

A worldclass evidence base on the outcomes, and factors influencing outcomes, of children and young people who experience out-of-home care in NSW

List of publications and resources



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# The Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study

The Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study (POCLS) is the first large-scale prospective longitudinal study of children and young people in out-of-home care in Australia, and is the first study to link child protection, health, education and offending administrative data for children in care with firsthand accounts from children, caregivers, caseworkers and teachers.

The aim of the POCLS is to provide significant new knowledge that will inform policy to improve the outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care in terms of safety, permanency and wellbeing. The POCLS is conducted and funded by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) with expert advice from a consortium of Australian and international academic researchers and the POCLS Aboriginal Governance Panel.

The POCLS data collection started in 2011 and tracks the OOHC experiences and permanency outcomes of 4,126 children and young people who entered care for the first time between May 2010 and October 2011. By the end of Wave 5 interview in late 2020, the POCLS had 10 years of in-depth data collected from over 1,000 children and their caregivers; a caseworker survey completed by 1,625 caseworkers; and a teacher survey completed by 670 childcare or school teachers.

A sixth wave of data collection was completed in 2024 with the infant cohort transitioning from primary school to high school. For the first time, a survey of the young adults aged 18-25 years in the POCLS will be underway in 2025 to examine their longer-term outcomes and support needs.

The POCLS sample may not be representative of all children and young people in OOHC and it is therefore important to consider the population that the sample was drawn from when considering the generalisability of the findings. However, the value of prospective large scale longitudinal studies such as the POCLS is the capacity to offer an understanding of trajectories, developmental changes and possible causal associations, which are not possible with cross sectional or point-in-time data.

## POCLS Publications

Since 2010, the POCLS has created a world class evidence base through publication of statistical and research reports, journal articles, evidence to action notes, newsletters, interactive dashboards and webinars to inform policy, practice and professional development, and improve decision making to support for children and young people who experience out-of-home care. The POCLS publications are available on the study webpage.

## POCLS Open Data Asset

The POCLS is an open data asset. The Study's de-identified data is available to approved researchers for self-funded analysis, with the aim that this analysis will generate new insights to answer the Human Research Ethics Committees approved research questions. The process for accessing the data is outlined in the POCLS Guidelines to Access Survey Data and Publication (Technical Report Number 14) available on the POCLS webpage.

# How Do I Find Out More about the POCLS?

Email address: [pathways@dcj.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pathways@dcj.nsw.gov.au)

Webpage: <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.html>

Publication last updated on: 11 June 2026

# POCLS Research Reports and Articles



| Policy topics            | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Lead researcher                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Study protocol           | Pathways of Care: Longitudinal study on children and young people in out-of-home care in New South Wales. <i>Family Matters</i> , 94, 15-28. 2014.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Marina Paxman, POCLS Team, FACSIAR            |
|                          | <p>An overview of the study rationale and design that tracks a population cohort is all children entering OOHc for the first time in NSW.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/family-matters-2014-pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/family-matters-2014-pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://aifs.gov.au/sites/default/files/fm94b_0.pdf">https://aifs.gov.au/sites/default/files/fm94b_0.pdf</a></p> |                                               |
|                          | Pathways of Care: A longitudinal study of children in care in Australia. Introductory article for the special issue on Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 149, 106586. 2024                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Professor Judy Cashmore, University of Sydney |
|                          | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pathways-of-care-a-longitudinal-study-of-children-in-care.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pathways-of-care-a-longitudinal-study-of-children-in-care.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                               |
| General overview reports | Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study: Objectives and strategic research agenda 2022-2023 (Technical Report Number 1). 2022                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | POCLS Team, FACSIAR                           |
|                          | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2022.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2022.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                               |
|                          | Literature review: Factors influencing the outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care. Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study: Outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care. Research Report Number 6. 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Dr Peter Walsh, Griffith University           |
|                          | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/literature-review-factors-influencing-the-outcomes.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/literature-review-factors-influencing-the-outcomes.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                               |

| Policy topics                              | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Lead researcher                                |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| General overview reports (cont.)           | Wave 1 Baseline Statistical Report (Report Number 1). 2015<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study-outcomes.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study-outcomes.pdf</a>                                                                                | Australian Institute of Family Studies         |
|                                            | Wave 2 to Wave 4 Statistical Reports. Forthcoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | POCLS Team, FACSIAR                            |
|                                            | Parents, siblings and children of children and young people in the POCLS population cohort. Statistical Report (Number 29). 2026<br>Forthcoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Joanna Hopkins, FACSIAR                        |
| Child developmental outcomes and education | The experiences and wellbeing of children and young people in out-of-home care: First five years (Wave 1-3) (Report Number 17). 2019<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/the-experiences-and-wellbeing-of-children.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/the-experiences-and-wellbeing-of-children.pdf</a>            | Joanna Hopkins, FACSIAR                        |
|                                            | Childcare and school teachers survey Statistical Report (Report Number 4). 2019<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/research-report-no-4-teacher-survey.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/research-report-no-4-teacher-survey.pdf</a>                                                                             | Albert Zhou, FACSIAR                           |
|                                            | Educational outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care (Waves 1-3) (Report Number 14). 2020<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/educational-outcomes-of-children-young-people.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/educational-outcomes-of-children-young-people.pdf</a>                              | Dr Michelle Townsend, University of Wollongong |
|                                            | Experiences and service needs of children in out-of-home care aged 5-12 years with cognitive and/or behaviour problems (Report Number 22). 2021<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/experiences-and-service-needs-of-children.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/experiences-and-service-needs-of-children.pdf</a> | Joanna Hopkins, FACSIAR                        |
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Temperament of children in out-of-home care stability, differences and relationship with socio-emotional wellbeing (Report Number 23). 2020

Dr Robert Wells,  
FACSIAR

<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/temperament-of-children-in-out-of-home-care.pdf>

| Policy topics                                      | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Lead researcher                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Child developmental outcomes and education (cont.) | Developmental trajectories of socio-emotional outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care – insights from data of Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study (POCLS). <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 149, 106196. 2024                                                                 | Professor Raghu Lingam, University of New South Wales      |
|                                                    | <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106196">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106196</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                            |
|                                                    | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/developmental-trajectories-of-socio-emotional-outcomes.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/developmental-trajectories-of-socio-emotional-outcomes.pdf</a>         |                                                            |
|                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                            |
|                                                    | Positive reading achievement outcomes in children who experience out-of-home care: Characteristics and predictors. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 149, 106282. 2024                                                                                                                           | Dr Miriam Maclean, University of South Australia           |
|                                                    | <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106282">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106282</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                            |
|                                                    | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/positive-reading-achievement-outcomes.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/positive-reading-achievement-outcomes.pdf</a>                                           |                                                            |
|                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                            |
|                                                    | Investigating positive reading trajectories among children who experienced out-of-home care. <i>Children &amp; Youth Services Review</i> , 163, 107728. 2024                                                                                                                                      | Dr Miriam Maclean, University of South Australia           |
|                                                    | <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2024.107728">doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2024.107728</a>                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                            |
|                                                    | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/investigating-positive-reading-trajectories-among-children.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/investigating-positive-reading-trajectories-among-children.pdf</a> |                                                            |
|                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                            |
|                                                    | Infants entering out-of-home care: Health, developmental needs and service provision. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 149, 106577. 2024                                                                                                                                                        | Professor Melissa O'Donnell, University of South Australia |
|                                                    | <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106577">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106577</a>                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                            |
|                                                    | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/infants-entering-out-of-home-care.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/infants-entering-out-of-home-care.pdf</a>                                                   |                                                            |

| Policy topics                                               | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Lead researcher                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Child development<br>l outcomes<br>and education<br>(cont.) | <p>Child protection and developmental trajectories of children who entered care as infants. <i>Child Abuse Review</i>, 33, e2900. 2024</p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/car.2900">https://doi.org/10.1002/car.2900</a></p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Child-protection-and-developmental-trajectories.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Child-protection-and-developmental-trajectories.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                               | Professor Melissa O'Donnell, University of South Australia                                               |
|                                                             | <p>Substance misuse by birth parents: Outcomes for children and young people placed into out-of-home-care. <i>International Journal of Drug Policy</i>, 132. 2024</p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2024.104544">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2024.104544</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0955395924002287">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0955395924002287</a></p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/substance-misuse-by-birth-parents-2024.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/substance-misuse-by-birth-parents-2024.pdf</a></p> | Assoc. Professor Anne-Marie Laslett, La Trobe University                                                 |
| Children with disability                                    | <p>Outcomes for children with disability in out-of-home care: Evidence from the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study in Australia, <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i>, 143, 106246. 2023</p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106246">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106246</a></p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/outcomes-for-children-with-disability.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/outcomes-for-children-with-disability.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                    | Assoc. Professor Zhiming Cheng, University of New South Wales                                            |
| Aboriginal children                                         | <p>Aboriginal children in out-of-home care in NSW: Developmental outcomes and cultural and family connections (Report Number 11). 2018</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/aboriginal-children-in-out-of-home-care-in-nsw.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/aboriginal-children-in-out-of-home-care-in-nsw.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Professor Paul Delfabbro. University of Adelaide                                                         |
| CALD children                                               | <p>Culturally diverse children in out-of-home care: Safety, wellbeing, cultural and family connections (Report Number 20). 2021</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/culturally-diverse-children-in-out-of-home-care.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/culturally-diverse-children-in-out-of-home-care.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Settlement Services International , Dr Nafisa Asif, Professor Judy Cashmore and Professor Paul Delfabbro |



| Policy topics       | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Lead researcher                                                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Placement Stability | Placement changes among children and young people in out-of-home care (Report Number 8). 2017<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/placement-changes-among-children-young-people.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/placement-changes-among-children-young-people.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Dr Fred Wulczyn, Chapin Hall Centre for Children, University of Chicago |
|                     | Influence of placement stability on developmental outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care (Report Number 21). 2020<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/influence-of-placement-stability-on-developmental-outcomes-research-report-21.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/influence-of-placement-stability-on-developmental-outcomes-research-report-21.pdf</a>                                                                                                                               | Dr Robert Wells, FACSIAR                                                |
|                     | Trajectories for children and young people who experience out-of-home care: Examining the influences of pre-care characteristics on later wellbeing and placement stability. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 149, 106398. 2024<br><br><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106398">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106398</a><br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/trajectories-for-children-and-young-people.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/trajectories-for-children-and-young-people.pdf</a> | Dr Catherine Wade, Parenting Research Centre                            |
|                     | Influence of placement stability on developmental outcomes of children and young people in out-of-home care. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 149, 106145. 2024<br><br><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106145">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106145</a><br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/influence-of-placement-stability-on-developmental-outcomes.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/influence-of-placement-stability-on-developmental-outcomes.pdf</a>                                 | Dr Nafisa Asif, FACSIAR                                                 |
| Permanency          | Do infants and toddlers leave long-term out-of-home care? (Waves 1-3) (Report Number 13). 2019<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/do-infants-and-toddlers-leave-long-term.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/do-infants-and-toddlers-leave-long-term.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Dr Fred Wulczyn, Chapin Hall Centre for Children, University of Chicago |

| Policy topics      | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Lead researcher                             |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Permanency (cont.) | How children who exit out-of-home care to guardianship orders are faring - An overview of the POCLS Cohort (Report Number 24-1). 2021<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship-orders.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship-orders.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                         | Henry Durant, FACSIAR                       |
|                    | How children who exit out-of-home care to guardianship orders are faring - socio-emotional wellbeing (Report Number 24-2). 2021<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship1.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship1.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                           | Dr Nafisa Asif, FACSIAR                     |
|                    | How children who exit out-of-home care to guardianship orders are faring - Cognitive abilities (Report Number 24-3). 2022<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship-orders-are-faring.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship-orders-are-faring.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                               | Dr Nafisa Asif, FACSIAR                     |
|                    | How children who exit out-of-home care to guardianship orders are faring - Relational permanency (Report Number 24-4). 2022<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-children-who-exit-out-of-home-care-to-guardianship.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Dr Nafisa Asif, FACSIAR                     |
|                    | Restoration from out-of-home care for Aboriginal children: Evidence from the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study and experiences of parents and children. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 149, 106058. 2024<br><br><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106058">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106058</a><br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/restoration-from-out-of-home-care-for-aboriginal-children.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/restoration-from-out-of-home-care-for-aboriginal-children.pdf</a> | Dr BJ Newton, University of New South Wales |

| Policy topics                                         | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Lead researcher                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                                                       | <p>Factors Associated with the Restoration of Children in Out-of-Home Care. Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study: Outcomes of Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care. Research Report Number 27. 2026.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/factors-associated-with-the-restoration-of-children-in-OOHC.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/factors-associated-with-the-restoration-of-children-in-OOHC.pdf</a></p> | Albert Zhou, FACSIAR                            |
| <b>Birth parents' experiences of removal and OOHC</b> | <p>Experiences of birth parents after reunification with their children. Statistical Report (Number 28). 2026.</p> <p>Forthcoming</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Jo Hopkins, FACSIAR                             |
| <b>Leaving care</b>                                   | <p>Leaving care cohort (15-17 years) Statistical Report: Experiences of young people who entered out-of-home care aged 9-14 years (Report Number 5-1). 2019</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/leaving-care-cohort-15-to-17.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/leaving-care-cohort-15-to-17.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                | Sharon Burke, FACSIAR                           |
|                                                       | <p>Leaving care cohort (15-17 years) Statistical Report: Experiences of young people who entered out-of-home care aged 4-14 years. (Report Number 5-2). 2024</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Leaving-care-cohort-statistical-report.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Leaving-care-cohort-statistical-report.pdf</a></p>                                                                                           | Jennifer Lau, FACSIAR                           |
|                                                       | <p>Leaving care cohort (15-17 years) Statistical Report: Experiences of young people who entered out-of-home care aged 4-14 years. (Report Number 5-3). 2026.</p> <p>Forthcoming</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Jennifer Lau, FACSIAR                           |
| <b>Children's relationships and family time</b>       | <p>Children's family relationships in out-of-home care (Waves 1-2) (Report Number 9). 2017</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/childrens-family-relationships.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/childrens-family-relationships.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                             | Professor Judy Cashmore, University of Sydney   |
|                                                       | <p>Children's relationships with their family and carers. First five years in out-of-home care (Waves 1-3) (Report Number 15). 2020</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/childrens-relationships-with-their-family-and-carers.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/childrens-relationships-with-their-family-and-carers.pdf</a></p>                                                                                        | Professor Judy Cashmore<br>University of Sydney |

|                                                         | <p>Contact with mothers for children in out-of-home care: Group-based trajectory modelling from the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i>, 149, 106199. 2024</p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106199">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106199</a></p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/contact-with-mothers-for-children.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/contact-with-mothers-for-children.pdf</a></p> | Dr Aino Suomi, Australian National University    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Contact with the criminal justice system</b>         | <p>Offending among young persons who came into contact with the out-of-home care system in NSW (Report Number 18). 2020</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/offending-among-young-people.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/offending-among-young-people.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                       | Albert Zhou, FACSIAR                             |
| Policy topics                                           | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Lead researcher                                  |
| <b>Contact with the criminal justice system (cont.)</b> | <p>Offending youth, their families and pathways of care. Report</p> <p><b>Forthcoming</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Dr Kath McFarlane, Kath McFarlane Consulting     |
| <b>Carer support</b>                                    | <p>Relative/kinship and foster care: A comparison of carer and child characteristics (Wave 1) (Report Number 7). 2017</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/relative-kinship-and-foster-care.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/relative-kinship-and-foster-care.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                 | Professor Paul Delfabbro. University of Adelaide |
|                                                         | <p>Developmental outcomes of children and young people in relative/kinship care and foster care (Wave 1-3) (Report Number 16). 2020</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/developmental-outcomes-of-children-and-young-people.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/developmental-outcomes-of-children-and-young-people.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                             | Professor Paul Delfabbro. University of Adelaide |

|                                                      | Exploring the impact of child and placement characteristics, carer resources, perceptions, and life stressors on caregiving and well-being. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> , 127, 105586. 2022<br><br><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2022.105586">doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2022.105586</a><br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/exploring-the-impact-of-child-and-placement.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/exploring-the-impact-of-child-and-placement.pdf</a> | Professor Rebecca Mitchell, Macquarie University   |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Residential Care (Intensive Therapeutic Care)</b> | Children and young people in residential care.<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Children-and-young-people-in-residential-care-Research-Report-25.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Children-and-young-people-in-residential-care-Research-Report-25.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Jennifer Lau, FACSIAR                              |
| <b>Casework and support</b>                          | Caseworker Survey Statistical Report (Report Number 3). 2019<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/caseworker-survey-statistical-report.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/caseworker-survey-statistical-report.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Joanna Hopkins, FACSIAR                            |
| Policy topics                                        | Report/Article                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Lead researcher                                    |
| <b>Casework and support (cont.)</b>                  | Service needs and uptake amongst children in out-of-home care and their carers (Report Number 10). 2018<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/service-needs-and-uptake-amongst-children.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/service-needs-and-uptake-amongst-children.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Professor Ilan Katz, University of New South Wales |
|                                                      | Caseworker's communication with children and young people in out-of-home care and their caregivers (Report Number 12). 2020<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/caseworkers-communication-with-children-young-people.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/caseworkers-communication-with-children-young-people.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                           | Ilan Katz, University of New South Wales           |
|                                                      | Outcomes for children and young people in non-government organisations managed out-of-home care.<br><br><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Outcomes-for-children-and-young-people-in-non-government-organisations-managed-out-of-home-care-Research-Report-26.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Outcomes-for-children-and-young-people-in-non-government-organisations-managed-out-of-home-care-Research-Report-26.pdf</a>                                                          | Albert Zhou, FACSIAR                               |

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**COVID-19**

COVID-19: Impact on children living in out-of-home care and their carers. *Australian Journal of Social Issues*, 58(1). 2022

Michelle Townsend,  
University of Wollongong

[doi.org/10.1002/ajs4.244](https://doi.org/10.1002/ajs4.244)

<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/covid-19-impact-on-children-living-in-out-of-home-care.pdf>

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# POCLS Snapshots and Newsletters

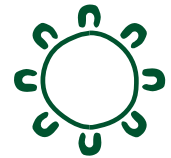


|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                     |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| POCLS Snapshots   | What does ten years of data tell us about children in NSW. Updated 2025                                                                                                                                                                                               | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
|                   | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/POCLS-snapshot.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/POCLS-snapshot.pdf</a>                                                             |                     |
|                   | Summary of the ten papers in the Special Issue on the POCLS in the International journal of <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i> published in 2024 and available on ScienceDirect                                                                                         | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
|                   | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Special-Issue-POCLS-Snapshot.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Special-Issue-POCLS-Snapshot.pdf</a>                                 |                     |
|                   | POCLS first findings from the interviews with children and caregivers. 2015                                                                                                                                                                                           | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
|                   | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/first-findings-from-interviews-with-children.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/first-findings-from-interviews-with-children.pdf</a> |                     |
| POCLS Newsletters | POCLS Newsletter 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
|                   | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/POCLS-newsletter-2025.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/POCLS-newsletter-2025.pdf</a>                                               |                     |
|                   | POCLS Newsletter 2024                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
|                   | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/POCLS-newsletter-2024.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/POCLS-newsletter-2024.pdf</a>                                               |                     |
|                   | POCLS Newsletter 2023                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
|                   | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2023.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2023.pdf</a>                                               |                     |
|                   | POCLS Newsletter 2022                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
|                   | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2022.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2022.pdf</a>                                               |                     |



|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                        |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| POCLS Newsletters<br>(cont.) | POCLS Newsletter 2021                                                                                                                                                                                                   | POCLS Team,<br>FACSIAR |
|                              | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2021.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2021.pdf</a> |                        |
|                              | POCLS Newsletter 2020                                                                                                                                                                                                   | POCLS Team,<br>FACSIAR |
|                              | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2020.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2020.pdf</a> |                        |
|                              | POCLS Newsletter 2018                                                                                                                                                                                                   | POCLS Team,<br>FACSIAR |
|                              | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2018.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2018.pdf</a> |                        |
|                              | POCLS Newsletter 2017                                                                                                                                                                                                   | POCLS Team,<br>FACSIAR |
|                              | <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2017.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-newsletter-2017.pdf</a> |                        |

# POCLS Current Aboriginal-Led or Partnered Research Projects



Ten grants have been awarded to Aboriginal-led or partnered research projects to address priority policy questions focussed on improving the lives of Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care. The successful projects were selected by a Steering Group chaired by the DCJ Deputy Secretary Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes and will be undertaken throughout 2024 and 2025.

| Policy topic                       | Research focus                                                                                                                                                                   | Lead researcher                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Health                             | Supporting the mental health of Aboriginal children in care and leaving care.                                                                                                    | Professor Sandra Eades, Rowden White Chair and Assoc Dean - Indigenous, Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne         |
|                                    | Describing primary health care utilisation and medication uptake amongst Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care.                            | Dr Natalie Strobel, Centre for Improving Health Services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Families, Edith Cowan University |
|                                    | Improve understandings of the factors influencing the neurodevelopmental trajectory and poor outcomes of Aboriginal children and young people who have entered out-of-home care. | Dr Emily Hindman, Bimiirr Darrundaygu Psychology and Research Centre, Coffs Harbour NSW                                                          |
| Cultural and relational permanence | Exploring the cultural health and care gap among Aboriginal children and young people in the out-of-home care system.                                                            | Elder Ted Fields, Uraah Innovations and Cultural Services, University of New South Wales                                                         |
|                                    | Cultural continuity and stability for Aboriginal children and young people.                                                                                                      | Dr Wendy Hermeston, ALIVE National Centre for Mental Health Research Translation, Melbourne Medical School, University of Melbourne              |
| Carers                             | Understanding the potential impact of carers on the experiences and care outcomes of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care.                                                    | Dr BJ Newton, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales                                                                       |

| Policy Topic                                    | Research focus                                                                                                                                                                                     | Lead researcher                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Parental and family characteristics</b>      | Exploring how parental and family characteristics influences child protection reporting and removal, and out-of-home care experiences for Aboriginal children under two years of age.              | Dr BJ Newton, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales.                                                                            |
| <b>Restoration</b>                              | Developing profiles to support the restoration of Aboriginal children to their families.                                                                                                           | Dr Natalie Strobel, Centre for Improving Health Services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Families, Edith Cowan University       |
| <b>Contact with the criminal justice system</b> | Exploring the experiences of Aboriginal girls that go missing from out-of-home care then have contact with the criminal justice system.                                                            | Dr Phillipa Evans, School of Social Sciences, University of New South Wales                                                                            |
| <b>Data ecosystem</b>                           | Configuring an Indigenous data ecosystem for Aboriginal children in out-of-home care in NSW. Social and cultural factors that influence Aboriginal outcomes guided by Indigenous Data Sovereignty. | Professor Marcia Langton, Indigenous Studies Unit, Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne |

# POCLS Evidence to Action Notes



- Note 1** Birth family contact for children and young people in out-of-home care.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/birth-family-contact-for-children-and-young-people.pdf>
- Note 2** The early learning and childcare experiences of children in out-of-home care.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/the-early-learning-and-childcare-experiences-of-children.pdf>
- Note 3** The importance of casework when establishing and supporting out-of-home care placements.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/the-importance-of-casework-when-establishing-and-supporting.pdf>
- Note 4** Carer parenting practices and children's relationships with their carer's family.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/carer-parenting-practices.pdf>
- Note 5** Educational outcomes: Children and young people in out-of-home care.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/educational-outcomes-children-young-people.pdf>
- Note 6** Cultural identity, community and family connections: Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/aboriginal-cultural-and-family-connections.pdf>
- Note 7** Placement stability: Children and young people in out-of-home care.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/placement-stability-children-young-people.pdf>  
  
Also see a FACSIAR Summary on placement stability: [What factors impact placement stability for children in out-of-home care? Summary of key findings from the evidence](#)
- Note 8** Developmental outcomes: Children and young people who have experienced out-of-home care.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/developmental-outcomes-children-and-young-people.pdf>
- Note 9** Developmental outcomes :Aboriginal children and young people who have experienced out-of-home care.  
<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls->

# POCLS Evidence to Action Notes



- Note 10** How to build positive relationships and foster family time for children in out-of-home care.
- <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-to-build-positive-relationships.pdf>
- Note 11** Communication between caseworkers, children, young people and carers.
- <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/communication-between-out-of-home-care-caseworkers.pdf>
- Note 12** Culturally and linguistically diverse children in out-of-home care: Safety, developmental outcomes, connections to family and culture.
- <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/culturally-and-linguistically-diverse-children.pdf>
- Note 13** How do relative/kinship carers and foster carers differ in their characteristics, wellbeing and support needs?
- <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/how-do-relative-kinship-carers-and-foster-carers-differ.pdf>
- Note 14** Restoration from out-of-home care for Aboriginal children – the experiences of children and parents.
- <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/restoration-of-aboriginal-children.pdf>
- Note 15** Educational outcomes for children and young people who experienced out-of-home care: reading achievement and trajectories.
- <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Positive-reading-outcomes-E2A.pdf>
- Note 16** Improving health and development of children who entered care as infants.
- Forthcoming
- Note 17** Improving mental health of children and young people in OOHC.
- Forthcoming
- Note 18** Supporting carers to raise children and young people in OOHC.
- Forthcoming

**Note 19** Children with a disability in OOHC

Forthcoming

# POCLS Interactive Dashboards



The POCLS interactive dashboards provide high level information collected from children and their caregivers about their experiences with out-of-home care. The central page for all information on POCLS interactive dashboards is <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/interactive-dashboards.html>

- Dashboard 1** Characteristics of the children and young people in the POCLS.  
[https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLS\\_dashboard\\_R1/design1?publish=yes](https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLS_dashboard_R1/design1?publish=yes)
- Dashboard 2** Child protection history of children and young people.  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLSDashboard-D2/POCLSDashboard2?publish=yes>
- Dashboard 3** Characteristics of carer households and their neighbours.  
Forthcoming
- Dashboard 4** Children's socio-emotional wellbeing, cognitive learning ability and physical health conditions.  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLSDashboard-D4/POCLSDashboard4?publish=yes>
- Dashboard 5** Learning and education of children in the POCLS.  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLSDashboard5/POCLSDashboard5?publish=yes>
- Dashboard 6** Children's connection to birth family, culture and community.  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLSDashboard6/POCLSDashboard6?publish=yes>
- Dashboard 7** Children's feelings, supports and relationships.  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLSDashboard-D7/POCLSDashboard7?publish=yes>
- Dashboard 8** Casework and children's access to services and support.  
[https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/D8F\\_update/POCLSDashboard8?publish=yes](https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/D8F_update/POCLSDashboard8?publish=yes)
- Dashboard 9** Caregiver support and services in their caring role.  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLS-Dashboard9/POCLSDashboard9?publish=yes>
- Dashboard 10** Placement stability and permanency.  
Forthcoming
- Dashboard 11** Leaving care cohort.  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dcj.statistics/viz/POCLSDashboard11/POCLSDashboard11?publish=yes>



# FACSIAR Lunch & Learn Webinars



**FACSIAR research seminars** facilitate the dissemination of new and emerging research evidence for policy makers and practitioners. The link below takes you to information about future and past research seminars conducted by FACSIAR:

<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/facsiar-research-seminars.html>

Please subscribe to receive information about future FACSIAR Lunch & Learn webinars here:

<https://nsw.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a41e2278d0162a7eca697e75c&id=d9082a03d5>

## Past research seminars on the POCLS evidence for policy makers and practitioners:

- *DCJ Research Strategy webinar including the POCLS data asset.* July 2021.  
Presentation available at <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/research-seminars/past-seminars/2021/FACSIAR-Presentation-Webinar-launch-Research-Strategy.pdf>
- Maclean, M. (2022, February). *Education and children who experience care: Exploring higher achievement, trajectories over time and predictors in the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlmYh3lk-ZQ>
- Townsend, M. (2022, February). *Are we making the grade? Education and children in out-of-home care.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlmYh3lk-ZQ>
- O'Donnell, M. (2022, June). *Infants who entered out-of-home care: Child protection and developmental trajectories.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5XuOaLfphY>
- Hu, N. (2022, July). *Improving mental health outcomes for children and young people in out-of-home care. Findings from the POCLS.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgE7AqvGulc>
- Mitchell, R. (2022, August). *Carers: Exploring the impact of child characteristics, resources, perceptions and life stressors on caregiving and well-being.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5NjLOz2tgk>
- Katz, I. (2022, August). *Relative/kinship and foster care: A comparison of carer and child characteristics. Findings from the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5NjLOz2tgk>
- Wade, C. (2022, October). *Long-term trajectories of outcomes for children and young people who experience out-of-home care: Insights from the POCLS in NSW.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1FxWvJoymo&feature=youtu.be>
- Wulczyn, F. (2022, October). *Infants and toddlers leaving care.*  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1FxWvJoymo&feature=youtu.be>

# FACSIAR Lunch & Learn Webinars



- Newton, BJ. (2022, November). *Building the evidence: Restoration from out-of-home-care for Aboriginal children and families*.  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCt7FnixgQ0>
- Cheng, Z. (2023, February). *Children with disability in out-of-home care :Characteristics and outcomes*.  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bBjMXCxT0yc>
- Noujaim, G. & Beauchamp, T. (2023, April). *Culturally and linguistically diverse children in OOHC: insights from the NSW Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study*.  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4nkeWRWxhwk>
- Cashmore, J. (2023, May). *Children's relationships in out-of-home care (Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study)*.  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjBlklWhwjM>
- Asif, N., Wulczyn, F. and DCJ's Practice Placement Stability Team (2024, July). *Supporting placement stability for children in out of home care*.  
Recording available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lAVRoQ7liEQ>
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# POCLS Roundtables 2022

Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study (POCLS) roundtables were held in 2022 with researchers, the Advisory Group and the Evidence to Action Group. A panel of researchers summarised the key insights from recently completed analysis of the POCLS dataset to inform policy and practice to improve children's experiences in out-of-home care and developmental outcomes. The focus of the roundtables were:

- Child development, wellbeing and children with a disability  
Recording available at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYSebM6\\_aC8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYSebM6_aC8)
- Cultural connections and family time  
Recording available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QRr8oYuqvGE>
- Education and Youth Justice- external sitelaunch  
Recording available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taXivAa0v7M>
- Casework and Support- external sitelaunch  
Recording available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OK4doJ1o5-l>
- Permanency and Wellbeing Outcomes- external sitelaunch  
Recording available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBkIYiVB3sc>

The video transcripts are also available:

- Child development, wellbeing and children with a disability video transcript
- Cultural connections and family time video transcript
- Education and Youth Justice video transcript
- Casework and Support video transcript
- Permanency and Wellbeing Outcomes video transcript

# POCLS Questionnaires, Data Dictionaries & Technical Reports



The POCLS is an open data asset. The Study's de-identified data is available to approved researchers for self-funded analysis, with the aim that this analysis will generate new insights to answer the Human Research Ethics Committees approved research questions. The process for accessing the data is outlined in the POCLS Guidelines to Access Survey Data and Publication (Technical Report Number 14) available on the POCLS webpage.

The following is a summary of the resources available to researchers interested in using the POCLS data set. It flows from high level information aimed at providing background and context; to more detailed resources to aid use and interpretation of the data; and interactive dashboards making the key data available to stakeholders. All resources are available at the study webpage.

Technical reports aid the use and interpretation of the POCLS data. All resources are available at the study webpage <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.html> and publications page <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/facsiar-publications-and-resources.html>

## Data documentation

| Technical document                         | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Lead researcher     |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Questionnaires and data collections</b> | <p>The questionnaires used at the carer, child and young person face-to-face interviews; and the teacher and caseworker on-line surveys; are essential to crafting research questions, understanding the data and the optimal approach to analyses. The questionnaires should be consulted as a priority. Other data collections include the felt security activity and scans of the child's NSW Health My Personal Health Record known as the Blue Book.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/pocls-publications.html">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/pocls-publications.html</a></p> | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Summary of questionnaires</b>           | <p>The summary of POCLS questionnaires allow researchers to see the questions asked at a glance before going to the questionnaires to see the full questions and response options.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/pocls-publications.html">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/pocls-publications.html</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |

| Technical document                   | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Lead researcher     |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Data dictionaries</b>             | <p>Data dictionaries are available on all POCLS datasets and should be consulted when designing and implementing study analyses. The data dictionaries provide variable level information for each of the data sets. They include variable names, codes, eligibility, applicability, type, length, module, and mode of questioning. Data dictionaries are available for the: child/young person and caregiver surveys, Adapted Kvebaek Family Sculpture Technique; caseworker survey; teacher survey; DCJ administrative data; and the linked external data.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/pocls-publications.html">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/facsiar/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study/pocls-publications.html</a></p> | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Data user training slide deck</b> | <p>The data user training slide deck provides an outline of the POCLS data user training workshop.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2019.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2019.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Data Books</b>                    | <p>The POCLS data books for the survey data are intended to be used by researchers to help in understanding the data structure, the frequency of responses to survey questions and as a resource to cross-check during analyses. For obvious reasons, frequency tables have not been prepared for text response variables. There are also data books for the linkage data, which provides frequency counts of selected variables by care and protection order type; and a data book on interviewer ratings which collects data on the quality of the interview, reasons why the interview and/or activities were not completed, and the environment where the interview took place.</p> <p>Data books are only available to approved researchers in SURE.</p>                                 | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Longitudinal study methods</b>    | <p>Methodological design issues in longitudinal studies of children and young people in out-of-home care. Research report. 2005.</p> <p>Examines the methodological issues involved in undertaking a longitudinal study on out-of-home care and how they have been resolved in similar studies.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/methodological-design-issues.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/methodological-design-issues.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Taplin, S.          |

| Technical document                                    | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Lead researcher                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pilot study</b>                                    | <p>CREATE consultation with young people in out-of-home care.</p> <p>This report summarises feedback received from young people on methodology, topics to include in the survey and draft questions.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/create-foundation-nsw-2011.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/create-foundation-nsw-2011.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | CREATE Foundation NSW. (2011).                  |
| <b>Policy and practice implications</b>               | <p>Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study on children and young people in out-of-home care in New South Wales. Developing Practice. <i>The Child Youth and Family Work Journal</i>, 39, 56-71, 2014.</p> <p>Evidence to inform out-of-home care policy and practice in NSW. An overview of the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study-on-children-and-young-people.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study-on-children-and-young-people.pdf</a></p>                                 | Paxman, M., Tully, L., Burke, S. and Watson, J. |
| <b>Study objectives and strategic research agenda</b> | <p>Study objectives and strategic research agenda 2022-2023 (Technical Report Number 1)</p> <p>The study objectives and strategic research agenda provides the business case for the investment in research to build a new evidence base and knowledge to improve interventions aimed to keep children and young people safe and foster their wellbeing so they can develop to their full potential.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2022.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2022.pdf</a></p> | POCLS Team, FACSIAR                             |

| Technical document                       | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Lead researcher     |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Study design and data user guide         | <p>Study design and data user guide (Technical Report Number 2)</p> <p>An overview of the study and the data covering the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of the study, study design, and data collection methods</li> <li>• Data sources, data structure, and variable naming convention</li> <li>• Data access procedure</li> <li>• Data confidentialisation and weighting</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-study-design-data-user-guide-report-2.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-study-design-data-user-guide-report-2.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| Non-response correction and data weights | <p>Non-response correction and data weights (Technical Report Numbers 3-7)</p> <p>Analysis examines bias in response patterns to questions and direct measures due to the wide eligibility and recruitment lens (i.e., respondents varying duration in OOHC by the time of the Wave 1 interview; and the varying duration in the current placement at the time of the Wave 1 interview). Another analysis examined how Wave 1 participants differ from study-eligible non-participants. Detailed descriptions of the construction of the POCLS weights are provided in several technical reports on: statistical power, selection bias, and non-response correction; initial wave weighting; and cross-sectional and longitudinal weighting for the POCLS.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/australian-institute-of-family-studies-2017.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/australian-institute-of-family-studies-2017.pdf</a> (no 3)</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/australian-institute-of-family-studies-2017-wave-1.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/australian-institute-of-family-studies-2017-wave-1.pdf</a> (no 4)</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/statistical-power-selection-bias-and-non-response.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/statistical-power-selection-bias-and-non-response.pdf</a> (no 5)</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/initial-wave-weighting-for-the-pathways-of-care.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/initial-wave-weighting-for-the-pathways-of-care.pdf</a> (no 6)</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/weighting-for-the-pathways-of-care.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/weighting-for-the-pathways-of-care.pdf</a> (no 7)</p> | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |

| Technical document                                          | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Lead researcher     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Measures Manual</b>                                      | <p>Measures manual (Technical Report Number 8)</p> <p>The Measures Manual provides an overview of each of the standardised measures incorporated into the questionnaires. The overview includes: measure domain; Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study - Objectives and Strategic Research Agenda 2022-2023 44 waves at which the measure was delivered; age range of the child for whom the measure was applied; length – number of items in the measure; publisher/cost/ permissions required for the measure; psychometric properties of the measure; studies used/ rationale for use – other seminal studies that use the measure; scoring information; and references.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020.pdf</a></p> | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Measuring child developmental outcomes</b>               | <p>Measuring child developmental outcomes: approaches and methods (Technical Report Number 9)</p> <p>This report addresses the consistent use of the POCLS standardised measures of child development to cover a life span from 9 months to 17 years.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-measuring.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-measuring.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Looping and conditional branching in the survey data</b> | <p>Looping and conditional branching (Technical Report Number 10)</p> <p>The POCLS Child and Young Person, Carer, Teacher and Caseworker surveys include questions that, depending on the response to the question, require the interviewer to 'loop' back to a previous question, repeat ('loop') the current question, or 'skip' a question. This report explains the looping approach.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-looping.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-looping.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Sax Institute       |



| Technical document                                          | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Lead researcher                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Adapted Kvebaek Family Sculpture Technique</b>           | <p>Adapted Kvebaek Family Sculpture Technique (Technical Report Number 11)</p> <p>This report provides an overview of the activity conducted with children aged 7 years and older to measure how close children and young people feel to people in their current household and special people outside of their current household. Those opting out are asked similar questions during the interview.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/the-adapted-kvebaek-family-sculpture-technique.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/the-adapted-kvebaek-family-sculpture-technique.pdf</a></p> | Taylor, A. & Cashmore, J.<br>University of Sydney |
| <b>Identifying the cultural background of children</b>      | <p>Identifying the cultural background of children in the POCLS (Technical Report Number 12)</p> <p>Given the multiple data sources reporting child cultural background, and the inconsistency over time and between reporters, a counting rule was established for consistent reporting of a child's cultural background for the POCLS.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Identifying-the-cultural-background-of-children-in-the-POCLS-2020.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/Identifying-the-cultural-background-of-children-in-the-POCLS-2020.pdf</a></p>                       | POCLS Team, FACSIAR                               |
| <b>Framework to analyse child development and wellbeing</b> | <p>Human capital formation during childhood provides a framework to analyse child development and wellbeing (Technical Report Number 13)</p> <p>This paper outlines one framework to analyse child development and wellbeing with the POCLS data.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/human-capital-formation-during-childhood.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/human-capital-formation-during-childhood.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                | Chapin Hall, University of Chicago                |

| Technical document                                               | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Lead researcher     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Guidelines for accessing the data and publication</b>         | <p>Guidelines for accessing the data and publication (Technical Report Number 14)</p> <p>This technical report provides an overview of how to apply to access the POCLS data; the contracts and ethics approvals required for external researchers; and publication and authorship guidelines.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-guidelines.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-guidelines.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Guidelines for using the record linkage data</b>              | <p>Guidelines for using the record linkage data (Technical Report Number 15)</p> <p>Record linkage data from a number of administrative data bases have been obtained as part of an extension study attached to the POCLS. This technical report provides an overview of the datasets available, the approval process to gain access to the data and requirements for use and reporting.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/guidelines-for-using-record-linkage-data-report-15.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/guidelines-for-using-record-linkage-data-report-15.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |
| <b>Guidelines for publishing results with small sample sizes</b> | <p>Guidelines for publishing results with small sample sizes (Technical Report Number 16)</p> <p>This report presents guidelines for reporting findings from analysis of the POCLS survey, DCJ administrative and linked data sub populations involve small numbers. The purpose of the guideline is to help users to better understand and manage confidentiality and minimise the risk of disclosure of identity. These guidelines apply to results presented in any form (e.g., tables and graphs), to both internal and external reports and publications, and outputs (including syntax) taken out of SURE.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-guidelines-for-publishing-results.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/pocls-guidelines-for-publishing-results.pdf</a></p> | POCLS Team, FACSIAR |

| Technical document                                      | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Lead researcher                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Policy context during the POCLS</b>                  | <p>OOHC policy landscape 2010-2020 (POCLS Waves 1-5) (Technical Report Number 17)</p> <p>The policy context during the period of the POCLS Waves 1-5 data collection is outlined to assist researchers to interpret the results. This will be updated with the release of additional waves of data collection.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-oohc.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-oohc.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | POCLS Team, FACSIAR              |
| <b>Final order and no final order cohorts over time</b> | <p>POCLS Cohort: examining differences in final orders and no final order cohorts over time (Technical Report Number 18)</p> <p>The POCLS sample has two main cohorts - the 'Final order' and 'No final order' cohorts. The criteria to be in each cohort was legal status at one point in time. Those who were 'No final orders' by 30 April 2013 might since have received a final order later, be returned to their birth parents, adopted or received a guardianship order. Similarly, those on final orders might have returned to their birth parents, adopted or exited OOHC to guardianship. Legal status needs to be considered when interpreting the results of analysis.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-examining.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/nsw-department-of-communities-and-justice-2020-examining.pdf</a></p> | POCLS Team, FACSIAR              |
| <b>Data weighting</b>                                   | <p>Weighting for the Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study Update for Wave 4 (Technical Report Number 19)</p> <p>Previous reports by Steel and Navin Cristina (2018, 2019) describe the development of weights designed to reduce potential biases due to non-response and attrition in the POCLS Waves 1-3. This report provides an update for Wave 4 cross-sectional and longitudinal weights and should be read in conjunction with previous reports.</p> <p><a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/weighting-for-the-pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.pdf">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/documents/about-us/facsiar/pocls/pocls-publications/weighting-for-the-pathways-of-care-longitudinal-study.pdf</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Steel, D. and Navin Cristina, T. |

# POCLS Ethics Approvals



- University of NSW Human Research Ethics Committee (HC210985).
- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC) of NSW Ethics Committee (766/10 continued).
- State Education Research Application Process (SERAP) NSW Department of Education (2012250).
- NSW Population and Health Services Research Ethics Committee HREC/14/CIPHS/74) Cancer Institute NSW (2014/12/570).
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Ethics Committee (Ref: EO2019-1-406).

### **Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study (POCLS)**

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W: [Pathways of Care Longitudinal Study](#)