



Commissioner for Children and Young People
Western Australia



Profile of Children and Young People in WA 2023

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Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

The Commissioner for Children and Young People WA acknowledges the unique contribution of Aboriginal people's culture and heritage to Western Australian society. For the purposes of this publication, the term 'Aboriginal' encompasses Western Australia's diverse language groups and also recognises Torres Strait Islanders who live in Western Australia. The use of the term 'Aboriginal' in this way is not intended to imply equivalence between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, though similarities do exist.

Suggested citation

Commissioner for Children and Young People WA 2023, *Profile of Children and Young People in WA – 2023*, Commissioner for Children and Young People WA, Perth

Alternative formats

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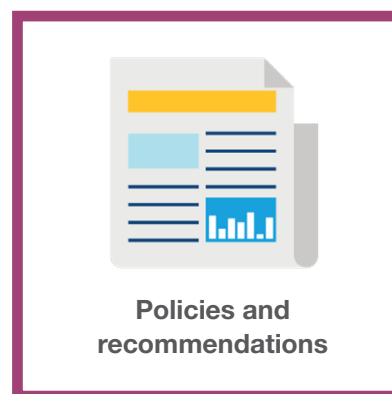
ISSN: 2652-4694



This report

The Commissioner for Children and Young People has a statutory responsibility to monitor the wellbeing of all children and young people living in Western Australia (WA) and to advocate on their behalf.

The Commissioner developed a Wellbeing Monitoring Framework to monitor and report on the wellbeing of WA children and young people. It encompasses the following three components:

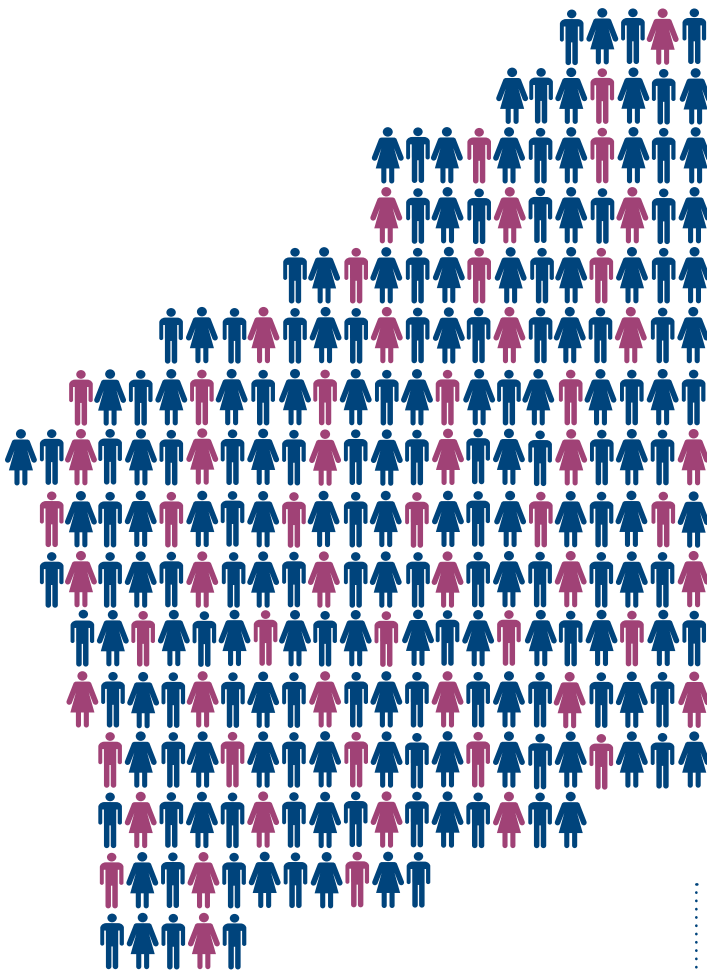


This report is produced annually and provides a demographic profile of the children and young people (aged 0 to 17 years) in WA. The profile includes a focus on children and young people who experience vulnerability and hardship, such as those in the juvenile justice system, in out-of-home care, with disability and living in poverty.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused sudden and unforeseen changes to the lives of many children and young people in WA. How this will impact children and young people in WA over the longer term is, as yet, unknown.

More data is available in the **Indicators of Wellbeing** online resource which provides a single place for information from a variety of sources on WA children and young people's wellbeing. In addition, the **Speaking Out Survey** provides the most comprehensive survey of children and young people on their health and wellbeing ever undertaken in WA.

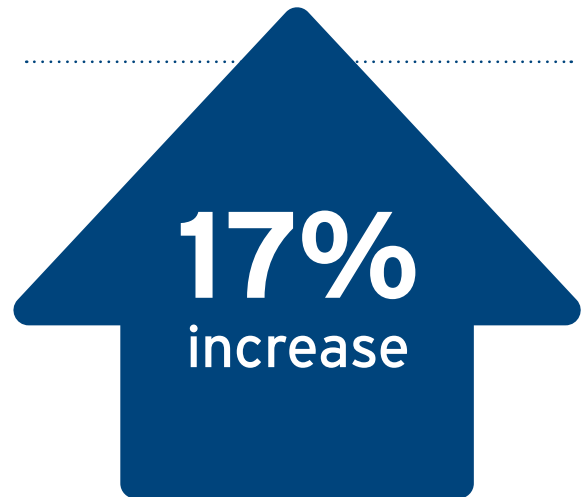
Western Australia's children and young people



Approximately

634,000

children and young people live in WA and make up **23 per cent** of the state's population



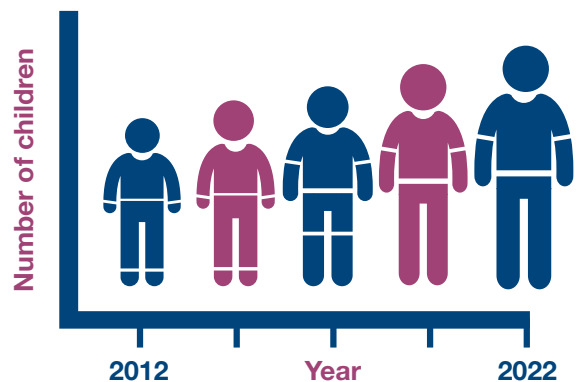
Poverty line



An estimated

105,000

children and young people are living below the poverty line in WA

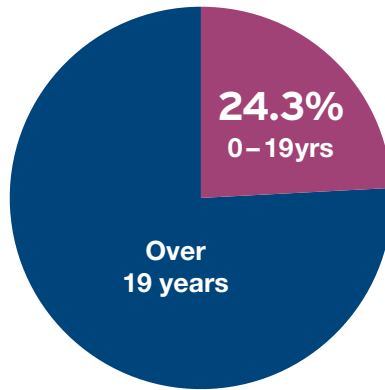


In the last 10 years there has been a **17 per cent** increase in the number of children aged 6 to 11 years living in WA

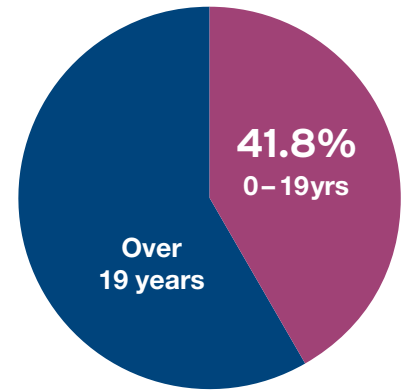
Western Australia's children and young people

Aboriginal children and young people

There are about **50,000** Aboriginal children and young people aged 0 to 19 years in WA



WA non-Aboriginal population



WA Aboriginal population



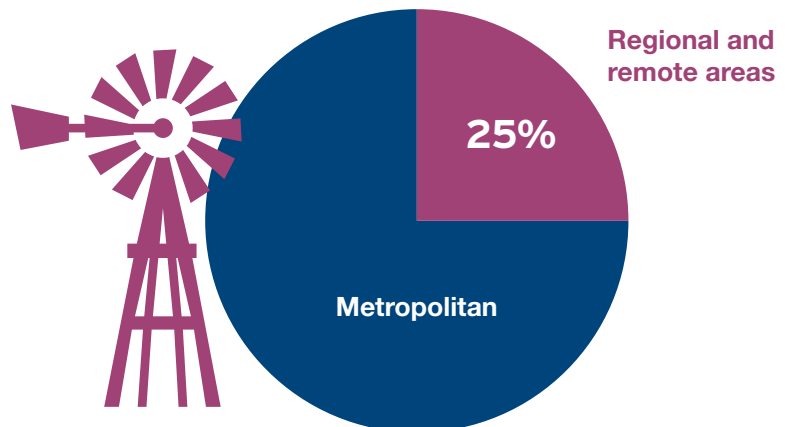
In 2021
34,300
births were registered in WA

81

children and young people aged 10 to 13 years were held in detention during 2020-21, only three of them were sentenced



Around **154,000** of children and young people in WA live in regional and remote areas





Population

WA is home to approximately 634,000 children and young people, who represent 23 per cent of WA's total population.

Between June 2021 and June 2022 the number of children and young people in WA increased marginally (Table 1).

Table 1: Children and young people aged 0 to 17 years, number and per cent, WA and Australia, 2020 to 2022

	WA			Australia*
	2022	2021	2020	2022
Children and young people	633,757	627,673	620,104	5,692,406
Total population (all ages)	2,785,312	2,749,864	2,718,400	25,978,935
Proportion of total population (%)	22.8	22.8	22.8	21.9

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, [National, state and territory population, June 2022](#)

Note: The ABS has rebased the population estimates of previous years to the 2021 Census, therefore the 2020 and 2021 estimates do not correspond to the Commissioner's previous profile reports.

* Australian estimates include the Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Population

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) estimates the gender distribution of children and young people in WA is 51.5 per cent male and 48.5 per cent female, which is consistent with most Australian states and territories and the national distribution.¹

From 2013 to 2022, the number of 0 to 17 year-olds in WA increased by over 62,863 or 11.0 per cent (Table 2). The largest increase (17.4%) occurred in the primary school years for children aged six to 11 years.

Table 2: Children and young people aged 0 to 17 years by age group, number and per cent, WA, 2013 and 2022

	2022		2013		Change from 2013 to 2022	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
0 to 5 years	205,078	32.4	201,202	35.2	3,876	1.9
6 to 11 years	218,069	34.4	185,747	32.5	32,322	17.4
12 to 17 years	210,610	33.2	183,945	32.2	26,665	14.5
0 to 17 years	633,757	100.0	570,894	100.0	62,863	11.0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2022, *National, state and territory population, June 2022*

The number of WA children aged six to 11 years has increased more than the number of young people aged 12 to 17 years mainly due to a higher fertility rate in the mid-2010s. The WA fertility rate grew during the 2000s but has declined in recent years (refer to the Births section). An increase in the number of 12 to 17 year-olds (secondary school years) is projected to follow in the next decade.

Births

After declining since the 1960s, WA's fertility rate increased in the early 2000s to reach 2.095 babies per woman in 2008 (a rate last reached in the late 1970s). From 2008, the total fertility rate in WA had been steadily declining to 1.67 babies per woman in 2020 and in 2021 increased to 1.75 babies per woman.²

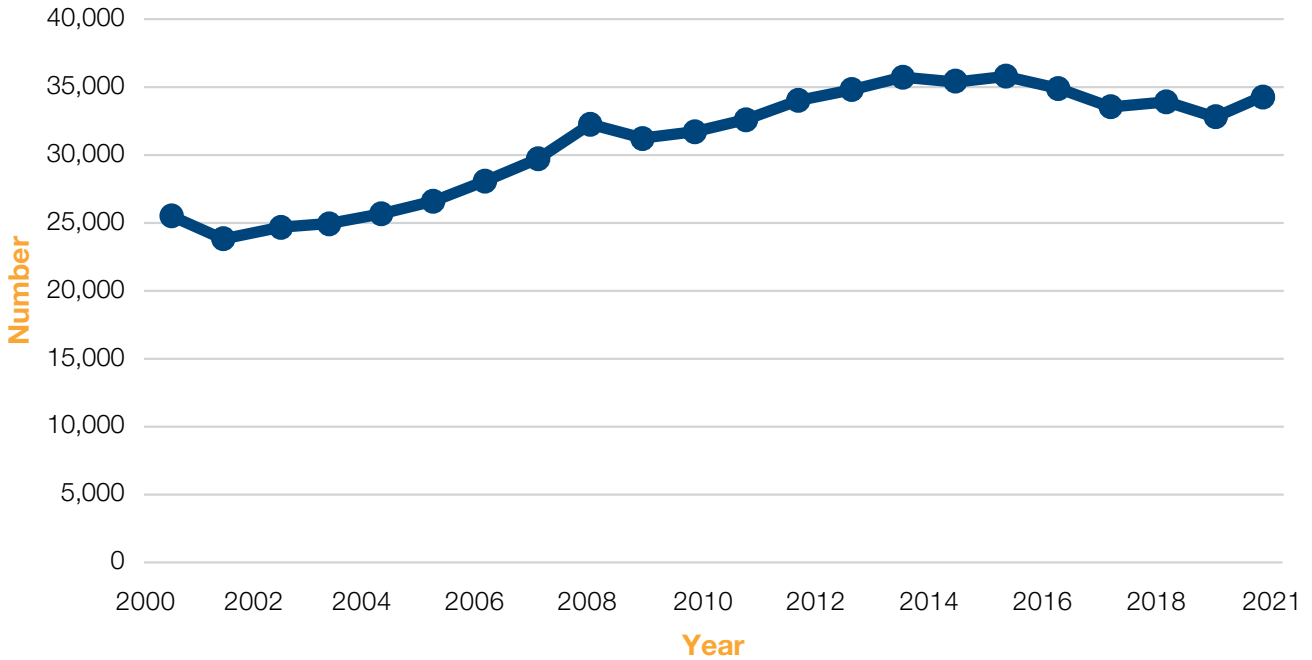
The number of births in WA increased during the 2000s until 2016 when the number of births peaked at 35,652 for that year. From 2016 to 2020 the number of births per year decreased to 32,677; in 2021 there was an increase in births to 34,300 (Figure 1).

1 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *National, state and territory population, June 2022*, ABS.

2 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2023, *ABS Explorer, Fertility by age, by state*, ABS.

Population

Figure 1: Total births, number, WA, 2000 to 2021



Source: WA Department of Justice 2023, [WA Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages](#)

The median age of all mothers for births registered in WA in 2021 was 31.6 years (an increase in the median age of 30.3 recorded in 2011). The median age of all fathers was 33.6 years (also a slight increase from 32.7 recorded in 2011).³

There were 2,880 births (8.5% of all births) registered in WA during 2021 where at least one parent recorded themselves as Aboriginal on their child's birth registration form.⁴

In general, Aboriginal mothers give birth at a younger age than non-Aboriginal mothers. The median age of Aboriginal women who registered a birth in WA in 2021 was 25.8 years, approximately six years less than the median age of all mothers (31.6 years) but an increase on the median age of 24.2 years recorded for Aboriginal mothers in 2011.⁵

Correspondingly, the highest proportion of Aboriginal women giving birth is in the age group 20 to 24 years (31.4%) compared with 30 to 34 years for non-Aboriginal women (38.6%) (Figure 2).

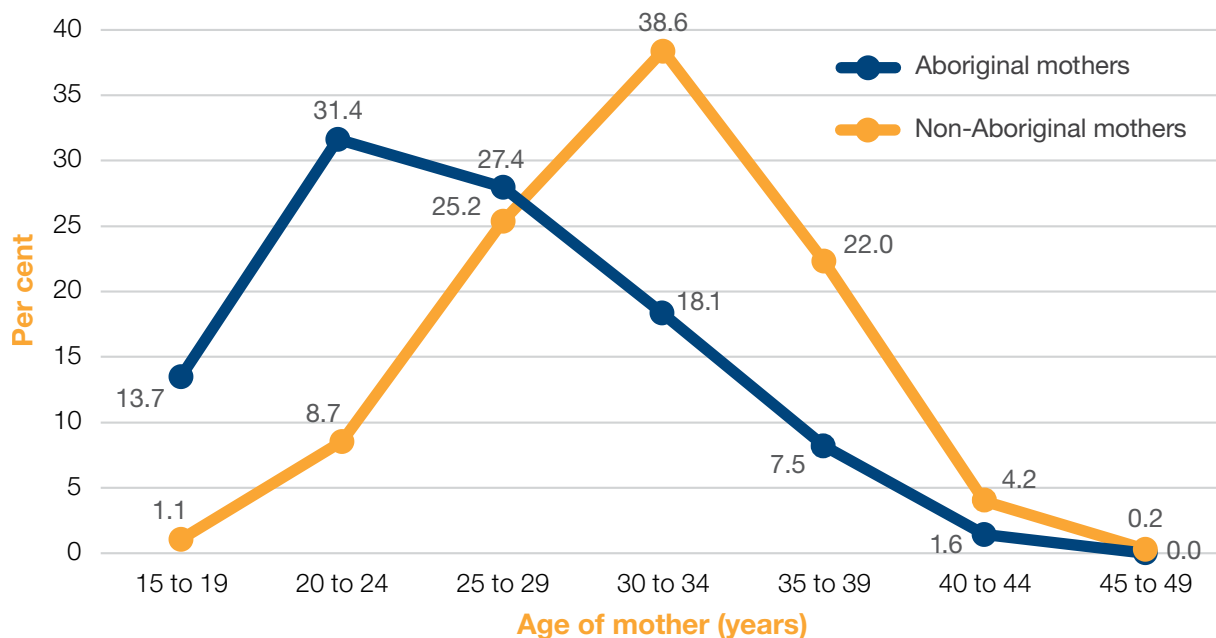
3 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, [ABS Explorer, Confinements by nuptiality, by state](#), Confinements, by nuptiality, by state, ABS.

4 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, [ABS Explorer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births and confinements, summary, by state](#), ABS.

5 Ibid.

Population

Figure 2: Proportion of overall births by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal mothers by age group, per cent, WA, 2021



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, [ABS Explorer, Births by age by state](#), and [ABS Explorer – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fertility, by age, by state](#)

Over the past decade, the total number of births in the 15 to 19 year-old cohort has declined by 54.2 per cent, from 1,413 in 2012 to 647 in 2021.⁶ The number of births to Aboriginal mothers in this age group has decreased from 417 in 2012 to 299 in 2021 (-28.3%).⁷

Geographical distribution

In 2021, three-quarters (75.4%) of the population of 0 to 17 year-olds resided in the metropolitan area,⁸ 15.8 per cent resided in regional areas and 8.8 per cent in remote areas of WA (Table 3).

Almost all regions in WA recorded an increase in the population of children and young people, in part due to slight underestimates by region in the population of children and young people in WA in previous years. The 2021 estimates below correspond with the 2021 Census of Population (Table 1).

All metropolitan areas recorded an increase in the population of children and young people from 2020 to 2021, with Perth – South East recording a 4.7 per cent increase and Perth – North East a 3.8 per cent increase. Similarly, regional and remote WA generally experienced increases in their overall populations of children and young people, with some areas recording relatively significant increases (Esperance: 4.7%, Kimberley: 4.6%, Mid West: 3.8% and Mandurah: 3.0%).

⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, [ABS Explorer, Fertility by age, by state](#), ABS.

⁷ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, [ABS Explorer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander births and confinements, summary, by state](#), ABS.

⁸ The metropolitan area corresponds to the five Perth Statistical Area Level 4s as defined by the ABS. It does not include Mandurah.

Population

Table 3: Geographical distribution of children and young people aged 0 to 17 years by age group, number and per cent, WA, June 2021

	0 to 5 years	6 to 11 years	12 to 17 years	Total 0 to 17 years	Change from 2020 to 2021	Proportion of WA children and young people
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Per cent	Per cent
Metropolitan	158,167	161,612	153,759	473,538	3.3	75.4
Perth – South East	43,433	43,669	39,929	127,031	4.7	20.2
Perth – South West	35,545	36,720	35,092	107,357	2.8	17.1
Perth – North East	23,042	22,265	20,712	66,019	3.8	10.5
Perth – North West	45,737	47,147	45,548	138,432	3.0	22.1
Perth – Inner	10,410	11,811	12,478	34,699	0.6	5.5
WA regional	29,839	34,700	34,359	98,898	1.3	15.8
Mandurah	7,340	8,190	8,140	23,670	3.0	3.8
Bunbury *	13,372	15,819	15,882	45,073	1.4	7.2
Wheatbelt **	9,127	10,691	10,337	30,155	0.0	4.8
WA remote	19,220	19,576	16,441	55,237	2.4	8.8
Esperance	1,232	1,359	1,289	3,880	4.7	0.6
Goldfields	3,558	3,368	2,907	9,833	1.1	1.6
Mid West	4,044	4,585	4,424	13,053	3.8	2.1
Gascoyne	786	786	574	2,146	1.6	0.3
Pilbara	5,911	5,577	3,977	15,465	0.1	2.5
Kimberley	3,689	3,901	3,270	10,860	4.6	1.7
Total WA	207,226	215,888	204,559	627,673	2.9	100.0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *Estimated Resident Population (ERP) by Statistical Area Level 3 and Statistical Area Level 4*, Custom report June 2021 and June 2020 [unpublished]

* Includes Busselton, Margaret River, Augusta and Manjimup.

** Includes Albany, Wheatbelt North and Wheatbelt South.

Notes:

1. The geographical distribution of WA's Estimated Resident Population is only available one year in arrears. Hence, presented here is the table for 2021.
2. Per cent totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.
3. To provide a detailed picture of the geographical distribution of children and young people across WA, Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4) was chosen to represent areas within the metropolitan area and regional WA and Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) for remote areas. For simplicity, some areas are classified as remote even though the main population centre local government area (LGA) may be classified as regional (e.g. Geraldton and the Mid-West). For more information on these areas see: [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\)](#).

Population

Aboriginal children and young people

In 2021, Aboriginal children and young people (aged 0 to 19 years) represented 7.3 per cent of the total population of children and young people in WA (Table 4).⁹

Table 4: Estimated residential population including children and young people aged 0 to 19 years by Aboriginal status, number and per cent, WA, 2021

	Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number
0 to 19 years	50,173	7.3	638,788	92.7	688,961
Total population	120,037	4.4	2,629,827	95.6	2,749,864
Children and young people (0 to 19 years) as a proportion of population (per cent)	41.8		24.3		25.1

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, June 2021*

Note: The ABS uses the results of the Census as the main data source to produce population estimates for Aboriginal Australians. Estimates of the population of Aboriginal peoples in the Census are undercounted for a variety of reasons. The Estimated Resident Population presented in Table 4 is adjusted for the estimated net undercount. For more information, refer to the ABS *Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, June 2021*.

The proportion of children and young people aged 0 to 19 years in the Aboriginal population is almost double that of the proportion of children and young people in the non-Aboriginal population (41.8% compared to 24.3%). The primary reasons for this are lower life expectancy and higher fertility rates of Aboriginal people compared to non-Aboriginal people.¹⁰

With respect to geographic distribution in 2016, around 58 per cent of Aboriginal children and young people aged 0 to 17 years live in regional and remote areas compared to 20 per cent of non-Aboriginal children and young people (Table 5). Most notably, nearly one-quarter (23.5%) of Aboriginal children and young people live in very remote parts of WA.

9 Latest data available at publication date. Single year of age data (which is used to determine the population of children and young people aged 0 to 17 years) from the 2021 Census for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will not be released by the ABS until late 2023.

10 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2012, *4725.0 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Wellbeing: A focus on children and youth*, April 2011, ABS.

Population

Table 5: Children and young people aged 0 to 17 years by remoteness area and Aboriginal status, number and per cent, WA, 2016

	Non-Aboriginal		Aboriginal		Total*	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Major cities**	402,764	79.5	12,558	41.7	435,609	76.8
Inner regional	45,820	9.0	2,300	7.6	51,690	9.1
Outer regional	36,005	7.1	4,268	14.2	43,512	7.7
Remote	15,483	3.1	3,862	12.8	21,547	3.8
Very remote	6,114	1.2	7,083	23.5	14,363	2.5
Total	506,479	100.0	30,141	100.0	567,163	100.0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2018, *Census Tablebuilder: Dataset – Cultural Diversity*

* Totals include Aboriginal status not stated and no usual address and therefore do not sum.

** The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) defines remoteness areas into five classes of relative remoteness across Australia using a combination of population sizes (to define urban centres) and distances from urban centres. In this classification, Mandurah is included in the Major Cities category. Refer to the ABS, [1270.0.55.005 – Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\): Volume 5 – Remoteness Structure, July 2016](#) for more information.

Note: This data is from the 2016 Census which has not been adjusted for undercounting. Remoteness area data for the 2021 Census will not be released by the ABS until later in 2023. Totals in the table are per the ABS and may not sum exactly.



Population

Cultural background

In 2021, 84.9 per cent of children and young people in WA were born in Australia.

For WA's children and young people, the most common country of birth after Australia is England (1.7%), followed by New Zealand (1.1%), the Philippines (1.0%) and India (0.9%) (Table 6).

Table 6: Children and young people aged 0 to 17 years by country of birth, number and per cent, WA, 2021

	Number	Per cent
Australia	509,464	84.9
England	10,056	1.7
New Zealand	6,897	1.1
Philippines	5,745	1.0
India	5,285	0.9
South Africa	4,352	0.7
Malaysia	2,013	0.3
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	1,984	0.3
Thailand	1,728	0.3
United States of America	1,613	0.3
Other*	51,040	8.5
Total	600,177	100.0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *Census Tablebuilder: Dataset – Cultural Diversity*

Note: This table was prepared using the ABS Table Builder tool, which reports on unadjusted Census data. As a result, the total in this table does not agree to the total for the Estimated Resident Population in 2021 in Table 1.

* Other includes 25,979 children and young people whose country of birth was not stated.

According to Census 2021 data, the majority of WA children and young people speak English at home (77.4%). The most common other languages spoken at home are Indian-related languages (around 3%) and Chinese languages (around 2%).¹¹

11 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *Table-builder: 2021 Census – Cultural Diversity*, ABS.

Population

Disability

The ABS estimates that in 2018, 43,600 WA children and young people aged 0 to 17 years had a reported disability (Table 7).¹² This represented 7.5 per cent of the total population of 0 to 17 year-olds in WA in 2018.

More than one in 10 (11.5%) children aged between six and 11 years had a reported disability.

Table 7: Children and young people aged 0 to 17 years with disability by age group and disability status, number and per cent, WA, 2018

	All with reported disability		Profound or severe core activity limitation*	
	Number	Per cent of children and young people in age group	Number	Per cent of children and young people in age group
0 to 5 years	9,000	4.4	4,600**	2.2
6 to 11 years	22,400	11.5	14,200	7.3
12 to 17 years	14,500	7.9	5,500	3.0
Total	43,600	7.5	25,100	4.3

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2021, *Persons with reported disability by specific age groups*, Custom report from the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 2018 [unpublished]

* 'Profound or severe core activity limitation' indicates the person is unable to do, or always needs help with, a core activity task such as communication, mobility or self-care.

** Estimate has a relative standard error of 25 to 50 per cent and should be used with caution.

Note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. Discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Across Australia, 69.9 per cent of 0 to five year-olds with disability have a sensory and speech disability (including loss of sight or hearing). In the six to 11 year-old age group, the most common disability types are intellectual (67.8%) and psychosocial (39.3%).¹³

12 The ABS notes that for the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers a person has a disability if they report they have a limitation, restriction or impairment, which has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least six months and restricts everyday activities.

13 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2021, *Persons with reported disability by specific age groups*, Custom report from the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, 2018, ABS [unpublished].

Population

Family composition

The most recent Census data reports that there were 419,711 households with one or more children in WA in 2021.

Of these households, 262,249 or 62.5 per cent were couple families with dependent children and 69,574 or 16.6 per cent were single-parent families with dependent children (Table 8).

The majority of single parents in WA are female (79.9%).¹⁴

Table 8: Families with children by family composition, number and per cent, WA, 2021

	Couple families		Single-parent families		Total
	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number
With dependent children under 15 years*	221,403	52.8	55,163	13.1	276,566
With dependent children over 15 years and no children under 15 years	40,846	9.7	14,411	3.4	55,257
Total with dependent children**	262,249	62.5	69,574	16.6	331,823
With non-dependent children***	51,426	12.3	36,462	8.7	87,888
Total families with children	313,675	74.7	106,036	25.3	419,711

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *Census of Population and Housing 2021*, compiled using Table Builder – Dataset 2021 Census: Selected Family Characteristics

* Includes families with children under 15 years and dependent children over 15 years.

** Dependent children include children under 15 years and dependent students aged 15 to 24 years.

*** This can include adult children (over 25 years) living with a parent.

14 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, ABS Census 2021, [Quick Stats, WA](#), ABS.



Child care and education

More than two-thirds of WA students are educated in government schools and almost one-third are educated in Catholic and independent schools.

Child care

Two in five (39.4%) WA children aged 0 to five years attend government approved child care services. This includes centre-based care, family day care and out-of-hours school care (as appropriate) (Table 9).

Table 9: Number of children aged 0 to five years attending approved child care services, WA, number and per cent, 2021

	Number	Per cent of all children
0 years old	3,087	9.5
1 years old	13,801	41.7
2 years old	18,036	53.3
3 years old	19,590	56.5
4 years old	15,785	44.2
5 years old	10,842	30.3
Total 0 to 5 years	81,141	39.4

Source: Productivity Commission 2022, [Report on Government Services 2022: Early Childhood Education and Care](#), Australian Government

Child care and education

The proportion of WA children aged 0 to five years attending childcare has been steadily increasing in WA, although is a lower proportion than across Australia (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Proportion of children aged 0 to five years attending approved child care services, WA and Australia, per cent, 2016 to 2021



Source: Productivity Commission 2022, [Report on Government Services 2022: Early Childhood Education and Care](#), Australian Government

Child care arrangements become less common once children start formal schooling (Table 10).

Table 10: Number of children aged 0 to 12 years attending approved child care services, WA and Australia, number and per cent, 2021

	WA		Australia
	Number	Per cent of all children	Per cent of all children
0 to 5 years	81,141	39.4	47.2
6 to 12 years	36,522	15.0	19.2

Source: Productivity Commission 2022, [Report on Government Services 2022: Early Childhood Education and Care](#), Australian Government

Child care and education

A 2022 report from the Mitchell Institute highlights that access to child care across Australia is not equitable. They found that regional and remote areas and those characterised by socio-economic disadvantage are less likely to have child care services available.¹⁵

More data is available in the [Participation in formal and informal child care](#) indicator in the Indicators of Wellbeing.

Education

There are 476,110 children and young people in WA enrolled in formal education. More than two-thirds of these students are in government schools and almost one-third in Catholic and independent schools (Table 11).

Table 11: Students in government and non-government schools by year level, number and per cent, WA, Semester 2, 2022

	Government		Non-government		Total
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	
Kindergarten	24,124	67.6	11,576	32.4	35,700
Pre-primary	25,954	73.8	9,224	26.2	35,178
Years 1 to 6	153,385	72.1	59,434	27.9	212,819
Years 7 to 12	113,371	58.9	79,042	41.1	192,413
Total	316,834	67.6	159,276	32.4	476,110

Source: WA Department of Education 2022, [Summary Statistics of Schools and Full-Time Students](#)

In 2022, there were 826 government schools (822 in 2021) and 313 non-government schools (314 in 2021) operating in WA.¹⁶

Eighty per cent (381,880) of all students were enrolled in the metropolitan area and the remaining 20 per cent (94,230) were enrolled in regional and remote education regions, with a high proportion (9.3%) attending schools in the South West education region (Table 12).

15 Hurley P, Matthews H & Pennicuik S 2022, [Deserts and oases: How accessible is childcare? in Australia](#) Mitchell Institute, Victoria University, pp, 5-7.

16 WA Department of Education 2022, [Summary Statistics of Schools and Full-Time Students](#), Summary Statistics of Schools and Full-Time Students, WA Government.

Child care and education

Table 12: Number of schools and primary and secondary students by education region, number and per cent, WA, Semester 2, 2022

Education region	Schools	Primary*	Secondary	Total students	Proportion of all students	Change 2021 to 2022
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Per cent	Per cent
North metropolitan	359	108,574	79,273	187,847	39.5	0.6
South metropolitan	378	117,105	76,928	194,033	40.8	1.2
Total metropolitan	737	225,679	156,201	381,880	80.2	0.9
Goldfields	48	6,419	3,810	10,229	2.1	-0.1
Kimberley	44	4,851	2,384	7,235	1.5	-1.8
Mid West	60	7,317	4,640	11,957	2.5	1.1
Pilbara	35	7,227	3,398	10,625	2.2	-1.7
South West	139	25,599	18,514	44,113	9.3	-0.1
Wheatbelt	76	6,605	3,466	10,071	2.1	-0.9
Total regional/ remote	402	58,018	36,212	94,230	19.8	-0.3
Total	1,139	283,697	192,413	476,110	100.0	0.7

Source: WA Department of Education 2022, [Students by Education Region and Education Level](#)

* Primary includes pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, pre-primary students and primary students.

Between Semester 2 2021 and Semester 2 2022, the number of school students enrolled in WA rose from 473,012 to 476,110, an increase of less than one per cent (Table 12).

Student numbers marginally increased by 0.9 per cent in the metropolitan area while regional and remote education regions recorded a combined small decrease of 0.3 per cent. The South metropolitan region recorded the highest increase in student numbers of 1.2 per cent while student numbers in the Mid West region increased by 1.1 per cent.

There were 33,696 Aboriginal students enrolled in Semester 2 2022, representing 7.1 per cent of all students. There are significant differences across the regions, with Aboriginal students representing 65.2 per cent of students in the Kimberley region and 3.6 per cent of students in the North metropolitan education region (Table 13).

Child care and education

Table 13: Students by education region and Aboriginal status, number and per cent, WA, Semester 2 2022

Education region	Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	
North metropolitan	6,830	3.6	181,017	96.4	187,847
South metropolitan	9,606	5.0	184,427	95.0	194,033
Total metropolitan	16,436	4.3	365,444	95.7	381,880
Goldfields	2,246	22.0	7,983	78.0	10,229
Kimberley	4,718	65.2	2,517	34.8	7,235
Mid West	3,002	25.1	8,955	74.9	11,957
Pilbara	2,987	28.1	7,638	71.9	10,625
South West	2,692	6.1	41,421	93.9	44,113
Wheatbelt	1,615	16.0	8,456	84.0	10,071
Total regional/remote	17,260	18.3	76,970	81.7	94,230
All regions	33,696	7.1	442,414	92.9	476,110

Source: WA Department of Education 2022, [Students by Education Region and Education Level](#)

Since 2011, there has been a 32.2 per cent increase in Aboriginal students across WA (2011: 25,487) compared to a 19.0 per cent increase in non-Aboriginal students (2011: 371,669).¹⁷

The number of children and young people being educated at home increased significantly in 2022 (Table 14). At March 2020, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, 4,116 WA students were registered to receive home education which represented a 10.6 per cent increase from 2019 (3,720). In March 2022, 6,151 students were registered to receive home education, which is a further substantial increase over the 2020 and 2021 numbers.

¹⁷ Data calculated by the Commissioner for Children and Young People from WA Department of Education statistical reports.

Child care and education

Table 14: Children and young people registered to receive home education, WA, number and per cent, March 2015 to 2022

	Number	Percentage change
2015	2,826	-
2016	3,303	16.9
2017	3,464	4.9
2018	3,563	2.9
2019	3,720	4.4
2020	4,116	10.6
2021	4,562	10.8
2022	6,151	34.8

Source: WA Department of Education 2022, [Annual Report 2021–22](#), WA Government and prior years reports

More data is available in the [School attendance](#) indicator in the Indicators of Wellbeing.





Vulnerability

Approximately 105,000 children and young people in WA are estimated to be living below the poverty line.

Child poverty

There is no national approach to reporting on child poverty and data is varied and contested.

In 2022, the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) and the University of NSW released their **Poverty in Australia 2022: A snapshot** report, in which they estimated that 16.6 per cent of children across Australia were living in poverty in 2019–20.^{18,19} They did not provide child poverty data by jurisdiction.

They estimate that in the June quarter of 2020, COVID-19 income supports reduced poverty by one-sixth or 646,000 people across Australia.²⁰

Similarly, the Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre estimates that in 2019–20, 16.6 per cent of children in WA are living in poverty (Table 15).²¹ This equates to approximately 105,000 children and young people in WA aged 0 to 17 years who are living in poverty.

18 Davidson P, Bradbury B, and Wong M 2022, *Poverty in Australia 2022: A snapshot*, Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) and UNSW Sydney.

19 The ACOSS report uses data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Survey of Income and Housing, 2019–20.

20 Davidson P, Bradbury B, and Wong M 2022, *Poverty in Australia 2022: A snapshot*, Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) and UNSW Sydney, p. 17.

21 Duncan A 2022, *Behind the Line: Poverty and disadvantage in Australia 2022*, Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre Focus on the States Series, Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre, p. 22.

Table 15: Poverty rates for children and young people by jurisdiction, per cent, Australia, 2019–20

	Per cent
NSW	13.6
VIC	11.6
QLD	17.3
SA	13.2
WA	16.6
TAS	14.1
NT*	18.5
ACT*	8.6
Australia	13.9

Source: Duncan A 2022, *Behind the Line: Poverty and disadvantage in Australia 2022*, Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre

* Due to smaller sample sizes, the ACT and NT were averaged over two years.

Note: Calculated based on 50 per cent of the Australian median disposable income (after housing costs) using the Melbourne Institute *Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey*.

There is significant variation in poverty rates across WA. Analysis by National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM) in 2015–16 estimated that 69.7 per cent of children and young people in the East Pilbara were living in poverty compared to 3.3 per cent of children and young people in the Perth suburb of City Beach.²²

Researchers from the Australian National University (ANU) researched income differences within the Australian Aboriginal population, and between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations. This study used data from the 2016 Census to conclude that 31.4 per cent of Aboriginal Australians were living in poverty and that those living in regional and remote areas were more likely to be experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.²³

Children in single-parent families have a significantly higher risk of poverty than children living in couple families (28.9% compared to 7.4%).²⁴

22 Miranti R et al. 2018, *Child Social Exclusion, Poverty And Disadvantage In Australia*, Table Appendix 2 – Child Social Exclusion and Child Poverty, Table A6. Child Social Exclusion and Child Poverty, National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling, Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis (IGPA), University of Canberra.

23 Markham F and Biddle N 2018, *Income, Poverty and Inequality: 2016 Census Paper No. 2*, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University, p. 16.

24 Duncan A 2022, *Behind the Line: Poverty and disadvantage in Australia 2022*, Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre Focus on the States Series, Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre, p. 26.

Vulnerability

In 2019–20, WA single parents with dependent children spent 26.8 per cent of their gross household income on housing costs, while couple families with children spent 15.1 per cent of their gross household income on housing costs. In comparison, couples with no children spent 7.8 per cent of their income on housing.²⁵

More data is available in the **Material basics** indicator in the Indicators of Wellbeing.

Housing and homelessness

At 30 June 2022, 11,461 children and young people were on the public housing wait list. This represents a significant increase in the number of children and young people experiencing housing instability in the past year (from 9,934 in 2021 to 11,461 in 2022).

From 30 June 2016 to 30 June 2019, there was a significant decrease in the number of children and young people on the public housing wait list (30 June 2016: 11,963; 30 June 2019: 6,824). However, from 2020 there has been a steady increase in the number of children and young people who are on the public housing wait list (Table 16).

Table 16: Children and young people aged 0 to 17 years on public housing wait list by number of applications and applicants, number and per cent, WA, 2016 to 2022

	Total applicants (all ages)	Applicants (0 to 17 years)	Proportion of all applicants	Applications (0 to 17 years)
	Number	Number	Per cent	Number
30 June 2016	36,167	11,963	33.1	6,058
30 June 2017	29,544	9,070	30.7	4,532
30 June 2018	23,637	6,892	29.2	3,311
30 June 2019	23,254	6,824	29.3	3,325
30 June 2020	24,364	7,469	30.7	3,669
30 June 2021	29,720	9,934	33.4	4,975
30 June 2022	33,563	11,461	34.1	5,752

Source: Department of Communities (Housing), *Public Housing Wait List as at 30 June 2022 custom report* and previous years reports [unpublished]

Note: Children and young people under 18 are considered applicants when their parent(s) or guardians are applying for housing to accommodate them. In a small number of cases the young person (aged 16 to 17 years) can be applying in their own right.

²⁵ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *Housing Occupancy and Costs: 2019–20*, Table 11.5 Median ratio of housing costs to gross household income, Selected household characteristics, Western Australia, ABS.

Vulnerability

On average, households waited 116 weeks (more than two years) to be housed (94 weeks in 2019–20 and 102 weeks in 2020–21).²⁶ This represents a further substantial increase in the average time on the waiting list.

The Housing Authority notes that increased waiting times in 2021–22 were impacted by an increase in the number of applicants and external factors such as labour and material shortages which reduced the turnover of vacant housing.²⁷

More than one-quarter (28.2%) of WA households live in a rented dwelling. This proportion has not changed materially for 25 years.²⁸

According to the Australian Census, in 2016 at least 1,949 WA children and young people were homeless (Table 17).²⁹ This figure is known to be underestimated due to the often hidden nature of youth homelessness.³⁰

Homelessness data for the 2021 census is not yet available.

Table 17: Children and young people aged 0 to 18 years reported as homeless by age group and gender, number, WA, 2016

	0 to 11 years	12 to 18 years	Total
Male	636	350	986
Female	576	398	974
Total	1,208	741	1,949

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016, *Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness*, Table 4.6 Homeless Operational Groups and Other Marginal Housing, Western Australia–Sex by age of person–2016

Note: Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. As a result, cells may not add to the totals.

26 Department of Communities 2022, *Housing Authority 2021–22 Annual Report*, WA Government, p. 208.

27 Ibid.

28 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022, *Housing Occupancy and Costs: 2019–20*, Table 12.15 Household Estimates, Selected household characteristics, Western Australia, 1994–95 to 2019–20, ABS.

29 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2020, *Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness, 2016*, Homelessness Operational Groups and other Marginal Housing, Western Australia–Sex by age of person–2016, ABS. This is the latest data available at publication date.

30 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2020, *Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness, 2016*, Youth homelessness, ABS.

Vulnerability

In 2021–22, 6,802 children and young people aged 0 to 17 years presented at WA specialist homelessness services alone or with their families (7,102 in 2020–21). The majority (4,117) were under 10 years of age.³¹

The single most common reason for children and young people to need housing and homelessness assistance is family and domestic violence.³²

More data is available in the **Material basics** indicator in the Indicators of Wellbeing.

Developmental vulnerability

According to the 2021 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC),³³ 6,852 WA children were assessed as vulnerable on one or more developmental domains upon entering primary school.³⁴ This represents 20.3 per cent of children assessed in 2021, which is a slight increase from the results for 2018 (19.4%).

The proportion of children developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains is lower in WA (20.3%) than in Australia overall (22.0%) (Table 18).

Table 18: Children assessed as developmentally vulnerable, number and per cent, WA and Australia, 2009, 2012, 2015, 2018 and 2021

	WA				Australia	
	One or more domains		Two or more domains		One or more	Two or more
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
2009	6,445	24.7	3,177	12.2	23.6	11.8
2012	7,048	23.0	3,449	11.2	22.0	10.8
2015	6,895	21.3	3,403	10.5	22.0	11.1
2018	6,369	19.4	3,086	9.4	21.7	11.0
2021	6,852	20.3	3,457	10.2	22.0	11.4

Source: Australian Early Development Census, [2021 AEDC National Report Appendix 2: State and Territory trends, all collections \(data tables\)](#)

31 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2022, [Specialist Homelessness Services annual report 2021–22](#), Table Clients.1: Clients and support periods, by age and sex, 2021–22, AIHW.

32 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2022, [Specialist Homelessness Services Collection data cubes 2011–12 to 2021–22](#), SHSC Demographics data cube, AIHW.

33 The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) measures the development of children in Australia in their first year of full-time school. Data is collected using an adapted version of the Early Development Instrument, which consists of approximately 100 questions closely linked to child health, education and social outcomes across five key domains (physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills and communication skills and general knowledge). Children receive a score between zero and ten for each domain and children falling below the 10th percentile are categorised as ‘developmentally vulnerable’. AEDC scores are calculated for each domain for each individual child where enough valid responses have been recorded.

34 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) 2022, [Australian Early Development Census National Report 2021](#), AEDC.

Vulnerability

The proportion of WA children who are developmentally on track across all five domains is 57.5 per cent (46.5% in 2009).³⁵

Aboriginal children are less likely to be developmentally on track than non-Aboriginal children. Under the Closing the Gap initiative, a national target has been set for 55 per cent of Aboriginal children to be assessed as developmentally on track in all domains by 2031.³⁶

In 2021, only 31.3 per cent of Aboriginal children in WA were assessed as being developmentally on track in all five AEDC domains. This represents no change from 2018 (31.4%), although does represent an improvement since 2009 (21.1%).

Aboriginal children in very remote areas are much less likely to be developmentally on track than Aboriginal children in other areas (very remote: 18.6% developmentally on track; metropolitan area: 35.1% developmentally on track).

This is consistent with the results across WA, with one-quarter (24.2%) of children living in very remote areas being developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains compared to 9.4 per cent of children who live in the metropolitan area.³⁷ The proportion of developmentally vulnerable children in very remote areas has increased since 2009 (22.9% to 24.2%), while the proportion of children developmentally vulnerable across all other areas has generally decreased since 2009 (e.g. metropolitan area: 11.4% to 9.4%).³⁸

35 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) 2022, [2021 AEDC National Report Appendix 2: State and Territory trends, all collections \(data tables\)](#), AEDC.

36 Productivity Commission 2022, [Closing the Gap Targets](#), Outcome 4 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children thrive in their early years, Australian Government [website].

37 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) 2022, [Public table by Remoteness 2009 – 2021](#), AEDC.

38 Ibid.

Vulnerability

Children developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains – Regional WA (2021)

The Kimberley region has the highest proportion of children who are developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains. Around one in four students in the Kimberley (24.3%) were assessed as being vulnerable on two or more domains in 2021. This is an improvement from prior years' results (2015: 28.5%, 2018: 26.5%).

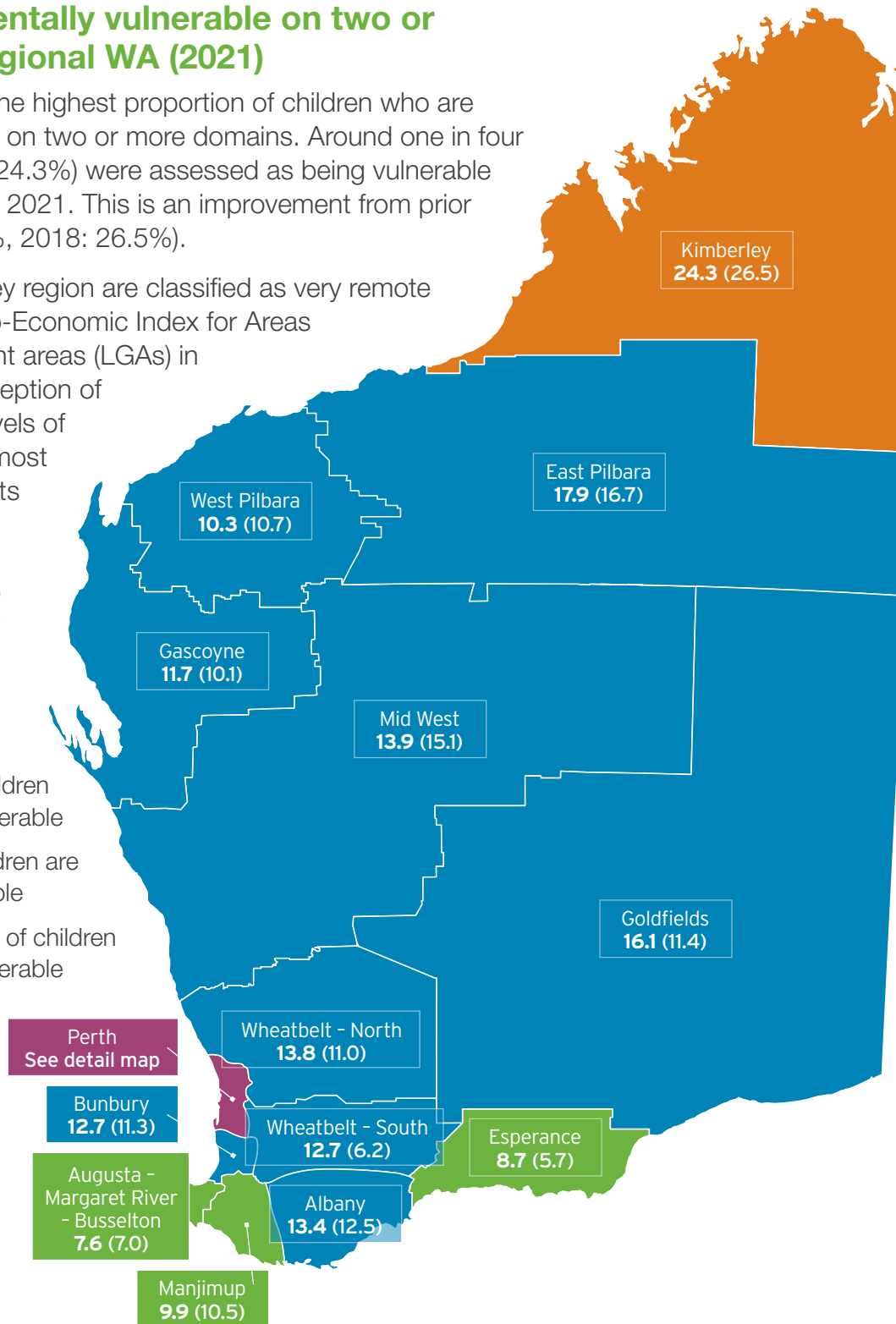
Large parts of the Kimberley region are classified as very remote and according to the Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA), all local government areas (LGAs) in the Kimberley (with the exception of Broome LGA) have high levels of disadvantage.³⁹ Further, almost two-thirds of school entrants in the Kimberley are Aboriginal (see Education chapter) and they are more likely to experience poverty and disadvantage than non-Aboriginal children.⁴⁰

- Below 10 per cent of children are developmentally vulnerable
- 10 to 20 per cent of children are developmentally vulnerable
- Greater than 20 per cent of children are developmentally vulnerable

() Data in brackets is 2018 result

Source: Australian Early Development Census 2022, [Public table by Statistical Area Level \(SA3\) 2009–2022](#)

* Data for Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands is not included due to the relatively small number of children with valid scores.



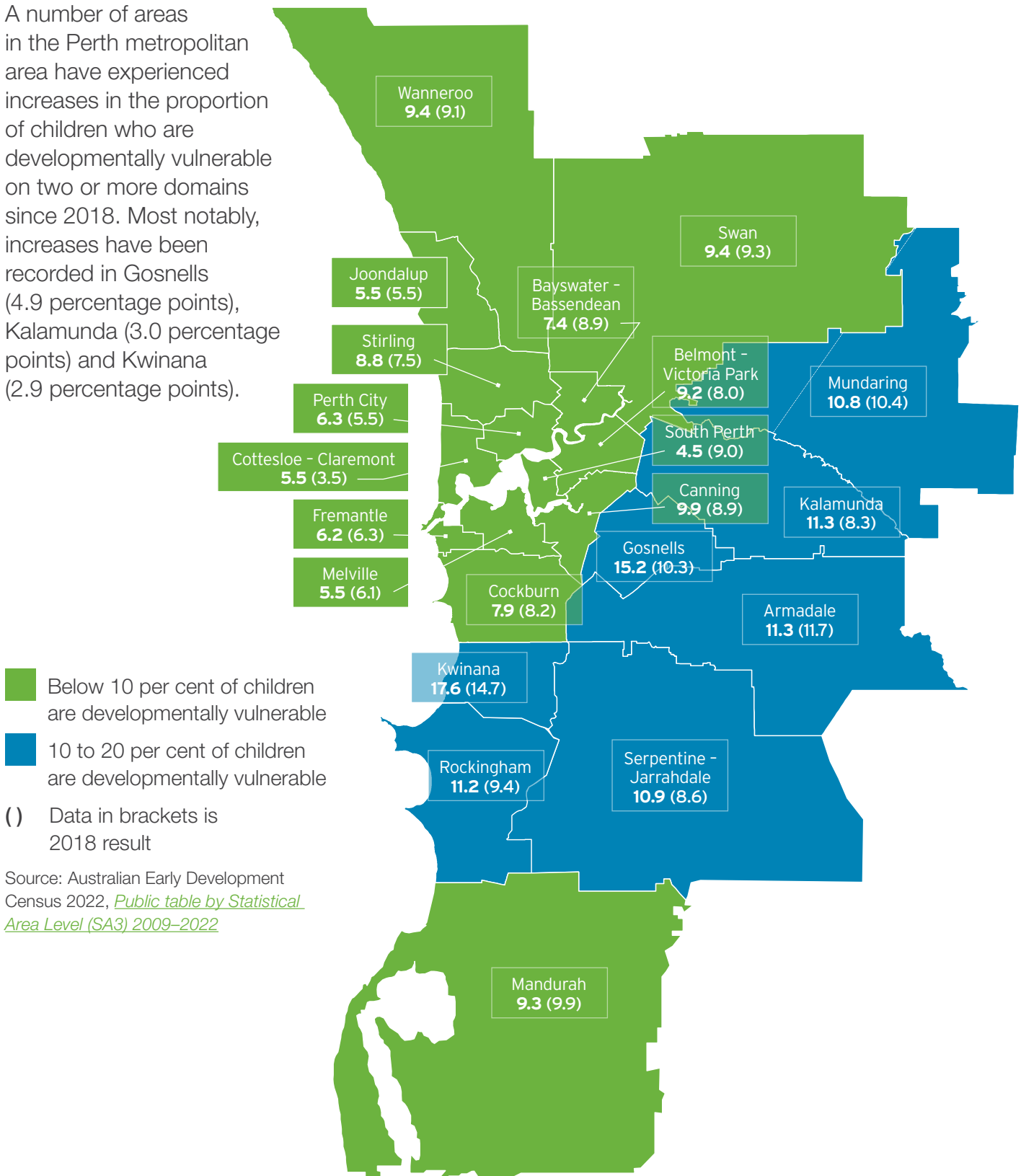
39 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2018, [2033.0.55.001 Socio-Economic Indexes for Australia \(SEIFA\), 2016](#), Table 1 Local Government Area (LGA) SEIFA Summary, 2016, ABS.

40 Markham F and Biddle N 2018, [Income, Poverty and Inequality: 2016 Census Paper No. 2](#), Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Australian National University, p. 16.

Vulnerability

Children developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains – metropolitan area (2021)

A number of areas in the Perth metropolitan area have experienced increases in the proportion of children who are developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains since 2018. Most notably, increases have been recorded in Gosnells (4.9 percentage points), Kalamunda (3.0 percentage points) and Kwinana (2.9 percentage points).



Below 10 per cent of children are developmentally vulnerable

10 to 20 per cent of children are developmentally vulnerable

() Data in brackets is 2018 result

Source: Australian Early Development Census 2022, [Public table by Statistical Area Level \(SA3\) 2009–2022](#)

Vulnerability

Children and young people in the child protection system

At 30 June 2022, there were 5,093 children and young people in out-of-home care in WA, more than half of whom (58.0%) were Aboriginal.

Aboriginal children and young people continue to be over-represented in the child protection system.

From 30 June 2021 to 30 June 2022, the total number of children and young people in care decreased by 251 or 4.7 per cent (Table 19). Over this period, the number of Aboriginal children and young people in care decreased by 3.3 per cent and the number of non-Aboriginal children and young people in care decreased by 6.6 per cent in the same period.

Table 19: Children and young people in out-of-home care by age group and Aboriginal status, number, WA, 30 June 2021 and 30 June 2022

	30 June 2022			30 June 2021		
	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Total	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Total
Less than 1 year	91	48	139	90	55	145
1 to 4 years	582	359	941	665	421	1,086
5 to 9 years	887	572	1,459	918	665	1,583
10 to 14 years	920	709	1,629	929	735	1,664
15 years and older	475	450	925	454	412	866
Total children and young people in care	2,955	2,138	5,093	3,056	2,288	5,344
Per cent of total	58.0%	42.0%	100.0%	57.2%	42.8%	100.0%

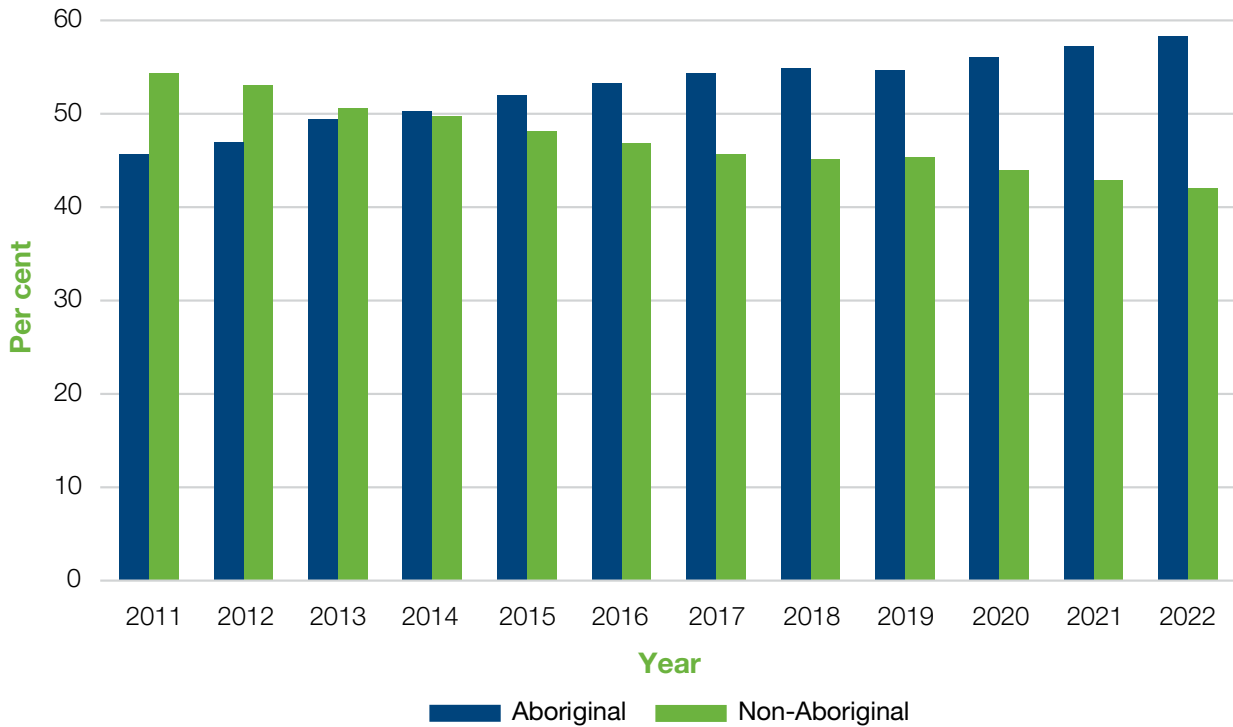
Source: Department of Communities 2022, *Child Protection Activity Performance Report 2021–22*

The proportion of children and young people in out-of-home care in WA who are Aboriginal has increased from 45.7 per cent in 2011 to 58.0 per cent in 2022.

Despite significant focus on the over-representation of Aboriginal children in care in recent years, the proportion of Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care has been steadily increasing, while the proportion of non-Aboriginal children and young people has been decreasing (Figure 4).

Vulnerability

Figure 4: Proportion of children and young people in out-of-home care by Aboriginal status, per cent, WA, 30 June 2011 to 30 June 2022



Source: Department of Communities (and previously Department of Child Protection), *Annual Reports from 2016–17 to 2021–21*

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) publishes the **Child Protection Australia** report on an annual basis. This report provides detailed data from state and territory child protection agencies, including rates of children and young people being placed in out-of-home care.

At June 2021, Aboriginal children and young people in WA were 19 times more likely to be in out-of-home care than non-Aboriginal children and young people (64.7 per 1,000 compared to 3.4 per 1,000).⁴¹

More data is available in the **Safe in the home** indicator in the Indicators of Wellbeing.

41 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2022, *Child Protection Australia, 2020–21*, Table S5.10: Children in out-of-home care, by Indigenous status and state or territory, 30 June 2021, AIHW.

Children and young people in the youth justice system

On an average day⁴² in 2020–21, there were 453 children and young people aged 10 to 17 years under youth justice supervision in WA, with the majority (360 or 79.5%) being supervised in the community.

This represented a reduction in the number of children and young people under supervision in the youth justice system from 2019–20 to 2020–21. The decrease was principally related to a reduction in the number of children and young people under supervision in the community (Table 20).

Table 20: Children and young people aged 10 to 17 years under youth justice supervision in the community or detention on an average day, number and per cent, WA, 2018–19 to 2020–21

	2020–21		2019–20		2018–19	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Community	360	79.5	501	83.5	590	81.4
Detention*	96	21.2	104	17.3	133	18.3
Total**	453	100.0	600	100.0	725	100.0

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*, Table S72a: Young people in detention on an average day by age, states and territories and Table S34a: Young people under community-based supervision on an average day, by age, states and territories

* Children and young people in detention are primarily held in Banksia Hill Detention Centre in Canning Vale, WA's only youth detention centre.

** The number of young people on an average day may not sum due to rounding, and because some young people may have been moved between community-based supervision and detention on the same day. Caution is to be applied when interpreting trends among small populations such as these.

42 The 'average day' measure is calculated by summing the number of days each young person spends under supervision during the financial year and dividing this by the total number of days in the year. It reflects the number under supervision on any given day during the year and indicates the average number of young people supported by the supervision system at any time. This summary measure reflects both the number of young people supervised, and the amount of time they spent under supervision. Source: AIHW 2019, *Youth Justice in Australia 2017–18*, p. 44, AIHW.

Vulnerability

The Department of Justice reports that in 2021–22 there was an increase in the number of children and young people in detention on an average day (from 102 in 2020–21 to 114 in 2021–22).⁴³

More than one-half (61.1%) of children and young people in detention on an average day in 2021–22 were unsentenced.⁴⁴

In 2020–21, Aboriginal children and young people in WA were 43 times more likely than non-Aboriginal children and young people to be in held in youth detention (2019–20: 36 times).

Table 21: Children and young people aged 10 to 17 years under community-based supervision or detention on an average day by Aboriginal status, number and rate, WA, 2020–21

	Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total		Rate Ratio Aboriginal/ Non-Aboriginal
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	
Community	202	113.6	159	6.4	360	13.6	17.8
Detention	73	40.8	24	1.0	96	3.6	43.0
Total	272	153.2	181	7.3	453	17.0	21.0

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*

Note: Rates are number of young people per 10,000 relevant population.

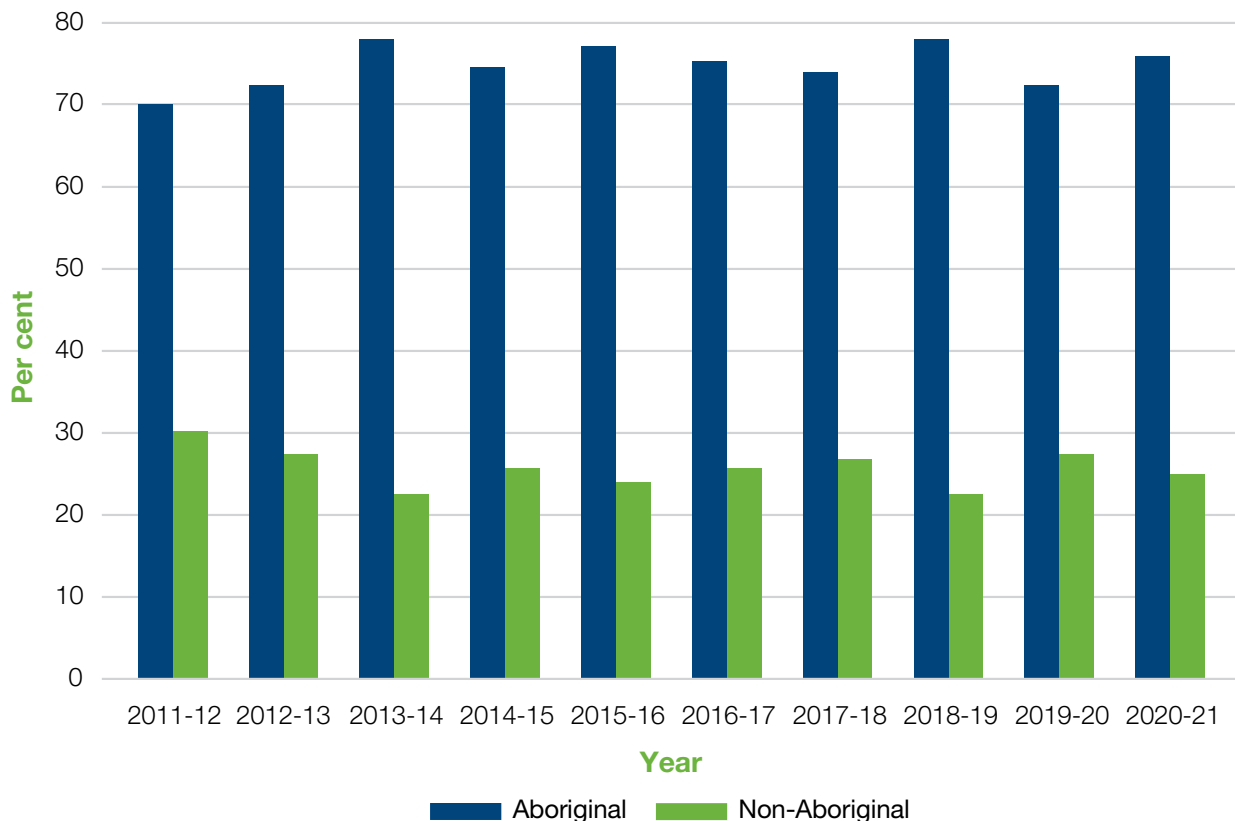
43 Department of Justice 2022, *Annual Report 2021/22*, WA Government, p. 32. The data from AIHW and the Department of Justice for children and young people in Banksia Hill are marginally different.

44 Department of Justice 2022, *Annual Report 2021/22*, WA Government, p. 32.

Vulnerability

While the number of Aboriginal children and young people in detention has decreased over the past decade, the over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people in detention has increased.⁴⁵ In 2011–12, 69.9 per cent of children and young people in held in detention on an average day were Aboriginal compared to 75.5 per cent in 2020–21 (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Proportion of children and young people aged 10 to 17 years in detention on an average day by Aboriginal status, per cent, WA, 2011–12 to 2020–21



Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*, Table S81a: Young people aged 10–17 in detention on an average day(a) by Indigenous status, states and territories, 2011–12 to 2020–21

Most children and young people in WA have no contact with the youth justice system. A total of 597 children and young people were held in detention in WA over the course of 2020–21. This included 81 children and young people aged between 10 and 13 years.⁴⁶

On an average day around six children and young people held in detention in WA are aged between 10 and 13 years. Of these, most are Aboriginal children and young people (Table 22).

⁴⁵ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*, Table S81a: Young people aged 10–17 in detention on an average day by Indigenous status, states and territories, 2011–12 to 2020–21, AIHW.

⁴⁶ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*, Table S78b: Young people in detention during the year by Indigenous status and age, states and territories, 2020–21, AIHW.

Vulnerability

Table 22: Children and young people aged 10 to 17 years held in detention on an average day by age and Aboriginal status, number, WA, 2020–21

	10 to 13	14	15	16	17	Total
Aboriginal	5.5	9.8	14.8	18.1	24.3	72.6
Non-Aboriginal	1.1	3.4	5.1	6.9	7.1	23.6
Total	6.6	13.2	19.9	25.0	31.3	96.1

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*, Table S132c: Young people in detention on an average day(a) by age, sex and Indigenous status, Western Australia, 2016–17 to 2020–21

Of the 81 children and young people under 14 years of age held in detention during 2020–21, only three were sentenced.⁴⁷ That is, the overwhelming majority of children and young people aged between 10 and 13 years held in detention are not ultimately sentenced to detention.

Female children and young people are significantly less likely to be under youth justice supervision than male children and young people. On an average day in 2020–21, 18.9 per cent of children and young people under community supervision and 10.5 per cent of children and young people in detention were female.⁴⁸

There is a clear interaction between the child protection system and the youth justice system. One-half (49.7%) of children and young people in the WA youth justice system during 2020–21 had also had an interaction with the child protection system in the previous five years.⁴⁹

More data is available in the **Contact with the youth justice system** indicator in the Indicators of Wellbeing.

47 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2022, *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*, Table S119b: Young people in sentenced detention during the year by age and Indigenous status, states and territories, 2020–21, AIHW.

48 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2022, *Youth Justice in Australia 2020–21*, Table S132b and c: Young people under community-based supervision and detention on an average day by age, sex and Indigenous status, Western Australia, 2016–17 to 2020–21, AIHW.

49 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2022, *Young people under youth justice supervision and their interaction with the child protection system 2020–21*, AIHW.



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