**Children in Care Census 2024**

Accessible version

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# Notes on the accessible version

This is the accessible version of the Children in Care Census 2024. The original report is available on the [Our Performance website](https://performance.dcssds.qld.gov.au/improving-care-and-post-care-support/who-we-work-with/2024-census-of-children-in-care).

Adjustments have been made to make the report more accessible, including:

* Graphs translated to tables with clear headers and logical reading order
* Simplified layout
* Larger text
* Headings levels included to assist navigation

Heading level three contains the page number of the corresponding section in the original report to assist with referencing between the two versions.

# Sample and completion rates

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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.

Asterix footnote - Population: QLD children (less than 18 years of age), living away from home (more than 3 months) that were subject to custody/guardianship by the Chief Executive

#### **Table 1 Completion rates per region**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Sample number completed | Sample number generated |
| Sunshine Coast and Central Queensland | 419 | 460 |
| South West Region | 400 | 400 |
| South East Region | 741 | 1070 |
| Far North Queensland | 105 | 104 |
| North Queensland | 89 | 87 |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay Region | 858 | 1001 |

# Overview

## **Quick Facts / Year**

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#### **Table 2 Pre-care experience**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Abuse type | Year 2023 | Year 2024 |
| Sexual abuse | 10% | 11% |
| Physical abuse | 38% | 46% |
| Emotional abuse | 74% | 83% |
| Neglect | 80% | 88% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 67% | 68% |
| Experienced 3 or more abuse types | 60% | 69% |

#### **Table 3 Safe, Secure and Stable**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Year 2023 | Year 2024 |
| More than 4 placements | 29% | 30% |
| In care more than 5 years in total | 44% | 49% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 30% | 32% |
| Transitioning to Adulthood remaining with carer | 38% | 35% |
| Transitioning to Adulthood requires public housing | 46% | 54% |
| Transitioning to Adulthood requires NDIS support | 17% | 32% |
| Have experienced a reunification attempt | Nil data available | 28% |
| Have experienced more than 1 reunification attempt | Nil data available | 24% |

#### **Table 4 Healthy**

| Measure | Year 2023 | Year 2024 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 29% | 31% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 37% | 41% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 22% | 20% |
| Extreme instability and/or extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 29% | 28% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 11% | 12% |
| Self harming now or in the past or suspected to be 10 years and over | 25% | 28% |
| Takes prescribed medication | Nil data available | 27% |

#### **Table 5 Learning, Earning and Developing**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Year 2023 | Year 2024 |
| Expelled/suspended in the past | 26% | 26% |
| Past or present employment 15 years and above | 23% | 21% |

#### **Table 6 Participating, Belonging and Identity**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Year 2023 | Year 2024 |
| Family conflict / limited relationship with family | 40% | 49% |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 28% | 29% |
| Child participation in Cultural Support Plan development | 64% | 63% |
| Family/Cultural Authority participation in Cultural Support Plan development | 84% | 80% |
| Native language identified in Cultural Support Plan | 44% | 41% |
| Child support to speak native language | 15% | 14% |
| First Nation country identified in Cultural Support Plan | 78% | 73% |
| Child walked on First Nation Country | 41% | 30% |
| Independent Person engaged in past 12 months when significant decision made | 27% | 26% |

# Key Findings

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#### **Pre care experience**

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 and 8

#### **Gender**

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

#### **Intellectual functioning / developmental delay**

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

#### **Age**

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

#### **Placement type**

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

See page 16

#### **Disability**

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 their disability

See pages 20-25

#### **Mental illness**

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

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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.

#### **Table 7 Proportion of children by pre care abuse type experienced and frequency of each abuse type experienced**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Abuse type | Children who have experienced abuse type | Frequency of abuse type – Isolated | Frequency of abuse type – Recurring | Frequency of abuse type – Chronic |
| Sexual abuse | 11% | 45% | 45% | 11% |
| Physical abuse | 46% | 21% | 59% | 20% |
| Emotional abuse | 83% | 7% | 63% | 30% |
| Neglect | 88% | 7% | 57% | 37% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 68% | 8% | 57% | 35% |

#### **Table 8 Proportion of children by pre care abuse type experienced by region**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Sexual abuse | Physical abuse | Emotional abuse | Neglect | Exposure to domestic violence |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 11% | 47% | 82% | 87% | 69% |
| South East | 10% | 39% | 82% | 89% | 67% |
| South West | 11% | 57% | 88% | 87% | 67% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 11% | 48% | 81% | 91% | 66% |

#### **Table 9 Proportion of children who have experienced abuse that was chronic by region**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Region | Proportion |
| Queensland | 47% |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 46% |
| South East | 41% |
| South West | 60% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 48% |

69% of children have experienced or were at risk of experiencing 3 or more abuse types prior to entering care.

#### **Table 10 Proportion of children by number of abuse types they have experienced**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of abuse types | Proportion |
| 1 | 9% |
| 2 | 21% |
| 3 | 35% |
| 4 | 29% |
| 5 | 4% |

#### **Table 11 Frequency of physical abuse by region**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Frequency of abuse type – Isolated | Frequency of abuse type – Recurring | Frequency of abuse type – Chronic |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 25% | 56% | 19% |
| South East | 23% | 58% | 19% |
| South West | 12% | 54% | 33% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 21% | 69% | 11% |

#### **Table 12 Frequency of emotional abuse by region**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Frequency of abuse type – Isolated | Frequency of abuse type – Recurring | Frequency of abuse type – Chronic |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 8% | 64% | 28% |
| South East | 6% | 69% | 25% |
| South West | 6% | 51% | 43% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 7% | 66% | 27% |

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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.

#### **Table 13 Profile of children by pre care experience**

| Measure | Sexual abuse and/or any other type of abuse | Physical abuse and/or any other type of abuse but sexual abuse | Emotional abuse / Neglect / Domestic violence exposure |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 40% | 21% | 16% |
| Emotional responses that limit functioning (excluding too young to determine) | 40% | 28% | 25% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 21% | 11% | 10% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 44% | 26% | 24% |
| Excluded/suspended from an education facility in the past | 34% | 29% | 23% |
| 5 years and over when first entered care | 32% | 33% | 55% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 26% | 29% | 37% |
| In non home based care | 20% | 24% | 36% |
| 3 or more placements | 45% | 56% | 62% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 28% | 33% | 39% |

## Profile by entry age to care

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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

#### **Table 14 Pre care abuse experienced by entry age to care**

| Abuse type | Under 1 | 1-4 years | 5-9 years | 10 and over |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sexual abuse | 7% | 9% | 15% | 21% |
| Physical abuse | 44% | 47% | 46% | 52% |
| Emotional abuse | 75% | 83% | 89% | 90% |

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

#### **Table 15 Age first entered care**

| Age entered care | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Under 1 | 31% |
| 1 | 14% |
| 2 | 9% |
| 3 | 7% |
| Under 3 | 53% |
| 4 | 5% |
| 5 | 6% |
| 6 | 4% |
| 7 | 3% |
| 8 | 4% |
| 9 | 3% |
| 10 | 3% |
| 11 | 3% |
| 12 | 3% |
| 13 | 3% |
| 14 | 2% |
| 15 | 1% |
| 16 | 0% |
| 17 | 0% |

#### **Table 16 Entry age to care by region**

| Region | Under 1 | 1-4 years | 5-9 years | 10 and over |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 30% | 35% | 21% | 14% |
| South East | 32% | 36% | 17% | 14% |
| South West | 29% | 29% | 24% | 18% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 36% | 34% | 21% | 9% |

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.

#### **Table 17 Total time in care by entry age to care**

| Age entered care | Under 2 years in care in total | 2-5 years in care in total | More than 5 years in care in total |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Under 1 | 19% | 24% | 57% |
| 1-4 years | 16% | 26% | 58% |
| 5-9 years | 22% | 34% | 44% |
| 10 years and over | 36% | 48% | 16% |

#### **Table 18 Number of placements by entry age to care**

| Age entered care | 1 placement | 2-3 placements | 4 or more placements |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Under 1 | 41% | 35% | 24% |
| 1-4 years | 26% | 30% | 44% |
| 5-9 years | 21% | 32% | 47% |
| 10 years and over | 24% | 33% | 43% |

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

#### **Table 19 Proportion of children 10 years and over in residential care by age they first entered care**

| Measure | Under 1 | 1-4 years | 5-9 years | 10 years and over |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Children in residential care 10 years and over | 19% | 25% | 30% | 45% |

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.

#### **Table 20 Profile of children by age first entered care**

| Measure | Under 1 | 1-4 years | 5-9 years | 10 years and over |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 14% | 20% | 22% | 33% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 22% | 24% | 23% | 40% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 8% | 12% | 9% | 19% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 46% | 41% | 40% | 34% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 33% | 32% | 30% | 27% |

# Demographic profiles

## Gender Profile

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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.

#### **Table 21 Profile of children by gender**

| Measure | Male | Female |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 33% | 24% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 49% | 48% |
| Excluded and/or suspended from an education facility in the past | 33% | 20% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 29% | 26% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 49% | 33% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 18% | 38% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 9% | 16% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 18% | 23% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 38% | 24% |
| Experienced sexual abuse prior to entering care | 6% | 17% |

## Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Profile

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There are no notable differences between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children across a range of Measures.

See Appendices P and Q for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander profile status by region

#### **Table 22 Profile of children by whether child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander**

| Measure | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 29% | 28% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 51% | 47% |
| Excluded and/or suspended from an education facility in the past | 28% | 25% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 29% | 27% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 42% | 41% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 27% | 28% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 13% | 11% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 20% | 21% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning/developmental delay | 32% | 31% |
| Entered care at birth | 32% | 27% |
| Been in care for than 5 years in total | 52% | 46% |

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children are slightly more likely to have entered care at birth and been in care for than 5 years in total.

## Youth justice profile

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

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#### **Table 23 Pre care experience of children on youth justice orders**

| Abuse type | On a youth justice order | Not on a youth justice order | On a youth justice order – abuse type was chronic and/or recurring | Not on a youth justice order – abuse was chronic / recurring |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sexual abuse | 7% | 11% | 75% | 55% |
| Physical abuse | 56% | 46% | 84% | 79% |
| Emotional abuse | 95% | 83% | 96% | 93% |
| Neglect | 88% | 88% | 98% | 93% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 56% | 68% | 97% | 92% |

#### **Table 24 In care profile of children on youth justice orders**

| Measure | Youth Justice order | No Youth Justice Order |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Excluded and/or suspended from an education facility currently or in the past | 72% | 25% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 74% | 26% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 70% | 40% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 56% | 26% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 40% | 11% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 56% | 20% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning/developmental delay | 61% | 31% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 91% | 29% |
| Entered care at birth | 14% | 30% |
| 5 and over when entered care | 47% | 35% |
| Entered care at birth and no reunification attempt | 9% | 22% |
| Experienced failed reunification | 49% | 27% |
| In care for more than 5 years in total | 67% | 48% |
| Experienced 4 or more placements including reunification attempts | 77% | 37% |

# Safe, Secure and Stable

## Placement Profile

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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).

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

#### **Table 25 Pre care abuse experienced by placement type**

| Abuse type | Statewide | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sexual abuse | 11% | 10% | 9% | 19% |
| Physical abuse | 46% | 45% | 44% | 54% |
| Emotional abuse | 83% | 83% | 79% | 90% |

#### **Table 26 Entry age to care by placement type**

| Entry age to care | Statewide | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Under 1 | 31% | 30% | 43% | 11% |
| 1-4 years | 34% | 36% | 38% | 26% |
| 5-9 years | 20% | 23% | 15% | 28% |
| 10 and over | 15% | 11% | 5% | 35% |

#### **Table 27 Number of placements by Placement Type**

| No of placements | Statewide | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 placement | 29% | 41% | 29% | 7% |
| 2-3 placements | 33% | 36% | 37% | 20% |
| 4 or more placements | 38% | 24% | 33% | 73% |

#### **Table 28 Profile by placement type**

| Measure | Statewide | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning/developmental delay | 31% | 25% | 31% | 42% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 41% | 34% | 43% | 51% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 20% | 14% | 14% | 40% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 28% | 20% | 22% | 48% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 28% | 17% | 17% | 44% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 12% | 5% | 4% | 22% |
| Excluded and/or suspended from an education facility in the past | 26% | 17% | 15% | 61% |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 29% | 20% | 24% | 52% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 32% | 20% | 15% | 46% |
| Of children who have experienced reunification, have experienced more than 1 reunification attempt | 24% | 22% | 18% | 37% |

## Profile by length of time in care in total

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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)

#### **Table 29 Total time in care by region**

| Region | Less than 2 years | 2-5 years | More than 5 years |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statewide | 21% | 30% | 49% |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 21% | 31% | 48% |
| South East | 21% | 30% | 49% |
| South West | 24% | 28% | 48% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 16% | 28% | 56% |

#### **Table 30 Number of placements by length of time in care in total**

| No of placements | Less than 2 years | 2-5 years | More than 5 years |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 placement | 41% | 30% | 23% |
| 2-3 placements | 36% | 35% | 30% |
| 4 or more placements | 22% | 35% | 47% |

#### **Table 31 Profile by length of time in care in total**

| Measure | Under 2 years | 2-5 years | More than 5 years |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 23% | 35% | 53% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 12% | 15% | 28% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 36% | 36% | 24% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 16% | 15% | 10% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 5% | 28% | 38% |
| Experienced more than 1 reunification attempt | 4% | 12% | 31% |

## Profile by number of placements

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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.

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

#### **Table 32 Number of placements by region**

| Region | 1 placement | 2-3 placements | 4 or more placements |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statewide | 29% | 33% | 38% |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 31% | 31% | 38% |
| South East | 32% | 33% | 36% |
| South West | 23% | 33% | 43% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 33% | 33% | 34% |

#### **Table 33 Pre care abuse by number of placements**

| Abuse type | 1 placement | 2-3 placements | 4 or more placements |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sexual abuse | 8% | 11% | 14% |
| Physical abuse | 38% | 46% | 53% |
| Emotional abuse | 78% | 82% | 88% |
| Neglect | 86% | 89% | 88% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 65% | 68% | 71% |

#### **Table 34 Profile by number of placements**

| Measure | 1 placement | 2-3 placements | 4 or more placements |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 37% | 39% | 46% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning/developmental delay | 26% | 31% | 36% |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 41% | 45% | 58% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 23% | 24% | 37% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 12% | 16% | 31% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 2% | 8% | 18% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 16% | 22% | 35% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 18% | 24% | 37% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 16% | 22% | 43% |
| Excluded and/or suspended from an education facility in the past | 14% | 18% | 43% |

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

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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.

32% of children in care 10 years and over have self placed at least once.

Of these, 59% have self placed in the last month.

#### **Table 35 Number of times they have self placed in last month**

| Measure | Once | 2-5 times | More than 5 times |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Number of times they have self placed in last month | 50% | 15% | 35% |

91% of those who have self placed in the last month have self placed for more than 5 days at a time.

#### **Table 36 Self placed by region**

| Region | Self placed at least once |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 29% |
| South East | 31% |
| South West | 34% |
| Sunshine Coast and Central | 30% |

The majority self place with family.

#### **Table 37 Where they self place**

| Measure | Family | Friends | Partner | Family of partner |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Where they self place | 70% | 33% | 18% | 10% |

#### **Table 38 Pre care experience of children who have self placed at least once**

| Measure | Self placed at least once | Never self placed |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sexual abuse | 19% | 14% |
| Physical abuse | 57% | 48% |
| Emotional abuse | 89% | 83% |
| Neglect | 87% | 86% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 68% | 65% |
| Experienced 3 or more abuse types | 74% | 68% |

#### **Table 39 Approved placement type of children who have self placed at least once**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Approved placement type | Self placed at least once | Never self placed |
| Kinship | 22% | 41% |
| Foster | 12% | 33% |
| Residential | 45% | 24% |
| Other | 21% | - |

#### **Table 40 Entry age to care of children who have self placed at least once**

| Entry age to care | Self placed at least once | Never self placed |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Under 1 | 11% | 21% |
| 1-4 years | 26% | 28% |
| 5-9 years | 23% | 28% |
| 10 and over | 40% | 22% |

#### **Table 41 Profile of children who have self placed at least once**

| Measure | Self placed at least once | Never self placed |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 34% | 33% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 41% | 49% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 42% | 27% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 26% | 6% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 49% | 18% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 48% | 27% |
| Excluded and/or suspended from an education facility in the past | 64% | 30% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 57% | 51% |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 43% | 32% |

# Healthy

## Healthy Summary

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20% have a diagnosed or suspected mental illness.

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

#### **Table 42 Most prevalent mental illnesses**

| Mental illness | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Anxiety | 65% |
| PTSD | 41% |
| Depression | 29% |
| Reactive Attachment Disorder | 21% |
| Attachment Disorder | 20% |
| Oppositional Defiance Disorder | 18% |
| Eating Disorder | 7% |

#### **Table 43 Regional comparison – Mental illness**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 17% |
| South East | 22% |
| South West | 21% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 22% |

* 64% receive some form of support for their mental illness.
* 31% have unmet support needs in relation to their mental illness.
* 41% have a diagnosed or suspected disability.
* Refer to Appendix J for a profile of children with a disability.

#### **Table 44 Most prevalent disabilities**

| Disability | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| ADHD | 53% |
| Intellectual | 38% |
| Autism | 35% |
| Sensory/Speech | 29% |
| Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder | 20% |
| Physical | 14% |
| Attention Deficit Disorder | 13% |

#### **Table 45 Regional Comparison – Disability**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 41% |
| South East | 45% |
| South West | 38% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 40% |

* 54% receive NDIS support for their disability.
* 22% have unmet support needs in relation to their disability.
* 27% take prescribed medication.

#### **Table 46 Most prescribed reason**

| Medication reason | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| ADHD treatment | 68% |
| Antidepressants / Mood stabilisers | 25% |

#### **Table 47 Regional comparison – Medication**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 27% |
| South East | 29% |
| South West | 21% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 27% |

28% display extreme instability / emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine).

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

#### **Table 48 Responses limit participation in**

| Emotional responses limit functioning in: | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| School / Education facility | 68% |
| Recreational activities | 40% |
| Work | 22% |
| Sport | 21% |

#### **Table 49 Regional comparison – emotional resilience**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 25% |
| South East | 26% |
| South West | 29% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 30% |

12% have attempted suicide (10 years and over).

#### **Table 50 No of attempts at suicide**

| Suicide attempt | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | 42% |
| 2-5 | 47% |
| More than 5 | 11% |

#### **Table 51 Regional comparison – Suicide Attempt**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 9% |
| South East | 14% |
| South West | 16% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 7% |

28% self harm now or in the past or are suspected to be (10 years and over).

#### **Table 52 Regional comparison – Self harming**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 24% |
| South East | 29% |
| South West | 32% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 28% |

## Mental illness / Behavioural disorder - Assessment status and Significant impairment

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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.

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.

#### **Table 53 Mental illness assessment and level of impairment**

| Mental illness | Diagnosed or suspected | Diagnosed only | Diagnosed and significant impairment | Suspected only | Suspected and significant impairment |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Anxiety | 65% | 35% | 77% | 29% | 52% |
| PTSD | 41% | 23% | 79% | 18% | 41% |
| Depression | 29% | 12% | 68% | 17% | 36% |
| Reactive Attachment Disorder | 21% | 13% | 83% | 8% | 48% |
| Attachment disorder | 20% | 5% | 81% | 15% | 51% |
| Oppositional defiance disorder | 18% | 10% | 76% | 7% | 59% |
| Eating disorder | 7% | 3% | 62% | 5% | 39% |

How to interpret table: 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.

#### **Table 54 Pre care experience of children with a diagnosed and suspected mental illness**

| Pre care abuse type | Diagnosed mental illness | Suspected mental illness only |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sexual abuse | 22% | 21% |
| Physical abuse | 53% | 58% |
| Emotional abuse | 88% | 89% |
| Neglect | 88% | 58% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 66% | 71% |

#### **Table 55 Profile of children with diagnosed and suspected mental illnesses**

| Measure | Diagnosed mental illness | Suspected mental illness only |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 74% | 47% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 49% | 36% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 26% | 21% |
| Self harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 49% | 51% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit function (excludes too young to determine) | 56% | 46% |
| Excluded/suspended from an education facility in the past | 53% | 47% |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 57% | 46% |
| 10 years and over | 85% | 73% |
| Kinship care | 25% | 37% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 37% | 29% |

## Support services for children with mental illness / behavioural disorders

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For children and young people with a diagnosed or suspected mental illness:

* 64% are receiving some form of support; 21% of these have unmet support needs
* 17% are pending some form of support
* 13% support is available but they do not want it
* 31% have unmet support needs in relation to their mental illness (includes children receiving support and not receiving support); this increases to 47% for those not currently receiving support
* 18% it is unknown whether they have unmet support needs in relation to their mental illness

#### **Table 56 Support services for mental illness**

| Support | Currently receiving | Pending | Past support |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Evolve | 13% | 3% | 16% |
| Child Youth Mental Health Services | 8% | 2% | 9% |
| NDIS | 35% | 7% | 2% |
| Private support | 20% | 5% | 11% |
| Headspace | 1% | 1% | 3% |
| NGO / Counselling support | 3% | 1% | 0% |

#### **Table 57 Receiving support for mental illness – regional comparison**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 66% |
| South East | 67% |
| South West | 66% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 56% |

#### **Table 58 Unmet support needs in relation to mental illness – regional comparison**

| Region | Proportion |
| --- | --- |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 32% |
| South East | 24% |
| South West | 36% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 31% |

## Profile of children who are self harming now or in the past or suspected to be self harming

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28% are self harming now or in the past or are suspected to be 10 years and over.

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.

#### **Table 59 Pre care experience of children who have self harmed**

| Pre care abuse type | Self harming | Not self harming |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sexual abuse | 25% | 13% |
| Physical abuse | 56% | 47% |
| Emotional abuse | 91% | 81% |

#### **Table 60 Entry age to care – self harming**

| Entry age to care | Self harming | Not self harming |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Under 1 | 14% | 21% |
| 1-4 years | 24% | 31% |
| 5-9 years | 22% | 28% |
| 10 and over | 39% | 20% |

#### **Table 61 Number of placements – self harming**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Number of placements | Self harming | Not self harming |
| 1 placement | 12% | 24% |
| 2-3 placements | 23% | 31% |
| 4 or more placements | 65% | 44% |

#### **Table 62 Total time in care – self harming**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total time in care | Self harming | Not self harming |
| Less than 2 years | 16% | 11% |
| 2-5 years | 28% | 18% |
| More than 5 years | 56% | 71% |

#### **Table 63 Approved placement type – self harming**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Approved placement type | Self harming | Not self harming |
| Kinship | 22% | 43% |
| Foster | 16% | 33% |
| Residential | 49% | 21% |
| Other | 13% | 3% |

#### **Table 64 Profile of children who self harm**

| Measure | Self harming | Not self harming |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Self placed at least once | 56% | 17% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 35% | 31% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 48% | 45% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 57% | 21% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 39% | 1% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit function (excludes too young to determine) | 58% | 22% |
| Excluded/suspended from an education facility in the past | 57% | 30% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 65% | 47% |
| Poor social skills/disconnected | 49% | 28% |
| Of children who have experienced a reunification attempt, have experienced more than 1 reunification attempt | 37% | 25% |

## Disability - Assessment status

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#### **Table 65 Assessment status**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Assessment status | Proportion |
| Diagnosed | 89% |
| Suspected only | 11% |

#### **Table 66 Number of disabilities per child**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of disabilities | Proportion |
| 1 | 40% |
| 2 | 27% |
| 3 | 17% |
| 4 or more | 16% |

#### **Table 67 Assessment status by disability type**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Disability type | Diagnosed | Suspected |
| Physical | 12% | 2% |
| Sensory or speech | 22% | 7% |
| Intellectual | 31% | 7% |
| Psychological | 5% | 3% |
| Acquired Brain Injury | 2% | 0% |
| Autism | 29% | 6% |
| Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder | 12% | 8% |
| Attention Deficit Disorder | 10% | 3% |
| ADHD | 45% | 8% |

## Support services for children with a disability

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For children and young people with a diagnosed or suspected disability:

#### **Table 68 Support needs – NDIS and unmet needs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Measure | Percentage |
| Receiving NDIS support | 54% |
| have unmet support needs | 22% |
| Unknown whether they have unmet support needs in relation to their disability | 14% |

#### **Table 69 Regional *c*omparison of NDIS Support and unmet needs**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Receiving NDIS support  | Unmet support needs in relation to disability |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 49% | 21% |
| South East | 55% | 18% |
| South West | 58% | 33% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 59% | 17% |

#### **Table 70 Disability type, significant impairment, NDIS support and not eligible/no support available**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Disability type | Children with disability type | Significant impairment | Receiving NDIS support | Not eligible or support not available |
| Physical | 14% | 72% | 70% | 11% |
| Sensory or Speech | 29% | 69% | 66% | 9% |
| Intellectual | 38% | 78% | 72% | 8% |
| Psychological | 9% | 74% | 59% | 8% |
| Acquired Brain Injury | 2% | 75% | 80% | 5% |
| Autism | 35% | 74% | 71% | 6% |
| Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) | 20% | 69% | 51% | 7% |
| Attention Deficit Disorder Assessment | 13% | 62% | 36% | 37% |
| Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder | 53% | 77% | 39% | 34% |

# Learning, Earning and Developing

## Intellectual impairment / developmental delay

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For children and young people in care, 31% have limited to severely limited intellectual functioning or developmental delay.

#### **Table 71 Regional comparison of proportion of children and young people in care with limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Region | Percentage  |
| Brisbane & Moreton Bay | 30% |
| South East | 32% |
| South West | 34% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 30% |

#### **Table 72 Profile of children by intellectual functioning levels**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning | Average to above average intellectual functioning |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine | 49% | 18% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 61% | 14% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 58% | 45% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 35% | 22% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 81% | 23% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 29% | 27% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 15% | 11% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 30% | 16% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 32% | 31% |
| Gender is male | 62% | 45% |

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

The majority of children with limited to severely limited intellectual functioning or developmental delay have a diagnosed or suspected disability (81%). Of these children, half have an intellectual disability. Refer to Appendix L for more information.

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

* 56% have an intellectual disability,
* 46% have ADHD,
* 41% have autism,
* 26% have FASD,
* 39% have a sensory or speech disability,
* 74% have more than one disability, and
* 92% have at least one diagnosed disability.

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

## Exclusions / suspensions

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#### **Table 73 Regional comparison of children and young excluded or suspended from an education facility in the past**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Proportion of sample cohort  | Proportion of school age children aged 6 to 16 years  |
| Queensland | 26% | 33% |
| Brisbane & Moreton Bay | 25% | 31% |
| South East | 26% | 34% |
| South West | 29% | 37% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 25% | 31% |

#### **Table 74 Pre-care experience of school aged children 6-16 years who have been excluded/suspended from an education facility in the past**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Abuse type | Have been excluded/suspended in the past | No exclusions or suspensions in the past |
| Sexual abuse  | 14% | 12% |
| Physical abuse | 53% | 45% |
| Emotional abuse | 87% | 82% |
| Neglect | 89% | 87% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 72% | 68% |

#### **Table 75 Profile of school aged children 6 to 16 years who have been excluded/suspended from an education facility in the past**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Have been excluded/suspended in the past | No exclusions or suspensions in the past |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 40% | 29% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 50% | 20% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 50% | 23% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 56% | 47% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 57% | 41% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 37% | 18% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 18% | 5% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 40% | 18% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 46% | 13% |

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.

# Transition to Adulthood

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40% of young people aged 15+ are transitioning to adulthood in the next 12 months.

#### **Table 76 Profile of children transitioning to adulthood in the next 12 months**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Measure | Percentage  |
| Have a T2A plan | 89% |
| are remaining with their carer | 35% |
| require public housing | 54% |
| require NDIS support | 32% |
| are registered with Centrelink | 36% |
| are currently in paid employment | 22% |
| Of those that require public housing,are on a waitlist for public housing | 71% |
| Of those that require NDIS support,have had a NDIS Home and Living Options form submitted | 42% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 38% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 37% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 48% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning\* | 40% |
| For young people with extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning: limit participation in school | 82% |
| For young people with extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning: limit participation in work | 66% |

#### **Table 77 Regional comparison of measures of young people transitioning to adulthood in the next 12 months**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Brisbane & Moreton Bay | South East | South West | Sunshine Coast & Central |
| Have a T2A plan | 87% | 89% | 88% | 89% |
| are remaining with their carer | 38% | 37% | 37% | 32% |
| require public housing | 48% | 60% | 46% | 57% |
| require NDIS support | 35% | 29% | 37% | 29% |
| are currently in paid employment | 24% | 22% | 15% | 23% |
| Of those that require public housing, are on a waitlist for public housing | 55% | 82% | 74% | 75% |
| Of those that require NDIS support, have had a NDIS Home and Living Options form submitted | 24% | 56% | 53% | 38% |

# Participating, Belonging and Identity

## Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Profile

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#### **Table 78 Profile of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Statewide | Brisbane & Moreton Bay | South East | South West | Sunshine Coast & Central |
| Have a Cultural Support Plan | 53% | 51% | 56% | 50% | 56% |
| Name of mob is known | 74% | 81% | 72% | 59% | 75% |
| Conflicted / disconnected from cultural identity (excludes too young to determine) | 19% | 17% | 16% | 15% | 31% |
| Child able to and did participate in Cultural Support Plan development | 63% | 73% | 71% | 54% | 54% |
| Family / Cultural Authority participated in Cultural Support Plan development | 80% | 87% | 82% | 64% | 89% |
| Native language identified in CSP | 41% | 50% | 34% | 28% | 45% |
| Of those who have Native language identified in CSP, Supported to speak native language | 14% | 13% | 6% | 24% | 11% |
| First Nation country identified in CSP | 73% | 81% | 68% | 51% | 86% |
| Of those who have First Nation country identified in CSP, Walked on First Nation country | 30% | 33% | 17% | 52% | 18% |
| Independent Person engaged in past 12 months when significant decision made | 26% | 32% | 26% | 17% | 26% |

## Diversity / Engagement with Child Safety

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#### **Table 79 CSO engagement with child**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Frequency | Any type of engagement | Face to face engagement |
| Weekly | 12% | 6% |
| Fortnightly | 18% | 10% |
| Monthly | 63% | 72% |

#### **Table 80 Diversity of Children and young people aged 10 years and over**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Group | Children in care census | My life in care survey 2023 |
| Gender Diverse | 2% | 4% |
| LGBTQI+ | 3% | 28% |

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 census, CSOs identified 3% of children and young people 10 years and over as LGBTQI+ and 2% as gender diverse.

## Relationship with Biological family

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51% of children and young people had a Nurturing relationship with family, and 49% had a Limited relationship / Significant problem with family.

#### **Table 81 Regional comparison of relationship with biological family**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Nurturing relationship with family | Limited relationship / significant problems with family |
| Statewide | 51% | 49% |
| Brisbane & Moreton Bay | 57% | 43% |
| South East | 48% | 52% |
| South West | 53% | 47% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 44% | 56% |

#### **Table 82 Relationship with biological family and pre-care experience**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Pre care experience | Nurturing relationship with family | Limited relationship / significant problems with family |
| Sexual abuse  | 10% | 13% |
| Physical abuse | 43% | 49% |
| Emotional abuse | 82% | 84% |
| Neglect | 87% | 89% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 70% | 66% |

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.

#### **Table 83 Profile of children and young people by relationship with biological family**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Nurturing relationship with family | Limited relationship / significant problems with family |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 20% | 35% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 19% | 38% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 26% | 37% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 35% | 47% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 21% | 34% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 9% | 15% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 16% | 26% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 29% | 34% |

# Appendix

## Appendix A – Current age by age entered care

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#### **Table 84 Profile of children by age at entry to care**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Under 1 when entered care | 1-4 years when entered care | 5-9 years when entered care | 10 and over when entered care |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 32% | 35% | 19% | 13% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 34% | 34% | 20% | 12% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 22% | 33% | 22% | 23% |

#### **Table 85 Diagnosed or suspected mental illness by current age and age at entry to care**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Entry to care age | Under 10(current age) | 10 and over(current age) |
| Under 1 when entered care | 5% | 35% |
| 1-4 years when entered care | 9% | 34% |
| 5-9 years when entered care | 14% | 26% |
| 10 and over when entered care | - | 33% |

#### **Table 86 Diagnosed or suspected disability by current age and age at entry to care**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Entry to care age | Under 10 (current age) | 10 and over (current age) |
| Under 1 when entered care | 37% | 65% |
| 1-4 years when entered care | 33% | 52% |
| 5-9 years when entered care | 38% | 40% |
| 10 and over when entered care | - | 34% |

#### **Table 87 Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay by current age and age at entry to care**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Entry to care age | Under 10(current age) | 10 and over(current age) |
| Under 1 when entered care | 29% | 41% |
| 1-4 years when entered care | 29% | 37% |
| 5-9 years when entered care | 29% | 30% |
| 10 and over when entered care | - | 28% |

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 e.g. trauma.

## Appendix B – In care – Children aged 10 years and over by placement type

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#### **Table 88 Pre care abuse experienced by children 10 years and over by placement type**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Abuse type | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| Sexual abuse  | 13% | 14% | 21% |
| Physical abuse | 48% | 52% | 53% |
| Emotional abuse | 80% | 85% | 90% |
| Neglect | 85% | 88% | 87% |
| Exposure to domestic violence | 70% | 66% | 66% |

#### **Table 89 Number of placements by placement type 10 years and over**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Number of placements | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| 1 placement | 34% | 20% | 7% |
| 2-3 placements | 34% | 35% | 20% |
| 4 or more placements | 32% | 45% | 73% |

#### **Table 90 Entry age to care by placement type 10 years and over**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Entry to care age | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| Under 1 when entered care | 16% | 29% | 11% |
| 1-4 years when entered care | 29% | 34% | 23% |
| 5-9 years when entered care | 31% | 24% | 26% |
| 10 and over when entered care | 24% | 13% | 40% |

#### **Table 91 Total time in care by placement type 10 years and over**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total time in care | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| Under 2 years | 13% | 6% | 19% |
| 2-5 years | 22% | 12% | 29% |
| More than 5 years | 65% | 82% | 52% |

#### **Table 92 Profile of children 10 years and over by placement type**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Kinship | Foster | Residential |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 30% | 39% | 31% |
| Experienced more than 1 reunification attempt | 25% | 26% | 37% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 20% | 15% | 46% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 26% | 33% | 41% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 40% | 50% | 50% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 23% | 26% | 42% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 24% | 25% | 48% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 17% | 17% | 44% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 5% | 4% | 22% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 30% | 25% | 63% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 24% | 27% | 53% |

Even when controlling for age, children and young people in residential care continue to have higher levels of complexity and need than children in kinship or foster care.

## Appendix C – Length of time in care in total by placement type

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Findings in this section are subject to variability due to small sample sizes

#### **Table 93 Profile of children in kinship care by length of time in care in total**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Under 2 years in care | 2-5 years in care | More than 5 years in care |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 8% | 10% | 21% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 29% | 16% | 15% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 7% | 5% | 5% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 18% | 8% | 21% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 27% | 25% | 36% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 29% | 32% | 42% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 26% | 26% | 19% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 18% | 17% | - |
| 1 placement | 54% | 42% | 33% |
| 2-3 placements | 36% | 37% | 34% |
| 4 or more placements | 10% | 21% | 33% |

#### **Table 94 Profile of children in foster care by length of time in care in total**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Under 2 years in care | 2-5 years in care | More than 5 years in care |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 3% | 8% | 21% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 19% | 27% | 15% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 0% | 7% | 4% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 15% | 20% | 25% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 44% | 39% | 39% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 32% | 38% | 39% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 15% | 18% | 13% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 10% | 5% | 3% |
| 1 placement | 39% | 29% | 26% |
| 2-3 placements | 39% | 38% | 36% |
| 4 or more placements | 22% | 33% | 38% |

#### **Table 95 Profile of children in residential care by length of time in care in total**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Under 2 years in care | 2-5 years in care | More than 5 years in care |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 29% | 34% | 49% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 44% | 50% | 41% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 22% | 24% | 21% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 44% | 47% | 51% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 2% | 3% | 21% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 8% | 12% | 43% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 24% | 27% | 30% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 65% | 58% | 7% |
| 1 placement | 15% | 9% | 3% |
| 2-3 placements | 32% | 28% | 11% |
| 4 or more placements | 54% | 64% | 86% |

## Appendix D – Profile of children placed with grandparent/s

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#### **Table 96 Profile of children by kinship carer**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Statewide | Grandparent carer | Kin not grandparent |
| 1 placement | 29% | 47% | 34% |
| 2-3 placements | 33% | 36% | 36% |
| 4 or more placements | 38% | 17% | 30% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 31% | 29% | 31% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 34% | 38% | 34% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 20% | 23% | 23% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 15% | 11% | 12% |
| Total time in care under 2 years | 21% | 22% | 25% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 30% | 35% | 30% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 49% | 43% | 45% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 29% | 20% | 20% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 49% | 23% | 35% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 26% | 14% | 20% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 28% | 19% | 20% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 28% | 15% | 19% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 12% | 3% | 7% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 20% | 12% | 16% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 41% | 34% | 35% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 31% | 27% | 24% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 32% | 9% | 29% |

## Appendix E – Profile of children placed with sibling/s

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#### **Table 97 Profile of children placed with a sibling and not placed with a sibling by statewide and foster care**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Placed with a sibling – Statewide | Not placed with a sibling – Statewide | Placed with a sibling – Foster care | Not placed with a sibling – Foster care |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 28% | 35% | 30% | 35% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 37% | 47% | 42% | 46% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 13% | 23% | 12% | 14% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 3% | 14% | 1% | 8% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 14% | 28% | 13% | 17% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 22% | 28% | 25% | 19% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 15% | 33% | 10% | 17% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 42% | 58% | 59% | 67% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 22% | 32% | 24% | 24% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 6% | 24% | 2% | 11% |
| Kinship | 52% | 31% | - | - |
| Foster | 39% | 41% | - | - |
| Residential | 9% | 26% | - | - |
| 1 placement | 36% | 21% | 30% | 23% |
| 2-3 placements | 34% | 31% | 36% | 40% |
| 4 or more placements | 30% | 47% | 34% | 37% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 20% | 18% | 17% | 20% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 34% | 26% | 32% | 26% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 45% | 55% | 51% | 53% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 28% | 32% | 34% | 48% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 39% | 36% | 46% | 33% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 22% | 22% | 14% | 15% |
| Entry age to care 10 years and over | 11% | 10% | 6% | 3% |

## Appendix F – Additional information - Number of placements

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#### **Table 98 Profile of children by number of different placement types the child has experienced**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | 1 placement | 2-3 placements | 4 or more placements |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 43% | 33% | 19% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 30% | 32% | 39% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 15% | 20% | 25% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 12% | 15% | 16% |
| Kinship | 56% | 44% | 25% |
| Foster | 37% | 42% | 32% |
| Residential | 5% | 12% | 36% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 30% | 24% | 12% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 31% | 32% | 28% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 39% | 44% | 60% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | - | 25% | 38% |
| Experienced more than 1 reunification attempt | - | 17% | 33% |
| Grandparent carer | 30% | 21% | 8% |
| Placed with a sibling | 52% | 44% | 32% |
| Under 10 years of age | 63% | 54% | 30% |

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.

## Appendix G – Profile of children who have experienced a reunification attempt/s

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#### **Table 99 Profile of children by number of reunification attempt/s the child has experienced**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | No Reunification attempt | 1 Reunification attempt | More than 1 Reunification attempt |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 31% | 32% | 34% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 39% | 47% | 46% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 18% | 22% | 38% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 11% | 11% | 23% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 26% | 28% | 39% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 26% | 29% | 35% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 24% | 28% | 45% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 48% | 50% | 57% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 27% | 31% | 33% |
| Over 10 years of age | 49% | 59% | 77% |
| Kinship | 42% | 35% | 33% |
| Foster | 36% | 42% | 30% |
| Residential | 18% | 16% | 31% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 28% | 5% | 1% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 30% | 35% | 14% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 42% | 60% | 85% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 31% | 31% | 27% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 32% | 36% | 49% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 20% | 21% | 17% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 16% | 11% | 7% |

#### **Table 100 Reunification attempt/s the child has experienced by region**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Experienced Reunification attempt | Experienced more than 1 Reunification attempt |
| Statewide | 28% | 24% |
| Brisbane and Moreton Bay | 26% | 26% |
| South East | 33% | 33% |
| South West | 20% | 20% |
| Sunshine Coast & Central | 24% | 22% |

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.

## Appendix H – Profile of children with a mental illness / behavioural disorder

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20% of children in care had a diagnosed or suspected mental illness. Of these, 41% had a single mental illness, 24% had two, 18% had three and 17% had four or more.

#### **Table 101 Profile of children by whether the child has a diagnosed or suspected mental illness**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Mental Illness | No mental Illness |
| Pre-care sexual abuse | 22% | 9% |
| Pre-care chronic sexual abuse | 14% | 8% |
| Pre-care physical abuse | 54% | 44% |
| Pre-care chronic physical abuse | 18% | 21% |
| Pre-care emotional abuse | 88% | 82% |
| Pre-care chronic emotional abuse | 39% | 27% |
| Pre-care neglect | 87% | 88% |
| Pre-care chronic neglect | 41% | 36% |
| Pre-care exposure to domestic violence | 67% | 68% |
| Pre-care chronic exposure to domestic violence | 40% | 34% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 66% | 35% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 46% | 28% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 25% | 6% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 50% | 18% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 53% | 21% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 51% | 20% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 54% | 22% |
| Over 10 years of age | 82% | 45% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 35% | 26% |
| Four or more placements | 58% | 33% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 42% | 27% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 21% | 32% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 33% | 34% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 22% | 20% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 24% | 14% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 12% | 23% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 22% | 32% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 66% | 45% |
| Kinship | 29% | 43% |
| Foster | 24% | 40% |
| Residential | 37% | 14% |

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.

See Appendix I for comparison of children 10 years and over with a mental illness.

## Appendix I – Profile of children with a mental illness / behavioural disorder 10 years and over

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32% of children in care aged 10 years and over had a diagnosed or suspected mental illness.

#### **Table 102 Profile of children by whether the child has a diagnosed or suspected mental illness – aged 10 years and over**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Mental Illness | No mental Illness |
| Pre-care sexual abuse | 25% | 12% |
| Pre-care chronic sexual abuse | 12% | 10% |
| Pre-care physical abuse | 54% | 49% |
| Pre-care chronic physical abuse | 19% | 24% |
| Pre-care emotional abuse | 89% | 83% |
| Pre-care chronic emotional abuse | 40% | 31% |
| Pre-care neglect | 87% | 86% |
| Pre-care chronic neglect | 42% | 36% |
| Pre-care exposure to domestic violence | 64% | 68% |
| Pre-care chronic exposure to domestic violence | 40% | 35% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 64% | 38% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 45% | 28% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 25% | 6% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 50% | 18% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 55% | 24% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 54% | 35% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 54% | 27% |
| Over 10 years of age | 73% | 69% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 36% | 32% |
| Four or more placements | 61% | 46% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 42% | 27% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 20% | 17% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 30% | 27% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 22% | 29% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 29% | 28% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 11% | 13% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 21% | 22% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 68% | 65% |
| Kinship | 25% | 40% |
| Foster | 22% | 29% |
| Residential | 41% | 26% |

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.

## Appendix J – Profile of children with a disability / neurodevelopmental disability

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41% of children in care have a diagnosed or suspected disability.

#### **Table 103 Profile of children by whether the child has a diagnosed or suspected disability**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Disability | No Disability |
| Pre-care sexual abuse | 11% | 11% |
| Pre-care chronic sexual abuse | 9% | 12% |
| Pre-care physical abuse | 50% | 44% |
| Pre-care chronic physical abuse | 21% | 20% |
| Pre-care emotional abuse | 83% | 83% |
| Pre-care chronic emotional abuse | 29% | 31% |
| Pre-care neglect | 90% | 86% |
| Pre-care chronic neglect | 38% | 36% |
| Pre-care exposure to domestic violence | 64% | 71% |
| Pre-care chronic exposure to domestic violence | 34% | 36% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 33% | 12% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 61% | 10% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 13% | 12% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 29% | 27% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 40% | 19% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 37% | 19% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 50% | 14% |
| Over 10 years of age | 59% | 48% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 32% | 25% |
| Four or more placements | 43% | 35% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 28% | 35% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 34% | 28% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 34% | 34% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 20% | 21% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 12% | 16% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 12% | 28% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 26% | 33% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 63% | 39% |
| Kinship | 34% | 45% |
| Foster | 38% | 36% |
| Residential | 23% | 16% |

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.

## Appendix K – Emotional resilience

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Among children in care, 28% display extreme instability / emotional responses that limit their functioning, excluding those too young to determine.

For:

* 68% of these children, their emotional responses limit their participation in school / education;
* 40% of these children, their emotional responses limit their participation in recreational activities;
* 22% their emotional responses limit their participation in Work; and
* 21 % of these children their emotional responses limit their participation in sport.

#### **Table 104 Profile of children by child’s emotional resilience, excluding those too young to determine**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Extreme emotional responses that limit functioning | Generally stable / high resilience |
| Pre-care sexual abuse | 17% | 10% |
| Pre-care chronic sexual abuse | 11% | 10% |
| Pre-care physical abuse | 51% | 45% |
| Pre-care chronic physical abuse | 23% | 19% |
| Pre-care emotional abuse | 89% | 81% |
| Pre-care chronic emotional abuse | 38% | 27% |
| Pre-care neglect | 88% | 88% |
| Pre-care chronic neglect | 42% | 35% |
| Pre-care exposure to domestic violence | 68% | 69% |
| Pre-care chronic exposure to domestic violence | 38% | 35% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 61% | 35% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 41% | 14% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 56% | 22% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 24% | 6% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 47% | 18% |
| Excluded / suspended from an education facility in the past | 50% | 19% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 66% | 15% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 63% | 44% |
| Over 10 years of age | 68% | 50% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 32% | 28% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 45% | 25% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 23% | 32% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 34% | 35% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 23% | 21% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 21% | 13% |
| Approved placement type – Kinship  | 29% | 45% |
| Approved placement type – Foster | 29% | 39% |
| Approved placement type – Residential | 34% | 14% |
| Approved placement type – Other | 8% | 2% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 16% | 20% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 29% | 31% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 55% | 49% |
| 1 placement | 19% | 32% |
| 2-3 placements | 28% | 34% |
| 4 or more placements | 53% | 34% |

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.

## Appendix L – Additional information Intellectual impairment / Developmental delay

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#### **Table 105 Profile of children by child’s intellectual impairment / developmental delay**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Intellectual impairment | No Intellectual impairment |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 32% | 30% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 35% | 34% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 19% | 21% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 13% | 15% |
| 1 placement | 24% | 32% |
| 2-3 placements | 32% | 33% |
| 4 or more placements | 44% | 35% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 16% | 23% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 29% | 31% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 55% | 46% |
| Approved placement type – Kinship  | 33% | 44% |
| Approved placement type – Foster | 37% | 37% |
| Approved placement type – Residential | 25% | 16% |

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

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#### **Table 106 Profile of children by whether child aged 6-16 years has been excluded/suspended in the past**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | 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 |
| Male | 63% | 43% |
| More than 1 reunification attempt | 33% | 23% |
| Not placed with a sibling | 33% | 22% |
| Siblings not in care | 25% | 6% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 14% | 14% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 22% | 25% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 64% | 61% |
| Approved placement type – Kinship  | 29% | 47% |
| Approved placement type – Foster | 21% | 38% |
| Approved placement type – Residential | 44% | 13% |
| 1 placement | 15% | 30% |
| 2-3 placements | 23% | 36% |
| 4 or more placements | 62% | 34% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 18% | 24% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 32% | 33% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 25% | 29% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 24% | 14% |

Children (aged 6-16 years) who have been excluded/suspended in the past 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.

## Appendix N – Additional information Relationship with family

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#### **Table 107 Profile of children by child’s relationship with family**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Nurturing relationship with family | Limited relationship / Significant problems with family  |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 26% | 29% |
| More than 1 reunification attempt | 21% | 27% |
| Not placed with a sibling | 20% | 29% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 23% | 19% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 32% | 28% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 44% | 53% |
| Approved placement type – Kinship  | 56% | 24% |
| Approved placement type – Foster | 27% | 46% |
| Approved placement type – Residential | 14% | 24% |
| 1 placement | 34% | 25% |
| 2-3 placements | 35% | 30% |
| 4 or more placements | 31% | 45% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 29% | 33% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 36% | 32% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 22% | 18% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 13% | 16% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over by foster care | 10% | 20% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over by foster care | 1% | 6% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness by foster care | 11% | 15% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over by foster care | 18% | 13% |

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 – Social skills

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29% of children in care had poor social skills or were disconnected and 71% had well developed / expected social skills.

#### **Table 108 Profile of children by child’s social skills**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Well developed / Expected social skills  | Poor social skills / Disconnected  |
| Pre-care sexual abuse | 10% | 14% |
| Pre-care physical abuse | 44% | 52% |
| Pre-care emotional abuse | 82% | 87% |
| Pre-care neglect | 87% | 90% |
| Pre-care exposure to domestic violence | 69% | 67% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 27% | 31% |
| More than one reunification attempt | 24% | 25% |
| Sibling/s not in care | 9% | 18% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 23% | 17% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 31% | 27% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 46% | 56% |
| Kinship | 45% | 28% |
| Foster | 39% | 31% |
| Residential | 13% | 34% |
| 1 placement | 31% | 24% |
| 2-3 placements | 35% | 27% |
| 4 or more placements | 34% | 49% |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 33% | 27% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 35% | 33% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 20% | 21% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 13% | 19% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 13% | 62% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 42% | 65% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 17% | 67% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 29% | 72% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 22% | 38% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 8% | 20% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 13% | 38% |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 28% | 38% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over by foster care | 14% | 23% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over by foster care | 2% | 9% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness by foster care | 10% | 26% |
| Self placed at least once (10 years and over) | 15% | 12% |

For the 72% of children with poor social skills or who are disconnected that also have a disability:

* 50% had an Intellectual disability
* 54% had ADHD
* 45% had Autism
* 24% had FASD
* 35% had sensory / speech disability
* 73% had more than 1 disability

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.

## Appendix P – Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander profile by region

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

#### **Table 109 Profile of children by whether child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander – Statewide**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 34% | 30% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 20% | 21% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 13% | 11% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 27% | 28% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 42% | 41% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 51% | 47% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 29% | 28% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 29% | 27% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 32% | 31% |

#### **Table 110 Profile of children by whether child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander – Brisbane and Moreton Bay**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 29% | 29% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 16% | 17% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 11% | 8% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 26% | 23% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 43% | 40% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 49% | 39% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 26% | 26% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 26% | 25% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 29% | 31% |

#### **Table 111 Profile of children by whether child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander – South East**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander |
| Self placed at least once 10 years and over | 36% | 27% |
| Diagnosed or suspected mental illness | 23% | 22% |
| Suicide attempt 10 years and over | 15% | 12% |
| Self-harming now or in the past including suspected 10 years and over | 32% | 27% |
| Diagnosed or suspected disability | 44% | 45% |
| Limited relationship or significant relationship problems with family | 53% | 52% |
| Poor social skills / disconnected | 30% | 30% |
| Extreme instability / extreme emotional responses that limit functioning (excludes too young to determine) | 28% | 25% |
| Limited to severely limited intellectual functioning / developmental delay | 30% | 32% |

## Appendix Q – Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander profile by region

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

#### **Table 112 Profile of children by whether child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander – Statewide**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 32% | 29% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 35% | 33% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 19% | 22% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 13% | 16% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 19% | 23% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 29% | 31% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 52% | 46% |
| 1 placement | 27% | 31% |
| 2-3 placements | 32% | 33% |
| 4 or more placements | 41% | 36% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 28% | 28% |
| More than one reunification attempt | 22% | 26% |

#### **Table 113 Profile of children by whether child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander – Brisbane and Moreton Bay**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 33% | 28% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 35% | 34% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 20% | 21% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 11% | 17% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 18% | 24% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 30% | 32% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 53% | 44% |
| 1 placement | 27% | 33% |
| 2-3 placements | 35% | 29% |
| 4 or more placements | 38% | 38% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 21% | 29% |
| More than one reunification attempt | 17% | 24% |

#### **Table 114 Profile of children by whether child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander – South East**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Measure | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander | Non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander |
| Entry age to care under 1 | 36% | 30% |
| Entry age to care 1-4 years | 38% | 35% |
| Entry age to care 5-9 years | 11% | 22% |
| Entry age to care 10 and over | 15% | 13% |
| Total time in care less than 2 years | 19% | 22% |
| Total time in care 2-5 years | 31% | 30% |
| Total time in care more than 5 years | 50% | 48% |
| 1 placement | 31% | 33% |
| 2-3 placements | 30% | 35% |
| 4 or more placements | 39% | 33% |
| Experienced a reunification attempt | 36% | 32% |
| More than one reunification attempt | 24% | 33% |