

YOUTH SURVEY 2025

WESTERN AUSTRALIA RESULTS



MISSION
AUSTRALIA

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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This is the **Western Australia (WA)** sub-report of the Mission Australia Youth Survey Report 2025. It is based on the responses of 1,569 young people in **WA** 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 **WA** 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. **WA** 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

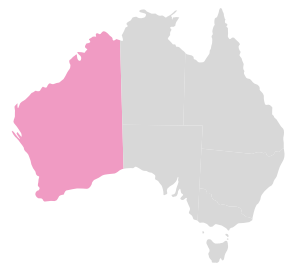
We acknowledge the traditional custodians of lands throughout Australia, and we pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the culture and dreams of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and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

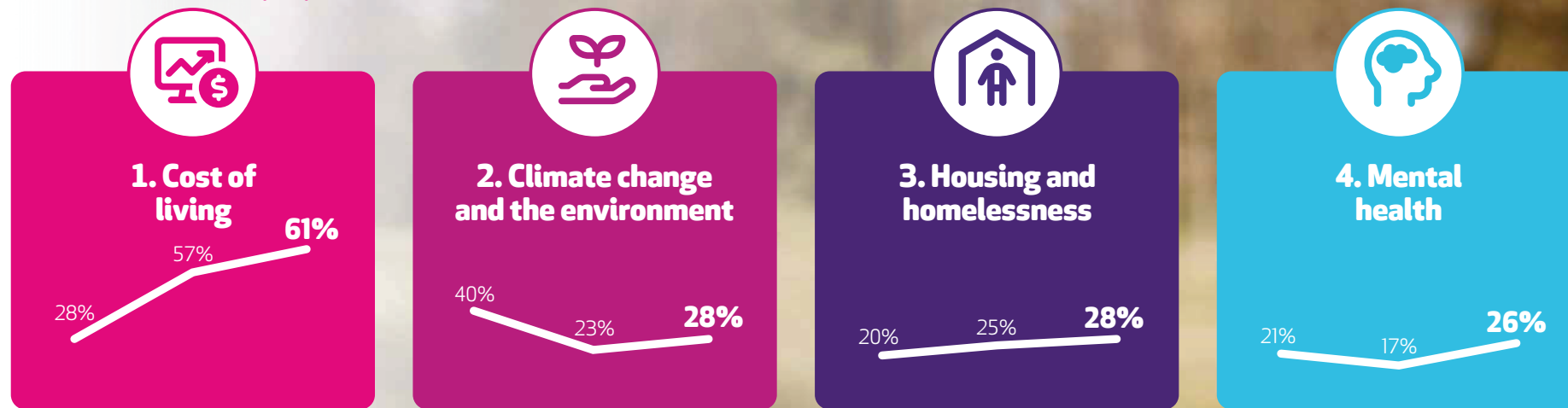
This report may be cited as: McHale, R., Brennan, N., Freeburn, T., Richardson, E., Rossetto, A. & Carmody, M. (2025). *Youth Survey Report 2025- Western Australia sub-report*. Sydney, NSW: Mission Australia

Western Australia

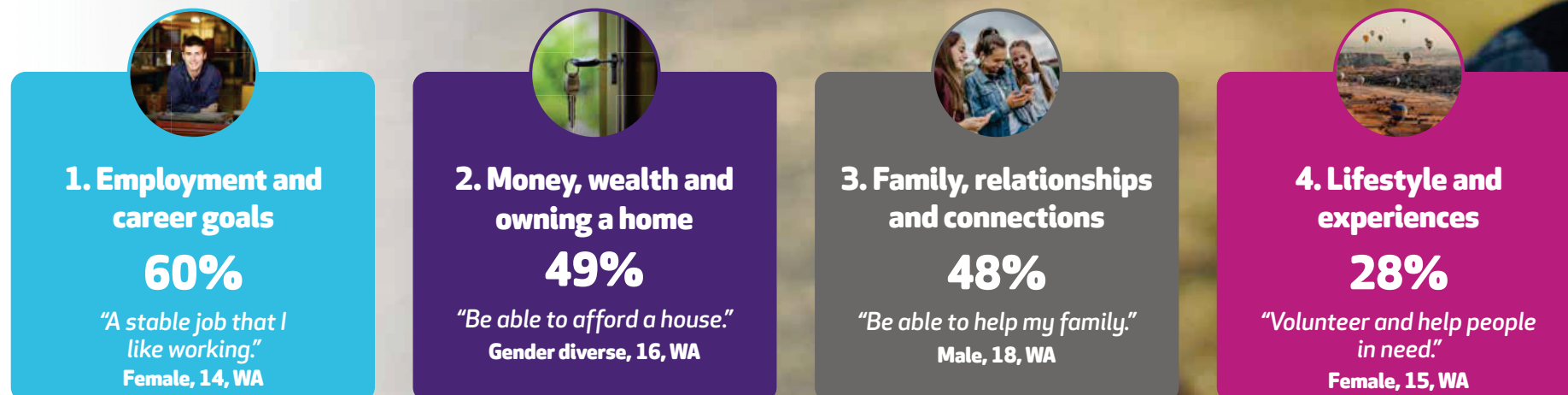
KEY FINDINGS



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.

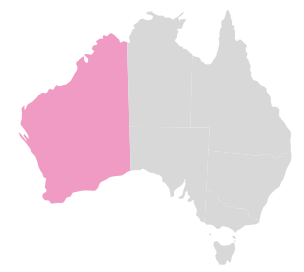


While 55% of young people say they feel positive about the future, 98% articulated at least one of their biggest hopes, with the top themes being:



Western Australia

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*

One in 10 (9.8%) couldn't afford to participate in activities, hobbies or groups

6.6% felt stressed in the past year about *having somewhere to live*



Family, relationships and connections

31% felt stressed about *problems with friends and 30% about problems with family* in the past year

18% felt lonely *all or most of the time*

32% felt connected to others in their neighbourhood



Employment and career

44% were currently working

Top reasons for working:

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



Education and learning

57% of students agreed *I like my school*

57% felt stressed about *school / study problems* in the past year

28% faced barriers to achieving study or work goals—most commonly not feeling motivated



Lifestyle and experiences

36% 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

63% agreed *I can achieve my goals even if they are hard*

Participation in the past year:

- **33%** volunteer work
- **24%** church or other faith groups



Physical and mental health

Young people felt stress in the past year about:

- Mental health **40%**
- Body image **34%**
- Physical health **21%**

21% experienced high psychological distress – expressing feelings of anxiety, depression or being overwhelmed



WA

Total completed surveys (unweighted)

1,569

WA

17,155

National

Notes:

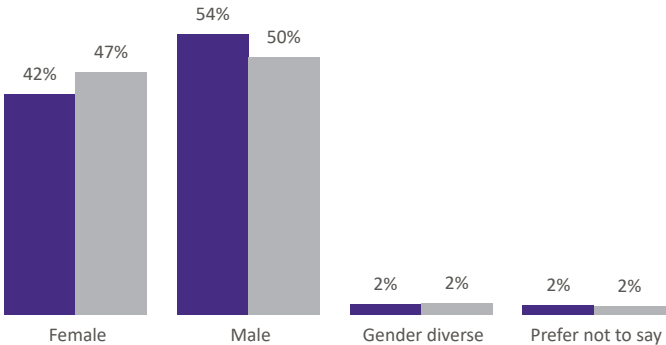
- National and state/territory data has been weighted to make the sample representative of 14-to 19-year-olds by gender, location (state/territory), and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) developed Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA).
- Data was collected using a self-report questionnaire.
- Missing data has been excluded from the calculation of these charts.
- View charts with caution when # of responses is less than 30.

Gender

WA National

WA n = 1,845
National n = 17,120

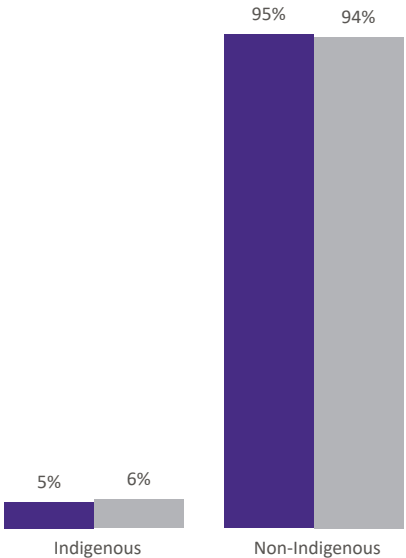
Note: A-gender/non-gendered, non-binary gender, transgender, intersex and other are combined under the gender diverse reporting category.



Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status

WA National

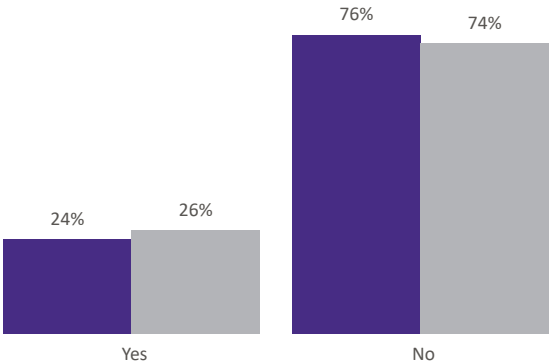
WA n = 1,770
National n = 16,337



Speak a language other than English

WA National

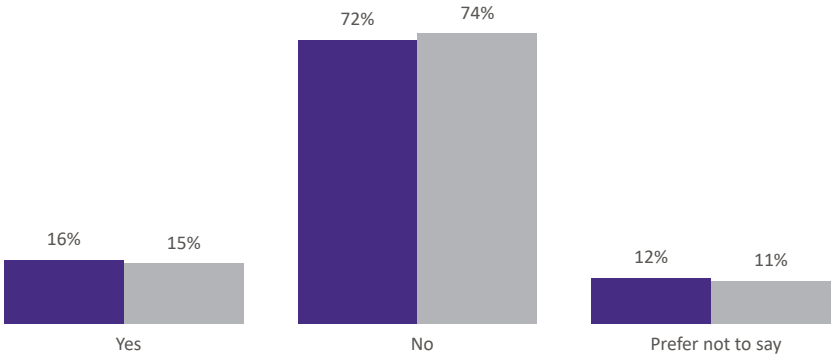
WA n = 1,753
National n = 16,083



Identify as a person with a mental health condition

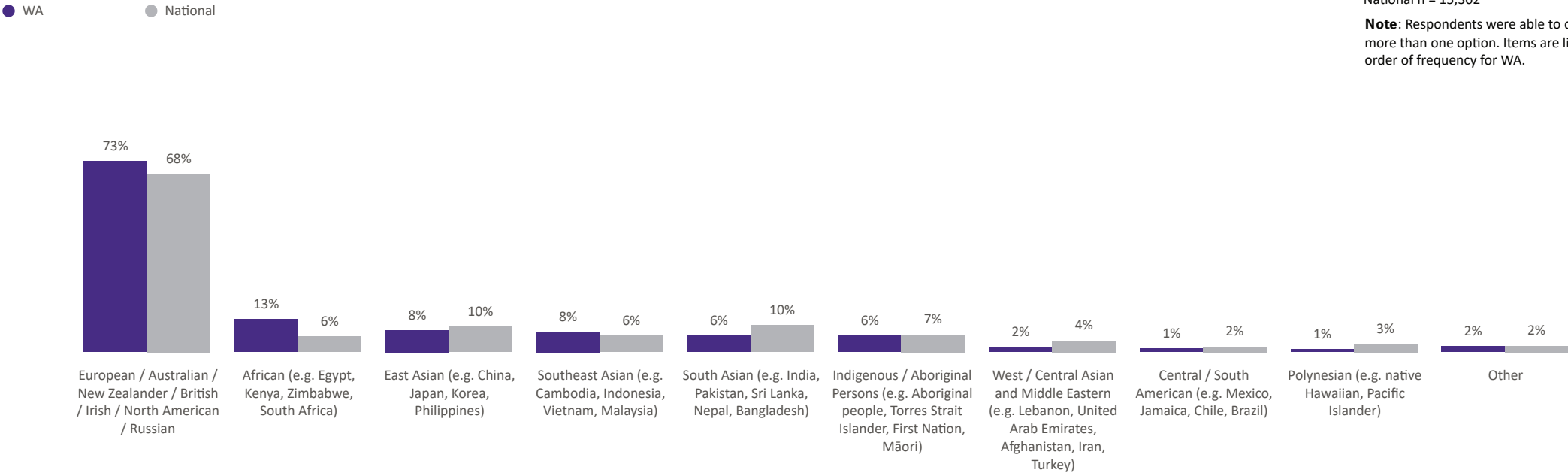
WA National

WA n = 1,740
National n = 16,042

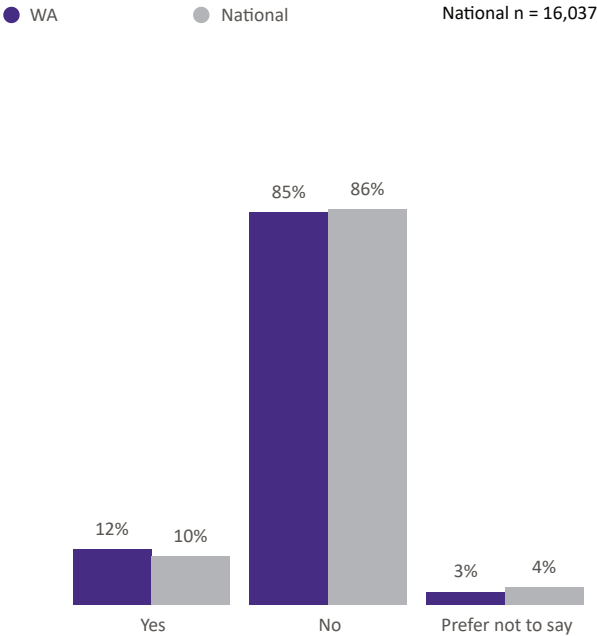


WA

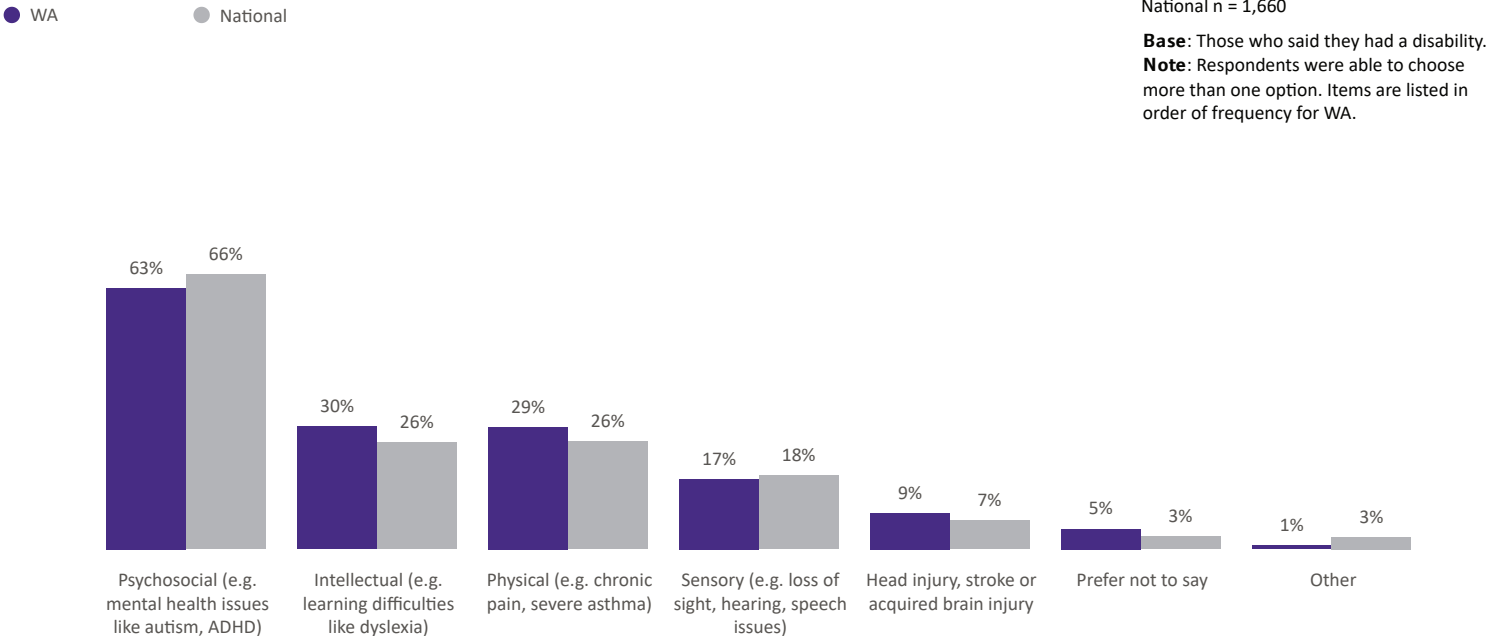
Cultural heritage/ethnic background



Identify as a person with disability

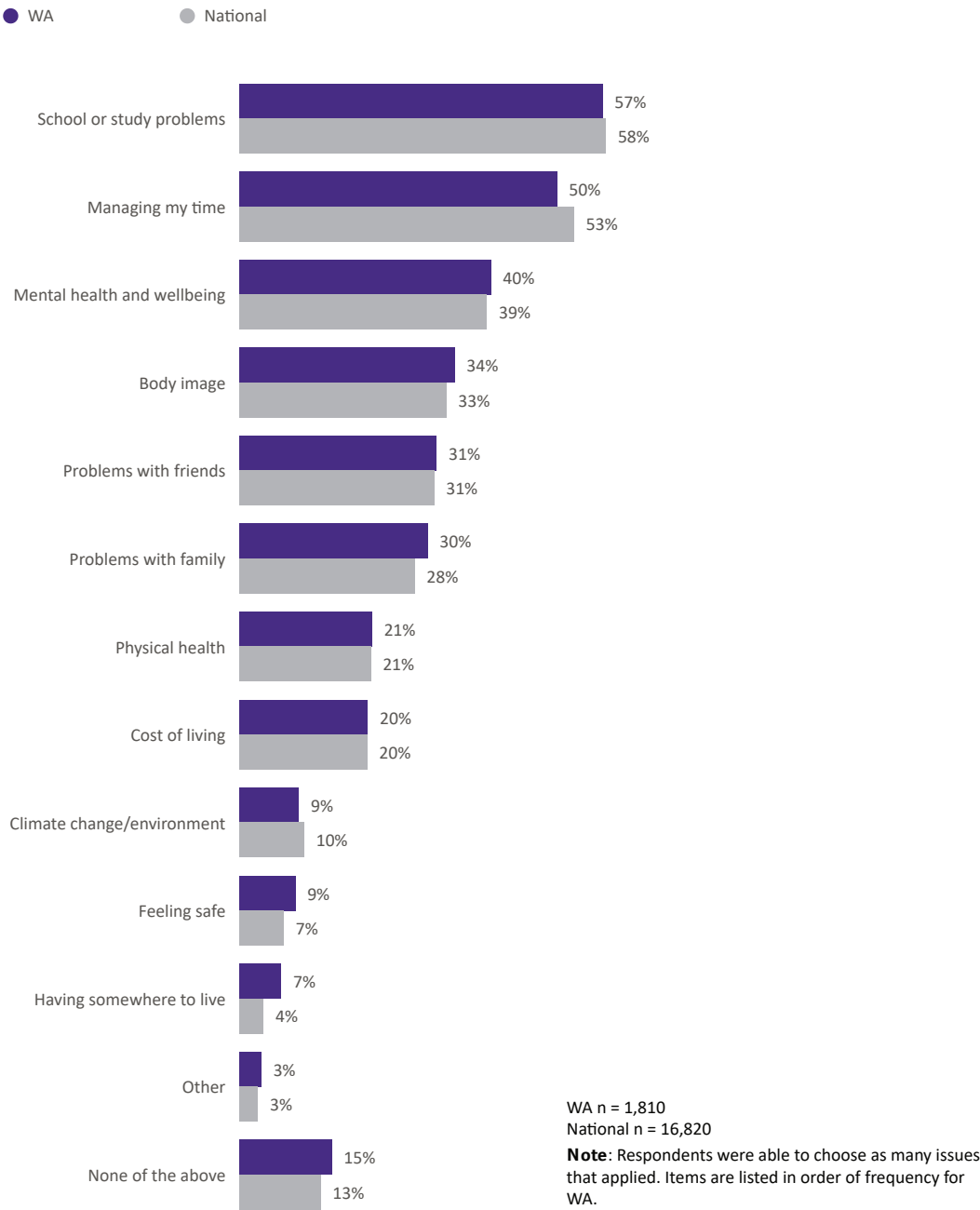


Type of disability

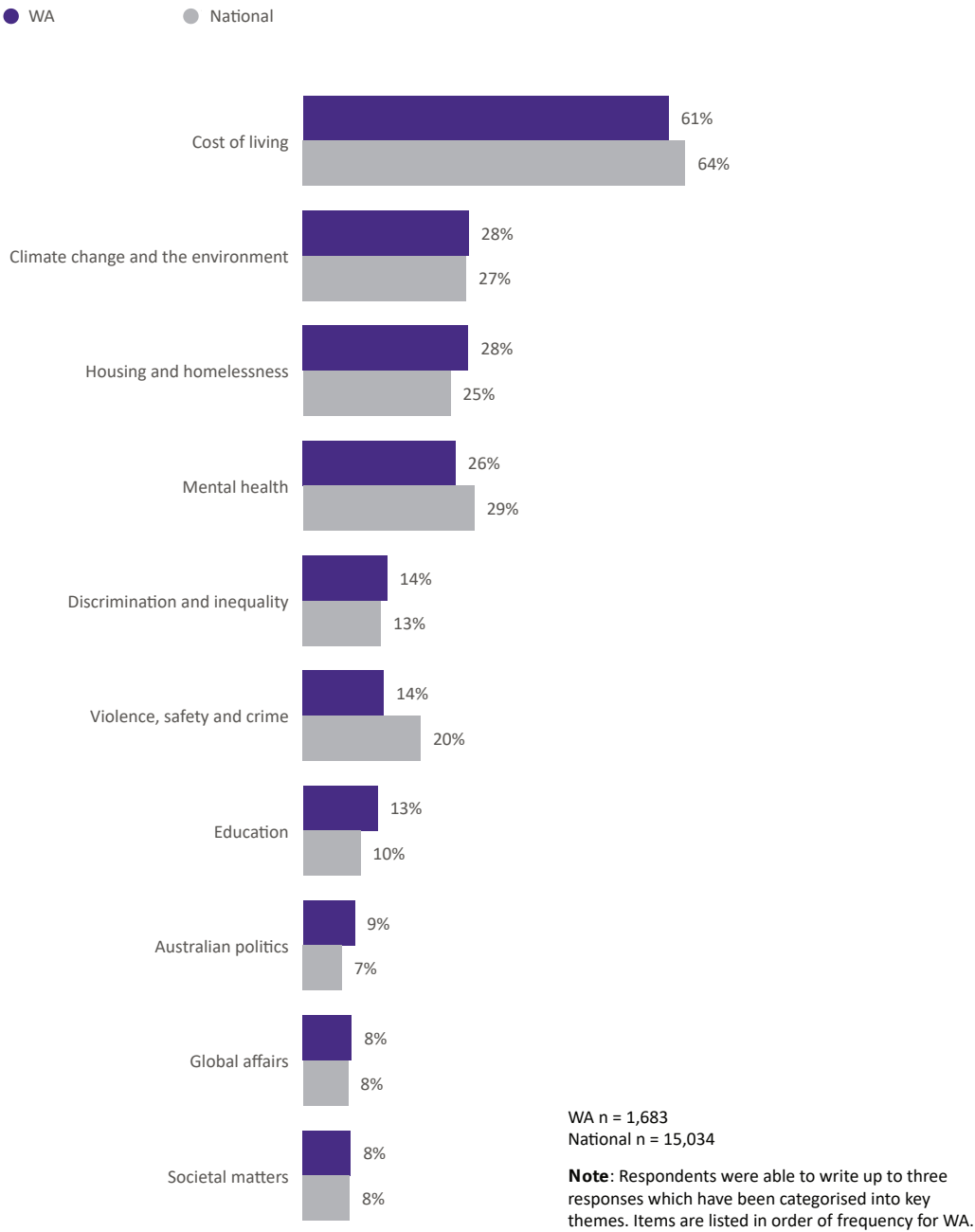


WA

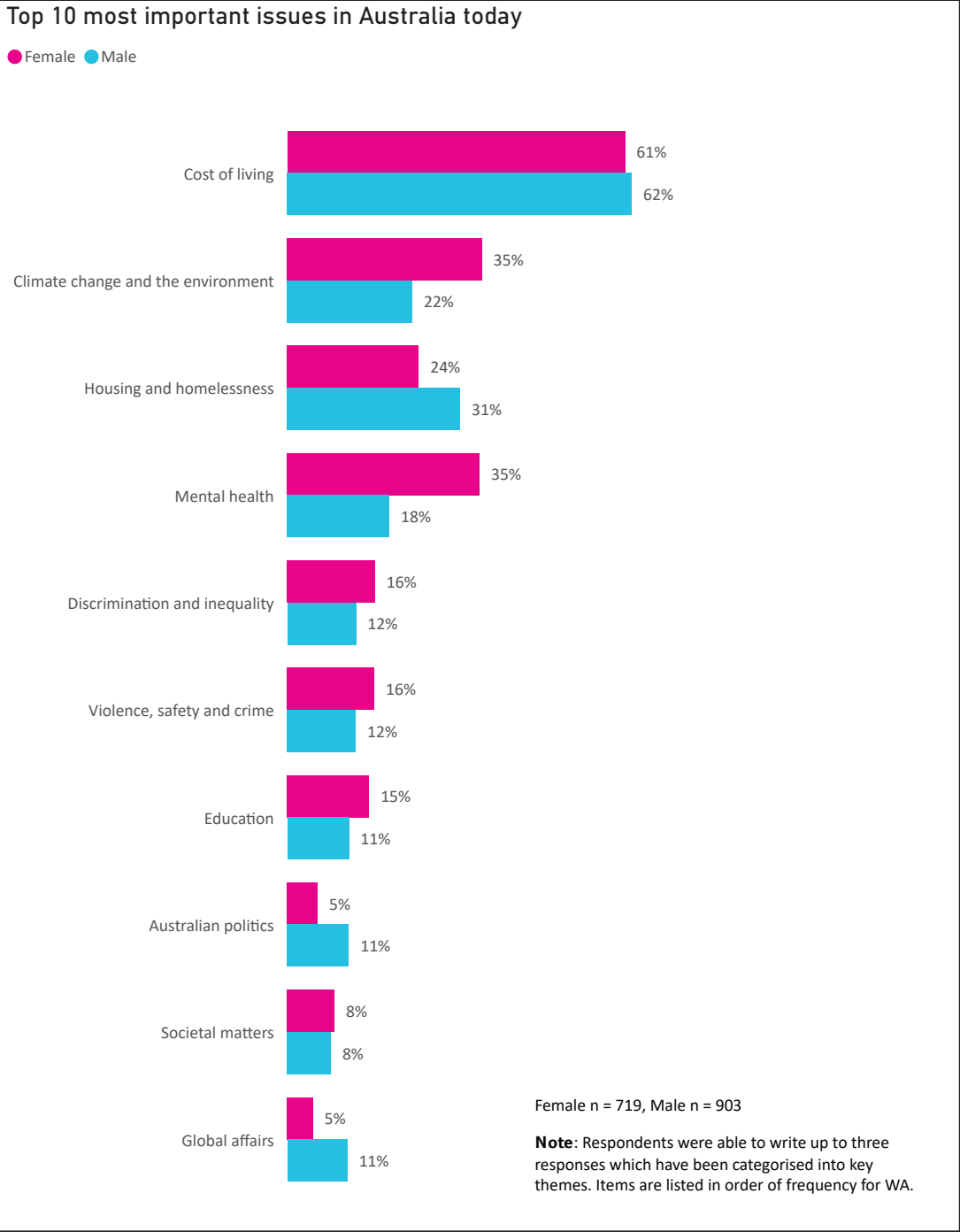
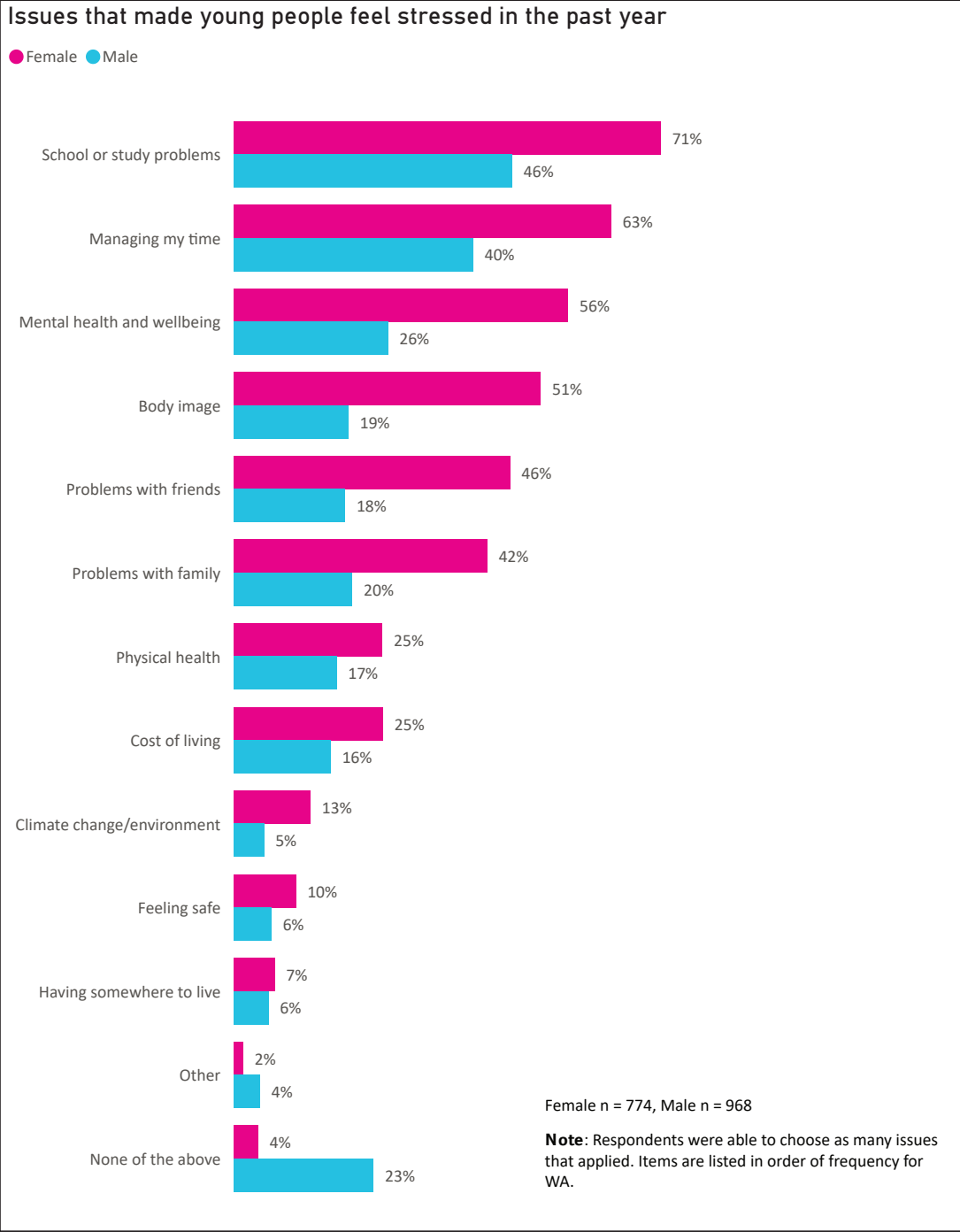
Issues that made young people feel stressed in the past year



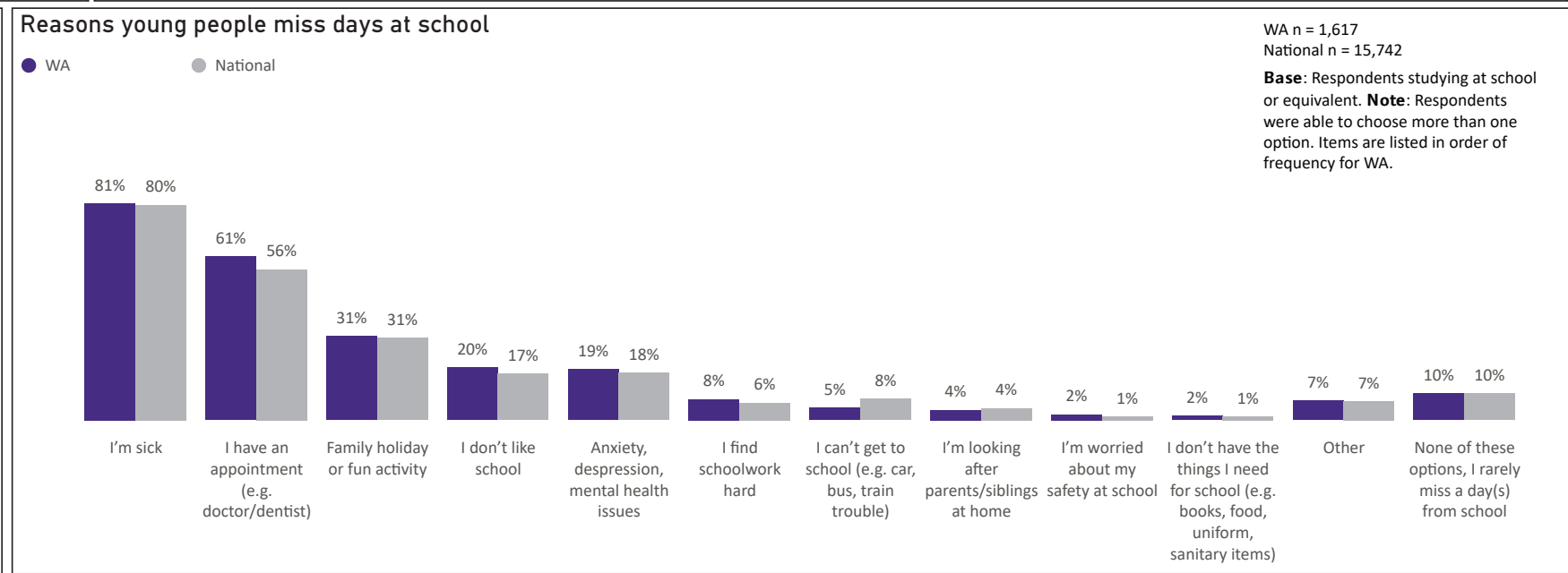
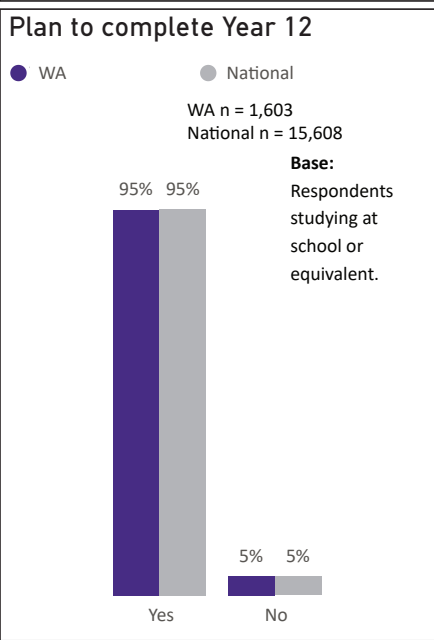
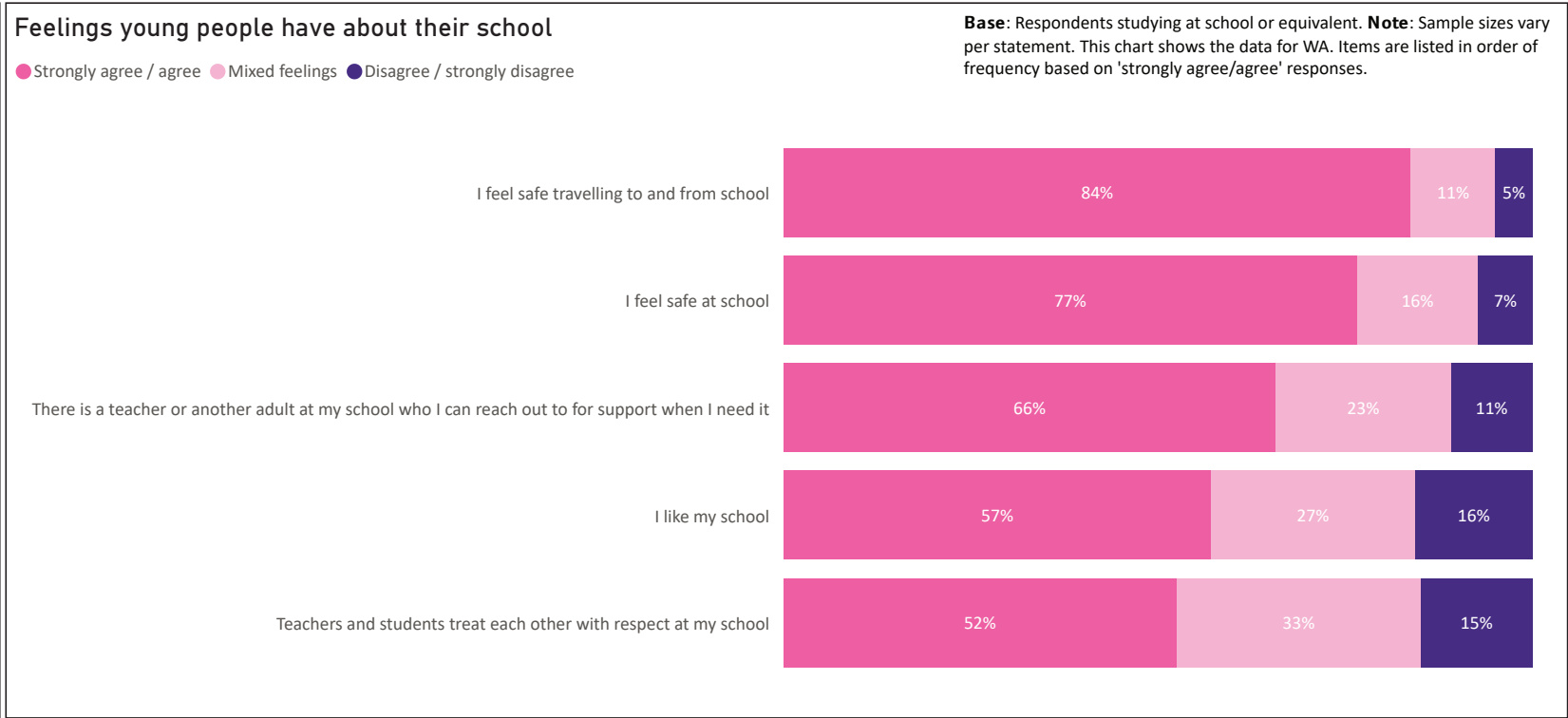
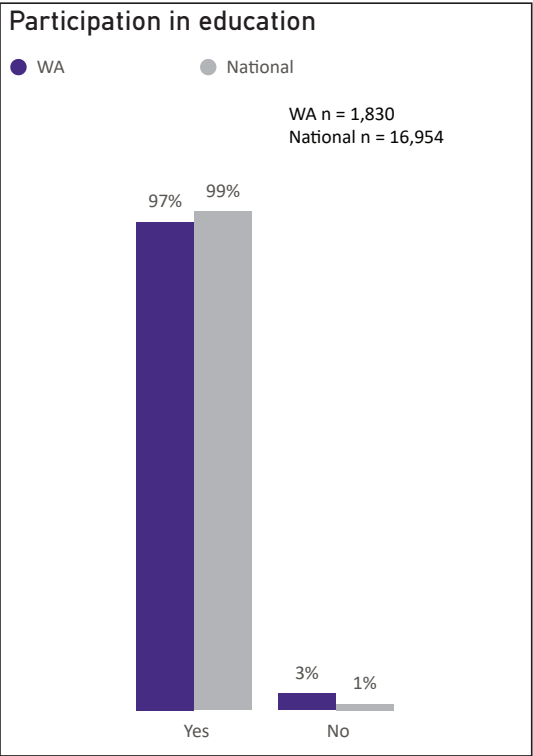
Top 10 most important issues in Australia today



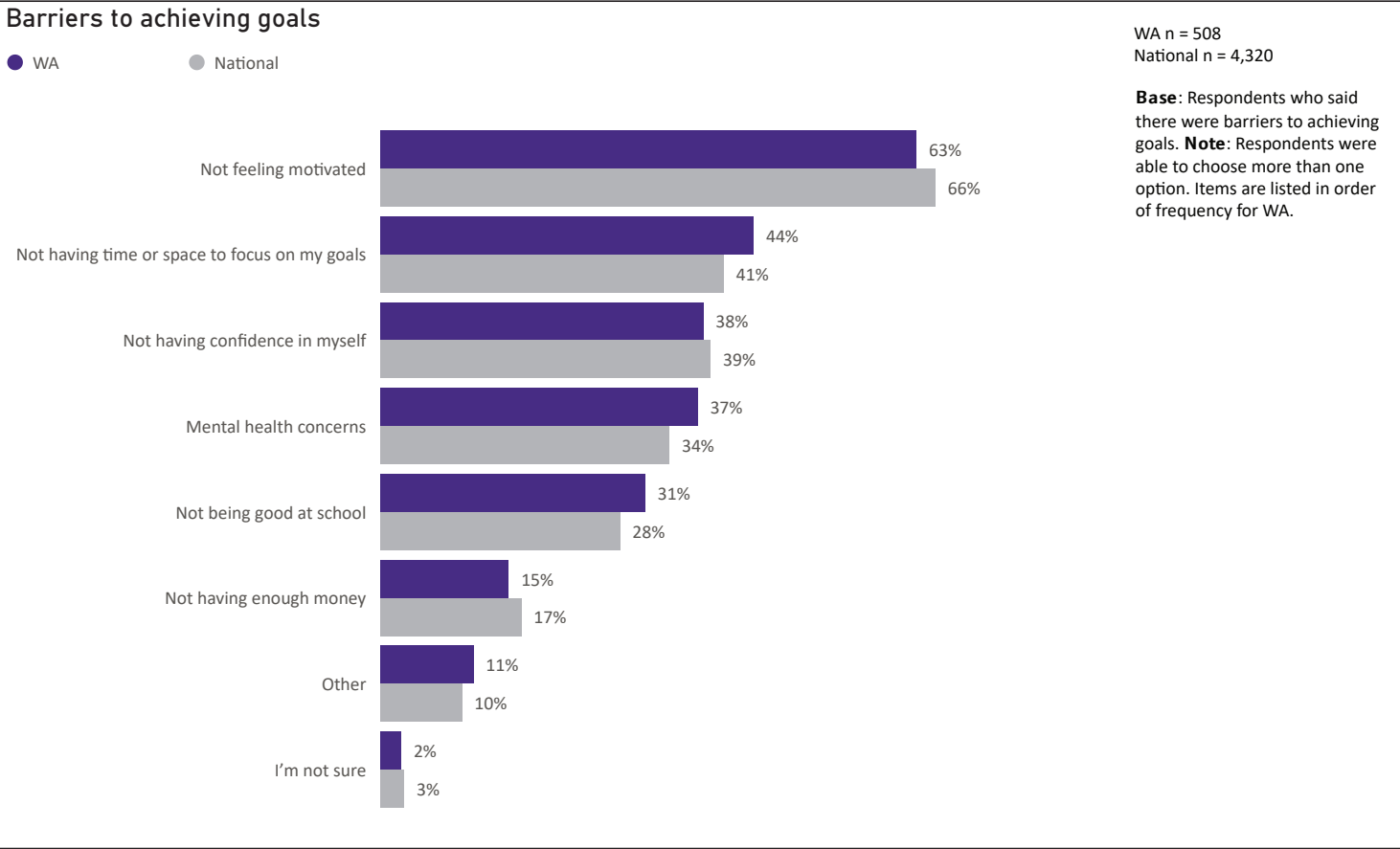
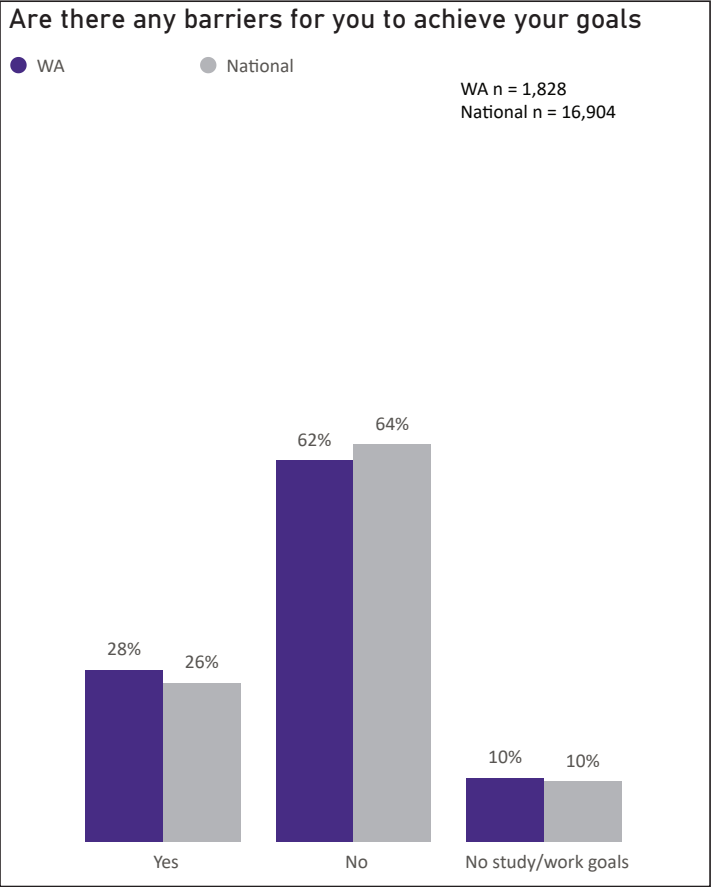
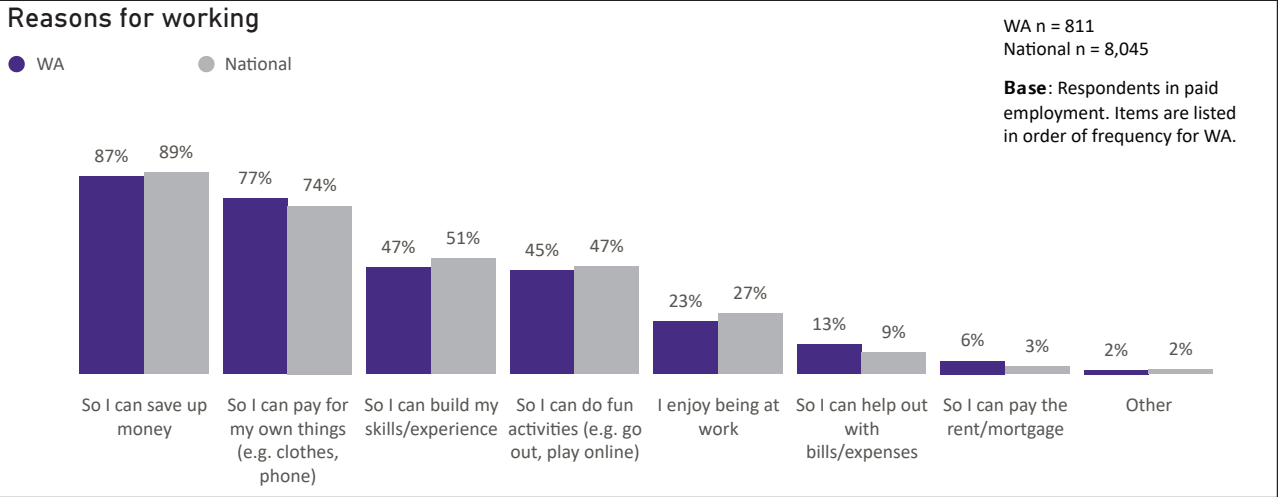
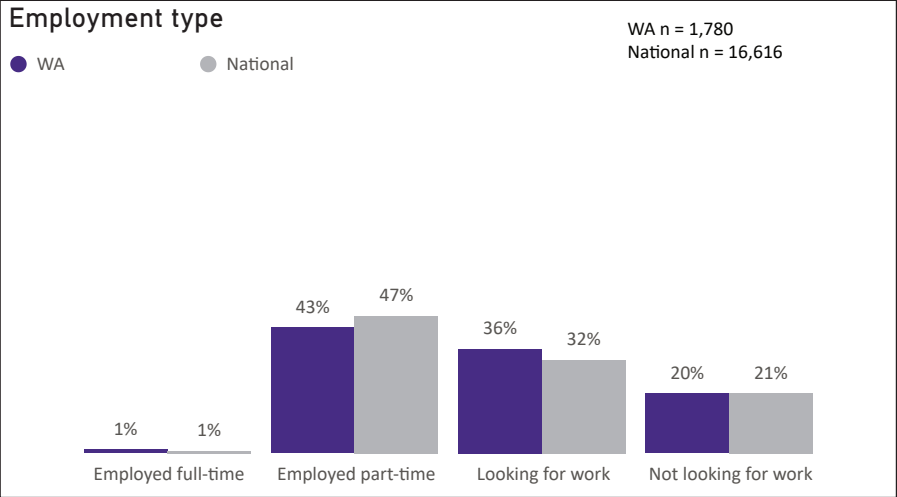
WA



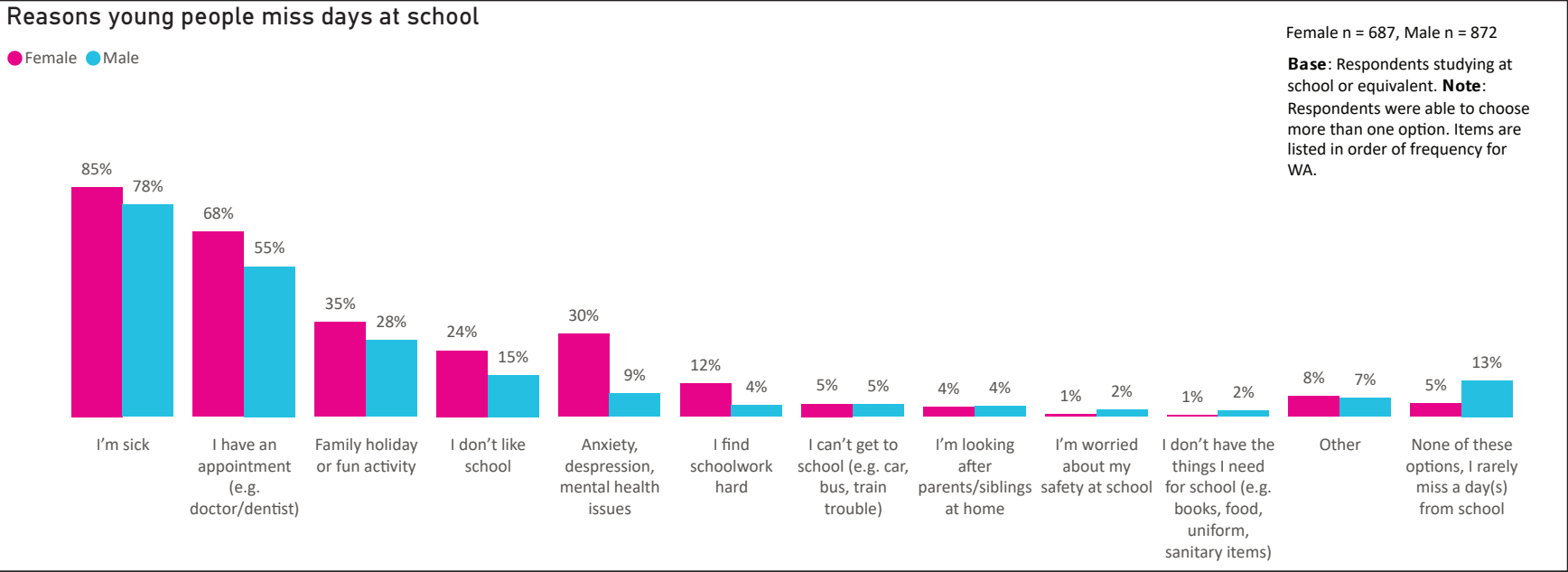
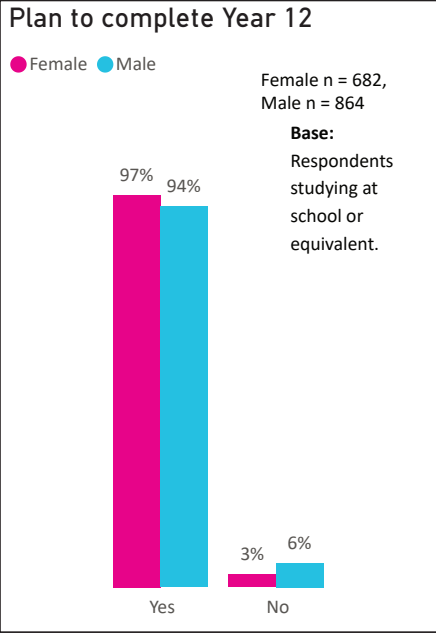
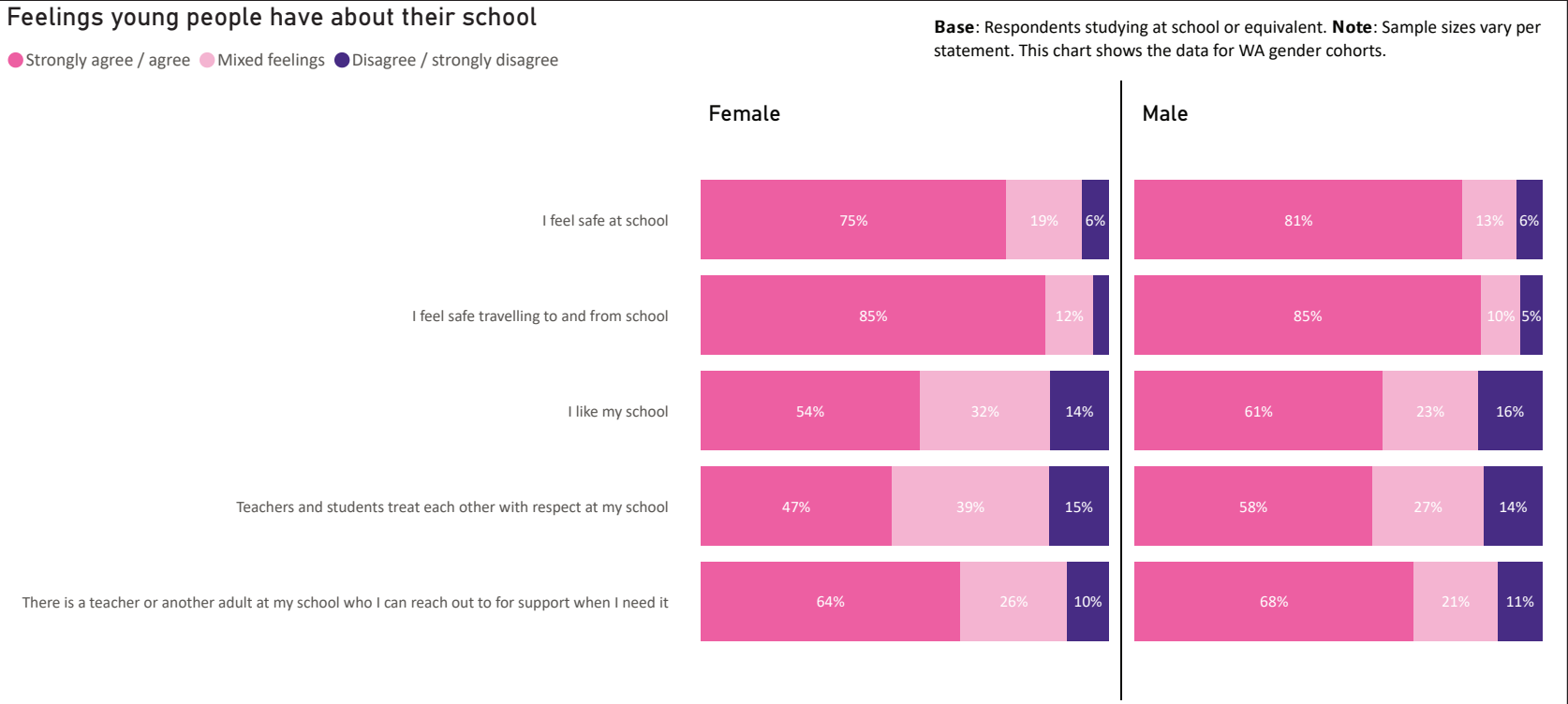
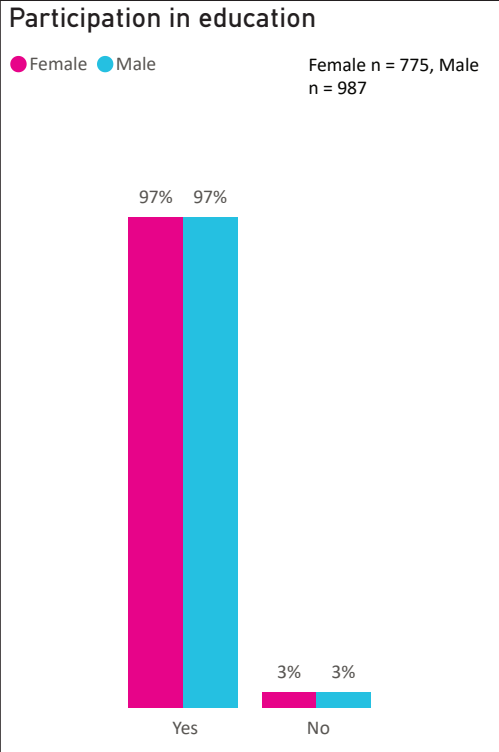
WA



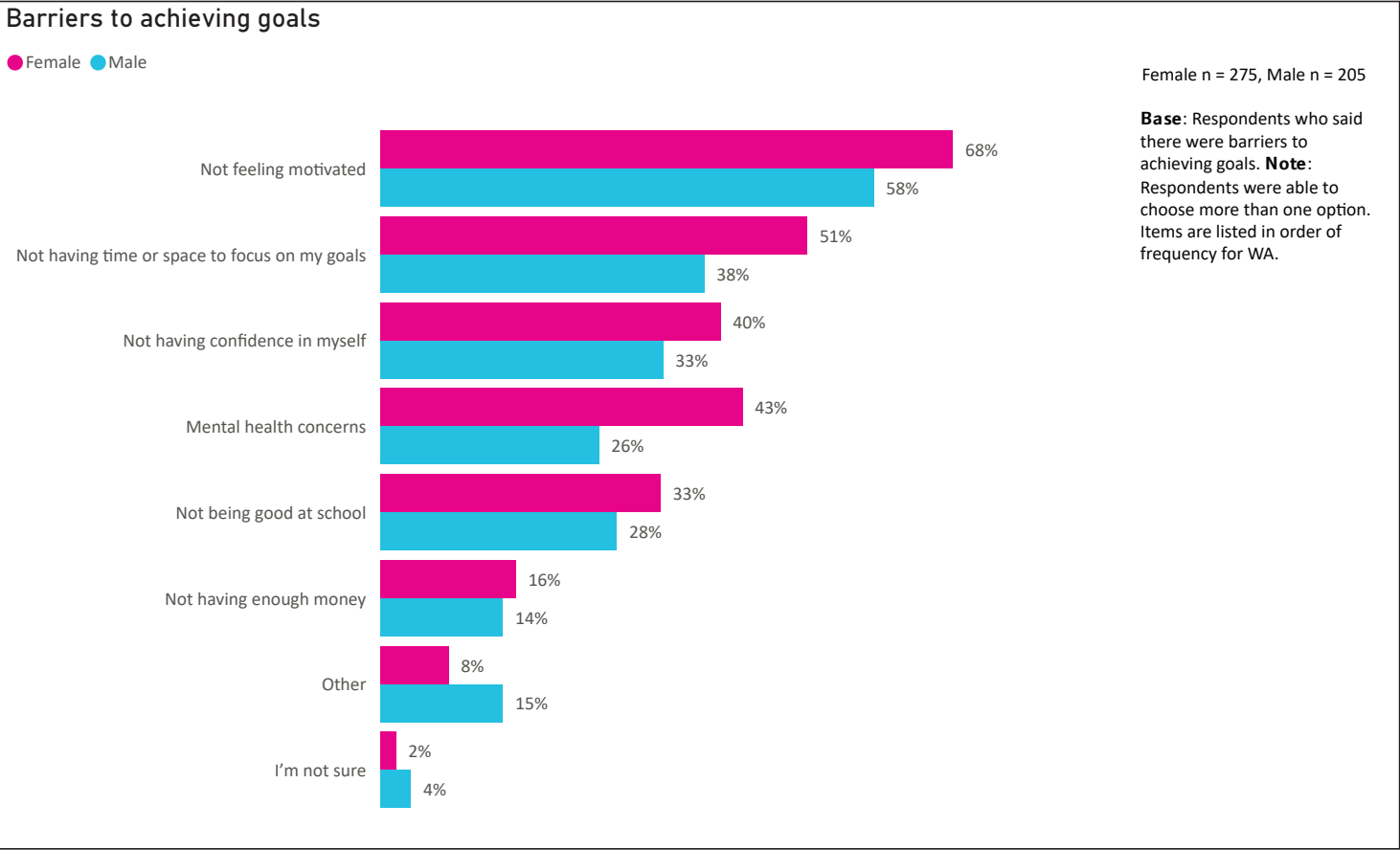
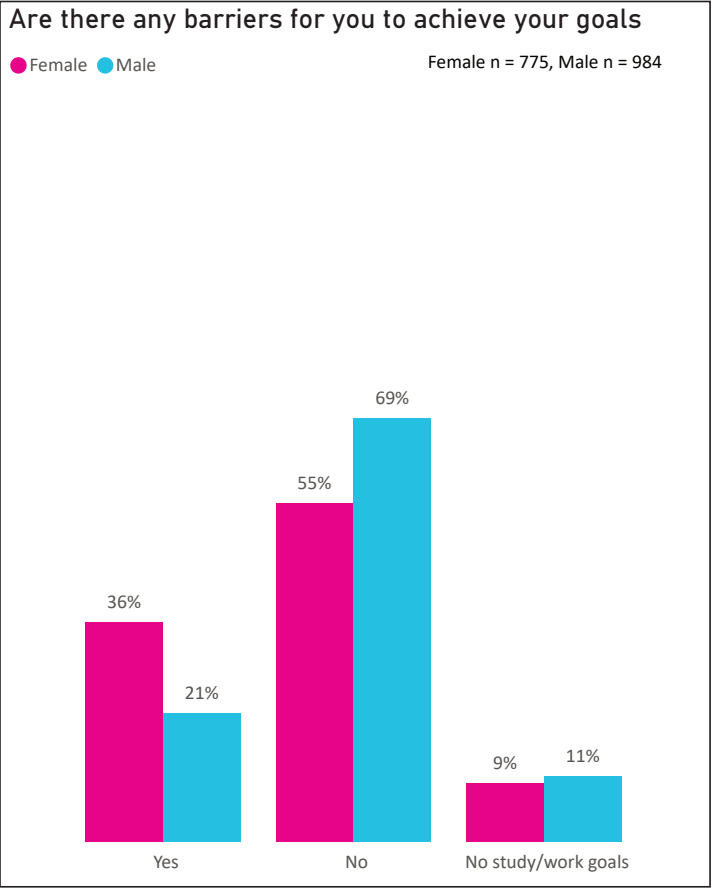
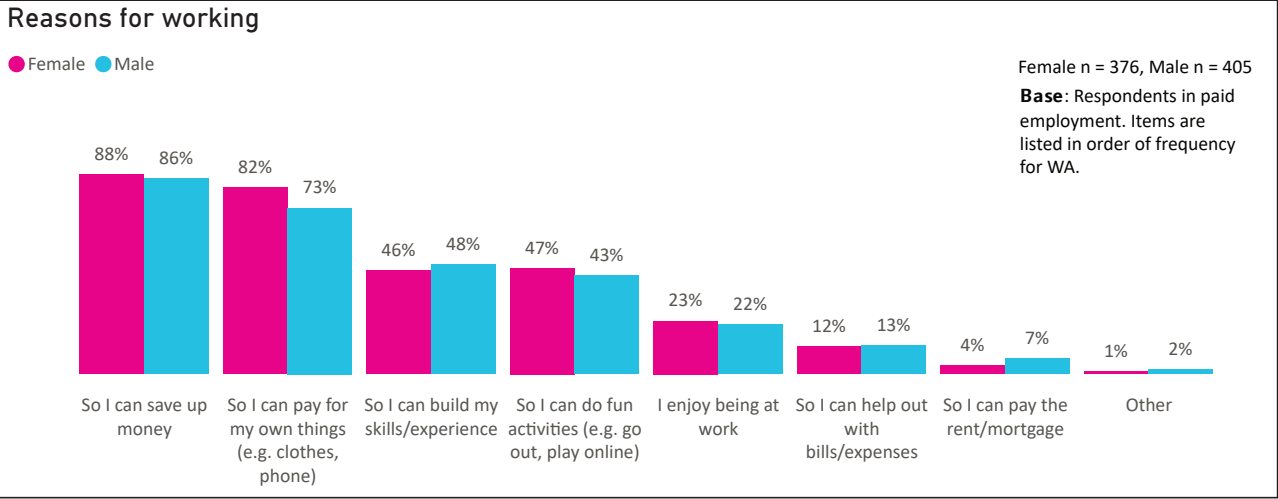
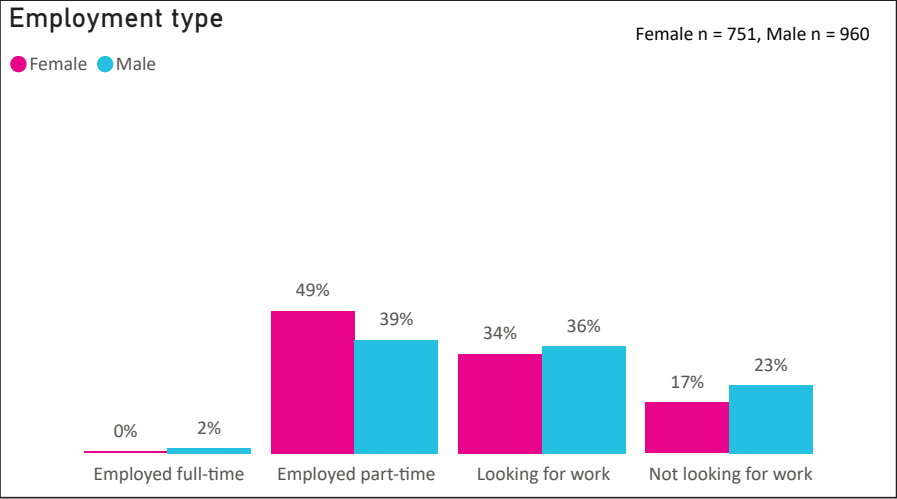
WA



WA

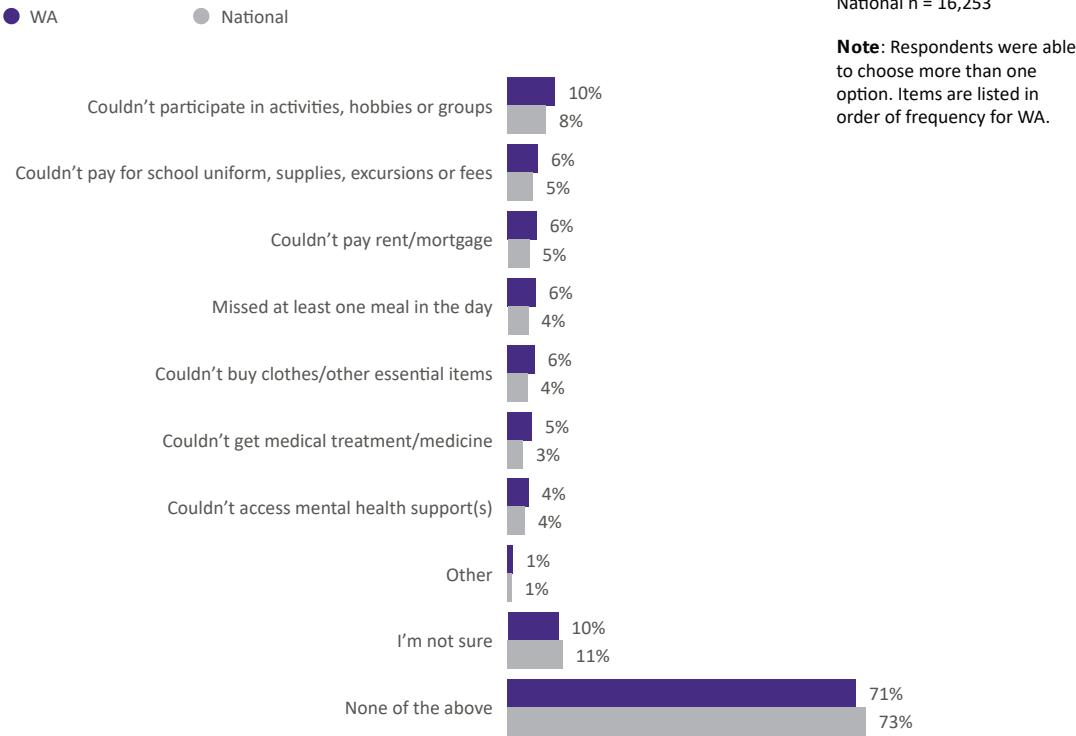


WA

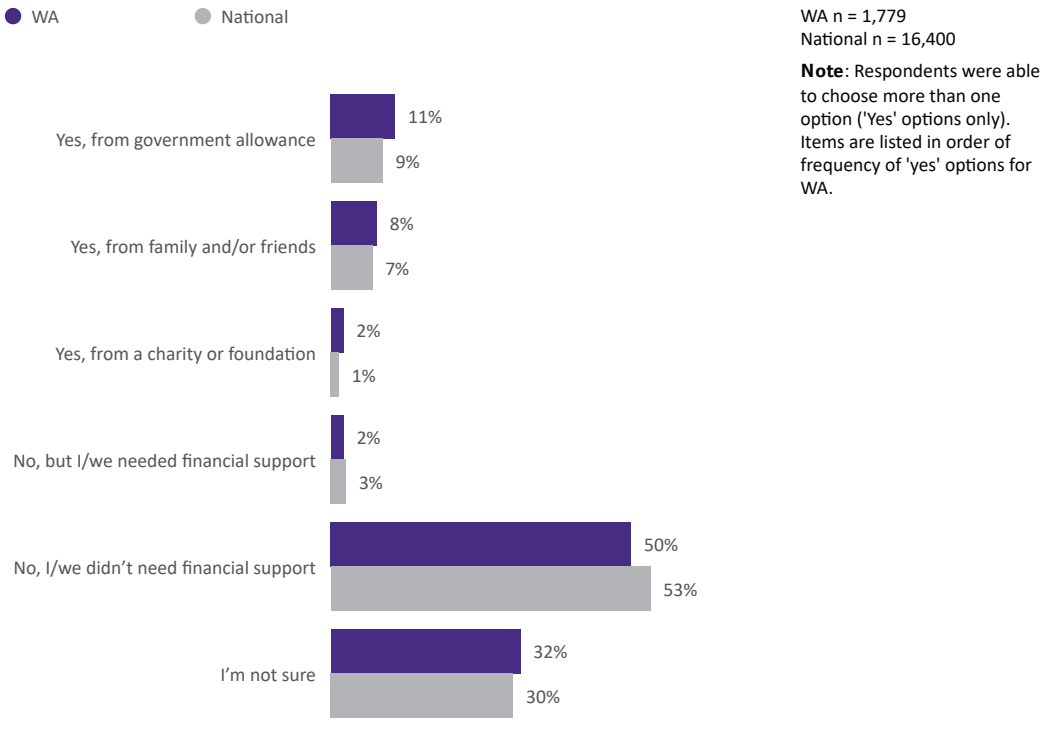


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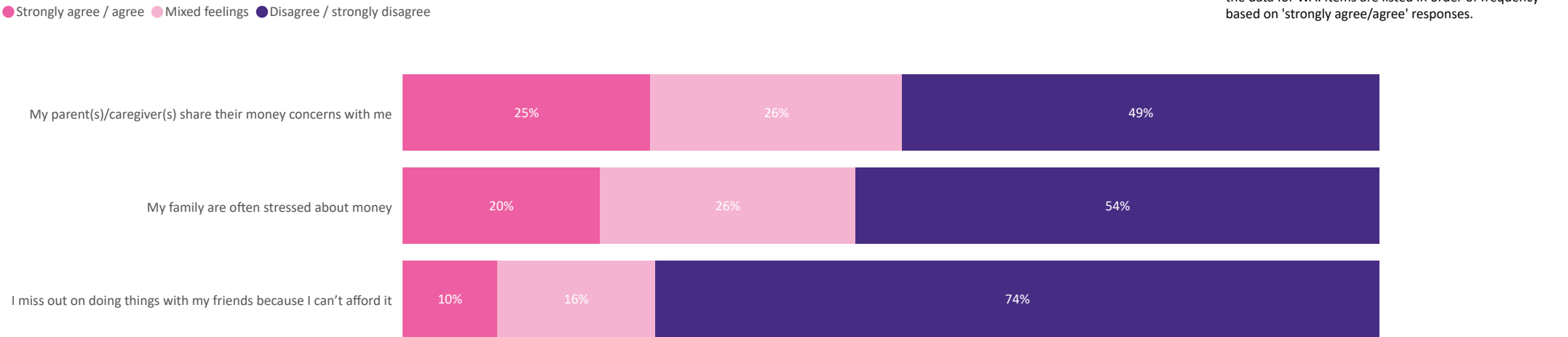
Experiences of financial hardship



Financial support received in the past year for young person and/or their family

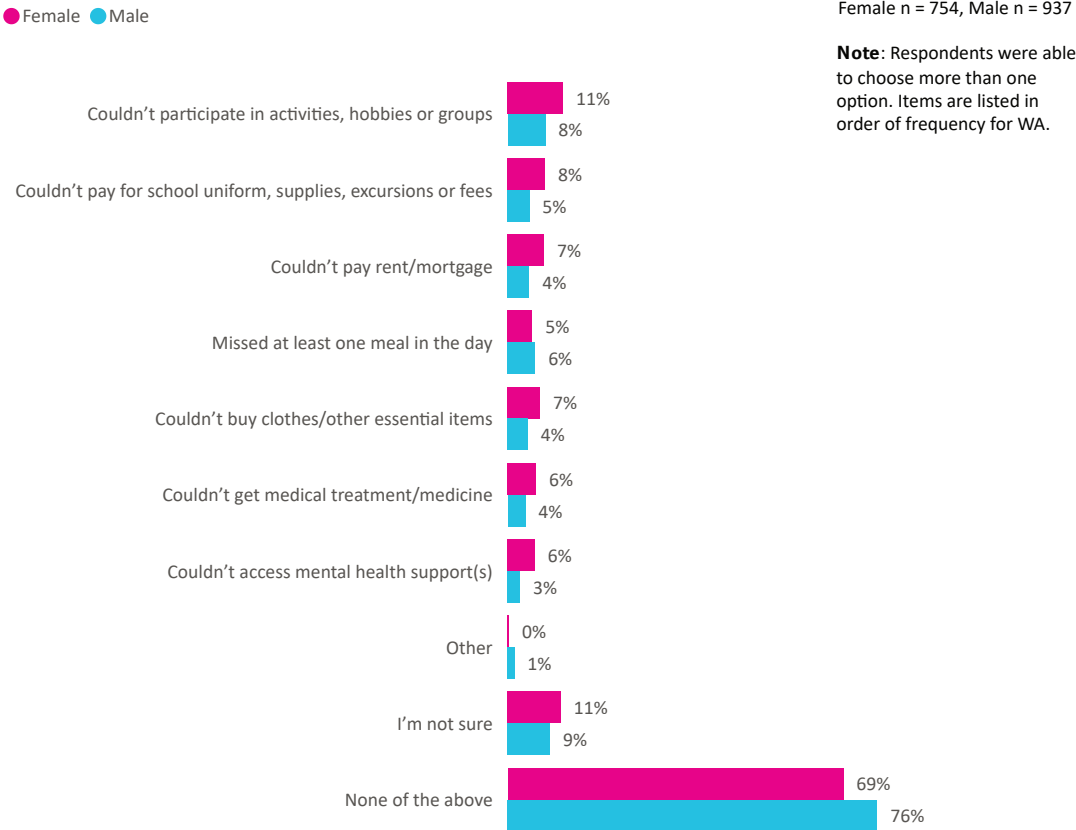


Feelings young people have about money

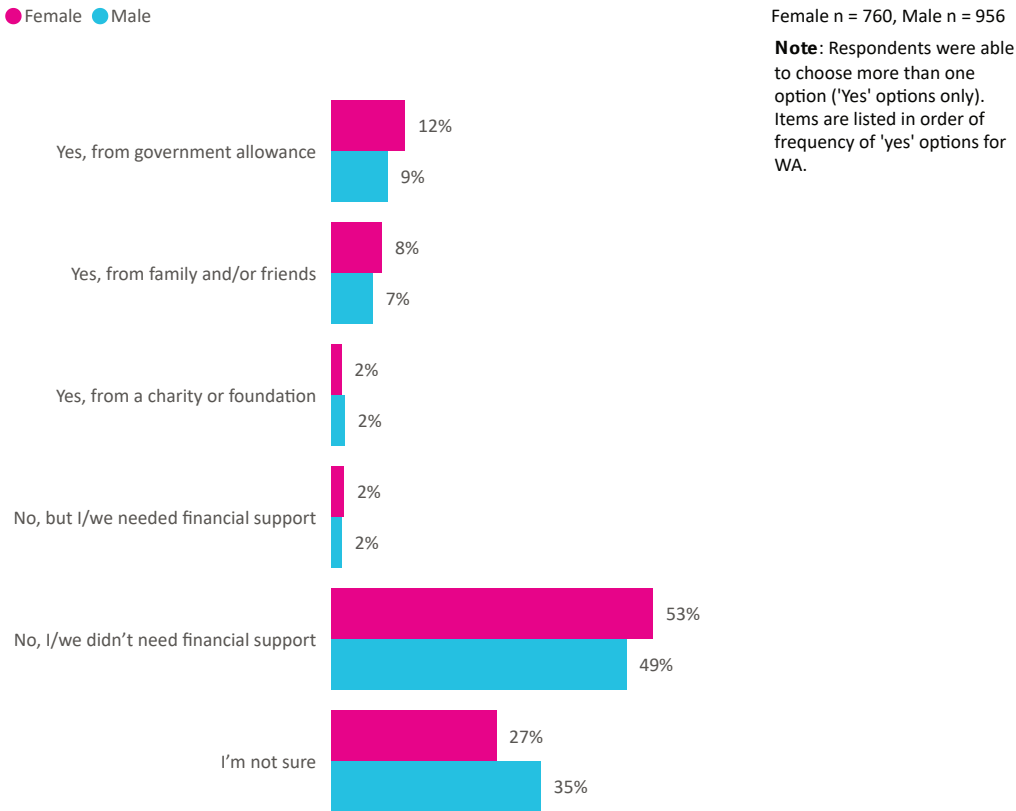


WA

Experiences of financial hardship

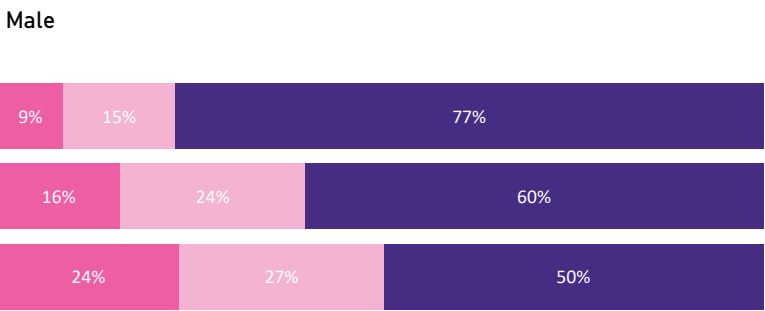
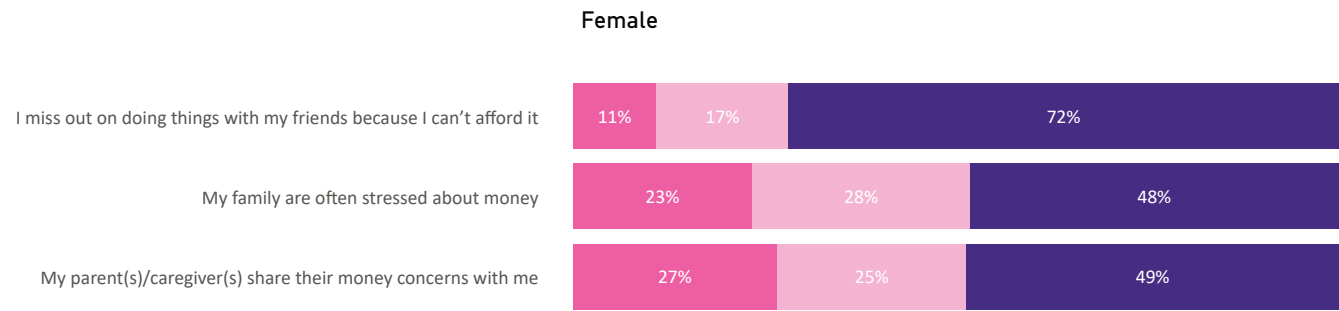


Financial support received in the past year for young person and/or their family



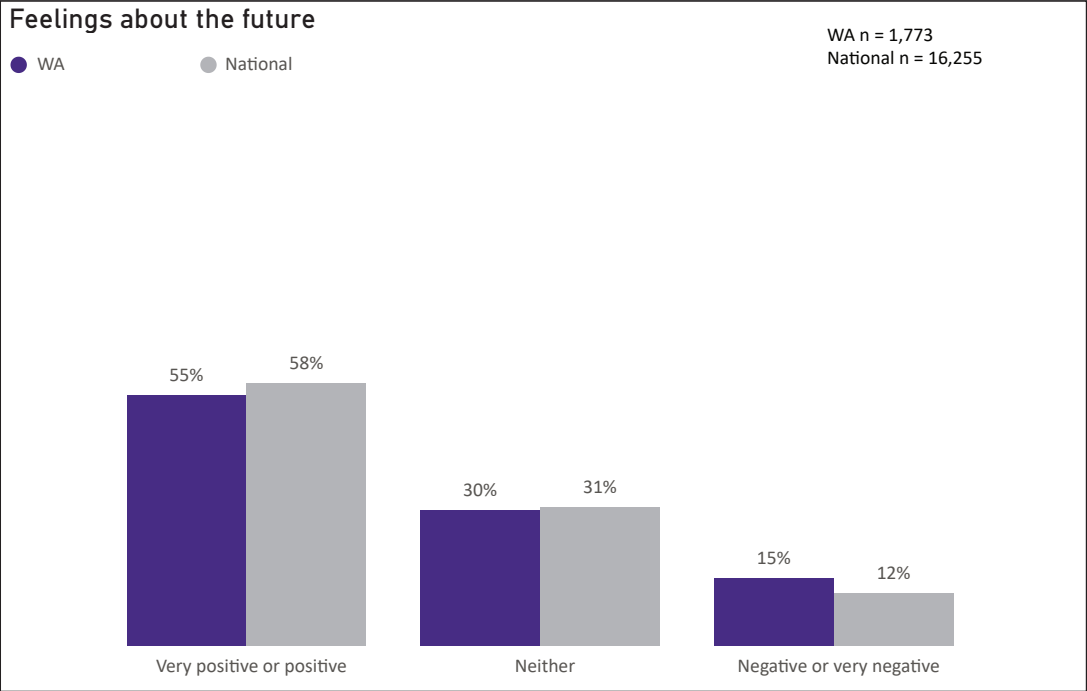
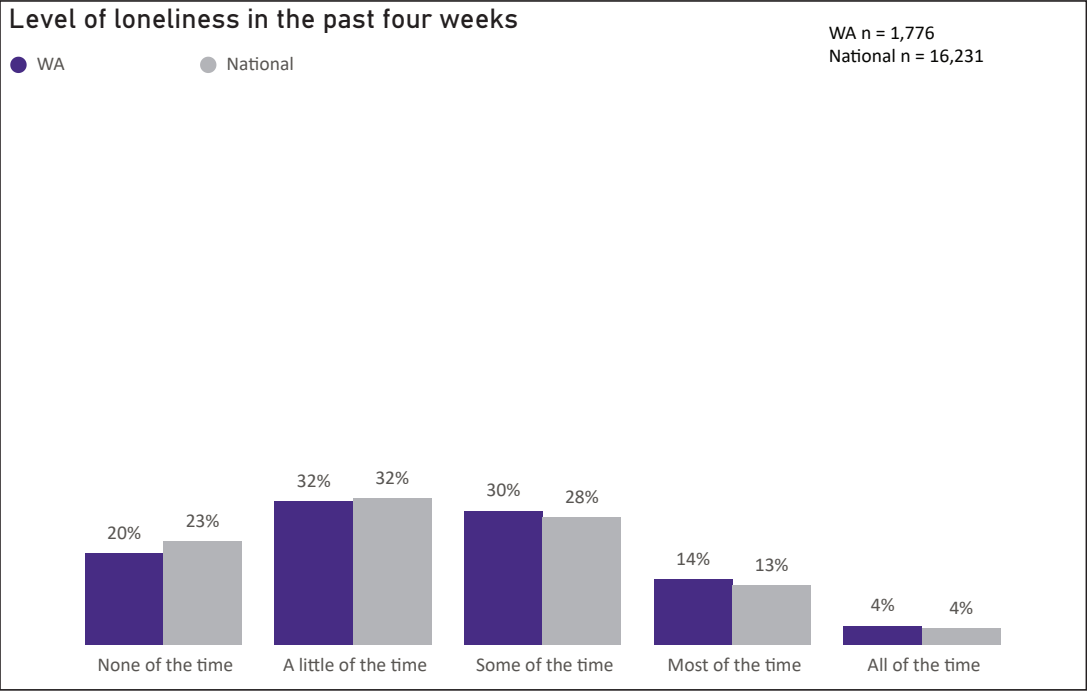
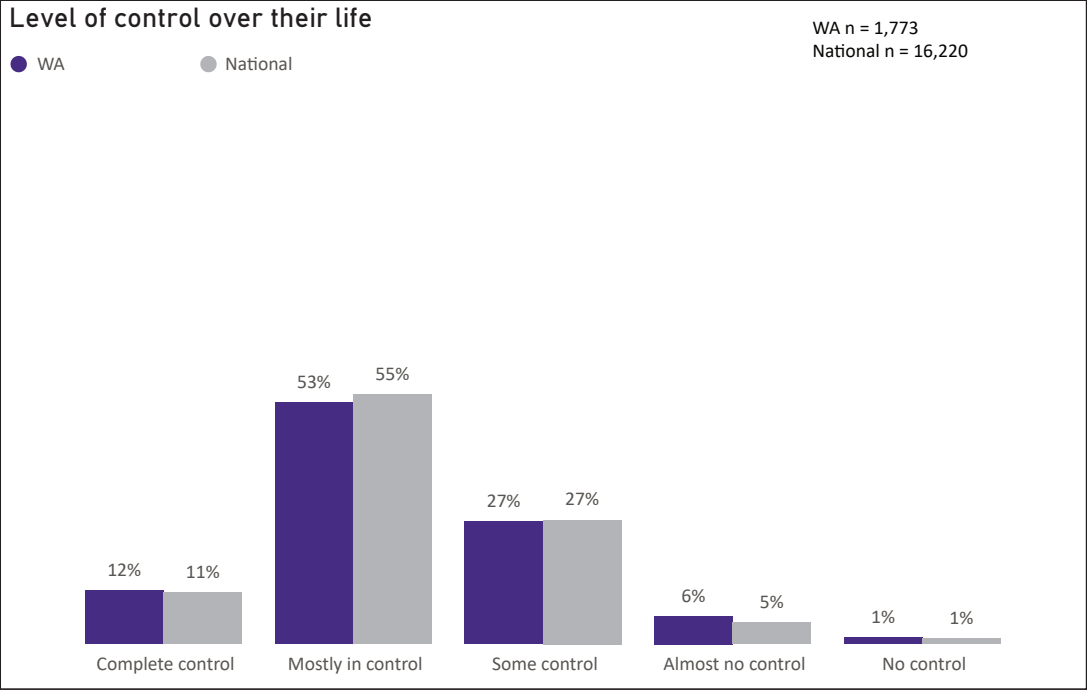
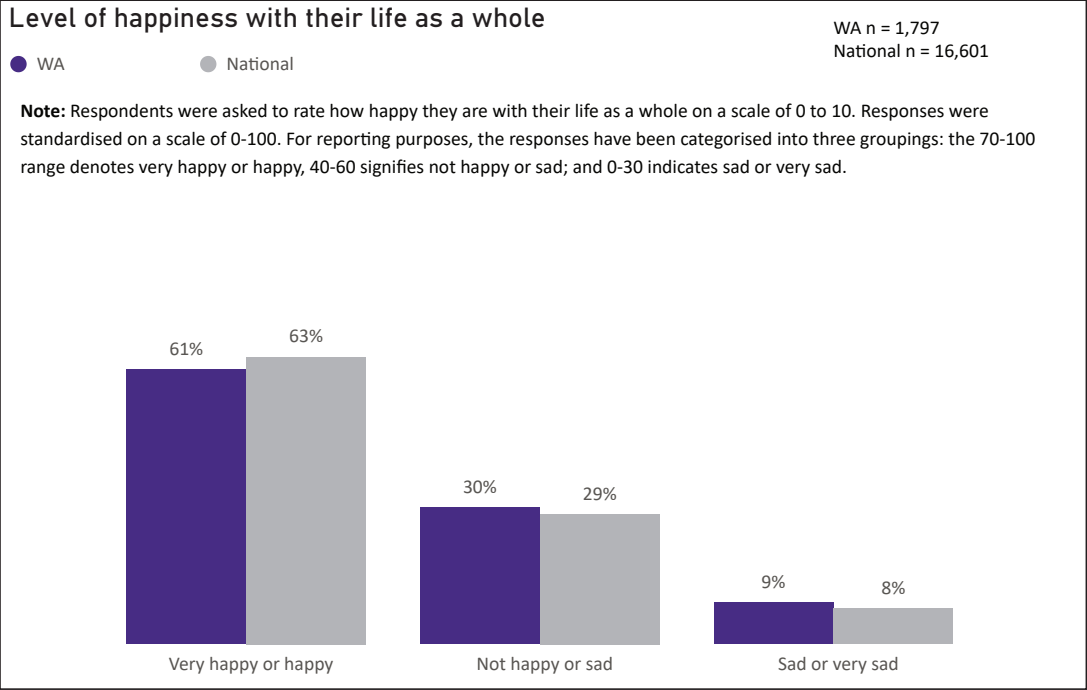
Feelings young people have about money

Strongly agree / agree Mixed feelings Disagree / strongly disagree

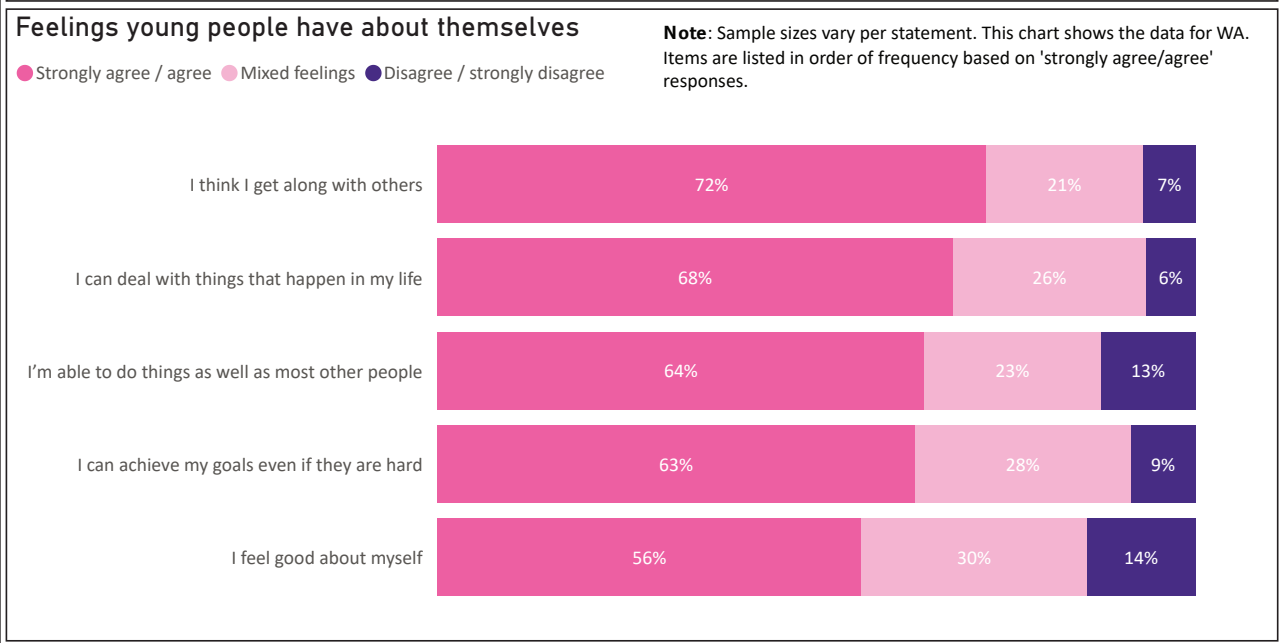
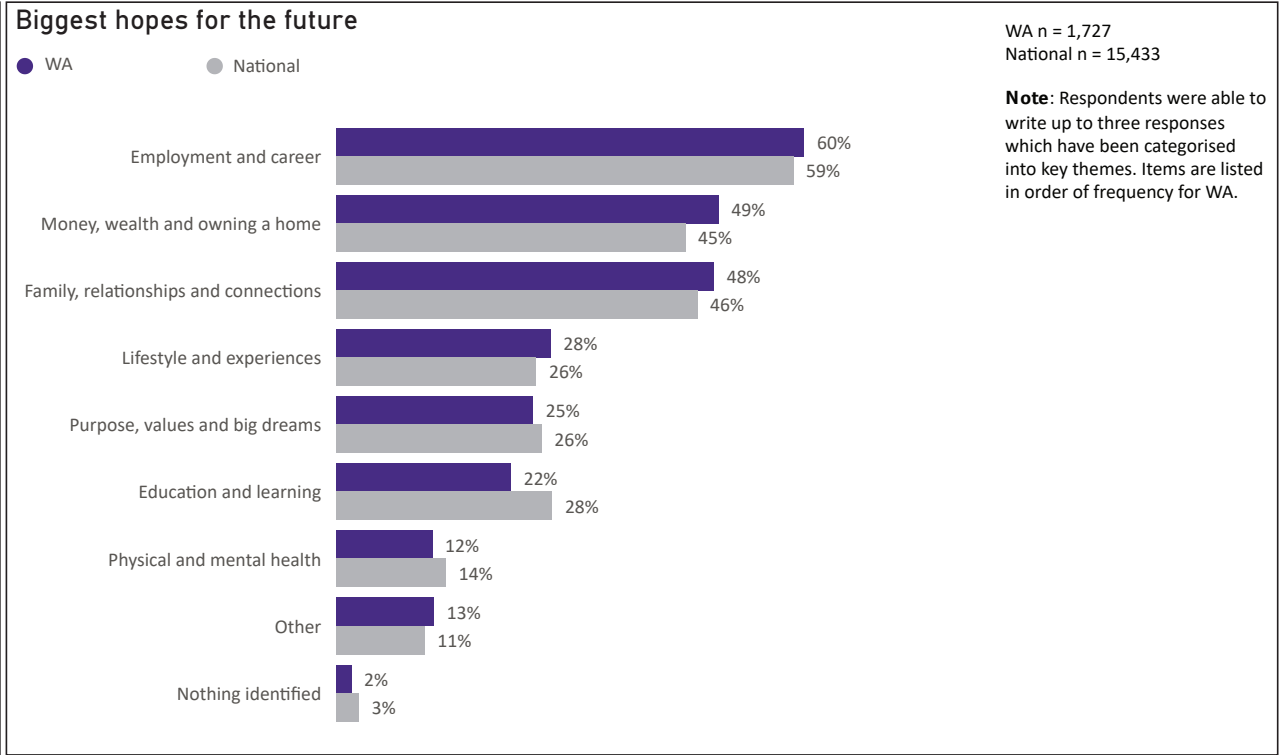
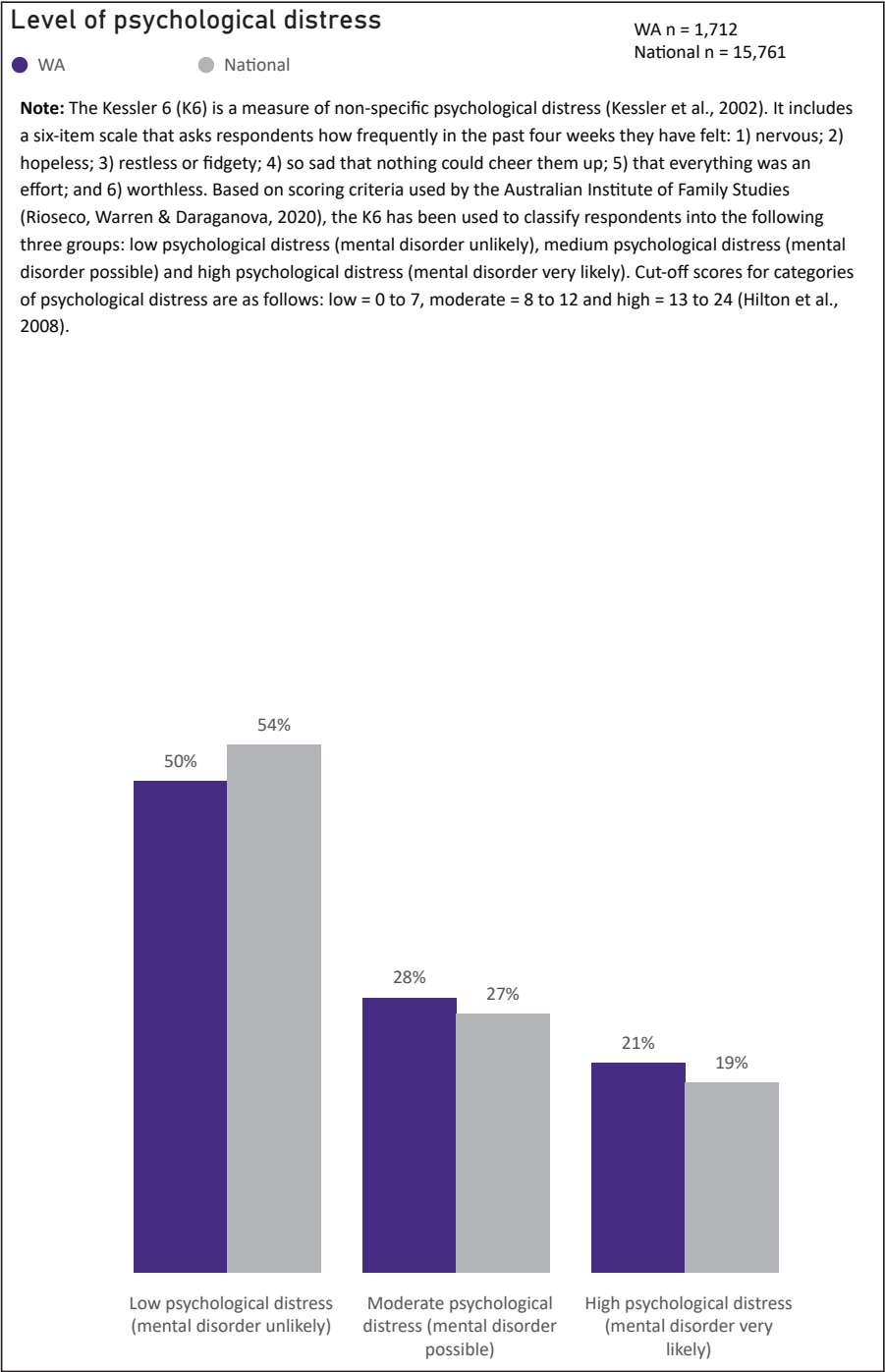


Note: Sample sizes vary per statement. This chart shows the data for WA gender cohorts.

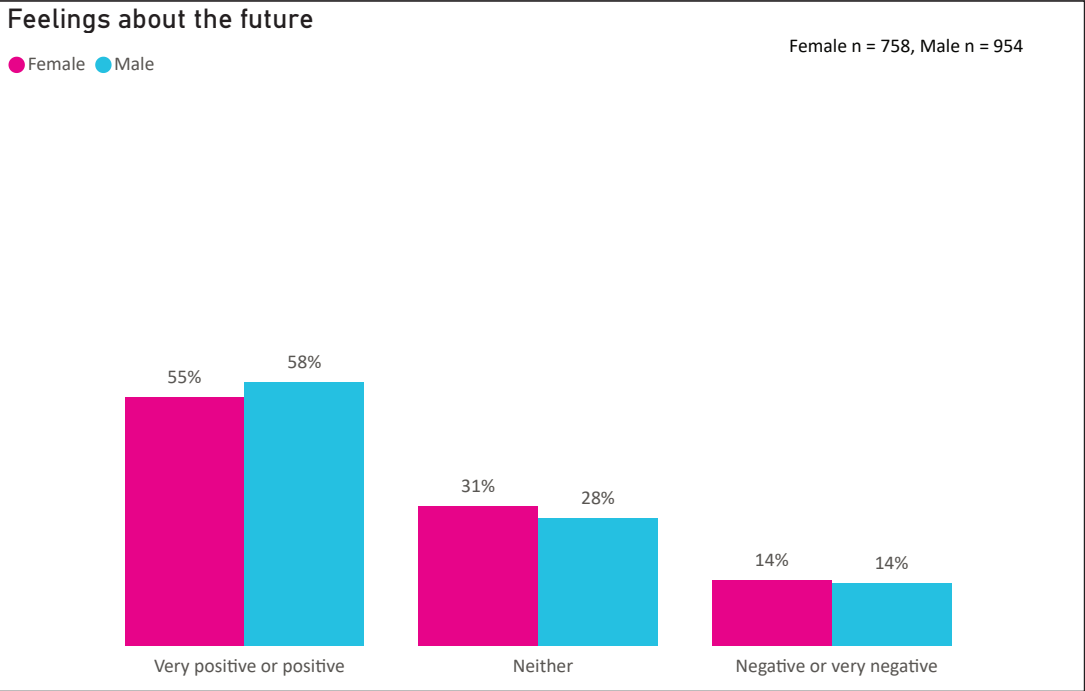
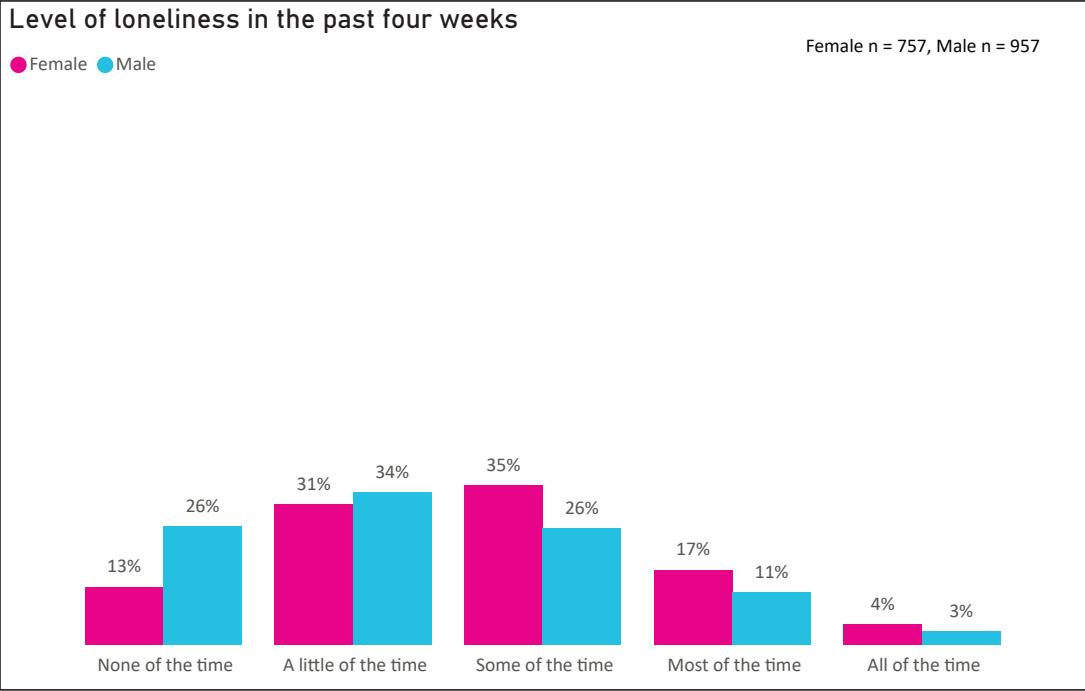
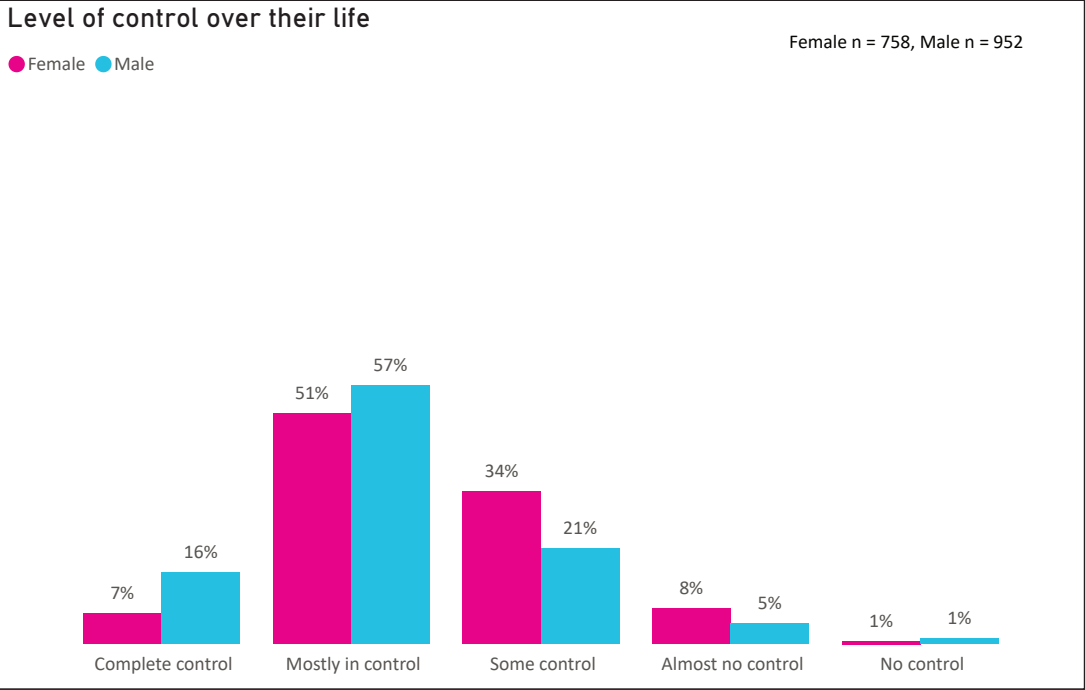
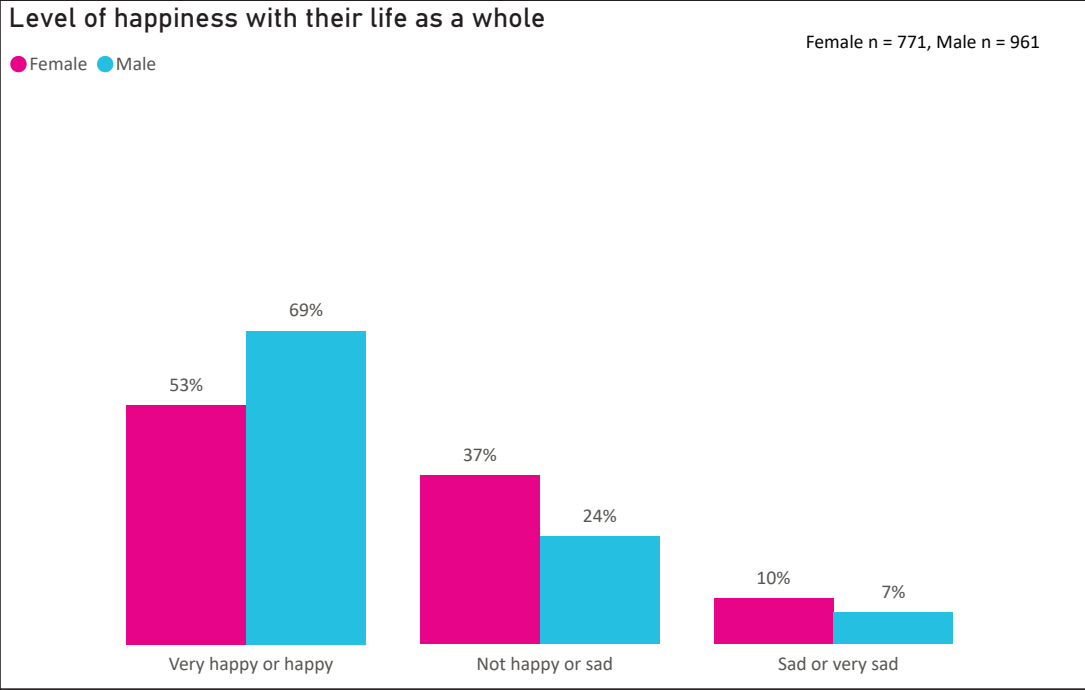
WA



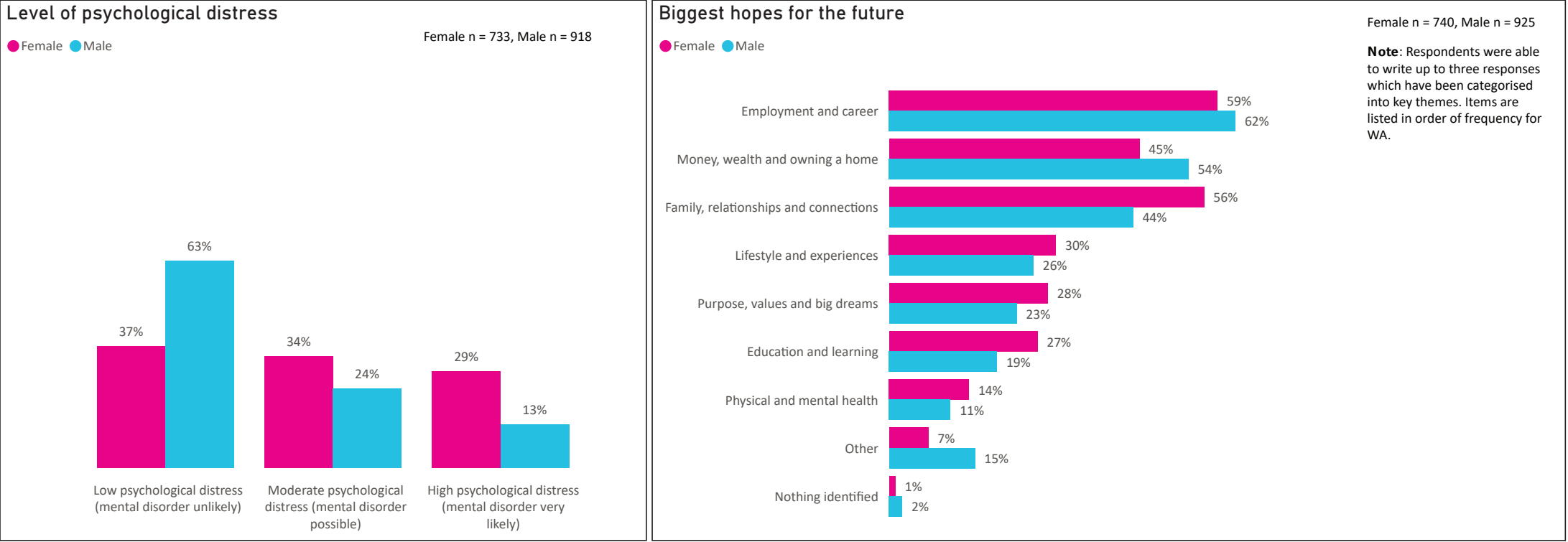
WA



WA



WA

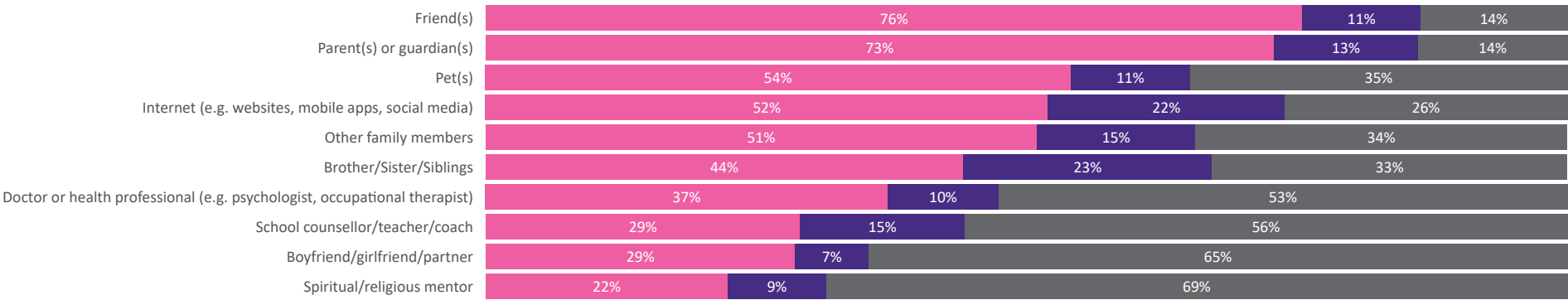


WA

Sources of support by helpfulness

● Helpful ● Not helpful ● Don't use

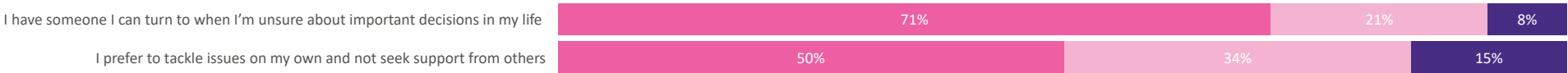
Note: Sample sizes vary per support source. This chart shows the data for WA. Items are listed in order of frequency based on helpfulness.



Feelings young people have about seeking support

● Strongly agree / agree ● Mixed feelings ● Disagree / strongly disagree

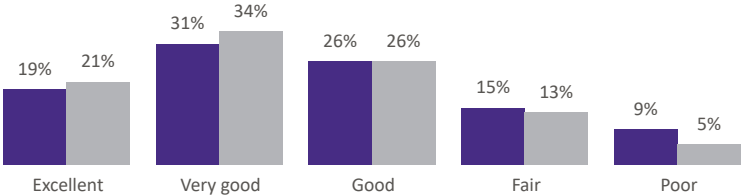
Note: Sample sizes vary per statement. This chart shows the data for WA. Items are listed in order of frequency based on 'strongly agree/agree' responses.



Family's ability to get along with one another

● WA ● National

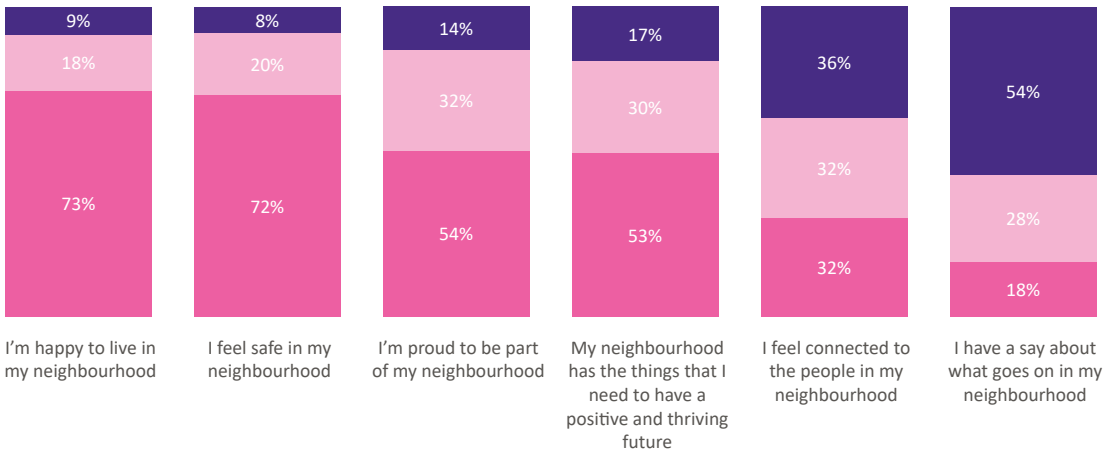
WA n = 1,785
National n = 16,404



Feelings young people have about their neighbourhood

● Strongly agree / agree ● Mixed feelings ● Disagree / strongly disagree

Note: Sample sizes vary per statement. This chart shows the data for WA. Items are listed in order of frequency based on 'strongly agree/agree' responses.



WA

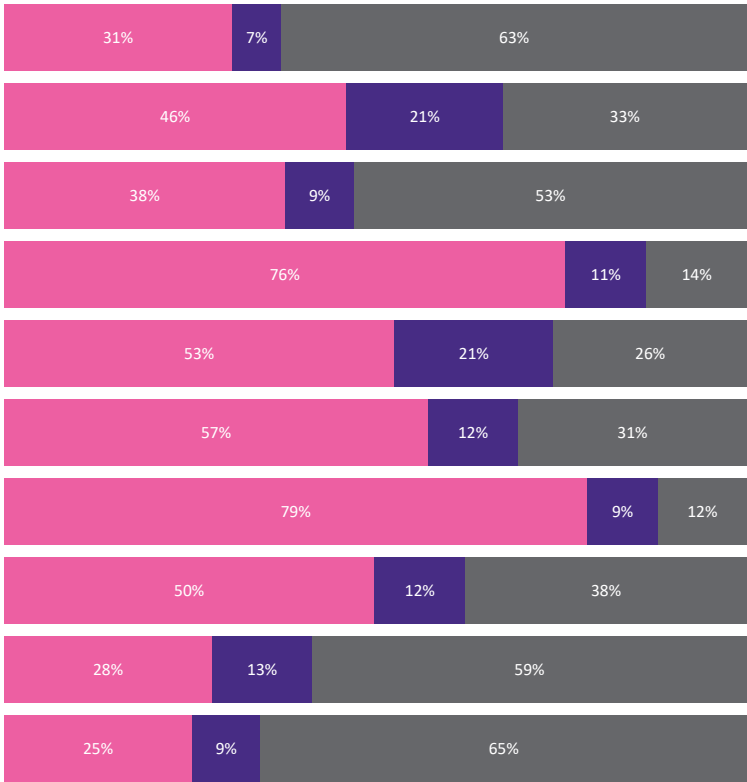
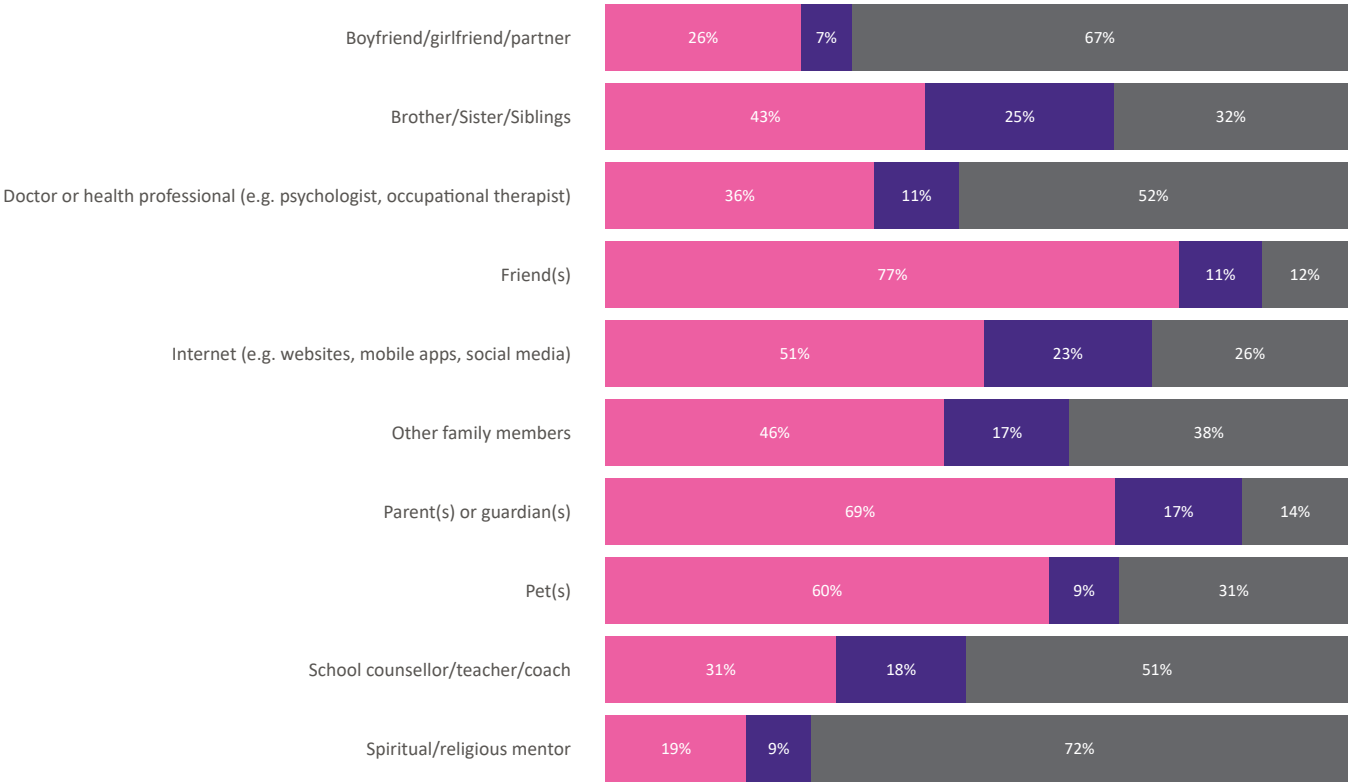
Sources of support by helpfulness

● Helpful ● Not helpful ● Don't use

Note: Sample sizes vary per support source. This chart shows the data for WA gender cohorts.

Female

Male



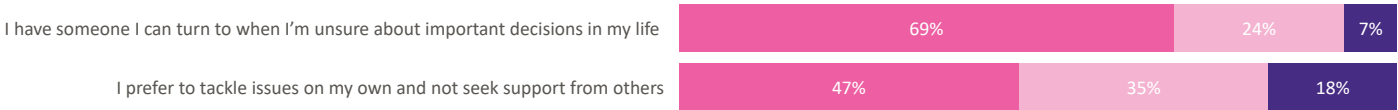
Feelings young people have about seeking support

● Strongly agree / agree ● Mixed feelings ● Disagree / strongly disagree

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

Female

Male

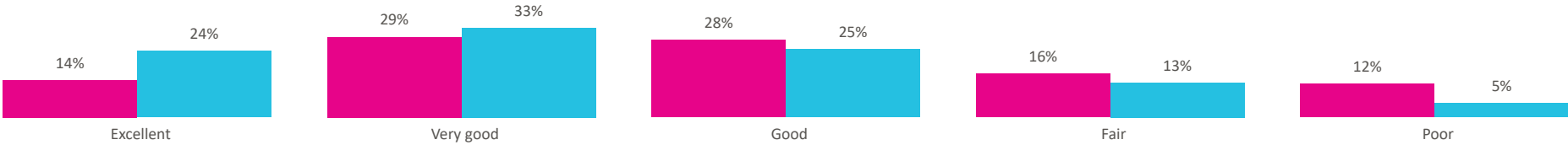


WA

Family's ability to get along with one another

Female n = 761, Male n = 958

Female Male



Feelings young people have about their neighbourhood

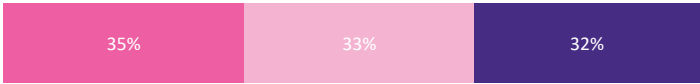
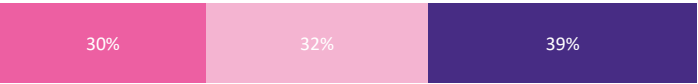
Note: Sample sizes vary per statement. This chart shows the data for WA gender cohorts.

Strongly agree / agree Mixed feelings Disagree / strongly disagree

Female

Male

I feel connected to the people in my neighbourhood



I feel safe in my neighbourhood



I have a say about what goes on in my neighbourhood



I'm happy to live in my neighbourhood



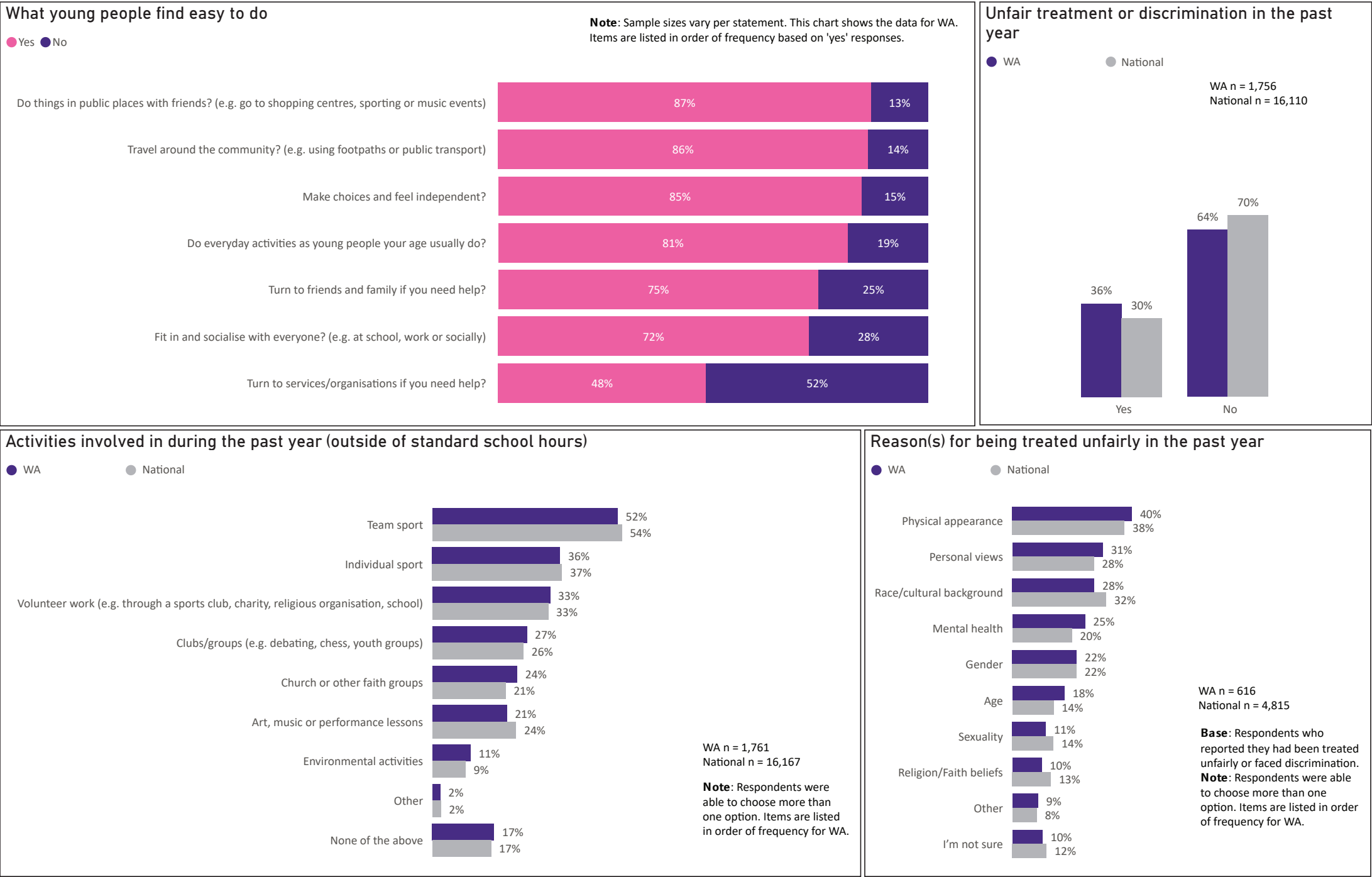
I'm proud to be part of my neighbourhood



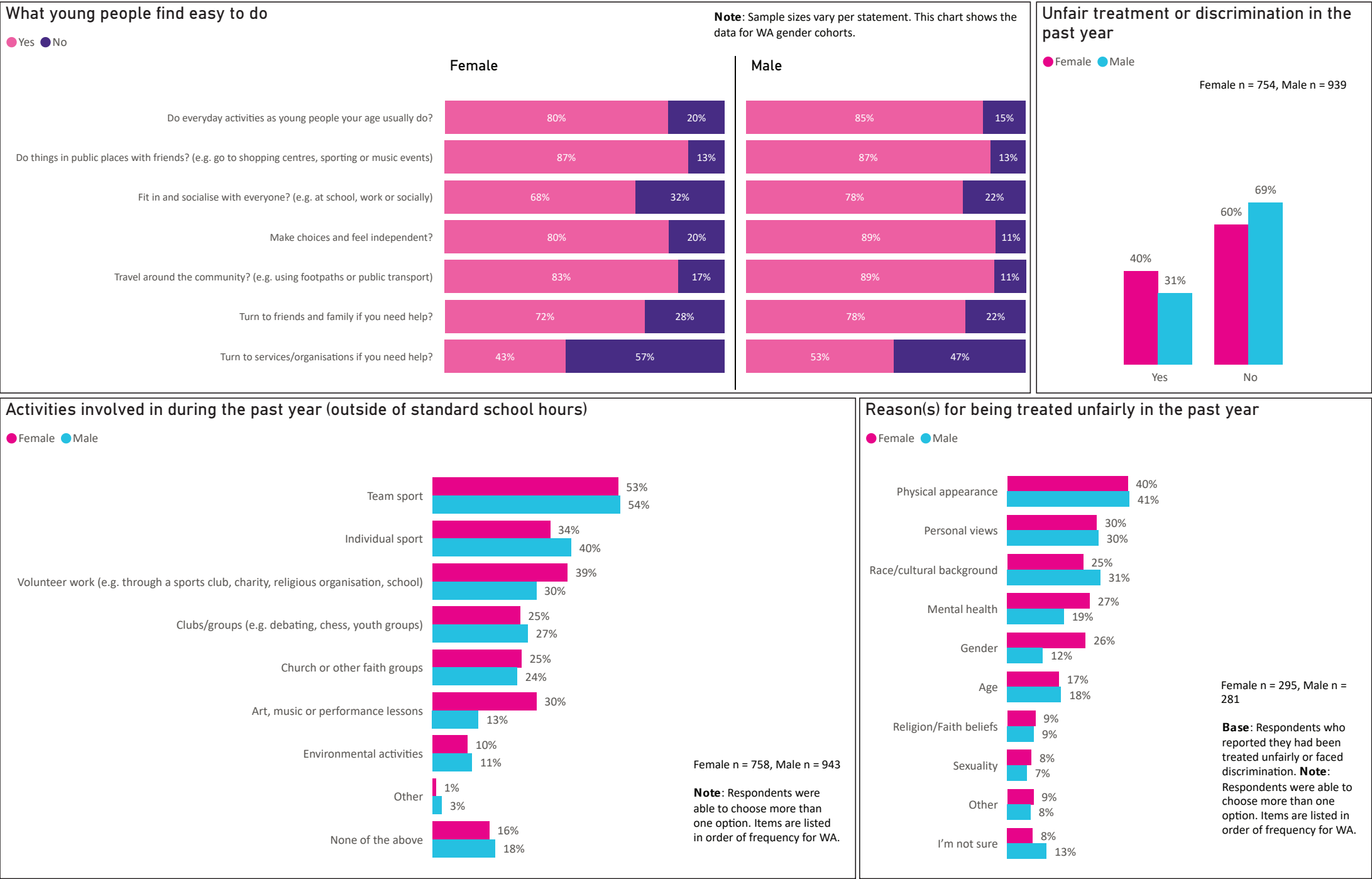
My neighbourhood has the things that I need to have a positive and thriving future



WA



WA



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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Mission Australia NT

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Darwin NT 0800
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Mission Australia QLD

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Mission Australia SA

80 Richmond Road
Kenswick SA 5035
Tel: (08) 8218 2800

Mission Australia TAS

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Rosny Park TAS 7018
Tel: (03) 6225 8200

Mission Australia VIC

Level 3
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Dandenong VIC 3175
Tel: (03) 9213 2500

Mission Australia WA

275 Abernethy Road
Cloverdale WA 6105
Tel: (08) 9225 0400

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AUSTRALIA** | together
we stand

