

Key priorities

To improve outcomes for South Australian children and young people, all oversight and advocacy bodies and state and local government agencies should work together on these six priorities

Children entering the education system with unidentified disabilities and developmental delays

Increasing obesity rates amongst children and young people

Poorer outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people

Mental health concerns for children and young people (especially those from disadvantaged areas)

Children and young people involved with both the child protection and youth justice systems

Economic, social and health impacts of COVID-19 on children and young people



Further information

How are they faring? South Australia's 2020 Report Card for children and young people: https://childrensa.sa.gov.au/report_cards/
 South Australia's Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People: <https://childrensa.sa.gov.au/outcomes-framework/>

How are they faring?



South Australia's 2020 Report Card for children and young people

South Australia's first annual report card reveals how our youngest citizens are faring in ...

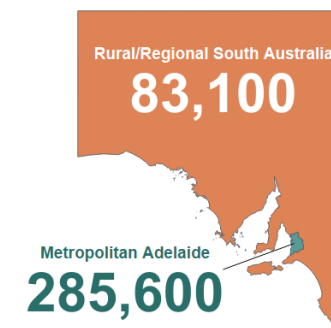
Health
 Citizenship
 Safety
 Education
 Wellbeing

368,600

children and young people aged under 18 years were estimated to be living in South Australia in 2019

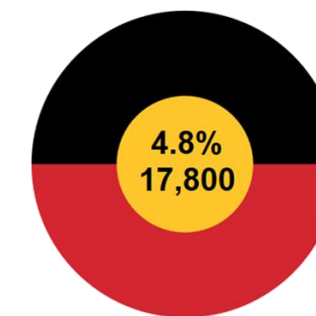
21%

of South Australia's total population

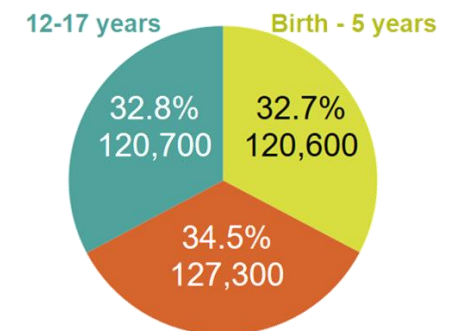


Location

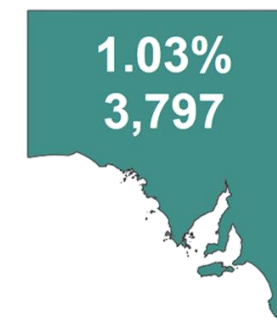
Our children and young people are ...



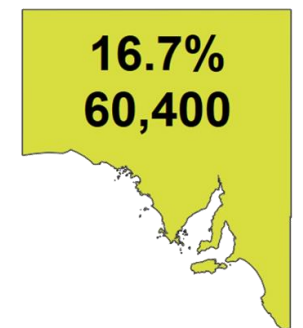
Aboriginal



Age

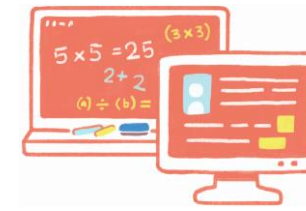


In out-of-home care



Living with disability

Outcomes at a glance



In summary, most of South Australia's children and young people are faring well and ...

... are in good health

Most ...

- babies are born healthy
- children enjoy a healthy early life
- young people appear to be thriving physically

96% of Aboriginal 5-year-olds and 95% of all 5-year-olds are fully immunised

10% of young people report ever having smoked tobacco (down from 56% in 1996)

79% of children and young people consider themselves to be in good or excellent health

... are in safe circumstances

Most ...

- live in safe housing
- are safe from preventable injury, abuse and neglect, and crime

79% of children and young people live in households without financial stress

99% of children and young people live in suitable housing

44% of young people are 'not at all' concerned about family conflict (up from 37% in 2014)

... have a positive sense of wellbeing

Most ...

- feel connected to family, friends and culture and are optimistic about life
- participate in cultural or organised activities, like sport
- have friendships

Year 4 to Year 10 students...

91% participate in organised activities outside of school

85% feel optimistic about life

75% participate in organised sport or recreational physical activities

... are undertaking education

Most ...

- report having positive learning experiences
- are fully engaged in school, further education, training or work
- are achieving minimum standards in reading, writing and numeracy

90% of young people are fully engaged in school, work or further education and training

88% of students completed secondary school

52% of students met or exceeded minimum standards for Year 1 phonics

... are active in civic life

Most ...

- are developing skills for living an independent life
- want to be active citizens, participate in their communities and have their ideas and views considered

75% of 16-19 year olds have their driver's licence

21% of young people are volunteering (2016), up from 17% (2006)

Areas of concern include ...

8% obesity

16% of babies born to Aboriginal mothers were of low birthweight (2017, compared to 12.5% nationally)

21% emotional, mental health or behavioural problems

78,000 notifications were made in 2018-19

3,988 were in out-of-home care, up from 2,631 (2014)

1/3 of all children and young people in out-of-home care are Aboriginal

10% of children and young people do not have at least one close friend

20% of Year 4 to Year 10 students say they experience bullying on a weekly basis and 50% say they experience it monthly

24% of children starting school were developmentally vulnerable (2018), up from 23% (2009). Nationally, this decreased from 24% to 22% over the same period

80% Aboriginal school attendance rate (on average students miss one day of school per week)

Some experience poorer outcomes because of ...

... economic and social inequalities; intergenerational disadvantage; social, built environment and transport barriers; being in out-of-home care and/or detention