

# GROWING UP IN QUEENSLAND 2020: REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS NORTH QUEENSLAND

The voices of 399 children and young people living in North Queensland

## WHO WE HEARD FROM

5% OF RESPONSES WERE FROM NORTH QUEENSLAND

7 gender-diverse participants

240 females

146 males

84 reported having an emotional or mental health condition

58 identified as LGBTQIA

15 said they speak a language other than English at home

16 said they have a disability

40 told us they have a long-term physical health condition

73 identified as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and / or South Sea Islander

## HOPES & DREAMS

To be able to go to high school and to have a job in my local community.

MALE, 8 YEARS

60% of young people<sup>1</sup> said they feel positive about their future

### WHEN THEY FINISH SCHOOL, YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN TO:

46% go to university

37% work

25% travel

14% do an apprenticeship or traineeship

10% go to TAFE

### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

told us that employment was their top hope for the future.

CHILDREN<sup>2</sup> SAID THAT TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS THEY NEED:

- EDUCATION
- A SUPPORT NETWORK
- EXPERIENCE / PRACTISE

YOUNG PEOPLE TOLD US THE TOP BARRIERS TO SUCCESS ARE:

- FINANCIAL (E.G. COST OF UNI)
- EDUCATION (E.G. GETTING A LOW ATAR)
- PERSONAL (E.G. LACK OF MOTIVATION)

## COMMUNITY

Well I love how you can be free as you want here. You can adventure nearly anywhere.

FEMALE, 10 YEARS

57% of young people said they feel safe in their community

### CHILDREN SAID

when they need help with a problem, they usually speak to

91% family at home

66% teachers

55% friends

### WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE NEEDED SUPPORT they spoke to

73% friends

63% family

37% kept it to themselves

61% of young people said they feel they belong to their community

24% said they feel that adults in their community listen to what young people have to say

### YOUNG PEOPLE SAID

a sense of community, convenience & proximity, and friends were what they value most about their community.

51% of young people said they were aware of support services in their community and online

### PARTICIPANTS SAID

better & more places, spaces, events and activities, and greater safety, would make their community a better place.

42%

said there are enough safe places to hang out with friends

## BIG ISSUES

The stigma around mental illnesses and society's inability to openly talk about them.

GENDER-DIVERSE PARTICIPANT, 14 YEARS

### BIG ISSUES FOR CHILDREN:

16% bullying (in person)

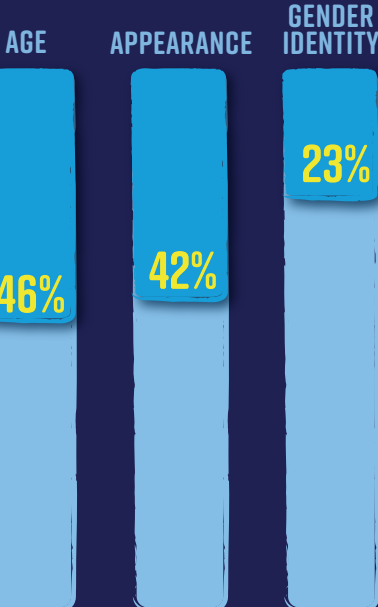
16% everyone being safe

10% everyone being healthy

10% bullying (online)

### UNFAIR TREATMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

was most frequently related to their



### BIG ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE:

25% mental health & wellbeing

12% education

9% substance use

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES OF BULLYING

49%

had witnessed bullying

38%

had been bullied

7%

had bullied someone