

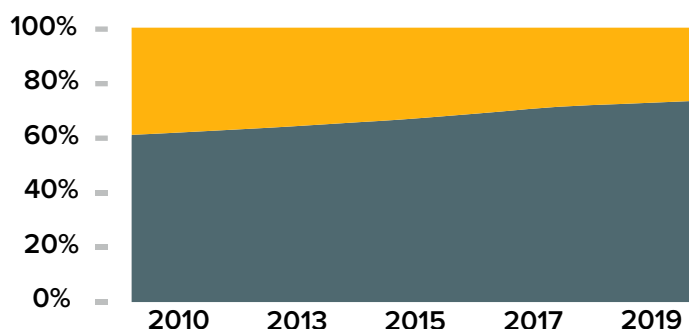


Factsheet 3

How has social and emotional wellbeing (SDQ scores) changed over time?

- In 2010, 61% of the LSIC children experienced positive social and emotional wellbeing.
- The proportion increased continuously over time and reached 73% by 2019.
- The highest increase occurred between 2015 and 2017.

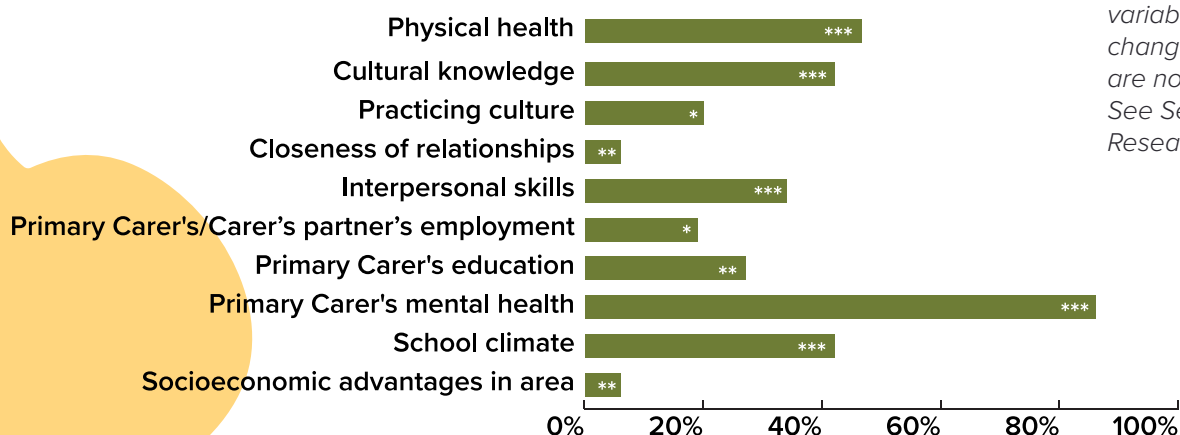
Footprints in Time: The Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC) has been following two cohorts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from across Australia since 2008. This factsheet presents key findings from a longitudinal analysis of LSIC data across five survey waves collected between 2010 and 2019, inclusive. In 2008 (Wave 1), 1671 children and families participated in the study. The sample dropped to 1,404 in 2010 (Wave 3) and to 1,205 by 2019 (Wave 12).



Social and emotional wellbeing was measured using the Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ). SDQ scores were grouped into low risk and moderate/high risk categories for having clinically significant emotional or behavioural difficulties. Low risk indicates high social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB).

What are the underlying protective factors for social and emotional wellbeing (SDQ scores)?

Change in the Odds of Experiencing Positive Social and Emotional Wellbeing



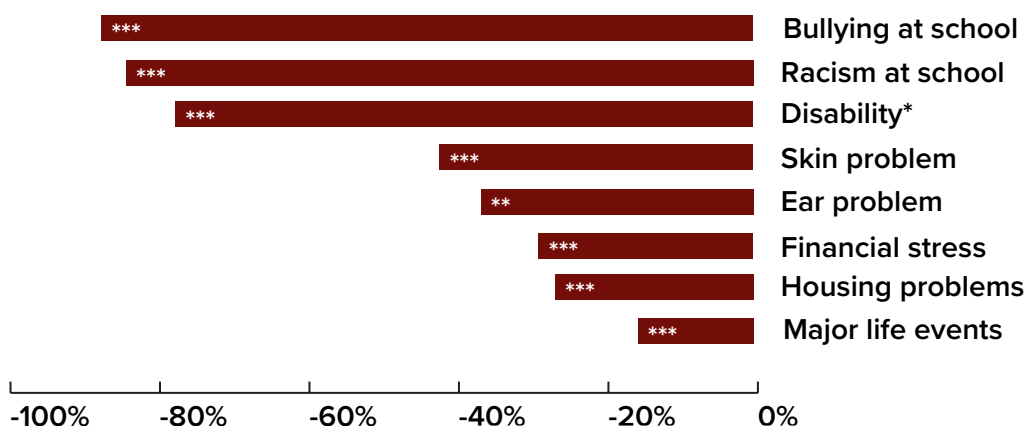
Note: *** Statistically significant at the 1% level; ** significant at the 5% level; * significant at the 10% level. As the scaling is different across the predictor variables, percentage changes in the odds ratios are not directly comparable. See Section Four of the Research Report for more.

Multivariate analyses show that the following are protective factors for social and emotional wellbeing (as per SDQ scores):

- Very good/excellent health status.
- Primary Carer or their partner being in a paid job.
- Experiencing a positive school climate, (e.g. supportive and safe).
- Primary Carer acquiring a non-school qualification.
- Primary Carer having good mental health.
- Frequently practicing culture, such as attending cultural events/ceremonies and learning cultural practices and arts.
- Having lots of cultural knowledge, such as knowing one's clan/tribe/Mob and family stories.
- Forming close relationships with many people.
- Living in a more socioeconomically advantaged area.

What are the underlying risk factors for social and emotional wellbeing (SDQ scores)?

Change in the Odds of Experiencing Positive Social and Emotional Wellbeing



Note: *** Statistically significant at the 1% level; ** significant at the 5% level. 'Major life events' variable is measured differently to other variables. Its effect size should not be compared to the others. See, Section Four of the Research Report for more.

Multivariate analyses show that the following are risk factors for social and emotional wellbeing (as per SDQ scores):

- Being bullied or unfairly treated at school.
- Experiencing racial discrimination at school.
- Having poor physical health (e.g., skin problems and ear problems).
- Living with a disability.*
- Living in a family with financial stress.
- Living in a family with housing problems (e.g., overcrowding, structural damages and frequent moves).
- Living in a family experiencing multiple major life events.

Disability as recorded in LSIC appeared as a risk factor in this analysis. There are many experiences of ability, which may not be represented by these findings.

Summarised from:

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