 2021
- Annexure 3** Census of Children in Care (2024)
- Annexure 4** My Life in Care survey summary report (2024)



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COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO QUEENSLAND'S CHILD SAFETY SYSTEM

PROACTIVE STATEMENT OF BERNADETTE HARVEY

A/DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, COMMISSIONING, DEPARTMENT OF
FAMILIES, SENIORS, DISABILITY SERVICES AND CHILD SAFETY

Annexure 1 – Family Support Service Statistics

This and the preceding 9 pages is the annexure mentioned and referred to as

“Annexure 1” in the statement of BERNADETTE HARVEY dated 29 August
2025.



Bernadette Harvey



Witness

	974	895	956	1,017	1,107	1,232	1,322	1,365	1,398	1,355	1,298	1,278	1,283	1,292	8.6%	9	0.7%	-63	-4.6%
Other non-prescribed entities	974	895	956	1,017	1,107	1,232	1,322	1,365	1,398	1,355	1,298	1,278	1,283	1,292	8.6%	9	0.7%	-63	-4.6%
Other prescribed entities	193	138	164	147	146	153	153	138	149	135	123	125	117	123	0.8%	6	5.1%	-12	-8.9%
Police	2,911	3,209	3,143	2,855	2,672	2,797	2,701	2,701	2,641	2,450	2,363	2,425	2,293	2,101	14.0%	-192	-8.5%	-349	-14.2%
Self-Referral	1,483	1,288	1,245	1,677	1,783	1,806	1,688	1,666	1,626	1,523	1,458	1,421	1,328	1,313	8.1%	-115	-6.7%	-315	-20.6%
by presenting concern (c)																			
Child alcohol and/or drug misuse	3.9%	4.5%	3.2%	3.9%	4.0%	3.9%	4.0%	4.3%	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%	4.2%	4.2%	4.3%	n/a	0.0	n/a	-0.2	n/a
Child mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression or self-harm	28.8%	31.8%	33.2%	32.1%	32.5%	32.9%	35.4%	38.1%	39.9%	42.4%	42.4%	42.1%	42.3%	41.5%	n/a	0.0	n/a	-0.9	n/a
Child physical health including health conditions, disability	10.2%	10.7%	11.4%	12.0%	12.6%	12.6%	13.6%	14.2%	14.9%	15.7%	16.5%	16.9%	17.3%	17.7%	n/a	0.4	n/a	2.0	n/a
Child sexual abuse	0.7%	1.8%	2.0%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	n/a	-0.0	n/a	-0.2	n/a
Child wellbeing	78.1%	78.6%	78.0%	82.9%	83.6%	82.8%	81.9%	81.2%	80.8%	80.4%	79.9%	79.9%	80.0%	81.0%	n/a	0.9	n/a	0.5	n/a
Domestic & Family Violence	33.3%	35.9%	36.6%	34.2%	34.5%	34.4%	34.6%	34.6%	34.8%	34.8%	34.4%	34.0%	33.6%	33.0%	n/a	-0.6	n/a	-1.8	n/a
Early Childhood/ Education	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	n/a	0.0	n/a	0.0	n/a
Family law/custody issues	3.0%	3.2%	3.4%	3.2%	3.3%	3.3%	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%	2.9%	2.7%	2.6%	2.4%	n/a	0.0	n/a	-0.2	n/a
Household relationships including conflict between parent/s and child/ren	39.0%	40.7%	40.7%	39.5%	40.2%	41.3%	42.8%	45.1%	45.4%	45.4%	45.3%	44.6%	44.5%	44.8%	n/a	0.3	n/a	-0.5	n/a
Housing, food, clothing, budgeting or basic household resources	23.3%	22.7%	19.5%	20.6%	20.8%	21.1%	22.0%	23.3%	24.6%	25.8%	26.7%	27.1%	27.8%	28.3%	n/a	0.6	n/a	2.6	n/a
Other	10.8%	15.8%	20.9%	20.7%	22.5%	23.6%	22.8%	21.6%	19.4%	17.9%	16.0%	14.0%	12.8%	12.0%	n/a	-0.8	n/a	-6.0	n/a
Parent/Carer alcohol and/or drug misuse	22.5%	23.0%	20.3%	16.1%	15.4%	14.9%	15.1%	15.4%	15.7%	16.3%	16.0%	15.4%	15.3%	15.2%	n/a	-0.1	n/a	-1.0	n/a
Parent/Carer mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression or self-harm	31.1%	35.1%	35.2%	30.7%	30.9%	31.3%	33.7%	36.5%	38.6%	40.7%	40.3%	39.5%	39.0%	38.4%	n/a	0.6	n/a	-2.3	n/a
Parent/Carer physical health including health conditions, disability	5.6%	6.0%	6.3%	7.1%	6.6%	6.2%	6.9%	7.2%	7.9%	8.2%	8.0%	9.0%	8.8%	9.1%	n/a	-0.2	n/a	0.8	n/a
Parenting skills	67.7%	69.2%	69.2%	71.2%	72.3%	72.4%	71.9%	71.5%	70.8%	70.3%	70.0%	70.3%	70.5%	70.8%	n/a	0.3	n/a	0.5	n/a
Social and/or community support network	40.1%	43.9%	45.0%	43.9%	46.1%	46.9%	48.4%	48.8%	48.0%	47.0%	46.2%	46.4%	46.1%	46.6%	n/a	0.5	n/a	-0.5	n/a
Average number of presenting concerns for all referrals	3.96	4.23	4.25	4.20	4.27	4.29	4.37	4.46	4.50	4.54	4.51	4.48	4.46	4.46	n/a	0.00	n/a	-0.08	n/a
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	3.88	4.14	3.97	4.23	4.31	4.36	4.36	4.41	4.46	4.42	4.40	4.35	4.32	4.34	n/a	0.02	n/a	-0.08	n/a
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	3.98	4.25	4.32	4.19	4.26	4.37	4.47	4.51	4.57	4.54	4.50	4.49	4.49	4.49	n/a	-0.00	n/a	-0.08	n/a
Families receiving a service (f)																			
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	3,625	4,061	4,009	3,614	3,531	3,826	3,811	3,707	3,490	3,390	3,241	3,145	2,976	2,919	16.9%	-72	-1.9%	-471	-13.9%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	17,182	16,865	17,139	18,168	17,118	17,633	16,859	15,833	15,600	15,021	14,589	14,377	14,362	14,362	83.1%	-15	-0.1%	-1,238	-7.9%
by Region																			
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	4,677	4,203	4,558	5,251	4,955	5,162	4,814	4,583	4,274	4,079	4,085	3,972	4,030	4,176	24.2%	146	3.6%	97	2.4%
Far North Qld	3,023	1,096	1,093	1,092	988	1,022	1,055	1,107	1,014	1,008	990	993	995	905	5.2%	-50	-5.2%	-103	-10.2%
North Qld	1,067	3,650	3,968	3,162	2,980	3,283	3,210	2,896	2,663	2,261	2,261	2,057	1,731	1,630	9.8%	-101	-5.8%	-1,093	-38.8%
South East	4,609	4,930	4,662	5,504	5,156	5,320	5,214	5,032	4,768	4,865	4,854	4,784	4,655	4,469	26.9%	-6	-0.1%	-216	-4.6%
South West	3,972	3,622	3,366	3,318	3,138	3,307	3,438	3,347	3,262	3,352	3,294	3,100	2,978	2,858	16.5%	-120	-4.0%	-494	-14.7%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	3,458	3,485	3,501	3,415	3,432	3,645	3,713	3,325	3,109	3,023	2,778	2,868	3,004	3,063	17.7%	59	2.0%	40	1.3%
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cases closed																			
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	18,421	18,786	18,668	19,330	18,793	19,300	18,641	17,672	16,721	15,975	15,801	15,661	15,661	15,457	100.0%	-209	-1.3%	-1,269	-7.6%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	3,109	3,588	3,603	3,211	3,161	3,337	3,384	3,521	3,221	3,011	2,878	2,805	2,718	2,632	17.0%	-85	-3.1%	-378	-12.6%
by closure reason (g)																			
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	15,312	15,198	15,065	16,119	15,632	15,863	15,620	15,289	14,451	13,710	13,097	12,996	12,943	12,819	83.0%	-124	-1.0%	-691	-6.5%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	18,421	18,786	18,668	19,330	18,793	19,300	19,004	18,641	17,672	16,721	15,975	15,801	15,661	15,457	100.0%	-209	-1.3%	-1,269	-7.6%
Already engaged	1,694	1,913	2,248	2,167	2,143	2,307	2,295	2,260	2,057	1,900	1,942	1,891	1,942	1,901	12.3%	-41	-2.1%	-156	-7.6%
Needs met	3,990	3,764	3,220	3,411	3,311	3,405	3,278	3,283	3,130	2,923	2,781	2,818	3,009	3,094	20.0%	85	2.8%	171	5.9%
Non contactable	3,453	3,341	3,044	3,232	3,397	3,435	3,449	3,391	3,262	3,108	3,021	2,995	3,005	3,050	19.7%	45	1.5%	-58	-1.9%
Not entered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	455	403	301	371	422	487	521	583	527	473	444	414	342	305	2.0%	-37	-10.8%	-168	-35.5%
Referral error	318	430	382	379	389	415	437	435	430	406	406	408	418	398	2.6%	-20	-4.8%	-32	-7.8%
Referred to secondary service	3,016	3,122	3,591	3,637	3,267	3,357	3,480	3,514	3,398	3,218	3,057	2,851	2,739	2,668	17.3%	-71	-2.6%	-550	-17.1%
Refused support/did not consent	4,954	4,449	4,683	4,687	4,416	4,373	4,120	3,881	3,495	3,344	3,259	3,238	3,030	2,855	18.5%	-175	-5.8%	-489	-14.6%
Referred to Child Safety	53	108	85	137	143	130	115	112	104	103	103	103	104	93	0.6%	-11	-10.6%	-10	-9.7%
Response not required	507	602	514	560	546	523	552	492	462	434	363	417	387	370	2.4%	-17	-4.4%	-64	-14.7%
Terminated service/disenfranchised	581	654	600	749	759	768	757	710	677	631	641	685	685	718	4.6%	33	4.8%	87	13.8%

Notes:
 (a) Includes a rolling 12 months of data for each reference period taken from a snapshot 10 days post the reference period.
 (b) A family is identified as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander family, if one or more people attached to the case are identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
 (c) A family is identified as a non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander family, if no people attached to the case are identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander or no status was recorded for any member of the family.
 (d) Includes referrals opened and recorded during the reference period (cases created).
 (e) A family can have more than one presenting concern.
 (f) Includes all families where the case remained open at some point during the reference period irrespective of when it was created and/or closed.
 (g) Due to Family and Child Connect being an assessment and referral service, the case closure reasons of 'Needs met' and 'Referred to secondary service' are considered the best possible outcomes for families as a result of these services.

Data provided is to be used for the purposes of preparing the minister for parliament and internal analysis only. Should the data be used for public reporting, System Performance must be consulted.

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FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES STATISTICS (CORPORATE DATA)

Data for years 30 June 2019 to 31 March 2025

Measures (Families) ^(a)	Interventions (Families)												Variance between 31 Dec 24 & 31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24 & 31 Mar 25		
	30 Jun 19	30 Jun 20	30 Jun 21	30 Jun 22	31 Dec 22	31 Mar 23	30 Sep 23	31 Dec 23	30 Jun 24	30 Sep 24	31 Dec 24	31 Mar 25				
INTENSIVE FAMILY SUPPORT (IFS)	Families referred^(b)															
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	1,462	1,572	1,452	1,500	1,431	1,536	1,598	1,613	1,582	1,484	1,528	1,603	1,678	6,764	936	16.1%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	5,074	5,142	4,832	4,650	4,357	4,522	4,650	4,553	4,344	4,344	4,335	4,423	4,715	4,912	368	24.8%
by Region	6,536	6,714	6,304	6,160	5,788	6,058	6,203	6,263	6,145	5,828	5,863	6,026	6,478	6,764	936	16.1%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	1,421	1,348	1,272	1,274	1,199	1,250	1,288	1,262	1,186	1,088	1,249	1,065	1,249	1,382	286	4.4%
Far North Qld	515	638	476	483	460	492	490	492	490	430	397	419	448	482	196	4.2%
North Qld	666	757	781	750	660	689	688	694	689	645	698	780	865	914	569	41.7%
South East	1,402	1,479	1,419	1,402	1,274	1,319	1,418	1,476	1,507	1,502	1,527	1,550	1,595	1,577	175	5.0%
South West	1,472	1,384	1,281	1,287	1,219	1,185	1,185	1,222	1,186	1,141	1,143	1,158	1,206	1,268	127	11.3%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	1,059	1,158	1,075	964	976	1,078	1,097	1,111	1,087	1,032	1,039	1,054	1,115	1,141	109	10.6%
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
by referral source	6,536	6,714	6,304	6,160	5,788	6,058	6,203	6,263	6,145	5,828	5,863	6,026	6,478	6,764	936	16.1%
Child Safety	2,067	2,406	1,867	1,824	1,741	1,767	1,720	1,692	1,607	1,503	1,529	1,614	1,741	1,810	268	8.0%
Child concern report	720	949	624	483	323	361	369	372	352	285	328	409	455	539	69	4.0%
I&A - Substantiated - CNINOP	275	241	223	242	227	218	228	245	231	223	236	219	220	214	-6	-2.7%
I&A - Unsubstantiated - CNINOP	820	966	746	916	915	912	850	808	758	717	691	691	739	719	-20	-2.7%
IPA (cases closed or negotiated)	186	187	172	139	161	162	156	144	145	165	180	209	214	210	4	1.9%
Statutory client - IPA, CPO, or Support service case	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Other	56	63	102	104	115	114	117	126	121	113	94	86	113	128	15	13.3%
Education	769	819	872	815	776	857	916	953	982	955	944	980	1,095	1,137	42	3.8%
Family and Child Connect	545	619	588	519	452	558	571	534	473	432	462	430	395	355	-35	-8.1%
Health	989	973	899	883	894	943	984	1,000	989	936	926	956	1,019	1,088	69	6.8%
Not entered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Other non-prescribed entities	1,575	1,217	1,310	1,288	1,191	1,206	1,284	1,305	1,315	1,326	1,347	1,420	1,556	1,655	99	6.4%
Other prescribed entities	261	386	424	430	442	483	495	508	492	438	445	401	393	421	28	7.1%
Police	47	86	122	117	121	96	74	59	54	50	45	45	47	50	3	6.4%
Self-referral	283	208	222	184	164	180	172	174	172	147	165	178	197	208	11	5.6%
by presenting concern (c)	4,136	5,776	4,386	4,206	4,046	4,206	4,386	4,436	4,206	4,046	4,206	4,386	4,436	4,206	0	0.0%
Child alcohol and/or drug misuse	33.7%	37.7%	43.8%	42.0%	41.0%	42.0%	43.8%	44.1%	45.5%	45.7%	44.3%	44.4%	42.8%	41.6%	-1.2	n/a
Child mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression or self-harm	20.3%	20.4%	24.0%	23.7%	24.9%	25.6%	26.5%	26.9%	27.5%	28.3%	28.5%	29.1%	28.1%	28.1%	0	0.0%
Child physical health including health conditions, disability	1.1%	2.2%	3.1%	3.2%	3.0%	2.7%	2.8%	2.5%	2.5%	2.7%	2.6%	2.4%	2.2%	2.0%	-0.3	n/a
Child sexual abuse	77.3%	75.3%	79.0%	78.0%	77.6%	78.9%	80.1%	80.9%	81.1%	81.3%	80.6%	80.0%	79.0%	78.4%	-0.5	n/a
Child wellbeing	41.5%	45.4%	43.0%	44.8%	44.3%	43.8%	44.2%	44.2%	44.2%	44.2%	42.8%	41.7%	40.8%	40.4%	-0.4	n/a
Domestic & Family Violence	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%
Early Childhood Education	1.1%	3.5%	3.0%	3.0%	3.6%	3.5%	3.5%	3.7%	3.5%	3.4%	2.7%	2.0%	2.3%	2.5%	0.1	n/a
Family law/custody issues	49.4%	50.8%	52.7%	53.5%	52.7%	52.6%	52.4%	52.9%	52.6%	51.4%	50.6%	49.3%	48.3%	48.5%	-0.5	n/a
Household relationships including conflict between parent/s and child/ren	43.3%	40.7%	37.4%	41.0%	42.0%	41.8%	43.3%	43.2%	43.1%	43.1%	42.3%	41.0%	41.0%	40.5%	-0.5	n/a
Housing, food, clothing, budgeting or basic household resources	9.0%	6.1%	7.0%	8.6%	8.4%	7.8%	8.2%	7.8%	6.8%	6.0%	4.6%	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	0.3	n/a
Other	24.8%	25.8%	24.0%	22.2%	20.5%	19.8%	19.2%	19.1%	18.8%	18.1%	17.4%	16.8%	15.9%	15.9%	-1.0	n/a
Parent/Carer alcohol and/or drug misuse	51.3%	55.5%	55.6%	53.8%	55.6%	56.4%	57.2%	57.1%	56.6%	55.8%	55.8%	55.1%	54.8%	53.1%	-1.7	n/a
Parent/Carer mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression or self-harm	14.9%	15.4%	15.8%	15.1%	15.8%	16.1%	16.1%	16.0%	16.0%	16.0%	16.3%	16.5%	16.7%	16.7%	0.2	n/a
Parent/Carer physical health including health conditions, disability	76.1%	74.5%	77.2%	75.4%	76.3%	75.8%	76.0%	76.3%	76.4%	77.5%	77.8%	76.0%	75.7%	75.7%	-0.2	n/a
Parenting skills	53.1%	53.6%	53.9%	52.8%	53.0%	54.1%	55.0%	55.1%	55.9%	55.7%	54.8%	53.6%	53.7%	53.7%	0.0	n/a
Social and/or community support network	5.01	5.13	5.25	5.23	5.26	5.33	5.34	5.35	5.35	5.25	5.25	5.20	5.11	5.05	-0.05	n/a
Average number of presenting concerns for all referrals	4.98	5.13	5.21	5.37	5.45	5.44	5.44	5.43	5.38	5.34	5.25	5.20	5.12	5.10	-0.02	n/a
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	5.02	5.13	5.26	5.19	5.16	5.20	5.30	5.31	5.34	5.35	5.25	5.20	5.10	5.04	-0.06	n/a
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	3,164	2,995	2,760	2,473	2,337	2,455	2,492	2,478	2,312	2,192	2,192	2,306	2,507	2,565	286	4.4%
Families referred, by whether consent to commence the service was received (f)	Families referred, by whether consent to commence the service was received (f)															
Consented	753	723	738	718	722	686	661	570	528	551	648	658	635	635	37.9%	16.1%
Yet to consent	1,888	1,985	1,866	1,994	1,834	2,017	2,203	2,329	2,464	2,399	2,357	2,382	2,494	2,647	58	2.3%
No consent - other reasons (g)	48.5%	46.8%	47.5%	44.5%	43.7%	43.6%	42.9%	39.6%	37.6%	37.6%	38.4%	38.3%	37.8%	36.5%	-23	-3.5%
Percentage of families who consented to commence the service	48.5%	46.8%	47.5%	44.5%	43.7%	43.6%	42.9%	39.6%	37.6%	37.6%	38.4%	38.3%	37.8%	36.5%	-23	-3.5%
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	48.5%	46.8%	47.5%	44.5%	43.7%	43.6%	42.9%	39.6%	37.6%	37.6%	38.4%	38.3%	37.8%	36.5%	-23	-3.5%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	48.5%	46.8%	47.5%	44.5%	43.7%	43.6%	42.9%	39.6%	37.6%	37.6%	38.4%	38.3%	37.8%	36.5%	-23	-3.5%
Percentage of families who consented to commence the service by region	48.5%	46.8%	47.5%	44.5%	43.7%	43.6%	42.9%	39.6%	37.6%	37.6%	38.4%	38.3%	37.8%	36.5%	-23	-3.5%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	45.0%	50.7%	42.2%	43.8%	40.1%	40.4%	40.5%	42.9%	41.3%	41.8%	41.8%	42.0%	38.2%	34.2%	-4.0	n/a
Far North Qld	59.6%	44.4%	52.9%	45.5%	44.6%	39.0%	43.6%	43.2%	39.4%	40.5%	40.1%	41.8%	39.1%	36.1%	-3.0	n/a
North Qld	43.7%	36.5%	38.2%	42.8%	39.5%	35.4%	32.4%	31.6%	30.9%	34.4%	34.0%	33.6%	31.3%	31.3%	-2.4	n/a
South East	45.9%	45.2%	44.5%	39.2%	39.6%	40.9%	40.7%	41.3%	38.1%	38.6%	39.2%	39.0%	40.8%	43.8%	2.9	n/a
South West	48.4%	38.5%	39.0%	37.2%	37.1%	35.8%	35.6%	35.0%	35.8%	35.0%	33.2%	33.2%	36.1%	36.6%	0.5	n/a
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	53.8%	49.1%	50.4%	40.7%	44.9%	45.6%	43.1%	42.6%	42.2%	40.5%	41.4%	40.0%	42.9%	42.0%	-0.9	n/a
Other	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%
Average number of presenting concerns for families consenting	5.48	5.37	5.50	5.49	5.49	5.55	5.60	5.59	5.60	5.57	5.40	5.37	5.32	5.26	-0.05	n/a
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	5.19	5.33	5.49	5.47	5.41	5.51	5.59	5.59	5.59	5.58	5.58	5.46	5.33	5.27	-0.07	n/a
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	5,281	4,937	4,733	4,472	4,547	4,646	4,650	4,650	4,650	4,650	4,650	4,650	4,650	4,650	75	1.8%
Families receiving a service (h)	Families receiving a service (h)															
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	1,216	1,305	1,268	1,271	1,183	1,209	1,227	1,194	1,152	1,166	1,167	1,193	1,255	1,255	62	5.2%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	4,022	3,936	3,669	3,462	3,338	3,321	3,271	3,078	3,001	2,989	2,989	2,926	2,959	2,959	13	0.4%
by Region	5,238	5,241	4,937	4,733	4,472	4,547	4,548	4,490	4,272	4,153	4,153	4,156	4,119	4,119	75	1.8%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	1,054	1,133	952	947	954	968	980	963	866	850	840	804	753	748	-5	-0.7%
Far North Qld	501	525	516	514	473	462	490	467	453	441	425					

South West	1,117	1,017	984	960	891	918	852	811	804	772	773	810	19.3%	37	4.8%	6	0.7%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	900	894	882	749	713	749	745	768	713	726	711	749	17.9%	-5	-0.7%	36	5.0%
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cases closed (all cases)	6,229	6,223	6,168	6,389	6,011	6,140	6,203	6,354	6,478	6,217	6,119	6,405	100.0%	286	4.7%	188	3.0%
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (a)	1,405	1,563	1,457	1,606	1,507	1,551	1,577	1,628	1,666	1,611	1,603	1,731	27.0%	55	3.3%	120	7.4%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	4,824	5,158	4,711	4,783	4,504	4,589	4,626	4,726	4,812	4,606	4,516	4,674	73.0%	231	5.2%	68	1.5%
by Region	6,229	6,221	6,168	6,389	6,011	6,140	6,203	6,354	6,478	6,217	6,119	6,405	100.0%	286	4.7%	188	3.0%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	1,341	1,404	1,235	1,275	1,230	1,268	1,265	1,231	1,278	1,178	1,159	1,141	19.8%	130	11.4%	93	7.9%
Far North Qld	490	526	462	524	490	483	500	516	496	454	424	455	7.0%	-5	-1.1%	146	9.3%
North Qld	582	812	824	772	688	702	715	728	683	661	675	726	11.3%	113	15.6%	156	22.8%
South East	1,431	1,462	1,355	1,456	1,357	1,338	1,429	1,539	1,572	1,551	1,546	1,495	23.3%	34	2.8%	-7	-0.9%
South West	1,307	1,384	1,215	1,323	1,283	1,319	1,234	1,193	1,238	1,251	1,203	1,199	19.3%	19	1.3%	-4	-0.4%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	1,078	1,133	1,077	1,019	963	1,030	1,060	1,122	1,079	1,050	1,040	1,117	17.4%	33	3.0%	67	6.4%
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cases closed where consent has been obtained	3,378	3,413	3,074	3,081	2,957	2,942	2,895	2,924	2,937	2,825	2,748	2,614	100.0%	59	2.3%	-167	-5.9%
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	763	820	777	836	781	801	781	799	802	763	749	718	28.6%	22	3.0%	-2	-0.3%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	2,615	2,593	2,297	2,245	2,176	2,141	2,114	2,125	2,135	2,062	1,995	1,896	71.4%	37	2.0%	-165	-8.0%
by Region	3,378	3,413	3,074	3,081	2,957	2,942	2,895	2,924	2,937	2,825	2,748	2,614	100.0%	59	2.3%	-167	-5.9%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	662	768	585	643	643	651	623	637	623	583	559	523	18.4%	5	1.0%	-94	-16.1%
Far North Qld	300	274	249	286	253	248	246	249	245	241	222	205	7.3%	-10	-4.9%	-46	-19.1%
North Qld	287	355	374	348	323	310	304	294	327	291	286	271	10.6%	26	10.1%	-8	-2.7%
South East	774	722	676	684	640	623	651	677	692	681	660	655	24.8%	5	0.8%	-32	-4.6%
South West	727	702	593	677	653	612	573	544	568	554	506	523	20.8%	30	5.7%	19	3.6%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	628	591	597	496	475	498	489	523	497	484	490	478	18.0%	3	0.6%	-6	-1.2%
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
by closure reason	3,378	3,413	3,074	3,081	2,957	2,942	2,895	2,924	2,937	2,825	2,748	2,614	100.0%	59	2.3%	-167	-5.9%
All or majority case plan goals achieved (k)	1,484	1,481	1,582	1,732	1,752	1,769	1,768	1,771	1,747	1,645	1,642	1,432	53.9%	24	1.7%	-213	-12.9%
All case plan goals achieved	0	113	817	887	894	828	964	985	991	930	866	774	30.3%	31	4.0%	-125	-13.4%
Majority case plan goals achieved	0	88	609	830	848	827	788	777	751	707	688	627	23.3%	-2	-0.3%	-87	-12.3%
All or majority needs met	1,484	1,274	156	15	10	14	16	9	5	8	11	12	0.3%	-5	-41.7%	-1	-32.5%
Some case plan goals achieved (l)	664	595	351	377	327	278	249	254	243	238	222	205	8.3%	26	7.8%	-22	-9.1%
Some case plan goals achieved	0	65	301	355	304	265	235	239	251	238	229	198	8.0%	14	7.1%	-26	-10.9%
Partial needs met	664	530	50	22	23	13	14	10	3	5	6	9	0.3%	2	28.6%	4	80.0%
Other	1,230	1,337	1,141	972	888	895	878	904	936	937	947	959	37.8%	19	1.9%	68	7.3%
Already engaged	40	56	54	39	39	34	34	37	43	43	45	55	2.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.2%
No case plan goals achieved	0	0	21	86	72	70	70	78	91	92	91	82	3.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Non contactable	231	214	191	133	116	129	128	129	146	135	147	155	5.6%	9	6.5%	13	9.6%
Not entered	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Referral error	50	54	29	25	21	24	27	24	24	20	16	18	0.7%	-1	-5.3%	-2	-10.0%
Referred to secondary service	231	203	122	118	92	74	79	88	91	111	110	109	3.9%	-10	-8.8%	-7	-6.3%
Refused support/did not consent	104	150	121	90	95	90	82	78	82	82	96	95	3.8%	6	6.3%	0	0.0%
Reported to Child Safety	85	101	68	58	56	58	52	54	48	48	49	60	2.6%	8	14.5%	-3	-4.5%
Response not required	80	108	117	65	57	71	71	78	81	66	62	55	2.4%	5	2.0%	18	7.6%
Terminated service/disengaged	281	306	298	244	234	237	232	242	237	244	244	232	9.6%	8	1.5%	-10	-30.4%
Transferred to IPA	60	76	67	55	49	45	43	39	42	49	45	47	1.7%	-5	-10.0%	-9	-16.7%
Other	66	65	53	59	57	58	54	53	54	52	52	45	1.7%	-5	-10.0%	-9	-16.7%
Percentage of families with needs met (OP measure) (i)	54.3%	55.5%	61.9%	64.3%	66.5%	67.9%	69.2%	69.0%	68.2%	67.2%	64.4%	63.7%	n/a	0.1	n/a	-3.4	n/a
All or majority of case plan goals achieved (k)	24.3%	21.5%	13.7%	14.0%	12.4%	10.7%	9.7%	9.7%	10.0%	9.9%	10.2%	9.8%	n/a	0.6	n/a	-0.1	n/a
Some case plan goals achieved (l)	21.4%	25.0%	24.3%	21.7%	21.1%	21.5%	21.1%	21.2%	21.5%	22.9%	23.9%	25.3%	n/a	-0.7	n/a	3.5	n/a
Other (j)																	

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES STATISTICS (CORPORATE DATA)

Data for years 30 June 2019 to 31 March 2025

Escalation measures (Children) ^(m)	Data for years 30 June 2019 to 31 March 2025												Variances between			
	30 Jun 19	30 Jun 20	30 Jun 21	30 Jun 22	31 Dec 22	31 Mar 23	30 Jun 23	30 Sep 23	31 Dec 23	31 Mar 24	30 Jun 24	30 Sep 24	31 Dec 24	31 Mar 25	31 Dec 24 & 31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24 & 31 Mar 25
No subsequent investigation within 6 months (all or majority case plan goals achieved)	na	90.8%	90.1%	88.1%	87.6%	87.5%	87.9%	88.0%	88.0%	88.2%	87.1%	87.3%	86.2%	85.6%	n/a	n/a
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (a)	na	87.5%	89.1%	83.9%	86.2%	85.7%	84.5%	84.5%	84.8%	86.8%	86.7%	86.7%	87.2%	85.7%	n/a	-1.2
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	na	91.7%	90.3%	89.3%	88.0%	88.0%	88.9%	89.0%	88.8%	88.5%	87.2%	87.5%	85.8%	85.8%	n/a	-2.9
by Region	na	90.8%	90.1%	88.1%	87.6%	87.5%	87.9%	88.0%	88.0%	88.2%	87.1%	87.3%	86.2%	85.6%	n/a	-2.5
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	na	90.8%	88.3%	86.0%	83.1%	82.8%	85.0%	85.8%	84.6%	85.6%	85.0%	84.5%	84.2%	81.8%	n/a	-3.8
Far North Qld	na	96.0%	95.2%	90.7%	92.8%	92.0%	90.5%	90.5%	91.1%	88.0%	88.4%	88.2%	86.1%	85.1%	n/a	-3.3
North Qld	na	91.8%	85.5%	88.0%	87.8%	91.2%	91.5%	91.4%	91.1%	91.1%	90.6%	91.0%	86.7%	85.2%	n/a	-6.5
South East	na	92.3%	94.0%	89.6%	88.9%	88.3%	87.9%	86.9%	87.0%	87.2%	84.8%	85.4%	86.9%	87.2%	n/a	0.0
South West	na	87.4%	86.7%	87.3%	85.7%	85.5%	85.3%	85.5%	86.7%	85.4%	84.4%	84.8%	84.0%	84.3%	n/a	-0.6
No subsequent investigation within 6 months (some case plan goals achieved)	na	87.5%	86.2%	86.9%	84.3%	83.3%	81.3%	79.6%	81.9%	83.2%	80.2%	83.0%	80.7%	81.0%	n/a	-2.2
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (a)	na	87.0%	80.3%	86.8%	81.8%	79.1%	81.2%	81.7%	83.1%	84.6%	78.1%	81.6%	75.6%	79.9%	n/a	-11.1
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	na	87.7%	87.8%	86.9%	85.0%	85.1%	81.3%	78.9%	81.5%	82.6%	81.2%	83.6%	83.6%	85.0%	n/a	2.4
by Region	na	87.5%	86.2%	86.9%	84.3%	83.3%	81.3%	79.6%	81.9%	83.2%	80.2%	83.0%	80.7%	81.0%	n/a	-2.2
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	na	85.0%	81.4%	81.1%	79.8%	82.5%	80.2%	80.0%	80.4%	81.5%	79.7%	86.6%	83.3%	83.9%	n/a	-2.4
Far North Qld	na	88.4%	80.7%	87.5%	90.4%	96.9%	100.0%	80.0%	78.9%	78.8%	78.8%	79.4%	82.9%	66.7%	n/a	-12.1
North Qld	na	86.3%	83.0%	86.9%	82.5%	85.1%	83.1%	89.2%	90.9%	89.9%	94.4%	91.9%	81.4%	82.6%	n/a	-7.3
South East	na	85.9%	92.1%	86.0%	84.5%	84.8%	83.0%	84.9%	86.0%	83.5%	80.5%	80.5%	81.4%	80.4%	n/a	-3.1
South West	na	90.3%	90.8%	96.8%	85.0%	78.9%	73.4%	71.7%	72.7%	82.0%	77.1%	84.8%	78.6%	81.7%	n/a	-0.3
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	na	89.9%	89.5%	84.6%	88.9%	88.7%	90.5%	84.7%	87.0%	81.1%	72.5%	71.2%	76.1%	81.8%	n/a	0.7

- Notes:
- (a) Includes a rolling 12 months of data for each reference period taken from a snapshot 10 days post the reference period.
 - (b) A family is identified as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander family, if one or more people attached to the case are identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
 - (c) A family is identified as a non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander family, if no people attached to the case are identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander or no status was recorded for any member of the family.
 - (d) Includes referrals opened and recorded during the reference period (cases created).
 - (e) A family can have more than one presenting concern.
 - (f) Includes referrals opened and recorded as a case (cases created) during the reference period and whether consent to commence the service was received by either the end of the reference period or when the case was closed.
 - (g) Includes closed cases for reasons such as the family was non-contactable, the family were already engaged with another support service or the family were referred in error.
 - (h) Includes all families where the case remained open at some point during the reference period irrespective of when it was created and/or closed and consent was received.
 - (i) Excludes cases closed during the reference period where the family was unable to be located/moved out of area, already engaged with a service, data entry error or no reason recorded.
 - (j) Other case closure reasons can include 'refused service', 'terminated service' or 'disengaged'.
 - (k) Includes cases that were closed with 'all or majority of needs met' and those cases that were closed with 'Full closure - all case plan goals achieved' and 'Case closure with majority of case plan goals achieved'.
 - (l) Includes cases that were closed with 'Partial needs met' and those cases that were closed with 'Case closure with only some case plan goals achieved'.
 - (m) Escalation rates are measured as the proportion of distinct children who had a case closed in the year ending six months prior to the reference date who were not subject to a notification within six months of the case closure date (up to the reference date).

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES STATISTICS (CORPORATE DATA)

Data for years 30 June 2019 to 31 March 2025

Measures (Families) ^(a)	ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE (FWS)												Variances between	
	30 Jun 19	30 Jun 20	30 Jun 21	30 Jun 22	31 Dec 22	31 Mar 23	30 Sep 23	31 Dec 23	31 Mar 24	30 Sep 24	31 Dec 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24 & 31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24 & 31 Mar 25
Families referred (f)	3,965	4,465	4,897	4,889	4,897	5,190	5,259	5,340	5,248	5,197	5,214	5,481	5,715	5,836
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	3,672	4,285	4,489	4,785	4,817	5,107	5,191	5,269	5,248	5,119	5,135	5,416	5,650	5,762
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	293	179	108	104	80	83	68	71	81	78	79	65	65	74
By Region	3,965	4,465	4,897	4,889	4,897	5,190	5,259	5,340	5,248	5,197	5,214	5,481	5,715	5,836
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	647	788	761	788	955	1,110	1,051	1,131	1,132	1,042	1,072	1,079	1,178	1,234
Far North Qld	723	775	596	694	742	812	709	956	976	958	933	887	859	843
North Qld	623	638	772	765	739	742	709	683	706	666	633	653	599	622
South East	632	702	657	726	801	847	804	765	673	641	730	858	900	842
South West	673	789	907	823	785	794	848	876	910	958	977	1,036	1,093	1,094
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	665	773	904	843	875	885	890	833	844	900	958	1,096	1,128	1,143
Other	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
by referral source	3,965	4,465	4,897	4,889	4,897	5,190	5,259	5,340	5,248	5,197	5,214	5,481	5,715	5,836
Child Safety	1,652	1,657	1,787	1,957	1,984	2,107	2,189	2,237	2,278	2,278	2,251	2,331	2,427	2,493
Child concern report	1,043	995	1,071	1,209	1,245	1,315	1,374	1,442	1,443	1,381	1,343	1,393	1,593	1,451
IAA - Substantiated - CNINOP	95	82	81	89	85	92	104	107	115	113	98	104	99	94
IAA - Unsubstantiated - CNINOP	242	265	251	304	283	295	294	298	291	275	258	269	257	238
IPA (cases closed or negotiated)	35	35	21	20	24	27	26	29	29	32	33	27	30	32
Statutory client - IPA, CPO, or Support service case	172	185	241	215	222	233	237	245	256	244	264	296	316	335
Other	67	95	122	120	125	145	154	174	203	233	255	304	332	343
Education	264	330	368	360	392	439	434	421	421	423	408	433	407	383
Family and Child Connect	113	192	169	148	102	114	99	87	68	79	72	73	73	73
Health	371	439	467	446	495	560	564	560	515	495	494	528	588	604
Not entered	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other non-prescribed entities	586	671	754	806	781	772	811	851	919	938	999	1,028	1,078	1,163
Other prescribed entities	113	215	233	245	234	231	223	199	179	179	175	200	231	225
Police	29	78	90	72	70	97	108	129	124	110	119	117	119	123
Self-Referral	823	882	709	865	839	879	816	786	741	687	700	765	793	772
by presenting concern (e)	4,516	4,230	4,116	4,330	4,340	4,336	4,438	4,443	4,449	4,510	4,449	4,571	4,633	4,668
Child alcohol and/or drug misuse	4,131	4,118	4,116	4,330	4,340	4,336	4,438	4,443	4,449	4,510	4,449	4,571	4,633	4,668
Child mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression or self-harm	4,516	4,230	4,116	4,330	4,340	4,336	4,438	4,443	4,449	4,510	4,449	4,571	4,633	4,668
Child physical health including health conditions, disability	19.0%	20.2%	20.4%	22.1%	21.4%	21.8%	22.0%	23.2%	23.4%	24.2%	24.2%	25.8%	27.3%	27.5%
Child sexual abuse	14.3%	14.0%	14.0%	14.9%	14.9%	15.9%	16.2%	16.8%	16.7%	16.5%	16.8%	18.3%	19.2%	20.1%
Child wellbeing	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
Domestic & Family Violence	72.3%	71.6%	69.9%	68.2%	68.2%	68.2%	69.9%	71.0%	71.0%	72.5%	72.2%	73.2%	74.5%	74.4%
Early Childhood Education	35.2%	36.3%	38.1%	38.5%	37.7%	36.4%	36.5%	37.6%	39.1%	40.4%	40.4%	40.6%	40.9%	40.3%
Family law/custody issues	1.4%	2.2%	2.0%	2.0%	2.3%	2.4%	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%	1.3%	1.2%	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%
Household relationships including conflict between parent/s and child/ren	35.7%	35.9%	32.8%	35.3%	35.0%	35.3%	35.2%	35.7%	35.0%	34.9%	34.2%	35.2%	36.7%	37.0%
Housing, food, clothing or basic household resources	43.0%	41.2%	39.4%	41.2%	41.9%	42.1%	42.0%	42.2%	43.0%	43.6%	44.2%	45.2%	46.0%	46.3%
Other	11.1%	13.3%	15.1%	15.8%	20.5%	22.3%	22.6%	24.7%	22.8%	22.5%	22.0%	19.7%	19.1%	17.9%
Parent/Carer alcohol and/or drug misuse	26.8%	25.3%	26.7%	25.5%	23.2%	23.3%	22.6%	23.6%	24.2%	24.6%	24.5%	24.6%	23.8%	23.7%
Parent/Carer mental or emotional health including anxiety, depression or self-harm	34.5%	37.1%	35.9%	38.1%	37.9%	36.5%	35.3%	34.8%	34.9%	34.8%	34.5%	37.0%	38.5%	40.2%
Parent/Carer physical health including health conditions, disability	11.0%	11.2%	11.9%	11.8%	11.8%	12.5%	12.5%	13.5%	13.9%	14.1%	14.1%	14.8%	14.8%	15.3%
Parenting skills	60.5%	59.3%	58.9%	59.8%	60.4%	60.1%	60.0%	61.4%	60.7%	60.5%	60.5%	60.3%	61.1%	61.1%
Social and/or community support network	45.6%	48.8%	45.9%	50.6%	53.5%	54.4%	55.1%	54.3%	55.2%	55.1%	55.4%	56.8%	56.9%	57.2%
Average number of presenting concerns for all referrals	4.16	4.18	4.16	4.30	4.34	4.36	4.43	4.43	4.49	4.50	4.49	4.57	4.63	4.68
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	4.13	4.18	4.16	4.30	4.34	4.36	4.43	4.43	4.49	4.50	4.49	4.57	4.63	4.68
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	4.52	4.35	3.92	3.95	4.36	4.38	4.82	4.90	4.65	4.41	4.32	4.38	4.58	4.59
Families referred, by whether consent to commence the service was received (f)	3,965	4,465	4,597	4,899	4,897	5,190	5,259	5,340	5,248	5,197	5,214	5,481	5,715	5,836
Consented	2,041	2,278	2,408	2,551	2,443	2,482	2,486	2,486	2,471	2,353	2,320	2,259	2,335	2,366
Yet to consent	641	676	783	831	811	932	862	843	964	1,081	1,018	1,172	1,233	1,191
No consent - family refused support	383	509	473	502	525	559	565	588	641	650	679	690	690	690
No consent - other reasons (g)	900	1,002	933	1,015	1,118	1,237	1,346	1,339	1,299	1,175	1,235	1,400	1,468	1,589
Percentage of families who consented to commence the service	51.5%	51.0%	52.4%	52.1%	49.9%	47.8%	47.3%	48.1%	46.6%	45.3%	44.5%	41.2%	40.9%	40.5%
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	51.3%	51.1%	52.6%	52.6%	50.1%	48.0%	47.4%	48.3%	46.7%	45.6%	44.8%	41.9%	41.1%	40.8%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	53.9%	48.0%	45.4%	46.9%	49.5%	47.3%	46.8%	48.1%	46.9%	45.3%	44.5%	41.2%	40.9%	40.5%
Percentage of families who consented to commence the service by region	51.5%	51.0%	52.4%	52.1%	49.9%	47.8%	47.3%	48.1%	46.6%	45.3%	44.5%	41.2%	40.9%	40.5%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	52.7%	43.7%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%
Far North Qld	44.7%	43.9%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%
North Qld	52.8%	60.5%	45.5%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%	46.7%
South East	43.5%	48.3%	51.6%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%	44.8%
South West	55.7%	58.7%	52.4%	49.3%	46.5%	40.3%	37.9%	41.3%	43.2%	41.3%	40.7%	42.8%	43.6%	40.9%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	60.2%	52.5%	47.7%	43.7%	45.8%	47.9%	54.4%	56.5%	50.8%	46.1%	40.1%	40.7%	42.7%	42.7%
Other	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Average number of presenting concern for families consenting	4.30	4.28	4.33	4.49	4.59	4.62	4.64	4.68	4.73	4.69	4.62	4.62	4.61	4.73
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	4.27	4.27	4.34	4.49	4.59	4.62	4.63	4.67	4.72	4.68	4.62	4.62	4.61	4.73
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	4.70	4.57	4.16	4.43	4.61	5.19	5.84	5.75	5.41	4.96	4.38	4.50	4.54	5.00
Families receiving a service (h)	3,597	3,751	4,014	4,445	4,231	4,249	4,889	4,465	4,317	4,243	4,236	4,133	4,194	4,236
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	3,156	3,588	3,942	4,398	4,185	4,201	4,339	4,219	4,272	4,198	4,200	4,102	4,163	4,208
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	241	163	102	51	46	48	50	42	45	45	36	31	31	28
By Region	3,597	3,751	4,014	4,445	4,231	4,249	4,889	4,465	4,317	4,243	4,236	4,133	4,194	4,236
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	618	582	884	1,061	1,030	1,048	1,047	986	938	905	843	849	885	930
Far North Qld	579	617	533	665	734	750	808	798	813	814	785	767	736	696
North Qld	539	637	624	655	647	644	640	579	542	524	534	547	537	537
South East	467	507	513	562	528	541	553	582	568	592	565	529	523	516
% of Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
31 Dec 24	121	2.1%	121	2.1%	121	2.1%	121	2.1%	121	2.1%	121	2.1%	121	2.1%
31 Mar 25	112	2.0%	112	2.0%	112									

South West	564	691	718	772	668	612	610	645	658	749	783	777	18.3%	-6	-0.8%	119	18.1%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	628	717	742	734	624	641	716	725	699	722	705	720	18.4%	60	8.3%	81	11.6%
Other	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cases closed (all cases)	3,816	4,119	4,033	4,783	4,648	4,875	5,144	5,282	4,959	4,931	5,190	5,412	100.0%	167	3.0%	620	13.5%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	3,816	4,119	4,033	4,688	4,577	4,816	5,076	5,217	4,878	4,857	5,116	5,349	98.8%	167	3.0%	633	13.0%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (d)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
by Region																	
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	3,816	4,119	4,033	4,688	4,577	4,816	5,076	5,217	4,878	4,857	5,116	5,349	100.0%	167	3.0%	620	12.5%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (d)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	782	674	692	874	579	1,030	1,106	1,127	1,082	1,033	993	1,048	20.5%	95	9.1%	61	5.6%
Far North Qld	534	677	641	684	621	724	856	864	912	922	866	826	33.2%	-33	-4.0%	-139	-14.0%
North Qld	636	695	553	649	666	761	786	815	764	687	656	674	14.2%	29	4.1%	106	16.8%
South East	653	755	795	916	776	773	766	819	851	872	980	1,048	13.9%	37	5.0%	88	12.8%
South West	599	733	852	1,039	845	851	876	842	826	787	885	991	18.7%	5	-0.5%	192	22.6%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	2,612	2,475	2,480	2,902	2,721	2,758	2,852	2,838	2,804	2,713	2,749	2,811	100.0%	-68	-2.4%	-61	-2.2%
Cases closed, where consent has been obtained																	
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (b)	2,012	2,349	2,384	2,873	2,694	2,732	2,818	2,890	2,804	2,770	2,688	2,788	99.5%	-64	-2.3%	-66	-1.7%
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	149	126	46	29	27	34	26	31	34	25	24	23	0.7%	-4	-17.6%	-15	-44.1%
by Region																	
Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (c)	2,161	2,475	2,430	2,902	2,721	2,758	2,852	2,918	2,835	2,804	2,713	2,749	100.0%	-68	-2.4%	-61	-2.2%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (d)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Brisbane and Moreton Bay	426	351	306	691	725	719	761	759	728	699	629	596	22.2%	14	2.3%	-89	-12.7%
Far North Qld	356	397	275	353	390	411	463	453	457	461	420	432	14.7%	-28	-6.5%	-57	-12.4%
North Qld	317	422	383	396	389	419	423	422	378	329	328	370	12.7%	-2	-0.5%	43	12.7%
South East	343	379	345	386	337	324	316	357	333	385	374	361	11.1%	-46	-13.1%	-80	-20.8%
South West	365	462	459	526	429	405	385	439	422	420	443	495	18.8%	9	1.7%	96	22.9%
Sunshine Coast and Central Qld	353	464	482	482	451	480	504	508	533	500	519	523	19.2%	3	0.6%	26	5.2%
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
by closure reason																	
All or majority needs met	2,161	2,475	2,430	2,902	2,721	2,758	2,852	2,918	2,835	2,804	2,713	2,749	100.0%	-68	-2.4%	-61	-2.2%
Already engaged	797	900	963	1,020	987	1,040	1,080	1,083	1,053	1,056	1,068	1,070	37.8%	-32	-3.0%	-18	-1.7%
Non contactable	20	25	28	29	36	38	39	33	37	34	25	34	1.4%	3	8.3%	5	14.7%
Not entered	307	309	349	488	468	477	484	480	461	445	399	385	13.8%	-6	-1.6%	-67	-15.1%
Other	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Partial needs met	84	170	88	102	121	134	152	168	155	171	161	195	7.1%	-15	-7.1%	24	14.0%
Referral error	344	497	453	424	362	386	402	422	414	391	367	312	10.0%	-37	-11.9%	-116	-29.7%
Referred to secondary service	156	132	151	187	184	186	189	211	191	172	172	188	5.1%	-5	-8.9%	-22	-30.1%
Refused support/did not consent	64	98	109	136	122	121	106	104	112	123	132	145	7.5%	19	10.1%	23	12.5%
Reported to Child Safety	8	12	7	3	5	3	3	3	4	5	4	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	-3	-60.0%
Response not required	10	13	6	1	4	4	5	5	6	8	11	12	0.5%	1	8.3%	7	116.7%
Terminated service/disengaged	290	247	236	442	366	298	318	331	329	316	314	336	14.5%	3	0.8%	83	26.3%
Transitioned to IPA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Percentage of families with case plan goals achieved (OP measure) (i)																	
All or majority needs met	50.5%	48.5%	52.2%	48.2%	50.6%	52.9%	52.9%	51.8%	51.6%	51.6%	51.6%	51.1%	n/a	0.5	n/a	-0.6	n/a
Partial needs met	21.8%	26.8%	24.5%	20.0%	18.6%	19.7%	19.7%	20.2%	19.1%	18.1%	16.3%	14.7%	n/a	-1.2	n/a	-5.6	n/a
Other (j)	27.7%	24.7%	23.3%	31.8%	30.9%	27.5%	27.4%	28.0%	28.3%	29.3%	32.1%	34.7%	n/a	0.7	n/a	6.1	n/a

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO QUEENSLAND'S CHILD SAFETY SYSTEM

PROACTIVE STATEMENT OF BERNADETTE HARVEY

A/DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, COMMISSIONING, DEPARTMENT OF
FAMILIES, SENIORS, DISABILITY SERVICES AND CHILD SAFETY

Annexure 2 – Profile of Parents

This and the preceding 6 pages is the annexure mentioned and referred to as

“Annexure 2” in the statement of BERNADETTE HARVEY dated 29 August 2025.



Bernadette Harvey



Witness

Table 1: Prevalence of family risk factors in all households, Queensland

Family risk factors	30 June 2013	30 June 2014	30 June 2015	30 June 2016	30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2019	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Abused as a child	34%	37%	36%	37%	38%	36%	36%	36%	36%
Criminal history	36%	38%	38%	42%	43%	43%	43%	44%	47%
Domestic and family violence	34%	34%	34%	34%	37%	37%	39%	41%	41%
Drug and alcohol abuse	48%	51%	52%	55%	57%	56%	56%	58%	57%
Mental health	35%	37%	39%	42%	44%	44%	45%	47%	48%
High/complex needs children	14%	14%	13%	14%	16%	15%	15%	16%	17%
History - Prior notifications	66%	67%	66%	66%	66%	65%	65%	65%	65%
History - Prior ongoing intervention	30%	30%	30%	31%	31%	30%	29%	29%	28%
History - Prior out of home care	18%	18%	18%	18%	18%	18%	17%	16%	16%
Housing/homeless	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
Inappropriate parental attitudes and behaviours	25%	25%	19%	17%	18%	16%	15%	14%	15%
Physical care inconsistent with child's needs	9%	8%	9%	9%	9%	8%	8%	7%	8%

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Notes:

- Prevalence is measured as the proportion of households where the family risk factor was identified in that household.
- Households with a completed investigation and assessment in the reference period. If a household was subject to more than one investigation and assessment during the reference period, the household is counted for each instance.

(a) The family risk factor 'History - Prior Out of Home Care' was introduced as a Family Risk Evaluation question during the 2012-13 financial year.

Table 2: Households with four or more risk factors, Queensland

Family risk factors	30 June 2013	30 June 2014	30 June 2015	30 June 2016	30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2019	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Less than four family risk factors	45%	43%	44%	42%	41%	42%	42%	40%	41%
Four or more family risk factors	55%	57%	56%	58%	59%	58%	58%	60%	59%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Notes:

1. Households with a completed investigation and assessment in the reference period. If a household was subject to more than one investigation and assessment during the reference period, the household is counted for each instance.
2. Represents the number of family risk factors identified during the investigation and assessment, as a proportion of all investigated households.
3. Family risk factors include domestic and family violence, drug/alcohol abuse, intergenerational experience of abuse or neglect, mental illness, criminal history, high/complex needs children, homelessness, inappropriate parent attitudes and behaviours, and the physical care inconsistent with the needs of children.

Table 3: Prevalence of parent risk factors in substantiated households, Queensland

Parent risk factors	30 June 2013	30 June 2014	30 June 2015	30 June 2016	30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2019	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Abused as a child	39%	42%	42%	45%	45%	44%	42%	43%	40%
Criminal history	45%	45%	45%	53%	53%	53%	53%	54%	55%
Domestic and family violence	43%	43%	44%	48%	48%	47%	50%	51%	50%
Drug and alcohol abuse	58%	60%	62%	65%	65%	66%	66%	67%	64%
Mental health	41%	42%	45%	49%	53%	53%	53%	56%	55%

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Notes:

1. Prevalence is measured as the proportion of substantiated households where the parent risk factor was identified in that household.
2. The five parent risk factors include domestic and family violence, drug/alcohol abuse, intergenerational experience of abuse or neglect, mental illness, and criminal history. Other risk factors may also be present.
3. Households with an investigation and assessment that commenced within each financial year.
4. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

Table 4: Number of parent risk factors in substantiated households, Queensland

Number of parent risk factors	30 June 2013	30 June 2014	30 June 2015	30 June 2016	30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2019	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
None of the five parent risk factors	16%	15%	14%	12%	12%	12%	11%	10%	12%
1 of the parent risk factors	18%	17%	17%	15%	13%	14%	15%	14%	14%
2 of the parent risk factors	22%	21%	20%	19%	19%	18%	19%	19%	18%
3 of the parent risk factors	22%	22%	22%	23%	22%	22%	22%	22%	22%
4 of the parent risk factors	16%	19%	19%	19%	21%	21%	22%	21%	21%
All five of the parent risk factors	7%	7%	8%	12%	12%	12%	12%	13%	12%
Total	100%								

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Notes:

1. The five parent risk factors include domestic and family violence, drug/alcohol abuse, intergenerational experience of abuse or neglect, mental illness, and criminal history. Other risk factors may also be present.
2. Represents the number of parent risk factors identified during the investigation and assessment, as a proportion of all substantiated households.
3. Substantiated households include families subject to a finalised investigation and assessment where the assessment outcome for any child in the household was substantiated.
4. Household profiles based on the earliest commenced investigation and assessment during the reference period.

Table 5: Prevalence of all family risk factors in households with a child in need of protection, Queensland

Family risk factors	30 June 2013	30 June 2014	30 June 2015	30 June 2016	30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2019	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Abused as a Child	48%	53%	51%	54%	54%	57%	54%	52%	52%
Criminal History	55%	57%	56%	64%	63%	64%	66%	66%	67%
Domestic and Family Violence	48%	48%	49%	51%	52%	52%	53%	55%	54%
Drug and Alcohol Abuse	68%	71%	73%	76%	77%	77%	77%	78%	76%
Mental Health	49%	50%	53%	57%	61%	63%	63%	65%	66%
High/Complex Needs Children	21%	21%	19%	20%	21%	22%	23%	21%	24%
History - Prior Notifications	84%	86%	82%	82%	81%	84%	82%	82%	82%
History - Prior Ongoing Intervention	53%	53%	53%	54%	53%	53%	52%	50%	49%
History - Prior Out of Home Care ^(a)	33%	34%	32%	33%	33%	34%	34%	32%	29%
Housing/Homeless	8%	8%	9%	10%	11%	13%	13%	14%	13%
Inappropriate Parental Attitudes and Behaviours	49%	50%	41%	40%	44%	41%	39%	36%	38%
Physical Care Inconsistent with Childs Needs	25%	24%	25%	25%	27%	26%	27%	24%	25%

Source: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Notes:

1. Prevalence is measured as the proportion of households where the family risk factor was identified in that household.
2. Households with a completed investigation and assessment during each financial year.
3. Households where at least one child was assessed to be in need of protection during the investigation and assessment.

(a) The family risk factor 'History - Prior Out of Home Care' was introduced as a Family Risk Evaluation question during the 2012-13 financial year.

GLOSSARY

Abused as a child (Intergenerational experience of abuse or neglect)

The primary parent has a history of being abused or neglected as a child. Evidence of abuse includes credible statements by the primary parent or others. Information relating to the primary parent may also be obtained from departmental records, or from interstate or overseas child protection systems.

Criminal history

The primary parent has been charged or convicted of offences as either an adult or a juvenile.

Domestic and family violence

The household experienced two or more instances of domestic violence during the last 12 months. This includes all physical assaults and periods of intimidation, threats or harassment between parents or between one parent and another adult in the home.

Drug or alcohol problem

A parent had a drug and/or alcohol problem during the last 12 months, or at any other time prior. This includes instances where drug or alcohol abuse interfered with parent or family functioning, such as where family or marital relationship was disrupted, employment was affected, or the parent engaged in criminal activity in the last two years.

High or Complex Needs Children

A child in the household has significant physical or developmental disability, including a formal diagnosis of an intellectual disability, a learning disability indicated in school records or another developmental problem; is medically fragile, such as diagnosed as failure to thrive; or had a positive toxicology report for alcohol or drugs at birth.

Housing/Homelessness

The family is homeless or about to be evicted. This includes people who are living in a shelter and those living on a short-term basis with relatives or friends.

Inappropriate Parental Attitudes and Behaviours

The primary parent deprives the child of affection or emotional support; is emotionally abusive towards the child; their disciplinary practices have caused, or are likely to cause, harm to the child because they were excessively harsh or inappropriate to the child's age or development; or is domineering, indicated by controlling, abusive, overly-restrictive or unfair behaviour, or over reactive rules.

Mental illness

The primary parent had a mental health problem during the last 12 months, or at any other time prior. This includes diagnosed mental health disorders (as per the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual), or instances where the parent was repeatedly referred for psychological/mental health assessments, or recommended for treatment or hospitalisation by a psychiatrist or mental health authority.

Physical Care Inconsistent with Child Needs

The physical care (e.g. age-appropriate feeding, clothing, shelter, hygiene and medical care) provided to the child by the primary parent threatens the child's wellbeing or results in harm to the child; or the current housing situation is physically unsafe and does not meet the health or safety needs of the child (e.g. exposed wiring, inoperable plumbing, cockroach/rat infestations, human/animal faeces on floors, rotting food).

Prior Notifications

Prior Child Safety notifications for abuse or neglect, including all prior notifications in which any adult member of the current household has been alleged responsible for abuse or neglect of a child, regardless of whether the subject child in these notifications are subject children in the current history. Where applicable, child protection history from other state jurisdictions and New Zealand is checked, and any relevant notifications alleging abuse or neglect counted.

Prior Ongoing Intervention

The department has provided ongoing intervention to the household prior to the current investigation and assessment, including ongoing intervention that was open when the current notification was received. Where applicable, child protection history from other state jurisdictions and New Zealand is checked and included.

Prior Out of Home Care

The department has previously placed any child from the household in out-of-home care prior to the current investigation and assessment. Includes any previous investigations and assessments during which a child from the household was removed from and placed outside the family home.

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO QUEENSLAND'S CHILD SAFETY SYSTEM

PROACTIVE STATEMENT OF BERNADETTE HARVEY

A/DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, COMMISSIONING, DEPARTMENT OF
FAMILIES, SENIORS, DISABILITY SERVICES AND CHILD SAFETY

Annexure 3 – Children in Care Census

This and the preceding 51 pages is the annexure mentioned and referred to as

“Annexure 3” in the statement of BERNADETTE HARVEY dated 29 August
2025.



Bernadette Harvey



Witness

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety



Children in Care Census 2024

Sample and completion rates



Completion rates per region



*Population: QLD children (<18 years of age), living away from home (>3 months) that were subject to custody/guardianship by the Chief Executive

A representative sample is conducted to enable the department to build profiles of children in care to inform policy and practice.

It involves Child Safety Officers completing a survey about children on their caseload.

A sample of 3122* children was generated based on agreed participation rates by Child Safety Officers in each Child Safety Service Centre (in recognition of workload impost).

Returns for 84% (2612) of the sample were completed. As the profile of children is based on a sample conducted over a two month period, some figures may vary slightly from corporate data counts. The sample size is representative of the in-care population at the statewide level.

Non-Indigenous children in residential care were over-represented in responses received and the unit record file has been reduced to 2413 to make it representative of the in-care population.

NB: All regional disaggregates within the report exclude Far North Queensland and North Queensland regions due to small sample size. Regional disaggregates by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status exclude South West and Sunshine Coast Regions due to small sample size.

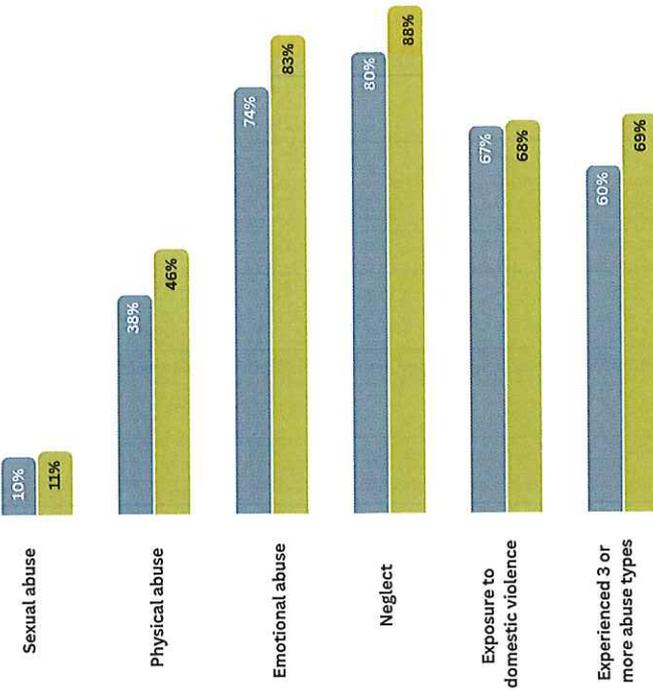


Overview

Quick Facts / Year comparison

PRE-CARE EXPERIENCE

● 2023 ● 2024



LEARNING, EARNING AND DEVELOPING



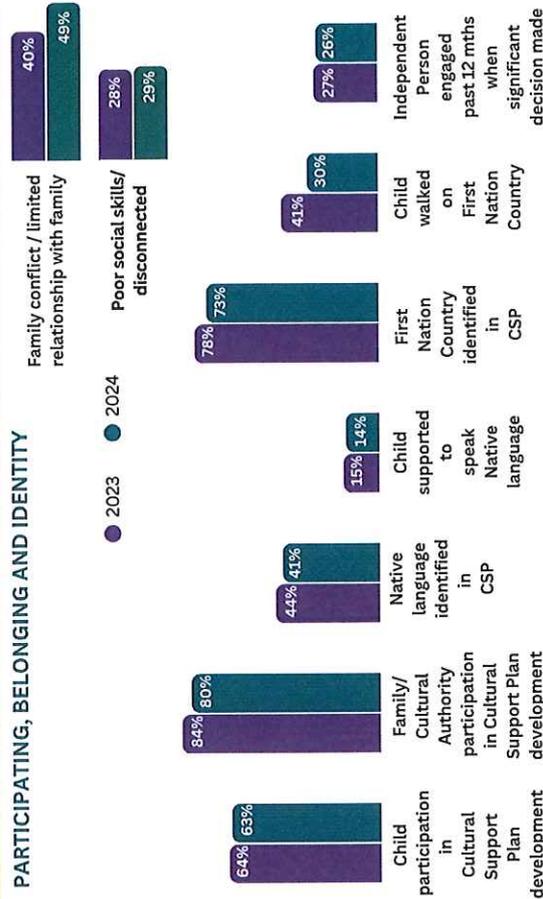
HEALTHY

● 2023 ● 2024



PARTICIPATING, BELONGING AND IDENTITY

● 2023 ● 2024



Key Findings

Children and young people are more likely to experience chronic and recurring rates of emotional abuse, neglect and exposure to domestic violence prior to entering care than sexual and/or physical violence which is more likely to be isolated.

Children who have experienced sexual and/or physical abuse prior to entering care will have higher rates of complexity than children who have not experienced those abuse types.

See Pages 7 & 8



Girls in care are more likely to have been sexually abused prior to entering care and will be self harming at higher rates than boys.



Boys in care will have higher levels of disability and intellectual impairment than girls.

See Page 11



1 in 3 children in care have limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay.

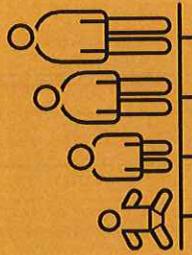
The majority (81%) of these children also have a disability such as an intellectual disability, autism, and/or ADHD.

See Page 27

Children who enter care for the first time at an older age have higher levels of complexity.

However, children who enter care at an older age are less likely to be diagnosed with an intellectual impairment or disability with these conditions being much more evident in children who entered care for the first time at a younger age.

See Page 9 and Appendix A



Children in residential care have significantly higher levels of complexity compared to children in kinship and foster care.

See Page 16

41% of children in care have a disability



1 in 5 children in care with a diagnosed or suspected disability have FASD



1 in 5 children with a diagnosed or suspected disability have unmet support needs in relation to their disability

See Pages 20-25



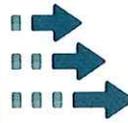
1 in 5 children in care have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness

For almost one third of these children their mental illness is undiagnosed despite having similar rates of complexity to children with a diagnosed mental illness.



1 in 3 children with a diagnosed or suspected mental illness have unmet support needs in relation to their mental illness

See Pages 20-25



Some self harming behaviour appears to decrease the longer the child is in care.

See Page 16

Transition to Adulthood (T2A)



1 in 3 (32%) will require NDIS support in adulthood



Half (54%) will require public housing and 71% of these will be on a waitlist for public housing.



1 in 3 (35%) will remain with their carer



Almost half of young people 15 years and over display extreme emotional responses that limit their participation in school and the workforce.

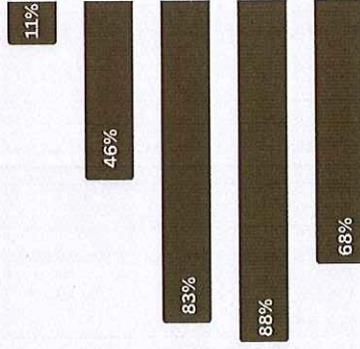
See Page 29



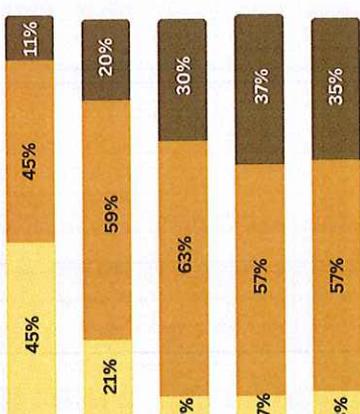
Pre care experience

Pre Care Experience

PROPORTION OF CHILDREN BY PRE CARE ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED



FREQUENCY OF EACH ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED



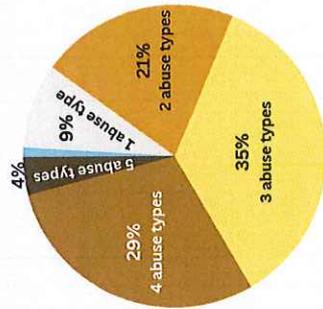
Emotional abuse, neglect and exposure to domestic violence are more likely to be recurring or chronic prior to entering care, compared to physical and sexual abuse.

PROPORTION OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED ABUSE THAT WAS CHRONIC



69%

of children have experienced or were at risk of experiencing 3 or more abuse types prior to entering care

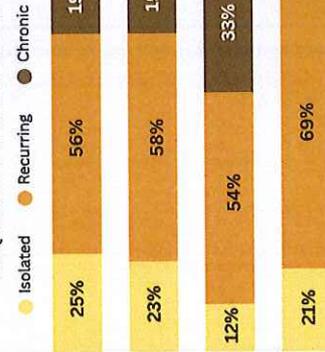


PROPORTION OF CHILDREN BY NUMBER OF ABUSE TYPES THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED

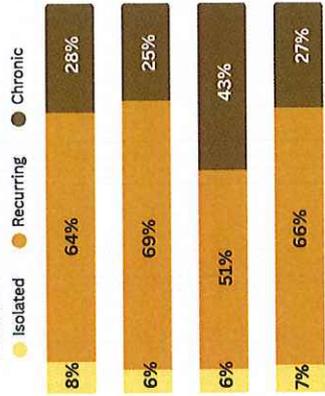
PROPORTION OF CHILDREN BY PRE CARE ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED BY REGION



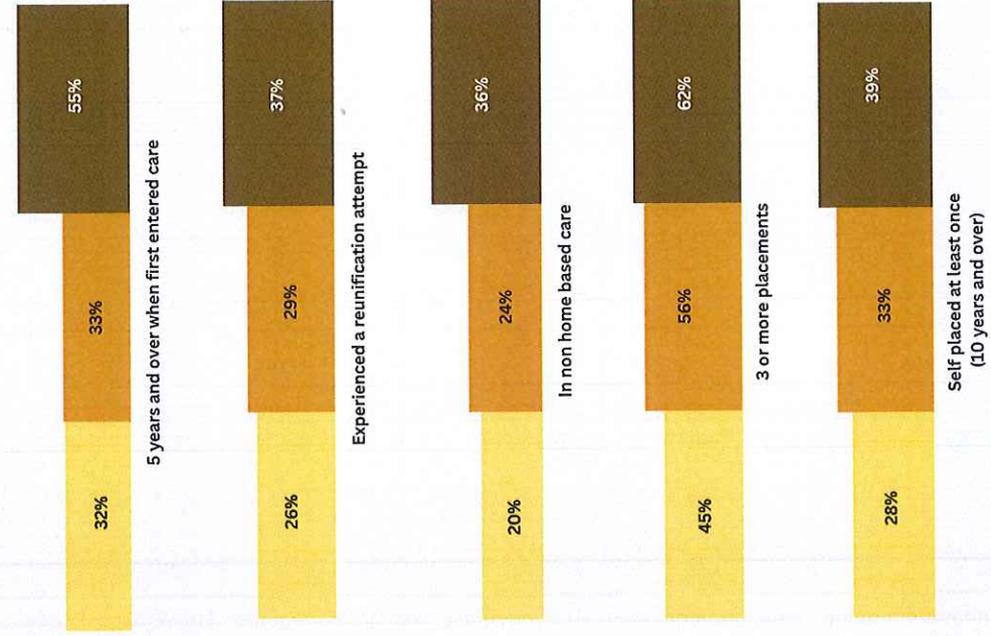
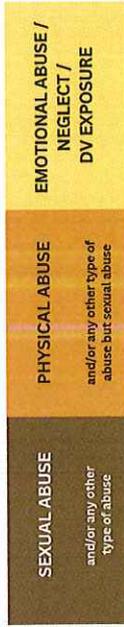
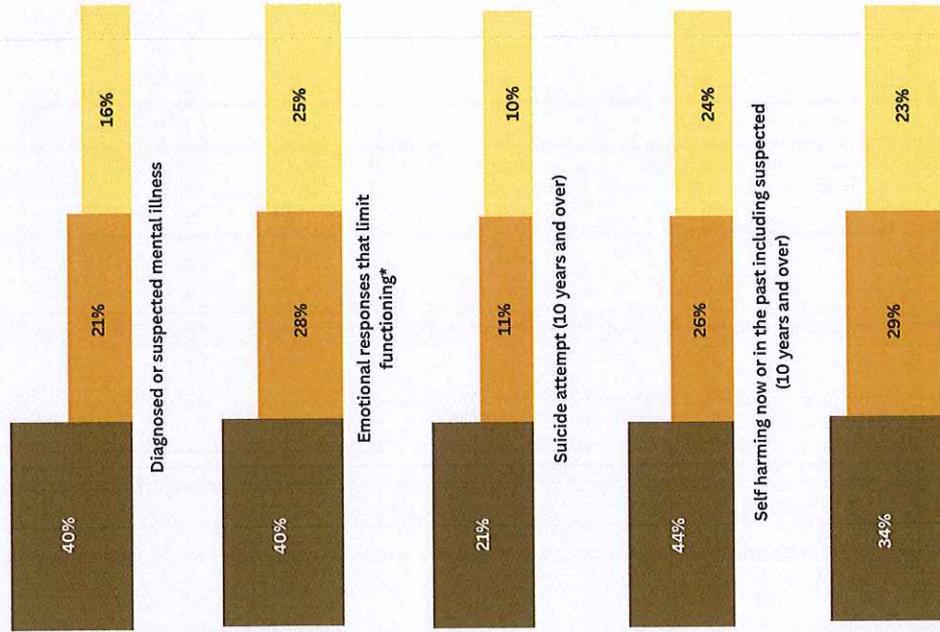
FREQUENCY OF PHYSICAL ABUSE



FREQUENCY OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE



Pre Care Experience



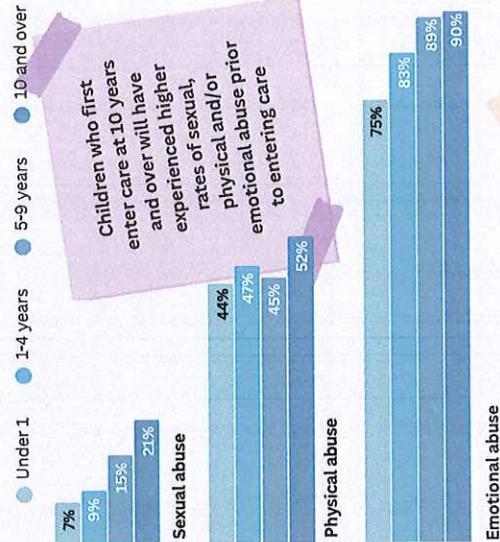
Children who have experienced sexual or physical abuse have higher levels of complexity compared to children who have experienced emotional abuse and/or neglect and/or exposure to domestic violence.

Children who have experienced sexual abuse are much more likely to have a mental illness, be self-harming and be in non-home-based care. They are also more likely to be aged 5 and over when they first entered care.

*excludes too young to determine

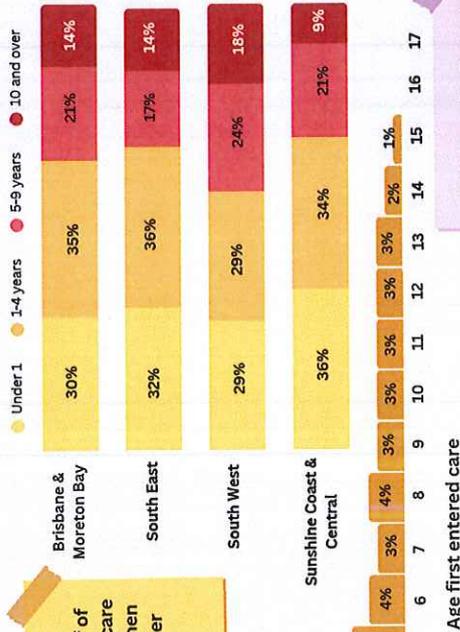
Profile by entry age to care

PRE CARE ABUSE EXPERIENCED BY ENTRY AGE TO CARE

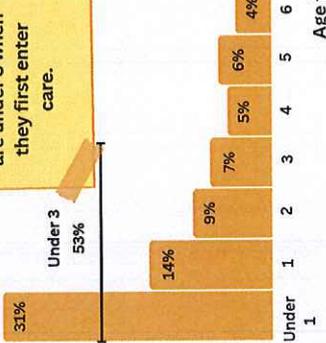


Children who first enter care at 10 years and over will have experienced higher rates of sexual, physical and/or emotional abuse prior to entering care.

ENTRY AGE TO CARE BY REGION



Just over half of all children in care are under 3 when they first enter care.



Children who first entered care at 10 years or over are more likely to have a mental illness and be self harming but less likely to be determined to have an intellectual impairment or be diagnosed with or suspected to have a disability. See Appendix A for more information.



TOTAL TIME IN CARE



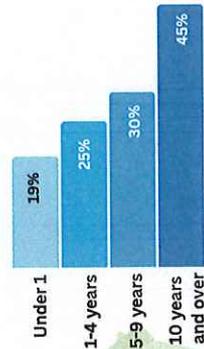
NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS



Children who first enter care at an older age will have spent less time in care but will have experienced a similar number of placements to children who have entered care at a younger age and been in care for longer.

Children in residential care are more likely to have entered care at the age of 10 years or older.

PROPORTION OF CHILDREN 10 YEARS AND OVER IN RESIDENTIAL CARE BY AGE THEY FIRST ENTERED CARE

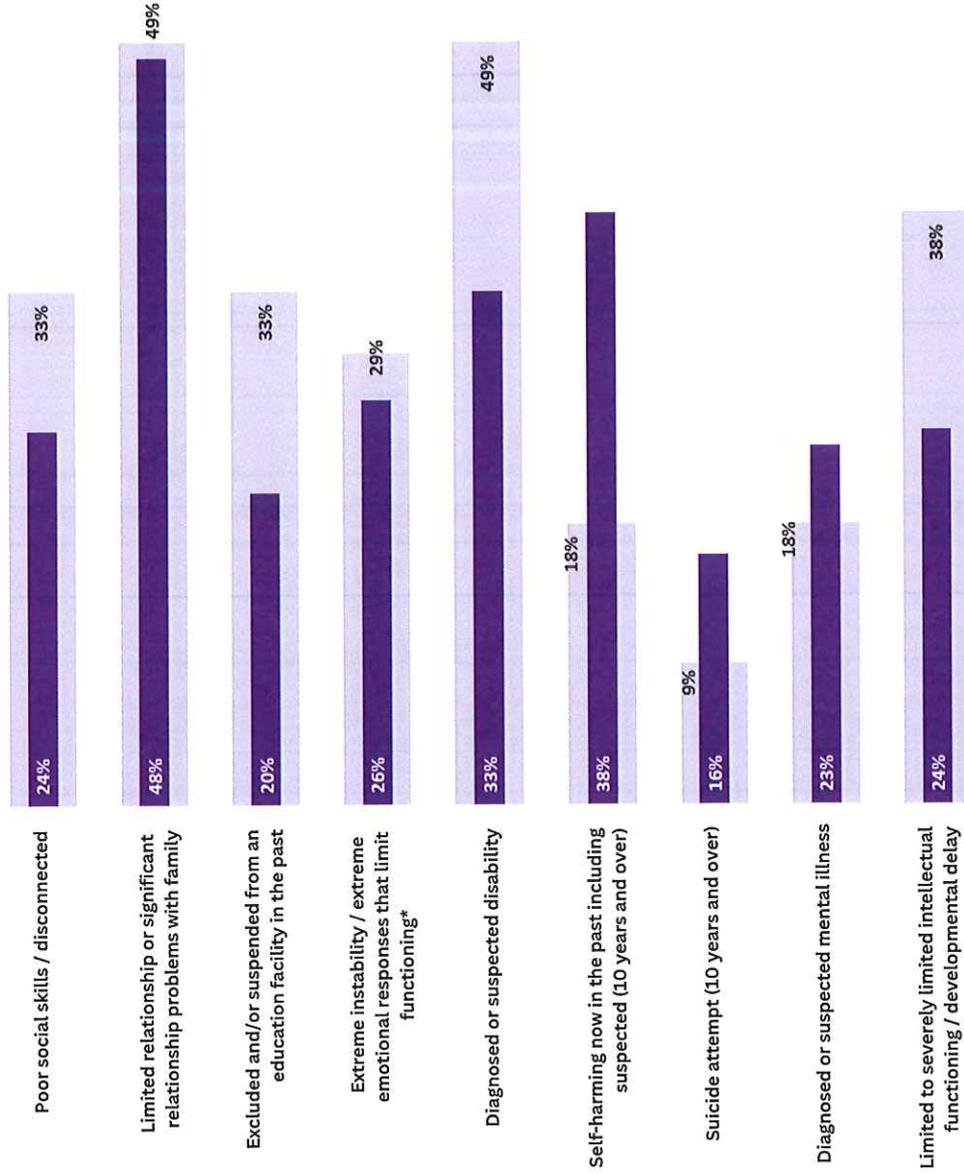




Demographic profiles

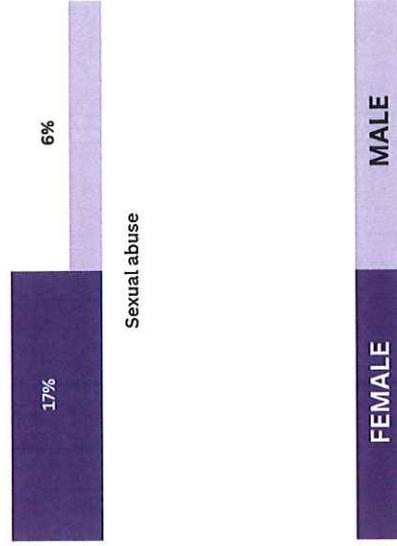
Gender Profile

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety



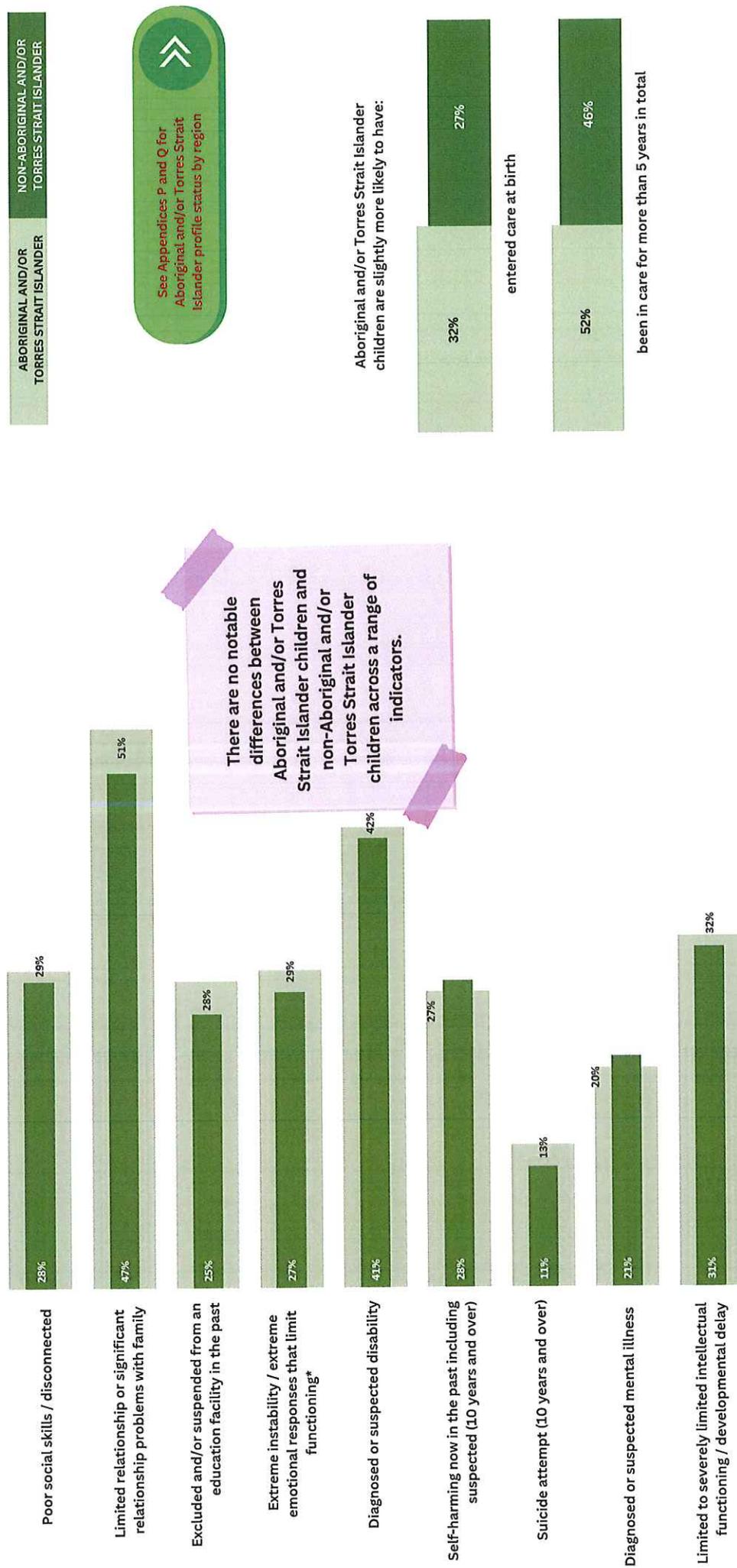
Girls in care have experienced higher rates of sexual abuse prior to entering care and are more likely to be self harming than boys in care.

Boys in care are more likely to have an intellectual impairment and have a diagnosed or suspected disability than girls in care. They are also more likely to have been excluded and/or suspended from an education facility in the past.



*excludes too young to determine

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Profile



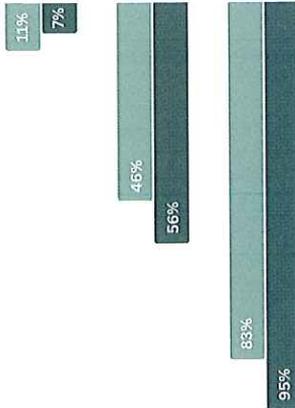
*excludes too young to determine

Youth justice profile

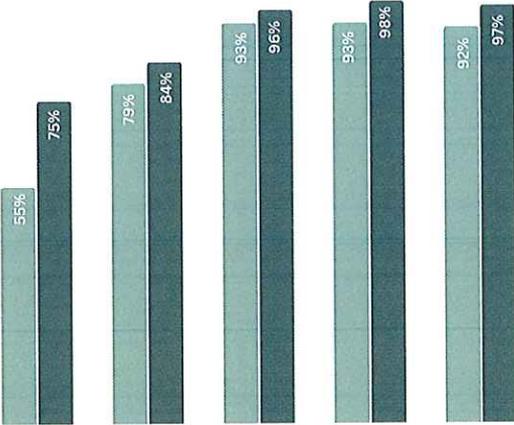
Findings subject to variability due to small sample size of youth justice order cohort

Pre care experience of children on youth justice orders

PROPORTION BY ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED

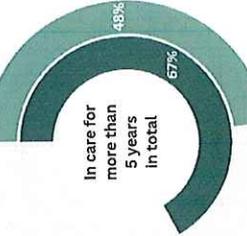
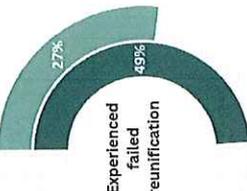
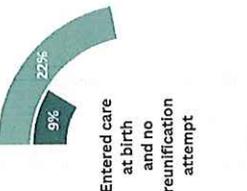
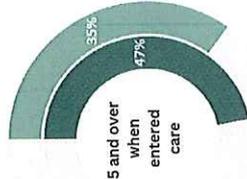
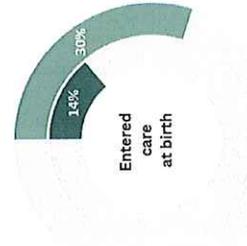
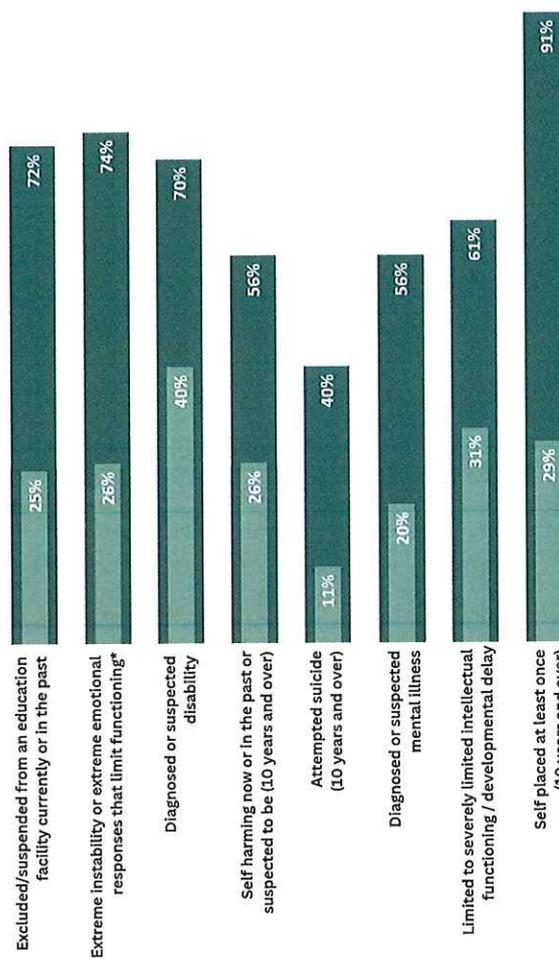


ABUSE WAS CHRONIC AND/OR RECURRING



No Youth Justice Order
Youth Justice Order

In care profile of children on youth justice orders



*excludes too young to determine



Safe, Secure and Stable

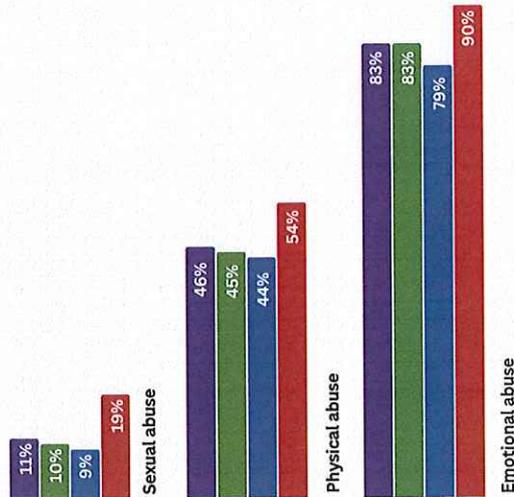
Placement Profile

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Safe, Secure and Stable
Page 15 of 51

PRE CARE ABUSE EXPERIENCED BY PLACEMENT TYPE

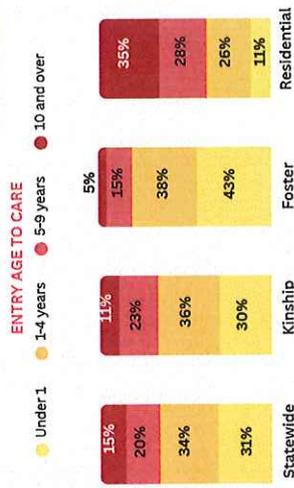
● Statewide ● Kinship ● Foster ● Residential



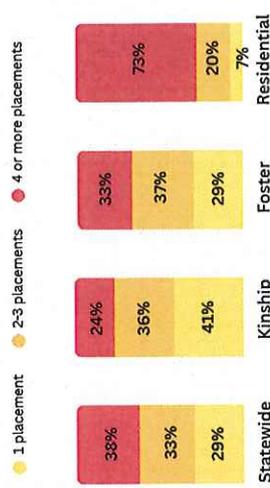
Children in residential care will have experienced higher rates of sexual, physical and/or emotional abuse prior to entering care than children in kinship and foster care.

They will be more likely to have first entered care at an older age, will have experienced more placements, including reunification attempts and, are much more likely to have self placed at least once, than children in kinship and foster care

Compared to children in kinship and foster care, children in residential care are more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness and be self harming and be much more likely to have been excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past. This complexity will still apply even when controlling for age (refer to Appendix B).



NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS



Refer to Appendix D and E for profiles of children in care placed with their grandparents and their sibling/s.



Self placed at least once (10 years and over)



Of children who have experienced reunification, have experienced more than 1 reunification attempt



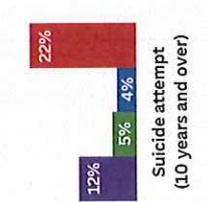
Diagnosed or suspected mental illness



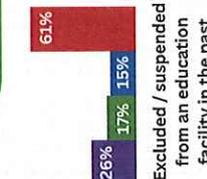
Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning*



Self harming now or in the past including suspected (10 years and over)



Suicide attempt (10 years and over)



Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past

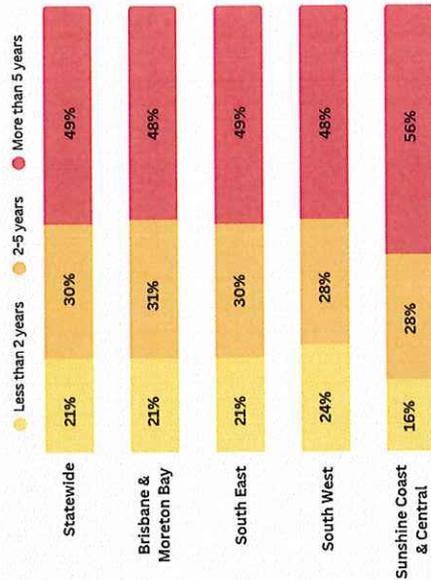


Poor social skills / disconnected

*excludes too young to determine

Profile by length of time in care in total

TOTAL TIME IN CARE

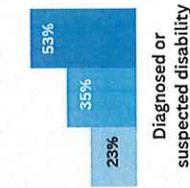


Children who have been in care for longer periods of time in total have experienced more placements, including reunification attempts. They are more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness or disability.

Children who have been in care for more than 5 years are less likely to self-harm or attempt suicide compared to children who have been in care for less than 5 years.

NB This trend is most evident in kinship care and to a lesser extent foster care (see Appendix C)

NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS BY LENGTH OF TIME IN CARE



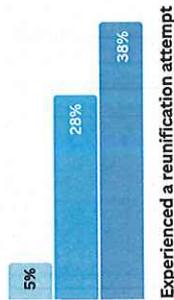
Diagnosed or suspected mental illness



Self-harming now or in the past including suspected (10 years and over)



Suicide attempt (10 years and over)



Experienced a reunification attempt



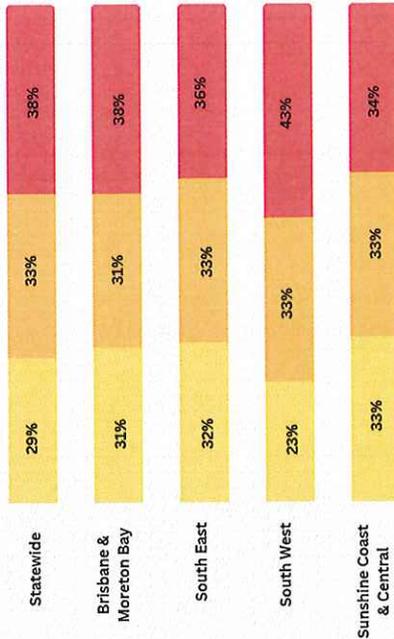
Experienced more than 1 reunification attempt



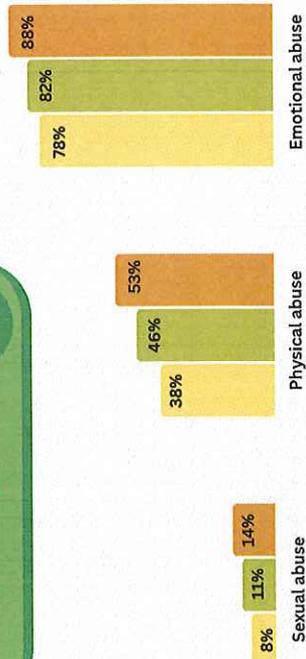
Profile by number of placements

NO OF PLACEMENTS

● 1 placement ● 2-3 placements ● 4 or more placements

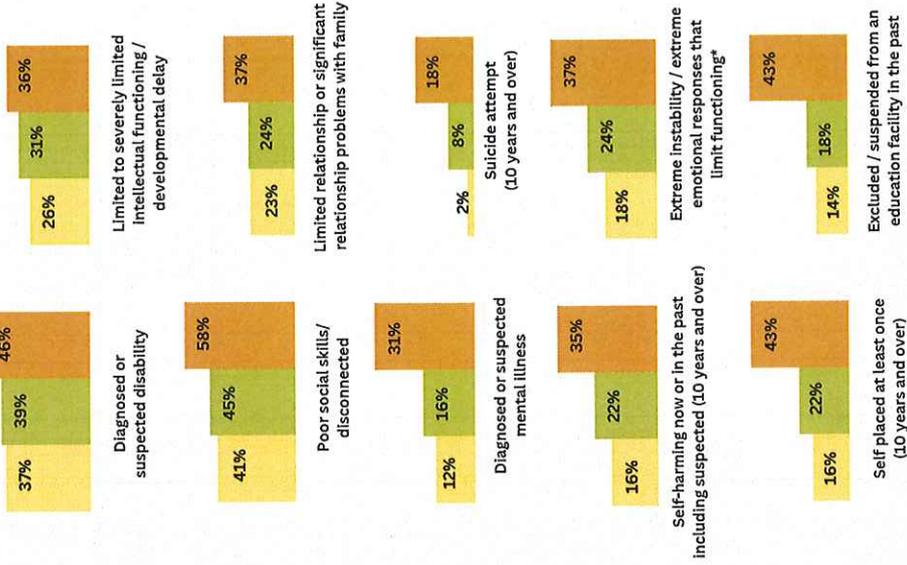


Refer to Appendix G for profile of children who have experienced a reunification attempt



Children who have experienced more placements have higher levels of complexity compared to children who have experienced fewer placements. They will have experienced higher rates of abuse prior to entering care and will be more likely to have a mental illness and be self harming.

See Appendix F for more information.

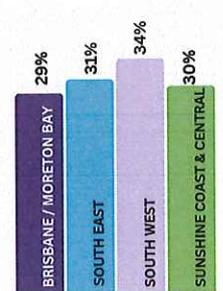


*excludes too young to determine

Profile of children and young people who have self placed (10 years and over)

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

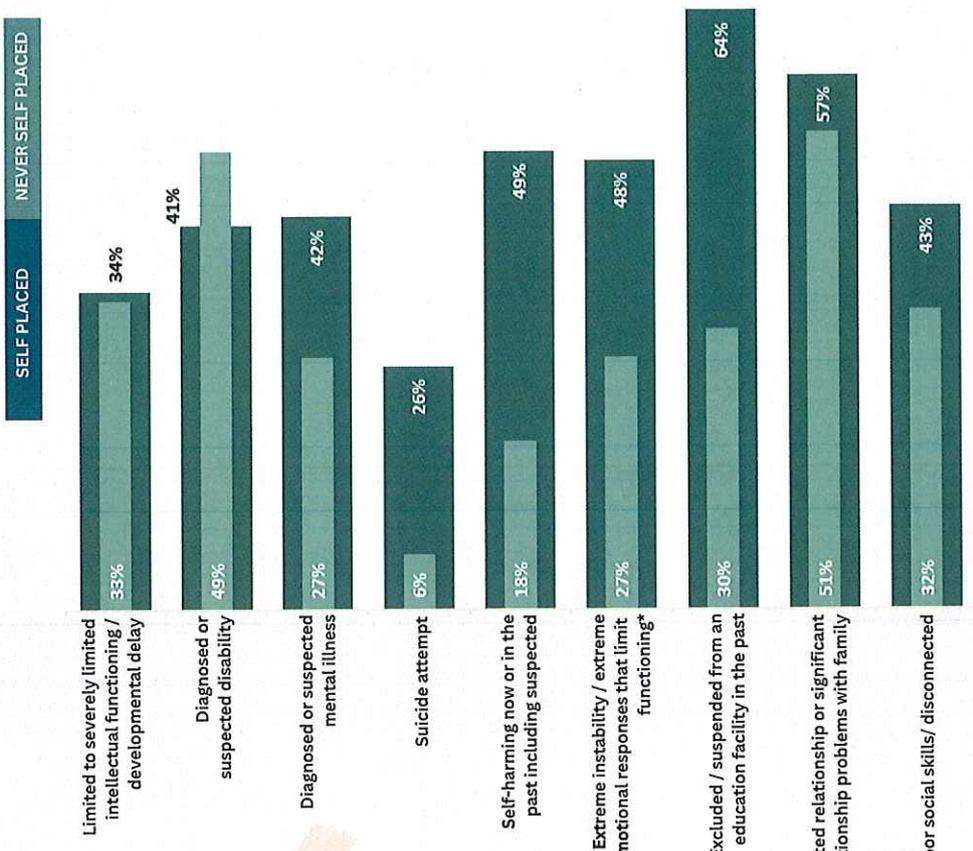
Safe, Secure and Stable
Page 18 of 51



Children who have self placed at least once have higher levels of complexity than children who have never self placed. They are much more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness, be self harming and to have been excluded /suspended from an education facility in the past.

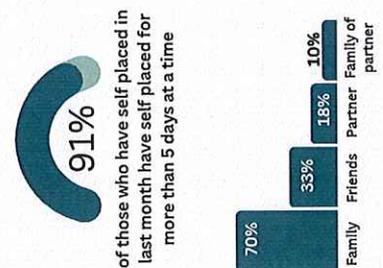
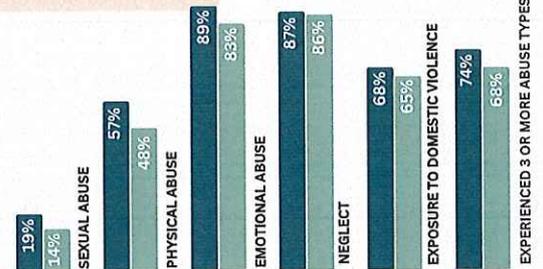
Children who self place are more likely to be self placing from non home based care and have entered care for the first time at an older age.

The majority of children who had self placed in the past month had done so for more than 5 days at a time and were self placing with family.



No of times they have self placed in last month

Frequency	Percentage
Once	50%
2-5 times	15%
More than 5 times	35%



The majority self place with family

*excludes too young to determine



Healthy

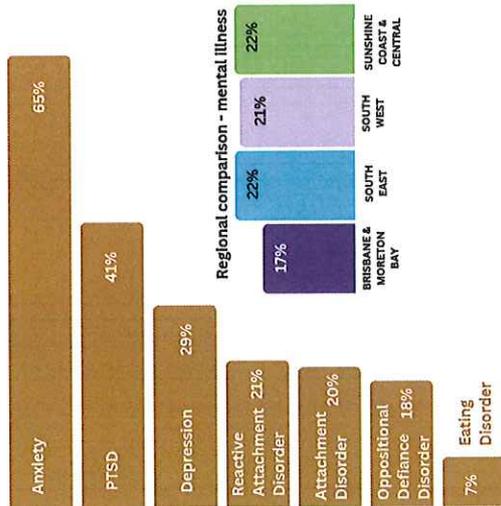
Healthy Summary



Refer to Appendix H and I for profiles of children with a mental illness

have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness

MOST PREVALENT MENTAL ILLNESSES



receive some form of support for their mental illness



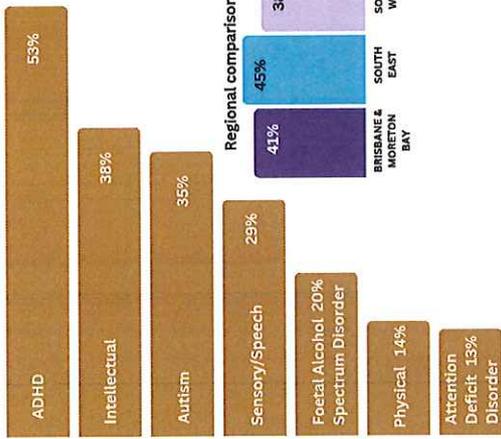
have unmet support needs in relation to their mental illness



Refer to Appendix J for a profile of children with a disability

have a diagnosed or suspected disability

MOST PREVALENT DISABILITIES



receive NDIS support for their disability



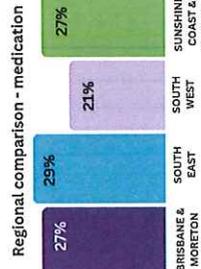
have unmet support needs in relation to their disability



Refer to Appendix K for a profile of children with limited emotional resilience

take prescribed medication

MOST PRESCRIBED REASON

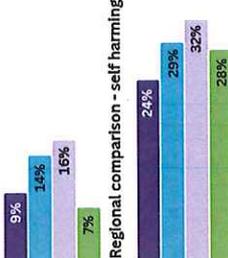
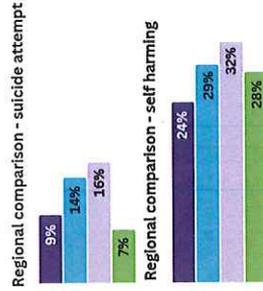
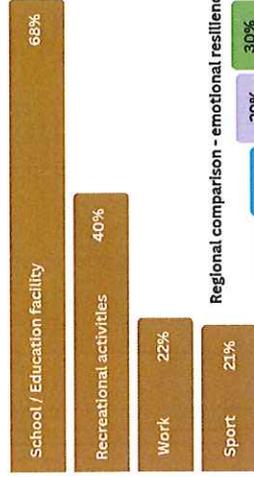


have attempted suicide (10 years and over)



display extreme instability / emotional responses that limit functioning*

RESPONSES LIMIT PARTICIPATION IN



self harm now or in the past or are suspected to be (10 years and over)

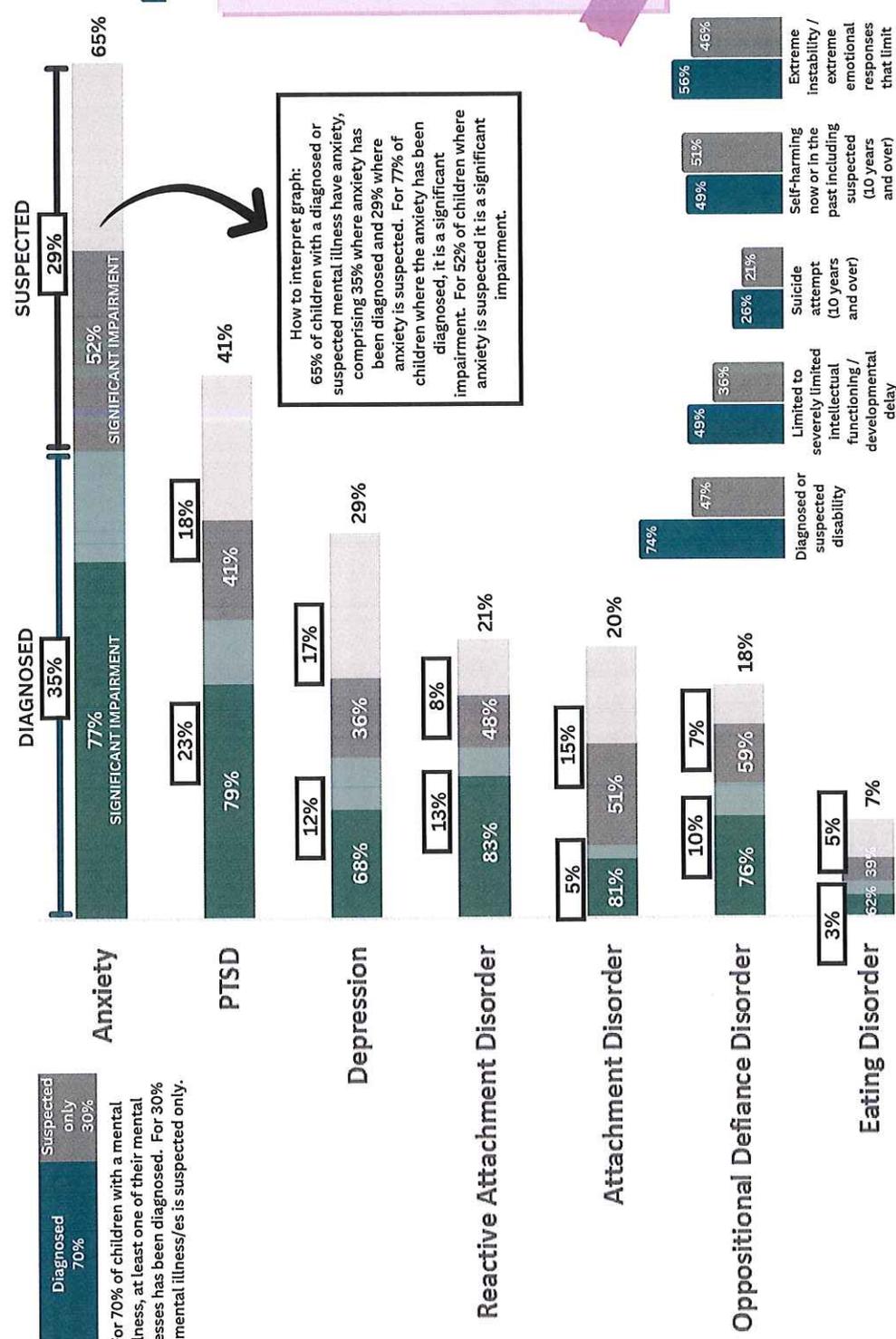
*excludes too young to determine

Mental illness / Behavioural disorder Assessment status and Significant impairment

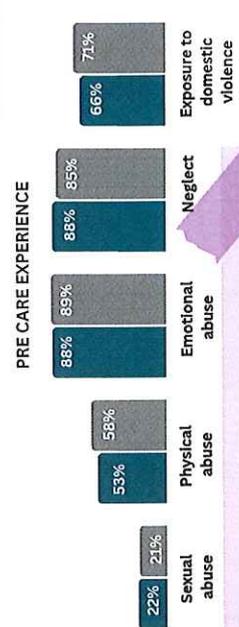
Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety



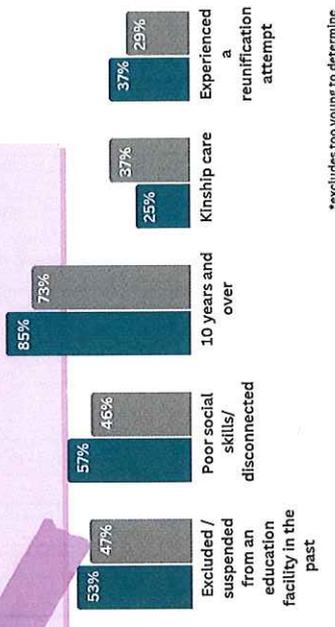
For 70% of children with a mental illness, at least one of their mental illnesses has been diagnosed. For 30% the mental illness/es is suspected only.



How to interpret graph:
65% of children with a diagnosed or suspected mental illness have anxiety, comprising 35% where anxiety has been diagnosed and 29% where anxiety is suspected. For 77% of children where the anxiety has been diagnosed, it is a significant impairment. For 52% of children where anxiety is suspected it is a significant impairment.



There are no notable differences in pre care abuse experienced by children with a diagnosed mental illness and children with a suspected mental illness only. Children who have been diagnosed with a mental illness are much more likely to have a diagnosed or suspected disability than children with a suspected mental illness only and are more likely to have limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay. Children with a suspected mental illness only are more likely to be in kinship care than children with a diagnosed mental illness.



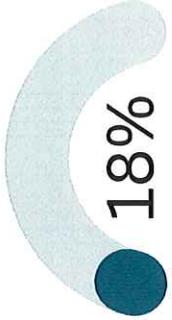
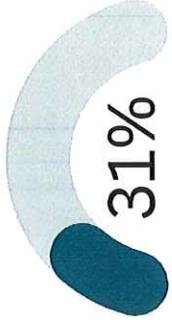
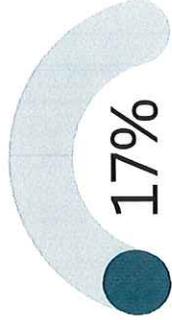
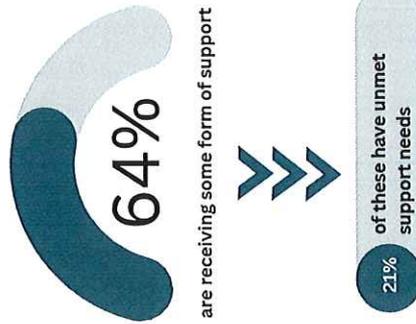
*excludes too young to determine

Support services for children with mental illness / behavioural disorders

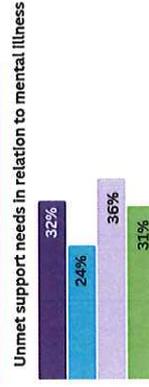
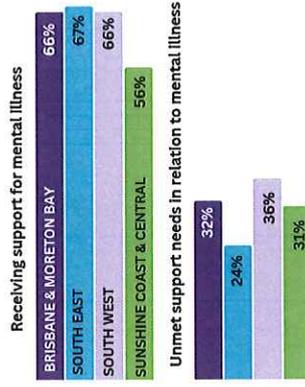
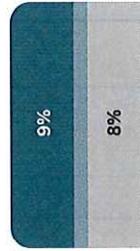
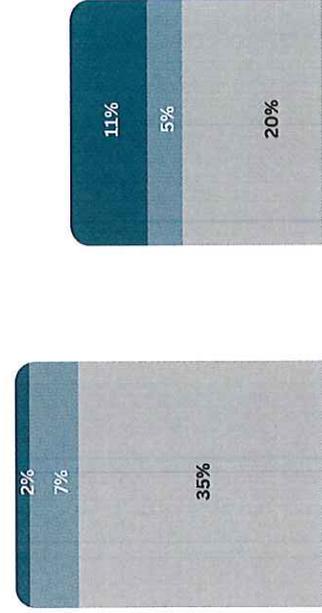
Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Healthy
Page 22 of 51

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A DIAGNOSED OR SUSPECTED MENTAL ILLNESS:



● Currently receiving ● Pending ● Past support



Profile of children who are self harming now or in the past or suspected to be self harming (10 years and over)

● Self harming ● Not self harming



self harming now or in the past or are suspected to be (10 years and over)



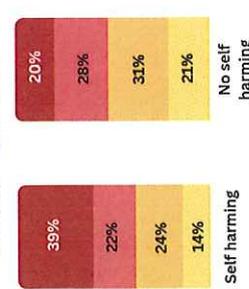
NO OF PLACEMENTS

- 1 placement
- 2-3 placements
- 4 or more placements



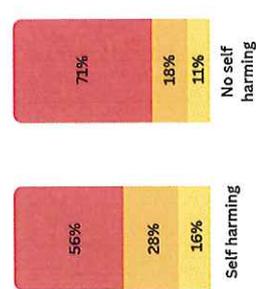
ENTRY AGE TO CARE

- Under 1
- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10 and over



TOTAL TIME IN CARE

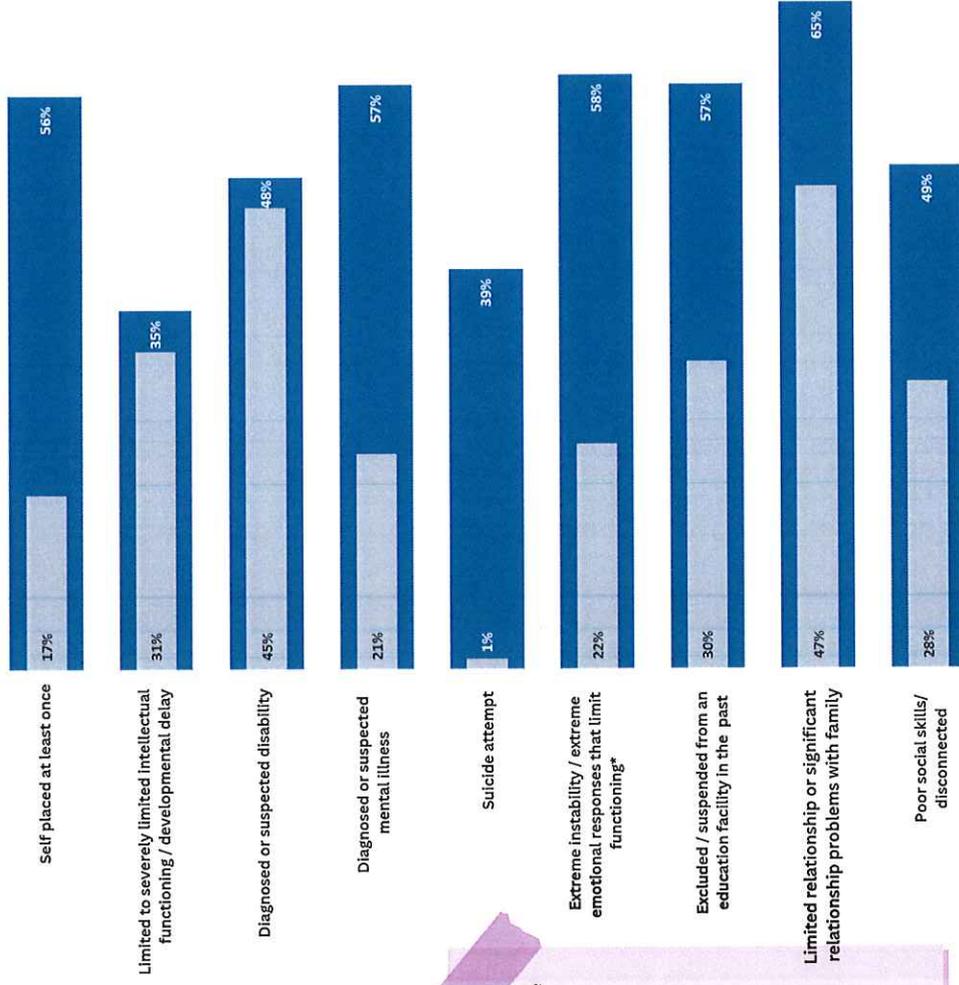
- Less than 2 years
- 2-5 years
- More than 5 years



Children who are self harming now or in the past or are suspected to be self harming have experienced higher rates of sexual, physical and emotional abuse prior to entering care.

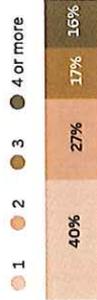
They are more likely to have entered care at an older age, be in non home based care and to have experienced more placements, including reunification attempts.

They are much more likely to have a mental illness, to have been excluded/suspended from an education facility in the past and to have self placed at least once.



*excludes too young to determine

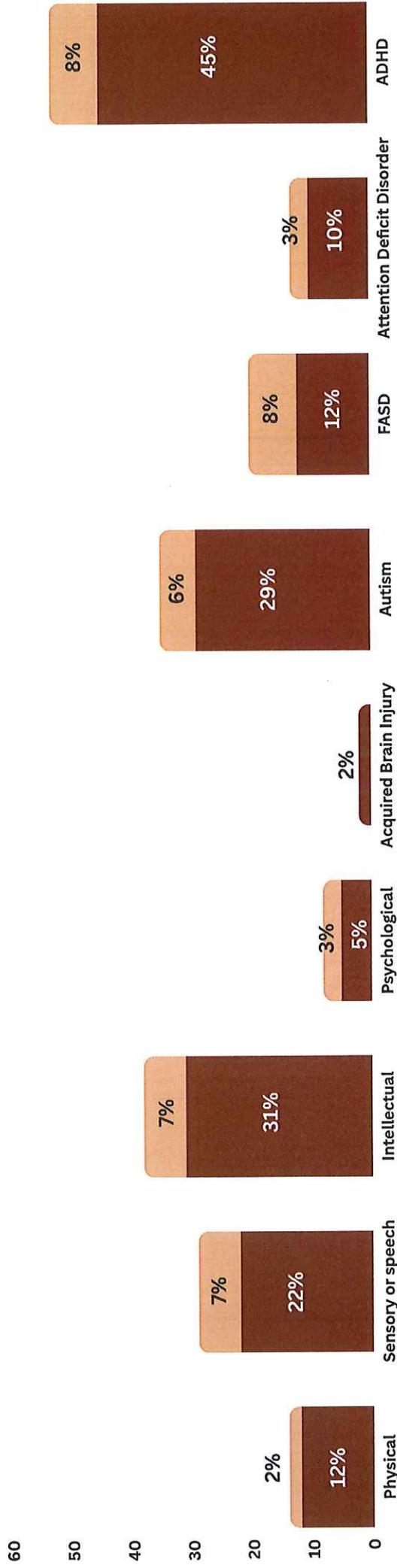
Disability - Assessment status



Number of disabilities per child



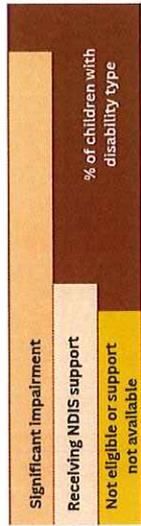
● Diagnosed ● Suspected



Support services for children with a disability



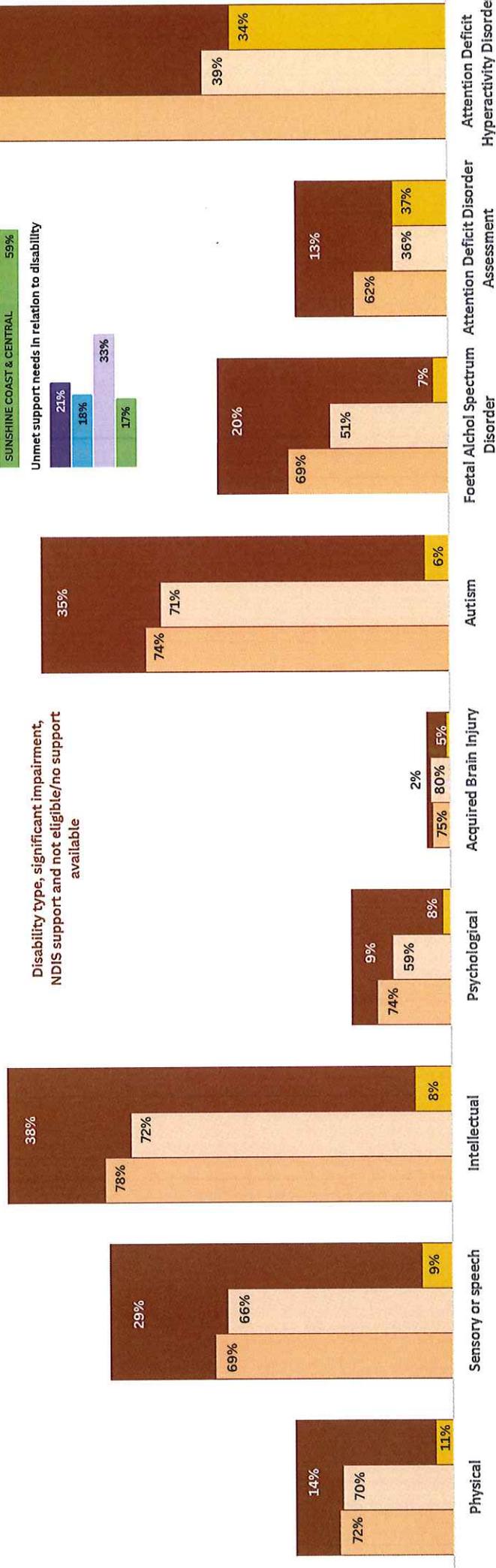
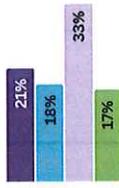
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A DIAGNOSED OR SUSPECTED DISABILITY:



Receiving NDIS support for disability



Unmet support needs in relation to disability





Learning, Earning and Developing

Intellectual impairment / Developmental delay

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Learning, Earning and Developing
Page 27 of 51



of children in care have limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay

- Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning
- Average to above average intellectual functioning



Refer to Appendix P for a profile of children with poor social skills.



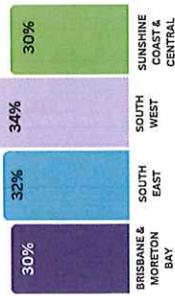
The majority of children with limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay have a diagnosed or suspected disability (81%). For half of these children, they have an intellectual disability.

Refer to Appendix L for more information

For the 81% of children with limited to severely limited intellectual functioning/developmental delay who also have a disability:

- 56% Intellectual disability
- 46% ADHD
- 41% Autism
- 26% FASD
- 39% Sensory / Speech disability
- 74% More than 1 disability
- 92% At least one disability is diagnosed

Regional comparison - Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay



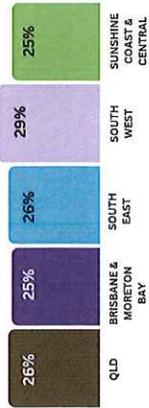
GENDER IS MALE



NB: There were no notable differences in pre care abuse experienced by children with limited to severely limited intellectual functioning/developmental delay compared to children with average to above average intellectual functioning.

Exclusions / suspensions

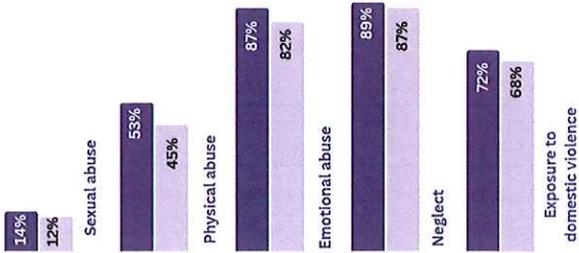
Proportion of sample cohort who have been excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past



Proportion of school age children aged 6 to 16 years who have been excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past



PRE CARE EXPERIENCE OF SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN 6-16 YEARS WHO HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED/SUSPENDED FROM AN EDUCATION FACILITY IN THE PAST

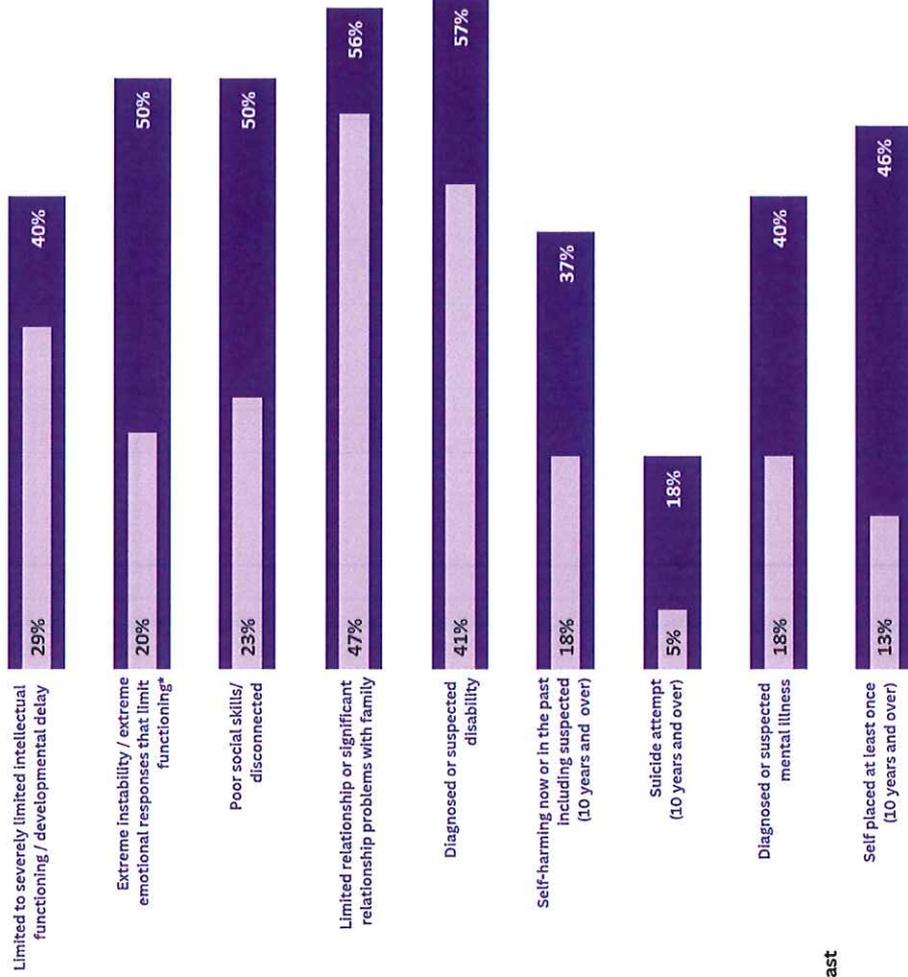


Children (aged 6-16 years) who have been excluded/suspended from an education facility will have experienced higher rates of physical abuse prior to entering care, and are more likely to have a mental illness and/or disability, be self harming and have an intellectual impairment.

See Appendix M for further information.

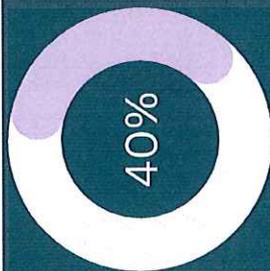
- Children aged 6-16 years who have been excluded/suspended in the past
- Children aged 6-16 years who have had no exclusions or suspensions

PROFILE OF SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN 6 TO 16 YEARS WHO HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED/SUSPENDED FROM AN EDUCATION FACILITY IN THE PAST



*excludes too young to determine

Transition to Adulthood



of the 15 years and above cohort are T2A in the next 12 months

Of these:



have a T2A plan



REGIONAL COMPARISON
- HAVE A T2A PLAN



are registered with Centrelink



For these young people their emotional responses limit their participation in:

School
Work



are remaining with their carer



REGIONAL COMPARISON
- REMAINING WITH CARER



are currently in paid employment



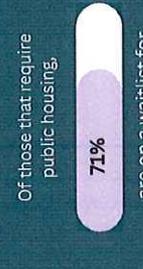
REGIONAL COMPARISON
- IN SOME FORM OF EMPLOYMENT



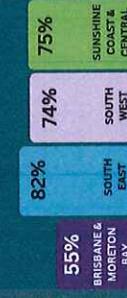
require public housing



REGIONAL COMPARISON
- REQUIRES PUBLIC HOUSING



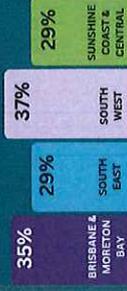
Of those that require public housing, are on a waitlist for public housing



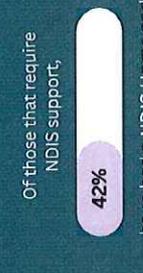
REGIONAL COMPARISON
- WAITLIST FOR PUBLIC HOUSING



require NDIS support



REGIONAL COMPARISON
- REQUIRES NDIS SUPPORT



Of those that require NDIS support, have had a NDIS Home and Living Options form submitted



REGIONAL COMPARISON
- NDIS HOME AND LIVING OPTIONS FORM SUBMITTED



Participating, Belonging and Identity

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Profile

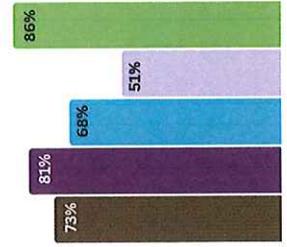
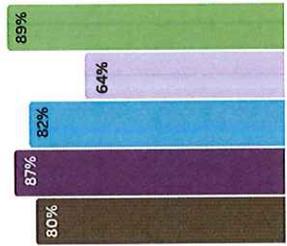
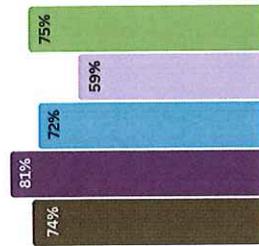
Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Participating, Belonging & Identity
Page 31 of 51

Have a Cultural Support Plan



- Statewide
- Brisbane and Moreton Bay
- South East
- South West
- Sunshine Coast and Central



Conflicted / disconnected from cultural identity*

Child able to and did participate in Cultural Support Plan development

Family / Cultural Authority participated in Cultural Support Plan development

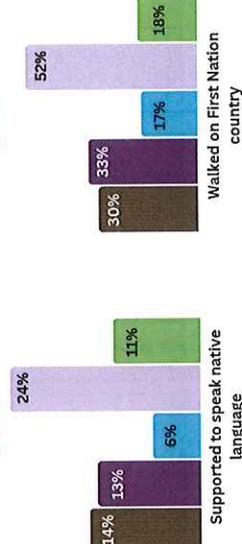
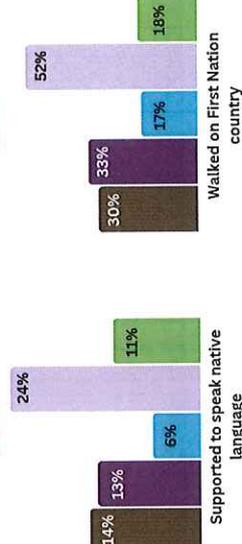
Native language identified in CSP

First Nation country identified in CSP

Independent Person engaged in past 12 months when significant decision made

of these

of these

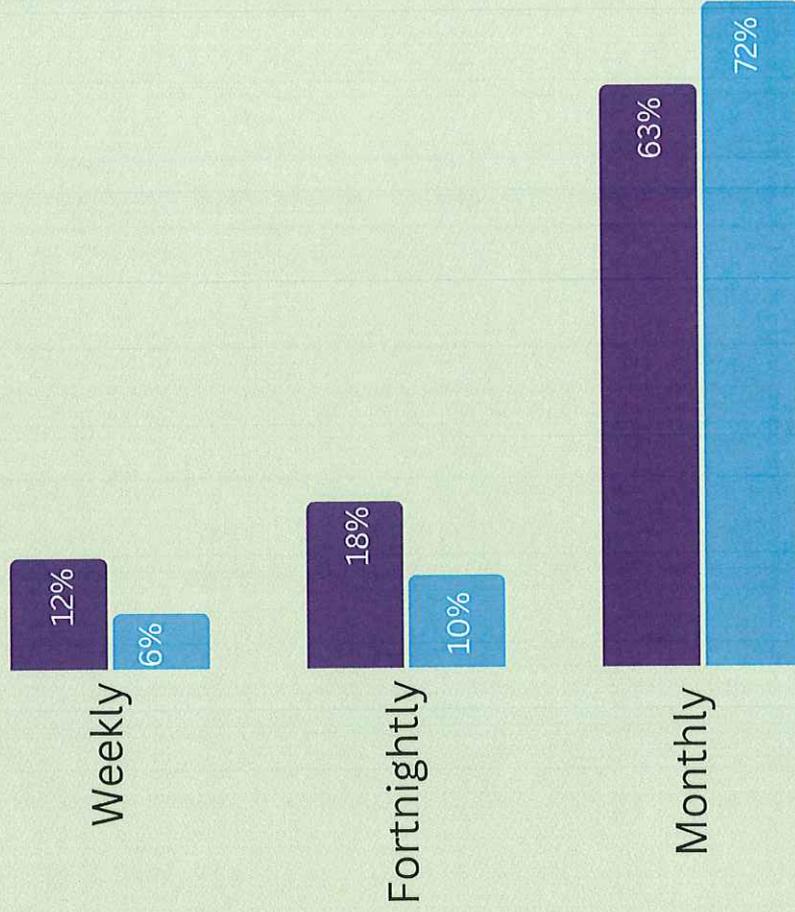


*excludes too young to determine



CSO engagement with child

● Any type of engagement ● Face to face engagement



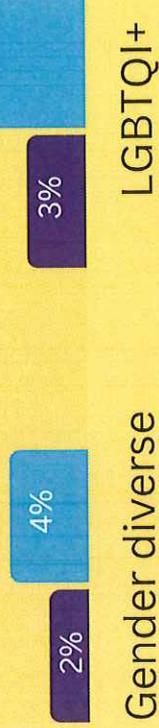
Diversity

Children and young people aged 10 years and over

● Children in Care Profile ● My Life in Care Survey 2023

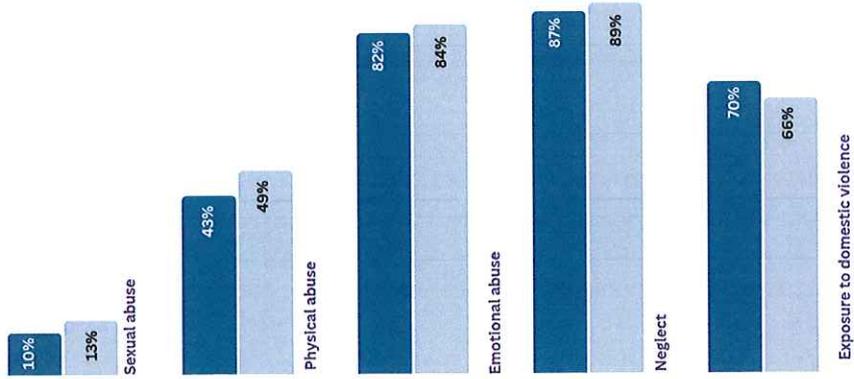
28% of children and young people aged 10-18 years who took the 2023 My Life in Care survey identified as LGBTQI+ and 4% indicated they were gender diverse.

In the children in care profile sample, CSOs identified 3% of children and young people 10 years and over as LGBTQI+ and 2% as gender diverse.



Relationship with Biological family

PRE CARE EXPERIENCE



Nurturing relationship with family



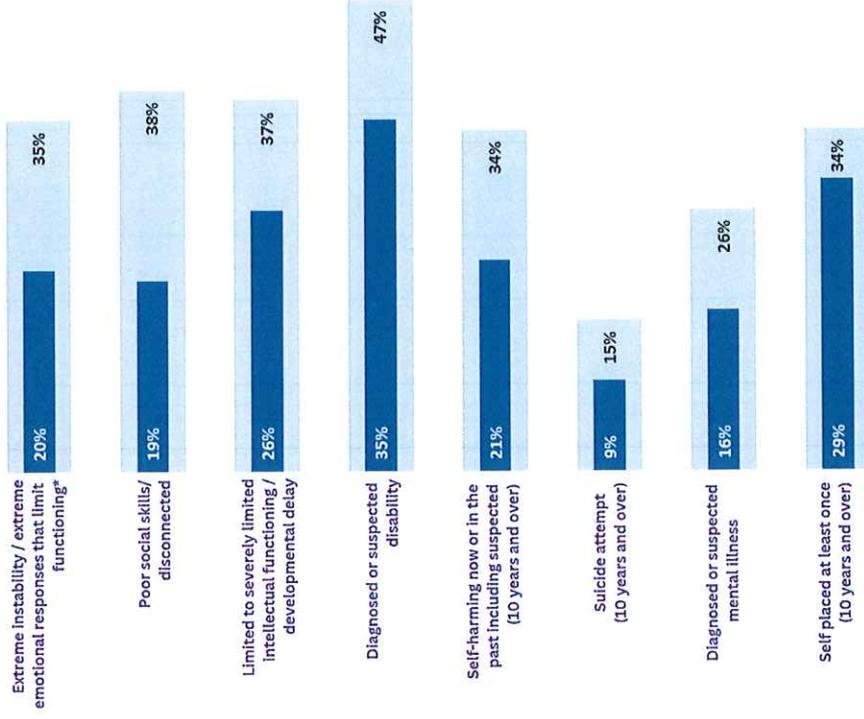
Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family

Similarly to children placed with at least one sibling (Appendix E) children who are on nurturing terms with their family display less complexity, including self harming behaviour, than children who are in conflict with their families.

See Appendix N for more information.

- Nurturing relationship with family
- Limited relationship / Significant problems with family

PROFILE



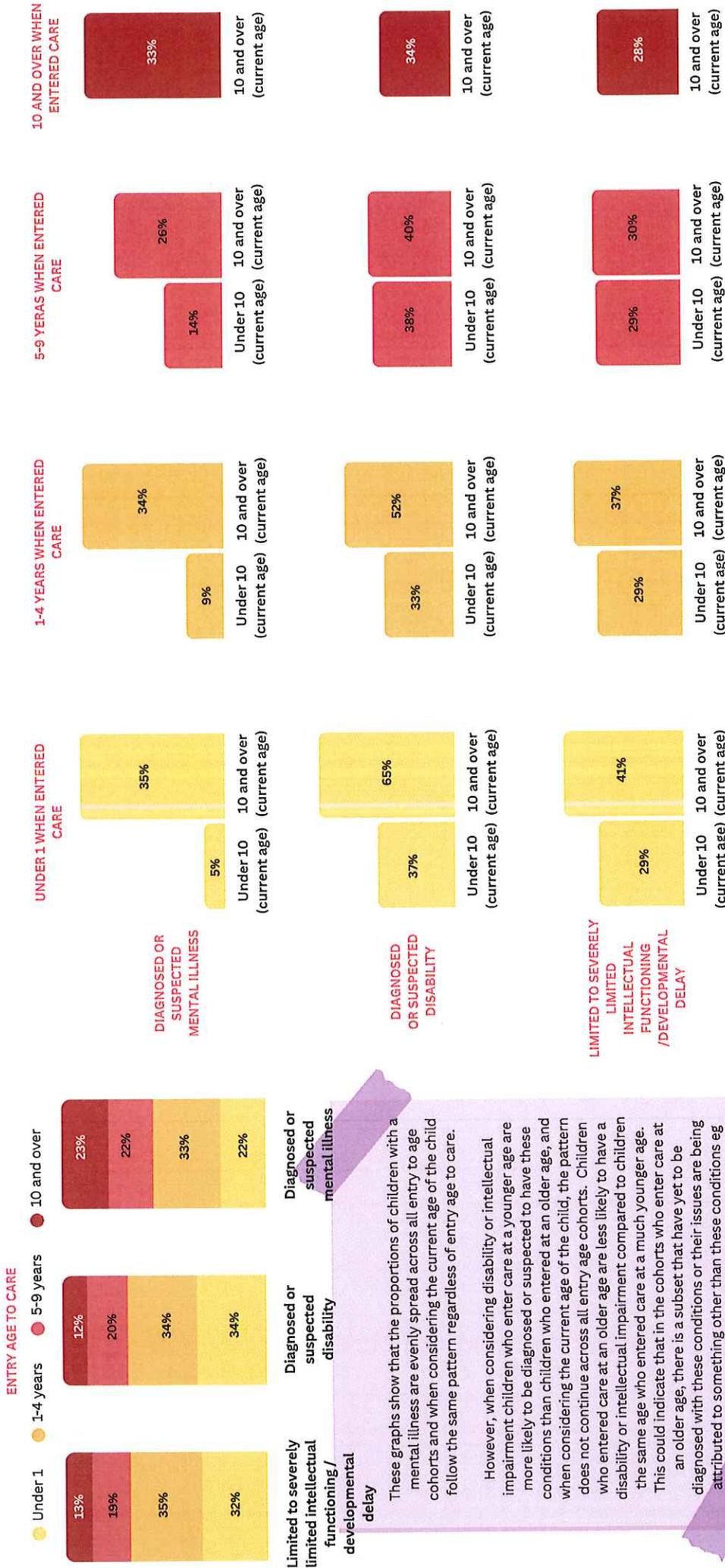


Appendices

Appendix A

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Current age by age entered care



Diagnosed or suspected mental illness

Diagnosed or suspected disability

Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay

These graphs show that the proportions of children with a mental illness are evenly spread across all entry to age cohorts and when considering the current age of the child follow the same pattern regardless of entry age to care.

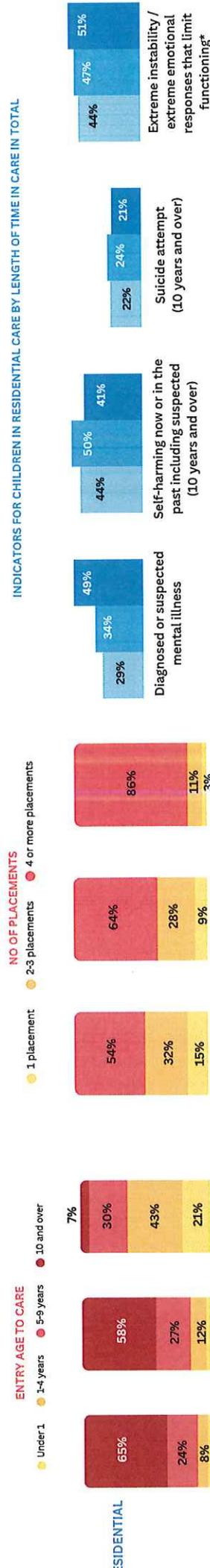
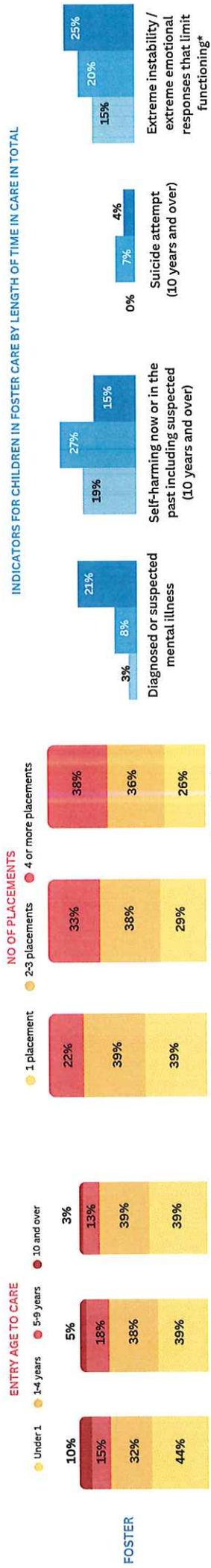
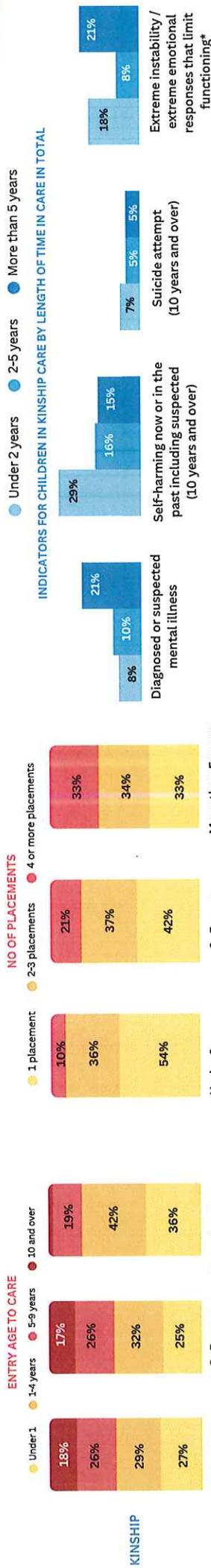
However, when considering disability or intellectual impairment children who enter care at a younger age are more likely to be diagnosed or suspected to have these conditions than children who entered at an older age, and when considering the current age of the child, the pattern does not continue across all entry age cohorts. Children who entered care at an older age are less likely to have a disability or intellectual impairment compared to children the same age who entered care at a much younger age. This could indicate that in the cohorts who enter care at an older age, there is a subset that have yet to be diagnosed with these conditions or their issues are being attributed to something other than these conditions eg trauma.

Appendix C

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Length of time in care in total by placement type

Findings subject to variability due to small sample sizes



*excludes too young to determine

Appendix D

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Profile of children placed with grandparent/s



*excludes too young to determine

Appendix E

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Profile of children placed with sibling/s

● Placed with a sibling - Statewide ● Not placed with a sibling - Statewide ● Placed with a sibling - Foster care ● Not placed with a sibling - Foster care

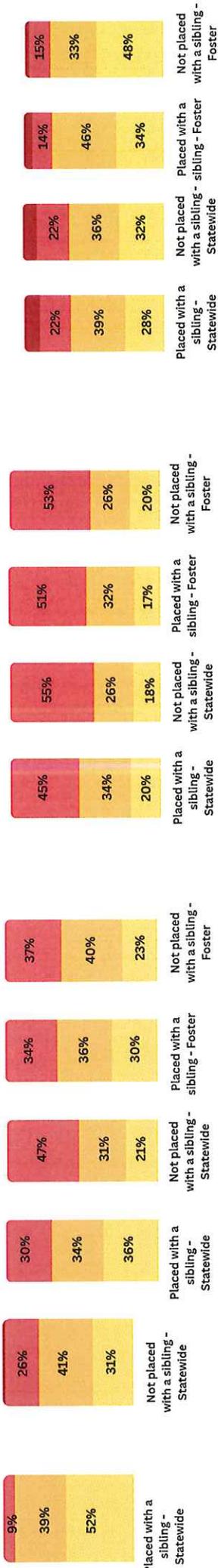


● Kinship ● Foster ● Residential ● Other

● 1 placement ● 2-3 placements ● 4 or more placements

● Less than 2 years ● 2-5 years ● More than 5 years

● Under 1 ● 1-4 years ● 5-9 years ● 10 and over



APPROVED PLACEMENT TYPE

NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS

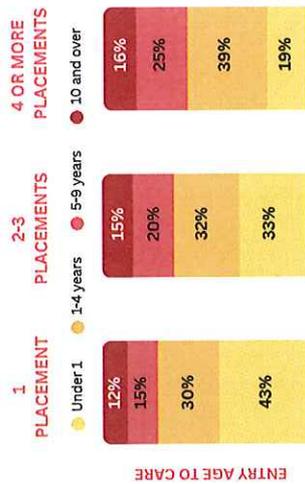
TOTAL TIME IN CARE

ENTRY AGE TO CARE

Appendix F

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

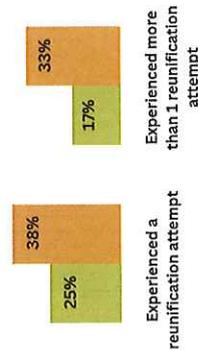
Additional information - Number of placements



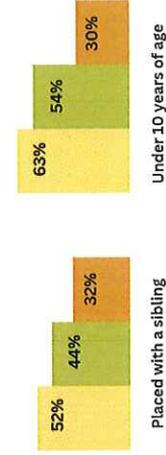
Children who have experienced 4 or more placements are less likely to have entered care at birth or be in kinship care and are more likely to have experienced a reunification attempt.

They are more likely to have been in care for more than 5 years in total and will generally be older than children who have experienced fewer placements.

See also Page 17.



Experienced more than 1 reunification attempt



Under 10 years of age

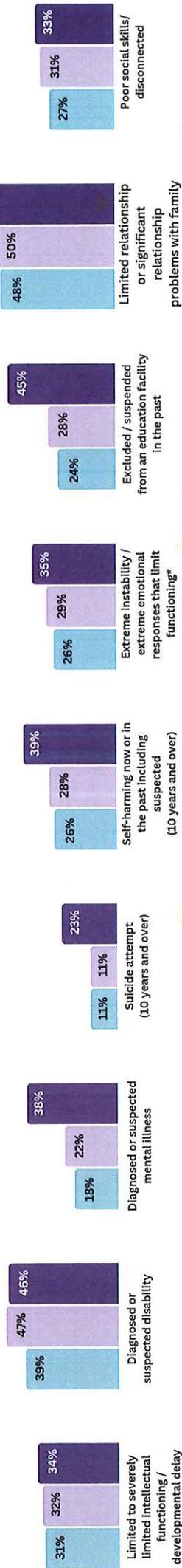
Appendix G

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Profile of children who have experienced a reunification attempt/s

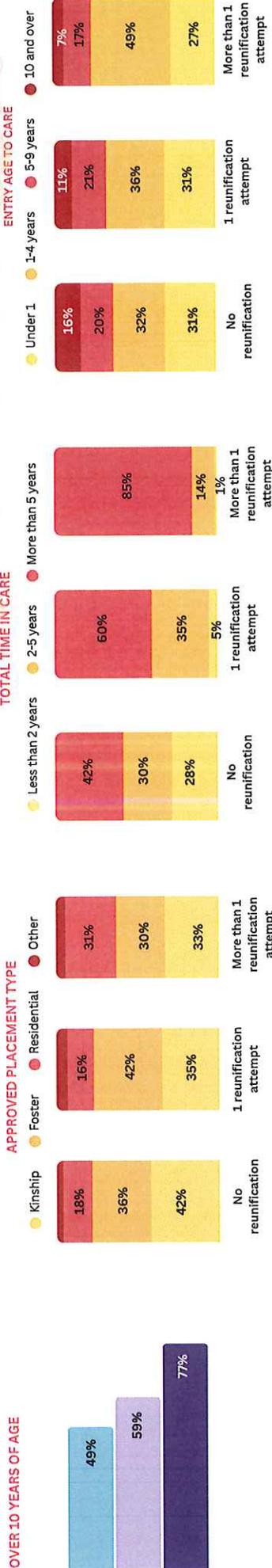
Page 41 of 51

● No Reunification attempt ● 1 Reunification attempt ● More than 1 Reunification attempt



Children who have experienced a reunification attempt or more than 1 reunification attempt have higher levels of complexity compared to children who have not experienced a reunification attempt (in line with previous slide in relation to increased complexity for children who have experienced multiple placements). They are more likely to have a suspected or diagnosed mental illness and be self harming.

Children who have experienced more than 1 reunification attempt are much more likely to have been in care for more than 5 years in total and will be older than children who have experienced 1 reunification attempt or no reunification attempts.

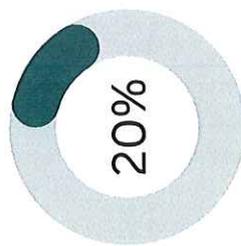


*excludes too young to determine

Appendix H

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Profile of children with a mental illness / behavioural disorder



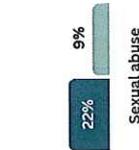
have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness



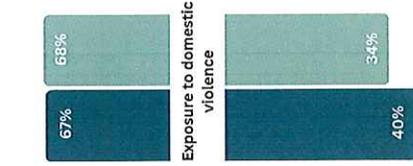
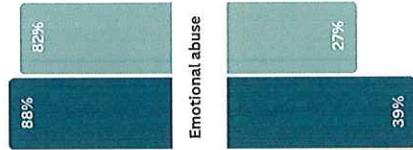
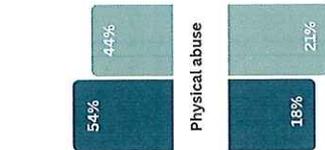
Number of mental illnesses per child

● Mental illness ● No Mental illness

PROPORTION BY ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED



ABUSE WAS CHRONIC



ENTRY AGE TO CARE

● Under 1 ● 1-4 years ● 5-9 years ● 10 and over



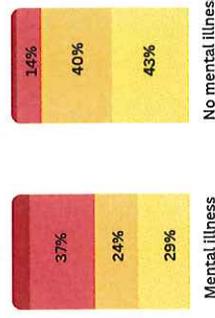
TOTAL TIME IN CARE

● Less than 2 years ● 2-5 years ● More than 5 years



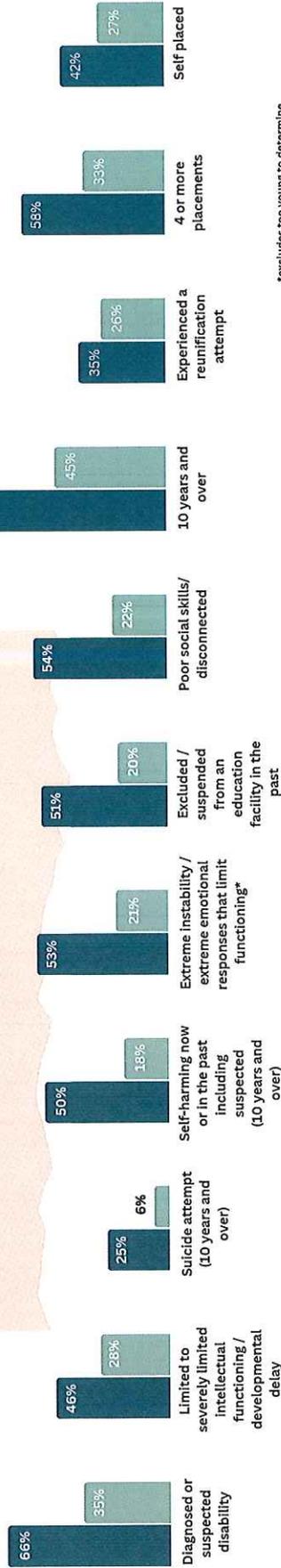
APPROVED PLACEMENT TYPE

● Kinship ● Residential ● Foster ● Other



Children in care with a diagnosed or suspected mental illness are more likely to have experienced higher rates of chronic abuse and have higher levels of complexity and need than children without a mental illness.

They are more likely to have entered care for the first time at an older age and have been in care for longer periods of time in total. They will also be more likely to be in non home based care, have experienced more than one reunification attempt and be 10 years or older. Ssee Appendix I for comparison of children 10 years and over with a mental illness.



*excludes too young to determine

Appendix I

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Profile of children with a mental illness / behavioural disorder 10 years and over

● Mental illness (10 years and over) ● No Mental illness (10 years and over)



of children in care aged 10 years and over have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness

PROPORTION BY ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED

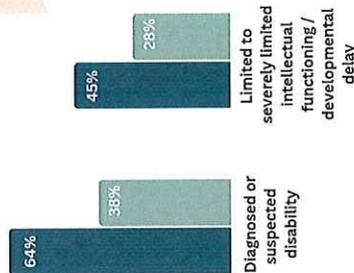


ABUSE WAS CHRONIC



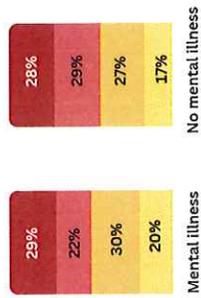
When controlling for age, older children in care with a diagnosed or suspected mental illness continue to have much higher complexity and need than older children in care without a mental illness.

These children are twice as likely to have experienced sexual abuse, will have experienced higher rates of chronic abuse and will be twice as likely to be in non home based care.



*excludes too young to determine

● ENTRY AGE TO CARE
 ● Under 1 ● 1-4 years
 ● 5-9 years ● 10 and over



● TOTAL TIME IN CARE
 ● Less than 2 years ● 2-5 years
 ● More than 5 years



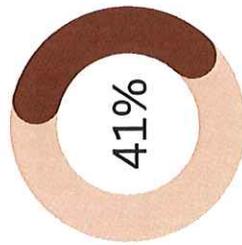
● APPROVED PLACEMENT TYPE
 ● Kinship ● Foster
 ● Residential ● Other



Appendix J

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Profile of children with a disability / neurodevelopmental disability

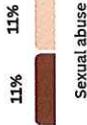


have a diagnosed or suspected disability

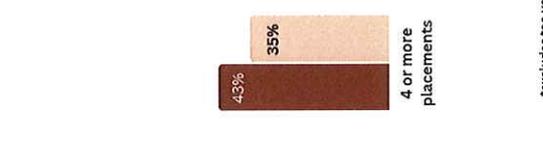
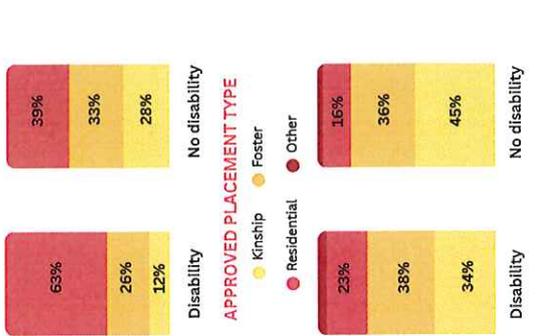
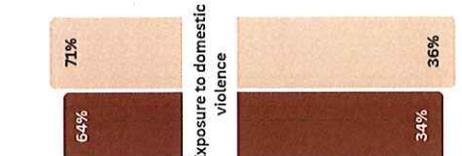
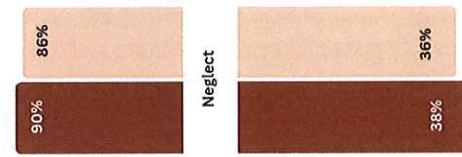
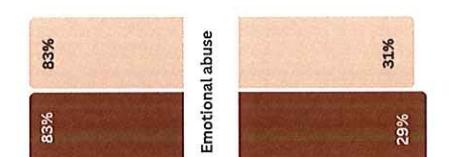
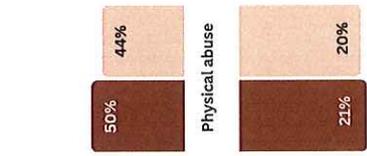
There are no notable differences in pre care abuse experienced by children with a diagnosed or suspected disability and those without a disability. Children in care with a diagnosed or suspected disability are much more likely to have limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay, to have been in care for more than 5 years in total and to have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness.

● Disability ● No Disability

PROPORTION BY ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED



ABUSE WAS CHRONIC



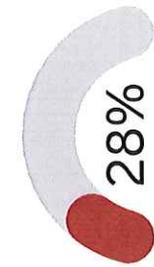
*Specifically from 10 years to determine

Appendix K

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

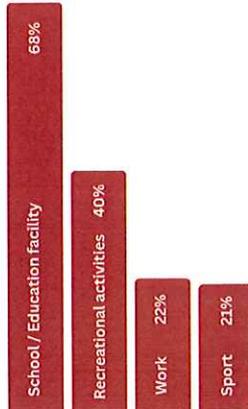
Emotional resilience

● Extreme emotional responses that limit functioning ● Generally stable / high resilience



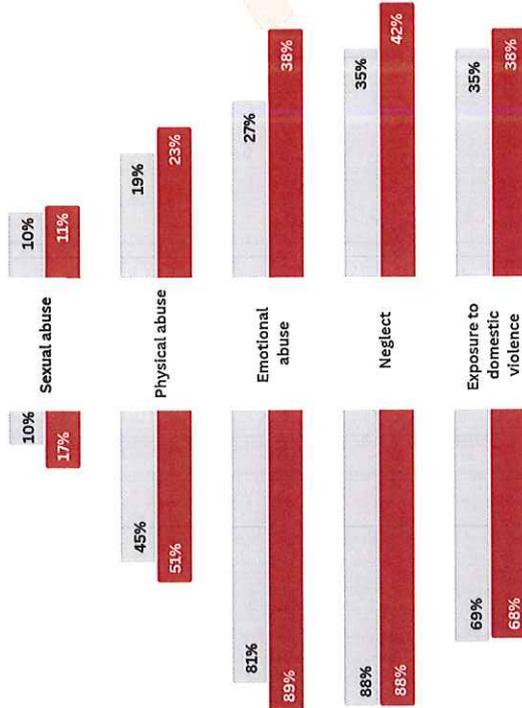
display extreme instability / emotional responses that limit functioning*

RESPONSES LIMIT PARTICIPATION IN:

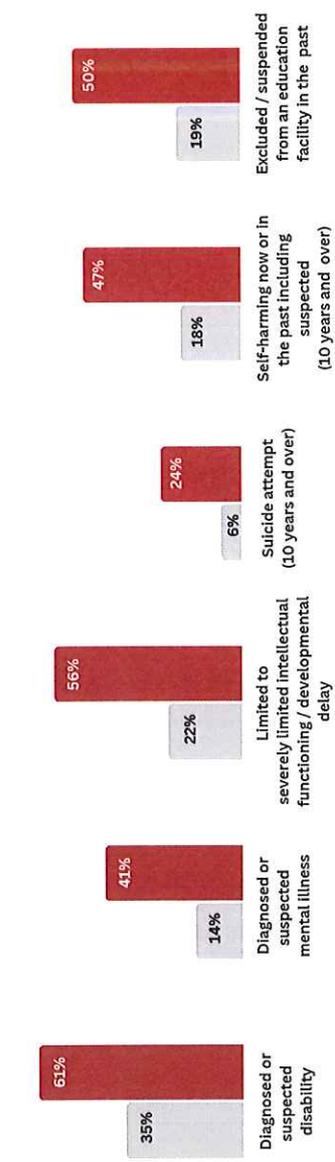
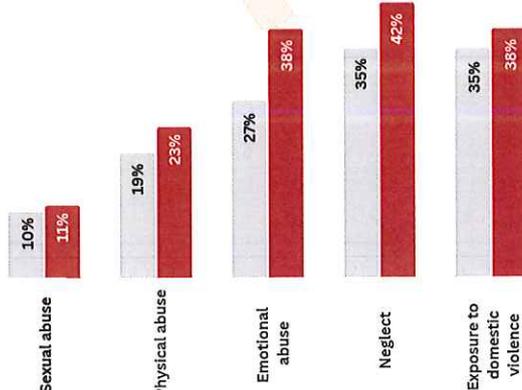


Children with extreme emotional response are much more likely to have a disability and/or mental illness, be intellectually impaired, be self-harming and to have been excluded/suspended from an education facility in the past. They are less likely to be in home based care or to have entered care at a younger age and will have experienced higher rates of chronic abuse than children who are generally stable. They are more likely to have been in care for a longer period in total and to have experienced more placements in care.

PROPORTION BY ABUSE TYPE EXPERIENCED



ABUSE WAS CHRONIC

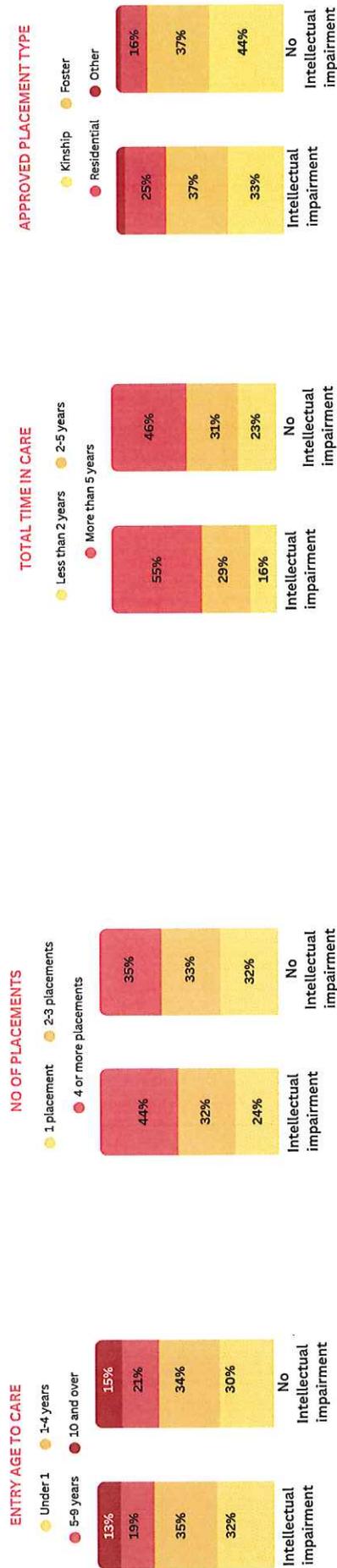


*excludes too young to determine

Appendix L

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Additional information Intellectual impairment / Developmental delay

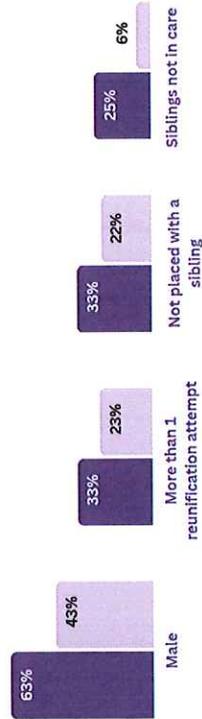


Appendix M

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Additional information School age children and young people aged 6-16 years who have been excluded/suspended in the past

Children (aged 6-16 years) are less likely to be in home based care and more likely to have experienced multiple placements, including reunification attempts. They are also more likely to have entered care for the first time at an older age, be male and have siblings that are not in care; and if their sibling/s are in care to not be placed with them.



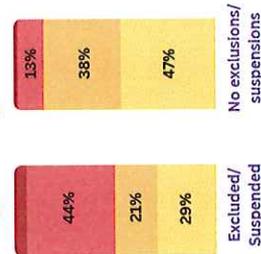
TOTAL TIME IN CARE

- Less than 2 years
- 2-5 years
- More than 5 years



APPROVED PLACEMENT TYPE

- Kinship
- Foster
- Residential
- Other



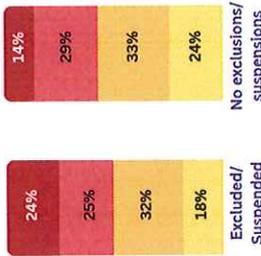
NO OF PLACEMENTS

- 1 placement
- 2-3 placements
- 4 or more placements



ENTRY AGE TO CARE

- Under 1
- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10 and over

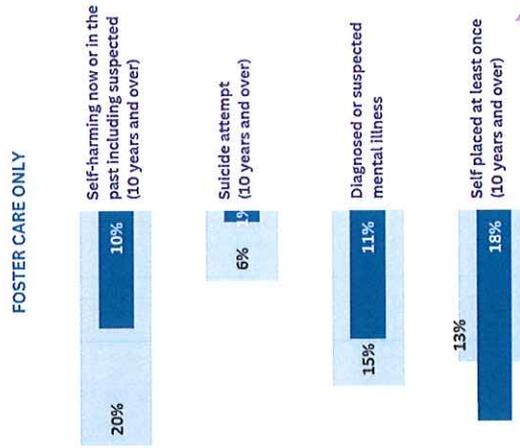


*excludes too young to determine

Appendix N

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Additional information Relationship with family



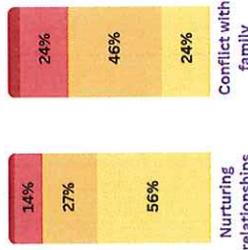
TOTAL TIME IN CARE

- Less than 2 years
- 2-5 years
- More than 5 years



APPROVED PLACEMENT TYPE

- Kinship
- Residential
- Foster
- Other



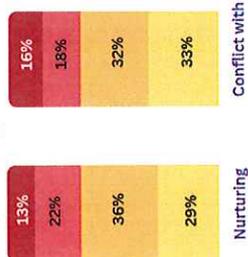
NO OF PLACEMENTS

- 1 placement
- 2-3 placements
- 4 or more placements



ENTRY AGE TO CARE

- Under 1
- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10 and over



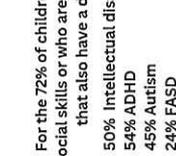
Children who have nurturing relationships with their family are much more likely to be in kinship care compared to children in conflict with their family; when controlling for this and comparing children in foster care only, the same trend of children with nurturing relationship with their family having less complexity (see Page 36) is evident, although that trend is not as pronounced.

Appendix O

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

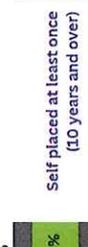
Social skills

● Well developed / Expected social skills
● Poor social skills / Disconnected



Children with poor social skills or those that are disconnected are much more likely to have an intellectual impairment and/or a diagnosed or suspected disability. They are also more likely to be self harming.

These children are less likely to be in kinship care; when controlling for this and comparing children in foster care only, the same trend is evident, although that trend is not as pronounced.



Poor social skills / Disconnected

For the 72% of children with poor social skills or who are disconnected that also have a disability:
50% Intellectual disability
54% ADHD
45% Autism
24% FASD
35% Sensory / Speech disability
73% More than 1 disability

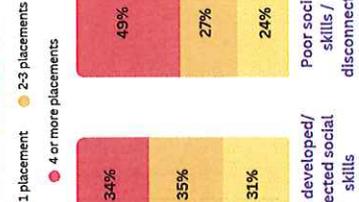
FOSTER CARE ONLY



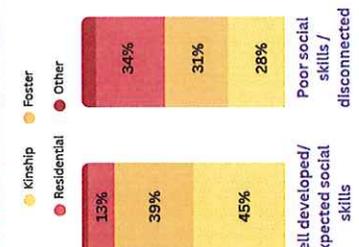
ENTRY AGE TO CARE



NO OF PLACEMENTS



APPROVED PLACEMENT TYPE



TOTAL TIME IN CARE

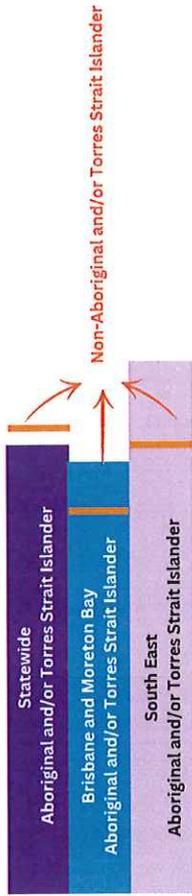


Appendix P

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

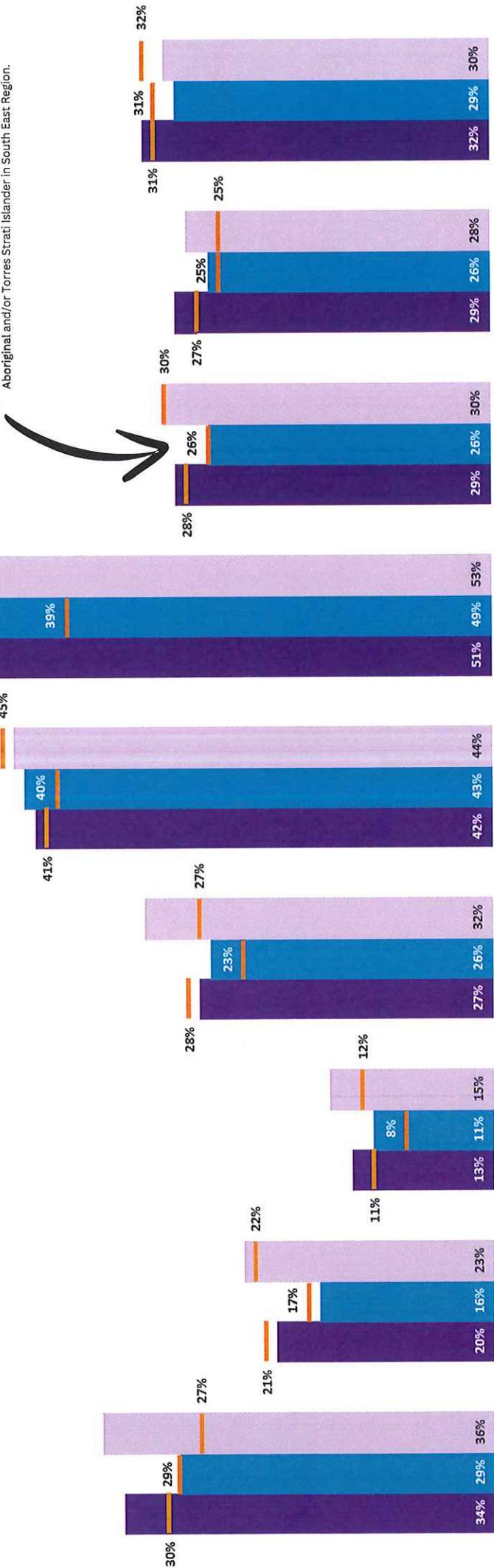
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander profile by region

Response rates do not allow for Indigenous profiles for South West, Sunshine Coast, North Queensland and Far North Queensland regions



How to interpret graph:

29% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children in care have poor social skills and/or are disconnected compared to 28% of non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children; 26% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children in Brisbane and Moreton Bay Region have poor social skills and/or are disconnected compared to 26% of non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children in Brisbane and Moreton Bay region; and 30% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children in South East Region have poor social skills and/or are disconnected compared to 30% of non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in South East Region.



*excludes too young to determine

Appendix Q

Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander profile by region

Response rates do not allow for Indigenous profiles for South West, Sunshine Coast, North Queensland and Far North Queensland regions



COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO QUEENSLAND'S CHILD SAFETY SYSTEM

PROACTIVE STATEMENT OF BERNADETTE HARVEY

A/DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, COMMISSIONING, DEPARTMENT OF
FAMILIES, SENIORS, DISABILITY SERVICES AND CHILD SAFETY

Annexure 4 – MLIC Summary Report

This and the preceding 23 pages is the annexure mentioned and referred to as

“Annexure 4” in the statement of BERNADETTE HARVEY dated 29 August
2025.



Bernadette Harvey



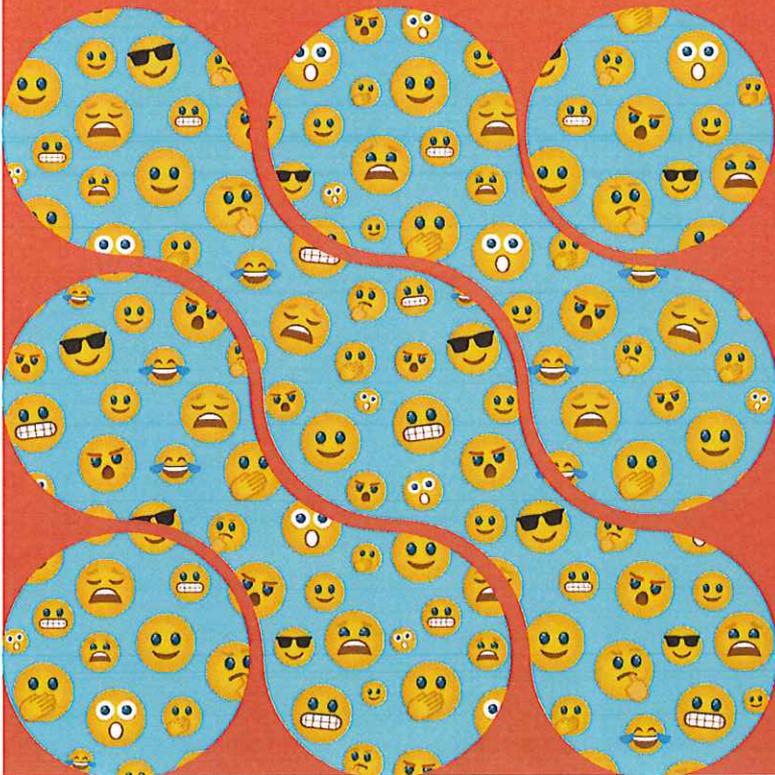
Witness

HEY!

What's on your mind?
MY LIFE IN CARE SURVEY



My Life in Care 2024 Report Summary



Draft Ministerial Foreword

As the newly appointed Minister for Child Safety, it is my job to ensure that the care system for children and young people in Queensland improves.

I am deeply committed to a child protection system where the needs of children and young people in care are met, and where there is a new era of engagement and reform that is informed by the lived experiences of children in care.

The findings from the latest My Life in Care survey provide a clear picture of the current state of the child protection system and serves as a cornerstone for our fresh approach.

Over 1,000 children and young people in care took part in the survey and had their say about how well the care system is supporting them across key outcomes including their safety and security, their physical and mental health, their education needs, their connection to culture and their readiness for the future.

Importantly, the survey also helps us understand how included children feel in decisions about their care and how well the system is doing in providing them with a stable, nurturing environment.

The results tell us that this government is on the right track with its reforms. Consistently, children and young people are voicing a need for more effective and accessible support services, particularly when it comes to therapy and mental health support. They want better access to extracurricular activities and more help with their education. And as they prepare for adulthood, they have told us they need more help and planning.

We've already increased investment in extracurricular programs for children in care, to provide more than just the basics and help them excel. This is just one part of our bigger reform program to make sure children in care feel not only safe and secure but also have every chance to succeed.

We know that improving outcomes for children in care is also a shared responsibility and that a coordinated approach across government is essential to giving them the best possible foundation for their future.

Our government is dedicated to a child protection system that is transparent, accountable and always improving. We will use what we learn from the My Life in Care survey each year to check on our progress, assess the impact of our reforms and continually refine our approach.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to every child and young person who took part in this survey. Your voices really matter, and you are helping us make the future of care in Queensland better.

The Honourable Amanda Camm MP
Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and
Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Contents

About this survey.....	2
10-18 year survey results:	
• Who responded.....	3
• Safe, Secure and Stable.....	4
• Healthy.....	7
• Learning, Earning and Developing.....	10
• Participating, Belonging and Identity.....	12
• Transitioning to Adulthood.....	19
5 - 9 year survey results.....	20

About this survey

All children and young people in care have a right to be heard and listened to.

Our annual My Life in Care survey is for Queensland children and young people in care, under the guardianship of the Chief Executive or on long-term orders where their guardian has consented, to have their say about their lives in care.

Two surveys are conducted - one for young people aged 10-18 and one for children aged 5-9.

The survey asks children and young people in care their views of the care system, including their placement and different aspects of their lives, such as their family and relationships. This report summarises their responses.

The responses provide an insight into what is working well for children and young people in care, and what needs to change so we can improve life in care for all Queensland children and young people.

All findings exclude answer choices of 'prefer not to say' or 'don't remember' from calculations.

NB: The survey sample is not representative of the out of home care population with children in residential care overrepresented and children in kinship care underrepresented in the sample. As a result, inferences about the in care population and direct comparisons with previous year's surveys are not possible. However, survey findings provide insights into life in care from the children and young people who responded to the survey.

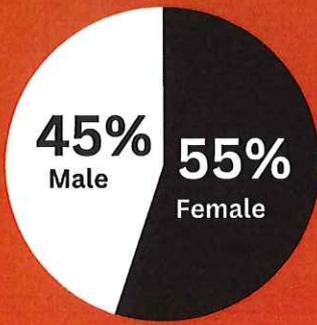


Figures in this report marked with this symbol have a Relative Standard Error (RSE) between 30% and 50% due to small sample sizes and should therefore be interpreted with caution due to the variability.

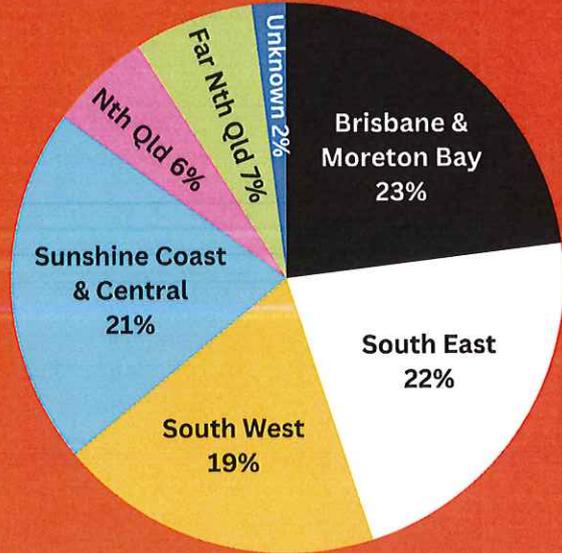
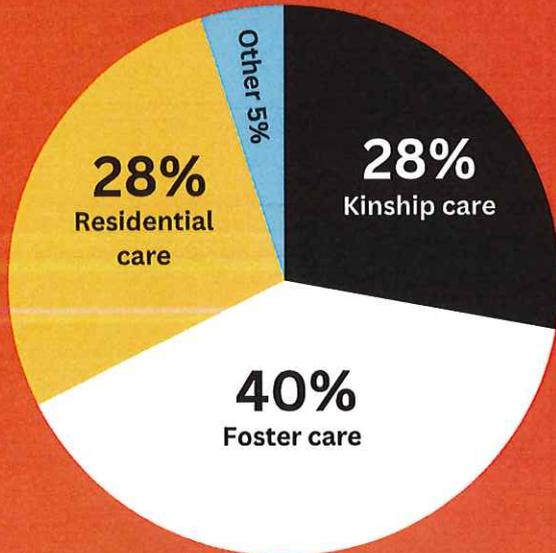
The Children's Health Human Research and Ethics Committee (EC00175) reviewed and approved this survey

Who responded

10-18 year survey[^]



991
survey
responses



Time in current placement



Estimated total time in care



[^] Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

Safe, Secure and Stable



BUT ONLY



OF THESE



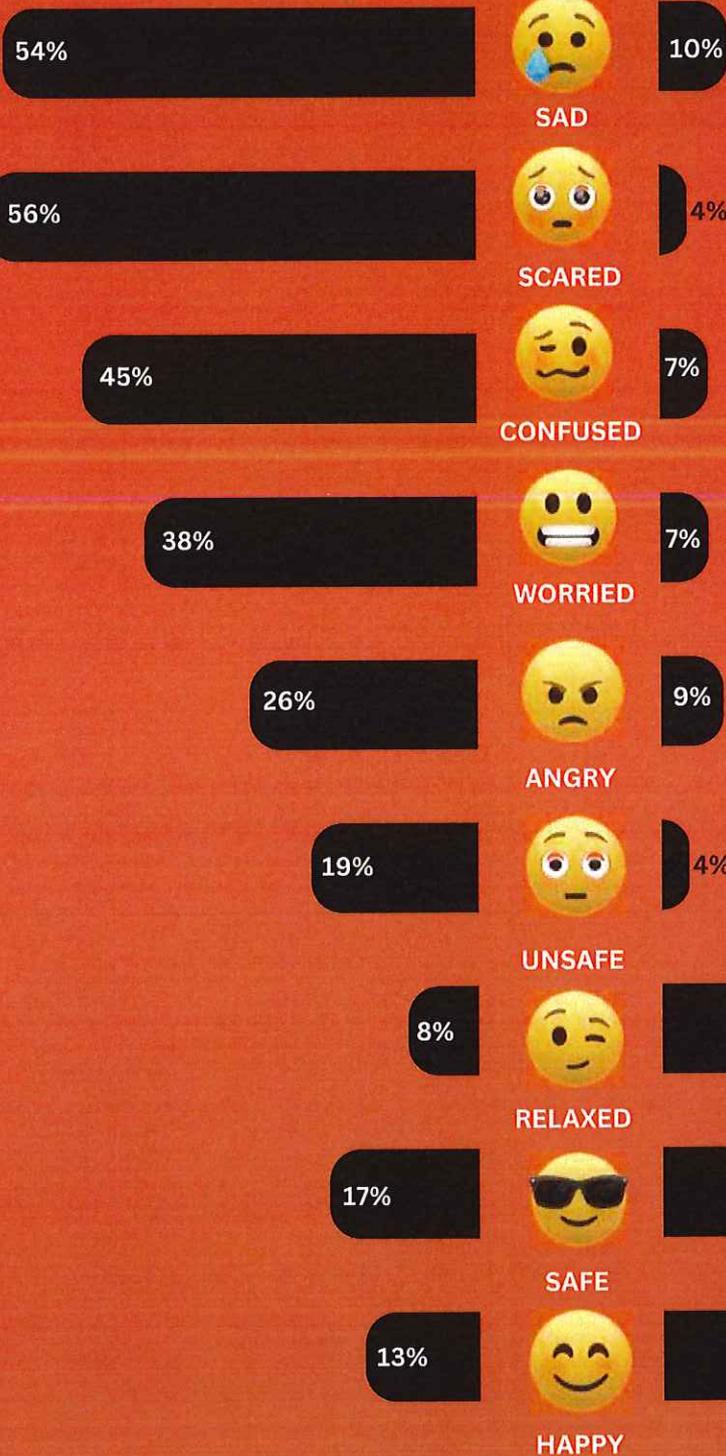
KNOW WHY THEY CAME INTO CARE

OF THOSE WHO REMEMBER COMING INTO CARE SAID THEY WERE TOLD WHAT TO EXPECT IN CARE

SAID WHAT THEY WERE TOLD WAS HELPFUL

FELT COMING INTO CARE^{^*}

FEEL NOW[^]



[^] Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices
^{*} Excludes answer choices of "Don't remember" from calculations

Safe, Secure and Stable

VIEWS ON CURRENT PLACEMENT



Always or most times have the privacy they need



Always or most times have the things they need to live comfortably



Always or most times feel safe and secure



Always or most times feel at home



Always or most times feel that people care about them



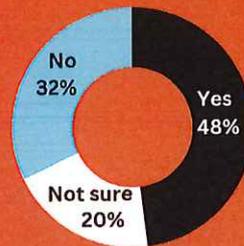
Always or most times can tell the people who look after them when they're worried

VIEWS ON MOVING

MOVED IN THE LAST YEAR



HAPPY TO HAVE MOVED

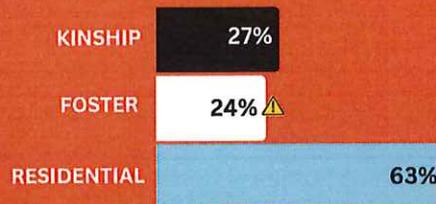


VIEWS ON PLACEMENT TYPES

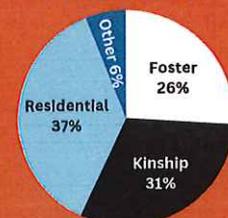
HAVE LIVED IN DIFFERENT PLACEMENT TYPES



OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE LIVED IN FOSTER, KINSHIP AND RESIDENTIAL CARE, THE PROPORTION WHO PREFER A DIFFERENT PLACEMENT TYPE TO WHERE THEY ARE CURRENTLY



PREFERRED PLACEMENT TYPE OF CHILDREN IN RESIDENTIAL CARE



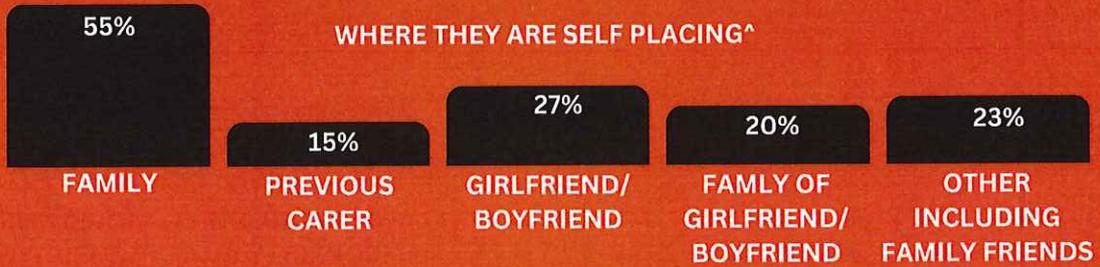
[^] Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices
^{*} Other includes by themselves, none or self placing

Safe, Secure and Stable

SELF PLACING



WHERE THEY ARE SELF PLACING[^]

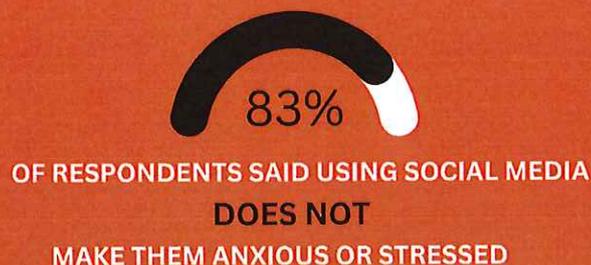
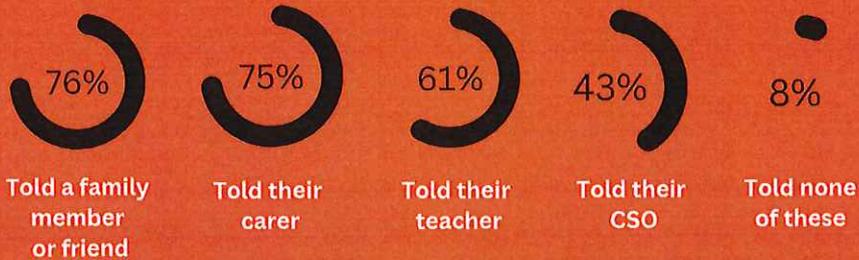


BULLYING AND ONLINE SAFETY

BEEN BULLIED IN THE LAST MONTH



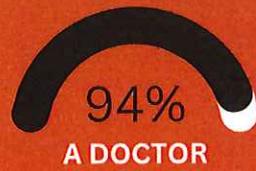
TOLD SOMEONE ABOUT BEING BULLIED



[^] Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

Healthy

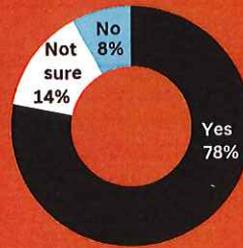
IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS HAVE SEEN



CHANGED DOCTORS SINCE ENTERING CARE



HAPPY WITH CURRENT DOCTOR



WORRIED ABOUT THEIR PHYSICAL HEALTH

■ Yes ■ Not sure ■ No



RATE THEIR MENTAL HEALTH

■ Very poor/Poor ■ Okay ■ Good/Excellent



ACCESSED THERAPY SINCE ENTERING CARE



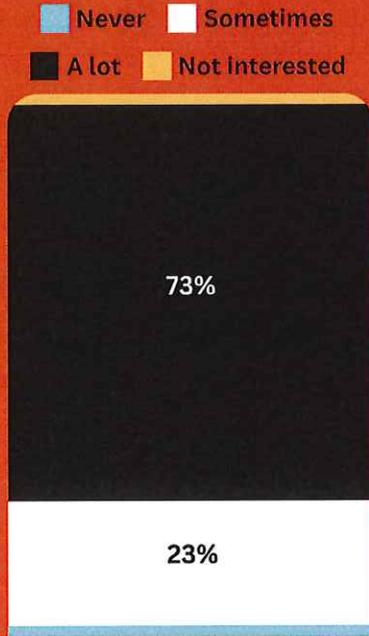
HELPFULNESS OF THERAPY

■ Not at all/A little ■ Somewhat ■ Quite a bit/Very helpful

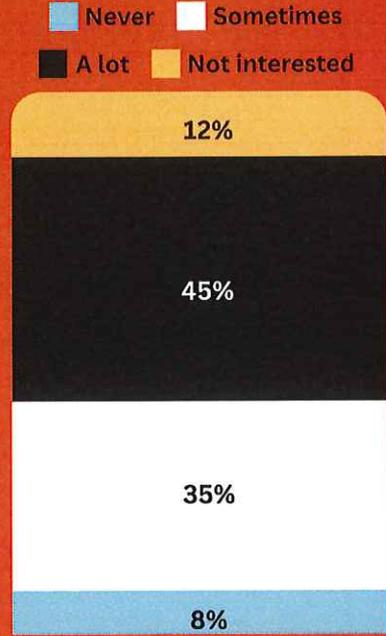


Healthy

DO RECREATION ACTIVITIES



PLAY SPORTS



ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL ITEMS

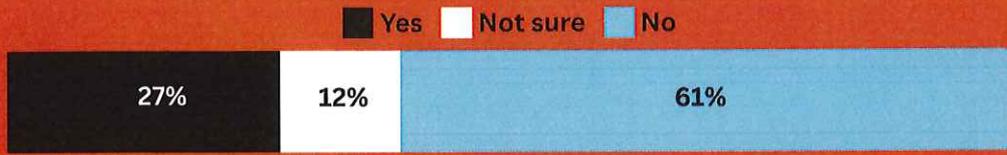


HAVE MISSED OUT ON ACTIVITIES BECAUSE THEY DID NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THESE ITEMS

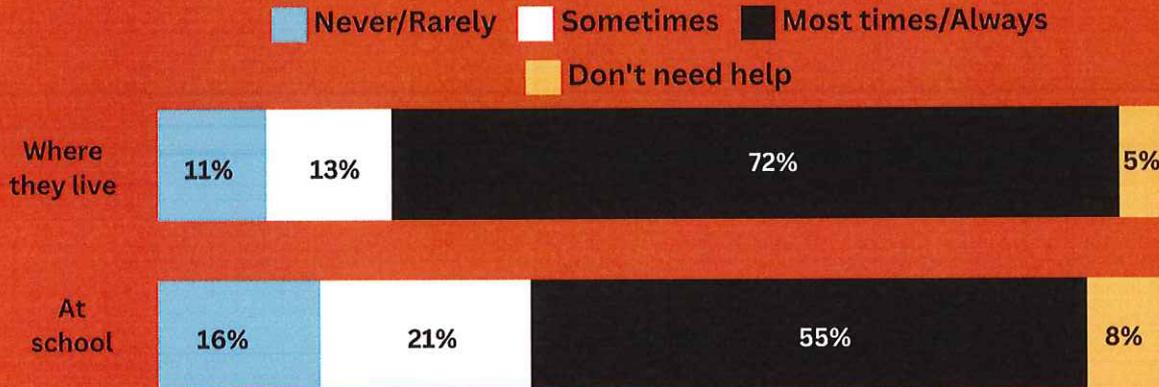
*Findings for previous years included all respondents who answered yes, no or sometimes regardless of sex assigned at birth. For 2024, findings have been restricted to children who selected female as sex assigned at birth. Figures cannot be compared to previous years.

Healthy

HAVE A DISABILITY



GET HELP WITH THEIR DISABILITY[^]



SUBSTANCE USE*



INDICATED THEY USE SUBSTANCES A LOT

TYPE OF SUBSTANCES USED**



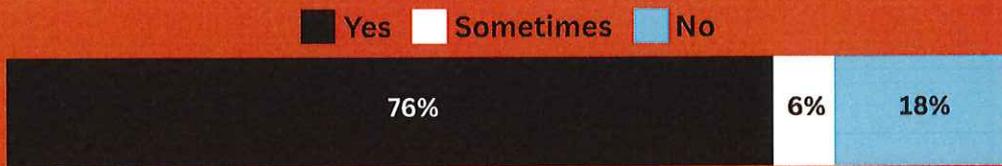
[^] Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

* A lot is defined as at least once a week

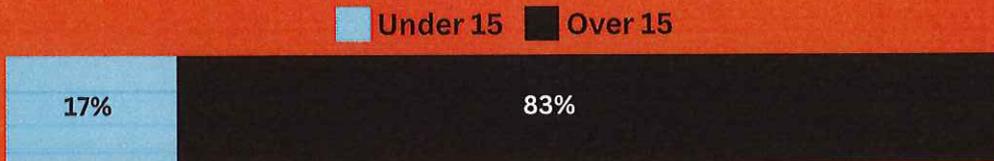
** Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

Learning, Earning and Developing

GO TO SCHOOL



AGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAID THEY DO NOT GO TO SCHOOL



OF THOSE NOT GOING TO SCHOOL ARE CURRENTLY EXPELLED/SUSPENDED



HAVE CHANGED SCHOOLS SINCE COMING INTO CARE

OF THESE



WERE HAPPY TO CHANGE SCHOOLS



HAVE HAD PROBLEMS GETTING THINGS THEY NEED FOR SCHOOL

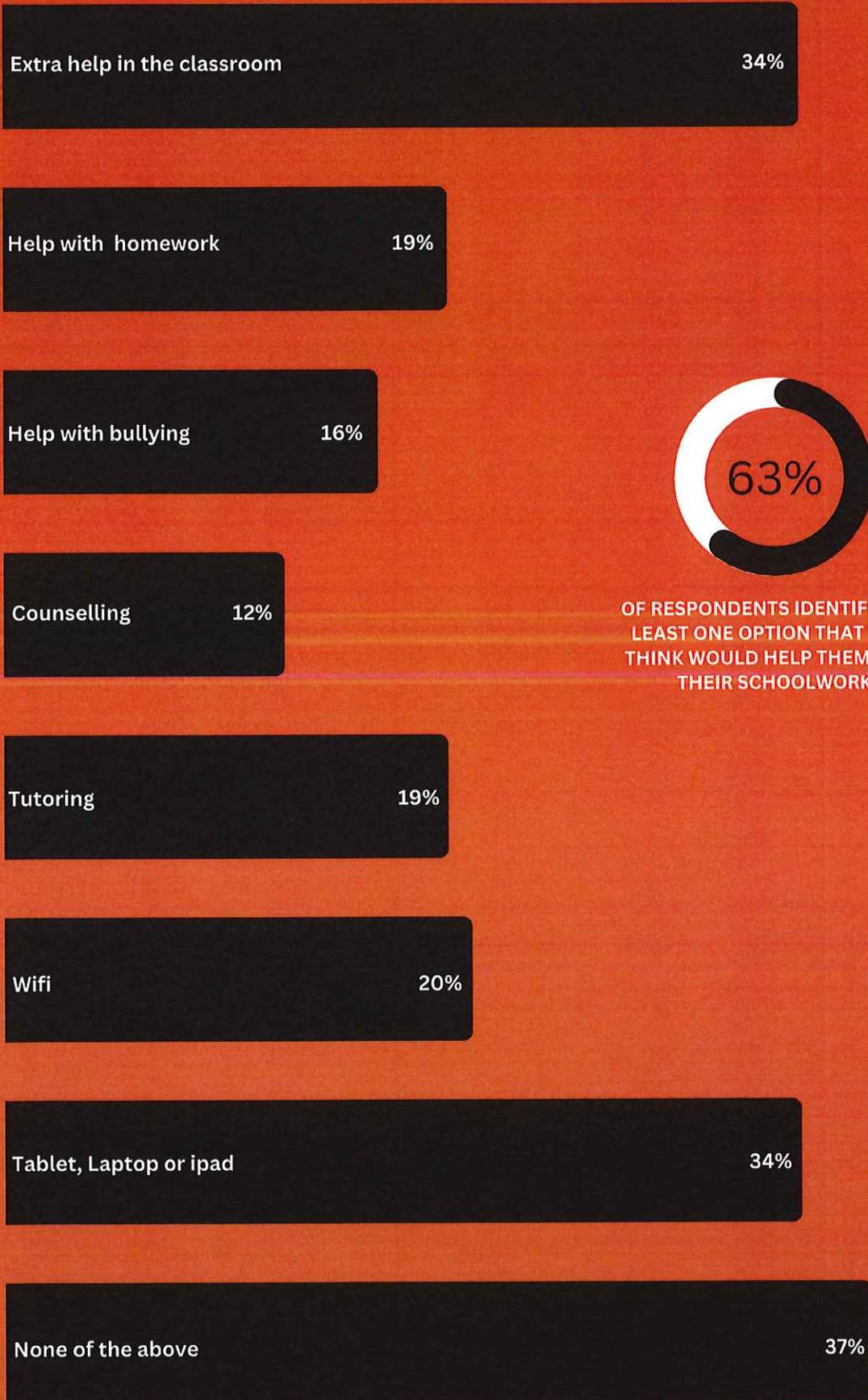
OF THESE



HAVE MISSED SCHOOL OR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES BECAUSE OF IT

Learning, Earning and Developing

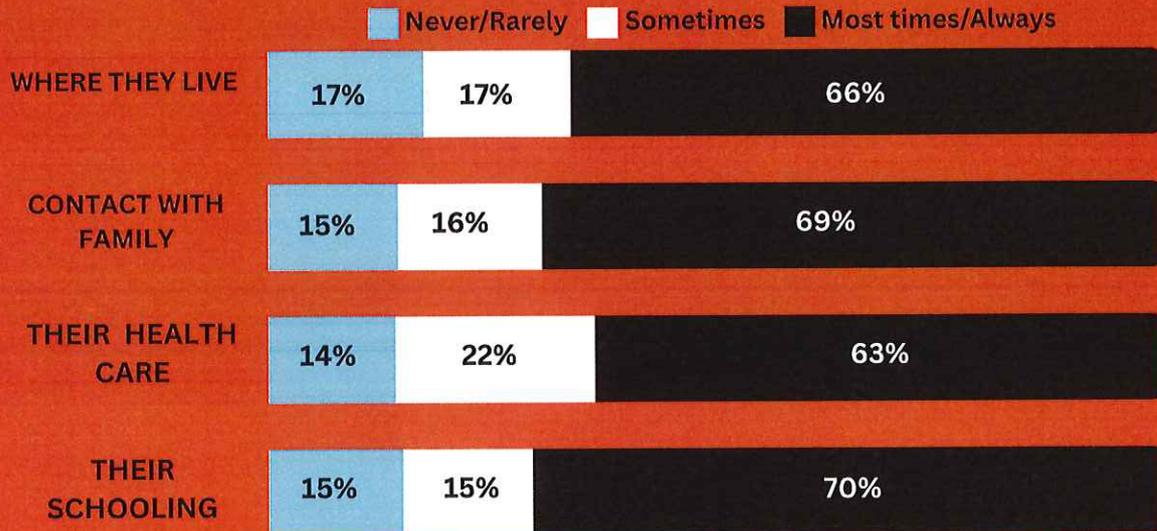
WHAT WOULD HELP THEM WITH THEIR SCHOOLING[^]



[^] Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

Participating, Belonging and Identity

PROPORTION WHO FEEL INCLUDED IN DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR LIVES[^]

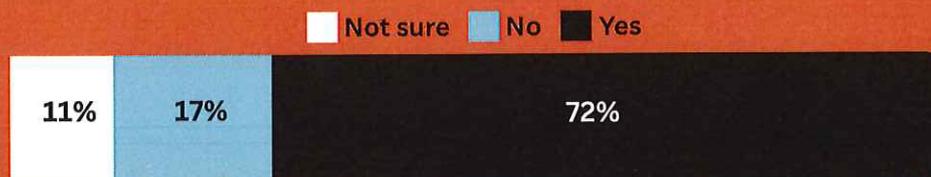


FAMILY /PEOPLE THEY LIVE WITH ARE FAIRLY OR VERY IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL TO THEM



FAMILY THEY DON'T LIVE WITH ARE FAIRLY OR VERY IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL TO THEM

HAPPY WITH HOW OFTEN THEY SEE AND TALK TO FAMILY THEY DON'T LIVE WITH



[^] Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

Participating, Belonging and Identity

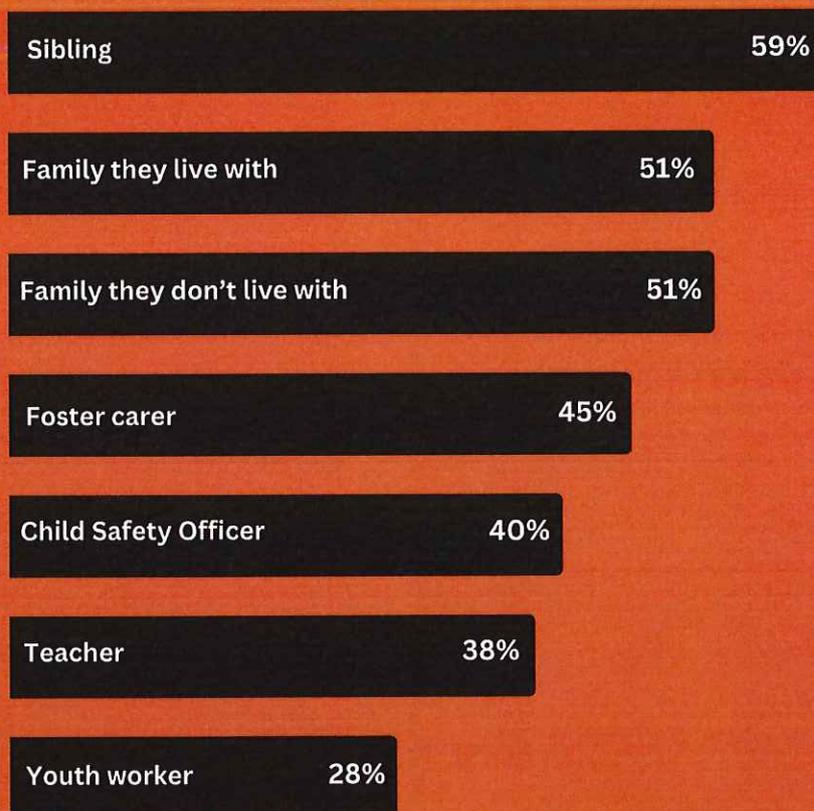


FEEL LOVED AND CARED FOR BY SOMEONE MOST TIMES OR ALWAYS



HAVE SOMEONE IN THEIR LIFE THAT THEY TRUST[^]

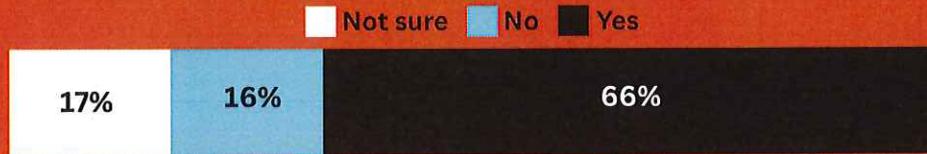
WHO THEY TRUST[^]



[^] Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

Participating, Belonging and Identity

HAD THEIR RIGHTS IN CARE EXPLAINED TO THEM BY THEIR CHILD SAFETY OFFICER[^]



FEEL THEIR RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED A LOT OF TIME*

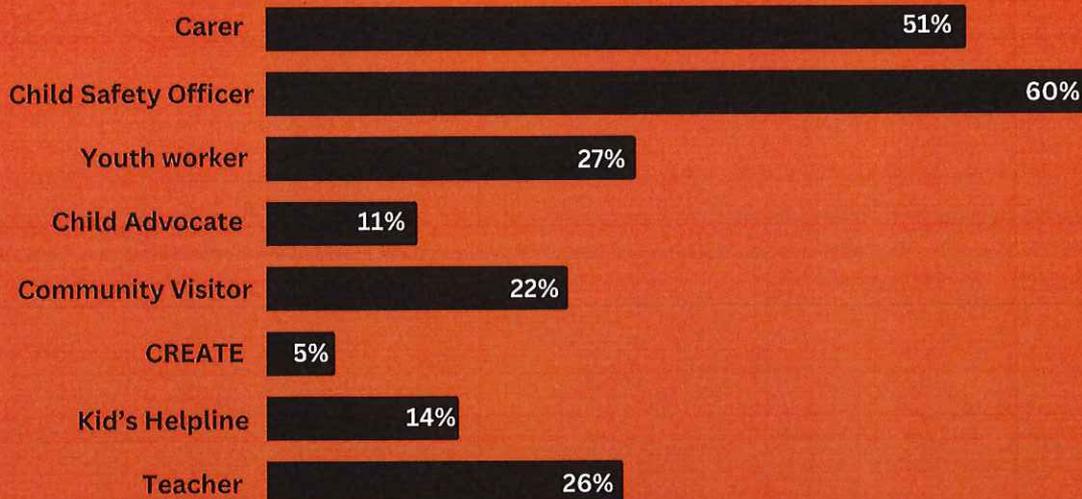


OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE MADE A COMPLAINT ABOUT THEIR TIME IN CARE[#]

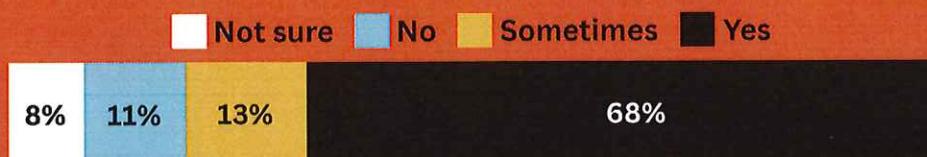
HOW THEY FELT ABOUT HOW THEIR COMPLAINT WAS HANDLED



IF UNHAPPY WITH THEIR CARE WOULD TALK TO**



CAN CONTACT THEIR CSO WHEN THEY NEED TO



[^] Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

* A lot is defined as at least a couple of time every month

** Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

[#] Includes all types of complaints, not only formal complaints to the department

Participating, Belonging and Identity

PERSONAL ITEMS



Birth certificate



Photos



Life Story / Memory box

KICBOX

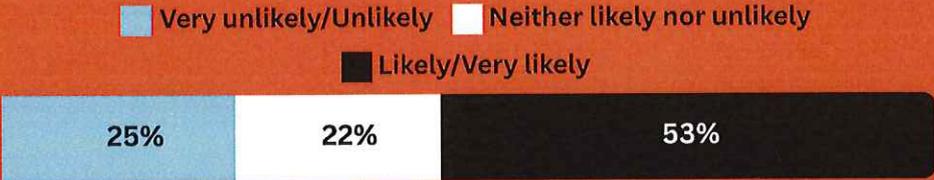


HAVE HEARD OF KICBOX

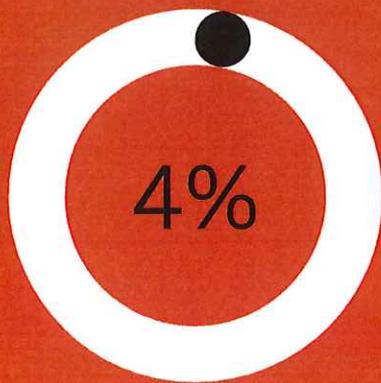
FEEL THE SAME AS THEIR PEERS WHO ARE NOT IN CARE



WOULD TELL THEIR FRIENDS THEY ARE IN CARE



Participating, Belonging and Identity

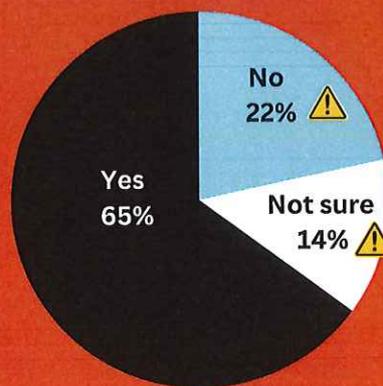


IDENTIFIED AS GENDER DIVERSE

GENDER IDENTITY



OF THOSE WHO INDICATED THEY WERE GENDER DIVERSE IDENTIFIED AT LEAST ONE CATEGORY BELOW WHO HAD TREATED THEM BADLY OR DISCRIMINATED AGAINST THEM

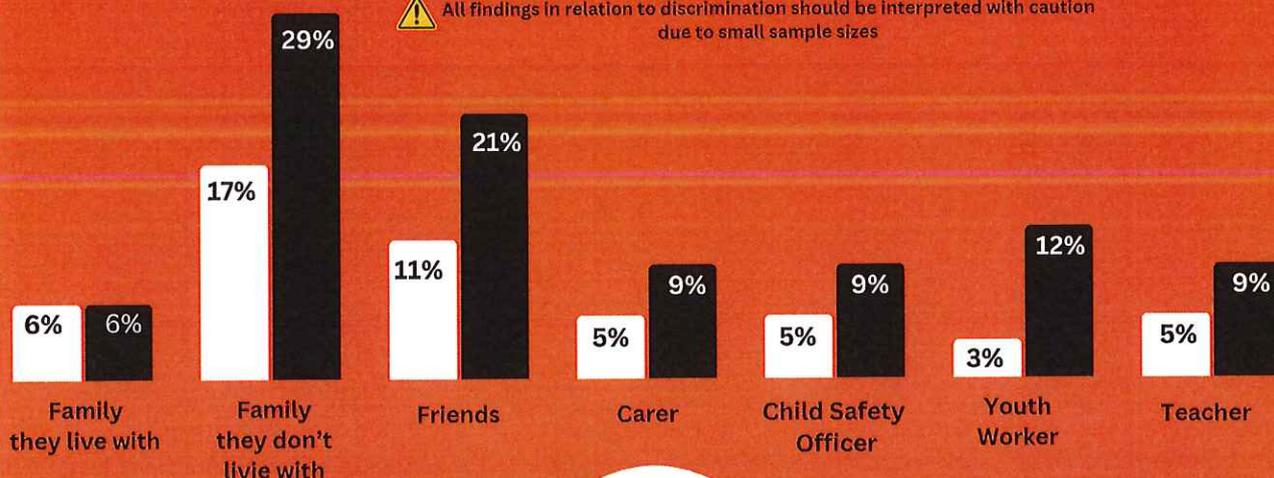


SUPPORTED IN THEIR GENDER IDENTITY[^]

TREATED BADLY OR DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF THEIR GENDER IDENTITY OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION^{**}

Legend: ■ LGBTQI+ ■ Gender Diverse

All findings in relation to discrimination should be interpreted with caution due to small sample sizes



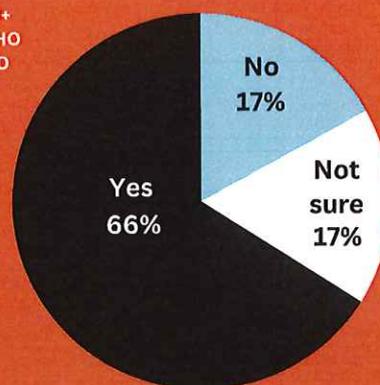
OF THOSE WHO INDICATED THEY WERE LGBTQI+ IDENTIFIED AT LEAST ONE CATEGORY ABOVE WHO HAD TREATED THEM BADLY OR DISCRIMINATED AGAINST THEM^{*}



ARE LGBTQI+

(Includes children and young people who said they were questioning or not sure yet)

SEXUAL ORIENTATION



SUPPORTED IN THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION^{*}

[^] Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

^{*} Does not include children and young people who selected Questioning / I'm not sure yet

^{**}Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

Participating, Belonging and Identity



CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE BACKGROUND OTHER THAN ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

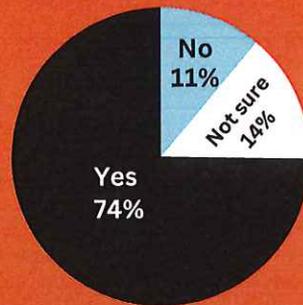


ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

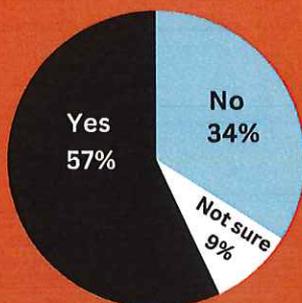
CAN FOLLOW THEIR CULTURE WHERE THEY LIVE



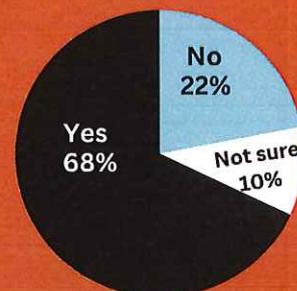
HAPPY WITH HOW MUCH THEY CAN FOLLOW THEIR CULTURE WHERE THEY LIVE[^]



GO TO CULTURAL ACTIVITIES/EVENTS



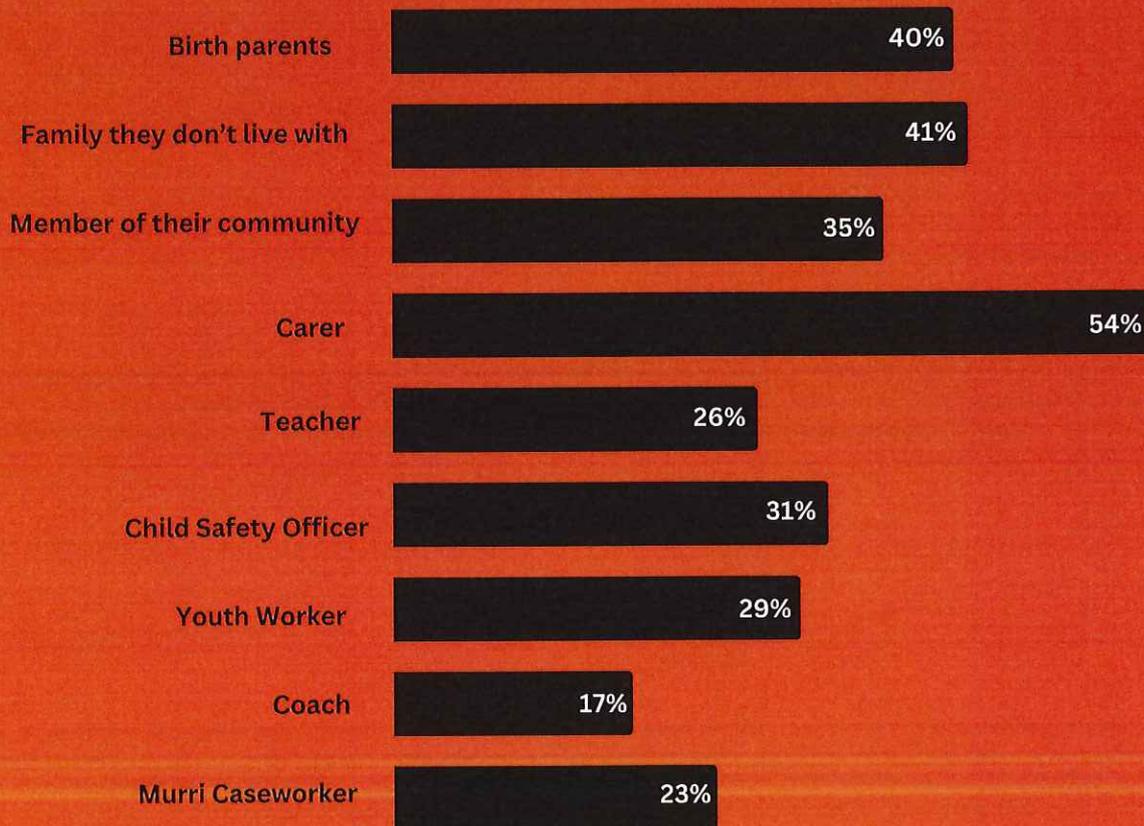
HAPPY WITH ACTIVITY / EVENT ATTENDANCE



[^] Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

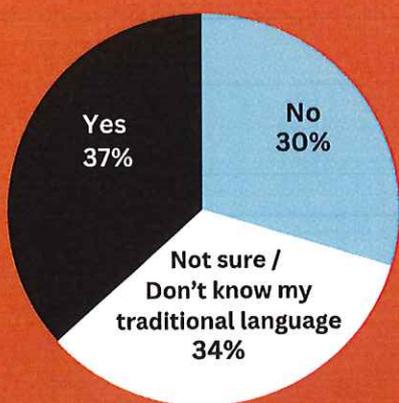
Participating, Belonging and Identity

LEARNED QUITE A BIT TO A LOT ABOUT THEIR CULTURE FROM^



ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ONLY

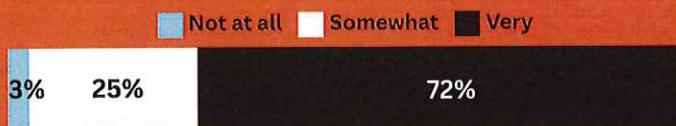
ABLE TO LEARN THEIR TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE*



OFFERED AN INDEPENDENT PERSON FOR SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS*



HELPFULNESS OF INDEPENDENT PERSON*

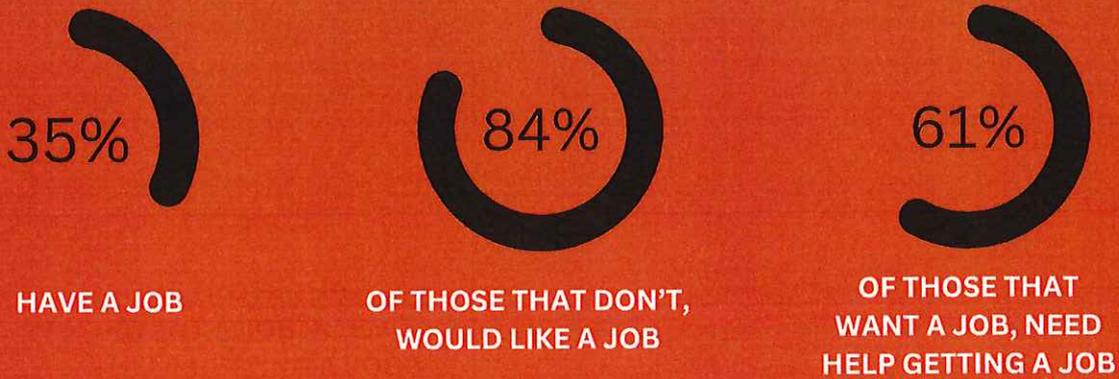


^ Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

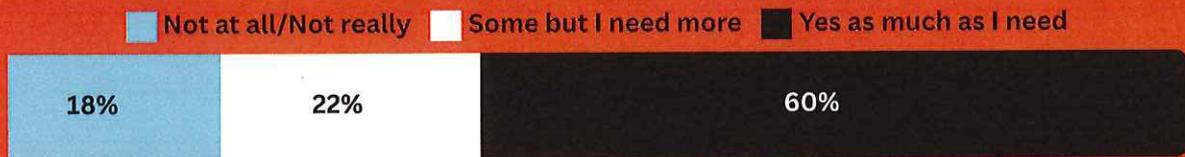
* Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

Transitioning to Adulthood

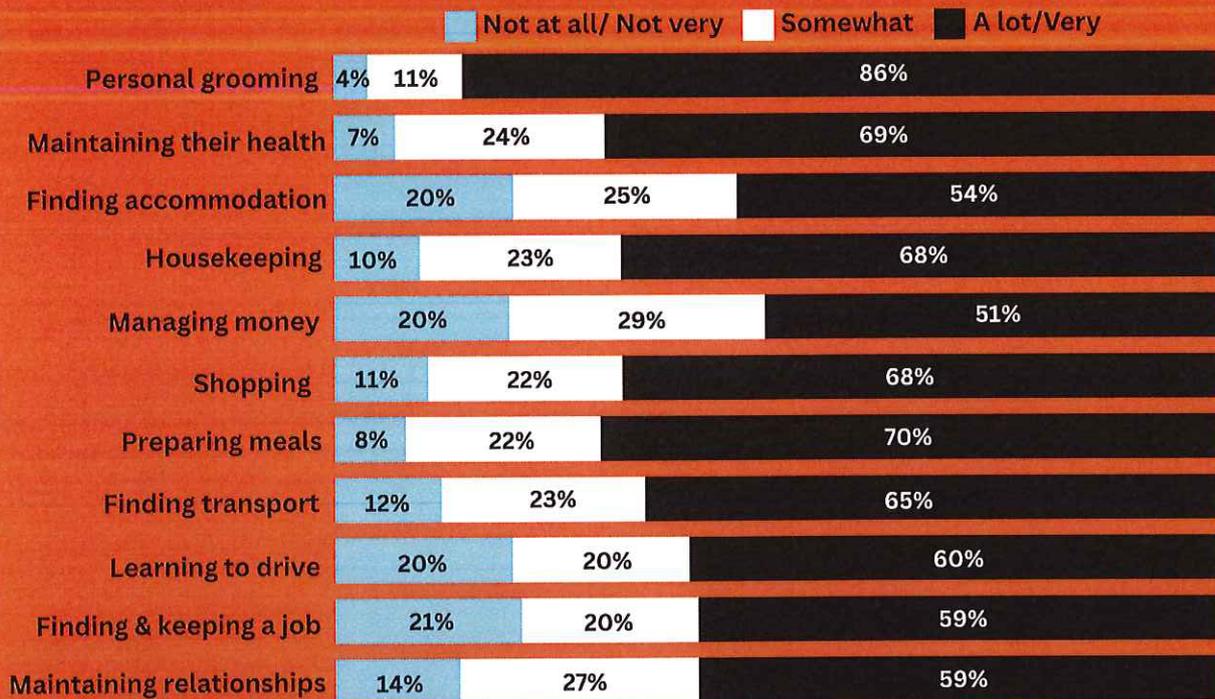
15 years and above



FEEL SUPPORTED TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT WHAT THEY WILL DO WHEN THEY EXIT CARE



CONFIDENCE ABOUT CARING FOR THEMSELVES IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING: ^



HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:*

17 YEARS AND ABOVE



^ Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

* Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answer choices

HEY!

Tell us what you think
MY LIFE IN CARE SURVEY

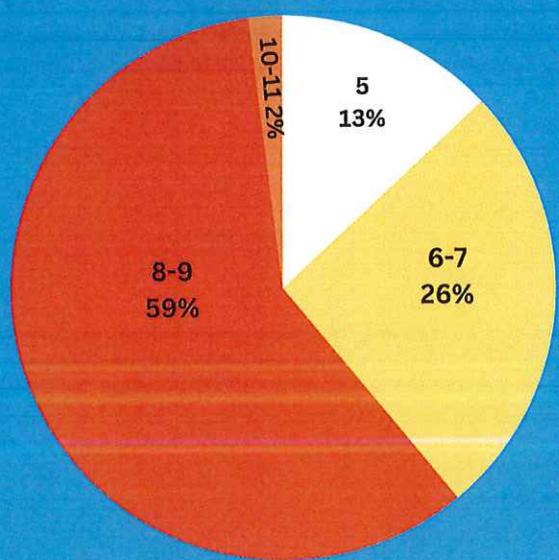


5-9 year survey

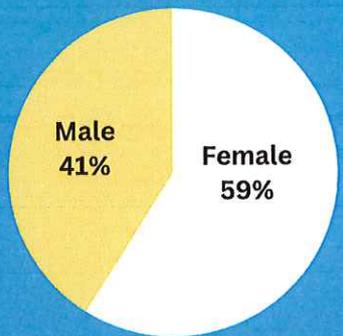
A short survey was available to children aged 5 to 9 years or older children and young people who did not pass the Gillick competency test to take the 10-18 year survey.

The survey was administered by a Child Safety Officer or Community Visitor.

88 surveys returns were received



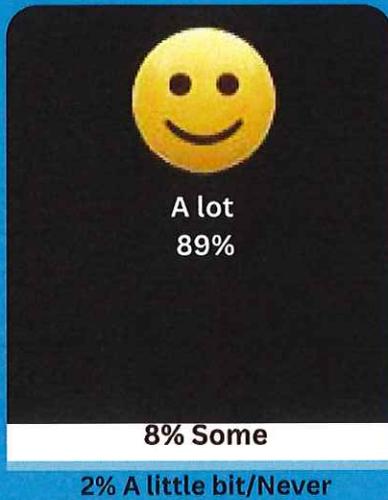
Age of respondents



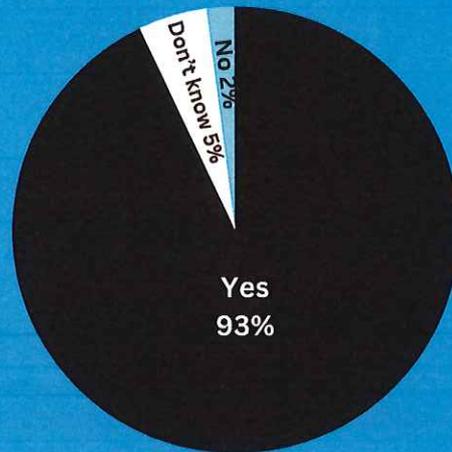
85%
More than 2 years in
care in total

5-9 year Survey Results ¹ ⚠️

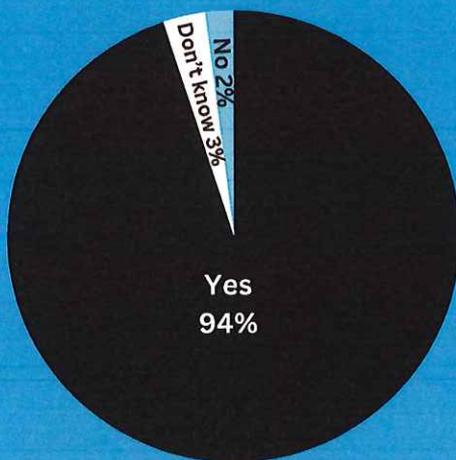
How much do you think the people you are living with now look after you?^



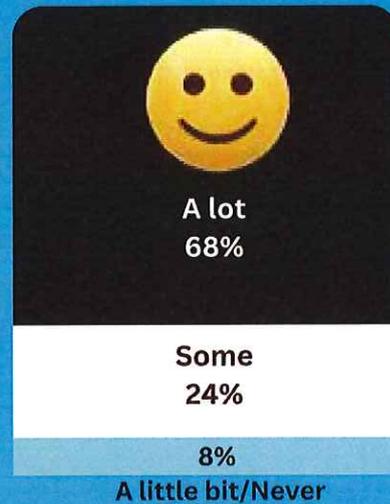
Do you feel safe where you live now?



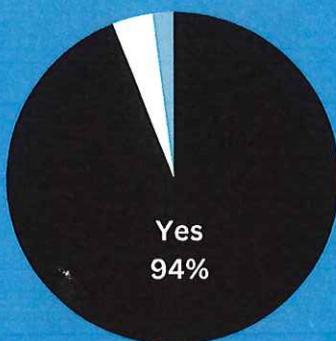
Do you have a grown up you can talk to when you're scared or worried about something?^



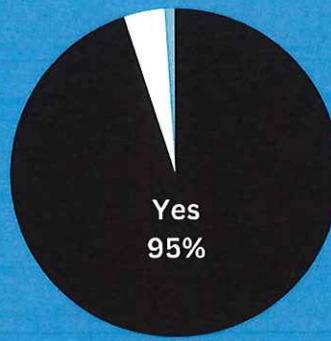
How much do you get to do things you like where you live like watching a movie or playing games or sport?



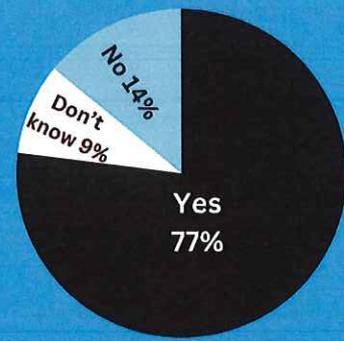
In the past week, have you:



Felt happy



Had fun



Had a good night's sleep

⚠️ All findings should be interpreted with caution due to small sample size

1. All results have had the answer choice of "Don't want to say" removed from calculations

^ Response percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding