

# Priority for action

Addressing data gaps and data quality for improved decision-making

## What you can do

State and local government Chief Executives and leadership teams should lead their organisations and staff in:

1. **Endorsing** SA's legislated Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People in high-level planning and strategy processes and documentation, thereby publicly committing to improving agreed outcomes for children and young people.
2. **Applying** the [framework](#) and proactively:
  - **determining** how the organisation's policies, programs and services align with the 5 dimensions and outcome statements?
  - **embedding** the dimensions and outcome statements in the organisations policies, programs and services ie, into all existing aspects and mechanisms to give effect to the framework
  - **considering** the indicators and especially the measures and asking: Are we collecting and/or reporting data that provide evidence of how children and young people are doing?



## Further information

How are they faring? South Australia's 2022 Report Card for children and young people: [https://childrensa.sa.gov.au/report\\_cards/](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 2022 Report Card for children and young people

SA's 3rd annual report card reveals how our youngest citizens are faring in ...



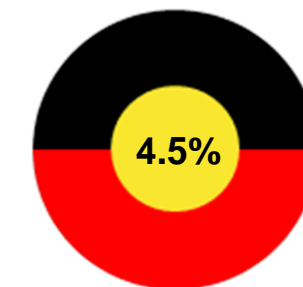
# 363,100

children and young people aged under 18 years were estimated to be living in SA in 2021

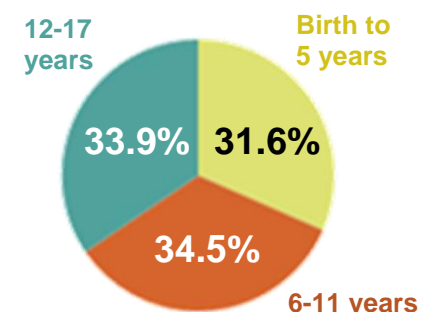
# = 20%

of SA's total population

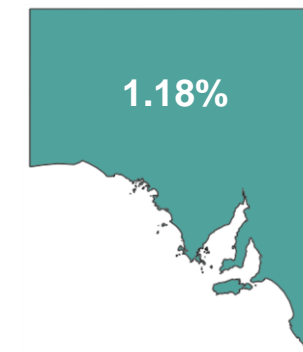
Our children and young people are ...



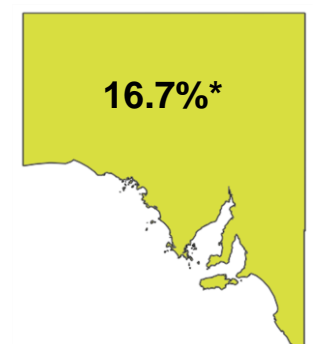
Aboriginal



Age



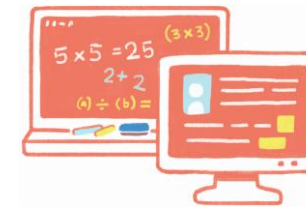
In out-of-home care



Living with disability

\*2017-18

# 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

**≥ 95%** 5-year-olds (including Aboriginal children) were fully immunized (2021)

**10%** young people report ever having smoked tobacco (2017)

**79%** children and young people consider themselves to be in good or excellent health (2022)

## ... are in safe circumstances

Most ...

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

**79%** children and young people live in households without financial stress (Census 2016)

**99%** children and young people live in suitable housing (Census 2016)

**41%** young people are 'not at all' concerned about family conflict (2021)

## ... 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, eg sport
- have friendships

In 2022, students in Year 4 to 10 ...

**82%** felt optimistic about life

**88%** participated in organised activities outside of school

**69%** participated 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

**91%** young people completed a senior secondary certificate of education qualification or equivalent (2020)

**67%** Year 1 students met or exceeded minimum standards for phonics (2021)

## ... 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

**56%** 17-19-year-olds have a driver's licence at 30 June 2021

**17%** young people participated in volunteering (Census 2021)

## Areas of concern include ...

**8%** obesity (2017-18)

**4,400** *in* out-of-home care at 30 June 2021, up from 3,800 at 30 June 2019

**11%** Year 4 to Year 10 students do not have at least one close friend (2022)

**24%** children developmentally vulnerable in one or more domains when starting school (2021)

**13%** of babies born to Aboriginal mothers were of low birthweight (2020)

**37%** *in* out-of-home care were Aboriginal children and young people

**59%** Year 4 to Year 10 students have an adult at school who is important to them (2022)

**77%** attendance rate for Aboriginal Year 1 to Year 10 students in 2021 (81% in 2016)

## 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