

Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study of Children in Out-of-Home Care (POCLS)

Dashboard 5 – Learning and education of children in the POCLS

What is included in Dashboard 5?

The POCLS dashboard provides a summary of the children's learning and education from the following **study topics**

- Typical number of hours at childcare per week
- Activities undertaken at home with children yet to start school
- Number of primary and secondary schools attended
- School history such as repeated a grade, number of school changes, services
- Support for child's learning, and perceptions of the child's learning progress
- How far carers think the child will go in their education
- Child view on aspects of school life
- Child view on how far they think they will go in their education

Dashboard 5 includes data from the **first four waves** of the POCLS broken down by gender, age, Aboriginality, CALD status, OOHC placement type and district.

Why is Dashboard 5 needed?

Findings are used to answer key study questions and measure if services and support to children and young people in OOHC meet the following NSW Standard for Statutory OOHC:

- NSW OOHC Standard 10 – Education: Children and young people have opportunities to realise their educational potential.

Summary of Dashboard 5 findings:

Study Topic 1 – Formal childcare currently attended

This study topic shows attendance at formal childcare by children aged 0-6 years who were not attending school from Wave 1 to Wave 3. By Wave 4, there were no children in the 0-6 year age group who were not attending school.

- Overall, the percentages of children aged 0-6 years attending formal childcare were 63.3% at Wave 1, 85.9% at Wave 2, and 97.4% at Wave 3.
- For children aged 9-35 months, over half (51.6%) had attended formal childcare at Wave 1 and this increased to 78.3% at Wave 2. There were no children in this age group after Wave 2.
- The majority of children aged 3-6 years had attended formal childcare as reported by their caregivers from Wave 1 to Wave 3 (90.6% to 97.4%). By Wave 4, there were no children in the 3-6 years age group who were not attending school.
- The percentage of Aboriginal children aged 0-6 years attending formal childcare who were not attending school ranged from 64.6% in Wave 1 to at least 90.0% in Wave 3. Around half (47.5%) of the CALD children in Wave 1 and the majority (79.2%) in Wave 2 had attended formal childcare.
- More than half (57.8%) of children in foster care aged 0-6 years had attended formal childcare as reported by their caregivers at Wave 1 and this increased to 83.7% at Wave 2. Attendance at formal childcare was higher among children in relative/kinship care at both Wave 1 and Wave 2 (70.2% and 87.7%) compared to children in foster care. At least 90% of children on guardianship orders were attending formal childcare at Wave 3. The exact figures are suppressed due to the small number of children not attending formal childcare. By Wave 4, all children in the 0-6 years age group were attending school.
- The percentage of children aged 0-6 years attending formal childcare reported by their caregivers by district from Wave 1 to Wave 3 are:
 - Hunter and Central Coast: ranged from 60.9% to at least 90.0%
 - Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW: ranged from 63.4% to at least 90.0%
 - Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW: ranged from 76.1% to at least 90.0%
 - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW: ranged from 70.2% to at least 90.0%
 - South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney: ranged from 46.4% to at least 90.0%
 - South Western Sydney: ranged from 59.2% to at least 90.0%
 - Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains: 59.8% to at least 90.0%

Study Topic 2 – Caregiver reports of the frequency of activities undertaken at home with children aged 0-5 years in the past week

This study topic is currently unavailable. The data will be provided in an update.

Study Topic 3a – Number of primary schools attended

This study topic presents the number of primary schools attended by children from Wave 1 to Wave 4.

This question was asked of new caregivers of children aged 4 and over who were attending primary school.

- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4 between 29.6% and 37.6% of children were reported by their caregivers to have attended one primary school.
- According to their caregivers, between 28.7% and 32.4% of children were reported to have attended two primary schools.
- Caregivers reported that between 32.4% and 41.6% of children had attended three or more primary schools.
- A large percentage of children aged 4-6 years were reported by their caregivers to have attended one primary school (Wave 1=72.2% and Wave 2=81.1%)
- About one in five children aged 4-6 years had attended two primary schools (Wave 1=18.3% and Wave 2=18.9%) and less than 10% children in the same age group had attended three or more (9.6%) primary schools at Wave 1, according to their caregivers.
- The percentage of children aged 7-11 years who attended one primary school increased from 16.4% at Wave 1, to 21.3% at Wave 2 and more than 25.0% at Wave 3.
- Between 23.3% and 31.1% of children and young people aged 12-17 years were reported by their caregivers to have attended one primary school while between 12.5% and 31.1% were reported to have attended two primary schools and between 37.7% and 62.5% were reported to have attended three or more primary schools from Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- For Aboriginal children and young people, between 18.6% and 31.5% were reported by their caregivers to have attended one primary school, between 25.4% and 42.4% had attended two primary schools and between 37.1% and 46.0% had attended three or more primary schools from Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- At Wave 1, 23.8% of CALD children and young people had attended one primary school, 31.7% were reported to have attended two primary schools and 44.4% had attended three or more primary schools.
- For children and young people in foster care, between 16% and 28.1% were reported by their caregivers to have attended one primary school, between 27.6% and 38.6% were reported to have attended two primary schools, and between 33.3% and 46.8% had attended three or more primary schools from Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- According to their caregivers, between 26.9% and 37.4% of children and young people in relative/kinship care were reported to have attended one primary school. Between 28.1% and 30.8% were reported to have attended two primary schools, and between 31.9% and 42.3% were reported to have attended three or more primary schools from Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- Findings for children exiting Guardianship are not presented due to small numbers or no caregiver responses for this study cohort.
- For Hunter and Central Coast Districts the percentage of children and young people who attended:
 - One primary school was between 31.2% and 46.2% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Two primary schools was between 20.4% and more than 40.0% across Wave 1 to Wave 4

- Three or more primary schools was between 30.8% and 48.4% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW Districts the percentage of children and young people who attended:
 - One primary school decreased from 47.7% at Wave 1 to 37.5% at Wave 2
 - Two primary schools increased from 20.5% at Wave 1 to 37.5% at Wave 2
 - Three or more primary schools was between 31.8% at Wave 1 to 25.0% at Wave 2
- For Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW Districts the percentage of children and young people who attended:
 - One primary school was between 34.5% and 57.7% across Wave 1 and Wave 2
 - Two primary schools was between 19.2% and more than 40.0% across Wave 1 and Wave 2
 - Three or more primary schools was between 23.1% and more than 55.0% across Wave 1 and Wave 2
- For Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW Districts the percentage of children and young people who attended:
 - One primary school was between 27.6% and 30.3% across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
 - Two primary schools was between 27.6% and 34.8% across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
 - Three or more primary schools was between 35.9% and 44.8 across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
- For South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney Districts at Wave 1, the percentage of children and young people who attended:
 - One primary school was 22.6%
 - Two primary schools was 41.9%
 - Three or more primary schools was 35.5%
- For South Western Sydney District at Wave 1, the percentage of children and young people who attended:
 - One primary school was 28.9%
 - Two primary schools was 36.8%
 - Three or more primary schools was 34.2%
- For Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Districts the percentage of children and young people who attended:
 - One primary school decreased from 47.7% at Wave 1 to 37.5% at Wave 2
 - Two primary schools increased from 20.5% at Wave 1 to 37.5% at Wave 2
 - Three or more primary schools was between 31.8% at Wave 1 to 25.0% at Wave 2

Study Topic 3b –Number of secondary schools attended

- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, between 49.0% and 59.7% of children and young people were

reported by their caregivers to have attended one secondary school, between 22.2% and more than 40% had attended two secondary schools and between 14.5% and 22.2% had attended three or more secondary schools.

- Of the children and young people in foster care at Wave 1, 45.5% were reported by their caregivers to have attended one secondary school, 36.4% had attended two secondary schools and 18.2% were reported to have attended three or more secondary schools. Results for further waves were suppressed.
- At Wave 1, 57.4% of children and young people in relative/kinship care were reported by their caregivers to have attended one secondary school, 27.7% had attended two secondary schools and 14.9% were reported to have attended three or more secondary schools. Results for further waves were suppressed.
- Findings for children exiting Guardianship are not presented due to small numbers or no caregiver responses for this study cohort.
- At Wave 1, 43.5% of children and young people in Hunter and Central Coast had attended one secondary school, 30.4% were reported to have attended two secondary schools, and 26.1% had attended three or more secondary schools. Results for further waves were suppressed.
- The findings for children and young people in the remaining districts are not presented due to small numbers or to avoid re-calculation of small numbers.

Study Topic 4 – Repeating a grade at school

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who repeated a grade at school from Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, between 6.9% and 11.3% of children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported by their caregivers to have repeated a grade at school. The proportion of children and young people repeating a grade at school has trended downwards since Wave 1.
- In Wave 1, 6.6% of children aged 4-6 years were reported by their caregivers to have repeated a grade at school. Figures for the other waves were suppressed.
- The proportion of children and young people aged 7-11 years reported by their caregivers to have repeated a grade at school has decreased from 12.0% in Wave 1 to 5.0% in Wave 4.
- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, the percentage of children and young people aged 12-17 years who were reported by caregivers to have repeated a grade at school ranged from 9.0% to 17.5%.
- The proportion of children and young people aged 4-17 years repeating a grade at school has trended downwards from 11.8% at Wave 1 to 7.4% at Wave 4.
- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, the percentage of CALD children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported by caregivers to have repeated a grade at school ranged from 4.1% to 9.4%.
- The proportion of children and young people aged 4-17 years in foster care reported by their caregivers to have repeated a grade at school has decreased from 13.5% at Wave 1 to 6.6% at Wave 4.
- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, the percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in relative/kinship care who were reported by their caregivers to have repeated a grade at

school ranged from 7.4% to 9.3%.

- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years on guardianship orders who were reported by their caregivers to have repeated a grade at school declined from 7.2% at Wave 3 to 4.4% at Wave 4. Guardianship orders were introduced at the start of Wave 3.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to have repeated a grade at school from
 - Hunter and Central Coast ranged from 5.1% to 9.0% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW ranged from 7.2% to 13.5% across Wave 1, Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW ranged from 10.4% to 13.9% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW ranged from 7.5% to 13.6% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney was 7.3% in Wave 4
 - South Western Sydney was 4.6% in Wave 4
 - Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains ranged from 5.1% to 13.2% across Wave 1 to Wave 4

Study Topic 5 – Changing schools when first placed with current caregiver

This topic shows the proportion of children and young people aged 4-17 years who changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver from Wave 1 to Wave 4. This question was only asked of new carers.

- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, between 48.1% and 61.9% of children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver. The proportion of children and young people who changed schools when they were placed with their current caregiver has trended upwards since Wave 2.
- The percentage of children aged 4-6 years who were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver had a small increase from 28.1% at Wave 1 to 28.9% at Wave 2.
- Between 60.8% and 77.8% of children aged 7-11 years were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver from Wave 1 to Wave 3
- The percentage of children and young people aged 12-17 years who were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver ranged from 43.8% to 66.1% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- Between 49.3% and 71.7% of Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver across Wave 1 to Wave 4. This proportion has trended upwards since Wave 2.
- In Wave 1, approximately 61.2% of CALD children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver.
- A higher proportion of children and young people aged 4-17 years in foster care were reported to have changed schools when they were placed with their current caregiver in Waves 1, 3, and 4 (62.9%, 68.2% and 68.5% respectively) than in Wave 2 (55.6%).

- More than half of children and young people aged 4-17 years in relative/kinship care were reported to have changed schools when they were placed with their current caregiver in Wave 1 (53.7%), Wave 2 (65.5%) and Wave 4 (60.6%).
- Findings for children exiting to Guardianship are not presented due to small numbers or no caregiver responses for this study cohort.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Hunter and Central Coast Districts who were reported to have changed schools when they were placed with their current caregiver ranged from 43.5% to 72.7% across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW declined from 48.9% at Wave 1 to 44.0% at Wave 2.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW Districts ranged from 26.9% to 78.3% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW Districts ranged from 38.9% to 68.8% across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4.
- In Wave 1, 59.4% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney Districts were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver.
- In Wave 1, 65.9% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Western Sydney District were reported to have changed schools when they were first placed with their current caregiver.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported to have changed schools when first placed with their caregiver in Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Districts decreased from 55.4% at Wave 1 to 40.5% at Wave 2.

Study Topic 6 – Special services received at school

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who received special services at school from Wave 1 to Wave 4. This question was only asked if the child was attending school.

- Overall, the percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years who received special services at school was between 32.8% and 37.0% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children aged 4-6 years who received special services at school increased from 27.6% in Wave 1 to 37.7% in Wave 4.
- Around one-third of children aged 7-11 years at each wave received special services at school (36.8% at Wave 1, 32.8% at Wave 2, 38.5% at Wave 3 and 37.4% at Wave 4).
- The percentage of children and young people aged 12-17 years at the time of interview in each wave who received special services at school varied from 35.2% in Wave 1 to 34.8% in Wave 2 to 27.0% in Wave 3 to 35.0% in Wave 4.
- The percentage of Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years who received special services at school increased from 33.1% in Wave 1 to 42.7% in Wave 4.
- Around one-third of CALD children and young people aged 4-17 years at each wave were reported by their caregivers to have received special services at school (33.3% at Waves 1 and 2, 30.8% at Wave 3 and 31.9% at Wave 4).
- Around 40% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in foster care received special

services at school (41.8% at Wave 1, 37.9% at Wave 2, 38.4% at Wave 3 and 42.5% at Wave 4).

- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in relative/kinship care who received special services at school steadily increased from 26.3% in Wave 1 to 33.7% in Wave 4.
- A relatively low percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years on guardianship orders received special services at school (24.1% at Wave 3 and 29.1% at Wave 4). Guardianship orders were introduced at the start of Wave 3 so results are shown for Wave 3 and Wave 4 only.
- By district, the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who received special services at school were:
 - Hunter and Central Coast: ranged from 29.4% to 45.0% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW: ranged from 31.7% to 41.0% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW: ranged from 29.5% to 41.5% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW: ranged from 25.3% to 34.9% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney: ranged from 28.9% to 38.7% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - South Western Sydney: ranged from 28.0% to 44.4% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains: ranged from 26.8% to 38.2% across Wave 1 to Wave 4

Study Topic 7 – Additional tutoring received from outside the household

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who received additional tutoring from outside the household from Wave 1 to Wave 4. This question was only asked about children who were at school.

- Overall, the percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years who received additional tutoring from outside the household was 18.4% in Wave 1, 12.8% in Wave 2, 11.7% in Wave 3 and 14.7% in Wave 4.
- The percentage of children aged 4-6 years who were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household declined from 14.6% at Wave 1 to 8.3% at Wave 4.
- Approximately 16.5% of children aged 7-11 years at the time of interview in Wave 1 were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household. This percentage declined to 12.8% at Wave 4.
- The proportion of children and young people aged 12-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household was between 11.4% and 26.8% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household ranged from 9.7% to 19.8% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- The proportion of CALD children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household decreased over time with 23.5% in Wave 1, 18.3% in Wave 2, 16.9% in Wave 3 and 14.7% in Wave 4.
- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, between 13.2% and 21.7% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in foster care were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household. The proportion of children and young people aged 4-17 years in relative/kinship care who were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household decreased over time (15.9% in Wave 1 to 10.3% in Wave 4) while the proportion on guardianship orders was 10.3% in Wave 3 and 16.5% in Wave 4.
- By district, the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to have received additional tutoring from outside the household across Wave 1 to Wave 4 were:
 - Hunter and Central Coast ranged from 11.4% to 13.7% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW ranged from 15.7% to 27.5% across Wave 2 to Wave 4
 - Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW ranged from 6.1% to 20.4% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW ranged from 5.6% to 18.4% across Wave 1, Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney ranged from 21.1% to 22.0% across Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - South Western Sydney ranged from 10.5% to 12.0% across Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains ranged from 11.8% to 21.3% across Wave 1 to Wave 4

Study Topic 8 – Days absent from school in the last month

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years by the number of days absent from school in the last month from Wave 1 to Wave 4. This question was only asked about children who were at school.

- Overall, between 48.3% and 57.5% of children and young people aged 4-17 years had not missed any days from school in the last month. The percentage who had been absent 1-2 days ranged from 25.1% at Wave 2 to 32.8% at Wave 4.
- According to caregivers, between 46.7% and 61.5% of children and young people aged 4-6 years had not missed any days from school in the last month. The percentage who had been absent 1-2 days ranged from 20.0% at Wave 3 to 42.2% at Wave 2.
- A downward trend is evident in the percentage of children aged 7-11 years who had not missed any days from school in the last month (62.5% in Wave 2 to 46.9% in Wave 4).
- In most waves, around half of children and young people aged 12-17 years had not missed any days from school in the last month (47.8% in Wave 1, 40.8% in Wave 2, 51.2% in Wave 3 and 50.3% in Wave 4).
- The percentage of Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years who had not missed any days from school in the last month decreased over time from 62.5% in Wave 1 to 48.1% in Wave 4. The percentage of Aboriginal children and young people who were

absent 1-2 days ranged from 22.2% at Wave 2 to 31.4% at Wave 3.

- Between 55.6% and 57.3% of CALD children and young people aged 4-17 years had not missed any days from school in the last month across Wave 2 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in foster care who had not missed any days from school in the last month varied from 58.1% in Wave 1 to 63.1% in Wave 2 to 60.7% in Wave 3 to 47.3% in Wave 4. The percentage of children who were absent 1-2 days ranged from 23.1% at Wave 2 to 33.9% at Wave 4.
- Between 47.4% and 57.4% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in relative/kinship care had not missed any days from school in the last month across Wave 1 to Wave 4. The percentage of children who were absent 1-2 days ranged from 25.8% at Wave 2 to 37.3% at Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years on guardianship orders who had not missed any days from school in the last month declined from 66.7% at Wave 3 to 56.3% at Wave 4 while the percentage who were absent 1-2 days ranged from 24.4% at Wave 3 to 25.3% at Wave 4. Guardianship orders introduced at the start of Wave 3. As such results are shown from Wave 3 onwards.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Hunter and Central Coast Districts who had not missed any days from school in the last month ranged from 43.1% to 51.5% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW Districts who had not missed any days from school in the last month ranged from 34.9% to 59.6% across Wave 2 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW Districts who had not missed any days from school in the last month ranged from 48.0% to 62.2% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW Districts who had not missed any days from school in the last month ranged from 47.3% to 68.1% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney Districts who had not missed any days from school in the last month ranged from 55.3% to 59.3% across Wave 2 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Western Sydney District who had not missed any days from school in the last month ranged from 48.6% to 70.0% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Districts who had not missed any days from school in the last month ranged from 52.3% to 59.7% across Wave 2 to Wave 4.

Study Topic 9 – Reasons for school absence

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who were absent from school in the last month by the reasons they were absent from Wave 1 to Wave 4.

Note: Other reasons for absence include appointments, being suspended/expelled and others.

- Overall, between 42.6% and 53.5% of children and young people aged 4-17 years had been absent from school in the last month due to being 'unwell' across Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- Of the children who had been absent from school in the last month, the percentage of children who had been absent due to being 'unwell' ranged from 48.0% to 79.2% for those aged 4-6 years, 44.5% to 60.0% for children aged 7-11 years and from 38.0% to 44.9% for children and young people aged 12-17 years across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- Between 40.0% and 51.5% of Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years who had been absent from school in the last month were absent due to being 'unwell' while the percentage of CALD children ranged from 31.3% to 58.7% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years who had been absent from school in the last month who were absent due to being 'unwell' ranged from 38.9% to 52.3% for children and young people in foster care, 41.1% to 60.0% for children and young people in relative/kinship care and 46.2% to 59.4% for children and young people on guardianship orders across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- By Districts, the percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years who had been absent from school in the last month who were absent due to being 'unwell' ranged across Wave 1 to Wave 4 from:
 - 40.7% to 64.5% for Hunter and Central Coast Districts
 - 39.1% to 63.0% for Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW Districts
 - 36.6% to 58.8% for Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW Districts
 - 42.9% to 53.8% for Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW Districts
 - 38.7% to 52.1% for Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Districts
- In Wave 4, approximately 60.6% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney Districts had been absent in the last month due to being 'unwell'.
- Approximately 49.1% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Western Sydney District had been absent in the last month due to being 'unwell' in Wave 4

Study Topic 10 – Caregivers' involvement in the study child's school learning

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years whose caregivers were involved in their school learning from Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, a high percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years had caregivers who were involved in their school learning in terms of:
 - Contacting the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal (ranging from 88.5% to 96.1%)
 - Attending an individual parent-teacher meeting (ranging from 81.0% to 94.1%)
 - Attending an event in which the study child participated (ranging from 78.2% to 94.4%)
- For the majority of children aged 4-6 years, their caregivers were involved in their school learning across Wave 1 to Wave 4 by:
 - Contacting the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal ranging from 86.1% to 95.6%
 - Attending an individual parent-teacher meeting ranging from 80.7% to 94.6%
 - Attending an event in which the study child participated ranging from 81.0% to

96.1%

- For children aged 7-11 years their caregivers were involved in their schooling across Wave 1 to Wave 4 through:
 - Contacting the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal ranging from 89.9% to 97.6%
 - Attending an individual parent-teacher meeting ranging from 82.5% to 95.6%
 - Attending an event in which the study child participated ranging from 85.7% to 98.4%
- For the older children and young people aged 12-17 years, their caregivers were involved across Wave 1 to Wave 4 with:
 - Contacting the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal ranging from 89.1% to 92.7%
 - Attending an individual parent-teacher meeting ranging from 75.8% to 89.4%
 - Attending an event in which the study child participated ranging from 54.7% to 81.6%
- Large percentages of the Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years had caregivers who were involved in their school learning across Wave 1 to Wave 4 in terms of contacting the study child's teacher contacting the year co-ordinator and/or principal (87.7% to 96.1%), attending an individual parent-teacher meeting (83.0% to 94.4%) and attending an event in which the study child participated (80.7% to 94.1%).
- Caregivers of CALD children and young people had a high level of involvement in their school learning across Wave 1 to Wave 4 with activities such as contacting the study child's teacher year co-ordinator and/or principal (ranging from 84.1% to 94.8%), attending an individual parent-teacher meeting (68.2% to 96.3%) and attending an event in which the study child participated (78.8% to 94.1%).
- For children and young people in foster care, caregivers of between 90.7% and 98.3% had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal, 83.4% to 96.4% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting, and 78.0% to 95.1% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- Similar percentages were found for children in relative/kinship care and on guardianship orders. For children in relative/kinship care, caregivers of between 86.4% to 94.9% had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal, 78.8% to 91.2% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting, and 78.4% to 93.8% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4. For children on guardianship orders, caregivers of between 85.2% to 93.0% had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal, 83.3% to 94.3% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting and 83.3% to 94.9% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- Across the districts, caregivers had a high level of involvement in school learning of children and young people aged 4-17 years from Wave 1 to Wave 4.
 - In Hunter and Central Coast Districts, 93.5% of children had caregivers who had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal (at Wave 1), 81.5% to 94.0% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting and 72.8% to 94.6% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
 - In Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW Districts, 86.2% to 92.7% of children had caregivers who had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator

and/or principal, 72.3% to 85.2% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting and 78.5% to 93.9% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- In Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW Districts, 93.5% of children had caregivers who had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal (at Wave 1), 81.5% to 95.1% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting and 73.9% to 95.7% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- In Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW Districts, 94.8% to 95.2% of children had caregivers who had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal, 86.7% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting (at Wave 3) and 79.4% to 95.4% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- In South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney Districts, 82.1% to 92.1% of children had caregivers who had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal, 90.6% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting (at Wave 3) and 78.1% to 93.4% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- In South Western Sydney Districts, 78.3% to 94.1% of children had caregivers who had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal, 83.7% to 89.1% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting and 81.4% to 93.1% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- In Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Districts, 79.4% to 95.2% of children had caregivers who had contacted the study child's teacher, year co-ordinator and/or principal, 70.6% to 91.0% had attended an individual parent-teacher meeting and 80.5% to 93.8% had attended an event in which the study child participated across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
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Study Topic 11 – Study child looking forward to going to school

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who look forward to going to school on most days from Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, between 88.7% and 92.0% of children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days'.
- The percentage of children aged 4-6 years who were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' ranged from 90.2% to 95.2% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- Between 90.1% and 95.6% of children aged 7-11 years were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 12-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' ranged from 78.8% in Wave 2 to 83.6% in Wave 4.
- The majority of Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' ranging from 87.4% to 92.7% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- More than 90% of CALD children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' ranging from 91.1% to 92.5% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- Between 89.5% and 92.8% of children and young people aged 4-17 years in foster care were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- The percentage of children and young people aged 4-17 years in relative/kinship care who were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' declined from 94.7% at Wave 1 to 87.8% at Wave 4.
- For children on guardianship orders, the percentage who were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days' remained fairly stable between Waves 3 and 4 (94.4% and 94.3% respectively).
- By district, the percentages of children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to look forward to going to school 'most days':
 - Hunter and Central Coast decreased from 91.0% to 86.5% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW ranged from 86.4% to more than 90.0% across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
 - Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW decreased from 93.7% at Wave 1 to 85.8% at Wave 4
 - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW ranged from 88.4% to 93.8% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney increased from 87.5% at Wave 1 to 92.6% at Wave 4
 - South Western Sydney was 86.1% at Wave 4
 - Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains increased from 90.1% in Wave 2 to 94.9% in Wave 4

Study Topic 12 – Current school meeting the study child's needs

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years whose caregivers were very satisfied/satisfied with the school meeting the needs of the study child from Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, caregivers of between 88.5% and 92.8% of children and young people aged 4-17 years were 'very satisfied/satisfied' with the school meeting the child or young person's needs.
- The caregivers of over 90% of children aged 4-6 years and 7-11 years at the time of interview in each wave were 'very satisfied/satisfied' with the school meeting the needs of the study child across Wave 1 to Wave 4 (90.1% to 97.6% and 90.3% to 93.6% respectively). Caregivers of around 80% of children and young people aged 12-17 years at the time of interview were 'very satisfied/satisfied' with the school meeting the child's needs (78.3% at Wave 1, 82.8% at Wave 2, 85.0% at Wave 3 and 84.6% at Wave 4).
- At Wave 1, the caregivers of 89.2% of Aboriginal children and young people were 'very satisfied/satisfied' with the school meeting the needs of the study child. At wave 2, this

percentage was 87.3% and increased to 93.4% at Wave 3. At Wave 4, the proportion was 89.5%, which was similar to Wave 1.

- At Wave 1, the caregivers of 89.7% of the CALD children and young people were 'very satisfied/satisfied' with the school meeting the needs of the study child. This percentage increased to 93.1% in Wave 4.
- Caregivers of the majority of children and young people in foster care (87.7% to 92.7%), relative/kinship care (90.0% to 94.7%) and on guardianship orders (94.3% to 95.3%) were 'very satisfied/satisfied' with the school meeting the needs of the study child across Wave 1 to Wave 4.
- By district, the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years with caregivers who were 'very satisfied/satisfied' with the school meeting the needs of the study child were:
 - Hunter and Central Coast ranged from 86.0% to 92.8% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW between 80.3% and 89.2% across Wave 2 and Wave 3
 - Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW increased from 82.1% at Wave 1 to 92.1% at Wave 3
 - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW ranged from 87.8% to 92.2% across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney increased from 84.8% at Wave 1 to 93.8% at Wave 4
 - South Western Sydney ranged from 92.3% at Wave 3 to 94.4% at Wave 4
 - Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains ranged from 83.8% to more than 90.0% across Wave 1 to Wave 4.

Study Topic 13 – Study child having academic or other problems at school

This topic shows the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to have academic or other problems at school from Wave 1 to Wave 4.

- At Wave 1, 41.2% of children and young people aged 4-17 years were reported by their caregivers to have academic or other problems. This decreased to 28.9% at Wave 4.
- For children aged 4-6 years and 7-11 years, similar proportions were reported by their caregivers to have academic or other problems at school (25.4% to 33.3% and 25.3% to 36.4% across Wave 1 to Wave 4).
- The percentage of children and young people aged 12-17 years who were reported by their caregivers to have academic or other problems at school decreased from 56.2% at Wave 1 to 32.7% at Wave 4.
- The percentage of Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 who were reported by their caregivers to have academic or other problems at school decreased from 36.8% at Wave 1 to 29.2% at Wave 4. A similar pattern was seen for CALD children and young people (33.3% at Wave 1 to 27.3% at Wave 4).
- The percentage of children and young people in foster care who were reported by their caregivers to have academic or other problems at school decreased from 47.0% at Wave 1

to 33.0% at Wave 4. For children in relative/kinship care the proportions were between 24.3% and 31.3% across Wave 1 to Wave 4 and for children on guardianship orders the proportions were 18.1% at Wave 3 and 20.3% at Wave 4.

- By district, the proportions of children and young people aged 4-17 years having academic or other problems at school from Wave 1 to Wave 4 were:
 - Hunter and Central Coast ranging from 21.6% to 36.8%
 - Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW ranging from 22.9% to 48.7%
 - Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW ranging from 27.1% to 55.3%
 - Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW ranging from 25.5% to 32.7%
 - South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney ranging from 25.3% to 35.5%
 - South Western Sydney ranging from 19.4% to 35.7%
 - Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains ranging from 28.8% to 45.1%

Topic 14 – Caregiver reports of how far study child would go in education

This topic shows caregivers reports at Wave 4 of how far children and young people aged 10-17 years would go in education.

This question was introduced at Wave 4.

- At Wave 4, caregivers of approximately 35.3% of children and young people aged 10-17 years reported that the study child would complete secondary school.
- At Wave 4, caregivers of around a half (41.8%) of children and young people aged 10-11 years reported that the study child would complete secondary school while caregivers of 30.8% of children aged 12-17 years reported that the study child would complete secondary school.
- The caregivers of approximately 37.7% of Aboriginal children and young people aged 10-17 years reported at Wave 4 that the study child would complete secondary school.
- Findings for CALD children are not presented due to small numbers.
- At Wave 4, caregivers of a third (33.3%) of children and young people aged 10-17 years in foster care and 35.6% of same age group children in relative/kinship care reported that the study child would complete secondary school. Findings for children on guardianship orders are not presented due to small numbers.
- At Wave 4, caregivers of around a half of children and young people aged 10-17 years in Hunter and Central Coast (46.1%) reported that the study child would complete secondary school. This percentage was lower for children in Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW (34.4%).
- In Wave 4, caregivers of approximately 43.3% of children and young people aged 10-17 years in South Western Sydney reported that the study child would go to university and complete a degree. This percentage was lower for children in Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW (32.8%).

- Caregivers of around one in three of children and young people aged 10-17 years in Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains reported that the study child or young person would complete a trade or vocational training course (31.7%) at Wave 4.
- Figures are not shown at Wave 4 for South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney districts and Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW due to small numbers.

Study Topic 15 – School life for the study child

This topic shows the proportions children and young people aged 4-17 years from Wave 1 to Wave 4 by the following aspects of their school life:

- Enjoy being there
 - Feel it is important to do well
 - Find someone to have lunch with
 - Follow school rules and routines
 - Get assignments, projects and homework done
 - Get on well with your teachers
 - Try hard
 - Understand the work in class
- Across Wave 1 to Wave 4, school life for children and young people aged 4-17 years was quite positive. The majority reported they ‘always/often’:
 - felt it is important to do well at school (ranging from 75.9% to 84.4%)
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 82.6% to 85.6%)
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 78.5% to 82.9%)
 - tried hard (ranging from 78.6% to 82.5%)
 - For children aged 7-11 years at interview, across Wave 1 to Wave 4 a high percentage of this study cohort reported they ‘always/often’:
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 80.7% to 84.6%)
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 82.3% to 84.6%)
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 76.1% to 82.7%)
 - tried hard (ranging from 83.1% to 85.3%)
 - For children aged 12-17 years at interview across Wave 1 to Wave 4 the majority reported they ‘always/often’:
 - felt it is important to do well at school (ranging from 75.8% to 84.4%)
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 87.2% to 92.6%)
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 69.2% to 84.1%)
 - tried hard (ranging from 66.4% to 76.4%)

- Overall, school life for Aboriginal children and young people aged 4-17 years was quite positive. A large percentage of this study cohort reported they 'always/often':
 - felt it is important to do well at school (82.3%) at Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 74.4% to 80.7%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - tried hard (ranging from 78.0% to 83.0%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For CALD children and young people aged 4-17 years at interview, the majority reported they 'always/often':
 - felt it is important to do well at school (83.3%) at Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (91.3%) at Wave 4
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 80.0% to 83.7%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - tried hard (ranging from 81.5% to 83.7%) across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in foster care, more than three-quarters reported they 'always/often':
 - felt it is important to do well at school (ranging from 79.4% to 86.4%) across Wave 2 to Wave 4
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 75.1% to 85.4%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 76.2% to 83.0%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 78.6% to 84.0%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in relative/kinship care, the majority reported they 'always/often':
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 85.6% to 90.1%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 80.3% to 85.5%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - tried hard (ranging from 78.9% to 84.7%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 71.4% to 80.9%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years on guardianship orders, high proportions reported they 'always/often':
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 88.1% to 90.3%) across Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 86.2% to 87.8%) across Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 75.9% to 80.4%) across Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - tried hard (ranging from 84.1% to 91.5%) across Wave 3 and Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in Hunter and Central Coast Districts, the majority reported they 'always/often'

- felt it is important to do well at school (ranging from 80.8% to 87.5%) across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
- found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 86.1% to 87.5%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- followed school rules and routines (ranging from 78.9% to 86.3%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- tried hard (ranging from 72.2% to 80.9%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW Districts, a large proportion reported they 'always/often':
 - tried hard (83.1%) at Wave 4
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 71.4% to 82.1%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (81.4%) at Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW Districts, most reported they 'always/often':
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 86.8% to 89.7%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 70.7% to 82.9%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - tried hard (ranging from 76.4% to 85.5%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 65.5% to 80.3%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW Districts, the majority of this study cohort reported they 'always/often':
 - felt it is important to do well at school (ranging from 75.0% to 81.6%) across Wave 2 and Wave 4
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 78.7% to 89.4%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 75.4% to 82.6%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney Districts, a large percentage reported they 'always/often':
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 77.1% to 81.5%) across Wave 3 and Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 78.3% to 89.6%) across Wave 1 and Wave 4
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 73.9% to 83.3%) across Wave 1, Wave 2 and Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in South Western Sydney District, the majority reported they 'always/often':
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 77.4% to 88.2%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 74.2% to 81.3%) across Wave 2 to Wave 4

- tried hard (ranging from 80.9% to 83.9%) across Wave 3 and Wave 4
- got on well with teachers (ranging from 73.9% to 81.3%) across Wave 1 to Wave 4
- For children and young people aged 4-17 years in Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Districts, the majority reported they 'always/often':
 - found someone to have lunch with (ranging from 82.7% to 84.2%)
 - followed school rules and routines (ranging from 79.7% to 87.2%)
 - got on well with teachers (ranging from 78.7% to 84.9%)
 - tried hard (ranging from 79.8% to 90.2%)

Study Topic 16 – Study child reports of how far he/she would go in education

This topic shows child reports of how far they will go in their education for children and young people aged 12-17 years in Wave 3 and Wave 4. This question was introduced at the start of Wave 3.

- Around 40.0% of children and young people at the time of interview in each Wave (43.1% in Wave 3 and 40.1% in Wave 4) indicated that they would finish secondary school (year 12) and approximately one-quarter indicated they would get a university degree (23.5% in Wave 3 and 24.2% in Wave 4).
- Of the Aboriginal children and young people aged 12-17 years at the time of interview in Wave 3 and Wave 4, around 50% indicated that they would finish secondary school (47.5% and 44.6% respectively).
- Approximately 38.5% of CALD children and young people at Wave 4 indicated that they would finish secondary school (year 12).
- There was a decrease in the percentage of children and young people in foster care indicating that they would finish secondary school (year 12) from 52.4% in Wave 3 to 39.3% in Wave 4. However, the percentage getting a university degree increased from 14.3% in Wave 3 to 27.9% in Wave 4.
- There was an increase in the percentage of children and young people in relative/kinship care indicating that they would finish secondary school (year 12) from around 40.0% in Wave 3 to 47.1% in Wave 4.
- In Wave 4, 31.3% of children and young people on guardianship orders indicated that they expected to finish secondary school. The same proportion indicated that they would get a university degree (31.3%).
- There was a decrease in the percentage of children and young people in Hunter and Central Coast Districts indicating that they would finish secondary school (year 12) from 69.6% in Wave 3 to 47.5% in Wave 4.
- About one in three children and young people in Mid North Coast, New England and Northern NSW Districts indicated that they expected to finish secondary school (36.0% in Wave 3 and 32.0% in Wave 4). A similar proportion indicated that plan to get a university degree (32.0% in Wave 3 and 36.0% in Wave 4).
- In Wave 4, almost half (48.6%) of children and young people in Murrumbidgee, Far West and Western NSW Districts indicated that they expected to finish secondary school, while

27.0% of children and young people in the same districts indicated that they would get a university degree.

- In Wave 4, 40.0% of children and young people in South Western Sydney District indicated that they would get a vocational or trade qualification (e.g. TAFE certificate), while one in four (25.0%) of children and young people in the same district indicated that they would get a university degree.
- In Wave 4, 36.4% of children and young people in Western Sydney and Nepean Blue Mountains Districts indicated that they expected to finish secondary school, 24.2% would get vocational or trade qualification (e.g. TAFE certificate) and the same proportion indicated that they would get a university degree (24.2%).
- Results are not presented for Illawarra Shoalhaven and Southern NSW Districts and South Eastern Sydney, Northern Sydney and Sydney due to small numbers or no responses from this study cohort in these districts.

Explanatory notes:

1. Data for Wave 1 may vary slightly from the Wave 1 Baseline Statistical Report and other POCLS reports due to a subsequent data refresh in the reporting system
2. Aboriginal is used throughout this dashboard and is inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
3. Non-Aboriginal includes children and young people where Aboriginal status was 'not stated'.
4. CALD data should be interpreted with caution due to relatively small numbers and data quality issues.
5. Districts reflect where the case plan of children and young people in the study was held at the time of interview.
6. To maintain confidentiality and prevent identification of study participants, numbers involving less than 5 children (or less than 10 children when presenting results for Aboriginal children) are not shown. Figures may also be suppressed to avoid re-calculation of small numbers.
7. '90% or over' is used to prevent disclosure risk. 'Less than 10%' is for the counterpart, if needed.