

Appendix 3
Glossary and acronyms



Term	Definition
Aboriginal	The Commissioner acknowledges the unique contribution of Aboriginal people's culture and heritage to Western Australian society. For the purposes of this report, the term 'Aboriginal' encompasses Western Australia's diverse cultural and language groups and also recognises those of Torres Strait Islander descent.
Aboriginal Child Placement Principle, The	<p>The Aboriginal Child Placement Principle outlines a preference for the placement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people when they are placed outside their family (Lock 1997:50). The Principle has the following order of preference for the placement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with the child's extended family • within the child's Indigenous community • with other Indigenous people. <p>All jurisdictions have adopted the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle in legislation and policy.</p>
Age-adjusted rate (AAR)	Age-adjusted rate per x person years. Direct standardisation using a range of age groups of Australian Standard Population in order to compare rates between population groups and different years for the same population group.
Age-specific rate (ASR)	Number of occurrences of eg. hospitalisations, deaths or cases for an age group divided by the population for the age group, expressed as per x person years.
Apparent retention rate	This is a measure of the number of school students in a designated level/year of education expressed as a percentage of their respective cohort group in a base year.
Canadian National Occupancy Standard	<p>Canadian National Occupancy Standards define overcrowding as requiring one or more additional bedrooms to meet the standards of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no more than two people per bedroom • parents or couples may share a bedroom • children under five of same sex or opposite sex may share a bedroom • children under 18 of the same sex can share a bedroom • a child aged five to 17 years should not share a bedroom with a child under five of the opposite sex • single adults aged 18 years and over and any unpaired children require a separate bedroom.
Children and young people	The <i>Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006</i> defines 'children and young people' as people less than 18 years of age. When referred to individually, 'children' refers to the ages zero to 12 years and 'young people' from 13 to 17 years.
Compulsory education period	<p>The compulsory education period is defined by the WA Department of Education as from the beginning of the year in which the child reaches the age of six years and six months and until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the end of the year in which the child reaches the age of 17 years and six months; or • the child satisfies the minimum requirements for graduation from secondary school established under the Curriculum Council Act 1997; or • the child reaches the age of 18 years, whichever happens first.
Crude rate	The number of occurrences of something (for example hospitalisations) divided by the whole relevant population. Cannot be used to compare different population groups (for example, Aboriginal children with children of migrant or refugee backgrounds) because of potential differences in population structure.

Term	Definition
Decile	Groupings that result from ranking all households or persons in the population in ascending order according to some characteristic such as their household income and then dividing the population into 10 equal groups, each comprising 10 per cent of the estimated population.
Dependent child	The ABS defines a dependent child as a person who is either a child less than 15 years of age or a dependent student (for a definition of dependent student see Dependent student). To be regarded as a child the person can have no identified partner or child of his/her own usually resident in the household.
Dependent student	The ABS defines a dependent student as a child of 15 to 24 years who attends a secondary or tertiary institution as a full-time student.
Disposable income	The ABS calculates disposable income to represent the economic resources available to meet the needs of households. It is derived by deducting estimates of personal income tax and the Medicare levy (including Medicare levy surcharge) from gross income.
Equivalised disposable income	The ABS calculates equivalised disposable income by adjusting disposable income by the application of an equivalence scale. This adjustment reflects the requirement for a larger household to have a higher level of income to achieve the same standard of living as a smaller household. Where disposable income is negative, it is set to 0 equivalised disposable income.
Estimated resident population	The estimated resident population is the official measure of the population of Australia. This measure is based on the concept of usual residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality or citizenship, who usually live in Australia, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for less than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for less than 12 months.
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is a general term describing a range of effects that can occur in an individual exposed to alcohol during pregnancy. FASD is a spectrum of disorders and includes diagnostic terms of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Alcohol Related Birth Defects and Alcohol Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder.
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is a diagnostic term used to describe the facial characteristics, poor growth and neurobehavioural function in children exposed to alcohol during pregnancy.
Household	A household is defined as one or more persons, usually resident in the same private dwelling. The total number of households is equal to the total number of occupied private dwellings.
Group households	The ABS defines a group household as a household consisting of two or more unrelated people where all persons are aged 15 years and over. There are no reported couple relationships, parent-child relationships or other blood relationships in these households.
Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia survey	The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) survey is the first extensive household panel survey to be conducted in Australia, and includes over 13,000 survey respondents each year. HILDA is a dataset that is representative of the Australian population, and is used extensively in Australian research as it provides rich data about economic and subjective wellbeing, and labour market and family dynamics. It has been conducted every year since 2001.
Humanitarian entrant	Humanitarian entrants include persons entering Australia on refugee, protection and special humanitarian visa categories, granted both offshore and onshore.
Index of relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage (IRSAD)	One of the four indexes that comprise the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas developed by the ABS (See SEIFA). The IRSAD summarises information about the economic and social conditions of people and households within an area, including both relative advantage and disadvantage measures.

Term	Definition
Infant	Children in their first year of life.
Infant mortality rate	Rate of survival of children in their first year of life.
Intact family	A couple family containing at least one child who is the natural or foster child of both members of the couple, and no child who is the stepchild of either member of the couple.
Jobless families	This report adopts the definition of the Australian Bureau of Statistics that describes a jobless family as a family where no persons in the family aged 15 years and over are employed. This includes dependants. In a jobless family, all of the family members are either unemployed and/or not in the labour force. Families that have no employed members but do have members that are “not determined in the scope of the labour force survey,” such as having a family member who is a member of the permanent Australian defence force, are not included in the number of jobless families however they are included in the total number of families.
Low income households	Households with income in the second and third deciles (see Deciles).
Mean income	The total income received by a group of units divided by the number of units in the group.
Median income	That level of income which divides the units in a group into two equal parts, one half having incomes above the median and the other half having incomes below the median.
Notifications	Notifications consist of contacts made to an authorised department by persons or other bodies making allegations of child abuse or neglect, child maltreatment or harm to a child. A notification can only involve one child. Where it is claimed that two children have been abused or neglected or harmed, this is counted as two notifications, even if the children are from one family. See also Substantiations of notifications
Out-of-home care	Out-of-home care refers to the care of children and young people less than 18 years of age who are unable to live with their families (often due to child abuse and neglect). It involves the placement of a child or young person with alternate caregivers on a short or long-term basis (Victorian Government Department of Human Services, 2007)
Out-of-home care, types of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Home-based care’ is where placement is in the home of a carer who is reimbursed (or who has been offered but declined reimbursement) for expenses for the care of the child. This is broken down into the three subcategories: relative/kinship care, foster care and other home-based out-of-home care • ‘Residential care’ is where placement is in a residential building whose purpose is to provide placements for children and where there are paid staff. • ‘Family group homes’ provide care to children in a departmentally or community sector agency provided home. These homes have live-in, non-salaried carers who are reimbursed and/or subsidised for the provision of care. • ‘Independent living’ includes private board and lead tenant households. ‘Other’ includes placements that do not fit into the above categories and unknown placement types. This includes boarding schools, hospitals, hotels/motels and the defence force

Term	Definition
Parenting payment	<p>Parenting Payment is to help with the costs of caring for children. It is paid to the person who is the main carer of a child.</p> <p>To qualify for Parenting Payment either as a parent, grandparent or foster carer, the person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is single and cares for at least one child aged less than eight years, or • has a partner and cares for at least one child aged less than six years, and • their and their partner's income and assets are below a certain amount.
Perinatal	The period from prior to birth to 28 days after birth
Post-neonatal	The period from 29 days to one year following birth
Pre-compulsory education period	<p>The pre-compulsory education period covers two years and is defined by the WA Department of Education as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from the beginning of the year in which the child reaches the age of four years and six months, and • until the end of the year in which the child reaches the age of five years and six months.
Quantile measures	<p>ABS publications frequently use quantile measures to reflect income data. When persons are ranked from the lowest to the highest on the basis of some characteristic such as their household income, they can then be divided into equally sized groups. The generic term for such groups is quantiles.</p>
Quintile	<p>Where population (or another group) is ranked in order based on some characteristic (for example household income) they can be divided into equal-sized groups. Where there are five groups, each group is termed a quintile.</p>
Over-representation	The ratio of difference between the rates of any characteristic of one defined group against another.
Relative Standard Error (RSE)	<p>The Standard Error expressed as a percentage of the estimate for which it was calculated. It is a measure which is independent of both the size of the sample and the unit of measurement and as a result can be used to compare the reliability of different estimates. The smaller an estimate's RSE, the more likely it is that the estimate is a good proxy for that which would have been obtained if the whole population had been surveyed.</p>
Remoteness Area	See Remoteness Structure
Remoteness Structure	<p>Remoteness Structure is one of the seven structures that compose the Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC).</p> <p>The concept of remoteness is an important dimension of policy development in Australia. The purpose of the Remoteness Structure is to provide a classification for the release of statistics that inform policy development by classifying Australia into large regions that share common characteristics of remoteness.</p>
School participation rate	<p>This is a measure of the number of school students of a particular age expressed as a proportion of the Estimated Resident Population of the same age. It indicates the proportion of the population by age who are at school.</p>
SEIFA	<p>Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) were developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. SEIFA ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. The indexes are based on information from the five-yearly Census.</p>
Standard error	<p>A measure of the likely difference between estimates obtained in a sample survey and estimates which would have been obtained if the whole population had been surveyed. The magnitude of the standard error associated with any survey is a function of sample design, sample size and population variability.</p>

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Term	Definition
Statistical Division	A Statistical Division (SD) is an Australian Standard Geographical Classification defined area which represents a large, general purpose, regional type geographic area. SDs represent relatively homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic links between the inhabitants and between the economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities. They consist of one or more Statistical Subdivisions and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.
Statistical Local Area	The Statistical Local Area (SLA) is an Australian Standard Geographical Classification defined area which consists of one or more Collection Districts. SLAs are Local Government Areas or parts thereof. Where there is no incorporated body of local government, SLAs are defined to cover the unincorporated areas. SLAs cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.
Statistical Subdivision	The Statistical Subdivision (SSD) is an Australian Standard Geographical Classification defined area which represents an intermediate level, general purpose, regional type geographic unit. SSDs consist of one or more Statistical Local Areas and cover, in aggregate, the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.
Substantiations of notifications	Substantiations of notifications refer to child protection notifications made to relevant authorities that were investigated and it was concluded there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been, was being, or was likely to be, abused, neglected or otherwise harmed. Substantiations may also include cases where there is no suitable caregiver, such as children who have been abandoned or whose parents are deceased. See also Notifications.
Supplementary codes	Supplementary codes (often called dump codes) are used in the Census of Population and Housing to process inadequately described responses. Not further defined codes are used to process incomplete, non-specific or imprecise responses which cannot be coded to the most detailed level of a classification, but which nevertheless, contain enough information to allow them to be coded to a higher level of the classification structure.
Tenantable dwelling	Dwelling tenantability is related to the concept of tenant, with its associated rights and responsibilities. A tenantable dwelling usually provides a certain level of basic amenity and maintenance is completed to the required minimum level. A dwelling that is occupied, but is not tenantable, indicates an unmet housing need.



APPENDIX 3 - ACRONYMS

Acronym	Meaning
AAR	Age adjusted rates
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACARA	Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority
ACIR	Australian Childhood Immunisation Register
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AEDI	Australian Early Development Index
AHS	Australian Health Survey
AHURI	Australian Housing and Urban Research Unit
AIFS	Australian Institute of Family Studies
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
ARACY	Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ASIB	Australian Social Inclusion Board
ASR	Age Specific Rate
ASSAD	Australian School Student Alcohol and Drug Survey
BMI	Body Mass Index
CACH	Child and Adolescent Community Health
CaLD	Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
CDIS	Child Development Information System
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
CPFS	Department for Child Protection and Family Support (WA)
DAO	Drug and Alcohol Office (WA)
DCS	Department of Corrective Services (WA)
DEECD	Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (Victoria)
dmft	Decayed, missing or filled deciduous (baby) teeth
DMFT	Decayed, missing or filled permanent teeth
DoE	Department of Education (WA)
DSR	Department of Sport and Recreation (WA)
DTP	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ENT	Ear, Nose and Throat
ERP	Estimated Resident Population
FAS	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
FASD	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder
FDV	Family and Domestic Violence
FPAWA	Family Planning Association WA
FTB	Family Tax Benefit
HCARe	Health Care and Related Information System
HILDA	Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia survey
HWSS	Health and Wellbeing Surveillance System
HUGS	Hardship Utilities Grant Scheme
ICCWA	Injury Control Council of WA



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Acronym	Meaning
ICD-10-AM	International Classification of Diseases, 10th revision, Australian Modification
IRSAD	Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage
IRSD	Index for Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage
JJNMDS	Juvenile Justice National Minimum Data Set
JJT	Juvenile Justice Team
LBOTE	Language Background other than English
LGA	Local Government Area
LSAC	Longitudinal Study of Australian Children
MHC	Mental Health Commission (WA)
MTDP	Medicare Teen Dental Plan
MYBS	Metropolitan Youth Bail Service
NAHA	National Affordable Housing Agreement
NAPLAN	National Assessment Program: Literacy and Numeracy
NATSISS	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey
NDC	National Data Collection
NDRI	National Drug Research Institute
NDSHS	National Drug Strategy Household Survey
NEPM	National Environmental Protection Measure
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
NHS	National Health Survey
NPAPH	National Partnership Agreement on Preventative Health
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PCHI	Permanent Child Hearing Impairment
PISA	Program for International Student Assessment
PM10	Particles 10 microns in diameter
PM2.5	Particles 2.5 microns in diameter
POS	Public Open Space
ppm	Parts per million
Qld	Queensland
ROGS	Report on Government Services
RYJS	Regional Youth Justice Services
SA	South Australia
SAAP	Supported Accommodation Assistance Program
SCSA	School Curriculum and Standards Authority
SD	Statistical Division
SDERA	School Drug Education and Road Aware
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
SHS	Specialist Homelessness Services
SIDS	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
SLA	Statistical Local Area

Acronym	Meaning
SLWA	State Library of WA
SOMIH	State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing
SSD	Statistical Subdivision
SUDI	Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infants
Tas	Tasmania
TICHR	Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
TSH	Telethon Speech and Hearing
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNCROC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USA	United States of America
VCAMS	Victorian Child and Adolescent Monitoring System
Vic	Victoria
WA	Western Australia
WACOSS	WA Council of Social Service
WHO	World Health Organisation
WISH	WA Infant Screening for Hearing
YAC	Youth Advisory Council

