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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This is the **Queensland (QLD)** sub-report of the Mission Australia Youth Survey Report 2025. It is based on the responses of 3,129 young people in **QLD** who completed the Youth Survey 2025.

The Mission Australia Youth Survey Report 2025 presents key findings based on national level data and can be found here. It contains the methodology, national executive summary, national key findings, and findings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. The report also includes commentary on the national findings that may assist in the interpretation of the data found within this sub-report.

This **QLD** sub-report is a state-based overview of the key findings from the Youth Survey 2025. The report includes detailed data tables comparing state-level findings against the national data. All state and national data in this report, including demographic information and base sizes, has been **weighted** by state/territory, gender and socio-economic advantage/disadvantage by area. Please see the 'About the survey' section of the Youth Survey Report 2025 for more information regarding our weighting method.

Care needs to be taken when interpreting and generalising some results, particularly state-based gender breakdowns, due to variations in base sizes for different survey items. **QLD** gender breakdowns are included where weighted base size allows. Review charts with extreme caution when the number of responses are less than 30 and take care when interpreting results with base sizes under 100.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of lands throughout Australia, and we pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the culture and dreams of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and continual relationship with the land and we recognise the importance of the young people who are our future leaders.

A special thank you to the young people who shared with us in the 2025 Youth Survey. We appreciate the views they shared on current issues and personal concerns, as well as their responses to questions relating to housing and finance, education and employment, community and supports, and mental health and wellbeing.

This report may be cited as: McHale, R., Brennan, N., Freeburn, T., Richardson, E., Rossetto, A. & Carmody, M. (2025). Youth Survey Report 2025. Queensland sub-report. Sydney, NSW: Mission Australia



Queensland KEY FINDINGS



Young people were asked to list the three most important issues in Australia today. The charts show the proportion who mentioned each issue in 2023, 2024 and 2025.







3. Housing and homelessness

19% 19% 27%



4. Violence, safety and crime

26<u>% 32% **24%**</u>

While 57% of young people say they feel positive about the future, 96% articulate at least one of their biggest hopes, with the top themes being:



1. Employment and career goals

58%

"Get a good paying job." Female, 14, QLD



2. Family, relationships and connections

46%

"To eventually marry and have kids."

Female, 18, QLD



3. Money, wealth and owning a home

45%

"Affording a house to live."

Gender diverse, 15, QLD



4. Purpose, values and big dreams

28%

"Enjoy a good and full life."

Male, 16, QLD

Queensland KEY FINDINGS



Young people shared what life looks like for them now...

Money, wealth and owning a home

One in five (20%) agreed my family are often stressed about money

8.6% couldn't afford to participate in activities, hobbies or groups

One in 25 (4.0%) felt stressed in the past year about having somewhere to live



Family, relationships and connections

29% felt stressed about problems with friends and 28% about problems with family in the past year

18% felt lonely all or most of the time

33% felt connected to others in their neighbourhood



Employment and career

Half (52%) were currently working

Top reasons for working:

- To save up money
- To pay for my own things

Education and learning

63% of students agreed I like my school

59% felt stressed about school / study problems in the past year

26% faced barriers to achieving study or work goals—most commonly not feeling motivated

Lifestyle and experiences

30% experienced unfair treatment or discrimination in the past year

Participation in the past year:

- **52%** team sport
- 36% individual sport

Purpose, values and big dreams

66% agreed I can achieve my goals even if they are hard

Participation in the past year:

- 34% volunteer work
- 21% church or other faith groups

Physical and mental health

Young people felt stress in the past year about:

- Mental health 39%
- Body image **31%**
- Physical health 21%

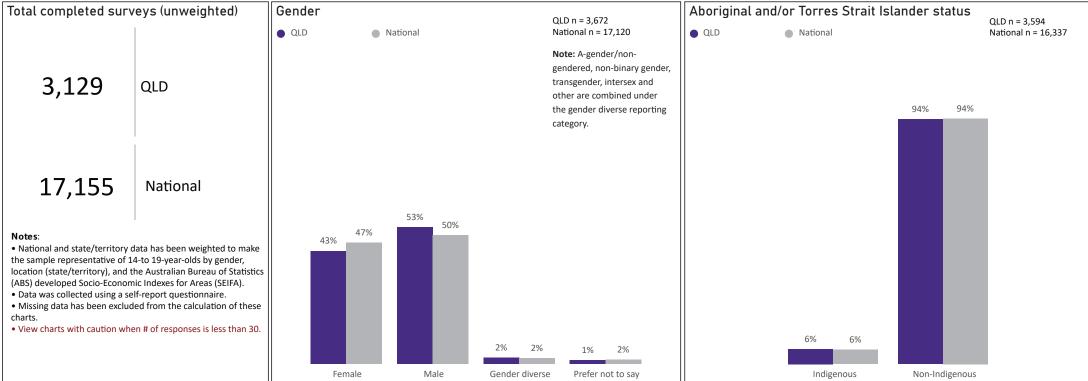
19% experienced high psychological distress - expressing feelings of anxiety, depression or being overwhelmed

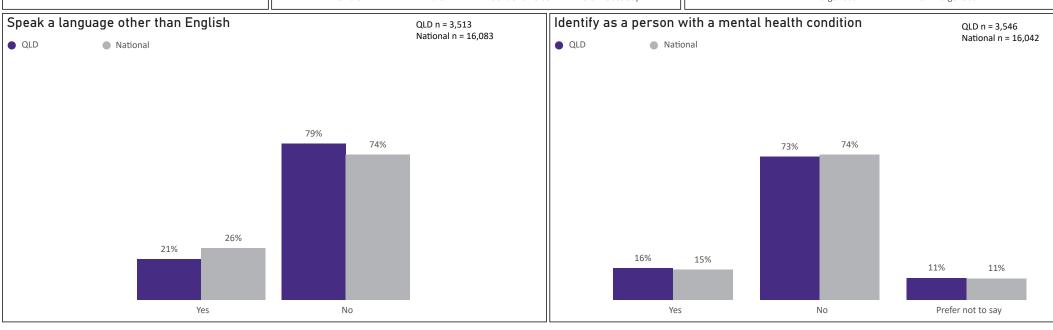


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Profile of respondents







Profile of respondents cont.

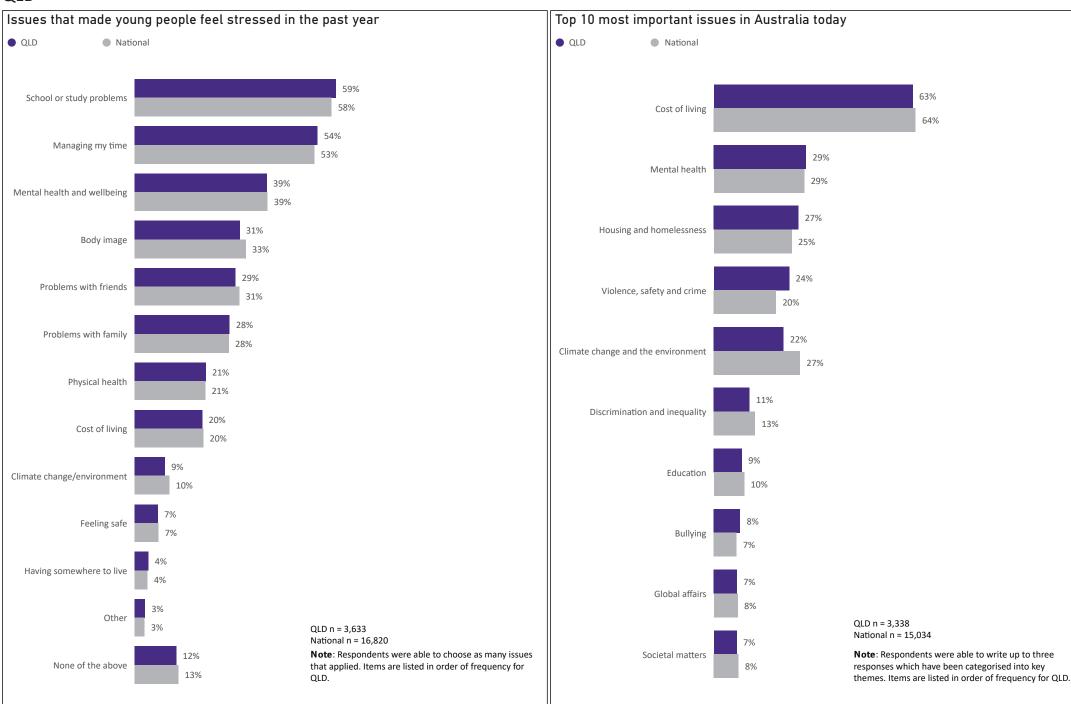






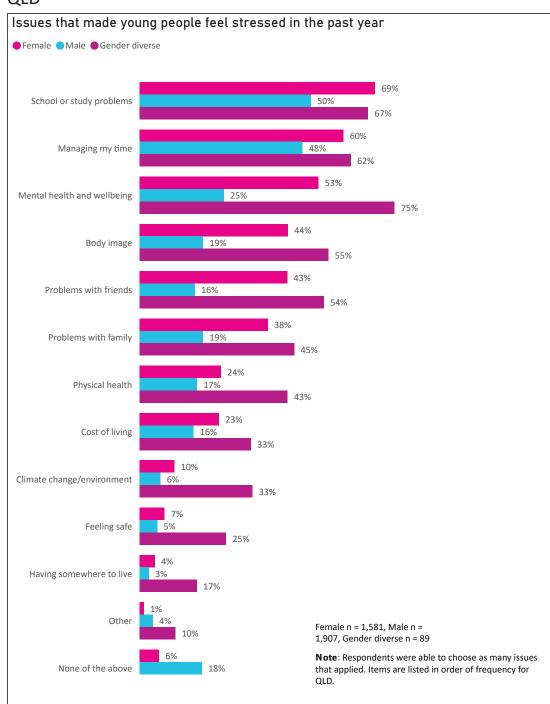
National issues and personal stress

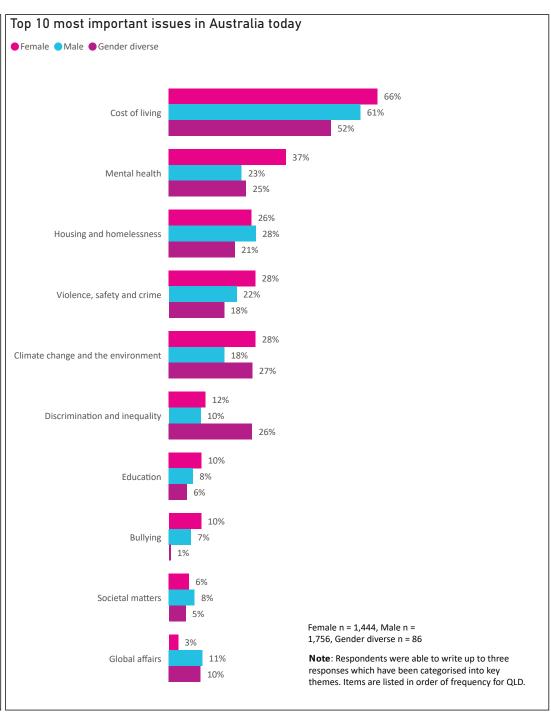
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National issues and personal stress by Gender

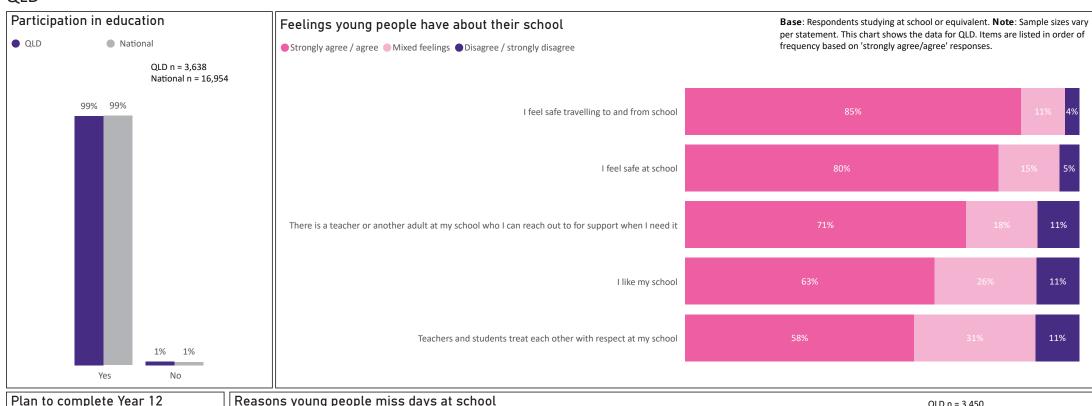
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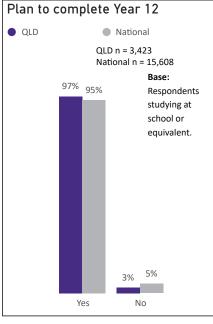


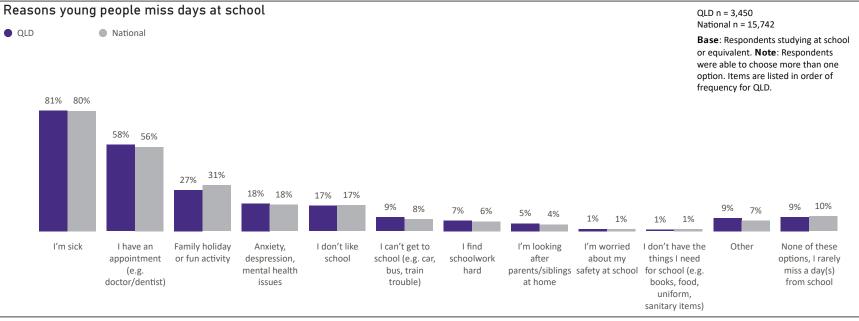


Education and employment



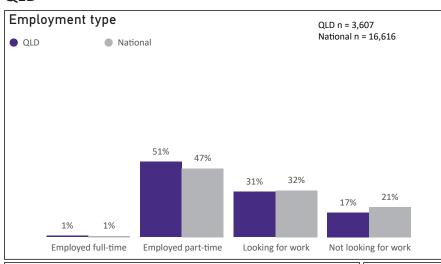


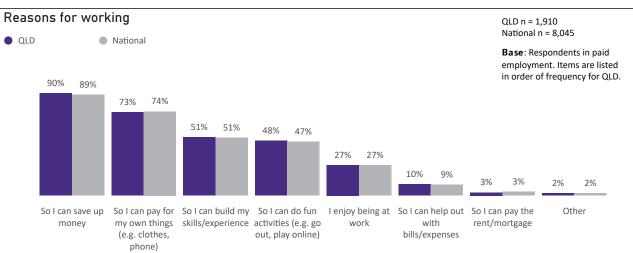


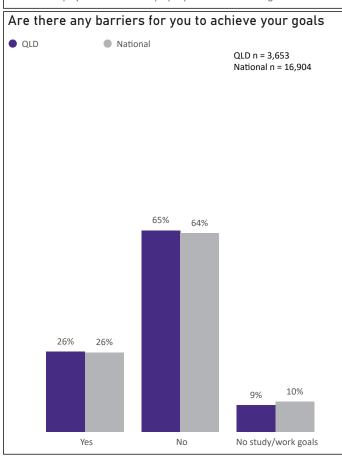


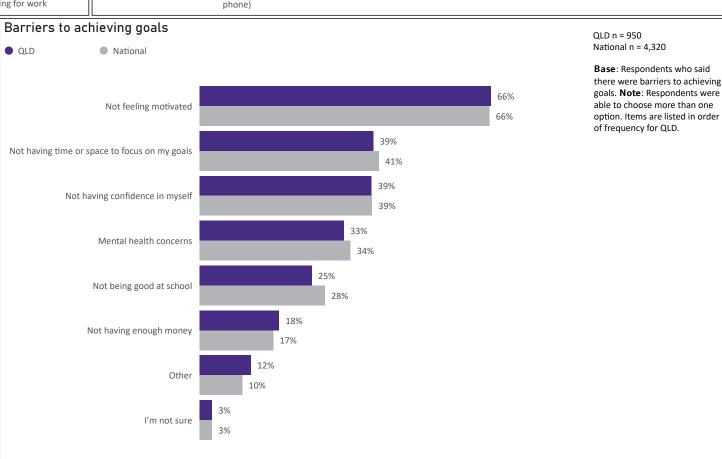
Education and employment cont.











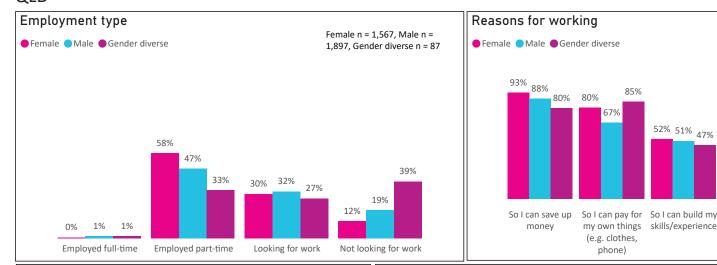
Education and employment by Gender

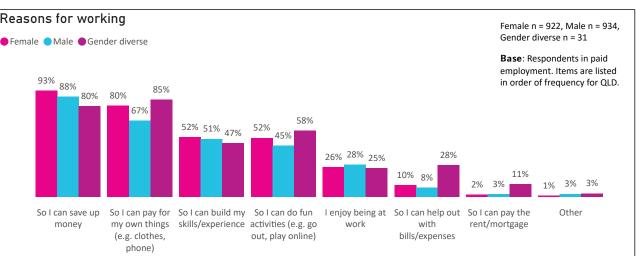


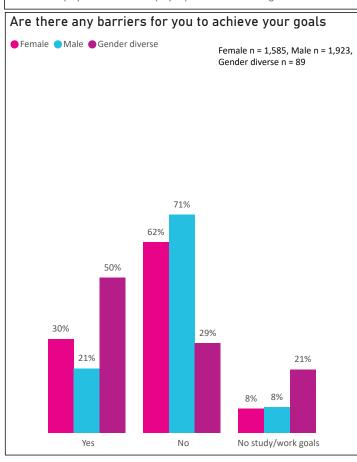


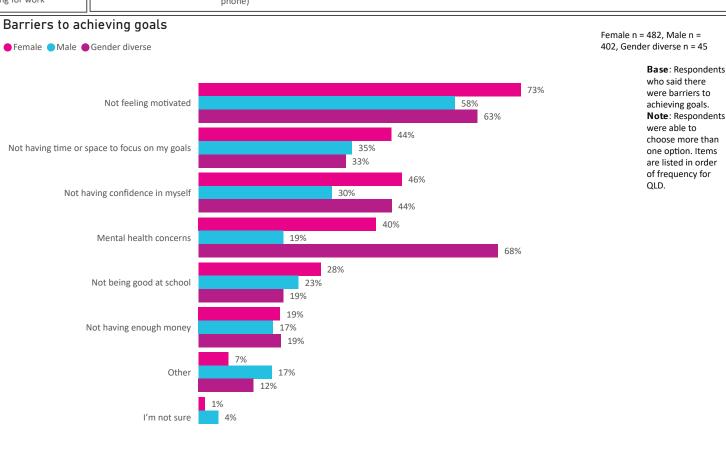
Education and employment cont. by Gender





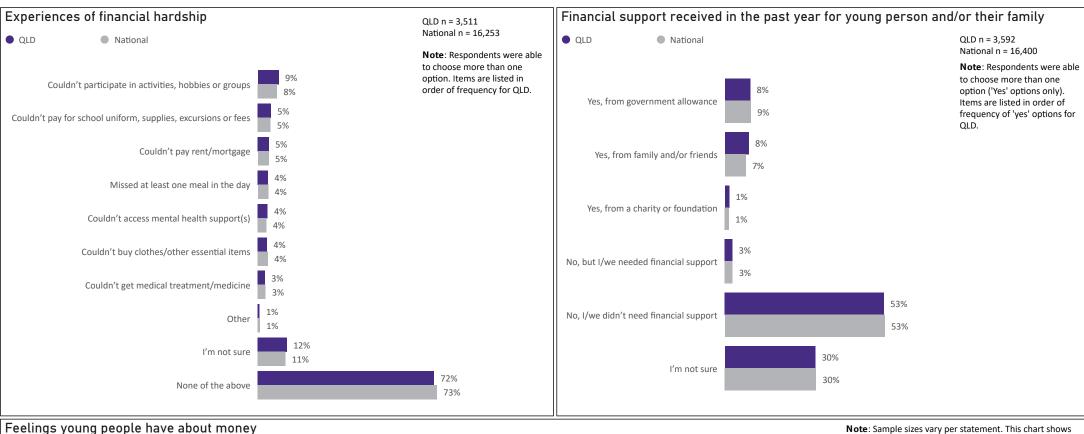


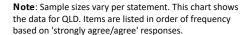




Financial situation









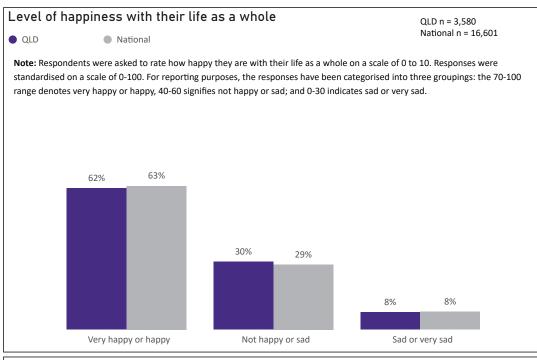
Financial situation by Gender

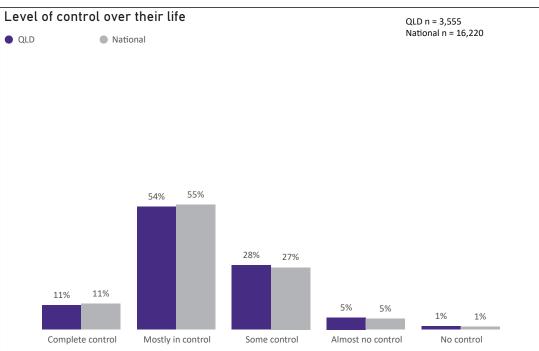


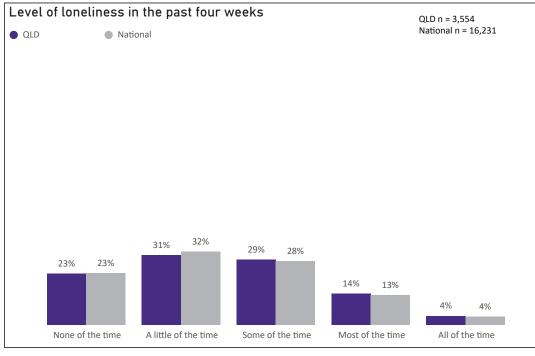


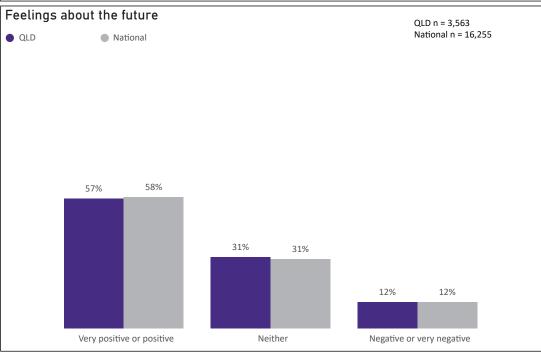
Wellbeing











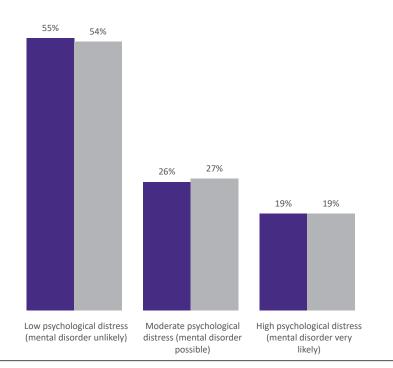
Wellbeing cont.

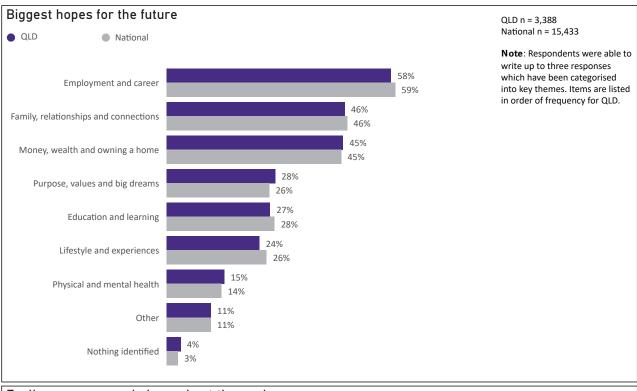


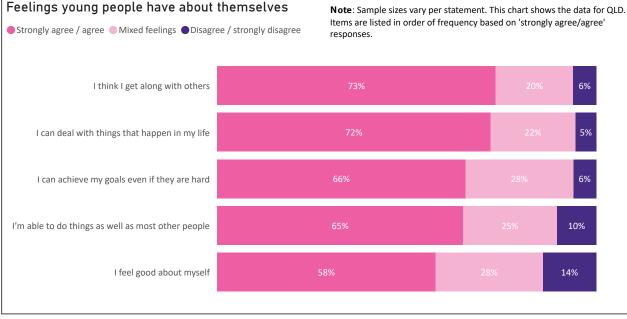
QLD



Note: The Kessler 6 (K6) is a measure of non-specific psychological distress (Kessler et al., 2002). It includes a six-item scale that asks respondents how frequently in the past four weeks they have felt: 1) nervous; 2) hopeless; 3) restless or fidgety; 4) so sad that nothing could cheer them up; 5) that everything was an effort; and 6) worthless. Based on scoring criteria used by the Australian Institute of Family Studies (Rioseco, Warren & Daraganova, 2020), the K6 has been used to classify respondents into the following three groups: low psychological distress (mental disorder unlikely), medium psychological distress (mental disorder possible) and high psychological distress (mental disorder very likely). Cut-off scores for categories of psychological distress are as follows: low = 0 to 7, moderate = 8 to 12 and high = 13 to 24 (Hilton et al., 2008).

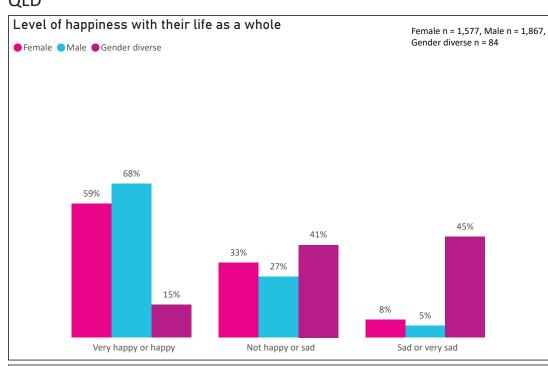


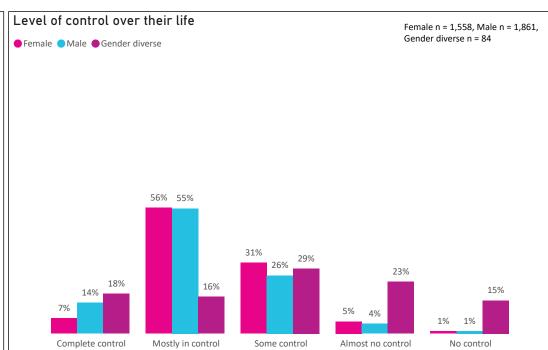


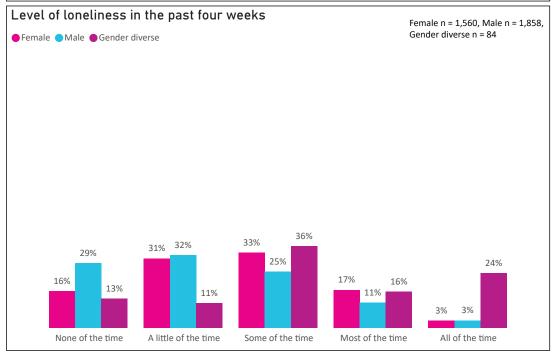


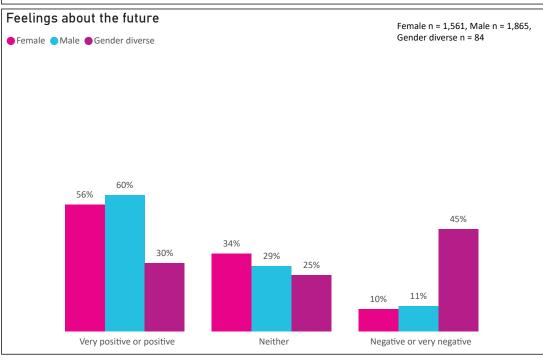
Wellbeing by Gender







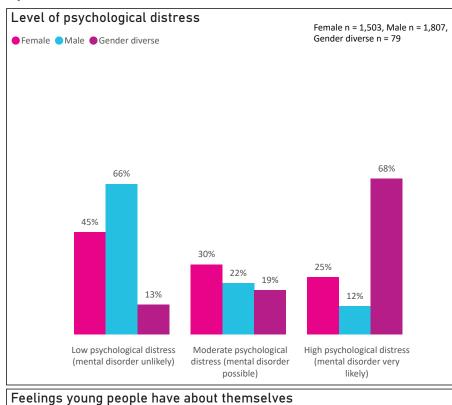


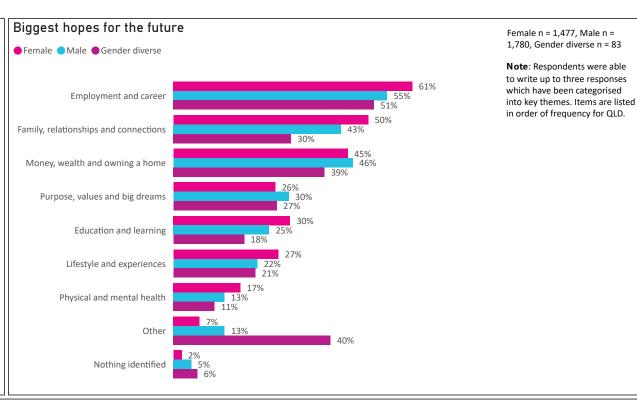


Wellbeing cont. by Gender

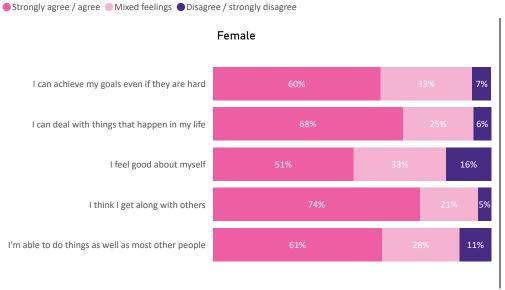
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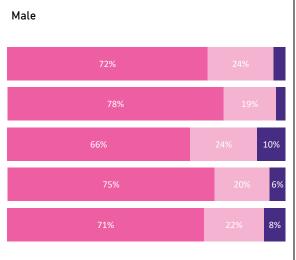
QLD

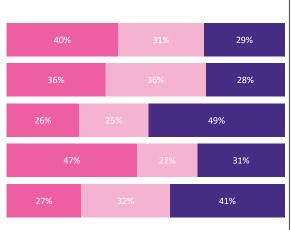




Note: Sample sizes vary per statement. This chart shows the data for QLD gender cohorts.



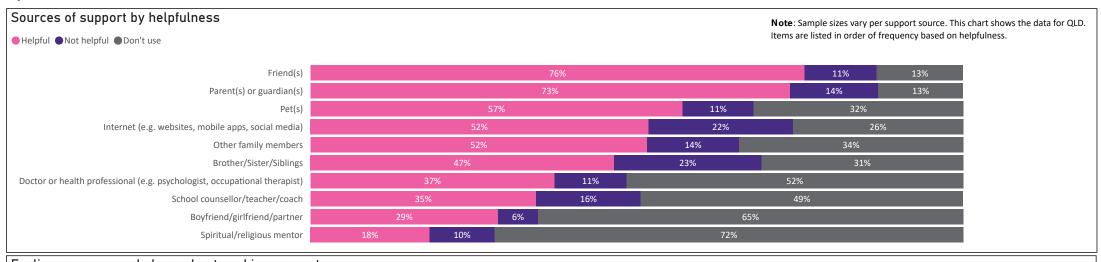


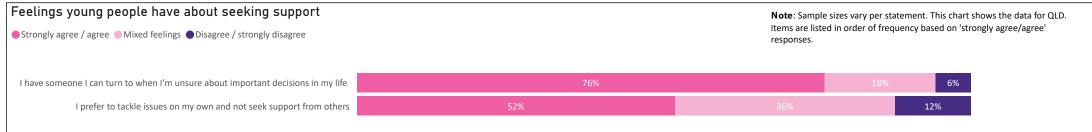


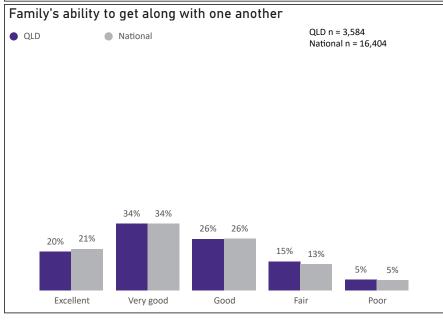
Gender diverse

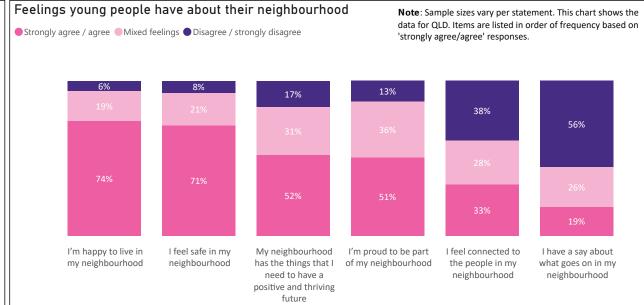
Support and connectedness











Support and connectedness by Gender





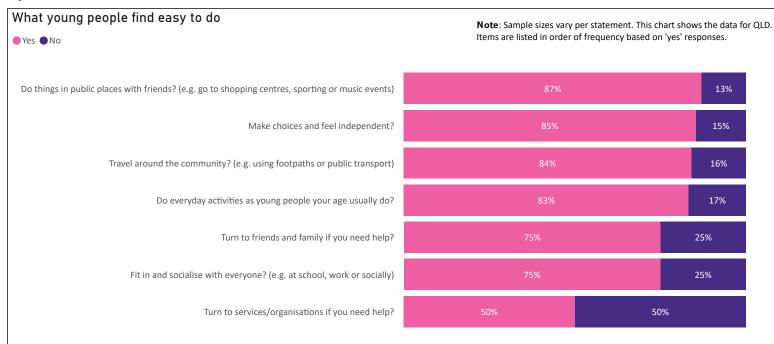
Support and connectedness cont. by Gender

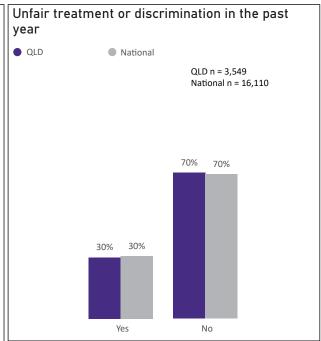


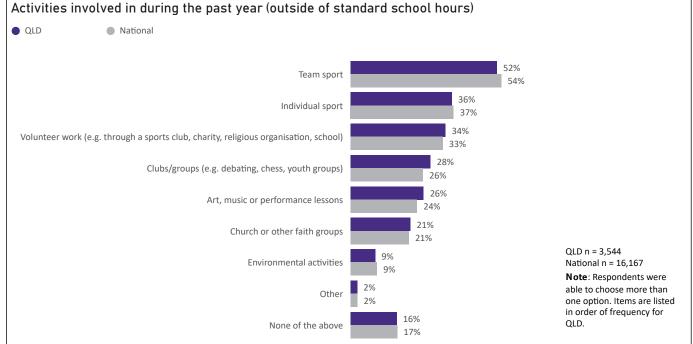


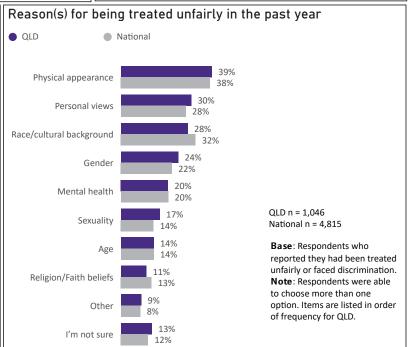
Activities and unfair treatment







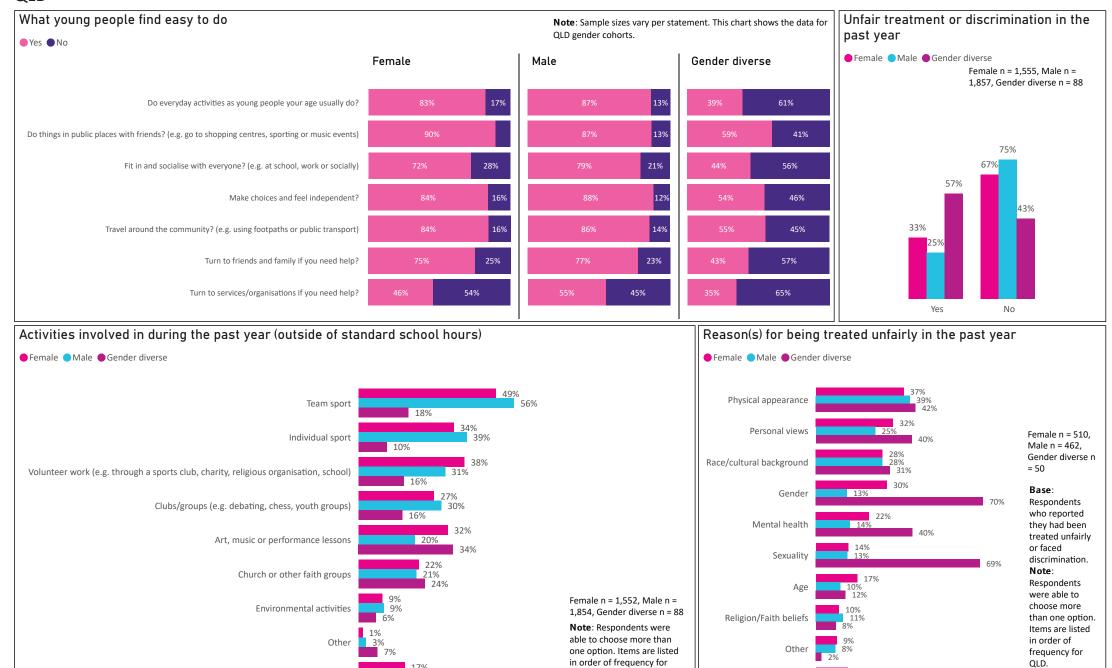




Activities and unfair treatment by Gender



QLD



QLD.

I'm not sure

None of the above

Thank you

This publication would not have been possible without the 17,155 young people who completed the *Youth Survey* in 2025. We extend our deepest gratitude to them, as well as to the staff of Mission Australia and the many schools and organisations that supported their involvement.

Amplifying the voices of young people ensures that decisions and solutions reflect their realities. When their perspectives are valued, governments, communities and organisations become more inclusive, responsive and better positioned to support them to thrive.

For further information about this report please contact

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Who is Mission Australia?

Mission Australia has more than 165 years of experience meeting human need and is one of the largest and most trusted for-purpose community service and housing providers in the country.

As a national non-denominational Christian charity, Mission Australia's values of respect, compassion, integrity, perseverance and celebration are at the heart of everything they do.

Every day, Mission Australia delivers homelessness services, provides social and affordable housing, helps families, children and young people thrive, improves mental health and wellbeing, supports people with disability, provides pathways to employment and financial stability, strengthens communities, offers alcohol and other drug support, and more.

Backed by supporters, partners, funders and collaborators, Mission Australia welcomes and works alongside people and communities of all backgrounds, ages and beliefs who seek the charity's support, providing excellent services and safe, secure homes that offer hope and lasting impact.

With Mission Australia's evidence and courageous voice, the charity advocates for a fairer nation and better outcomes for the people and communities they serve.

Guided by a bold Strategy 2030, Mission Australia is focused on delivering more safe, secure homes, expanding its impact and strengthening its organisation to meet the growing needs of people across Australia.

Together, Mission Australia is building hope and possibility for all.

If you are a young person and need someone to talk with, you can contact Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800 (24/7) kidshelpline.com.au

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