June 2025

Statutory systems workforce survey

Research Report

Queensland Family & Child Commission

Queensland Government

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1. Introduction

Background

The purpose of the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) is to influence change that improves the safety and wellbeing of Queensland's children, young people and their families. QFCC's vision is that every Queensland child and young person is loved, respected and has their rights upheld.

MCR was commissioned by the QFCC in 2025 to analyse and report the results of a survey of frontline workers in the Queensland statutory systems (child protection, youth justice and residential care) (the sector).

Research objectives

The objective of this project was to gather frontline worker perspectives on a range of topics, including:

- Child protection and family support and youth justice system performance
- How the workforce is supported
- Working with clients and child rights
- Cultural capability
- Collaboration across the sector
- Learning and development.

Similar surveys have been undertaken annually since 2018.

2. Method

The method comprised an online self-completion survey programmed and hosted by Ipsos.

Sampling frame

Participation was sought from government and non-government staff working in the child protection and family support, youth justice and residential care sectors across Queensland.

Postcodes were used to categorise the workplace location of respondents by Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety (DFSDSCS) regions (Brisbane and Moreton Bay, Far North Queensland, North Queensland, South East, South West, Sunshine Coast and Central) and Family and Child Connect (FaCC) catchments (see **Table 2.3**).

Sample size and characteristics

A total sample of 205 respondents participated. Of the total number of respondents, 102 worked in government agencies (50%) and 103 were from non-government organisations (50%). Nineteen respondents identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (9%) and 25 were from a culturally and linguistically diverse background (12%).

Responses were received from all regions throughout Queensland (refer to **Appendix B** for a map showing the location of all regions). The highest proportion of overall responses were received from the Brisbane and Moreton Bay region (29%). The lowest proportion of responses were received from the Far North Queensland region (9%). In terms of FaCC catchments, the highest proportion of responses was received from Moreton Bay (11%), followed by Maryborough and Bundaberg (10%), Ipswich (10%), Cairns (8%), Toowoomba and Roma (8%), and Rockhampton, Gladstone and Emerald (8%).

Child protection work history and qualifications

Thirty-eight per cent of those surveyed in 2025 had 10 or more years of experience working in the sector. The proportion who had worked in the sector for two years or less was 19%, while 25% had worked in the sector for 3 to 5 years and 18% for 6 to 9 years.

Fifty-four per cent of respondents had a Bachelor degree as their highest level of tertiary education. Fifteen per cent held a postgraduate (Masters or PhD) qualification, while 13% had completed a Graduate Certificate/Diploma, 12% had a Diploma or Advanced Diploma and 3% held a Certificate-level qualification.

Types of services and clients

One hundred and forty-five respondents primarily worked in the child protection sector (71%), 20 primarily worked in the youth justice sector (10%) and 22 primarily worked with children and young people in residential care (11%). Responses from the 18 respondents who indicated that they mainly worked in 'other' sectors not listed in the response option for this question are displayed in **Table 2.1**.

Child protection was the main service offered by respondents with 51% nominating tertiary services and 19% secondary services. Youth justice services (community based) (6%), youth justice services (detention or service centre) (3%), counselling and other mental health services (3%), and health and hospitals (3%) were the next most prevalent support services. Two per cent provided educational/schools/early education and 2% provided domestic and family violence services. One per cent provided disability services and 1 respondent provided drug and alcohol services. Responses from those who indicated that they provided 'other' service/s not listed in the response option for this question are displayed in **Table 2.2**.

Thirty-three per cent of child protection non-government respondents worked for an Intensive Family Support service, 30% worked for a Secondary Family Support Service, 19% worked for a Family Wellbeing Service, 18% worked for a Family and Child Connect service, and 12% were employed by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisation.

All demographic data is displayed in **Table 2.3**.

Table 2.1: 'Other' responses for sectors provided by respondents

Q2. Do you work mainly with.. (Other)
15-25 year olds who have had an experience in care from 12-17, are transitioning from care or have exited care
All of the above (2 mentions)
Both areas e.g. crossover kids
Central Office
Child Protection Liaison Officer in hospital
Children and families experiencing homelessness and other social issues, sometimes with child safety involvement
Children and families in the health care system
Children and young people in foster care
Children in early years centres
Children in mental health - including both CS or YJ involvement
Contractual
Engineering
Foster and Kinship
Foster and Kinship Carers (2 mentions)
Health
Professional staff who work with children, young people and their families in contact with the CP and family support system.

Unless noted otherwise, each row indicates a single response from a respondent.

Table 2.2: 'Other' responses for services provided by respondents

Q5. Which of the following best describes the main service/s you yourself provide to children, young people and families?
Child and family wellbeing support and intensive outreach support
Child protection intake
Child safeguarding
Court
Engineering
Foster and kinship care support
Foster carer support
Pathway to education, training and employment
Residential care (4 mentions)
Residential support
Residential youth care
Supporting foster care placements
Youth 15-25 transitioning from care or who have exited care and had a care experience from 12-17 years

Unless noted otherwise, each row indicates a single response from a respondent.

Table 2.3: Demographic characteristics of respondents

Demographic characteristic	n	%
Government or non-government organisation		
n=205 answered this item		
Government	102	50%
Non-government	103	50%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander		
n=204 answered this item		
Identify	19	9%
Do not identify	185	91%
Culturally and linguistically diverse background		
n=204 answered this item		
Respondent comes from a culturally and linguistically diverse background	25	12%
Does not	179	88%
Region		
n=205 answered this item		
Brisbane + Moreton Bay	59	29%
Far North Queensland	18	9%
North Queensland	21	10%
South East	28	14%
South West	36	18%
Sunshine Coast + Central	43	21%
Length of time working in sector		
n=204 answered this item		
Less than 1 year	5	2%
1-2 years	33	16%
3-5 years	52	25%
6-9 years	36	18%
10-14 years	29	14%
15-19 years	24	12%
20+ years	25	12%
Work mainly with:		
n=205 answered this item		
Children and young people and their families in contact with the child protection and family support system	145	71%
Children and young people in contact with the youth justice system	20	10%
Children and young people in residential care	22	11%
Other	18	9%
Type of service provided to client		
n=205 answered this item		
Child protection – tertiary services	105	51%
Child protection – secondary services	38	19%
Youth justice services – community based	12	6%
Health and hospitals	7	3%
Counselling and other mental health services	7	3%
Youth justice services – detention centre or service centre	6	3%
Educational/schools/early education	5	2%
Domestic and family violence services	5	2%
Disability services	2	1%
Drug and alcohol services	1	<1%
Other	17	8%

Table 2.3: Demographic characteristics of respondents (continued)

Demographic characteristic	n	%
Organisation type *Child protection or 'other' non-government workers answered this question (sample size varies by service as described below)*		
An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisation (n=66)	8	12%
A Family and Child Connect Service (n=61)	11	18%
An Intensive Family Support service (n=66)	22	33%
A Family Wellbeing Service (n=64)	12	19%
A Secondary Family Support service (n=61)	18	30%
Highest level of tertiary qualification *n=205 answered this item*		
Bachelor	111	54%
Masters	29	14%
Graduate Certificate/Diploma	26	13%
Diploma	19	9%
Advanced Diploma	6	3%
No tertiary qualification	5	2%
PhD/Professional Doctorate	2	1%
Cert IV	5	2%
Cert III	2	1%
Cert II	0	0%
Experience *n=205 answered this item*		
I have only worked in government agencies	52	25%
I have mostly worked in government agencies	37	18%
I have fairly equal experience in government agencies and non-government organisations	39	19%
I have only worked in non-government organisations	45	22%
I have mostly worked in non-government organisations	32	16%
FaCC catchments *n=203 answered this item*		
Moreton Bay	22	11%
Maryborough/Bundaberg	21	10%
Ipswich	20	10%
Cairns	17	8%
Rockhampton/Gladstone/Emerald	17	8%
Toowoomba/Roma	16	8%
Brisbane South	15	7%
Brisbane North	14	7%
Townsville	13	6%
Beenleigh/Bayside	11	5%
Logan	8	4%
Gold Coast	7	3%
Mackay	6	3%
Sunshine Coast Incl Gympie	5	2%
Mt Isa/Gulf	3	1%
Kingaroy	3	1%
Brisbane South West	3	1%
Browns Plains/Beaudesert	2	1%
Cape York/Torres Strait	0	0%

Fieldwork

The fieldwork period for the survey was from 27 March to 2 May 2025.

In 2025, the survey was only promoted through social media channels. In previous years the survey was more heavily promoted using QFCC's established networks.

Table 2.4: Methodology

2025	Previous years
• QFCC's social media channels	• Government agencies involved in the provision of child protection and family support and youth justice services and non-government service providers were asked to send information about the survey, including the survey link, to staff who met the characteristics of the sampling frame. • Peak bodies representing non-government service providers were asked to promote the survey to their membership and in their newsletters. • Promotion through the QFCC's LinkedIn account. • Respondents to the previous year's survey who provided their email addresses received direct invitations to participate, and reminder emails through the data collection period.

Questionnaire

The survey consisted of 57 questions that were predominantly rating style involving a pre-defined codeframe for respondents to select from or to indicate their agreement with. A total of 5 open-ended questions were included so both qualitative and quantitative data could be collected, as well as one question that sought numeric information (e.g. in the form of the respondent's workplace postcode) and was subsequently coded into regions in Queensland. The open-ended questions provided an opportunity for respondents to answer in their own words using an open-ended response format. These responses were subsequently coded into key themes for analysis. In the case of 2 questions, the option was provided for respondents to provide a free text response under 'other' at the end of a pre-defined codeframe.

The questionnaire requested basic demographic information to allow stratified analysis of key sub-groups (e.g. organisation type, region, years worked in the child protection and family support or youth justice sector). Questions covered a broad range of topics relevant to the child protection reform program (e.g. system performance, workforce support, working with clients and child rights, cultural capability, collaboration and learning and development).

A copy of the questionnaire can be found at **Appendix A**. While most questions were presented to all respondents, responses were not mandatory. The base or total number of respondents reported for each question varies because the base reflects only those who elected to answer the question.

Ethics

Informed consent information was included on the front page of the survey and completion of the survey was taken to imply that participants had consented to take part in the research.

Data analysis

At the completion of the fieldwork, the survey results were analysed using Q Research Software. The analysis took the form of frequency counts for each question and cross analysis of responses to all questions by selected demographic and behavioural factors (cross tabulations). In the data analysis stage, all survey data were subjected to tests of significance for each survey question. Z-tests were applied to all frequency counts (in the tables in this report, red and blue indicate a difference at the 95% confidence level of that group compared to others in that category, e.g. child protection workers compared to youth justice workers). The average calculation is based on the responses of all respondents to a question. It should be noted that where a key result differs significantly from the average (and is referred to in the report's commentary), it is not necessarily the group with the highest or lowest percentage. Small cell sizes mean sometimes there is a group with a higher or lower percentage; however, this does not differ significantly from the average after taking sampling error into account. Blank cells in tables indicate no responses (0%).

Weighting

The data have not been weighted.

Rounding

Throughout the report, percentages are rounded to whole numbers. Some percentages may not add to 100% or sub-totals may not appear as the sum of the individual items – this is due to rounding.

Comparison of samples across survey years

A number of differences are evident in the profile of the 2025 sample compared with the sample collected in 2024. The 2025 sample contains:

- A higher proportion of respondents working for government organisations (39% in 2024, 50% in 2025) and fewer non-government respondents (61% in 2024, 50% in 2025)
- More respondents who have only worked for government organisations (18% in 2024, 25% in 2025)
- More respondents with experience of 1-2 years (11% in 2024, 16% in 2025) and fewer with less than a year's experience (9% in 2024, 2% in 2025)
- More respondents providing child protection tertiary services (31% in 2024, 51% in 2025) and fewer providing counselling and other mental health services (11% in 2024, 3% in 2025) or education/schools/ early education services (8% in 2024, 2% in 2025)
- More respondents with a Bachelor degree or above (57% in 2024, 69% in 2025).

Table 2.5: Key sample characteristics 2025 compared to previous survey data+

	YEAR						
Q3: Is your workplace a government or non-government organisation?							
	2019 n = 277	2020 n = 761	2021 n = 762	2022 n = 481	2023 n=575	2024 n=452	2025 n=205
Government	56%	54%	57%	30%↓	51%↑	39%↓	50%↑
Non-government	44%	46%	43%	70%↑	49%↓	61%↑	50%↓
Q6: How long have you worked in one of the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) sector?							
	2019 n = 281	2020 n = 759	2021 n = 762	2022 n = 480	2023 n=570	2024 n=446	2025 n=204
Less than 1 year	7%	7%	5%	8%	10%	9%	2%↓
1–2 years	12%	10%	8%	12%	12%	11%	16%↑
3–5 years	15%	22%↑	19%	24%	23%	19%	25%
6–9 years	19%	15%	16%	16%	21%	18%	18%
10–14 years	25%	21%	18%	18%	12%↓	14%	14%
15–19 years	12%	12%	15%	11%	11%	13%	12%
20+ years	11%	13%	19%↑	11%↓	12%	16%	12%
DFSDSCS Region							
	2019*	2020*	2021 n = 763	2022 n = 481	2023 n=575	2024 n=452	2025 n=205
Brisbane + Moreton Bay	-	-	30%	30%	37%↑	29%↓	29%
Far North QLD	-	-	8%	9%	13%	10%	9%
North QLD	-	-	9%	11%	5%↓	12%↑	10%
South East	-	-	19%	10%↓	15%	14%	14%
South West	-	-	15%	17%	16%	18%	18%
Sunshine Coast + Central	-	-	19%	23%	14%↓	16%	21%
Q7: How would you describe your experience in the relevant statutory system (child protection or youth justice) sector?							
	2019#	2020 n=759	2021 n = 763	2022 n = 480	2023 n=574	2024 n=450	2025 n=205
I have only worked in government agencies	-	32%	41%↑	18%↓	27%↑	18%↓	25%↑
I have mostly worked in government agencies	-	13%	12%	13%	18%↑	16%	18%
I have fairly equal experience in government agencies and non-government organisations	-	19%	16%	16%	17%	22%	19%
I have only worked in non-government organisations	-	22%	18%	34%↑	21%↓	26%	22%
I have mostly worked in non-government organisations	-	14%	13%	19%↑	17%	18%	16%

+ Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers (2022: 431 CP + 50 YJ; 2023: 452 CP + 50 YJ; 2024: 296 CP + 42 YJ + 36 Residential care; 2025: 145 CP + 20 YJ + 22 Residential care).
Blue↑/Red↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous year at at least the 95% confidence level. * Postcodes were used to code regions in 2019 and 2020; however, the regions for Child Safety changed following Machinery-of-Government changes and are not comparable. # Question not asked in 2019. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Limitations

Comparisons of responses across survey years should be interpreted with caution given the changes in the sample characteristics described in Table 2.5 and changes in methodology outlined in Table 2.4.

In 2025, as in 2023 and 2024, this report includes data collected from both child protection and youth justice workers. In 2022, data was collected from these two groups however it was reported in two separate reports. Where available, the 2022 data from both the child protection and youth justice studies have been combined to provide a new overall total for 2022. Any data shown for 2018-2021 is only based on data collected among child protection workers, youth justice workers were not surveyed during this time.

The survey population could not be calculated because the survey was available to an unknown number of individuals. All surveys are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with non-response, error associated with question wording and response options. Appendix C contains a table that details the level of sampling error associated with various cell sizes for this survey (at the 95% confidence level).

The Research Society

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As is our normal practice, we emphasise that any market size estimates or marketing recommendations in this report can be influenced by a number of unforeseen events or by management decisions. Therefore, no warranty can be given that the information included will be predictive of a desired outcome.

Executive Summary

Overview of Research

The Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) has conducted annual workforce surveys since 2019. The survey focuses on a range of topics, with the aim of gathering frontline worker perspectives including views on the child protection and family support and youth justice system, working in these sectors, and working with clients, children and young people, and community.

In the 2025 survey, a total of 205 workers (102 from government and 103 from non-government organisations) were surveyed via an online methodology between 27 March to 2 May 2025. One hundred and forty-five respondents primarily worked in the child protection sector (71% of the sample), 20 primarily worked in the youth justice sector (10%) and 22 primarily worked with children and young people in residential care (11%). One third (33%) of child protection non-government respondents worked for an Intensive Family Support service, 19% worked for a Family Wellbeing Service, 18% worked for a Family and Child Connect service and 12% were employed by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisation.

In 2025, the survey was only promoted through QFCC's social media channels. In previous years the survey was also promoted using QFCC's established networks. Care should be taken in interpretation of any changes referenced between 2024 and 2025 due to this change in sampling methodology.

Research Findings

Perceptions of Statutory Systems

While 49% of respondents reported that the community should have confidence in the child protection and family support system (% agreed or strongly agreed), only 1% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the community actually has confidence in the child protection and family support system. Similarly, 44% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the community should have confidence in the youth justice system but only 5% agreed or strongly agreed that the community has confidence in the youth justice system.

Six per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the child protection system as a whole, meets the needs to children, young people and families with a total of 80% of respondents disagreeing overall. Similarly, 4% of respondents agreed that the youth justice system as a whole, meets the needs of children, young people and families with a total of 74% disagreeing overall.

When given the opportunity to express, in their own words, what could be done to improve the child protection and family support system, the most common suggestions from respondents were to be more child-centric (35%), support greater information sharing and collaboration (25%), increase support for the workforce both in terms of capacity and capability (24%), increase early intervention (22%), and increase funding (21%).

When given the opportunity to express, in their own words, what could be done to improve the youth justice system, the most common suggestions were to expand early intervention services and programs (25%), provide additional funding and resources (19%), encourage greater participation in, and collaboration with, community (14%), and facilitate stronger information sharing and alignment across all sectors (14%).

Delivery of outcomes to children, young people, families and the community

Almost all respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their work serves an important purpose (96%). While around half (52%) reported that their work leads to positive change.

Fifty-five per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that children, young people and families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives. Up to one in two reported that in their opinion, children and families attending their organisation have access to documents they need for accessing services (49% agreed or strongly agreed), receive sufficient support to attend school (48%) or receive sufficient support to access early childhood education and care (43%).

However, there was higher variability in responses as to whether children and families attending their organisation can access health services when they need them (40% agreed or strongly agreed, 44% disagreed or strongly disagreed), can access mental health services when they need them (25% agreed or strongly agreed, 63% disagreed or strongly disagreed), are provided with sufficient support and linked to services to reduce recidivism (38% agreed or strongly agreed; 38% disagreed or strongly disagreed), or that young people on statutory community orders have a plan in place when they transition out of the youth justice system (23% agreed or strongly agreed, 44% disagreed or strongly disagreed).

More broadly, respondents agreed or strongly agreed that in their communities children and young people can access early childhood education and care (52% agreed or strongly agreed), are supported to connect with their culture (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people) (52%), and can access sporting, recreation or community activities (48%). Total agreement was lower for consideration that in their communities children and young people can access disability services if needed (33% agreed or strongly agreed, 37% disagreed or strongly disagreed) or that children and young people can access mental health services if needed (24% agreed or strongly agreed, 57% disagreed or strongly disagreed).

Demand for services

The majority of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that there is sufficient capacity either within the secondary support service system (89%) or within their statutory service system (92%). The majority of respondents (81%) agreed or strongly agreed that child safety reports are likely to increase and 81% agreed or strongly agreed that children and young people under youth justice supervision are likely to increase in the next 12 months.

Workforce capability, learning and development

Among the surveyed workforce, 35% would recommend working in the child protection or youth justice sector to others and 53% of respondents do not intend to leave within the next 12 months. However, 24% of respondents reported they have an intention to leave their sector within the next 12 months (this figure being higher than reported in recent years).

Ninety-four per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their work has become more complex (in alignment with the perspective that clients are increasingly complex). The majority reported having a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities (90% agreed or strongly agreed). Fifty-six per cent disagreed or strongly disagreed that their workload was manageable and 64% disagreed overall that they are able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do their job well.

Most respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they receive support from colleagues and peers to do their job well (64%). Approximately two in five (42% agreed or strongly agreed) reported that they receive the right amount of professional practice supervision to do their job well or that they have been provided with enough training and other learning opportunities. While a similar proportion did not feel that they had been provided with enough training and learning opportunities (40% disagreed or strongly disagreed). Respondents were confident that they've been trained and have the skills to recognise the signs of domestic and family violence (81% agreed or strongly agreed), physical abuse (80%), alcohol and other substance abuse (70%), and mental health issues (68%). They were less likely to be confident in their ability to recognise signs of methamphetamine use (59%).

Both sectors (Child Protection and Youth Justice) highlighted a need for further specialist training as the primary learning and development need. Among the child protection and family support workforce, other learning and development needs were in regard to building capability in identifying risk, structured decision making, formal qualifications and accreditations, building skills in client engagement, and improving ability to work with other organisations. For the youth justice workforce, other areas of learning and development identified included building capability in restorative justice and strategies to prevent reoffending, agency collaboration and connectivity, and early intervention capability.

Cultural Capability

Sixty-two per cent of respondents agreed that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and 58% agreed they are supported to stay connected with their communities. The majority (93%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they understand how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Placement Principle applies to their role. Around three quarters (72% agreed or strongly agreed) indicated their organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to support the delivery of services. Eleven per cent of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Fifty-two per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and 51% agreed or strongly agreed that they are supported to stay connected with their communities.

Queensland Child Safe Standards

The majority of respondents (81%) were aware of the Queensland Child Safety Standards, with 6% not sure and 12% not aware of the Queensland Child Safety Standards. Among those aware of the Queensland Child Safe Standards, 44% considered themselves very familiar with the standards and 54% considered themselves somewhat familiar.

The majority of respondents (75%) agreed or strongly agreed their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation and approximately half reported they believe that children and families attending their organisation felt cared for and welcome (54%) and safe (51%). Fifty-seven per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that in their organisation decisions are made in children's and young people's best interests.

▶ SNAPSHOT:

Statutory systems workforce survey 2025

A total of 205 workers (102 from government and 103 from non-government organisations) were surveyed, with the aim of gathering frontline worker perspectives on a range of topics.

▶ % AGREEING SYSTEM MEETS NEEDS OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES

Agree/Agree strongly

Child Protection System: 6%

Youth Justice System: 4%

▶ % AGREEING CAPACITY IS SUFFICIENT:

Agree/Agree strongly

Secondary support system: 4%

Statutory support system: 3%

▶ COMMUNITY CONFIDENCE

% Agree/Agree strongly

Child Protection:

- **49%** feel community **should** have confidence in system
- **1%** feel community **actually** has confidence

Youth Justice:

- **44%** feel community **should** have confidence in system
- **5%** feel community **actually** has confidence

▶ ACCESS AND SUPPORTS AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

% Agree/Agree strongly

- **52%** can access early childhood education and care
- **48%** can access sporting or recreational activities
- **41%** have support to stay engaged in learning at school or TAFE
- **52%** are supported to connect with their culture *(Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people)*
- **43%** can access services to stay healthy (GPs and hospitals)
- **36%** can access services for healthy teeth, such as dentists

Lower agreement was noted for having access to living in safe communities (23%), mental health services if needed (24%), being protected from abuse and neglect (28%), and having access to NDIS supports (28%).

▶ CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES ATTENDING MY ORGANISATION:

% Agree/Agree strongly

- **60%** are not discriminated against
- **59%** have views listened to/valued
- **57%** have decisions made in young person's best interest
- **55%** can participate in decisions affecting their lives
- **54%** feel cared for and welcome
- **54%** are supported to develop in best way possible
- **51%** feel safe

▶ DEMAND FOR SERVICES:

% Agree/Agree strongly

Clients have more **complexities in their lives** than 3 years ago

81%

Child safety reports are likely to increase in the next 12 months

81%

Children and young people **under youth justice supervision** are likely to increase in the next 12 months

81%

Suggested improvements

(Top mentions)

Child Protection & Family Support System

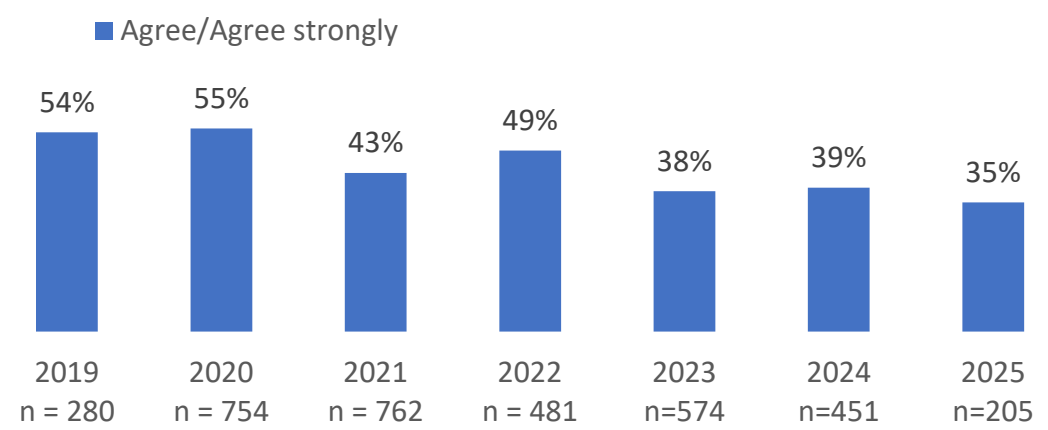
- 35% - More child centric/focused
- 25% - Greater information sharing
- 24% - Greater support for workforce
- 22% - Increase early intervention focus
- 21% - Increase funding

Youth Justice System

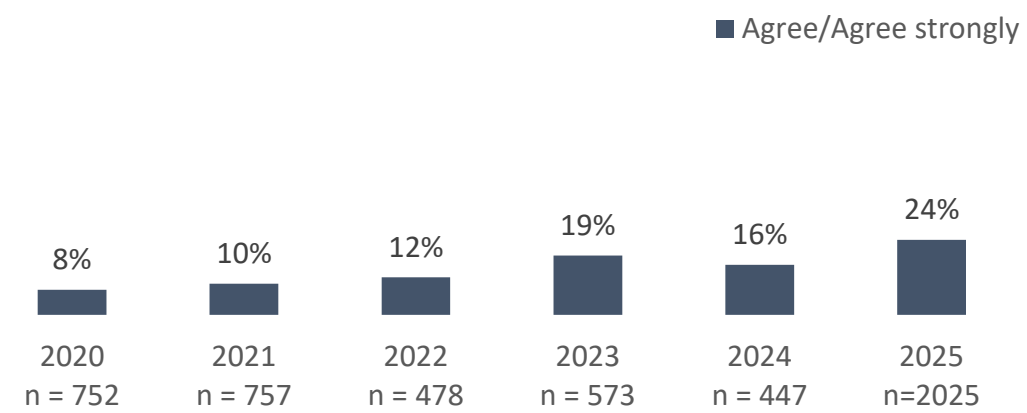
- 25% - Expand early intervention services
- 19% - Additional funding/resources
- 14% - Greater participation in community /more community support
- 14% - Stronger sector sharing/ collaboration
- 11% - Holistic/evidence-based approach

WORKFORCE RETENTION

Likelihood to recommend working in the child protection / youth justice sector



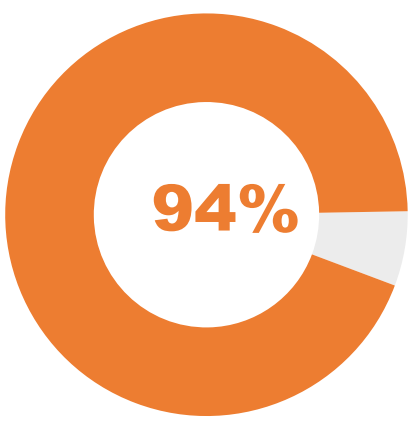
Intent to leave sector within next 12 months



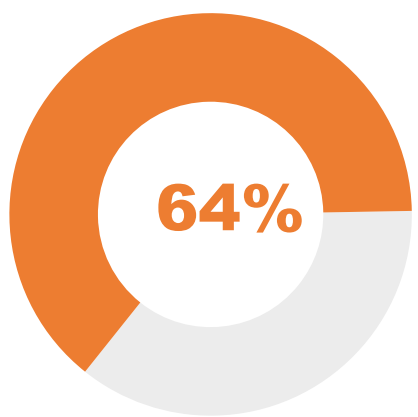
PERSPECTIVES ON THEIR ORGANISATION

% Agree/Agree strongly

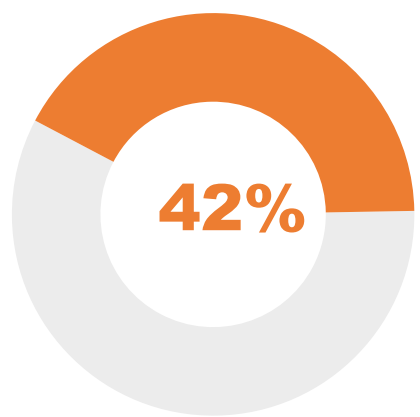
Role has become **more complex**



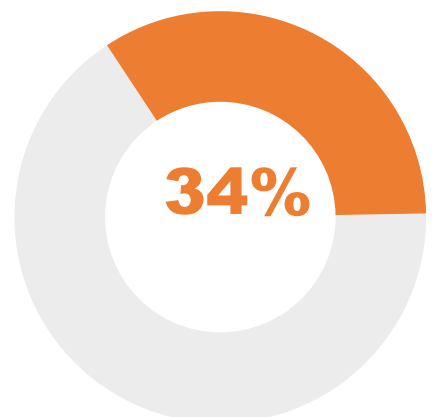
Receive sufficient **support from colleagues**



Receive the right amount of **professional practice supervision**



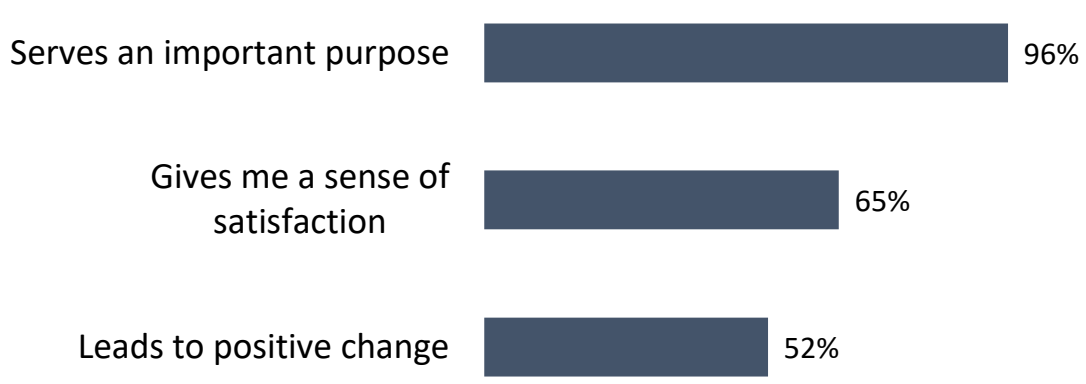
Organisation **supports staff** to manage work stress



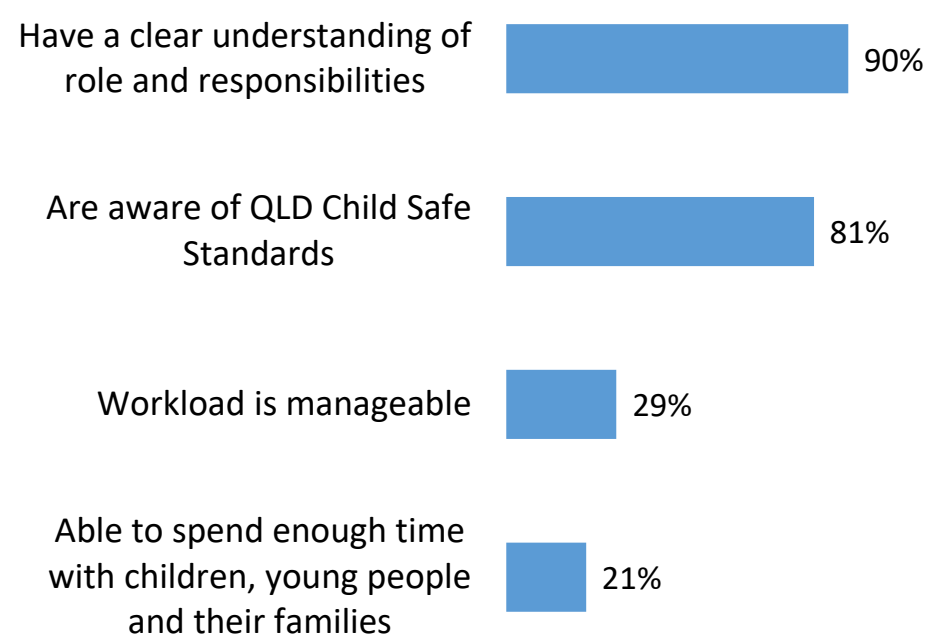
PERSPECTIVES ON THEIR ROLE

% Agree/Agree strongly

The work I do:



% agreeing:



Suggested learning & development priorities

(Top mentions)

Child Protection & Family Support System

- 37% - Specialist training e.g. DFV, trauma, mental health, drug and alcohol
- 14% - Identifying and assessing risk/ structured decision making
- 12% - Qualifications/accreditations
- 12% - Skills for engaging clients
- 10% - Working with other organisations

Youth Justice System

- 33% - Specialist training e.g. DFV, trauma, mental health, drug and alcohol
- 19% - Strategies to prevent re-offending/ recidivism/restorative justice
- 11% - Agency collaboration/information sharing
- 10% - Early intervention/assessing risk/ structured decision making
- 9% - Connections with the child/listen to the child

3. Findings

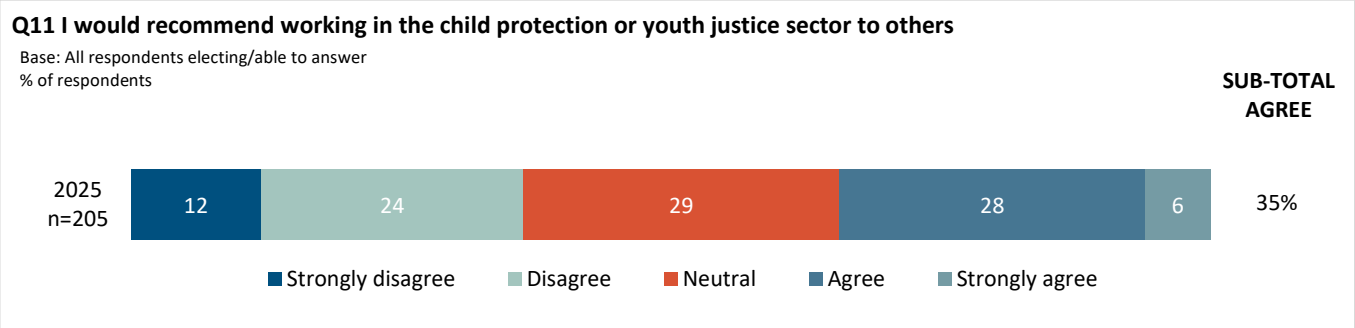
3.1 About the workforce

Q11 I would recommend working in the child protection or youth justice sector to others

3.1.1 2025 result

Thirty-five per cent of respondents reported that they would recommend working in the child protection or youth justice sector to others. Thirty-six per cent would not recommend working in these sectors to others and 29% considered themselves to be neutral on this issue.

Figure 3.1.1: Recommendation of working in the child protection or youth justice sector to others (2025)

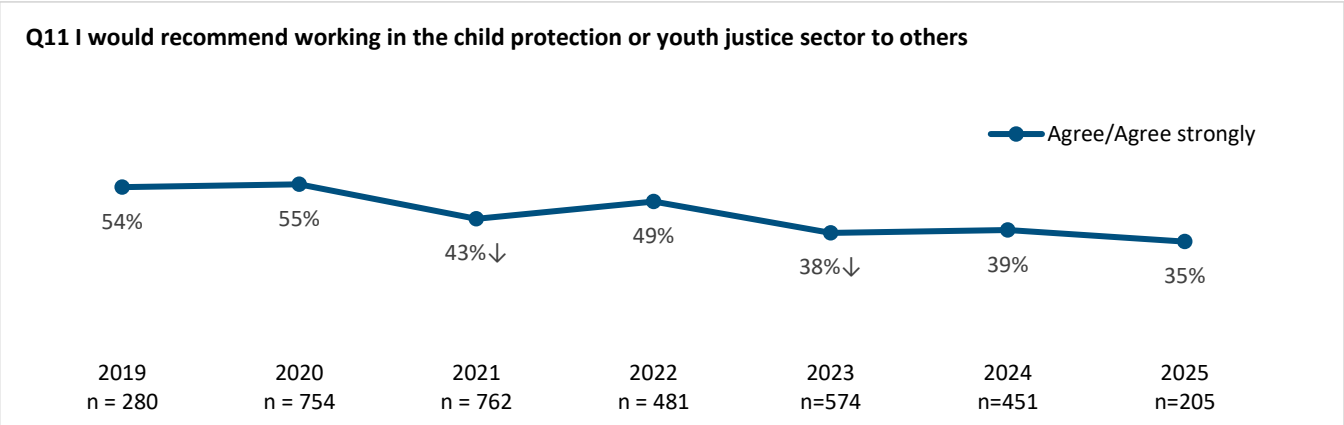


3.1.2 Comparison to previous survey data

The proportion of respondents likely to recommend working in the child protection or youth justice sectors in 2025 (35%) was stable with 2024 results (39%).

In data not displayed on this chart, there was a significant increase in the proportion of respondents who would not recommend working in these sectors from 24% who disagreed or strongly disagreed that they would recommend the sector in 2024 to 36% in 2025.

Figure 3.1.2: Recommendation of child protection or youth justice sector to others 2019–2025 trend+



+ Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers
↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.1.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Likelihood to recommend working in the sector was highest among those working in a non-government organisation (40% agreed or strongly agreed they would recommend), those working in the youth justice sector (40%) or residential care sector (41%), those working in the Sunshine Coast and Central DFSDSCS region (40%), and those who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (42%).

Overall disagreement among respondents that they would recommend working in the sector (strongly disagreed or disagreed) was highest among respondents working in the South East DFSDSCS region (46% disagreement), or in the North Queensland DFSDSCS region (43% disagreement), those working in a government organisation (40% disagreement), and those who identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (53% disagreement) or as having a culturally and linguistically diverse background (48% disagreement).

Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.1.1: Recommendation of child protection or youth justice sector to others by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q11 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	12%	14%	11%	5%	21%	12%	11%	24%	11%	13%	12%
Disagree	24%	26%	21%	25%	25%	26%	25%	19%	17%	24%	24%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	36%	40%	32%	31%	46%	37%	36%	43%	28%	37%	36%
Neutral	29%	30%	28%	37%	29%	23%	25%	24%	33%	28%	31%
Agree	28%	23%	34%	29%	21%	35%	28%	19%	33%	32%	23%
Strongly agree	6%	7%	6%	3%	4%	5%	11%	14%	6%	4%	10%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	35%	29%	40%	32%	25%	40%	39%	33%	39%	36%	33%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.1.2: Recommendation of child protection or youth justice sector to others by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q11 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	12%	12%	10%	18%	21%	11%	24%	11%
Disagree	24%	27%	10%	14%	32%	23%	24%	24%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	36%	39%	20%	32%	53%	35%	48%	35%
Neutral	29%	28%	40%	27%	5%	31%	32%	28%
Agree	28%	28%	15%	41%	32%	28%	16%	30%
Strongly agree	6%	4%	25%		11%	6%	4%	7%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	35%	32%	40%	41%	42%	34%	20%	37%

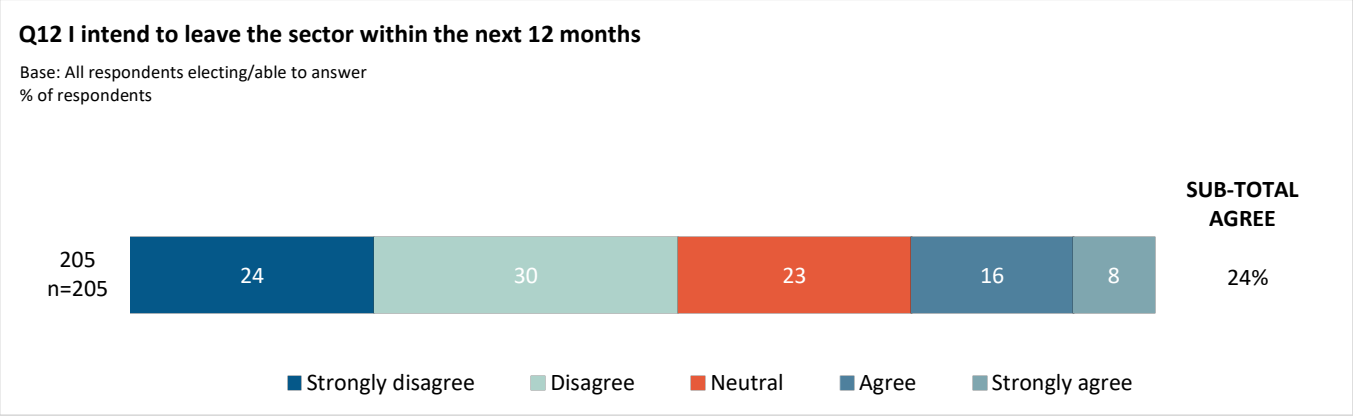
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q12 I intend to leave the sector within the next 12 months

3.1.4 2025 result

Just over half (53%) of respondents reported that they did not intend to leave the child protection or youth justice sector within the next 12 months. Twenty-four per cent of respondents reported an intention to leave their respective sector within the next 12 months, while 23% provided a neutral response to this question.

Figure 3.1.3: Intention to leave the sector within the next 12 months (2025)

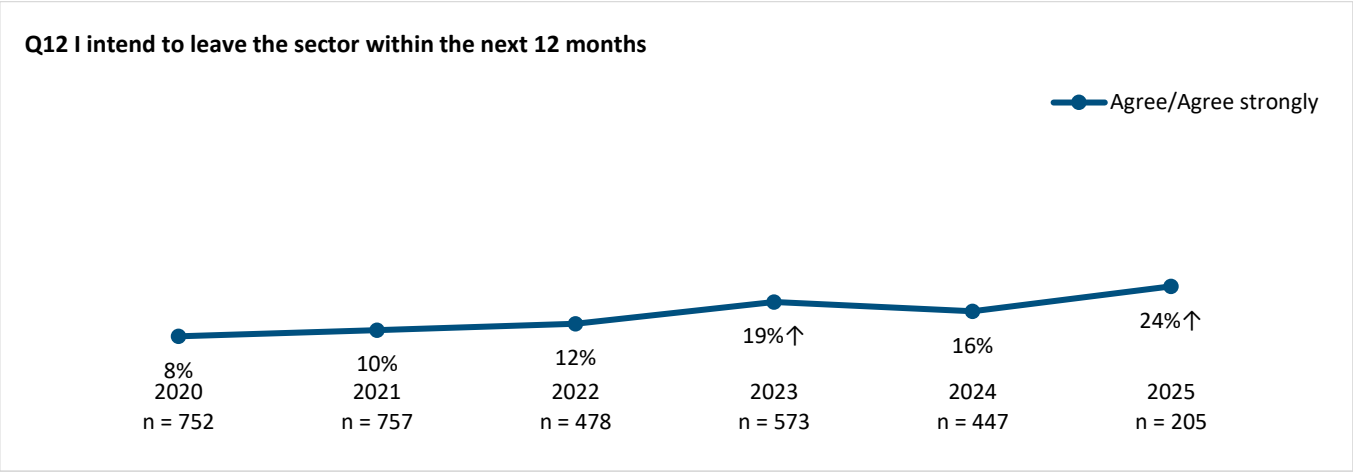


3.1.5 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, the proportion of respondents who indicated they were likely to leave their sector in the next 12 months (agreed or strongly agreed) increased significantly from 16% in 2024 to 24% in 2025.

In data not displayed here, the significant change in results was due to a change in reported overall agreement from government respondents (18% in 2024, 33% in 2025) while agreement among non-government respondents was stable (15% in 2024, 16% in 2025).

Figure 3.1.4: Intention to leave the sector 2020–2025 trend+



+ Data for 2020 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022 - 2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.1.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

Reported intention to leave (agreed or strongly agreed) was higher among respondents working in a government organisation (33%) compared to those in a non-government organisation (16%). Those respondents working in the South East DFSDSCS region (39%) or the North Queensland DFSDSCS region (33%) were also more likely to display higher levels of intent to leave in contrast to respondents from other regions.

Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.1.3: Intention to leave the sector within the next 12 months by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q12 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 35	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 77
Strongly disagree	24%	15%	32%	36%	14%	26%	14%	24%	11%	20%	29%
Disagree	30%	28%	32%	25%	21%	30%	46%	29%	28%	30%	30%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	53%	43%	64%	61%	36%	56%	60%	52%	39%	50%	58%
Neutral	23%	25%	20%	17%	25%	28%	23%	14%	33%	24%	21%
Agree	16%	20%	12%	17%	18%	12%	11%	19%	22%	18%	12%
Strongly agree	8%	13%	4%	5%	21%	5%	6%	14%	6%	8%	9%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	24%	33%	16%	22%	39%	16%	17%	33%	28%	26%	21%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.1.4: Intention to leave the sector within the next 12 months by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q12 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	24%	22%	15%	23%	21%	24%	12%	25%
Disagree	30%	29%	40%	18%	42%	29%	44%	28%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	53%	51%	55%	41%	63%	53%	56%	53%
Neutral	23%	22%	20%	32%	16%	23%	20%	22%
Agree	16%	17%	10%	23%	11%	16%	16%	16%
Strongly agree	8%	9%	15%	5%	11%	8%	8%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	24%	26%	25%	27%	21%	24%	24%	24%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

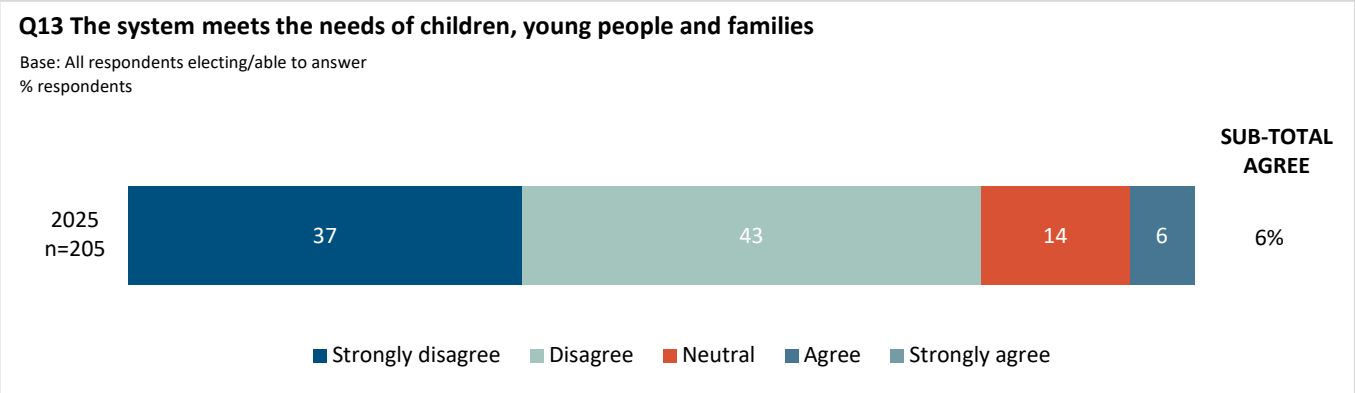
3.2 Statutory systems (child protection and youth justice)

*Q13 Thinking about **statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) as a whole**, how much do you agree or disagree the child protection and family support system meets the needs of children, young people and families?*

3.2.1 2025 result

Respondents were asked their opinion as to whether the child protection and family support system meets the needs of children, young people and families. Six per cent of respondents working in the child protection or youth justice sectors agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. In total, 80% of respondents disagreed with this statement (37% strongly disagreed, 43% disagreed). The remainder (14%) were neutral.

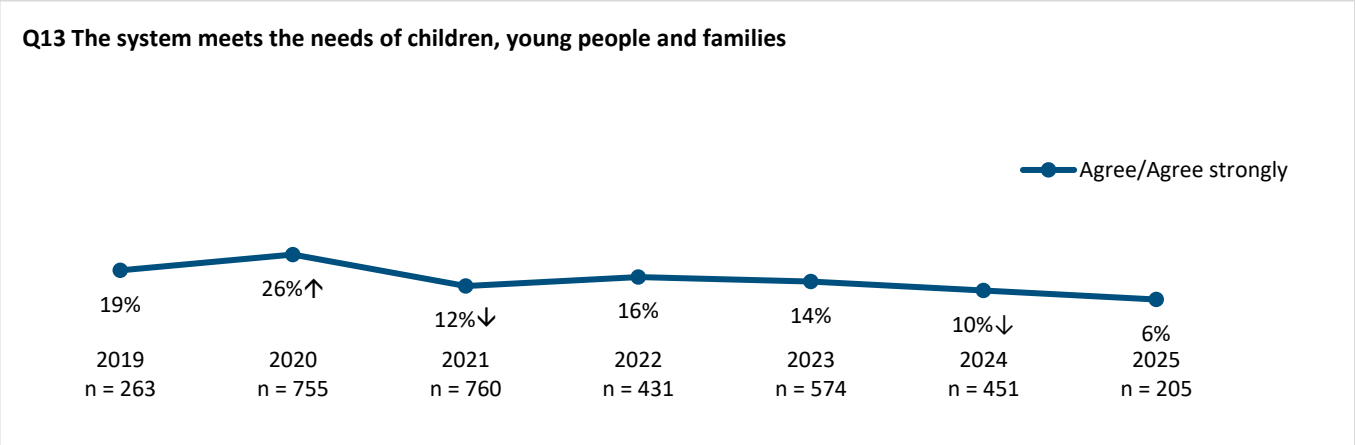
Figure 3.2.1: Agreement with the system meeting the needs of children, young people and families (2025)



3.2.2 Comparison to previous survey data

There continued to be a gradual decline in the proportion of respondents who agreed or strongly agreed that the system meets the needs of children, young people and families, with overall agreement decreasing from 10% in 2024 to 6% in 2025. This annual shift is not statistically significant; however, is when compared back to results from 2023 and prior.

Figure 3.2.2: Agreement with the system meeting the needs of children, young people and families 2019–2025 trends+



+ Data for 2019 to 2022 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2023-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.2.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Those working in their sector for 10 or more years (85% disagreed or strongly disagreed), those working in the Sunshine Coast and Central DFSDSCS region (84%), those working in youth justice (90%), and those who identify as either Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (89%) or from a culturally and linguistically diverse background (84%) were the segments most likely to disagree or strongly disagree that the system meets the needs of children, young people and families (80% average disagreement overall).

Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.2.1: Agreement with the system meeting the needs of children, young people and families by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q13 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	37%	39%	34%	39%	46%	23%	31%	33%	61%	33%	44%
Disagree	43%	41%	46%	37%	36%	60%	47%	48%	22%	44%	41%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	80%	80%	80%	76%	82%	84%	78%	81%	83%	77%	85%
Neutral	14%	12%	16%	17%	7%	9%	19%	19%	6%	17%	8%
Agree	6%	8%	5%	7%	11%	7%	3%		11%	6%	8%
Strongly agree											
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	6%	8%	5%	7%	11%	7%	3%		11%	6%	8%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.2: Agreement with the system meeting the needs of children, young people and families by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q13 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	37%	39%	45%	27%	37%	37%	40%	36%
Disagree	43%	41%	45%	41%	53%	43%	44%	44%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	80%	81%	90%	68%	89%	79%	84%	80%
Neutral	14%	12%	10%	27%	5%	14%	12%	13%
Agree	6%	7%		5%	5%	6%	4%	7%
Strongly agree								
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	6%	7%		5%	5%	6%	4%	7%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

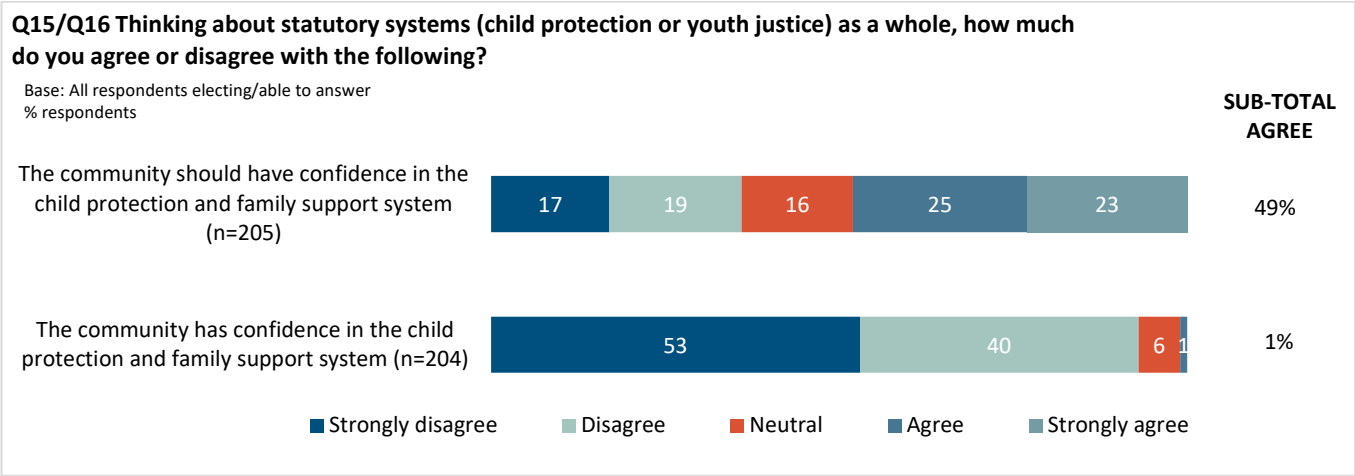
*Thinking about **statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) as a whole**, how much do you agree or disagree with the following?*
Q15 The community has confidence in the child protection and family support system
Q16 The community should have confidence in the child protection and family support system

3.2.4 2025 result

Respondents were asked whether they perceive that the community has confidence in the child protection and family support system. Only 1% of respondents agreed that the community has confidence in the system with 93% disagreeing (40% disagreed, 53% strongly disagreed).

Respondents were further asked whether they thought the community should have confidence in the child protection and family support systems. A total of 49% of respondents agreed (25% agreed, 23% strongly agreed) that the community should have confidence in these systems. Thirty-five percent disagreed while the remaining 16% were neutral regarding this statement.

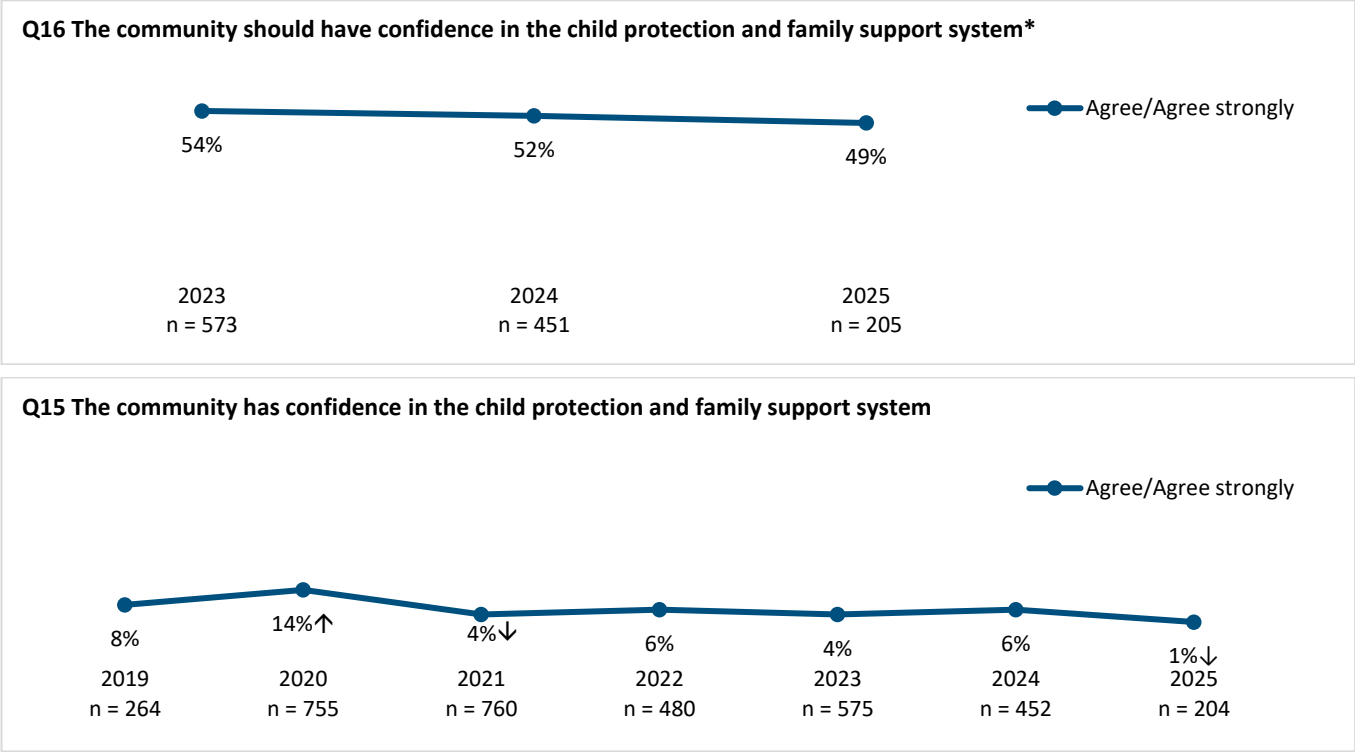
Figure 3.2.3: Agreement with statement on community confidence in the child protection and family support system (2025)



3.2.5 Comparison to previous survey data

Respondents held a similar perception on whether the community should have confidence in the child protection and family support system in 2025 as in 2024 and 2023. However, overall agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) that the community has confidence in the child protection and family support system was significantly lower in 2025 (1%) compared to 2024 (6%).

Figure 3.2.4: Agreement with statements on community confidence in the child protection and family support system 2019–2025 trends+



* New question in 2023. + Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022 - 2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in **Table 2.4**.

3.2.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents from the South East DFSDSCS region displayed the greatest level of agreement as to whether the community has confidence in the child protection and family support system, although agreement was still relatively low at 7% (1% average).

Respondents from the child protection sector were more likely to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that the community should have confidence in the child protection and family support systems (52%) compared to respondents working in the youth justice system (30%) or residential care system (41%).

Note: These differences were not statistically significant. Table 3.2.4 shows other statistically significant differences regarding 'neutral'.

Table 3.2.3: Agreement with statements on community confidence in the child protection and family support system by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q15/Q16 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
The community has confidence in the child protection and family support system											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 42	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	53%	54%	52%	49%	61%	48%	61%	48%	61%	53%	54%
Disagree	40%	40%	40%	44%	32%	40%	36%	48%	33%	41%	38%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	93%	94%	92%	93%	93%	88%	97%	95%	94%	94%	92%
Neutral	6%	4%	8%	7%		12%	3%	5%	6%	6%	6%
Agree	1%	2%			7%					1%	1%
Strongly agree											
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	1%	2%			7%					1%	1%
The community should have confidence in the child protection and family support system											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	17%	14%	19%	20%	7%	12%	11%	24%	33%	15%	19%
Disagree	19%	22%	16%	20%	21%	16%	19%	24%	6%	18%	19%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	35%	35%	35%	41%	29%	28%	31%	48%	39%	33%	38%
Neutral	16%	14%	18%	19%	21%	16%	17%	10%	6%	19%	10%
Agree	25%	22%	29%	27%	21%	28%	25%	24%	22%	24%	28%
Strongly agree	23%	29%	17%	14%	29%	28%	28%	19%	33%	24%	23%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	49%	51%	47%	41%	50%	56%	53%	43%	56%	48%	51%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.4: Agreement with statements on community confidence in the child protection and family support system by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q15/Q16 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
The community has confidence in the child protection and family support system								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	53%	52%	55%	45%	63%	53%	64%	52%
Disagree	40%	41%	40%	50%	37%	40%	32%	41%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	93%	93%	95%	95%	100%	93%	96%	93%
Neutral	6%	6%	5%	5%		6%	4%	6%
Agree	1%	1%				1%		1%
Strongly agree								
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	1%	1%				1%		1%
The community should have confidence in the child protection and family support system								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	17%	17%	20%	14%	21%	16%	24%	16%
Disagree	19%	19%	25%	14%	21%	18%	28%	17%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	35%	37%	45%	27%	42%	35%	52%	33%
Neutral	16%	12% ↓	25%	32%	16%	16%	12%	16%
Agree	25%	26%	20%	27%	26%	25%	24%	26%
Strongly agree	23%	26%	10%	14%	16%	24%	12%	25%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	49%	52%	30%	41%	42%	50%	36%	51%

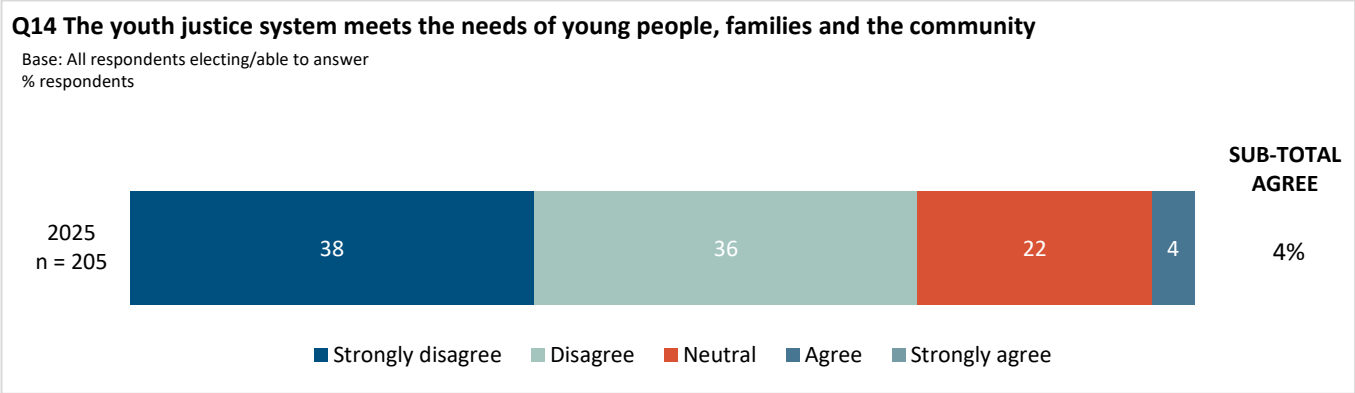
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

*Q14 Thinking about **statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) as a whole**, how much do you agree or disagree the youth justice system meets the needs of young people, families and the community?*

3.2.7 2025 result

Respondents were asked their opinion as to whether the youth justice system meets the needs of young people, families and the community. A total of 4% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. Seventy-four per cent of respondents disagreed with this statement (38% strongly disagreed, 36% disagreed). The remainder (22%) were neutral.

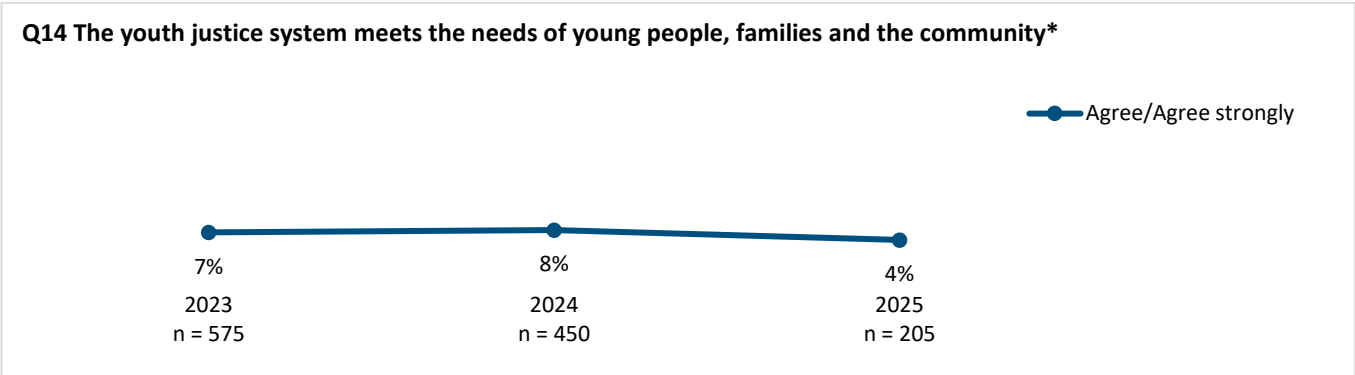
Figure 3.2.5: Agreement with the youth justice system meeting the needs of children, young people and families (2025)



3.2.8 Comparison to previous survey data

Overall agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) that the youth justice system meets the needs of young people, families and the community in 2025 (4%) was statistically consistent with 2024 (8%).

Figure 3.2.6: Agreement with the youth justice system meeting the needs of children, young people and families 2023–2025 trends[+]



* New question in 2023. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.2.9 Sub-group differences (2025)

Those working in the youth justice sector (20%) and respondents employed by a government agency (8%) were the segments most likely to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that the youth justice system meets the needs of children, young people and families (4% average).

Respondents who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander were the most likely to disagree or strongly disagree (89%) that the youth justice system meets the needs of children, young people and families.

Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.2.5: Agreement with the youth justice system meeting the needs of children, young people and families by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q14 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	38%	36%	40%	37%	43%	26%	31%	48%	67%	37%	40%
Disagree	36%	34%	37%	39%	29%	40%	44%	33%	11%	35%	37%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	74%	71%	77%	76%	71%	65%	75%	81%	78%	71%	77%
Neutral	22%	22%	23%	20%	25%	33%	19%	14%	17%	25%	19%
Agree	4%	8%		3%	4%	2%	6%	5%	6%	4%	4%
Strongly agree											
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	4%	8%		3%	4%	2%	6%	5%	6%	4%	4%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.6: Agreement with the youth justice system meeting the needs of children, young people and families by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q14 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	38%	41%	40%	23%	47%	37%	48%	37%
Disagree	36%	34%	20%	50%	42%	35%	28%	37%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	74%	75%	60%	73%	89%	72%	76%	74%
Neutral	22%	23%	20%	27%	11%	23%	20%	22%
Agree	4%	2%	20%			4%	4%	4%
Strongly agree								
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	4%	2%	20%			4%	4%	4%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

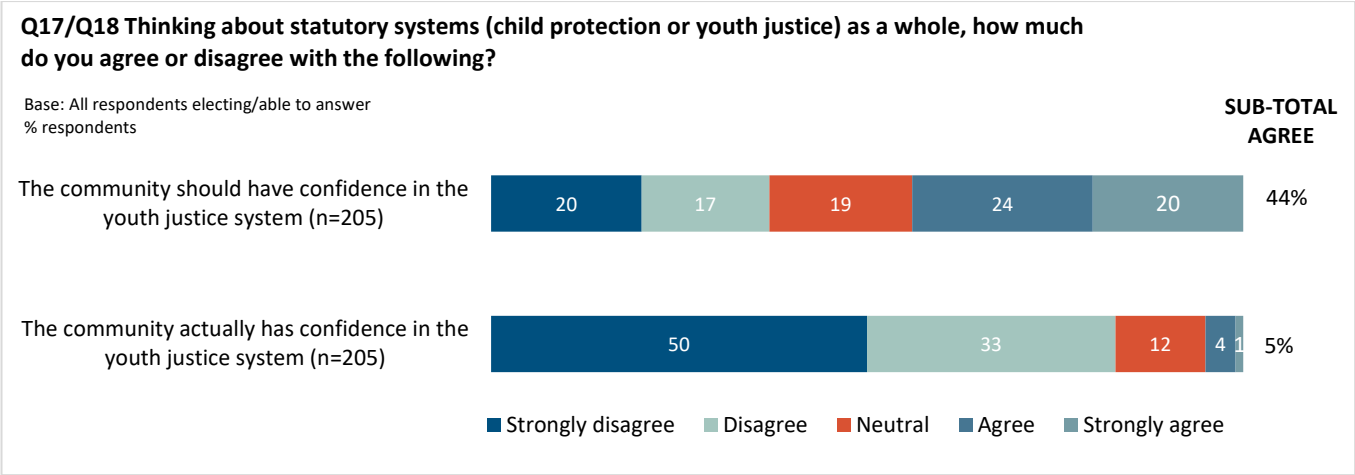
*Thinking about **statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) as a whole**, how much do you agree or disagree with the following?*
Q17 The community has confidence in the youth justice system
Q18 The community should have confidence in the youth justice system

3.2.10 2025 result

Respondents were asked whether they believe that the community has confidence in the youth justice system. Five per cent of respondents agreed that the community has confidence in the system while 82% disagreed (33% disagreed, 50% strongly disagreed).

Respondents were also asked whether they thought the community should have confidence in the youth justice system. A total of 44% of respondents agreed (24% agreed, 20% strongly agreed) that the community should have confidence in this system. Thirty-eight per cent of respondents disagreed that the community should have confidence in the youth justice system with 20% strongly disagreeing and 17% disagreeing. Nineteen per cent were neutral regarding this statement.

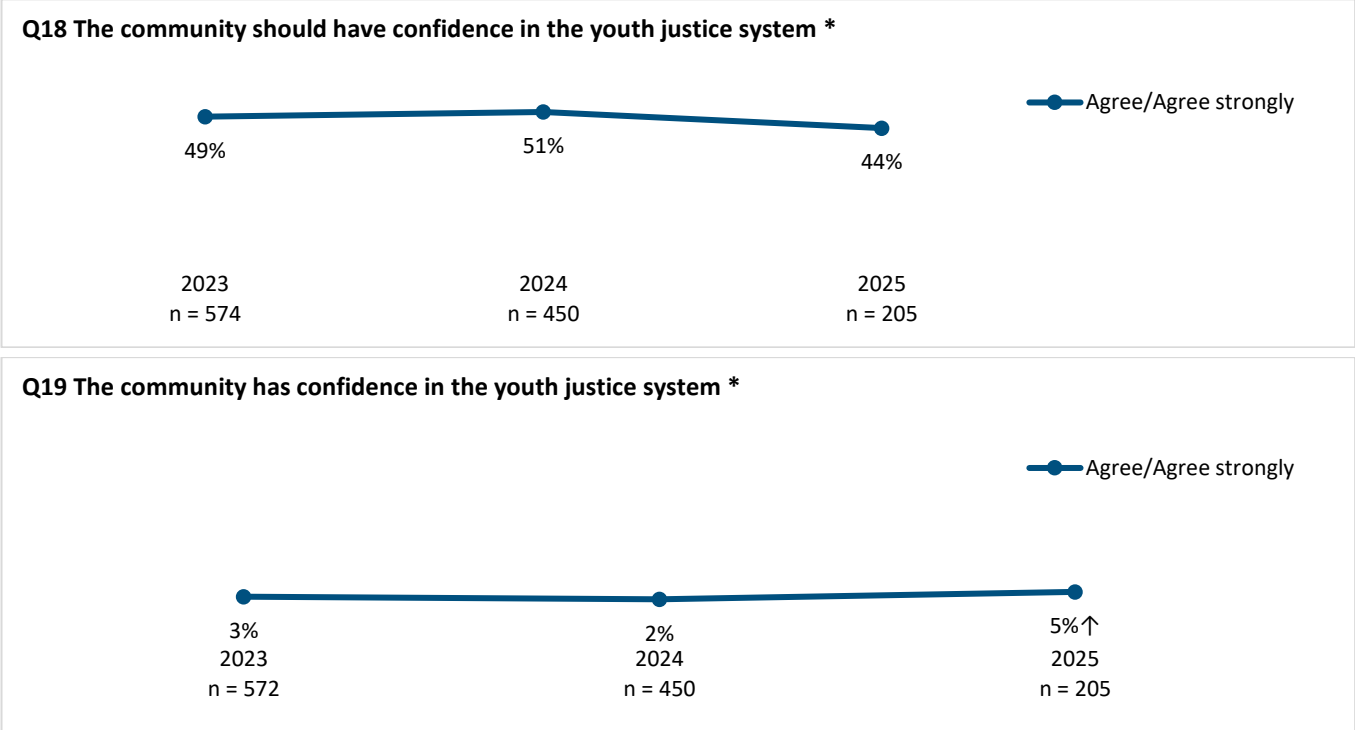
Figure 3.2.7: Agreement with statements on community confidence in the youth justice system (2025)



3.2.11 Comparison to previous survey data

Total agreement that the community has confidence in the youth justice system was significantly higher in 2025 (5%) compared to 2024 (2%). Total agreement that the community should have confidence in the youth justice system was slightly lower among workforce respondents, however not to a statistically significant degree.

Figure 3.2.8: Agreement with statements on community confidence in the youth justice system 2023–2025 trends+



* New questions in 2023. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.2.12 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in the Sunshine Coast and Central and North Queensland DFSDSCS regions were more likely than other regions to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that the community has confidence in the youth justice system (9% and 10% respectively, 5% average).

Sixty per cent of respondents working in the youth justice system agreed overall that the community should have confidence in the system and 15% agreed overall that the community has this confidence in the youth justice system. This is higher than observed for respondents from other sectors (44% and 5% average respectively).

Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.2.7: Agreement with statement on community confidence in the youth justice system by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q17/Q18 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
The community has confidence in the youth justice system											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	50%	50%	50%	42%	57%	37%	61%	57%	61%	49%	50%
Disagree	33%	30%	35%	42%	11%	37%	31%	33%	28%	33%	32%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	82%	80%	84%	85%	68%	74%	92%	90%	89%	83%	82%
Neutral	12%	13%	12%	12%	25%	16%	8%		6%	12%	13%
Agree	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	7%		5%	6%	4%	4%
Strongly agree	1%	3%			4%	2%		5%		2%	1%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	5%	7%	4%	3%	7%	9%		10%	6%	6%	5%
The community should have confidence in the youth justice system											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	20%	20%	21%	15%	29%	16%	19%	33%	22%	18%	23%
Disagree	17%	17%	17%	27%	21%	12%	14%	5%	11%	18%	15%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	38%	36%	39%	42%	50%	28%	33%	38%	33%	37%	38%
Neutral	19%	19%	18%	24%	18%	14%	25%	14%	6%	19%	18%
Agree	24%	23%	26%	22%	11%	37%	25%	24%	22%	25%	24%
Strongly agree	20%	23%	17%	12%	21%	21%	17%	24%	39%	20%	19%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	44%	45%	43%	34%	32%	58%	42%	48%	61%	44%	44%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.8: Agreement with statement on community confidence in the youth justice system by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q17/Q18 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
The community has confidence in the youth justice system								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	50%	49%	50%	45%	53%	50%	60%	49%
Disagree	33%	34%	30%	32%	37%	32%	24%	34%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	82%	83%	80%	77%	89%	82%	84%	83%
Neutral	12%	12%	5%	18%	5%	12%	12%	12%
Agree	4%	3%	15%	5%		4%	4%	4%
Strongly agree	1%	2%			5%	1%		2%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	5%	5%	15%	5%	5%	5%	4%	6%
The community should have confidence in the youth justice system								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	20%	21%	25%	18%	11%	22%	36%	18%
Disagree	17%	19%	10%	18%	16%	17%	16%	17%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	38%	39%	35%	36%	26%	39%	52%	36%
Neutral	19%	18%	5%	32%	32%	17%	4%	20%
Agree	24%	21%	55%	18%	21%	25%	28%	24%
Strongly agree	20%	21%	5%	14%	21%	19%	16%	20%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	44%	43%	60%	32%	42%	44%	44%	44%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

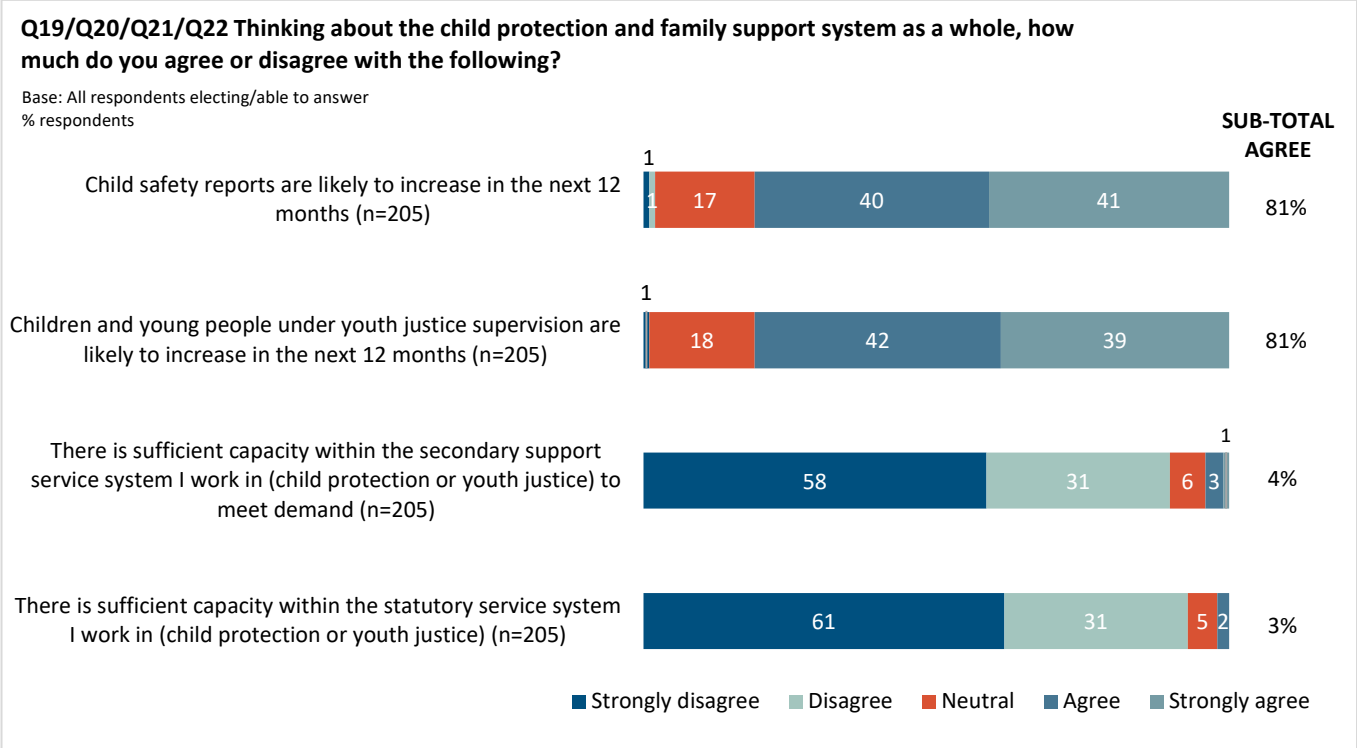
*Thinking about **the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) as a whole**, how much do you agree or disagree with the following?*
Q19 There is sufficient capacity within the secondary support service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand
Q20 There is sufficient capacity within the statutory service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand
Q21 Child safety reports are likely to increase in the next 12 months
Q22 Children and young people under youth justice supervision are likely to increase in the next 12 months

3.2.13 2025 result

The majority of respondents (81%) agreed or strongly agreed that child safety reports and children and young people under youth justice supervision are likely to increase in the next 12 months. For both aspects, there was minimal disagreement with the remainder of respondents more likely to be neutral in their response.

When asked about the current capacity within the sector, the majority of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed there is sufficient capacity either within the secondary support service system (89%) or within their statutory service system (92%). Less than 5% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with these statements regarding sufficiency of capacity.

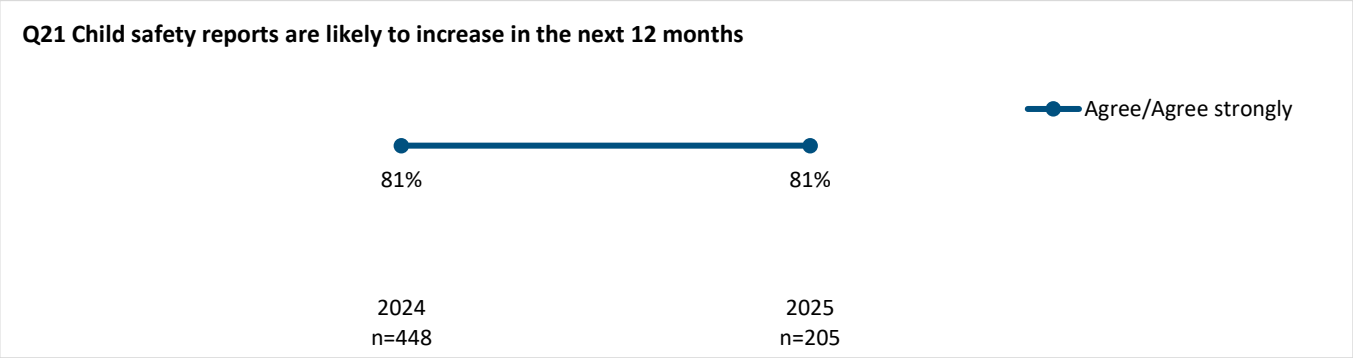
Figure 3.2.9: Agreement with statements on expected demand and current capacity of the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) (2025)

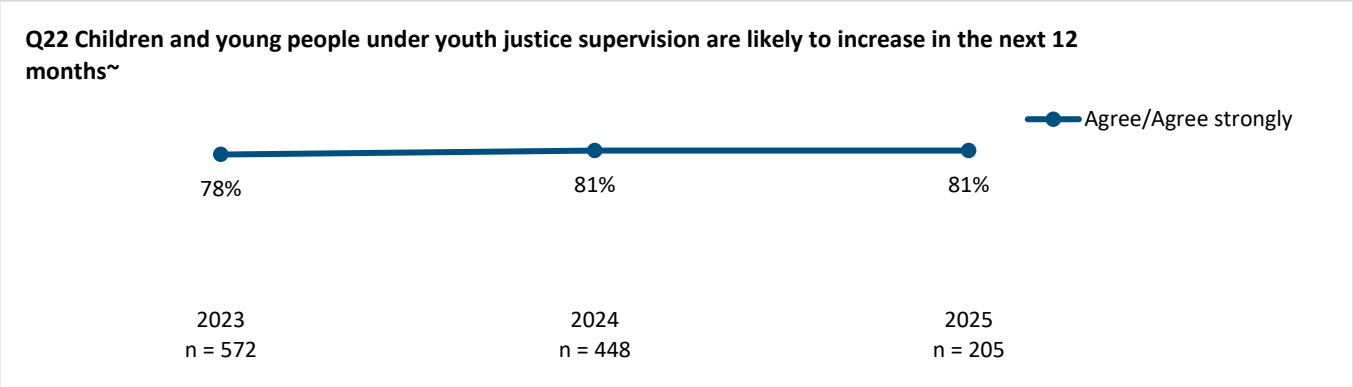


3.2.14 Comparison to previous survey data

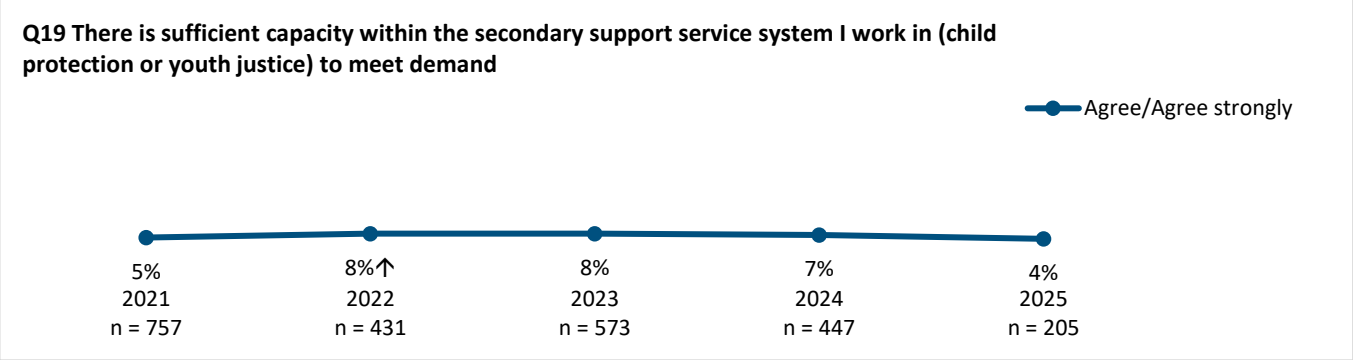
Total agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) that there is sufficient capacity to meet demand within the statutory support system that respondents work within was significantly lower in 2025 (7% in 2024, 3% in 2025). Other results were stable against the prior year.

Figure 3.2.10: Agreement with statements on capacity of the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) 2022-2024+



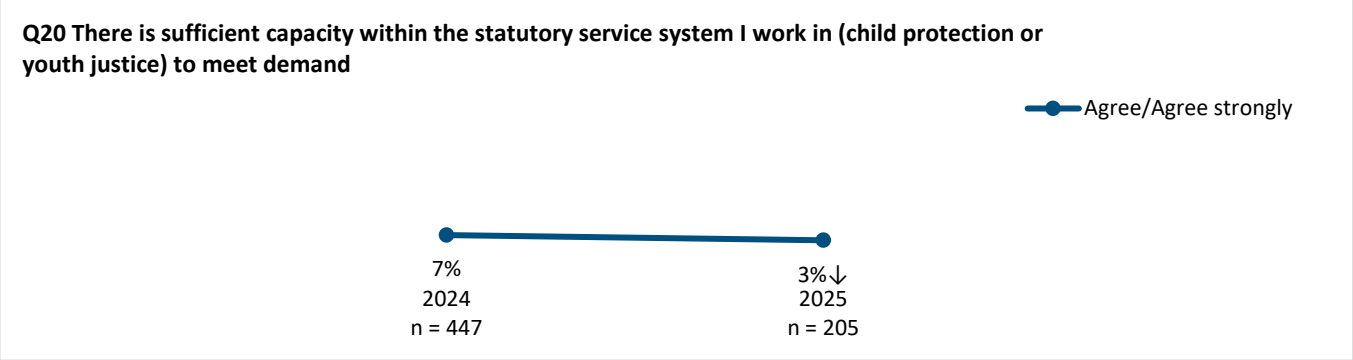


~ Asked as "Family support referrals and children and young people under youth justice supervision are likely to increase in the next 12 months" in 2023.



+ Data for 2021 and 2022 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2023-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.2.10: Agreement with statements on capacity of the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) 2022-2024 (continued)



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.2.15 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working for a government organisation had a tendency to display a more pessimistic outlook when reflecting on the demand over the next 12 months and system capacity in contrast to those working for a non-government agency. Table 3.2.9 highlights the details of where statistically significant differences exist between these two groups on the degree of agreement or disagreement. However, total agreement and total disagreement levels are not statistically different between those working for government organisations and those working for non-government organisations.

Table 3.2.10 shows results for respondents who work within the child protection sector in contrast to respondents working for youth justice and residential care sectors. These respondents were more likely than other respondents to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that child safety reports are likely to increase in the next 12 months (86% agreed overall, 81% average). Additionally, they were statistically more likely than the total result to disagree overall (disagreed or strongly disagreed) that there is sufficient capacity within the secondary support service system (94% disagreed overall, 89% average) or within the statutory service system they work in (98% disagreed overall, 92% average).

Table 3.2.9: Agreement with statements on expected demand and capacity of the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q19/Q20/Q21/Q22 Column %	Total 2024	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Child safety reports are likely to increase in the next 12 months											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	1%	2%		2%		2%					3%
Disagree	1%	1%	1%			2%			6%		3%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	2%	3%	1%	2%		5%			6%		5%
Neutral	17%	12%	22%	14%	21%	16%	19%	19%	17%	19%	13%
Agree	40%	32%	47%	51%	54%	33%	19%	29%	50%	41%	37%
Strongly agree	41%	53% ↑	30% ↓	34%	25%	47%	61%	52%	28%	40%	45%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	85%	77%	85%	79%	79%	81%	81%	78%	81%	82%
Children and young people under youth justice supervision are likely to increase in the next 12 months											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	1%	2%			4%	2%					3%
Disagree	<1%		1%				3%			1%	
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	1%	2%	1%		4%	2%	3%			1%	3%
Neutral	18%	13%	22%	19%	14%	21%	19%	14%	11%	20%	13%
Agree	42%	35%	49%	47%	46%	44%	31%	29%	50%	40%	46%
Strongly agree	39%	50% ↑	28% ↓	34%	36%	33%	47%	57%	39%	40%	38%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	85%	77%	81%	82%	77%	78%	86%	89%	79%	85%
There is sufficient capacity within the secondary support service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	58%	70% ↑	47% ↓	51%	64%	53%	67%	62%	61%	56%	62%
Disagree	31%	24%	39%	34%	29%	37%	28%	24%	28%	34%	27%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	89%	93%	85%	85%	93%	91%	94%	86%	89%	90%	88%
Neutral	6%	6%	7%	10%	7%	7%	3%	5%		6%	5%
Agree	3%	1%	5%	5%			3%		11%	3%	3%
Strongly agree	1%		3%			2%		10%			4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	4%	1%	8%	5%		2%	3%	10%	11%	3%	6%
There is sufficient capacity within the statutory service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	61%	73% ↑	50% ↓	53%	68%	63%	64%	67%	67%	58%	68%
Disagree	31%	24%	38%	36%	25%	33%	31%	29%	22%	34%	26%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	92%	96%	88%	88%	93%	95%	94%	95%	89%	92%	94%
Neutral	5%	3%	7%	10%	4%	5%	3%			6%	3%
Agree	2%	1%	4%	2%	4%		3%		11%	2%	3%
Strongly agree	<1%		1%					5%			1%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	3%	1%	5%	2%	4%		3%	5%	11%	2%	4%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.10: Agreement with statements on expected demand and capacity of the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q19/Q20/Q21/Q22 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Child safety reports are likely to increase in the next 12 months								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	1%	1%				1%		1%
Disagree	1%	1%				1%		1%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	2%	3%				2%		2%
Neutral	17%	11% ↓	35%	32%	16%	17%	24%	16%
Agree	40%	42%	25%	50%	32%	41%	32%	41%
Strongly agree	41%	44%	40%	18%	53%	41%	44%	41%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	86% ↑	65%	68%	84%	81%	76%	82%
Children and young people under youth justice supervision are likely to increase in the next 12 months								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	1%	1%				1%		1%
Disagree	<1%					1%		1%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	1%	1%				2%		2%
Neutral	18%	16%	20%	14%	21%	17%	16%	17%
Agree	42%	43%	20%	64%	21%	44%	44%	42%
Strongly agree	39%	40%	60%	23%	58%	37%	40%	39%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	83%	80%	86%	79%	82%	84%	81%
There is sufficient capacity within the secondary support service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	58%	65% ↑	35%	50%	63%	58%	56%	59%
Disagree	31%	30%	35%	32%	26%	32%	28%	32%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	89%	94% ↑	70%	82%	89%	90%	84%	91%
Neutral	6%	3% ↓	15%	14%		6%	8%	6%
Agree	3%	1%	10%	5%		3%		3%
Strongly agree	1%	1%	5%		11%	1%	8%	1%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	4%	3%	15%	5%	11%	4%	8%	4%
There is sufficient capacity within the statutory service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	61%	70% ↑	35%	41%	68%	61%	52%	63%
Disagree	31%	28%	40%	36%	26%	31%	32%	31%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	92%	98% ↑	75%	77%	95%	92%	84%	94%
Neutral	5%	1% ↓	15%	14%		5%	12%	3%
Agree	2%	1% ↓	10%	9%		3%		3%
Strongly agree	<1%	1%			5%		4%	
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	3%	1%	10%	9%	5%	3%	4%	3%

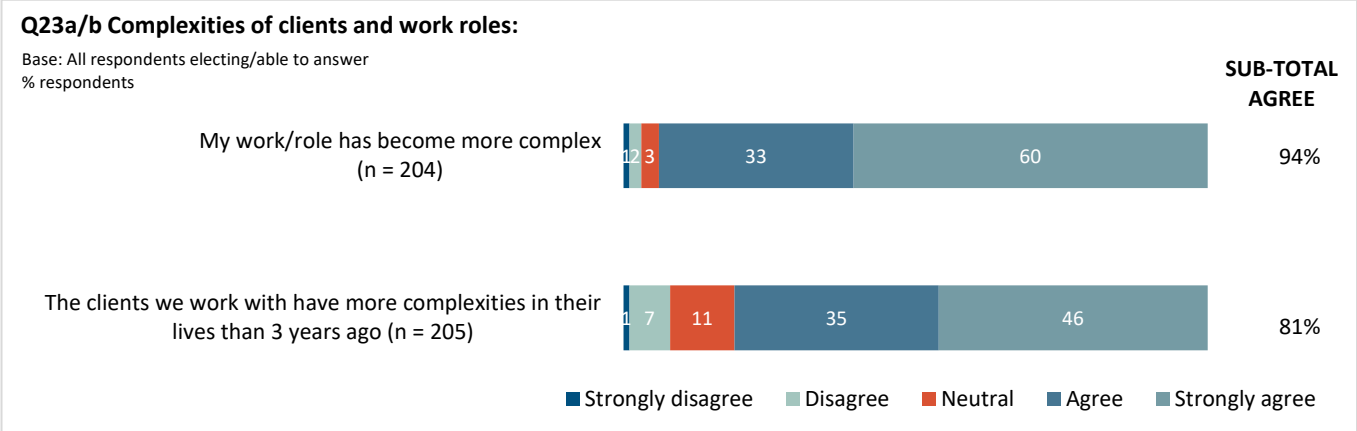
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q23 How much do you agree or disagree with the following?
a) The clients we work with have more complexities in their lives than 3 years ago
b) My work/role has become more complex

3.2.16 2025 result

The majority (94%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their work or role has become more complex. Eighty-one per cent agreed or strongly agreed that the clients they work with have more complexities in their lives than 3 years ago. There was relatively little disagreement with either of these statements among respondents (3% and 8% respectively).

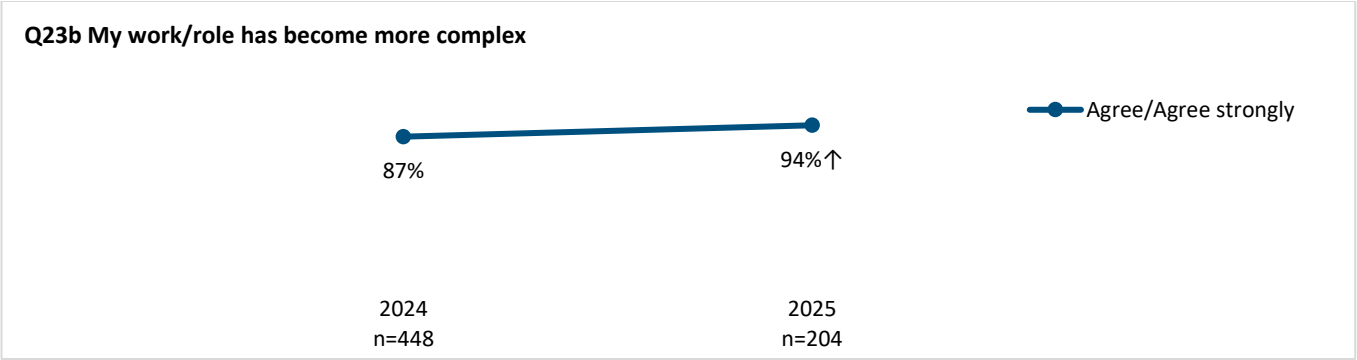
Figure 3.2.11: Complexities of clients and work roles (2025)



3.2.17 Comparison to previous survey data

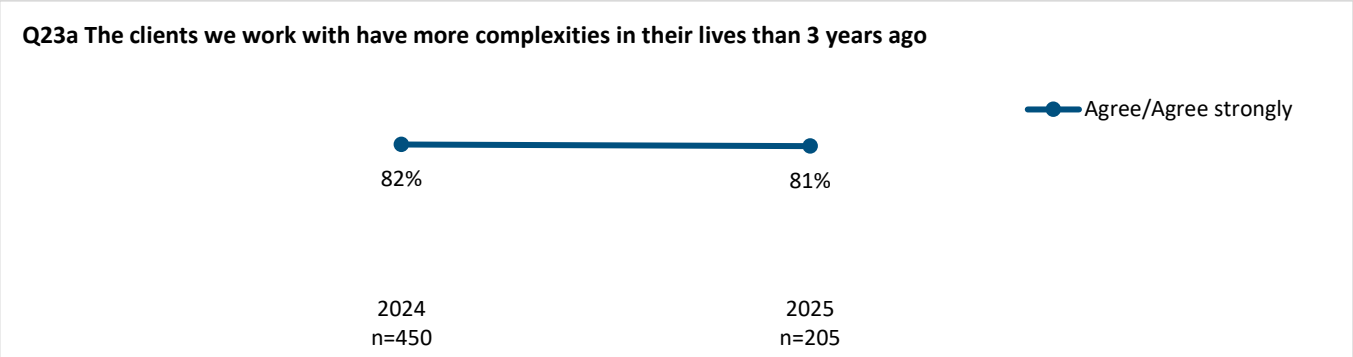
Respondents were significantly more likely to agree or strongly agree that their work/role has become more complex in 2025 (94%) than they were in 2024 (87%). Perspectives on whether the clients that respondents' work with have more complexities than three years ago was stable between the two years.

Figure 3.2.12: Complexities of clients and work roles 2022-2024



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.2.12: Complexities of clients and work roles 2022-2024 (continued)



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.2.18 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in the child protection sector were the most likely sector to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that their work/role has become more complex (97%).

Table 3.2.11: Complexities of clients and work roles by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q23a/b Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
My work/role has become more complex											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 77
Strongly disagree	1%	1%	1%	2%		2%					3%
Disagree	2%	2%	2%	2%		2%	3%		6%	2%	1%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	3%	3%	3%	3%		5%	3%		6%	2%	4%
Neutral	3%	2%	5%	5%	7%	2%	3%			4%	3%
Agree	33%	30%	37%	43%	32%	35%	22%	33%	22%	38%	25%
Strongly agree	60%	65%	55%	48%	61%	58%	72%	67%	72%	56%	69%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	94%	95%	92%	91%	93%	93%	94%	100%	94%	94%	94%
The clients we work with have more complexities in their lives than 3 years ago											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%		3%			1%	3%
Disagree	7%	9%	5%	3%	14%	7%	3%	10%	11%	5%	10%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	8%	10%	7%	5%	18%	7%	6%	10%	11%	6%	13%
Neutral	11%	7%	15%	15%	11%	2%	8%	10%	22%	14%	5%
Agree	35%	32%	37%	39%	39%	33%	25%	48%	22%	42%	23%
Strongly agree	46%	51%	42%	41%	32%	58%	61%	33%	44%	38%	59%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	83%	79%	80%	71%	91%	86%	81%	67%	80%	82%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.12: Complexities of clients and work roles by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q23a/b Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
My work/role has become more complex								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	1%	1%				1%		1%
Disagree	2%	1%		5%	5%	2%	4%	2%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	3%	2%		5%	5%	3%	4%	3%
Neutral	3%	1%	5%	9%		4%	4%	3%
Agree	33%	35%	10%	41%	26%	34%	28%	34%
Strongly agree	60%	61%	85%	45%	68%	60%	64%	60%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	94%	97% ↑	95%	86%	95%	93%	92%	94%
The clients we work with have more complexities in their lives than 3 years ago								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	1%	1%				2%		2%
Disagree	7%	7%	5%	5%	16%	6%	16%	6%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	8%	8%	5%	5%	16%	8%	16%	7%
Neutral	11%	8%	5%	18%	11%	10%	12%	10%
Agree	35%	34%	25%	50%	16%	37%	16%	37%
Strongly agree	46%	49%	65%	27%	58%	45%	56%	45%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	83%	90%	77%	74%	82%	72%	83%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q56 In your opinion, what could be done to improve the child protection and family support system?

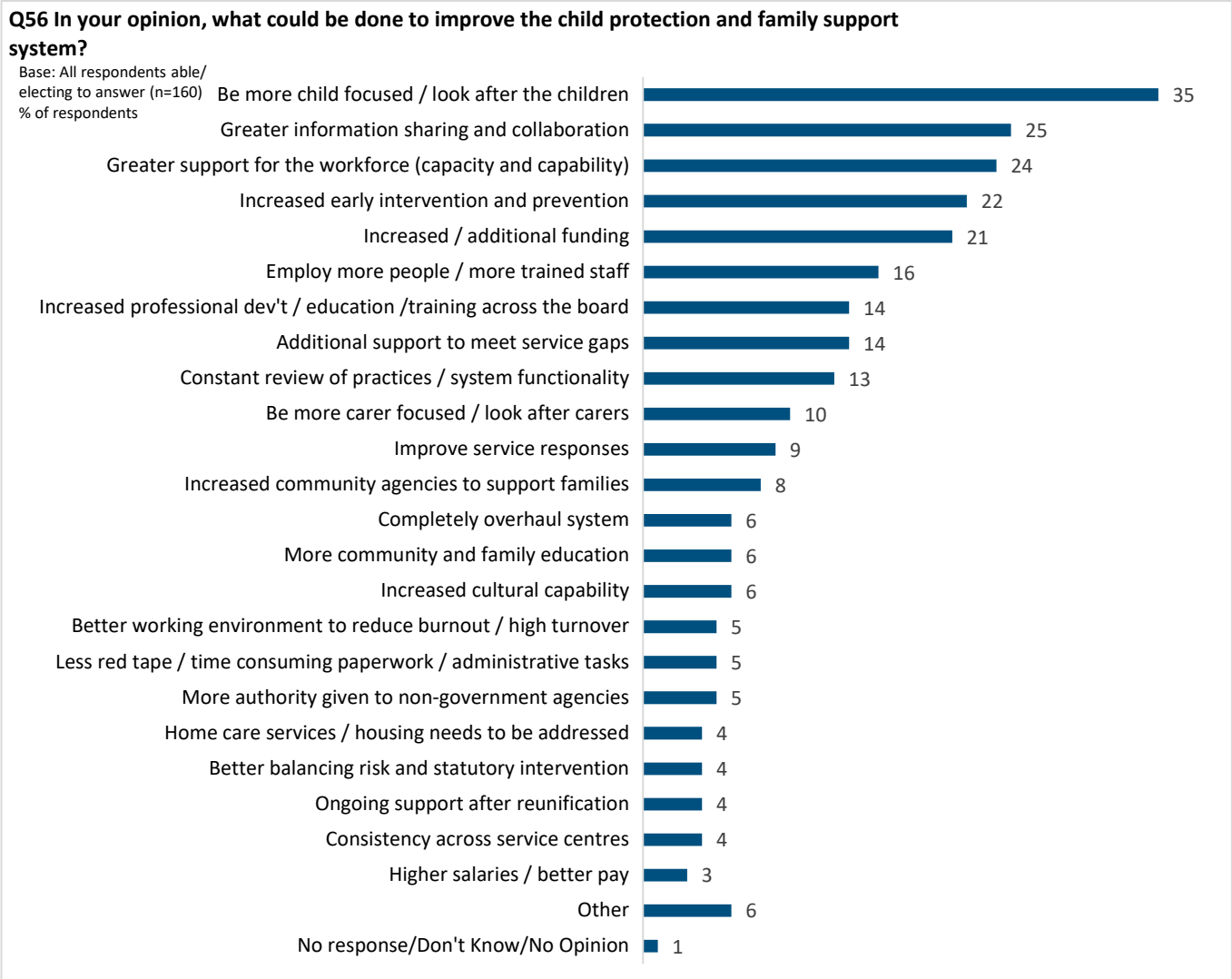
3.2.19 2025 result

When given the opportunity to express, in their own words, what could be done to improve the child protection and family support system, the most common suggestions were to be more child focused (35%), to have greater information sharing and collaboration (25%), and to provide greater support for the workforce (24%). Twenty-two per cent of respondents suggested that increased early intervention and prevention would assist while 21% focused on increasing funding availability.

Following these main suggestions, respondents focused upon improvements to workforce capacity and capability including employing more trained staff (16%) and professional development (14%), as well as system level aspects such as additional support to meet service gaps (14%) and constant review of practices and system functionality (13%).

Other suggestions are included in Figure 3.2.13 below.

Figure 3.2.13: Improving the child protection and family support system (2025)

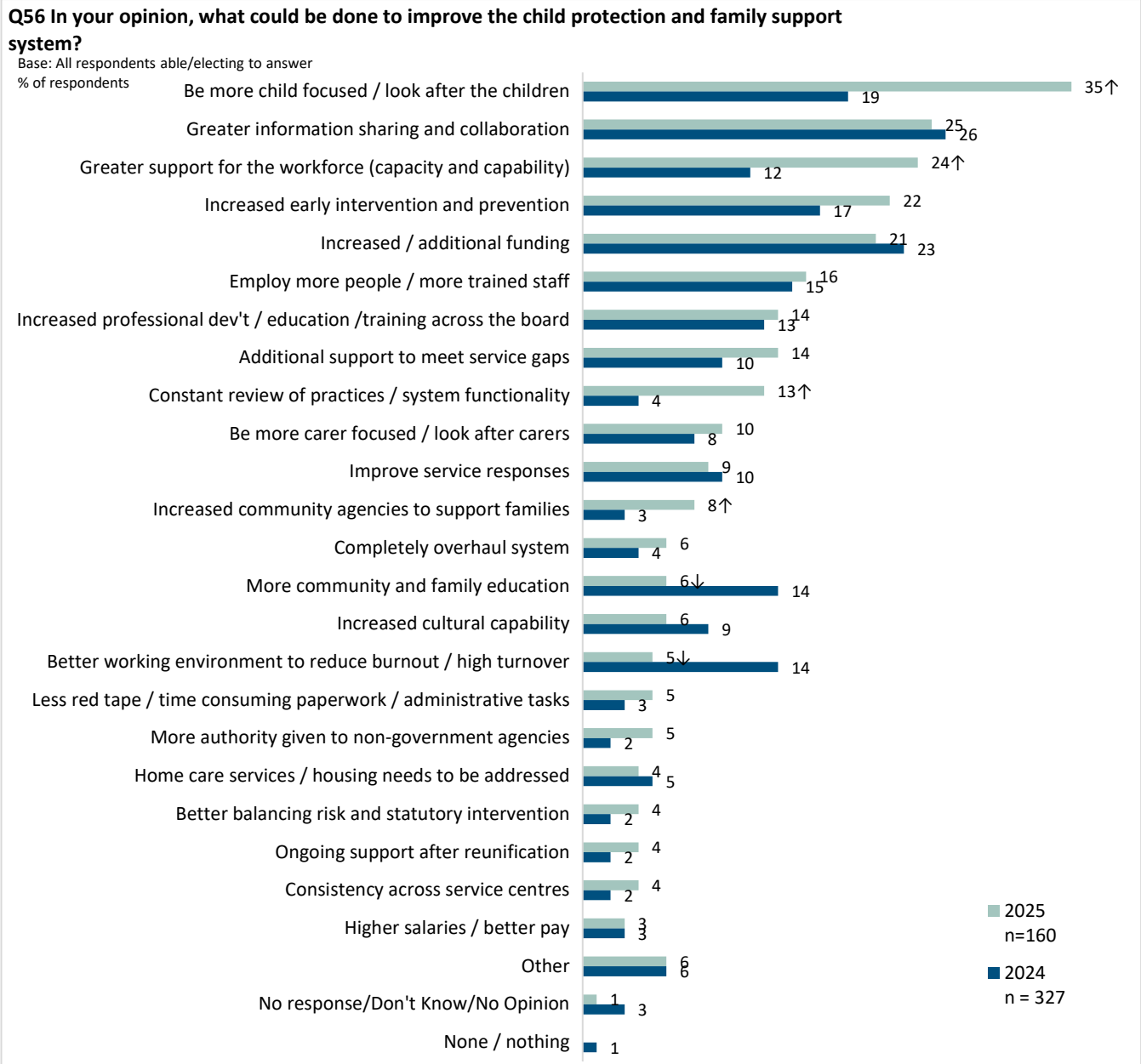


3.2.20 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, respondents were significantly more likely to suggest the system needs to be more child focused (19% in 2024, 35% in 2025), needs greater support for the workforce (12% in 2024, 24% in 2025), constant review of practices and system functionality (4% in 2024, 13% in 2025), and having an increased number of community agencies to support families (3% in 2024, 8% in 2025).

Two of the more predominant suggestion areas highlighted in 2024 were significantly less likely to be mentioned by respondents in 2025: more community and family education (14% in 2024, 6% in 2025) and better working environment to reduce burnout / high turnover (14% in 2024, 5% in 2025).

Figure 3.2.14: Improving the child protection and family support system 2024–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.2.21 Sub-group differences (2025)

The key themes raised by respondents were consistent across sub-groups. Although differences cannot be declared statistically significant, those identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander or as culturally and linguistically diverse placed more importance on increased professional development (20% and 24% respectively, 14% average). Those identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander were also more likely to mention wanting increased community agencies to support families (27%, 8% average) compared to other respondents.

Table 3.2.13: Improving the child protection and family support system by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q56 Column %	Total 2025 n = 160	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 80	Non-govt n = 80	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 47	South East n = 24^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 30	South West n = 29^	North QLD n = 18^	Far North Queensland n = 12^	<10 n = 97	10+ n = 63
Be more child focused / look after the children	35%	28%	43%	45%	38%	40%	24%	22%	25%	41%	25%
Greater information sharing and collaboration	25%	24%	26%	19%	21%	27%	24%	33%	42%	25%	25%
Greater support for the workforce (capacity and capability)	24%	26%	23%	15%	25%	30%	28%	33%	25%	26%	22%
Increased early intervention and prevention	22%	16%	28%	28%	25%	13%	21%	22%	17%	18%	29%
Increased / additional funding	21%	20%	21%	28%	25%	27%	10%	17%		20%	22%
Employ more people / more trained staff	16%	24%	9%	13%	13%	27%	24%	11%		16%	16%
Increased professional development / education / training across the board	14%	18%	11%	9%	21%	10%	17%	22%	17%	11%	19%
Additional support to meet service gaps	14%	11%	18%	19%	13%	17%	7%	17%	8%	10%	21%
Constant review of practices / system functionality	13%	13%	14%	13%	17%		21%	17%	17%	12%	14%
Be more carer focused / look after carers	10%	10%	10%	11%	4%	10%	14%	11%	8%	9%	11%
Improve service responses	9%	8%	10%	15%			17%		17%	8%	10%
Increased community agencies to support families	8%	6%	10%	11%	8%	7%	3%	11%	8%	5%	13%
Completely overhaul system	6%	5%	8%	2%	4%	10%	7%	6%	17%	5%	8%
More community and family education	6%	6%	5%	6%	4%	7%	3%	6%	8%	6%	5%
Increased cultural capability	6%	8%	4%	6%			7%	22%		6%	5%
Better working environment to reduce burnout / high turnover	5%	6%	4%	4%	4%	3%	10%	6%		5%	5%
Less red tape / time consuming paperwork / administrative tasks	5%	8%	3%	9%	8%	7%				2%	10%
More authority given to non-government agencies	5%	4%	6%	4%	8%	3%	7%		8%	3%	8%
Home care services / housing needs to be addressed	4%	4%	5%	6%	4%	3%		6%	8%	4%	5%
Better balancing risk and statutory intervention	4%	5%	4%	4%	8%	3%		6%	8%	4%	5%
Ongoing support after reunification	4%	3%	5%	4%	8%	3%		6%		1%	8%
Consistency across service centres	4%	6%	1%		13%	3%		6%	8%	3%	5%
Higher salaries / better pay	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%			4%	2%
Other	6%	4%	9%	9%		3%	7%	6%	17%	5%	8%
No response/Don't Know/No Opinion	1%		1%		4%					1%	

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.14: Improving the child protection and family support system by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q56 Column %	Total 2025 n = 160	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 115	Youth Justice n = 12^	Residential Care n = 17^	Yes n = 15^	No n = 144	Yes n = 21^	No n = 138
Be more child focused / look after the children	35%	34%	25%	71%	27%	36%	29%	36%
Greater information sharing and collaboration	25%	25%	25%	12%	20%	26%	24%	25%
Greater support for the workforce (capacity and capability)	24%	25%	42%	24%	27%	24%	24%	25%
Increased early intervention and prevention	22%	22%	33%	24%	20%	22%	14%	23%
Increased / additional funding	21%	24%	17%	6%	20%	21%	24%	20%
Employ more people / more trained staff	16%	18%			7%	17%	14%	17%
Increased professional development / education / training across the board	14%	12%	25%	6%	20%	14%	24%	13%
Additional support to meet service gaps	14%	16%	8%	18%		16%	19%	14%
Constant review of practices / system functionality	13%	14%		12%	13%	13%	10%	14%
Be more carer focused / look after carers	10%	10%	17%		7%	10%	5%	11%
Improve service responses	9%	9%	8%	12%		10%	14%	8%
Increased community agencies to support families	8%	7%	17%	12%	27%	6%	10%	8%
Completely overhaul system	6%	5%	25%	6%	7%	6%	19%	4%
More community and family education	6%	5%		12%		6%	5%	6%
Increased cultural capability	6%	4%	25%		7%	6%	10%	5%
Better working environment to reduce burnout / high turnover	5%	7%				6%	5%	5%
Less red tape / time consuming paperwork / administrative tasks	5%	6%		6%	7%	5%		6%
More authority given to non-government agencies	5%	6%				6%		6%
Home care services / housing needs to be addressed	4%	2%	25%	12%	7%	4%		5%
Better balancing risk and statutory intervention	4%	4%	8%	6%	7%	4%	5%	4%
Ongoing support after reunification	4%	5%				4%		4%
Consistency across service centres	4%	5%			7%	3%		4%
Higher salaries / better pay	3%	4%				3%	5%	3%
Other	6%	5%	8%		13%	5%	10%	5%
No response/Don't Know/No Opinion	1%	1%				1%	5%	

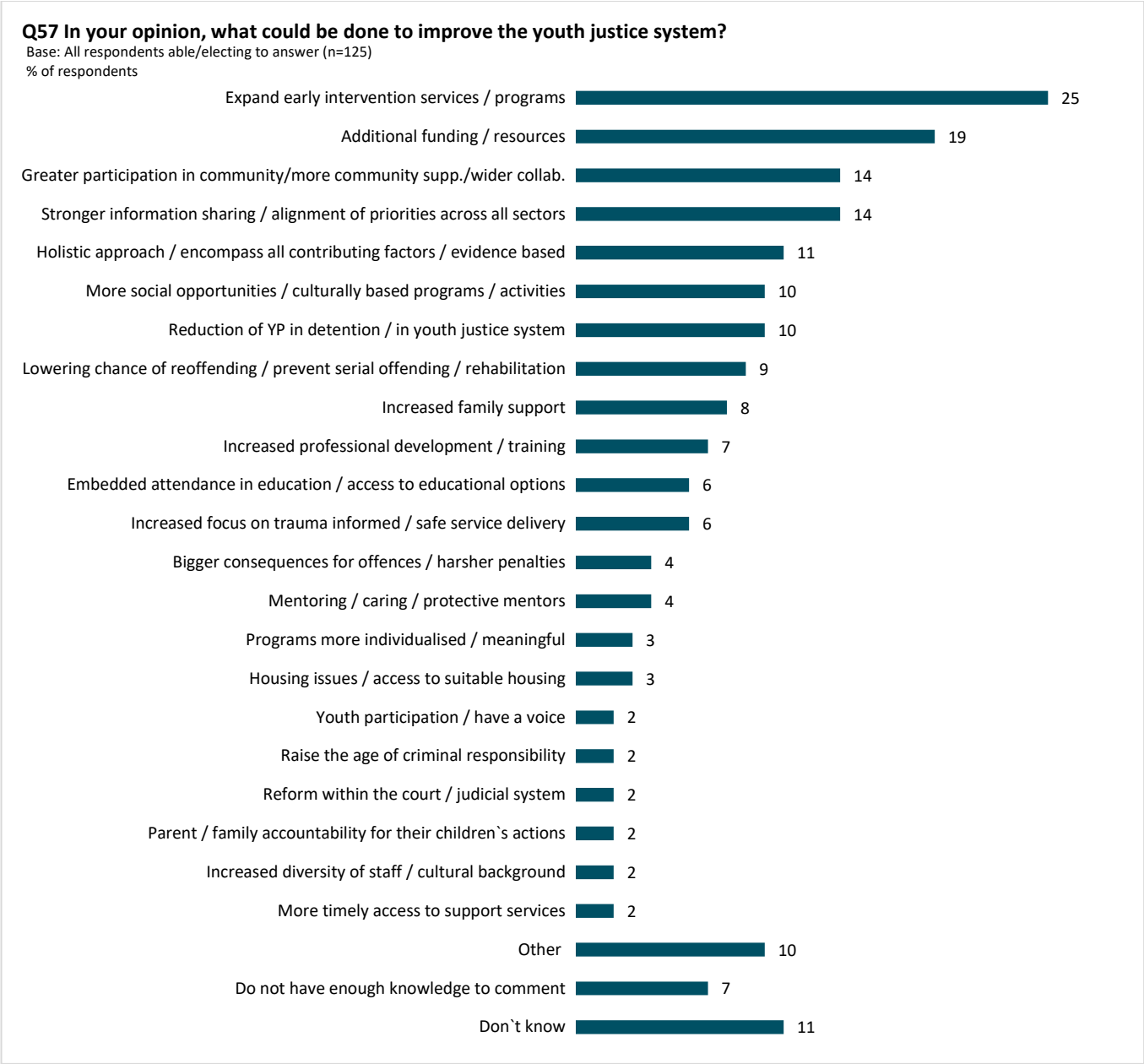
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q57 In your opinion, what could be done to improve the youth justice system?

3.2.22 2025 result

When given the opportunity to express, in their own words, what could be done to improve the youth justice system, the most common suggestions were to expand early intervention services and programs (25%), provide additional funding and resources (19%), have greater participation in community/more community support/wider collaboration (14%), and greater information sharing/sharing protocols/alignment of priorities across the sector (14%). Other suggestions are included in Figure 3.2.15 below.

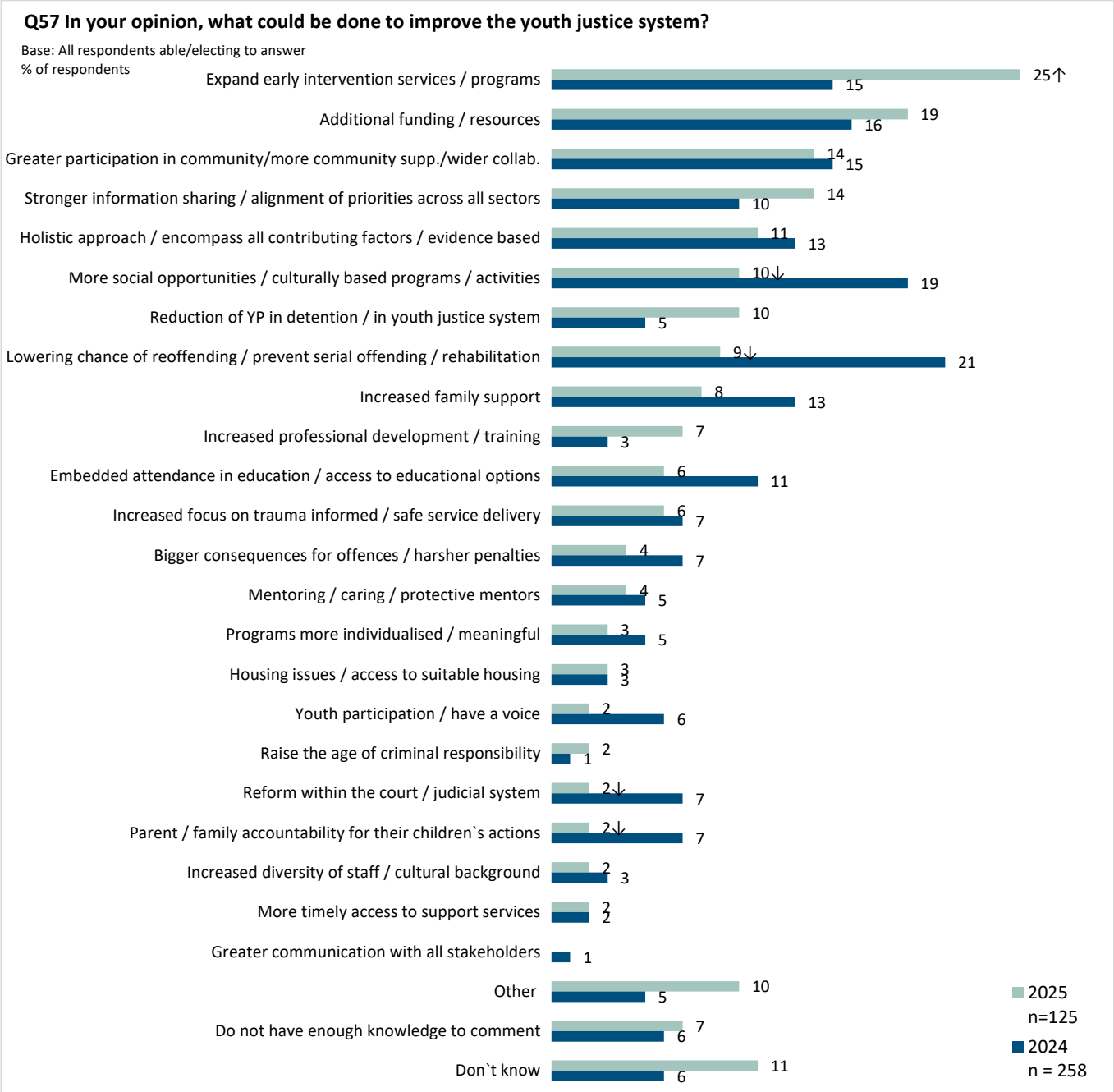
Figure 3.2.15: Improving the youth justice system (2025)



3.2.23 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, there were significantly more suggestions focused on early intervention services and programs (15% in 2024, 25% in 2025). Two of the more prominent suggestions in 2024 were mentioned at a much lower level in 2025: the provision of more social opportunities/culturally based programs/activities (19% in 2024, 10% in 2025) and focusing on reducing reoffending and rehabilitation (21% in 2024, 9% in 2025).

Figure 3.2.16: Improving the youth justice system 2024–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.2.24 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who work within a non-government organisation were more likely to suggest that the youth justice system could be further improved by greater participation in the community/more community support/wider collaboration (25%) compared to those who work in a government organisation (3%). Suggestions to improve participation in the community and more social opportunities were predominantly made by respondents in the youth justice sector and residential care sector rather than by respondents from the child protection sector. See Table 3.2.16 for detailed percentages.

Table 3.2.15: Improving the youth justice system by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q57 Column %	Total 2025 n = 125	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 60	Non-govt n = 65	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 38	South East n = 18^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 23^	South West n = 22^	North QLD n = 13^	Far North Queensland n = 11^	<10 n = 82	10+ n = 43
Expand early intervention services / programs	25%	25%	25%	26%	22%	30%	32%	15%	9%	21%	33%
Additional funding / resources	19%	27%	12%	11%	17%	26%	32%	31%		18%	21%
Greater participation in the community / more community support / wider collaboration	14%	3% ↓	25% ↑	8%	6%	17%	27%	15%	18%	12%	19%
Stronger information sharing protocols / practices / alignment of priorities across all sectors	14%	17%	12%	21%	22%		9%	15%	18%	13%	16%
A holistic approach / encompass all contributing factors / evidence based	11%	12%	11%	8%	11%	13%	5%	23%	18%	12%	9%
More social opportunities / culturally based programs / activities	10%	3%	17%	8%		13%	9%	23%	18%	11%	9%
Reduction of YP in detention / in youth justice system	10%	10%	9%	5%	6%	9%	9%	31%	9%	11%	7%
Lowering chance of reoffending / prevention of serial offending / rehabilitation	9%	8%	9%	5%	6%	17%	9%	15%		7%	12%
Increased family support	8%	13%	3%	11%	6%		5%	15%	18%	6%	12%
Increased professional development / training	7%	7%	8%		6%	13%	5%	23%	9%	6%	9%
Embedded attendance in education / access to educational options	6%	2%	9%	8%		4%	9%	8%		6%	5%
Increased focus on trauma informed / safe service delivery	6%	3%	8%	8%	6%	4%	5%	8%		5%	7%
Bigger consequences for offences / harsher penalties	4%	2%	6%	3%	6%	4%		8%	9%	6%	
Mentoring / caring / protective mentors	4%	5%	3%		6%	9%	5%	8%		5%	2%
Programs more individualised / meaningful	3%	3%	3%	3%		9%			9%	5%	
Housing issues / access to suitable housing	3%	2%	5%	5%		4%		8%		4%	2%
Youth participation / have a voice	2%	2%	3%			4%	9%			1%	5%
Raise the age of criminal responsibility	2%		5%			4%	5%	8%		1%	5%
Reform within the court / judicial system	2%	3%		3%				8%		2%	
Parent / family accountability for their children`s actions	2%	2%	2%			9%				2%	
Increased diversity of staff / cultural background	2%		3%					8%	9%	1%	2%
More timely access to support services	2%	3%						15%		2%	
Other	10%	12%	8%	11%	17%		14%	15%		10%	9%
Do not have enough knowledge to comment	7%	7%	8%	13%			5%	8%	18%	9%	5%
Don`t know	11%	12%	11%	13%	22%	4%	14%		9%	12%	9%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.2.16: Improving the youth justice system by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q57 Column %	Total 2025 n = 125	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 79	Youth Justice n = 17^	Residential Care n = 16^	Yes n = 14^	No n = 110	Yes n = 16^	No n = 108
Expand early intervention services / programs	25%	24%	24%	25%	14%	26%	19%	26%
Additional funding / resources	19%	16%	35%	13%	21%	19%	25%	19%
Greater participation in the community / more community support / wider collaboration	14%	6% ↓	24%	31%	21%	14%	19%	14%
Stronger information sharing protocols / practices / alignment of priorities across all sectors	14%	10%	35%	13%	14%	15%	19%	14%
A holistic approach / encompass all contributing factors / evidence based	11%	14%	12%	6%	14%	11%		13%
More social opportunities / culturally based programs / activities	10%	4% ↓	24%	25%	7%	11%	6%	11%
Reduction of YP in detention / in youth justice system	10%	8%	24%		7%	10%	6%	10%
Lowering chance of reoffending / prevention of serial offending / rehabilitation	9%	9%	6%	6%	21%	7%	19%	7%
Increased family support	8%	6%	6%	6%	14%	7%		9%
Increased professional development / training	7%	6%	24%		21%	5%	13%	6%
Embedded attendance in education / access to educational options	6%	4%	6%	13%		6%	13%	5%
Increased focus on trauma informed / safe service delivery	6%	5%	6%	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%
Bigger consequences for offences / harsher penalties	4%	3%		19%		5%		5%
Mentoring / caring / protective mentors	4%	4%	12%		7%	4%	6%	4%
Programs more individualised / meaningful	3%	5%			14%	2%	6%	3%
Housing issues / access to suitable housing	3%		18%			4%	6%	3%
Youth participation / have a voice	2%	1%	6%		14%	1%		3%
Raise the age of criminal responsibility	2%	1%	6%	6%	7%	2%	13%	1%
Reform within the court / judicial system	2%	3%				2%		2%
Parent / family accountability for their children`s actions	2%	1%				2%		2%
Increased diversity of staff / cultural background	2%	1%	6%		14%		13%	
More timely access to support services	2%	3%			7%	1%		2%
Other	10%	8%	29%	6%	14%	9%	6%	10%
Do not have enough knowledge to comment	7%	9%		6%		8%		8%
Don`t know	11%	13%		13%	7%	11%	31%	7%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

3.3 About my role

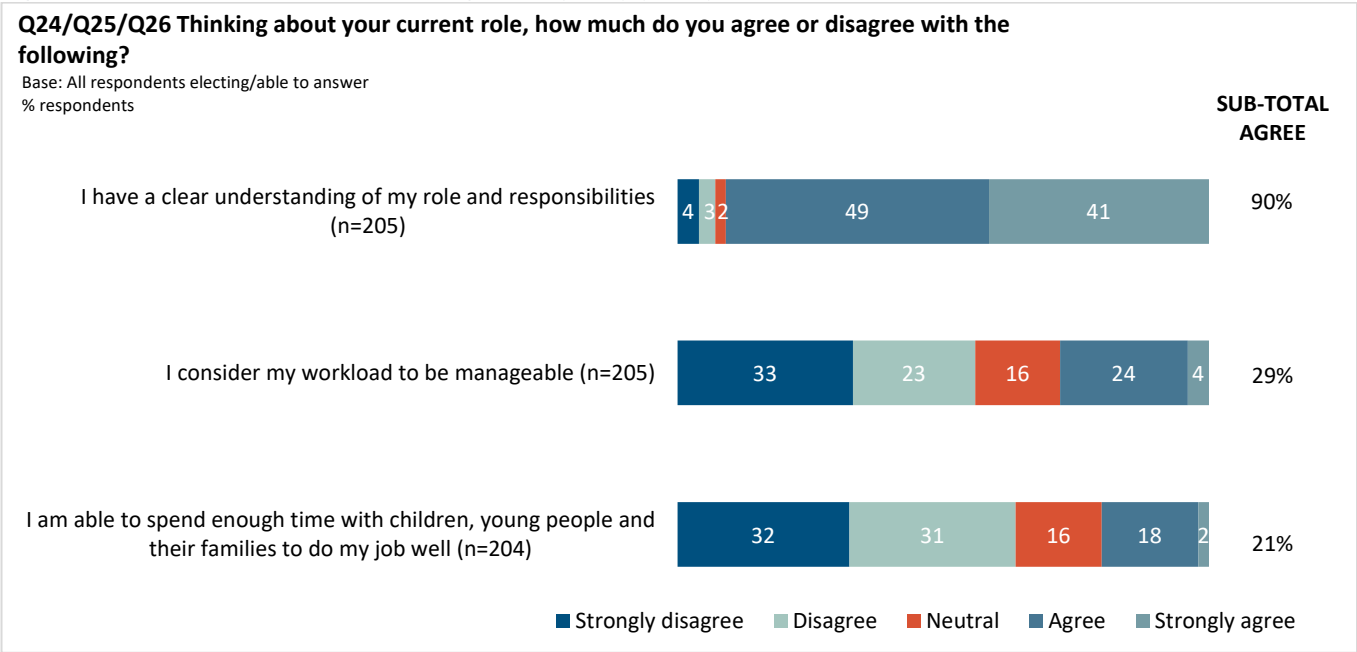
Q24 I have a clear understanding of my role and responsibilities
Q25 I consider my workload to be manageable
Q26 I am able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do my job well

3.3.1 2025 result

The vast majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed (90%) they have a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities with 41% strongly agreeing with this statement. Only 7% disagreed or strongly disagreed, while 2% were neutral.

Respondents were more likely to disagree or strongly disagree (than agree or strongly agree) that they consider their workload to be manageable (56% disagreed overall) or that they are able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do their job well (64% disagreed overall).

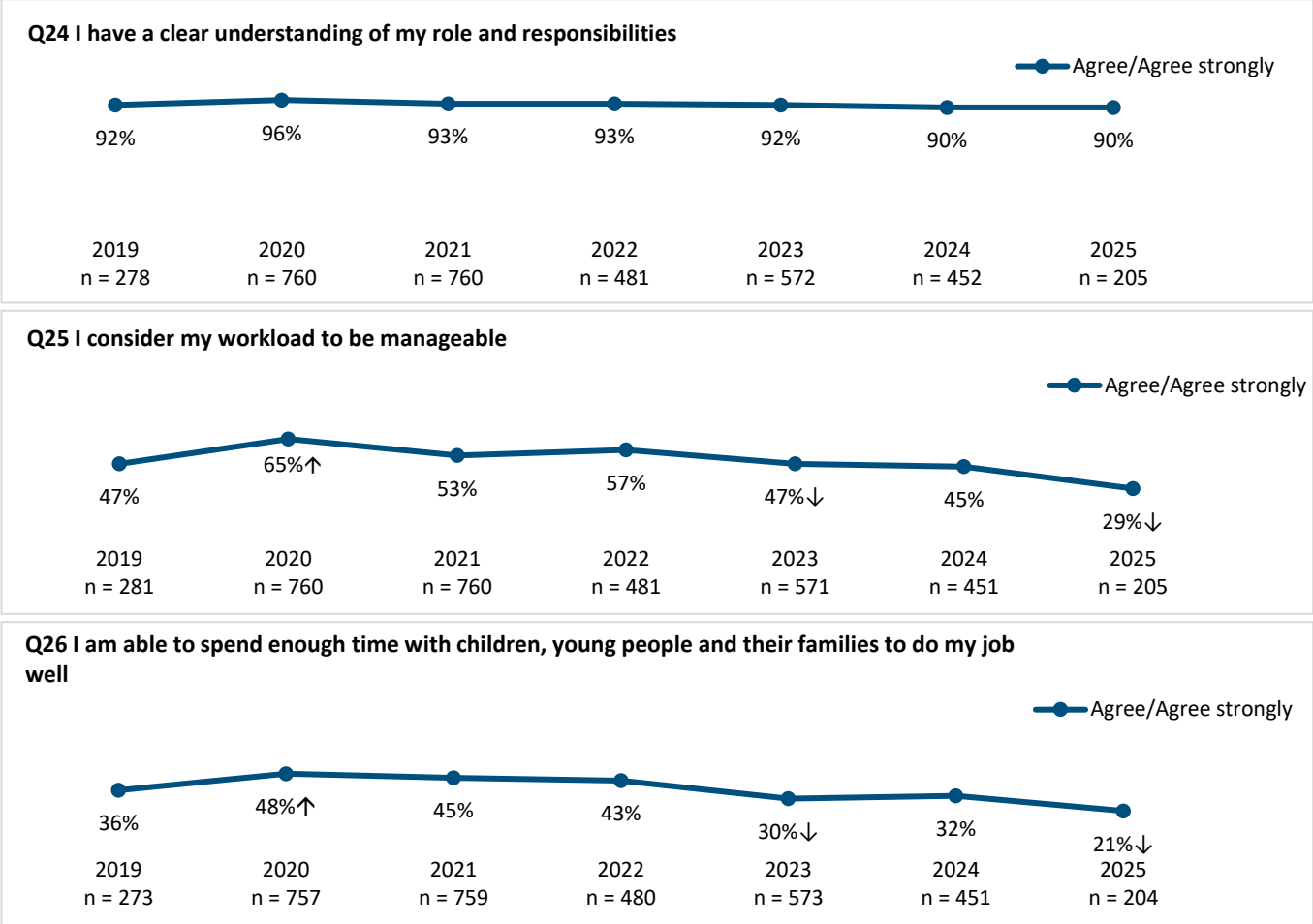
Figure 3.3.1: Current role understanding and capacity (2025)



3.3.2 Comparison to previous survey data

Respondents' total agreement with respect to whether their workload is manageable and whether they are able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do their job well was significantly lower in 2025 compared to 2024.

Figure 3.3.2: Current role understanding and capacity 2019–2025 trends+



+ Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022 -2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.3.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in non-government organisations were more likely than government employed respondents to agree or strongly agree that they consider their workload to be manageable (42% non-government, 16% government) or that they are able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do their job well (34% non-government, 7% government).

Respondents working in the child protection sector were significantly more likely than those working in youth justice or residential care to disagree overall (disagreed or strongly disagreed) that they consider their workload manageable (65% disagreed overall, 56% average) or that they are able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do their job well (73% disagreed overall, 64% average).

Other sub-group differences are detailed in Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 below and overleaf.

Table 3.3.1: Current role understanding and capacity by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q24/Q25/Q26 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
I have a clear understanding of my role and responsibilities											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	4%	3%	6%	3%	7%	5%	6%	5%		6%	3%
Disagree	3%	5%	1%	2%	4%	5%	6%			4%	1%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	7%	8%	7%	5%	11%	9%	11%	5%		10%	4%
Neutral	2%	4%	1%	2%			6%	10%		2%	3%
Agree	49%	55%	43%	49%	61%	51%	42%	38%	50%	62% ↑	28% ↓
Strongly agree	41%	33%	50%	44%	29%	40%	42%	48%	50%	26% ↓	65% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	90%	88%	92%	93%	89%	91%	83%	86%	100%	88%	94%
I consider my workload to be manageable											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	33%	50% ↑	16% ↓	29%	39%	28%	33%	48%	28%	38%	24%
Disagree	23%	25%	21%	20%	32%	26%	22%	10%	28%	19%	29%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	56%	75% ↑	37% ↓	49%	71%	53%	56%	57%	56%	57%	54%
Neutral	16%	10%	21%	17%	7%	19%	22%	14%	6%	13%	19%
Agree	24%	15% ↓	34% ↑	27%	21%	21%	19%	24%	39%	27%	21%
Strongly agree	4%	1%	8%	7%		7%	3%	5%		3%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	29%	16% ↓	42% ↑	34%	21%	28%	22%	29%	39%	30%	27%
I am able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do my job well											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 77
Strongly disagree	32%	44% ↑	21% ↓	28%	43%	30%	36%	38%	22%	34%	30%
Disagree	31%	35%	27%	34%	32%	30%	28%	29%	33%	30%	34%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	64%	79% ↑	48% ↓	62%	75%	60%	64%	67%	56%	64%	64%
Neutral	16%	14%	18%	16%	7%	26%	11%	14%	17%	17%	14%
Agree	18%	7% ↓	29% ↑	17%	18%	12%	25%	14%	28%	17%	18%
Strongly agree	2%		5%	5%		2%		5%		2%	4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	21%	7% ↓	34% ↑	22%	18%	14%	25%	19%	28%	19%	22%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.3.2: Current role understanding and capacity by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q24/Q25/Q26 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
I have a clear understanding of my role and responsibilities								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	4%	5%		9%		5%	8%	4%
Disagree	3%	3%				3%	4%	3%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	7%	8%		9%		8%	12%	7%
Neutral	2%	2%	10%		5%	2%	4%	2%
Agree	49%	46%	55%	64%	37%	50%	52%	48%
Strongly agree	41%	43%	35%	27%	58%	40%	32%	43%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	90%	90%	90%	91%	95%	90%	84%	91%
I consider my workload to be manageable								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	33%	39% ↑	20%	18%	32%	33%	28%	34%
Disagree	23%	26%	20%	18%	21%	23%	28%	22%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	56%	65% ↑	40%	36%	53%	56%	56%	56%
Neutral	16%	10% ↓	35%	23%	21%	15%	20%	15%
Agree	24%	22%	20%	41%	21%	24%	20%	25%
Strongly agree	4%	3%	5%		5%	4%	4%	4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	29%	26%	25%	41%	26%	29%	24%	29%
I am able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do my job well								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	32%	36%	25%	23%	37%	32%	36%	32%
Disagree	31%	37% ↑	20%	23%	26%	32%	32%	31%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	64%	73% ↑	45%	45%	63%	64%	68%	63%
Neutral	16%	13%	30%	14%	11%	16%	12%	16%
Agree	18%	13% ↓	20%	36%	21%	18%	16%	19%
Strongly agree	2%	2%	5%	5%	5%	2%	4%	2%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	21%	15% ↓	25%	41%	26%	20%	20%	21%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

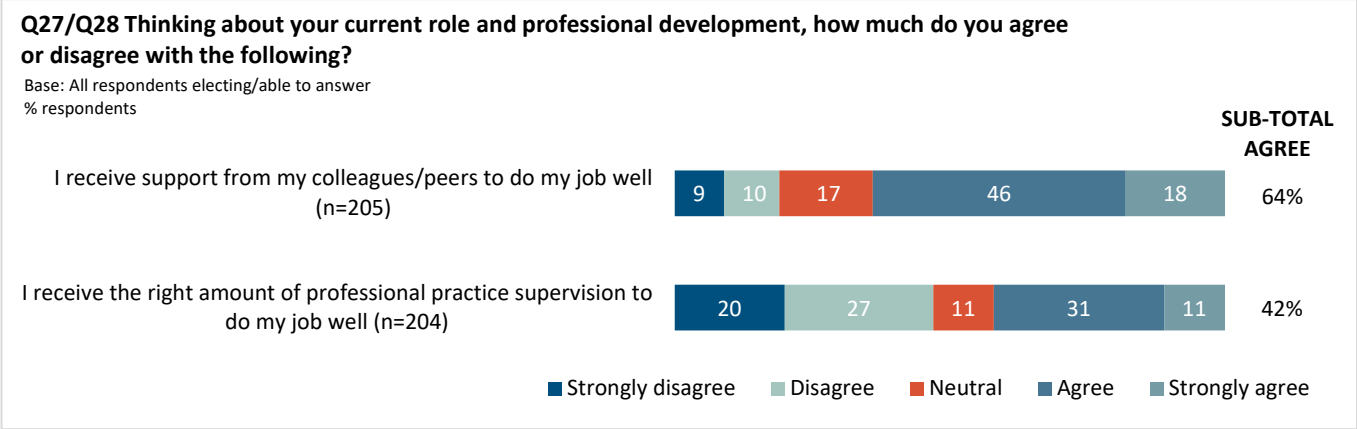
Q27 I receive support from my colleagues/peers to do my job well
Q28 I receive the right amount of professional practice supervision to do my job well

3.3.4 2025 result

Approximately two thirds (64%) of respondents agreed overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that they receive support from their colleagues/peers to do their job well, while 19% disagreed overall (disagreed or strongly disagreed). Seventeen per cent were neutral regarding support received from colleagues/peers.

Opinions were divided on whether respondents considered they receive the right amount of professional practice supervision to do their job well. Total agreement among respondents was 42% agreed or strongly agreed while total disagreement was 47% disagreed or strongly disagreed. Eleven per cent were neutral regarding the level of professional practice supervision received.

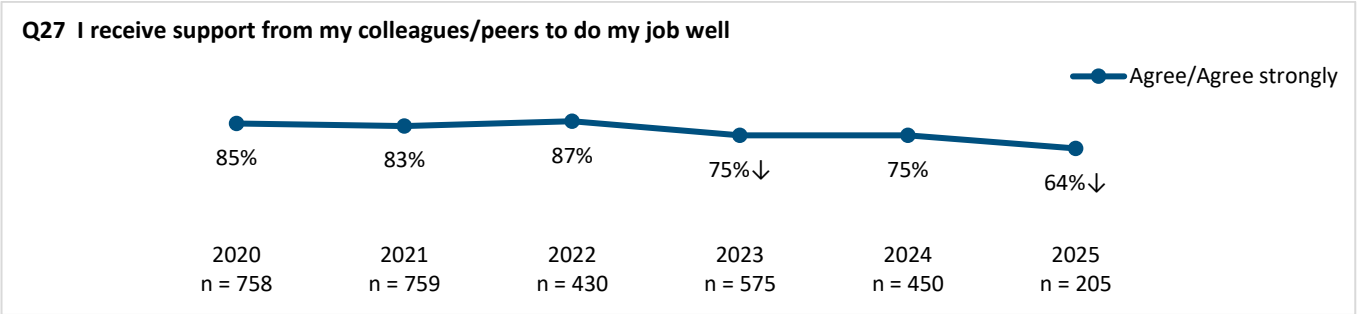
Figure 3.3.3: Support from colleagues/peers and supervision to do their job well (2025)



3.3.5 Comparison to previous survey data

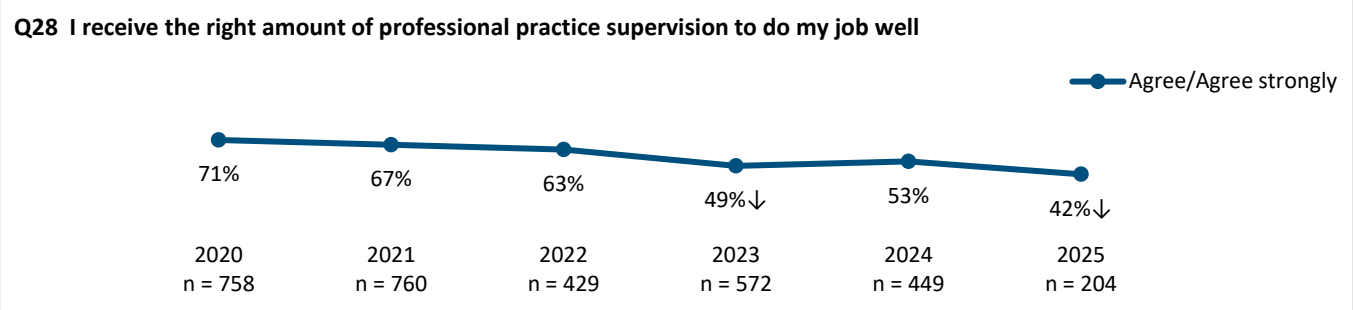
In 2025, total agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) regarding the level of support received from colleagues/peers and the professional practice supervision that enables respondents to do their job well was significantly lower than that reported in 2024.

Figure 3.3.4: Support from colleagues/peers and supervision to do their job well 2020–2025 trends+



+ Data for 2020 to 2022 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2023-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.3.4: Support from colleagues/peers and supervision to do their job well 2020–2025 trends+ (continued)



+ Data for 2020 to 2022 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2023-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.3.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working for a non-government organisation were more likely than government employed respondents to agree or strongly agree that they receive support from their colleagues/peers in order to do their job well (71% non-government, 58% government) or that they receive the right amount of professional practice supervision to do their job well (49% non-government, 34% government).

Both those who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander or those with a culturally and linguistically diverse background had slightly lower levels of agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) with respect to receiving support from their colleagues/peers to do their job well (53% and 48% respectively, 64% average). Their views did not differ with respect to the amount of professional practice supervision.

Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.3.3: Support from colleagues/peers and supervision to do their job well by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q27/Q28 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
I receive support from my colleagues/peers to do my job well											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	9%	12%	6%	5%	14%	7%	11%	14%	6%	11%	5%
Disagree	10%	14%	7%	8%	14%	16%	3%	5%	17%	10%	12%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	19%	25%	13%	14%	29%	23%	14%	19%	22%	21%	17%
Neutral	17%	17%	17%	17%	18%	19%	6%	24%	22%	20%	12%
Agree	46%	47%	46%	49%	39%	40%	61%	38%	44%	46%	47%
Strongly agree	18%	11%	25%	20%	14%	19%	19%	19%	11%	13%	24%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	64%	58%	71%	69%	54%	58%	81%	57%	56%	60%	72%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.3.3: Support from colleagues/peers and supervision to do their job well by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025) (continued)

Q27/Q28 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
I receive the right amount of professional practice supervision to do my job well											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 42	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	20%	22%	18%	15%	21%	17%	14%	29%	39%	26%	10%
Disagree	27%	34%	21%	20%	32%	36%	28%	29%	22%	28%	27%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	47%	56%	38%	36%	54%	52%	42%	57%	61%	54%	37%
Neutral	11%	10%	13%	14%	7%	10%	17%	10%	6%	9%	15%
Agree	31%	29%	32%	36%	36%	31%	28%	19%	28%	29%	33%
Strongly agree	11%	5%	17%	15%	4%	7%	14%	14%	6%	9%	14%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	42%	34%	49%	51%	39%	38%	42%	33%	33%	38%	47%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.3.4: Support from colleagues/peers and supervision to do their job well by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q27/Q28 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
I receive support from my colleagues/peers to do my job well								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	9%	11%		9%	5%	9%	12%	8%
Disagree	10%	10%	10%	18%	5%	11%	12%	10%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	19%	21%	10%	27%	11%	20%	24%	18%
Neutral	17%	16%	20%	23%	37%	14%	28%	15%
Agree	46%	48%	45%	32%	32%	48%	36%	48%
Strongly agree	18%	14%	25%	18%	21%	18%	12%	19%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	64%	63%	70%	50%	53%	66%	48%	67%
I receive the right amount of professional practice supervision to do my job well								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	20%	22%	10%	27%	16%	20%	20%	20%
Disagree	27%	26%	45%	23%	21%	28%	24%	28%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	47%	48%	55%	50%	37%	48%	44%	48%
Neutral	11%	12%	10%	9%	21%	10%	12%	11%
Agree	31%	32%	25%	23%	32%	31%	32%	31%
Strongly agree	11%	8%	10%	18%	11%	11%	12%	11%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	42%	40%	35%	41%	42%	42%	44%	42%

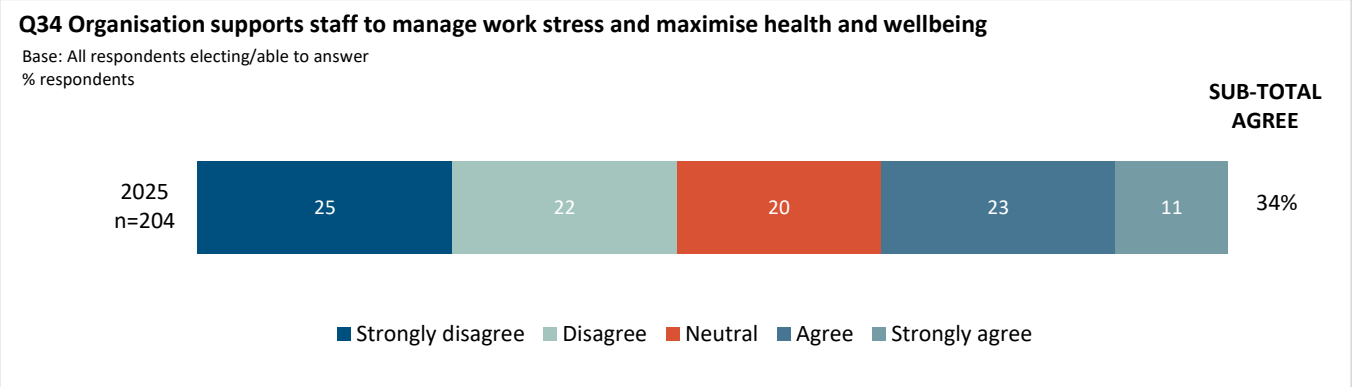
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q34 My organisation supports staff to manage work stress and maximise our health and wellbeing.

3.3.7 2025 result

Approximately one third (34%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their organisation supports staff to manage work stress, health and wellbeing, with 11% strongly agreeing and 23% agreeing. Twenty per cent of respondents were neutral while a total of 46% disagreed overall (25% strongly disagreeing, 22% disagreeing).

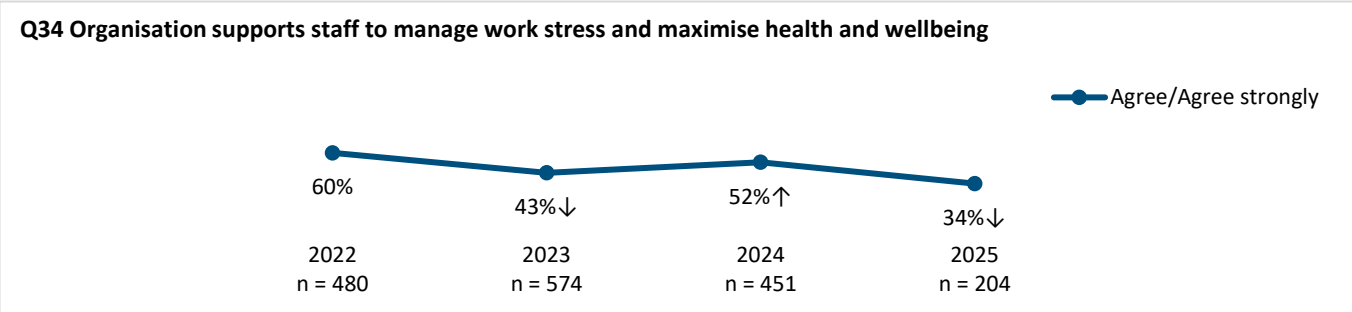
Figure 3.3.5: Organisation supports staff regarding stress, health and wellbeing (2025)



3.3.8 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, respondents were significantly less likely to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that their organisation supports staff to manage work stress and maximise health and wellbeing.

Figure 3.3.6: Organisation supports staff regarding stress, health and wellbeing 2022–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.3.9 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in non-government organisations were more likely to agree or strongly agree that their organisation supports staff regarding stress, health and wellbeing (53%) compared to respondents working in government agencies (15%).

Table 3.3.5: Organisation supports staff regarding stress, health and wellbeing by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q34 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 20^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	25%	32%	17%	17%	32%	23%	22%	35%	33%	27%	21%
Disagree	22%	32% ↑	12% ↓	24%	14%	21%	22%	20%	28%	25%	17%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	46%	63% ↑	29% ↓	41%	46%	44%	44%	55%	61%	52%	37%
Neutral	20%	22%	17%	17%	14%	26%	22%	20%	17%	15%	27%
Agree	23%	10% ↓	36% ↑	29%	29%	23%	14%	15%	22%	24%	22%
Strongly agree	11%	5% ↓	17% ↑	14%	11%	7%	19%	10%		9%	14%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	34%	15% ↓	53% ↑	42%	39%	30%	33%	25%	22%	33%	36%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.3.6: Organisation supports staff regarding stress, health and wellbeing by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q34 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 18^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	25%	28%	20%	23%	22%	25%	16%	26%
Disagree	22%	19%	30%	23%	17%	22%	36%	20%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	46%	48%	50%	45%	39%	47%	52%	46%
Neutral	20%	20%	15%	18%	17%	20%	16%	20%
Agree	23%	24%	25%	23%	28%	22%	24%	22%
Strongly agree	11%	8%	10%	14%	17%	11%	8%	12%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	34%	32%	35%	36%	44%	33%	32%	34%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

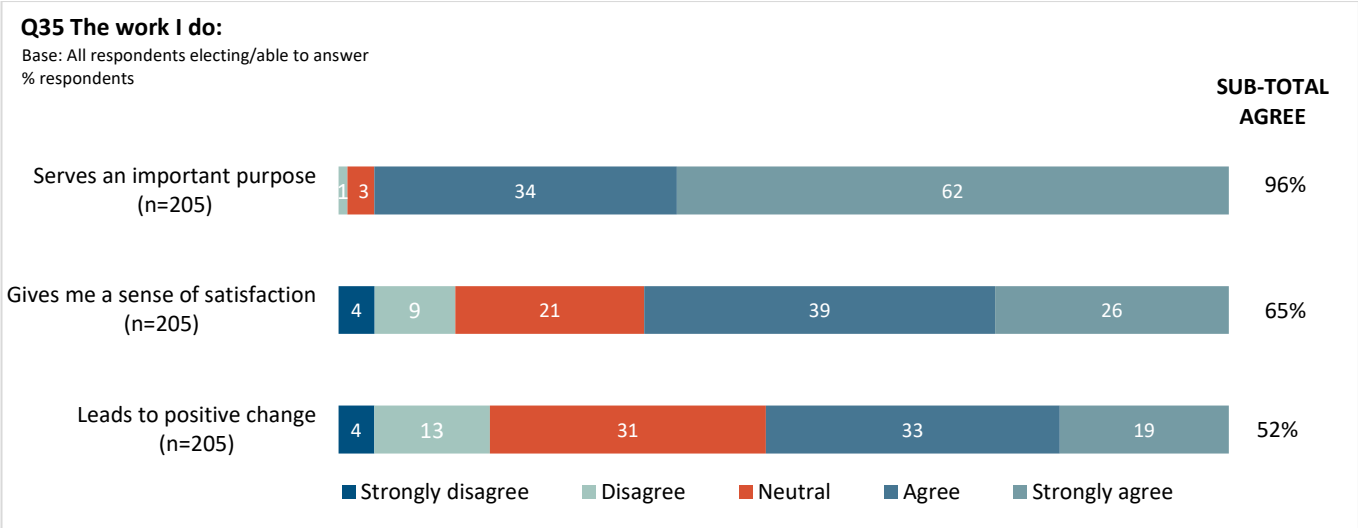
Q35 The work I do:
a) serves an important purpose
b) leads to positive change
c) gives me a sense of satisfaction

3.3.10 2025 result

Almost all respondents agreed or strongly agreed their work serves an important purpose (96%) and a sizable proportion agreed their work gives them a sense of satisfaction (65%).

Around half (52%) agreed overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that the work they do leads to positive change, 31% were neutral and 18% disagreed overall (disagreed or strongly disagreed).

Figure 3.3.7: Agreement with statements about the outcomes of the respondent's role (2025)

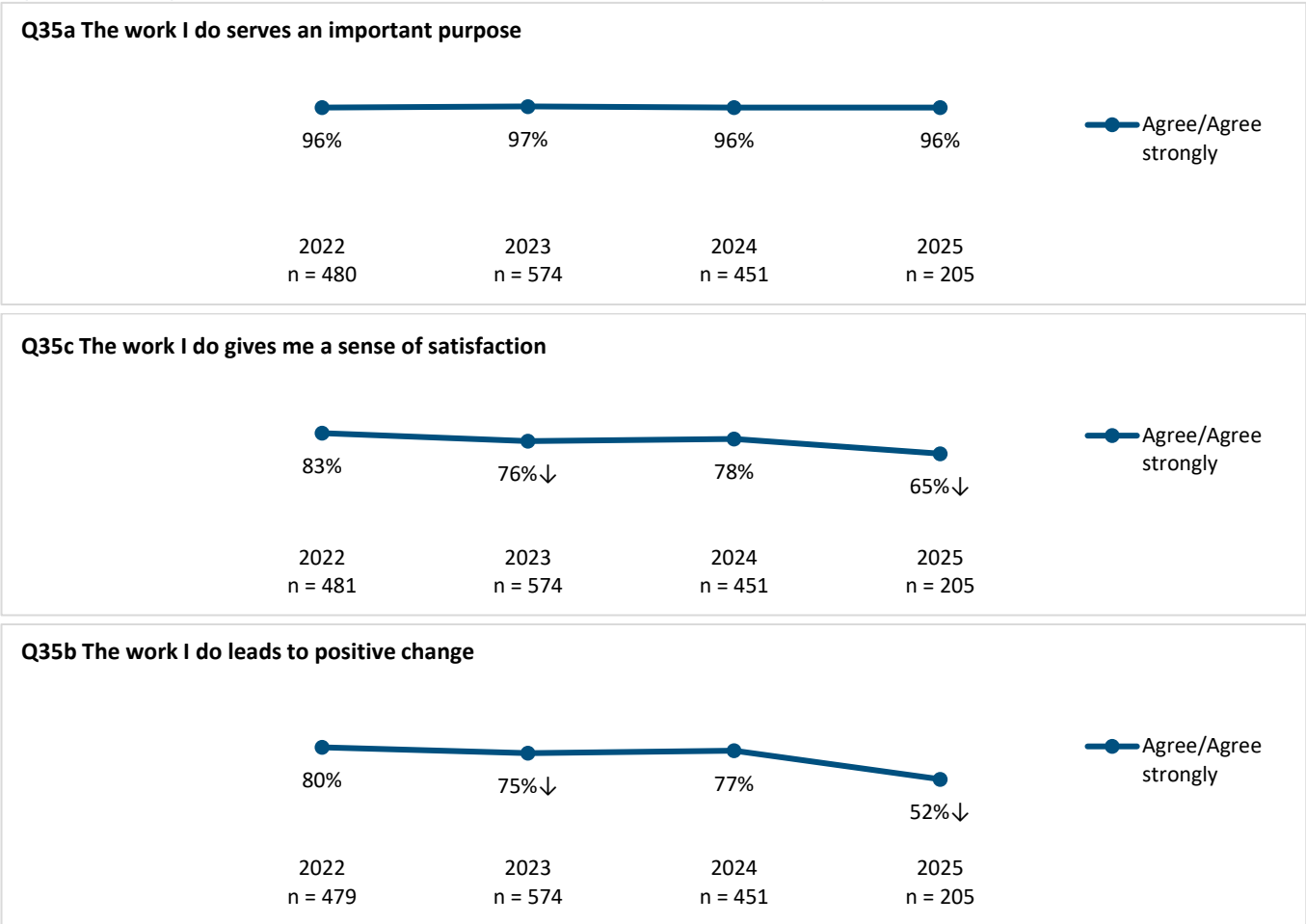


3.3.11 Comparison to previous survey data

Compared with 2024, in 2025, respondents were significantly less likely to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that the work they do gives them a sense of satisfaction or leads to positive change.

In 2024, 71% of government-based respondents agreed overall that the work they do gives them a sense of satisfaction compared to 53% in 2025 (detailed data not displayed here). This was a statistically significant difference between the years. Whereas, among respondents working in non-government organisations this decrease was minor and not statistically significant (83% in 2024, 77% in 2025).

Figure 3.3.8: Agreement with statements about the outcomes of the respondent's role 2022–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.3.12 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in non-government organisations were more likely than government based respondents to agree or strongly agree that the work they do leads to positive change (63% non-government, 40% government). They were also more likely than government based respondents to agree or strongly agree that the work they do gives them a sense of satisfaction (77% non-government, 53% government). Other sub-group differences are detailed in Tables 3.3.7 and 3.3.8.

Table 3.3.7: Agreement with statements about the outcomes of the respondent's role by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q35a/b/c Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
The work I do serves an important purpose											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree											
Disagree	1%	2%	1%	2%		2%			6%	2%	
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	1%	2%	1%	2%		2%			6%	2%	
Neutral	3%	2%	4%	3%	7%	2%	3%			4%	1%
Agree	34%	36%	31%	37%	39%	30%	19%	38%	44%	33%	35%
Strongly agree	62%	60%	64%	58%	54%	65%	78%	62%	50%	60%	64%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	96%	96%	95%	95%	93%	95%	97%	100%	94%	94%	99%
The work I do gives me a sense of satisfaction											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	4%	6%	3%	3%	4%	2%	6%	10%	6%	6%	1%
Disagree	9%	11%	8%	12%	14%	7%	8%	5%	6%	11%	6%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	14%	17%	11%	15%	18%	9%	14%	14%	11%	17%	8%
Neutral	21%	30% ↑	13% ↓	19%	21%	23%	25%	24%	17%	22%	19%
Agree	39%	38%	39%	37%	46%	44%	31%	24%	50%	33%	47%
Strongly agree	26%	15% ↓	38% ↑	29%	14%	23%	31%	38%	22%	27%	26%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	65%	53% ↓	77% ↑	66%	61%	67%	61%	62%	72%	60%	73%
The work I do leads to positive change											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	4%	5%	4%	2%	11%	7%	3%		6%	4%	5%
Disagree	13%	20%	7%	10%	21%	7%	14%	19%	17%	14%	12%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	18%	25%	11%	12%	32%	14%	17%	19%	22%	18%	17%
Neutral	31%	35%	26%	24%	36%	33%	39%	24%	33%	31%	31%
Agree	33%	28%	37%	46%	29%	37%	17%	24%	28%	33%	33%
Strongly agree	19%	12%	26%	19%	4%	16%	28%	33%	17%	18%	19%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	40% ↓	63% ↑	64%	32%	53%	44%	57%	44%	51%	53%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.3.8: Agreement with statements about the outcomes of the respondent's role by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q35a/b/c Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
The work I do serves an important purpose								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree								
Disagree	1%	1%			5%	1%	4%	1%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	1%	1%			5%	1%	4%	1%
Neutral	3%	2%	5%	5%	5%	3%	8%	2%
Agree	34%	37%	20%	36%	32%	34%	40%	32%
Strongly agree	62%	60%	75%	59%	58%	63%	48%	64%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	96%	97%	95%	95%	89%	96%	88%	97%
The work I do gives me a sense of satisfaction								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	4%	6%		5%	5%	4%	8%	4%
Disagree	9%	9%	5%	18%	5%	10%	4%	10%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	14%	14%	5%	23%	11%	14%	12%	14%
Neutral	21%	23%	20%	9%	11%	23%	24%	21%
Agree	39%	39%	35%	41%	32%	39%	48%	37%
Strongly agree	26%	23%	40%	27%	47%	24%	16%	28%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	65%	62%	75%	68%	79%	63%	64%	65%
The work I do leads to positive change								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	4%	5%		9%	5%	4%	8%	4%
Disagree	13%	14%	10%	9%	16%	13%	12%	13%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	18%	19%	10%	18%	21%	17%	20%	17%
Neutral	31%	34%	10%	32%	16%	32%	36%	30%
Agree	33%	31%	35%	41%	21%	34%	32%	32%
Strongly agree	19%	15%	45%	9%	42%	17%	12%	20%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	46%	80%	50%	63%	50%	44%	53%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

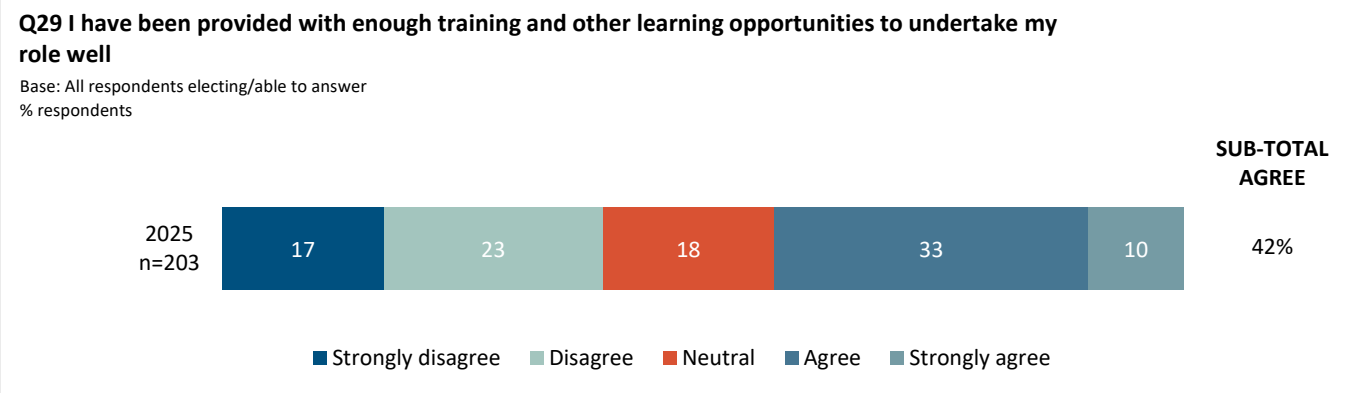
3.4 Professional development

Q29 I have been provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake my role well.

3.4.1 2025 result

Respondent opinions were divided with respect to whether they have been provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake their role well. Total agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) was 42% with 10% of respondents strongly agreeing. Total disagreement was 40% with 17% of respondents strongly disagreeing. Around one in five (18%) were neutral.

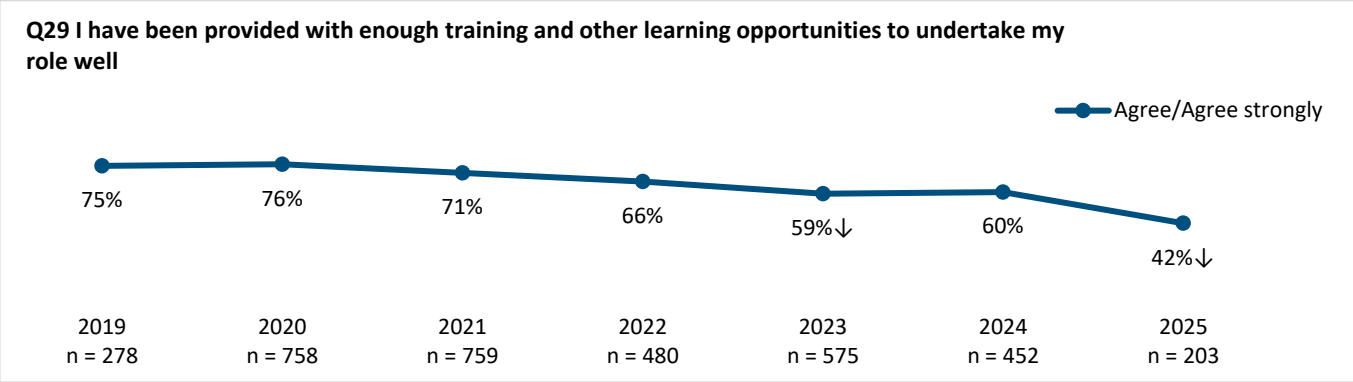
Figure 3.4.1: Provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake role well (2025)



3.4.2 Comparison to previous survey data

Respondents in 2025 were significantly less likely to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that they have been provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake their role well when compared to 2024. This change was more pronounced for respondents working for government organisations. Total agreement among respondents working for government organisations decreased significantly from 54% in 2024 to 27% in 2025. While for respondents working for non-government organisations the change was not statistically significant (64% in 2024, 58% in 2025).

Figure 3.4.2: Provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake role well 2019–2025 trends+



+ Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022 -2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.4.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who work for a non-government organisation were more likely to agree or strongly agree (58%) that they have been provided with enough training and learning opportunities to do their job well compared to government employed respondents (27%).

Table 3.4.1: Provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake role by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q29 Column %	Total 2025 n = 203	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 42	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 124	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	17%	22%	13%	10%	25%	17%	17%	24%	22%	19%	14%
Disagree	23%	31% ↑	15% ↓	17%	25%	26%	33%	19%	11%	23%	22%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	40%	52% ↑	27% ↓	28%	50%	43%	50%	43%	33%	43%	36%
Neutral	18%	21%	15%	24%	11%	12%	14%	29%	17%	18%	18%
Agree	33%	23% ↓	42% ↑	34%	36%	36%	25%	19%	44%	31%	36%
Strongly agree	10%	4% ↓	16% ↑	14%	4%	10%	11%	10%	6%	9%	10%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	42%	27% ↓	58% ↑	48%	39%	45%	36%	29%	50%	40%	46%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.2: Provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake role by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q29 Column %	Total 2025 n = 203	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 143	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 183	Yes n = 25^	No n = 177
Strongly disagree	17%	19%	5%	27%	11%	18%	24%	16%
Disagree	23%	23%	20%	23%	21%	23%	20%	23%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	40%	42%	25%	50%	32%	41%	44%	40%
Neutral	18%	19%	20%	14%	26%	17%	20%	18%
Agree	33%	32%	45%	23%	37%	32%	28%	33%
Strongly agree	10%	7%	10%	14%	5%	10%	8%	10%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	42%	39%	55%	36%	42%	42%	36%	43%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

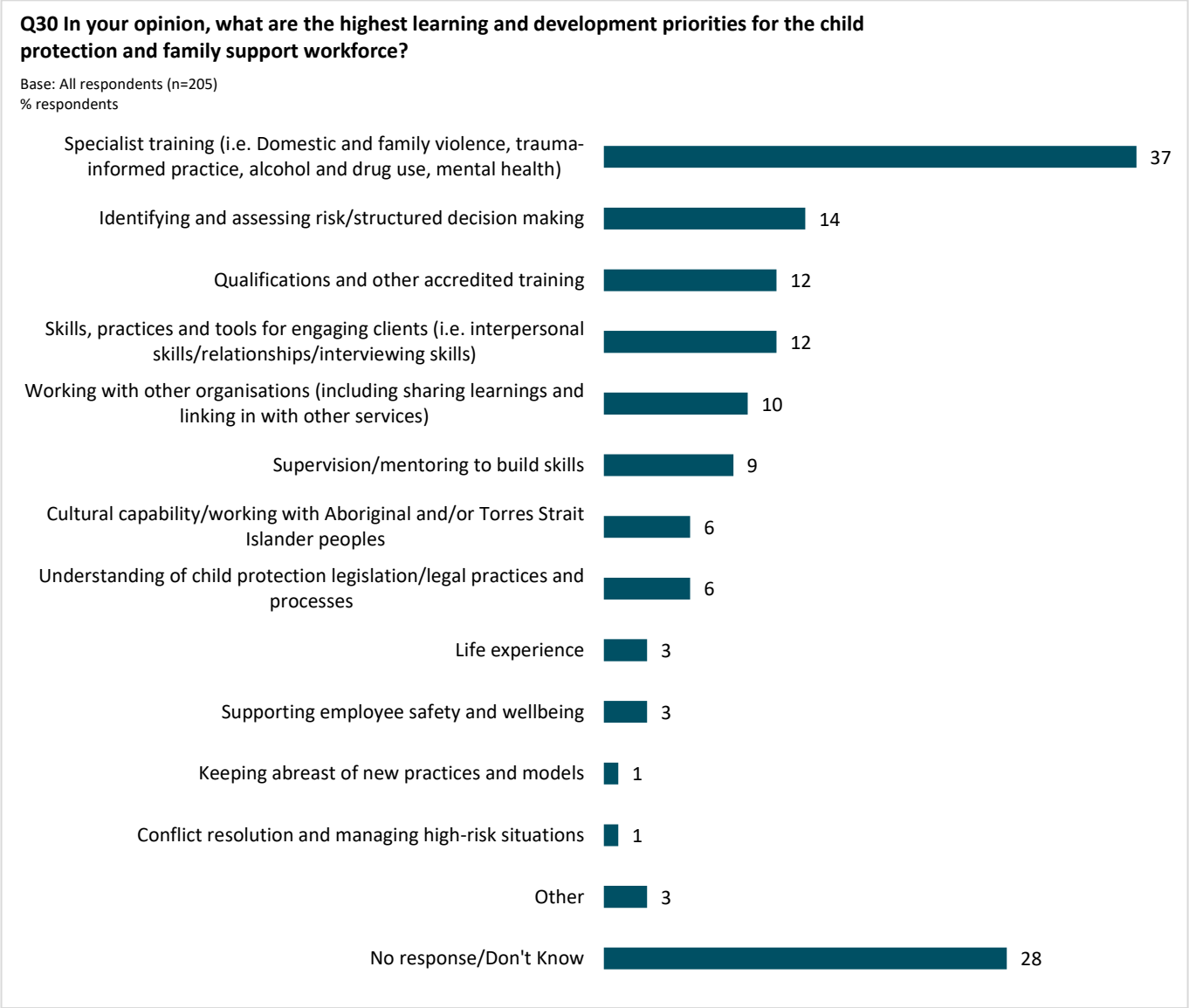
Q30 In your opinion, what are the highest learning and development priorities for the child protection and family support workforce?

3.4.4 2025 result

Respondents were asked the open-ended question 'In your opinion, what are the highest learning and development priorities for the child protection and family support workforce?'. The most prevalent responses were related to the need for specialist training, such as domestic and family violence training or trauma-informed practice etc (37%). Other priorities included identifying and assessing risk, and structured decision making (14%), qualifications and other accredited training (12%), skills, practices and tools for engaging clients (i.e. interpersonal skills/relationship skills/interviewing skills) (12%), and working with other organisations (10%).

Supervision and mentoring (9%), increased cultural capabilities or learning to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (6%), and understanding child protection legislative practices and processes (6%) were also mentioned. Other suggestions are included in Figure 3.4.3 below.

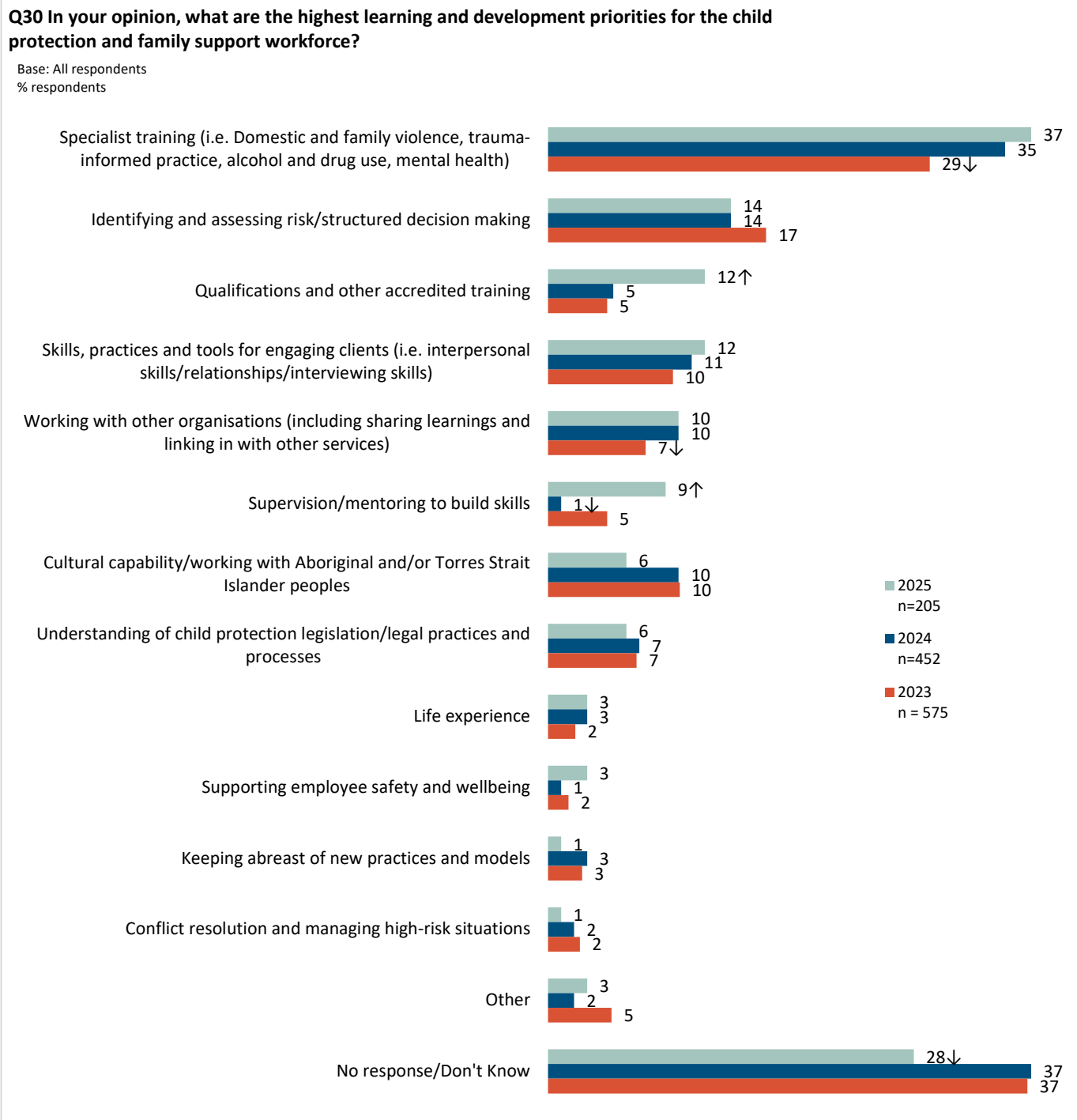
Figure 3.4.3: Learning and development priorities for the child protection and family support workforce (2025)



3.4.5 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, there were increased mentions of gaining qualifications and other accredited training (5% in 2024, 12% in 2025) and supervision or mentoring to build skills (1% in 2024, 9% in 2025) as priorities for the workforce.

Figure 3.4.4: Learning and development priorities for the child protection and family support workforce 2023–2025 trends+



+ Data includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers; ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.4.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who identify as having a culturally and linguistically diverse background were slightly more likely than other respondents to prioritise working with other organisations (including sharing learnings and linking in with other services) as a priority for learning and development in the child protection and family sector (20% culturally and linguistically diverse, 8% those not identifying as such).

Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.4.3: Learning and development priorities for the child protection and family support workforce by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q30 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Specialist training (i.e. Domestic and family violence, trauma-informed practice, alcohol and drug use, mental health)	37%	30%	44%	44%	32%	37%	33%	33%	33%	38%	36%
Identifying and assessing risk/structured decision making	14%	15%	14%	14%	7%	16%	14%	10%	28%	14%	14%
Qualifications and other accredited training	12%	15%	10%	10%	7%	14%	19%	10%	11%	11%	14%
Skills, practices and tools for engaging clients (i.e. interpersonal skills/ relationships/ interviewing skills)	12%	9%	15%	12%	7%	12%	11%	10%	22%	10%	14%
Working with other organisations (including sharing learnings and linking in with other services)	10%	11%	9%	10%	11%	9%	14%	5%	6%	10%	9%
Supervision/mentoring to build skills	9%	8%	10%	10%	14%	5%	6%	10%	11%	8%	10%
Cultural capability/ working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	6%	3%	10%	5%		7%	11%	14%		6%	8%
Understanding of child protection legislation/ legal practices and processes	6%	4%	9%	3%		9%	3%	19%	11%	6%	6%
Life experience	3%	2%	5%		11%	5%	6%			2%	5%
Supporting employee safety and wellbeing	3%	2%	4%	3%	4%		6%		6%	5%	
Keeping abreast of new practices and models	1%	2%	1%	2%		2%		5%		2%	
Conflict resolution and managing high-risk situations	1%	2%	1%		4%		3%		6%	1%	3%
Other	3%	3%	4%	5%	11%			5%		2%	5%
No response/Don't Know	28%	31%	25%	17%	25%	40%	31%	38%	28%	29%	27%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.4: Learning and development priorities for the child protection and family support workforce by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q30 Column %	Total 2025 n = 205	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Specialist training (i.e. Domestic and family violence, trauma-informed practice, alcohol and drug use, mental health)	37%	34%	45%	36%	42%	37%	32%	38%
Identifying and assessing risk/structured decision making	14%	14%	5%	18%	5%	15%	16%	14%
Qualifications and other accredited training	12%	14%	15%	5%	11%	12%	8%	13%
Skills, practices and tools for engaging clients (i.e. interpersonal skills/ relationships/interviewing skills)	12%	10%	20%	14%	26%	10%	12%	12%
Working with other organisations (including sharing learnings and linking in with other services)	10%	9%	10%	18%	11%	10%	20%	8%
Supervision/mentoring to build skills	9%	10%	10%	5%	11%	9%	12%	8%
Cultural capability/working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	6%	6%	20%		26%	4%	4%	7%
Understanding of child protection legislation/legal practices and processes	6%	6%	10%		16%	5%	12%	6%
Life experience	3%	3%	5%	5%	11%	3%		4%
Supporting employee safety and wellbeing	3%	1%	5%	14%		3%	8%	2%
Keeping abreast of new practices and models	1%	1%				1%	4%	1%
Conflict resolution and managing high-risk situations	1%	1%		5%		2%	4%	1%
Other	3%	4%			5%	3%	12%	2%
No response/Don't Know	28%	28%	30%	36%	26%	29%	12%	31%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q31 In your opinion, what are the highest learning and development priorities for the youth justice workforce?

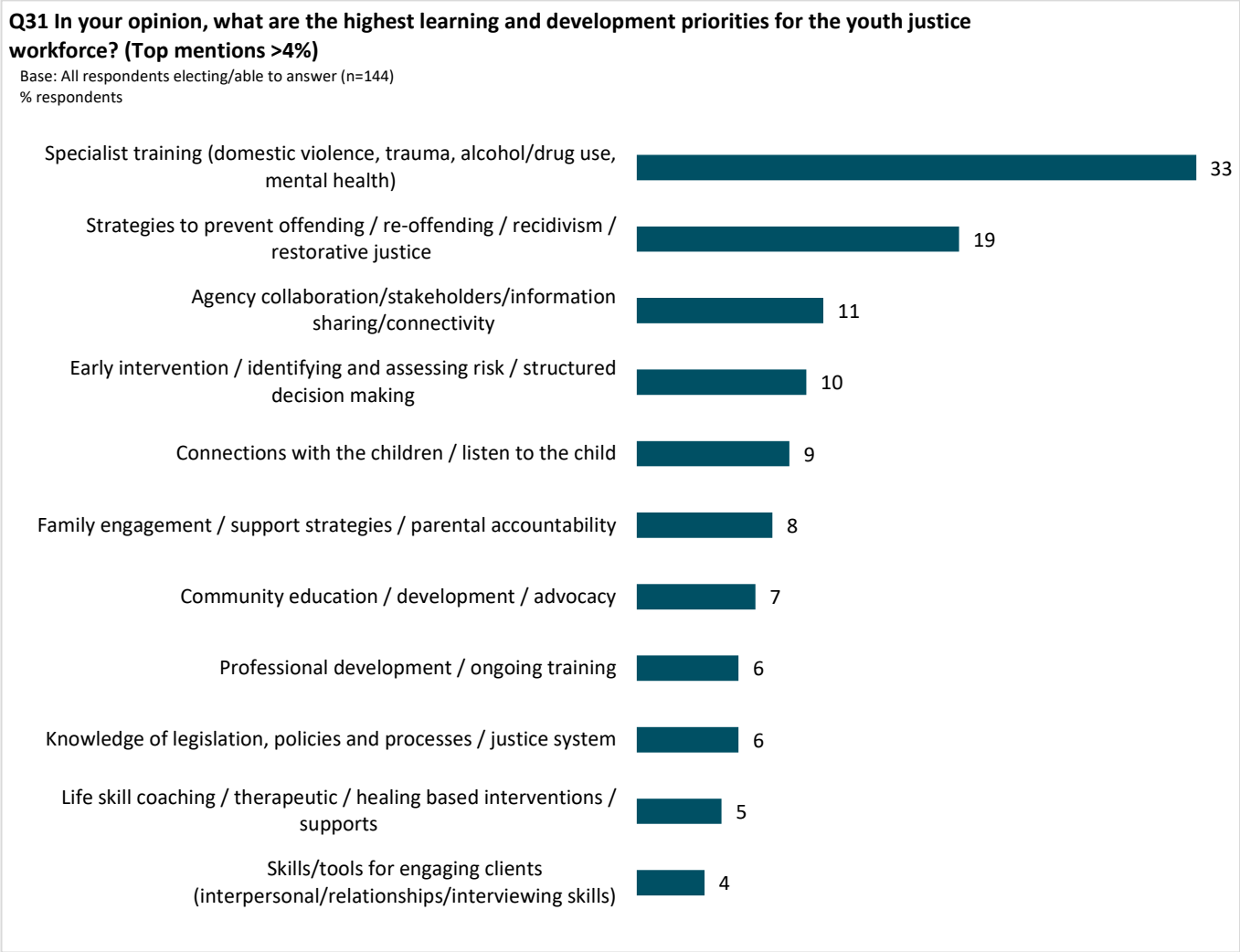
3.4.7 2025 result

Respondents were asked the open-ended question 'In your opinion, what are the highest learning and development priorities for the youth justice workforce?'. The most common responses were related to the need for:

- Specialist training, such as domestic and family violence training, trauma, alcohol/drug use and mental health (33%)
- Strategies to prevent offending/re-offending/recidivism/restorative justice (19%)
- Agency collaboration/stakeholders/information sharing/connectivity (11%)
- Early intervention/identifying and assessing risk/structured decision making (10%).

Other priorities included making connections with children/listening to the child (9%), family engagement/ support strategies/parental accountability (8%), and community education/development/advocacy (7%). Other suggestions are included in Figure 3.4.5 below.

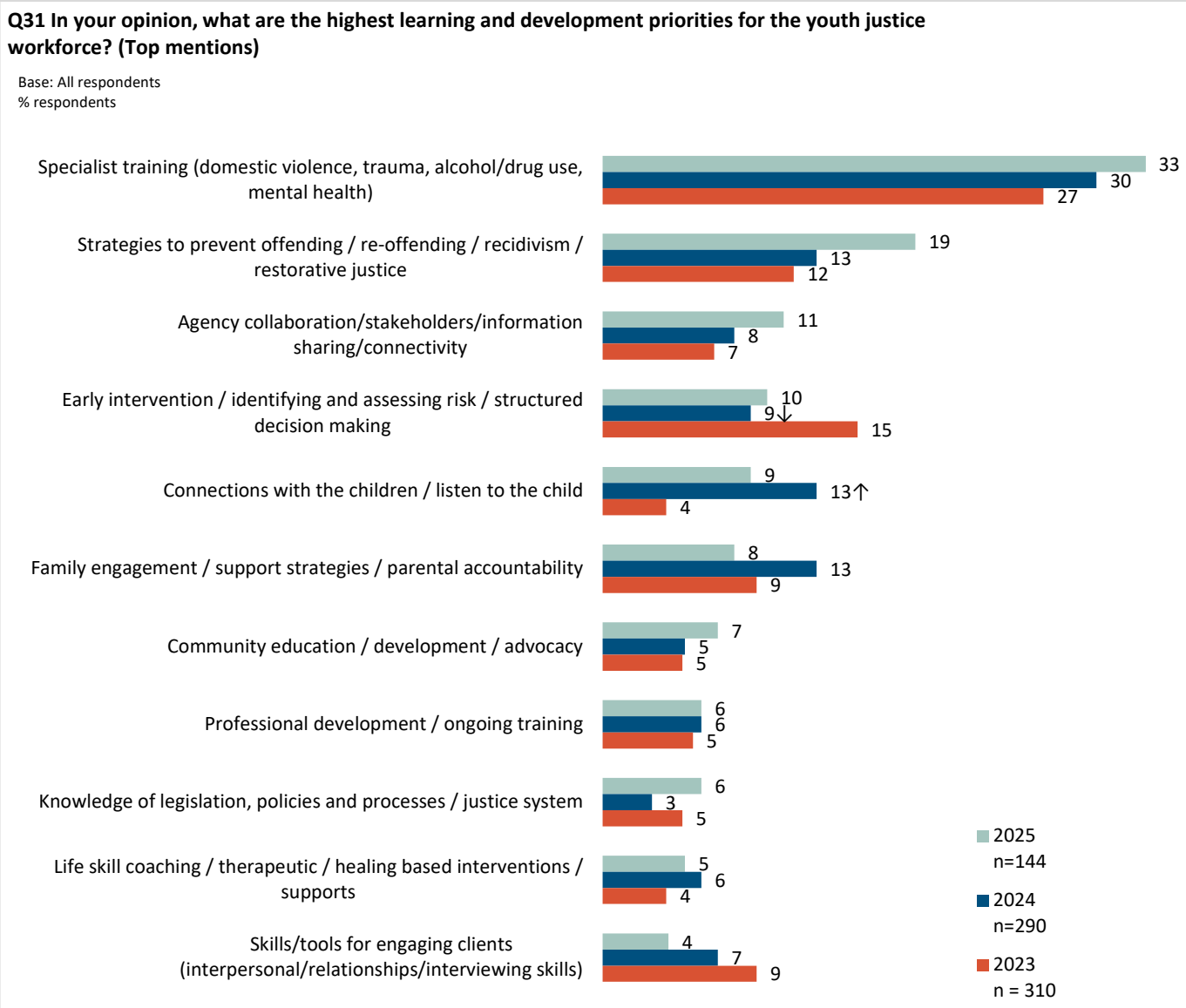
Figure 3.4.5: Learning and development priorities for the youth justice workforce (2025)



3.4.8 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, similar priorities for the youth justice workforce were suggested as in 2024.

Figure 3.4.6: Learning and development priorities for the youth justice workforce 2023–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.4.9 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in the youth justice system were slightly more likely than child protection and residential care workers to suggest cultural capability/training/working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (22% youth justice, 3% average), strategies to prevent reoffending/recidivism/restorative justice (28% youth justice, 19% average), family engagement/support strategies/parental accountability (17% youth justice, 8% average) and knowledge of legislation, policies and processes/justice system (17% youth justice, 6% average) as key areas for learning and development in the sector. Note: These differences were not statistically significant.

Table 3.4.5: Learning and development priorities for the youth justice workforce by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q31 Column %	Total 2025 n = 144	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 68	Non-govt n = 76	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 40	South East n = 21^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 28^	South West n = 26^	North QLD n = 17^	Far North Queensland n = 12^	<10 n = 89	10+ n = 55
Specialist training (i.e. domestic and family violence, trauma-informed practice, alcohol and drug use, mental health)	33%	29%	36%	38%	29%	39%	19%	35%	33%	33%	33%
Strategies to prevent offending / re-offending / recidivism / restorative justice	19%	19%	20%	25%	24%	7%	15%	29%	17%	20%	18%
Agency collaboration/ stakeholders / information sharing/connectivity	11%	13%	9%	3%	14%	25%	8%	12%	8%	7%	18%
Early intervention / identifying and assessing risk / structured decision making	10%	12%	9%	10%	14%	11%	15%	6%		8%	15%
Connections with the children / listen to the child	9%	4%	13%	13%	5%	7%	8%		25%	6%	15%
Family engagement / support strategies / parental accountability	8%	6%	9%	8%	5%	7%	12%		17%	4%	13%
Community education / development / advocacy	7%	9%	5%		14%	4%	8%	12%	17%	6%	9%
Professional development / ongoing training	6%	6%	7%		14%	11%		6%	17%	4%	9%
Knowledge of legislation, policies and processes / justice system	6%	10%	1%	3%		11%		18%	8%	7%	4%
Life skill coaching / therapeutic / healing based interventions / supports	5%	1%	8%		19%	7%	4%			2%	9%
Skills, practices and tools for engaging clients (i.e. interpersonal skills / relationships / interviewing skills)	4%	6%	3%		5%	7%	8%	6%		6%	2%
Cultural capability / training / working with Aboriginal andr Torres Strait Islander peoples	3%	4%	3%	3%			4%	18%		2%	5%
More social opportunities / culturally based programs / activities	3%	1%	5%	5%	5%		4%	6%		1%	7%
Neurodiversity / responding to neurodiverse children / youth	3%	4%	1%	5%					17%	2%	4%
Adequate staffing levels to ensure services are delivered	3%	3%	3%	5%	5%			6%		1%	5%
More flexibility in service delivery / holistic case management	2%	1%	3%	5%				6%		1%	4%
Evidence based / informed approach	2%	1%	3%	3%				12%		1%	4%
Meeting attachment needs	2%	1%	3%			11%				2%	2%
Qualification mentioned e.g. Bachelor Degree, Diploma	1%	1%	1%			4%			8%	1%	2%
Consistency in service delivery	1%	1%	1%			4%		6%		2%	
A well staffed and dedicated training unit / staffed with experienced trainers / with expertise	1%	1%				4%					2%
Other mentions	6%	7%	5%	8%	5%	7%	4%	6%	8%	8%	4%
Do not have enough knowledge to comment	5%	4%	5%	8%			8%	6%	8%	8%	
Don`t know / Unsure	14%	16%	12%	13%	14%	11%	23%	18%		16%	11%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.6: Learning and development priorities for the youth justice workforce by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q31 Column %	Total 2025 n = 144	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 95	Youth Justice n = 18^	Residential Care n = 17^	Yes n = 15^	No n = 128	Yes n = 20^	No n = 123
Specialist training (i.e. domestic and family violence, trauma-informed practice, alcohol and drug use, mental health)	33%	28%	50%	35%	27%	34%	25%	34%
Strategies to prevent offending / re-offending / recidivism / restorative justice	19%	19%	28%	24%	13%	20%	20%	20%
Agency collaboration/stakeholders/ information sharing/connectivity	11%	14%	11%		20%	10%	10%	11%
Early intervention / identifying and assessing risk / structured decision making	10%	9%	11%	6%	7%	11%	5%	11%
Connections with the children / listen to the child	9%	6%	11%	12%	7%	9%	15%	8%
Family engagement / support strategies / parental accountability	8%	6%	17%	6%	13%	7%	15%	7%
Community education / development / advocacy	7%	7%	6%	6%	7%	7%	20%	5%
Professional development / ongoing training	6%	6%		18%	20%	5%	5%	7%
Knowledge of legislation, policies and processes / justice system	6%	4%	17%		13%	5%	5%	6%
Life skill coaching / therapeutic / healing based interventions / supports	5%	3%	6%	18%	20%	3%	5%	5%
Skills, practices and tools for engaging clients (i.e. interpersonal skills / relationships / interviewing skills)	4%	4%	11%		7%	4%	5%	4%
Cultural capability / training / working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	3%		22%		13%	2%	10%	2%
More social opportunities / culturally based programs / activities	3%	1%	6%	6%	7%	3%	5%	3%
Neurodiversity / responding to neurodiverse children / youth	3%	4%				3%	5%	2%
Adequate staffing levels to ensure services are delivered	3%	2%	6%		13%	2%	5%	2%
More flexibility in service delivery / holistic case management	2%	2%	6%		13%	1%	5%	2%
Evidence based / informed approach	2%	1%	11%		7%	2%	10%	1%
Meeting attachment needs	2%	2%	6%			2%		2%
Qualification mentioned e.g. Bachelor Degree, Diploma	1%	2%			7%	1%		2%
Consistency in service delivery	1%	2%				2%		2%
A well staffed and dedicated training unit / staffed with experienced trainers / with expertise	1%	1%				1%		1%
Other mentions	6%	5%	11%		7%	5%	10%	5%
Do not have enough knowledge to comment	5%	6%		6%		5%		6%
Don`t know / Unsure	14%	17%		12%	7%	15%	15%	14%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

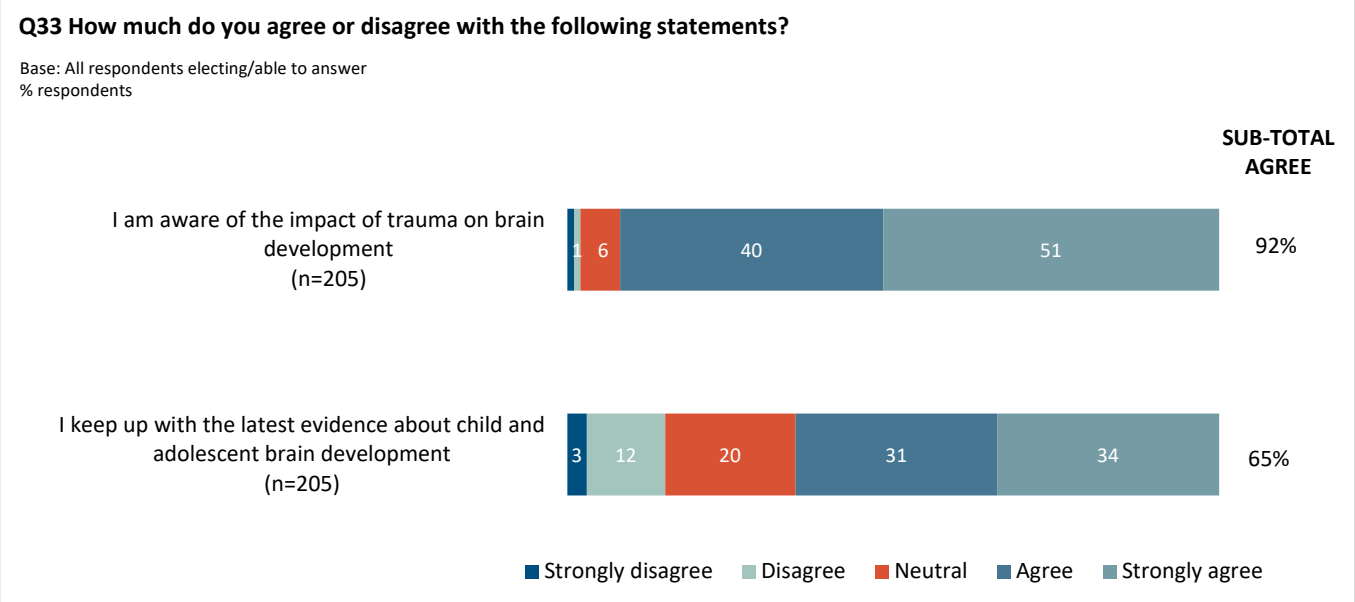
Q33 How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
a) I am aware of the impact of trauma on brain development
b) I keep up with the latest evidence about child and adolescent brain development

3.4.10 2025 result

Almost all respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they are aware of the impact of trauma on brain development (92%), with 51% strongly agreeing and 40% agreeing. Only 2% disagreed overall and 6% were neutral.

Two thirds (65%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they keep up with the latest evidence about child and adolescent brain development (34% strongly agreed, 31% agreed), while 20% gave a neutral rating and 15% disagreed or strongly disagreed that they do this.

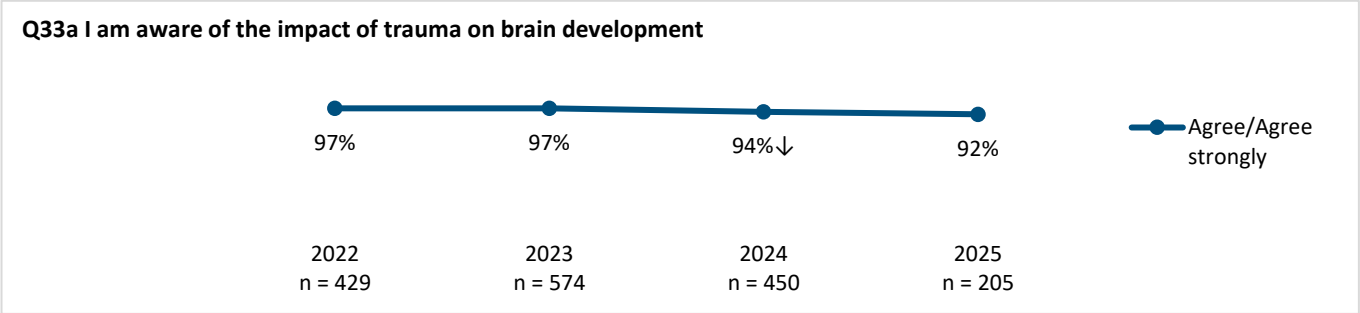
Figure 3.4.7: Impact of trauma on brain development and keeping up with evidence about brain development (2025)

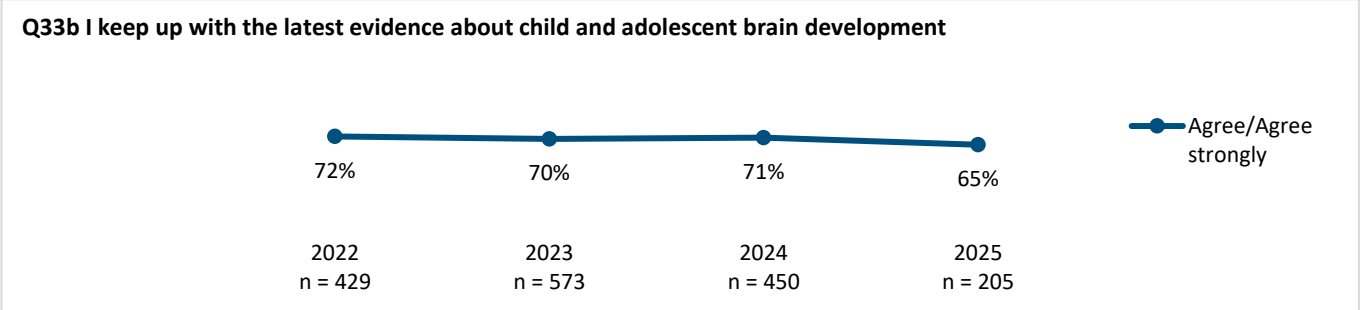


3.4.11 Comparison to previous survey data (2022–2023)

Results were statistically consistent with total agreement levels in 2024.

Figure 3.4.8: I Impact of trauma on brain development and keeping up with evidence about brain development 2022–2025 trends+





+ Data for 2022 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2023 - 2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.4.12 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working for a non-government organisation were significantly more likely than those working for a government organisation to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that they are aware of the impact of trauma on brain development (98% non-government, 85% government) or that they keep up with the latest evidence about child and adolescent brain development (76% non-government, 54% government).

The reader is referred to Tables 3.4.7 and 3.4.8 for other sub-group differences.

Table 3.4.7: Impact of trauma on brain development and keeping up with evidence about brain development by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q33a/b Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
I am aware of the impact of trauma on brain development											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	1%		2%			2%		5%		1%	1%
Disagree	1%	3%					3%	5%	6%	2%	
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	2%	3%	2%			2%	3%	10%	6%	3%	1%
Neutral	6%	12% ↑		3%	4%	12%	6%	10%		6%	5%
Agree	40%	47%	34%	41%	39%	42%	42%	33%	44%	44%	35%
Strongly agree	51%	38% ↓	64% ↑	56%	57%	44%	50%	48%	50%	46%	59%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	92%	85% ↓	98% ↑	97%	96%	86%	92%	81%	94%	90%	94%
I keep up with the latest evidence about child and adolescent brain development											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	3%	5%	2%			5%	6%	10%	6%	5%	1%
Disagree	12%	18%	6%	14%	11%	5%	14%	19%	11%	14%	8%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	15%	23%	8%	14%	11%	9%	19%	29%	17%	19%	9%
Neutral	20%	24%	17%	22%	25%	26%	8%	24%	11%	21%	18%
Agree	31%	29%	33%	29%	39%	28%	31%	24%	44%	29%	35%
Strongly agree	34%	25%	43%	36%	25%	37%	42%	24%	28%	30%	38%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	65%	54% ↓	76% ↑	64%	64%	65%	72%	48%	72%	60%	73%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.8: Impact of trauma on brain development and keeping up with evidence about brain development by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q33a/b Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
I am aware of the impact of trauma on brain development								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	1%	1%				1%		1%
Disagree	1%	2%				2%		2%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	2%	3%				3%		3%
Neutral	6%	7%	10%		5%	6%	12%	5%
Agree	40%	40%	40%	41%	32%	41%	36%	41%
Strongly agree	51%	50%	50%	59%	63%	50%	52%	51%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	92%	90%	90%	100%	95%	91%	88%	92%
I keep up with the latest evidence about child and adolescent brain development								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	5%			4%		4%
Disagree	12%	13%	15%	5%		13%	12%	12%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	15%	17%	20%	5%		17%	12%	16%
Neutral	20%	21%	15%	14%	16%	21%	16%	21%
Agree	31%	32%	15%	36%	42%	30%	52%	28%
Strongly agree	34%	30%	50%	45%	42%	33%	20%	36%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	65%	62%	65%	82%	84%	63%	72%	64%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q32 I am confident I've been trained and have the skills to recognise the signs of:

a) Methamphetamine use
b) Domestic and Family Violence
c) Alcohol and other substance abuse
d) Mental health issues
e) Physical abuse
f) Sexual abuse

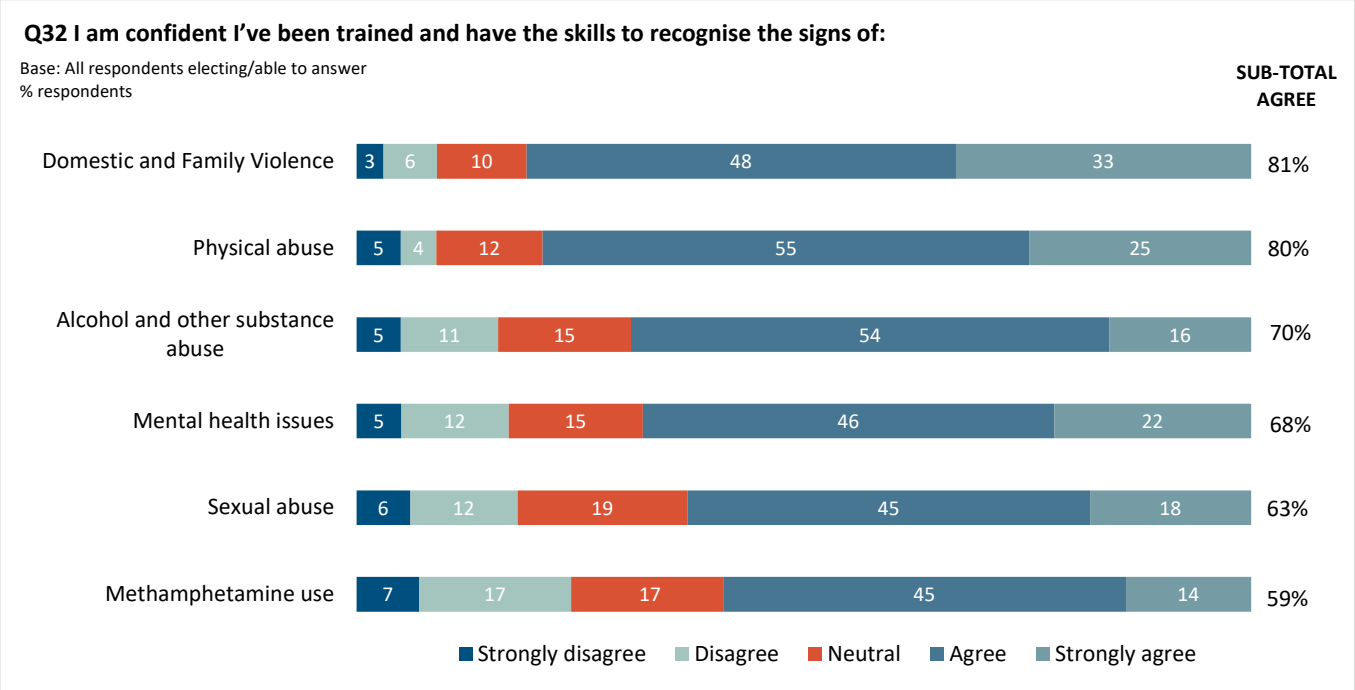
3.4.13 2025 result

Respondents were asked questions regarding the level of confidence in trained skills related to signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues.

Respondents were most confident that they have the training and skills to recognise domestic and family violence (81%) and physical abuse (80%). Following this, 70% of respondents were confident in their skill to identify alcohol and substance abuse, 68% to identify mental health issues and 63% to identify sexual abuse.

Confidence was least apparent in being able to recognise signs of methamphetamine use with 59% agreeing or strongly agreeing they were confident and 24% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

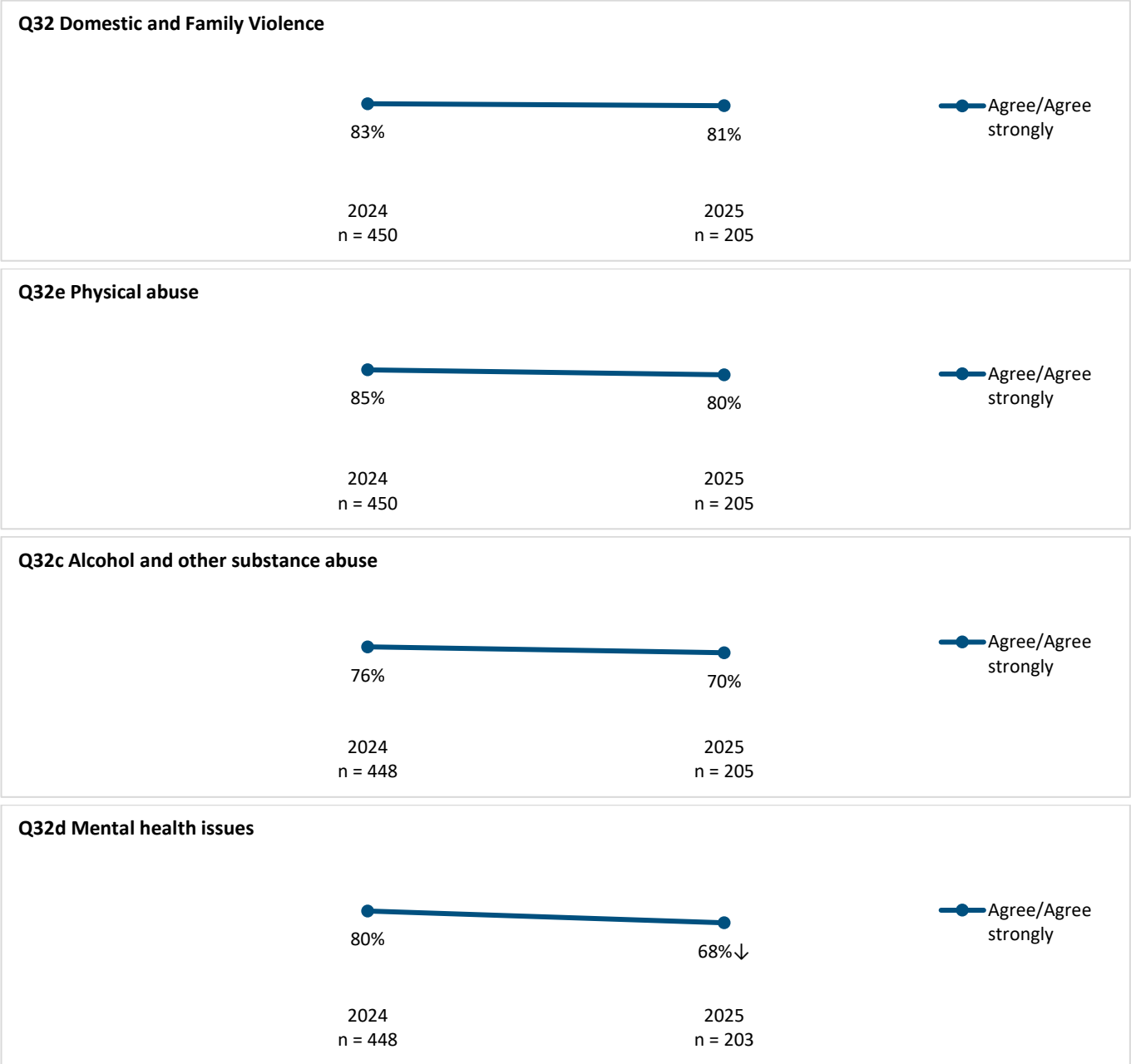
Figure 3.4.9: Have skills to recognise signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues (2025)



3.4.14 Comparison to previous survey data (2024–2025)

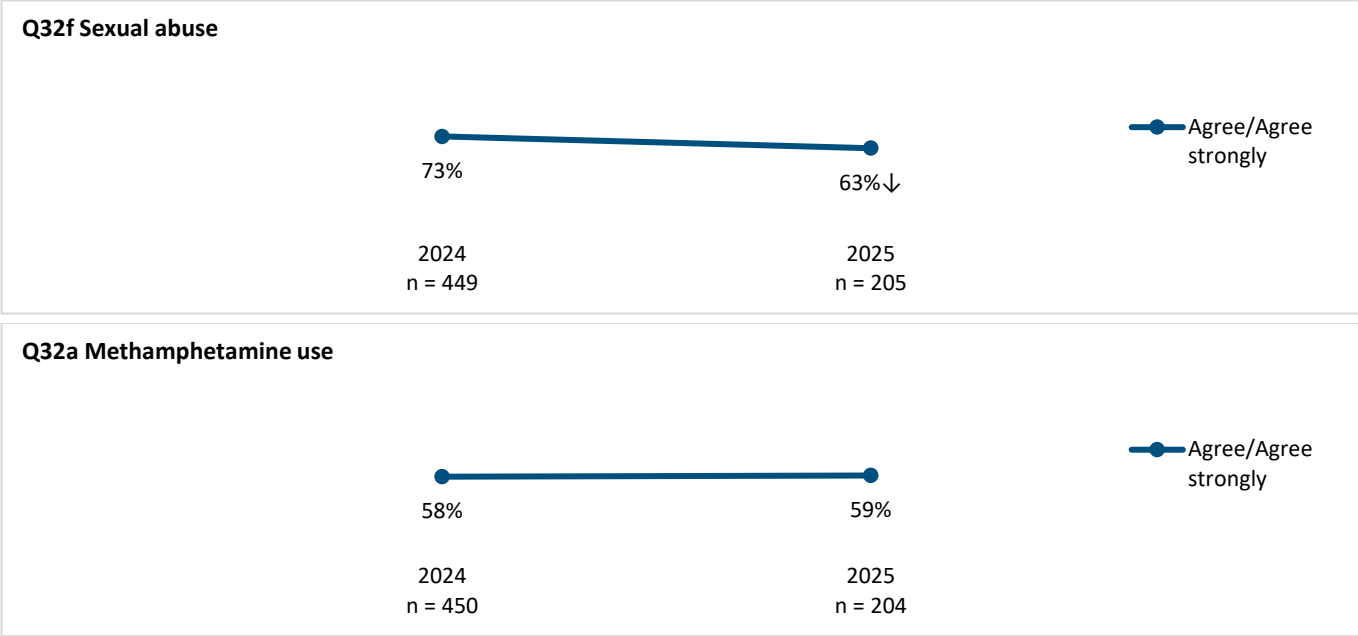
Decreases in confidence were apparent with respect to respondents' skills to recognise signs of mental health issues (80% in 2024, 68% in 2025) or sexual abuse (73% in 2024, 63% in 2025).

Figure 3.4.10: Have skills to recognise signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues 2024–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level.

Figure 3.4.10: Have skills to recognise signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues 2024–2025 trends (continued)



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level.

3.4.15 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who have worked in their sector for 10 or more years were more likely than those with less experience to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that they were confident in their skills to recognise signs of sexual abuse (79% 10+ years, 52% <10 years) or methamphetamine use (74% 10+ years, 49% <10 years).

The reader is referred to Tables 3.4.9 and 3.4.10 overleaf for other sub-group differences.

Table 3.4.9: Have skills to recognise signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q32 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Domestic and Family Violence											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	3%	2%	4%	2%	4%	5%	6%			3%	3%
Disagree	6%	4%	8%	7%		9%	8%		6%	9%	1%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	9%	6%	12%	8%	4%	14%	14%		6%	12%	4%
Neutral	10%	16%	5%	10%	4%	9%	14%	24%		13%	5%
Agree	48%	48%	49%	46%	61%	49%	39%	57%	44%	53%	41%
Strongly agree	33%	30%	35%	36%	32%	28%	33%	19%	50%	21% ↓	50% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	78%	83%	81%	93%	77%	72%	76%	94%	75%	91%
Physical abuse											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	5%	4%	6%	3%	4%	9%	6%	5%		6%	3%
Disagree	4%	3%	5%	5%		2%	8%	5%		5%	3%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	9%	7%	11%	8%	4%	12%	14%	10%		11%	5%
Neutral	12%	15%	9%	15%	7%	12%	8%	14%	11%	13%	9%
Agree	55%	51%	58%	58%	54%	53%	44%	62%	61%	60%	46%
Strongly agree	25%	27%	22%	19%	36%	23%	33%	14%	28%	16% ↓	40% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	80%	78%	81%	76%	89%	77%	78%	76%	89%	75%	86%
Alcohol and other substance abuse											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	5%	3%	7%	5%	4%	7%	6%	5%		6%	3%
Disagree	11%	10%	12%	8%	4%	12%	17%	14%	11%	14%	5%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	16%	13%	18%	14%	7%	19%	22%	19%	11%	21%	8%
Neutral	15%	17%	13%	12%	4%	14%	28%	19%	11%	14%	15%
Agree	54%	55%	53%	58%	75%	53%	36%	52%	50%	56%	51%
Strongly agree	16%	16%	16%	17%	14%	14%	14%	10%	28%	9% ↓	26% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	70%	71%	69%	75%	89%	67%	50%	62%	78%	65%	77%
Mental health issues											
	Total 2025 n = 203	Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 27^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 42	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 76
Strongly disagree	5%	4%	6%	3%	4%	10%	6%	5%		6%	3%
Disagree	12%	14%	10%	7%	7%	14%	14%	24%	11%	15%	7%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	17%	18%	16%	10%	11%	24%	19%	29%	11%	21%	9%
Neutral	15%	23%	8%	17%	11%	17%	19%	14%	6%	18%	11%
Agree	46%	40%	53%	53%	44%	45%	36%	38%	61%	45%	49%
Strongly agree	22%	20%	24%	20%	33%	14%	25%	19%	22%	15%	32%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	68%	59%	76%	73%	78%	60%	61%	57%	83%	60%	80%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.9: Have skills to recognise signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025) (continued)

Q32 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Sexual abuse											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	6%	4%	8%	7%	4%	9%	6%	5%		8%	3%
Disagree	12%	17%	8%	5%	7%	12%	22%	19%	17%	16%	6%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	18%	21%	16%	12%	11%	21%	28%	24%	17%	24%	9%
Neutral	19%	21%	17%	20%	21%	23%	14%	19%	11%	24%	12%
Agree	45%	42%	49%	53%	43%	40%	36%	48%	56%	42%	50%
Strongly agree	18%	17%	18%	15%	25%	16%	22%	10%	17%	10% ↓	29% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	63%	59%	67%	68%	68%	56%	58%	57%	72%	52% ↓	79% ↑
Methamphetamine use											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	7%	1% ↓	14% ↑	7%	7%	5%	11%	5%	11%	11%	1%
Disagree	17%	17%	17%	12%	7%	26%	19%	19%	17%	21%	10%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	24%	18%	30%	19%	14%	30%	31%	24%	28%	32% ↑	12% ↓
Neutral	17%	17%	17%	19%	7%	23%	19%	14%	11%	19%	14%
Agree	45%	50%	40%	48%	61%	42%	33%	52%	28%	42%	50%
Strongly agree	14%	16%	13%	14%	18%	5%	17%	10%	33%	7% ↓	24% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	59%	65%	52%	62%	79%	47%	50%	62%	61%	49% ↓	74% ↑

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.10: Have skills to recognise signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q32 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Domestic and Family Violence								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	3%	3%		9%		3%	12%	2%
Disagree	6%	5%	10%	14%	5%	6%	4%	6%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	9%	8%	10%	23%	5%	9%	16%	8%
Neutral	10%	10%	15%	5%	11%	10%	12%	9%
Agree	48%	50%	35%	59%	37%	50%	40%	50%
Strongly agree	33%	32%	40%	14%	47%	31%	32%	33%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	81%	83%	75%	73%	84%	81%	72%	83%
Physical abuse								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	5%	5%		9%		5%	16%	3%
Disagree	4%	5%		5%		4%	8%	3%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	9%	10%		14%		10%	24%	7%
Neutral	12%	11%	15%	5%	21%	10%	8%	12%
Agree	55%	52%	60%	73%	37%	57%	48%	56%
Strongly agree	25%	27%	25%	9%	42%	23%	20%	26%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	80%	79%	85%	82%	79%	80%	68%	82%
Alcohol and other substance abuse								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	5%	4%		14%		5%	12%	4%
Disagree	11%	12%	5%	9%	5%	11%	12%	11%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	16%	17%	5%	23%	5%	17%	24%	15%
Neutral	15%	14%	20%	9%	16%	14%	12%	15%
Agree	54%	55%	45%	59%	47%	55%	44%	56%
Strongly agree	16%	14%	30%	9%	32%	14%	20%	15%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	70%	69%	75%	68%	79%	69%	64%	71%
Mental health issues								
	Total 2025 n = 203	Child Protection n = 143	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 18^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 177
Strongly disagree	5%	5%		9%		5%	16%	3%
Disagree	12%	13%	25%	5%	11%	12%	12%	12%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	17%	17%	25%	14%	11%	17%	28%	15%
Neutral	15%	15%	20%	9%	17%	15%	8%	16%
Agree	46%	45%	30%	68%	44%	47%	40%	47%
Strongly agree	22%	22%	25%	9%	28%	21%	24%	21%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	68%	67%	55%	77%	72%	68%	64%	69%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.10: Have skills to recognise signs of abuse, drug use and mental health issues by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025) (continued)

Q32 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Sexual abuse								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	6%	6%		14%		6%	16%	4%
Disagree	12%	12%	20%	9%	5%	13%	16%	12%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	18%	18%	20%	23%	5%	19%	32%	16%
Neutral	19%	21%	20%	9%	21%	18%	12%	20%
Agree	45%	44%	40%	55%	37%	46%	52%	45%
Strongly agree	18%	17%	20%	14%	37%	16%	4%	20%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	63%	61%	60%	68%	74%	62%	56%	64%
Methamphetamine use								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	7%	6%		27%	5%	8%	20%	6%
Disagree	17%	19%	10%	18%	11%	17%	16%	17%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	24%	24%	10%	45%	16%	25%	36%	22%
Neutral	17%	13%	30%	18%	16%	17%	8%	18%
Agree	45%	51% ↑	25%	27%	32%	46%	36%	46%
Strongly agree	14%	12%	35%	9%	37%	12%	20%	13%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	59%	63%	60%	36%	68%	58%	56%	60%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

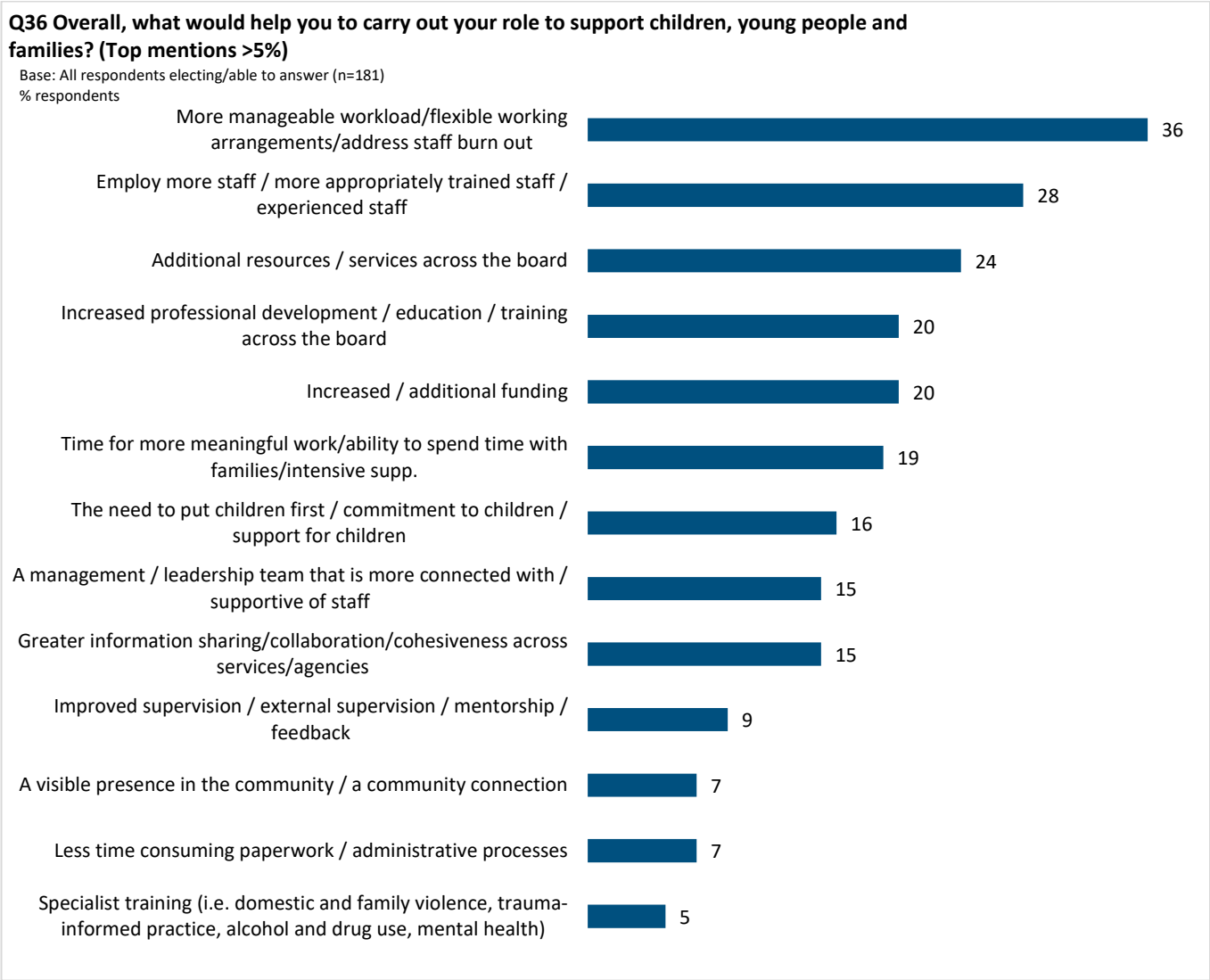
Q36 Overall, what would help you to carry out your role to support children, young people and families?

3.4.16 2025 result

Respondents were asked the open-ended question 'overall, what would help you to carry out your role to support children, young people and families'. The most prevalent responses were related to the theme of workforce resources: 36% suggested addressing workloads, flexibility of working arrangements and staff burn out, 28% suggested employing more staff/more appropriately trained staff and 24% wanted additional resources and services across the board. Additionally, 20% suggested increased and additional funding to be made available and 20% suggested increased professional development/education/training.

Other suggestions included time for more meaningful work/ability to spend time with families/intensive support (19%), the need to put children first (16%), management/leadership teams who are more connected with staff (15%), and greater information sharing/collaboration/cohesiveness across services (15%). More suggestions are included in Figure 3.4.11 below.

Figure 3.4.11: Assistance required to carry out role of supporting children, young people and families (2025)

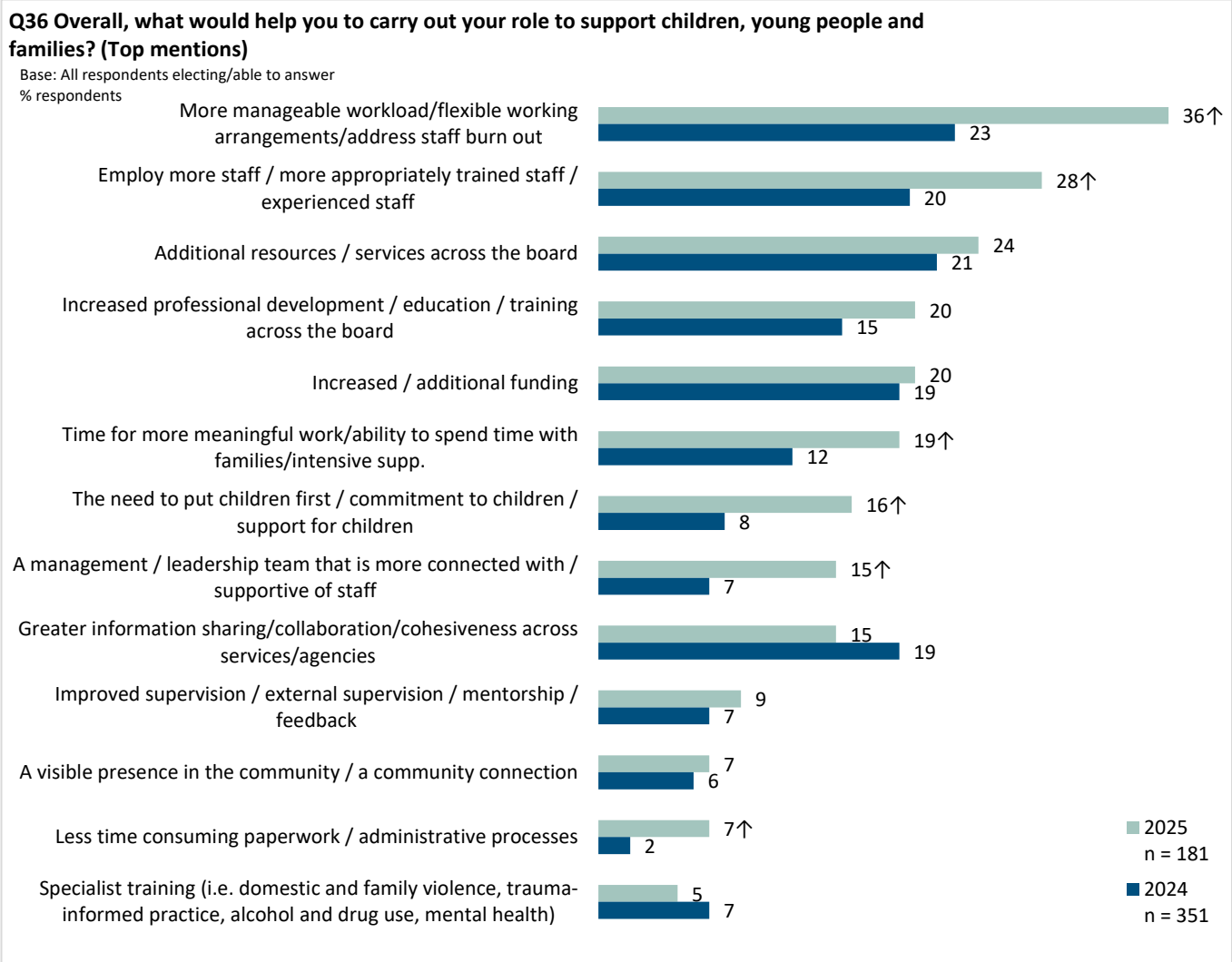


3.4.17 Comparison to previous survey data (2024–2025)

A number of key suggestions raised in 2025 were mentioned by significantly more respondents than mentioned in 2024. This was the case with respect to the top 2 most common suggestions: more manageable workload/flexible working arrangements/addressing burn out (23% in 2024, 36% in 2025) and employ more staff/more appropriately trained staff/experienced staff (20% in 2024, 28% in 2025).

Other statistically significant changes are highlighted in Figure 3.4.12 below.

Figure 3.4.12: Assistance required to carry out role of supporting children, young people and families 2024–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.4.18 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who work at a government organisation were more likely than non-government employees to suggest that addressing workforce resourcing by employing more staff/more appropriately trained staff/ experienced staff would be helpful in helping them to carry out their role (43% government, 13% non-government). See Table 3.4.11 and 3.4.12 overleaf.

Table 3.4.11: Assistance required to carry out role of supporting children, young people and families by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q36 Column %	Total 2025 n = 181	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 88	Non-govt n = 93	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 54	South East n = 26^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 35	South West n = 32	North QLD n = 19^	Far North Queensland n = 15^	<10 n = 109	10+ n = 71
More manageable workload/flexible working arrangements/address staff burn out	36%	47%	26%	26%	38%	43%	41%	53%	20%	44%	24%
Employ more staff / more appropriately trained staff / experienced staff	28%	43% ↑	13% ↓	17%	35%	37%	22%	37%	33%	28%	28%
Additional resources / services across the board	24%	19%	28%	30%	19%	20%	22%	26%	20%	24%	24%
Increased professional development / education / training across the board	20%	17%	24%	15%	23%	11%	31%	37%	13%	23%	17%
Increased / additional funding	20%	11%	28%	26%	23%	20%	13%	11%	20%	19%	21%
More time to do more meaningful work / ability to spend time with families / more intensive support	19%	25%	13%	20%	15%	20%	19%	16%	20%	18%	20%
The need to put children first / commitment to children / support for children	16%	13%	19%	13%	8%	14%	28%	16%	20%	16%	17%
A management / leadership team that is more connected with / supportive of staff	15%	19%	12%	15%	23%	9%	13%	26%	13%	16%	15%
Greater information sharing and collaboration / cohesiveness across services / agencies	15	7%	23%	17%	15%	14%	19%	11%	7%	11%	21%
Improved supervision / external supervision / mentorship / feedback	9%	9%	9%	6%	4%	9%	9%	26%	7%	11%	6%
A visible presence in the community / a community connection	7%	10%	4%	7%	4%	9%	6%	16%		7%	7%
Less time consuming paperwork / administrative processes	7%	10%	4%	11%	4%	14%		5%		6%	10%
Specialist training (i.e. domestic and family violence, trauma-informed practice, alcohol and drug use, mental health)	5%	6%	4%	9%	8%		3%		7%	2%	10%
Being more proactive than reactive / improved outcomes / less red tape	4%		9%	7%	4%	3%		5%	7%	4%	6%
Greater support for carers / foster carers / advocate carers as needed	4%	3%	4%	2%	4%	3%	9%	5%		5%	3%
Higher wages	4%	3%	4%	2%	4%	9%	3%	5%		6%	1%
Early intervention / recognition of importance in early intervention	3%	6%	1%	6%	4%	3%		5%		4%	3%
Ensure all services are inclusive / accessible to all members of the community	3%	3%	3%	2%		3%	6%	11%		1%	6%
Additional specialised staff	3%	6%	1%	6%	4%			11%		3%	4%
Additional debriefing meetings / opportunities to discuss client issues / decision making	3%	2%	3%	2%		3%	3%	11%		3%	3%
Housing / adequate housing / accommodation services	3%	2%	3%	6%	4%		3%			1%	6%
Cultural capability / training / working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples / culturally responsiveness	2%	1%	2%	2%			3%	5%		2%	1%
Skills, practices and tools for engaging clients (i.e. interpersonal skills / relationships / interviewing skills)	2%	2%	1%			6%		5%		1%	3%
Knowledge of legislation, policies and processes / justice system	2%	3%		2%			6%			3%	
Getting back to basics / a balance between theory and practice / a holistic approach	1%	2%		2%		3%				1%	1%
Increased brokerage capabilities	1%		1%	2%							1%
Other mentions	5%	3%	6%	6%		6%	3%	11%	7%	6%	4%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.4.12: Assistance required to carry out role of supporting children, young people and families by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q36 Column %	Total 2025 n = 181	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 129	Youth Justice n = 17^	Residential Care n = 18^	Yes n = 18^	No n = 162	Yes n = 25^	No n = 155
More manageable workload/flexible working arrangements/address staff burn out	36%	42%	29%	17%	22%	38%	36%	36%
Employ more staff / more appropriately trained staff / experienced staff	28%	30%	24%	22%	17%	29%	24%	28%
Additional resources / services across the board	24%	26%	18%	22%	33%	23%	28%	23%
Increased professional development / education / training across the board	20%	19%	29%	33%	28%	20%	24%	20%
Increased / additional funding	20%	19%	18%	11%	39%	18%	20%	20%
More time to do more meaningful work / ability to spend time with families / more intensive support	19%	22%	24%	6%	11%	20%	32%	17%
The need to put children first / commitment to children / support for children	16%	14%	18%	22%	17%	16%	12%	17%
A management / leadership team that is more connected with / supportive of staff	15%	16%	12%	22%	6%	17%	16%	15%
Greater information sharing and collaboration / cohesiveness across services / agencies	15%	12%	6%	33%	11%	15%	8%	16%
Improved supervision / external supervision / mentorship / feedback	9%	10%	12%	6%	6%	9%	4%	10%
A visible presence in the community / a community connection	7%	6%	12%	11%	6%	7%	16%	6%
Less time consuming paperwork / administrative processes	7%	7%	12%	6%	6%	7%	4%	8%
Specialist training (i.e. domestic and family violence, trauma-informed practice, alcohol and drug use, mental health)	5%	3%	18%			6%		6%
Being more proactive than reactive / improved outcomes / less red tape	4%	3%	6%	17%	6%	4%	4%	5%
Greater support for carers / foster carers / advocate carers as needed	4%	5%				4%		5%
Higher wages	4%	5%	6%			4%		5%
Early intervention / recognition of importance in early intervention	3%	3%	6%			4%	8%	3%
Ensure all services are inclusive / accessible to all members of the community	3%	2%	18%		6%	3%	8%	3%
Additional specialised staff	3%	3%	6%			4%		4%
Additional debriefing meetings / opportunities to discuss client issues / decision making	3%	2%	12%		11%	2%	4%	3%
Housing / adequate housing / accommodation services	3%	2%				3%		3%
Cultural capability / training / working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples / culturally responsiveness	2%	1%	12%		11%	1%	4%	1%
Skills, practices and tools for engaging clients (i.e. interpersonal skills / relationships / interviewing skills)	2%	2%	6%		6%	1%	4%	1%
Knowledge of legislation, policies and processes / justice system	2%	2%				2%	4%	1%
Getting back to basics / a balance between theory and practice / a holistic approach	1%		6%			1%		1%
Increased brokerage capabilities	1%	1%				1%		1%
Other mentions	5%	2%	18%	6%	17%	3%	8%	4%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

3.5 Working with clients

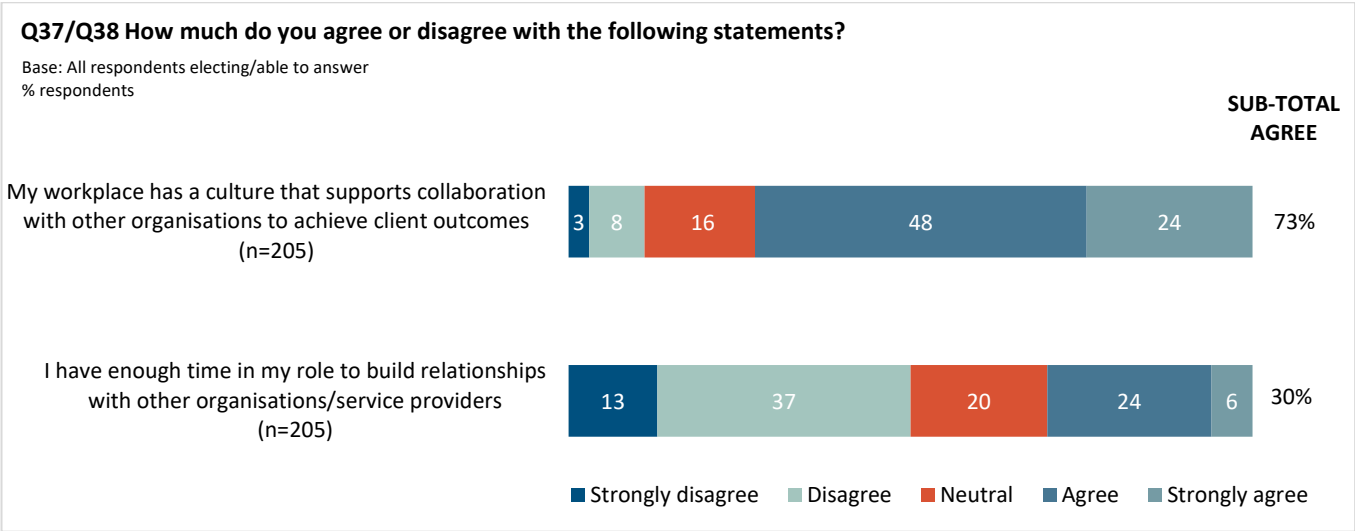
Q37 My workplace has a culture that supports collaboration with other organisations to achieve client outcomes
Q38 I have enough time in my role to build relationships with other organisations/service providers

3.5.1 2025 result

Seventy-three per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed their workplace has a culture that supports collaboration with other organisations, while 11% disagreed or strongly disagreed. The remaining 16% were neutral.

Respondents were mixed in their perceptions of whether they had time to build relationships with other organisations and service providers, 30% agreed or strongly agreed that they have enough time in their role to do this, while 50% disagreed or strongly disagreed. Twenty per cent were neutral.

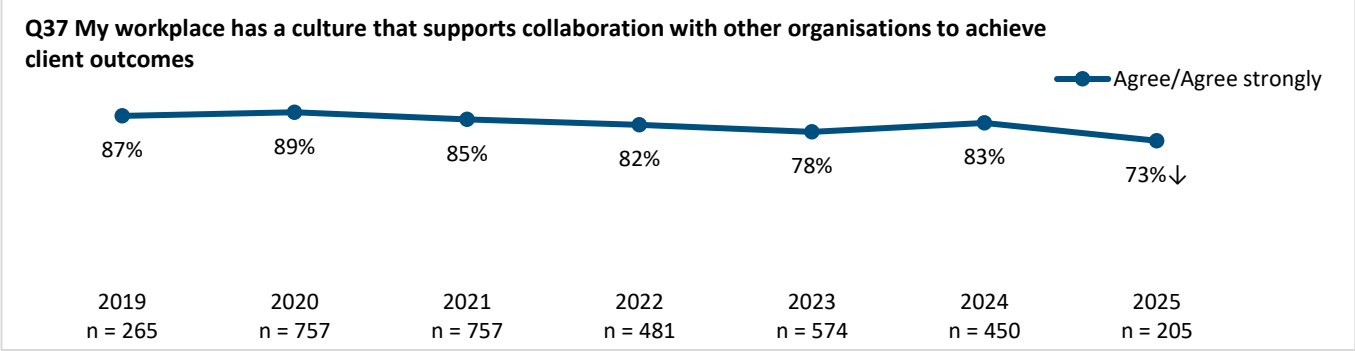
Figure 3.5.1: Collaboration and relationship building across the child protection and family support sector (2025)

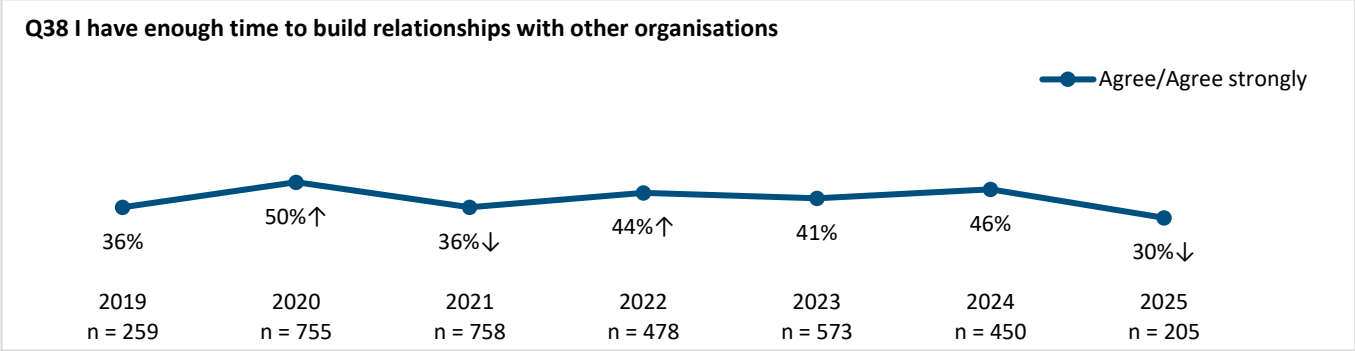


3.5.2 Comparison to previous survey data

Overall agreement regarding collaboration and building relationships with other organisations in 2025 was significantly lower than reported in 2024.

Figure 3.5.2: Collaboration and relationship building across the child protection and family support sector 2019–2025 trends





+ Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.5.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who work in the child protection sector were significantly less likely than those who work in youth justice or residential care to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that they have enough time in their role to build relationships with other organisations (24% child protection, 30% average) (Refer to Table 3.5.2).

Table 3.5.1: Collaboration and relationship building across the child protection and family support sector by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q37/Q38 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
My workplace has a culture that supports collaboration with other organisations to achieve client outcomes											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%	3%	5%		5%	
Disagree	8%	8%	9%	8%	7%	9%	14%		6%	10%	5%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	11%	11%	12%	12%	11%	12%	17%	5%	6%	15%	5%
Neutral	16%	21%	12%	8%	18%	16%	19%	24%	22%	16%	17%
Agree	48%	52%	45%	49%	64%	51%	31%	48%	50%	51%	45%
Strongly agree	24%	17%	32%	31%	7%	21%	33%	24%	22%	18%	33%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	73%	69%	77%	80%	71%	72%	64%	71%	72%	69%	78%
I have enough time in my role to build relationships with other organisations/service providers											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	13%	18%	9%	12%	18%	19%	11%	10%	6%	17%	8%
Disagree	37%	43%	31%	37%	43%	28%	39%	38%	44%	39%	35%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	50%	61%	40%	49%	61%	47%	50%	48%	50%	56%	42%
Neutral	20%	12%	27%	24%	11%	23%	17%	24%	11%	17%	24%
Agree	24%	25%	23%	22%	25%	26%	22%	24%	33%	25%	23%
Strongly agree	6%	2%	10%	5%	4%	5%	11%	5%	6%	3%	10%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	30%	27%	33%	27%	29%	30%	33%	29%	39%	28%	33%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.5.2: Collaboration and relationship building across the child protection and family support sector by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q37/Q38 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
My workplace has a culture that supports collaboration with other organisations to achieve client outcomes								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	3%	2%		9%		3%		3%
Disagree	8%	11%		5%	11%	8%	16%	7%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	11%	13%		14%	11%	11%	16%	11%
Neutral	16%	17%	20%	14%	21%	15%	24%	15%
Agree	48%	50%	35%	50%	37%	50%	44%	49%
Strongly agree	24%	20%	45%	23%	32%	24%	16%	26%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	73%	70%	80%	73%	68%	74%	60%	75%
I have enough time in my role to build relationships with other organisations/service providers								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	13%	14%	5%	14%	11%	14%	24%	12%
Disagree	37%	39%	25%	36%	42%	37%	36%	37%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	50%	54%	30%	50%	53%	50%	60%	49%
Neutral	20%	22%	15%	18%	5%	21%	20%	19%
Agree	24%	19% ↓	45%	27%	16%	25%	16%	26%
Strongly agree	6%	6%	10%	5%	26%	4%	4%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	30%	24% ↓	55%	32%	42%	29%	20%	32%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

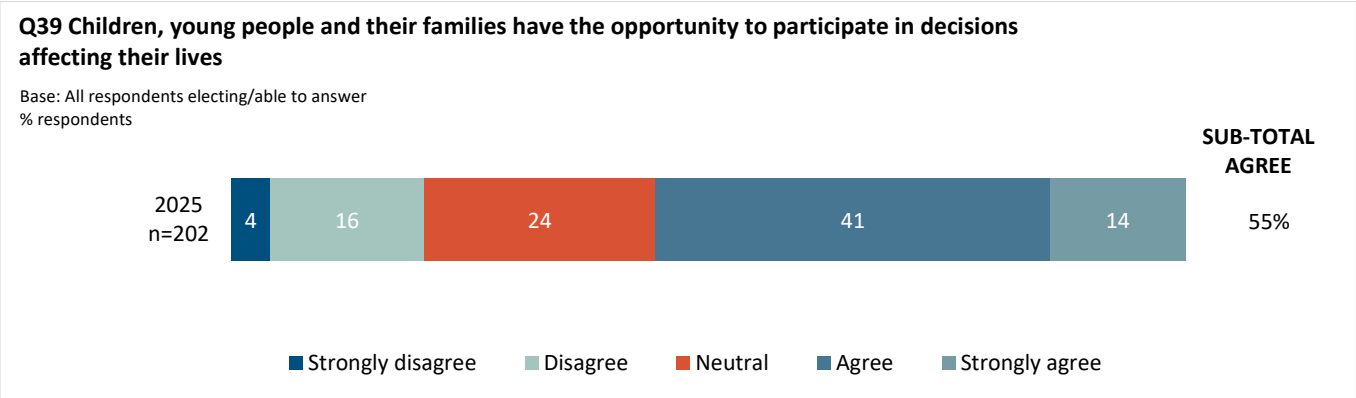
3.6 My organisation

Q39 In my organisation, children, young people and their families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives.

3.6.1 2025 result

Fifty-five per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that children, young people and families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives (14% strongly agreed, 41% agreed). Twenty per cent disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement and 24% were neutral.

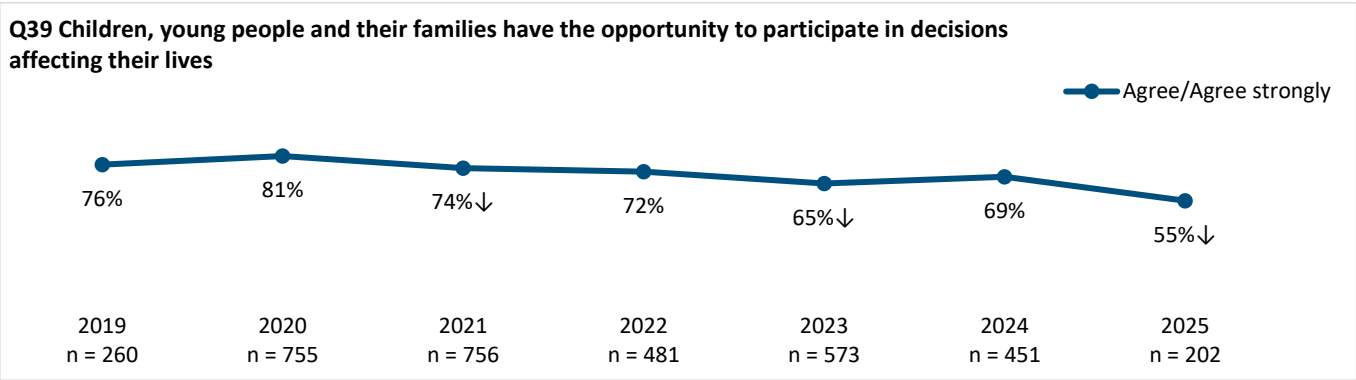
Figure 3.6.1: Children, young people and their families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives (2025)



3.6.2 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, overall agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) that children, young people and their families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives decreased significantly against 2024 results.

Figure 3.6.2: Children, young people and their families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives 2019–2025 trends+



+ Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.6.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who work in a non-government organisation were significantly more likely than those working in a government organisation to strongly agree that children, young people and families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives (23% strongly agreed non-government, 6% strongly agreed government).

Table 3.6.1: Children, young people and their families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q39 Column %	Total 2025 n = 202	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 100	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 27^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 20^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 123	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	4%	6%	3%	5%	4%	5%	3%	5%	6%	4%	5%
Disagree	16%	18%	14%	14%	15%	14%	14%	25%	22%	17%	14%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	20%	24%	17%	19%	19%	19%	17%	30%	28%	21%	19%
Neutral	24%	28%	21%	21%	26%	33%	28%	20%	11%	25%	23%
Agree	41%	42%	40%	47%	48%	40%	28%	35%	50%	40%	44%
Strongly agree	14%	6% ↓	23% ↑	14%	7%	9%	28%	15%	11%	14%	14%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	55%	48%	63%	60%	56%	49%	56%	50%	61%	54%	58%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.6.2: Children, young people and their families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q39 Column %	Total 2025 n = 202	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 143	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 21^	Yes n = 18^	No n = 183	Yes n = 25^	No n = 176
Strongly disagree	4%	6%		5%		5%	4%	5%
Disagree	16%	17%	25%	5%	44%	13%	32%	14%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	20%	22%	25%	10%	44%	18%	36%	18%
Neutral	24%	27%	15%	14%	6%	26%	16%	25%
Agree	41%	40%	35%	57%	22%	43%	40%	41%
Strongly agree	14%	11%	25%	19%	28%	13%	8%	15%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	55%	51%	60%	76%	50%	56%	48%	57%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

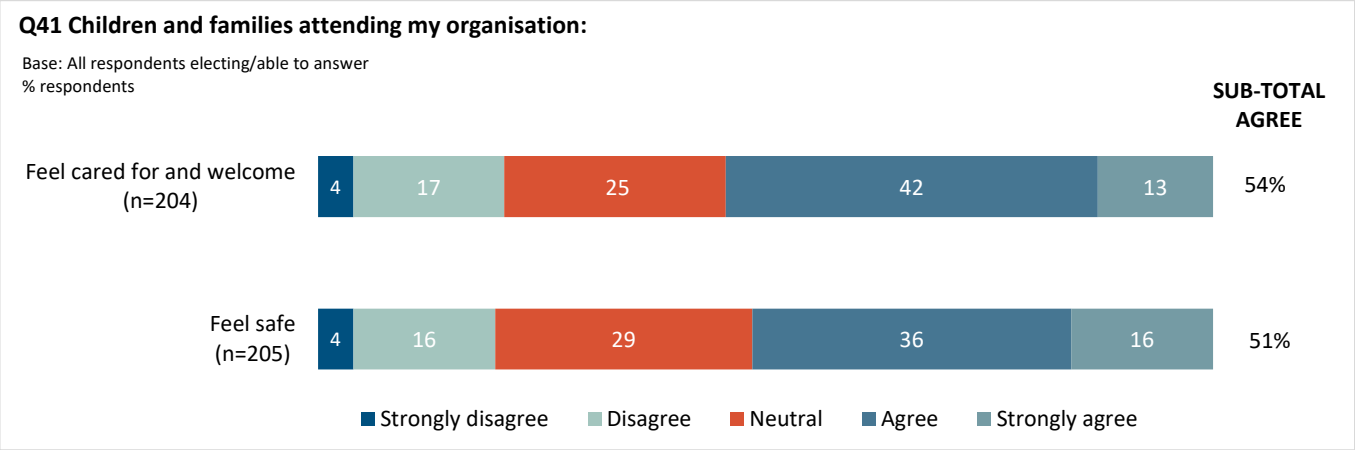
Q41 Children and families attending my organisation:
a) feel cared for and welcome
b) feel safe

3.6.4 2025 result

Approximately half of respondents in 2025 agreed or strongly agreed that when children and families attend their organisation that they feel safe (51% overall agreement) or that they feel cared for and welcomed (54% overall agreement).

Remaining perceptions were divided between a neutral response or disagreement. Twenty-one per cent of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that children and families feel cared for and welcomed and 20% disagreed or strongly disagreed that children and families feel safe when attending their organisation.

Figure 3.6.3: Children and families attending their organisation feel cared for, welcome and safe (2025)

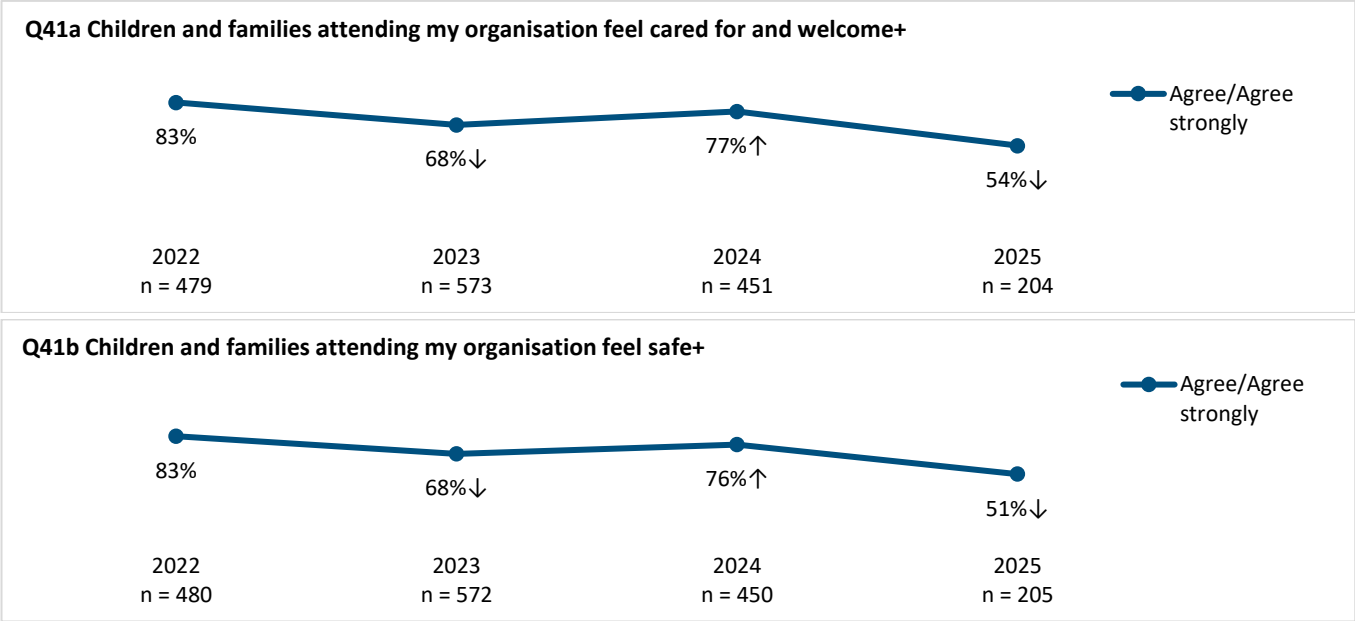


3.6.5 Comparison to previous survey data

Agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) with both statements was significantly lower in 2025 compared to 2024.

In data not displayed here, the change in overall agreement levels was significantly more pronounced among respondents working for government organisations while changes among respondents working for non-government organisation were non-significant. The proportion of respondents working for government organisations who agreed overall that children and families feel cared for and welcomed was 58% in 2024 and 25% in 2025 (compared to non-government 90% in 2024, 84% in 2025).

Figure 3.6.4: Children and families attending their organisation feel cared for, welcome & safe 2022–2025 trends



+ Note: in 2022 & 2023 asked as 'Children and young people'. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.6.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in non-government organisations were more likely than their government-based counterparts to agree or strongly agree that children and families attending their organisation feel safe (77% non-government, 25% government) or that they feel cared for and welcome (84% non-government, 25% government).

Other sub-group differences are detailed in Tables 3.6.3 and 3.6.4.

Table 3.6.3: Children and families attending their organisation feel cared for, welcome & safe by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q41a/b Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Children and families attending my organisation feel cared for and welcome											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 35	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	4%	7%	1%	5%	7%	2%	3%	5%		3%	5%
Disagree	17%	27% ↑	6% ↓	3% ↓	18%	19%	31% ↑	19%	22%	19%	13%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	21%	34% ↑	7% ↓	8% ↓	25%	21%	34%	24%	22%	22%	18%
Neutral	25%	41% ↑	9% ↓	29%	32%	23%	17%	19%	28%	23%	28%
Agree	42%	22% ↓	62% ↑	53%	39%	47%	23% ↓	33%	44%	46%	35%
Strongly agree	13%	3% ↓	23% ↑	10%	4%	9%	26% ↑	24%	6%	8% ↓	19% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	54%	25% ↓	84% ↑	63%	43%	56%	49%	57%	50%	54%	54%
Children and families attending my organisation feel safe											
	Total 2025 n = 205	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 103	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 59	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 126	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	4%	6%	3%	3%	7%	5%		5%	11%	4%	5%
Disagree	16%	25% ↑	6% ↓	7%	18%	14%	31% ↑	19%	11%	17%	14%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	20%	31% ↑	9% ↓	10%	25%	19%	31%	24%	22%	21%	19%
Neutral	29%	43% ↑	15% ↓	36%	32%	26%	22%	24%	28%	32%	24%
Agree	36%	23% ↓	49% ↑	41%	36%	42%	25%	29%	33%	37%	35%
Strongly agree	16%	3% ↓	28% ↑	14%	7%	14%	22%	24%	17%	11%	22%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	51%	25% ↓	77% ↑	54%	43%	56%	47%	52%	50%	48%	56%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.6.4: Children and families attending their organisation feel cared for, welcome & safe by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q41a/b Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Children and families attending my organisation feel cared for and welcome								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 25^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	5%	5%		4%		4%
Disagree	17%	19%		14%	16%	17%	24%	16%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	21%	24%	5%	18%	16%	21%	24%	20%
Neutral	25%	28%	30%	5%	26%	24%	16%	26%
Agree	42%	37%	50%	73%	32%	43%	40%	42%
Strongly agree	13%	12%	15%	5%	26%	11%	20%	12%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	54%	49%	65%	77%	58%	54%	60%	54%
Children and families attending my organisation feel safe								
	Total 2025 n = 205	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 185	Yes n = 25^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	5%	9%	5%	4%	12%	3%
Disagree	16%	19%		9%	16%	16%	12%	16%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	20%	23%	5%	18%	21%	20%	24%	20%
Neutral	29%	31%	35%	9%	26%	29%	20%	30%
Agree	36%	31%	45%	59%	26%	36%	36%	35%
Strongly agree	16%	14%	15%	14%	26%	15%	20%	15%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	51%	46%	60%	73%	53%	51%	56%	50%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q42 Children and families attending my organisation:

a) have access to the documents they need (such as identity documents) for accessing support and other services
b) can access health services when they need them
c) can access mental health services when they need them
d) receive sufficient support to access early childhood education and care
e) receive sufficient support to attend school

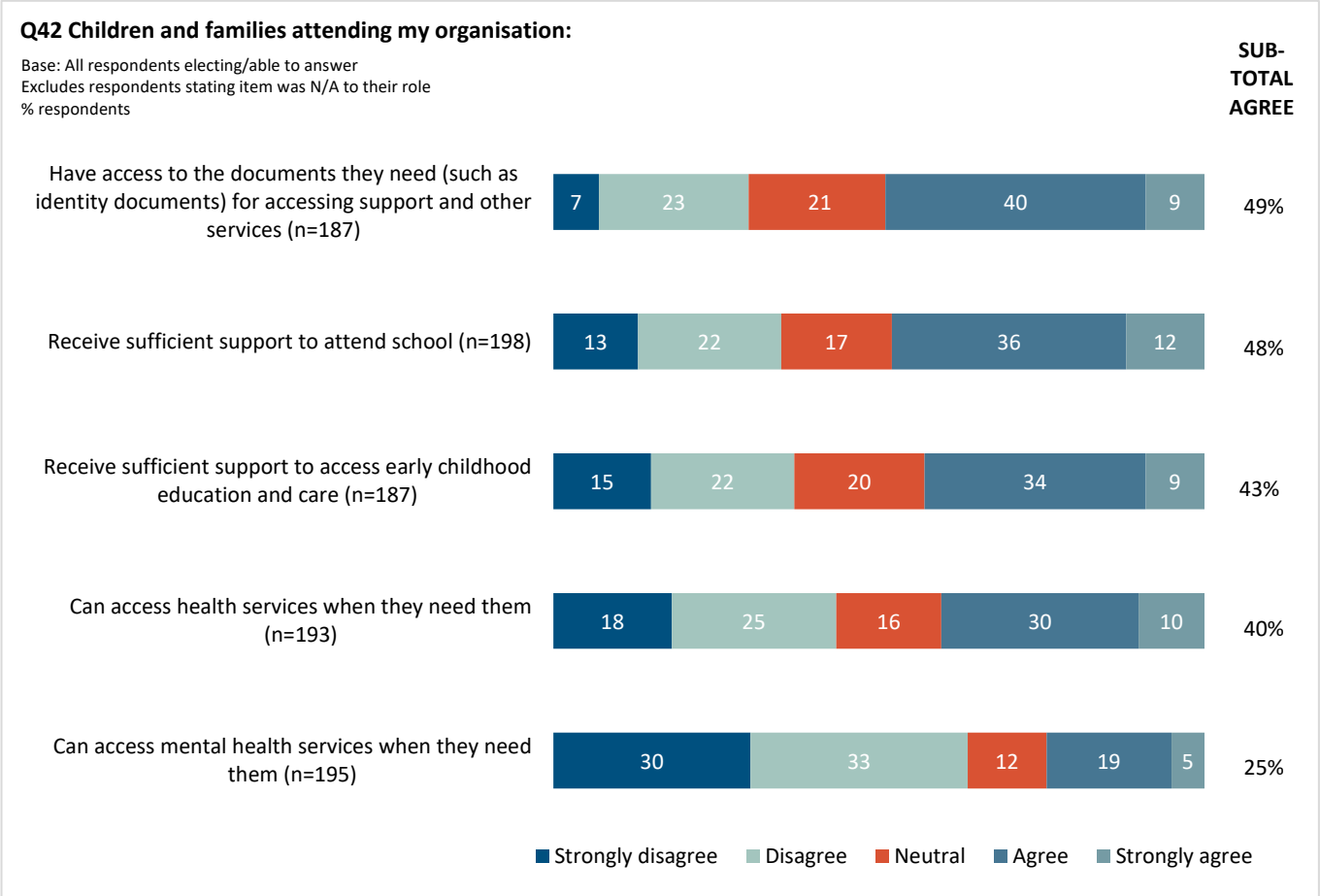
3.6.7 2025 result

Respondents were asked about the degree of access and support children and families have when attending their organisation. Highest agreement (those who agreed or strongly agreed) was found in relation to the belief that children and families:

- Have access to the documents they need for accessing services (49%)
- Receive sufficient support to attend school (48%)
- Receive sufficient support to access early childhood education and care (43%)
- Have access to health services when they need them (40%).

At a lower level of agreement, 25% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that children and families attending their organisation can access mental health services with a greater proportion (63%) disagreeing or strongly disagreeing. Twelve per cent were neutral.

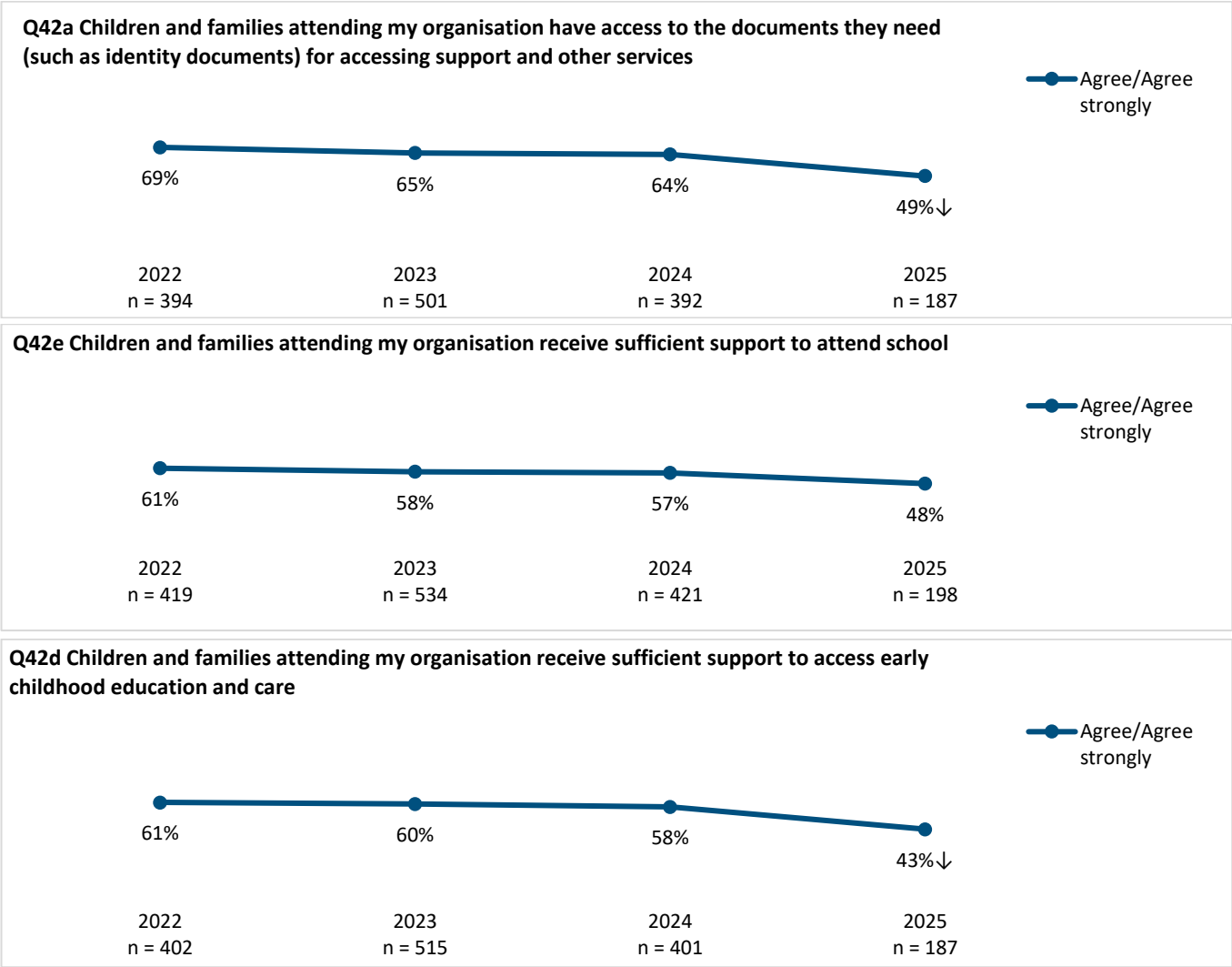
Figure 3.6.5: Access and support received by children and families (2025)



3.6.8 Comparison to previous survey data

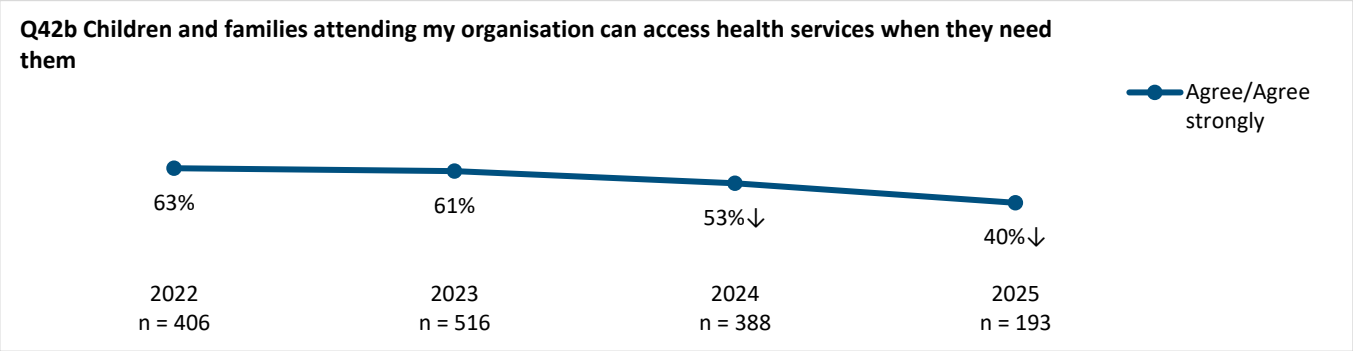
Compared with 2024, in 2025, respondents were less likely to agree or strongly agree that children and families have appropriate access and support available to them across all aspects tested. All decreases were statistically significant with the exception of 'support to attend school' and the most notable decrease was with respect to 'access mental health services when they need them' decreasing from 43% total agreement in 2024 to 25% total agreement in 2025.

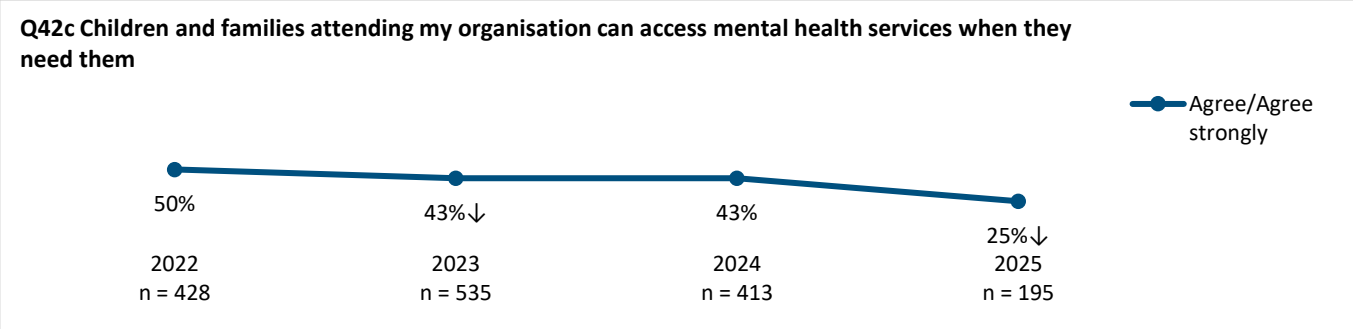
Figure 3.6.6: Access and support received by children and families 2022–2025 trends+



+ Note: in 2022 & 2023 aske as 'Children and young people'. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.6.6: Access and support received by children and families 2022–2025 trends+ (continued)





+ Note: in 2022 & 2023 aske as 'Children and young people'. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.6.9 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in the child protection sector were significant less likely than those working in youth justice or residential care to agree or strongly agree that children and families attending their organisation can access mental health services when they need them (19% overall agreement child protection, 37% youth justice, 55% residential care).

Table 3.6.5: Access and support received by children and families by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q42 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Children and families attending my organisation have access to the documents they need (such as identity documents) for accessing support and other services											
	Total 2025 n = 187	Govt n = 96	Non-govt n = 91	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 52	South East n = 27^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 36	South West n = 35	North QLD n = 20^	Far North Queensland n = 17^	<10 n = 115	10+ n = 71
Strongly disagree	7%	6%	8%	4%	4%	8%	9%	10%	12%	4%	10%
Disagree	23%	22%	24%	19%	26%	25%	23%	20%	29%	30%	13%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	30%	28%	32%	23%	30%	33%	31%	30%	41%	34%	23%
Neutral	21%	22%	20%	29%	15%	19%	17%	20%	18%	21%	21%
Agree	40%	44%	36%	37%	41%	39%	49%	45%	29%	37%	45%
Strongly agree	9%	6%	12%	12%	15%	8%	3%	5%	12%	8%	11%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	49%	50%	48%	48%	56%	47%	51%	50%	41%	45%	56%
Children and families attending my organisation receive sufficient support to attend school											
	Total 2025 n = 198	Govt n = 97	Non-govt n = 101	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 55	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 41	South West n = 35	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 123	10+ n = 74
Strongly disagree	13%	15%	10%	9%	7%	15%	11%	19%	22%	11%	15%
Disagree	22%	27%	18%	24%	25%	22%	26%	10%	22%	22%	23%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	35%	42%	28%	33%	32%	37%	37%	29%	44%	33%	38%
Neutral	17%	18%	16%	22%	14%	10%	14%	24%	17%	17%	16%
Agree	36%	30%	43%	36%	39%	41%	34%	33%	28%	37%	35%
Strongly agree	12%	10%	14%	9%	14%	12%	14%	14%	11%	13%	11%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	48%	40%	56%	45%	54%	54%	49%	48%	39%	50%	46%
Children and families attending my organisation receive sufficient support to access early childhood education and care											
	Total 2025 n = 187	Govt n = 93	Non-govt n = 94	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 50	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 41	South West n = 32	North QLD n = 20^	Far North Queensland n = 16^	<10 n = 114	10+ n = 72
Strongly disagree	15%	18%	12%	14%	7%	17%	16%	15%	25%	12%	19%
Disagree	22%	25%	20%	28%	21%	27%	16%	10%	25%	21%	24%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	37%	43%	32%	42%	29%	44%	31%	25%	50%	33%	43%
Neutral	20%	18%	21%	20%	25%	22%	16%	25%	6%	24%	14%
Agree	34%	31%	37%	30%	43%	24%	41%	35%	44%	34%	35%
Strongly agree	9%	8%	10%	8%	4%	10%	13%	15%		9%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	43%	39%	47%	38%	46%	34%	53%	50%	44%	43%	43%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.6.5: Access and support received by children and families by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025) (continued)

Q42 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Children and families attending my organisation can access health services when they need them											
	Total 2025 n = 193	Govt n = 97	Non-govt n = 96	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 54	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 40	South West n = 33	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 17^	<10 n = 119	10+ n = 73
Strongly disagree	18%	16%	20%	19%	4%	28%	18%	10%	29%	13%	25%
Disagree	25%	28%	23%	24%	32%	33%	27%	14%	12%	24%	27%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	44%	44%	43%	43%	36%	60%	45%	24%	41%	38%	52%
Neutral	16%	19%	14%	17%	14%	15%	18%	14%	18%	17%	15%
Agree	30%	31%	29%	30%	36%	20%	30%	43%	29%	34%	25%
Strongly agree	10%	6%	15%	11%	14%	5%	6%	19%	12%	12%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	40%	37%	44%	41%	50%	25%	36%	62%	41%	45%	33%
Children and families attending my organisation can access mental health services when they need them											
	Total 2025 n = 195	Govt n = 98	Non-govt n = 97	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 54	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 41	South West n = 33	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 120	10+ n = 74
Strongly disagree	30%	33%	28%	28%	25%	29%	39%	24%	39%	29%	32%
Disagree	33%	36%	30%	35%	46%	29%	33%	19%	28%	31%	35%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	63%	68%	58%	63%	71%	59%	73%	43%	67%	60%	68%
Neutral	12%	11%	13%	13%	7%	15%	6%	24%	11%	14%	9%
Agree	19%	16%	23%	20%	11%	22%	18%	24%	22%	21%	18%
Strongly agree	5%	4%	6%	4%	11%	5%	3%	10%		5%	5%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	25%	20%	29%	24%	21%	27%	21%	33%	22%	26%	23%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.6.6: Access and support received by children and families by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q42 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Children and families attending my organisation have access to the documents they need (such as identity documents) for accessing support and other services								
	Total 2025 n = 187	Child Protection n = 133	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 20^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 167	Yes n = 23^	No n = 163
Strongly disagree	7%	5%	25%		16%	6%	9%	7%
Disagree	23%	26%	20%	10%	26%	23%	17%	24%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	30%	31%	45%	10%	42%	29%	26%	31%
Neutral	21%	22%	10%	15%	21%	20%	17%	21%
Agree	40%	40%	40%	55%	26%	42%	43%	40%
Strongly agree	9%	8%	5%	20%	11%	9%	13%	9%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	49%	47%	45%	75%	37%	51%	57%	48%
Children and families attending my organisation receive sufficient support to attend school								
	Total 2025 n = 198	Child Protection n = 140	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 178	Yes n = 24^	No n = 173
Strongly disagree	13%	11%	35%	5%	21%	12%	17%	12%
Disagree	22%	23%	20%	9%	37%	21%	8%	24%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	35%	34%	55%	14%	58%	33%	25%	36%
Neutral	17%	19%	10%	9%	11%	17%	25%	15%
Agree	36%	37%	25%	50%	21%	38%	25%	38%
Strongly agree	12%	11%	10%	27%	11%	12%	25%	10%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	48%	48%	35%	77%	32%	51%	50%	49%
Children and families attending my organisation receive sufficient support to access early childhood education and care								
	Total 2025 n = 187	Child Protection n = 139	Youth Justice n = 16^	Residential Care n = 18^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 167	Yes n = 23^	No n = 163
Strongly disagree	15%	12%	56%		26%	14%	13%	15%
Disagree	22%	22%	19%	22%	16%	23%	13%	24%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	37%	35%	75%	22%	42%	37%	26%	39%
Neutral	20%	19%	19%	22%	21%	19%	26%	18%
Agree	34%	38%	6%	39%	26%	35%	35%	34%
Strongly agree	9%	9%		17%	11%	8%	13%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	43%	47%	6%	56%	37%	44%	48%	42%
Children and families attending my organisation can access health services when they need them								
	Total 2025 n = 193	Child Protection n = 136	Youth Justice n = 19^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 173	Yes n = 23^	No n = 169
Strongly disagree	18%	19%	26%		37%	16%	13%	19%
Disagree	25%	29%	21%	14%	21%	26%	26%	25%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	44%	48%	47%	14%	58%	42%	39%	44%
Neutral	16%	16%	26%	5%	5%	17%	4%	17%
Agree	30%	29%	16%	50%	26%	31%	30%	30%
Strongly agree	10%	7%	11%	32%	11%	10%	26%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	40%	36%	26%	82%	37%	41%	57%	38%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.6.6: Access and support received by children and families by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025) (continued)

Q42 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Children and families attending my organisation can access mental health services when they need them								
	Total 2025 n = 195	Child Protection n = 137	Youth Justice n = 19^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 175	Yes n = 23^	No n = 171
Strongly disagree	30%	32%	42%	9%	37%	30%	30%	30%
Disagree	33%	36%	11%	23%	37%	33%	17%	35%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	63%	69%	53%	32%	74%	62%	48%	65%
Neutral	12%	12%	11%	14%	11%	12%	4%	13%
Agree	19%	14% ↓	37%	45%	11%	21%	30%	18%
Strongly agree	5%	5%		9%	5%	5%	17%	4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	25%	19% ↓	37%	55%	16%	26%	48%	22%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

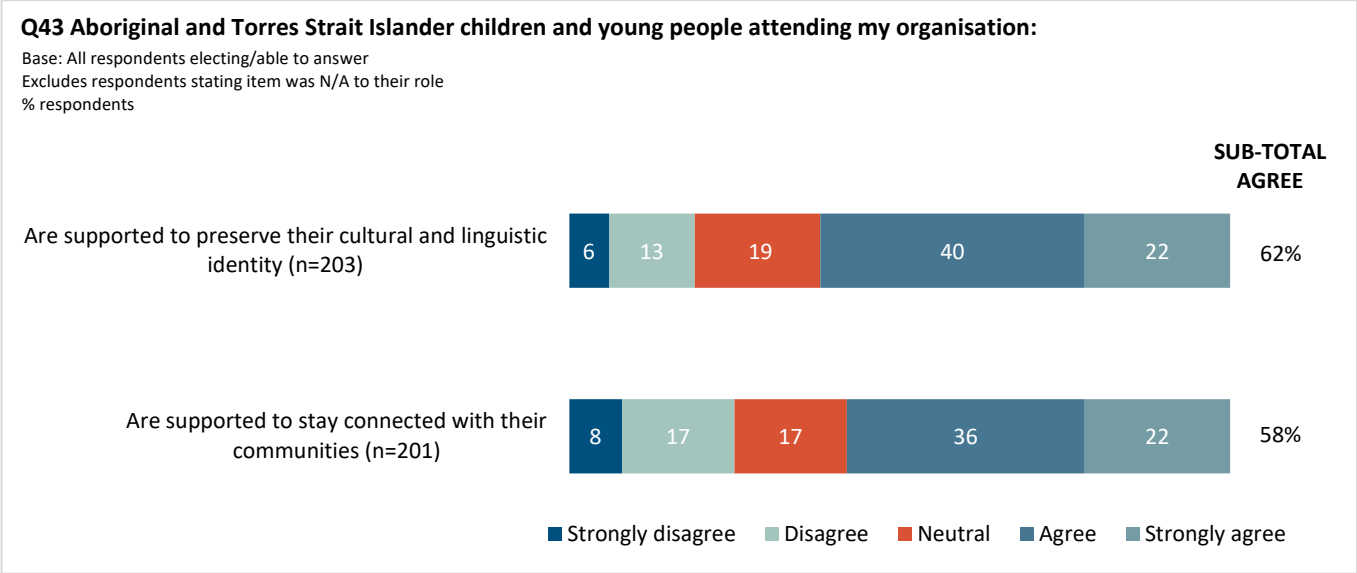
3.7 Meeting client needs

Q43 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending my organisation:
a) are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity
b) are supported to stay connected with their communities

3.7.1 2025 result

Respondents were asked about cultural support provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people. Sixty-two per cent of respondents agreed overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and 58% agreed they are supported to stay connected with their communities. Respectively, 19% and 25% of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with these two aspects.

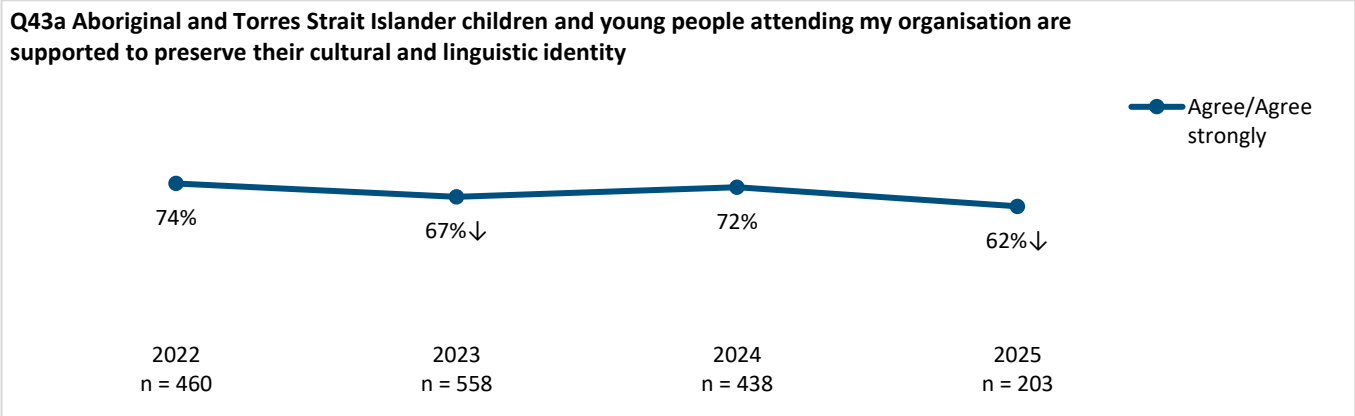
Figure 3.7.1: Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community (2025)

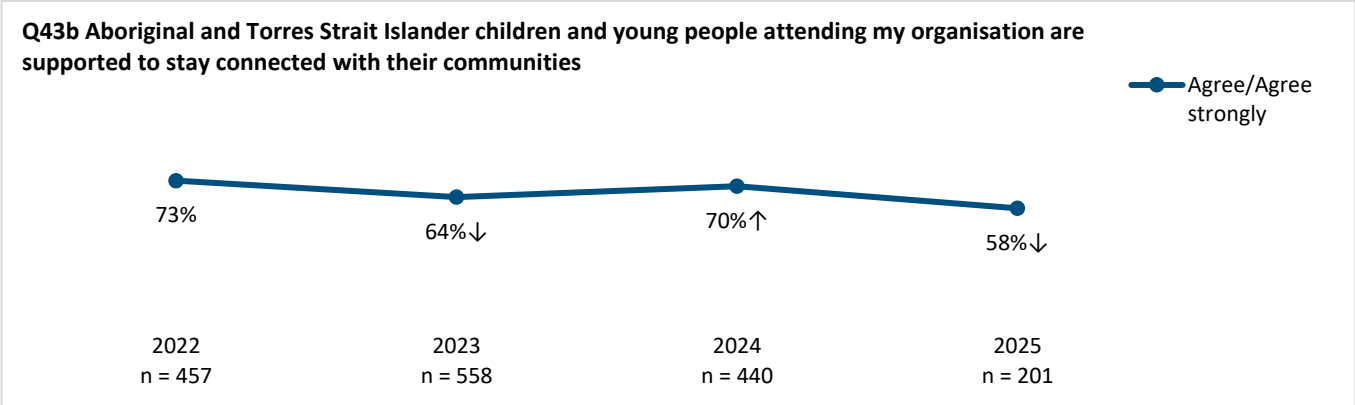


3.7.2 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, there was significantly lower total agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending their organisation are supported to stay connected with their communities (70% in 2024, 58% in 2025) or that they are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity (72% in 2024, 62% in 2025).

Figure 3.7.2: Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community 2022–2025 trends





↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.7.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in the child protection sector were less likely than other respondents to strongly agree (17% child protection, 22% average) that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending their organisation are supported to stay connected with their communities.

Table 3.7.1: Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q43 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending my organisation are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity											
	Total 2025 n = 203	Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 42	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 124	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	6%	6%	7%	9%	7%	7%	3%	5%	6%	6%	6%
Disagree	13%	18%	8%	14%	18%	10%	14%	10%	11%	11%	15%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	19%	24%	15%	22%	25%	17%	17%	14%	17%	18%	22%
Neutral	19%	22%	16%	19%	11%	19%	19%	24%	22%	21%	15%
Agree	40%	38%	43%	43%	39%	48%	36%	38%	28%	44%	35%
Strongly agree	22%	17%	26%	16%	25%	17%	28%	24%	33%	17%	28%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	62%	54%	70%	59%	64%	64%	64%	62%	61%	61%	63%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending my organisation are supported to stay connected with their communities											
	Total 2025 n = 201	Govt n = 99	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 56	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 42	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 123	10+ n = 77
Strongly disagree	8%	8%	8%	7%	11%	10%	8%	5%	6%	7%	9%
Disagree	17%	20%	14%	20%	14%	12%	19%	10%	28%	18%	16%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	25%	28%	22%	27%	25%	21%	28%	14%	33%	25%	25%
Neutral	17%	21%	13%	18%	11%	21%	14%	24%	11%	20%	13%
Agree	36%	31%	41%	39%	36%	40%	33%	43%	17%	38%	34%
Strongly agree	22%	19%	25%	16%	29%	17%	25%	19%	39%	17%	29%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	58%	51%	66%	55%	64%	57%	58%	62%	56%	55%	62%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.7.2: Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q43 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending my organisation are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity								
	Total 2025 n = 203	Child Protection n = 145	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 21^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 183	Yes n = 25^	No n = 177
Strongly disagree	6%	8%			16%	5%	12%	6%
Disagree	13%	14%		10%	16%	13%	8%	14%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	19%	23%		10%	32%	18%	20%	19%
Neutral	19%	17%	25%	29%	16%	19%	24%	18%
Agree	40%	43%	35%	43%	16%	43%	36%	41%
Strongly agree	22%	17%	40%	19%	37%	20%	20%	22%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	62%	61%	75%	62%	53%	63%	56%	63%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending my organisation are supported to stay connected with their communities								
	Total 2025 n = 201	Child Protection n = 143	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 21^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 181	Yes n = 24^	No n = 176
Strongly disagree	8%	10%			21%	7%	8%	8%
Disagree	17%	17%		19%	11%	18%	8%	18%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	25%	28%		19%	32%	24%	17%	26%
Neutral	17%	15%	25%	24%	21%	16%	25%	15%
Agree	36%	40%	30%	38%	16%	39%	38%	36%
Strongly agree	22%	17% ↓	45%	19%	32%	21%	21%	22%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	58%	57%	75%	57%	47%	60%	58%	59%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q44 Culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people attending my organisation:
a) are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity
b) are supported to stay connected with their communities

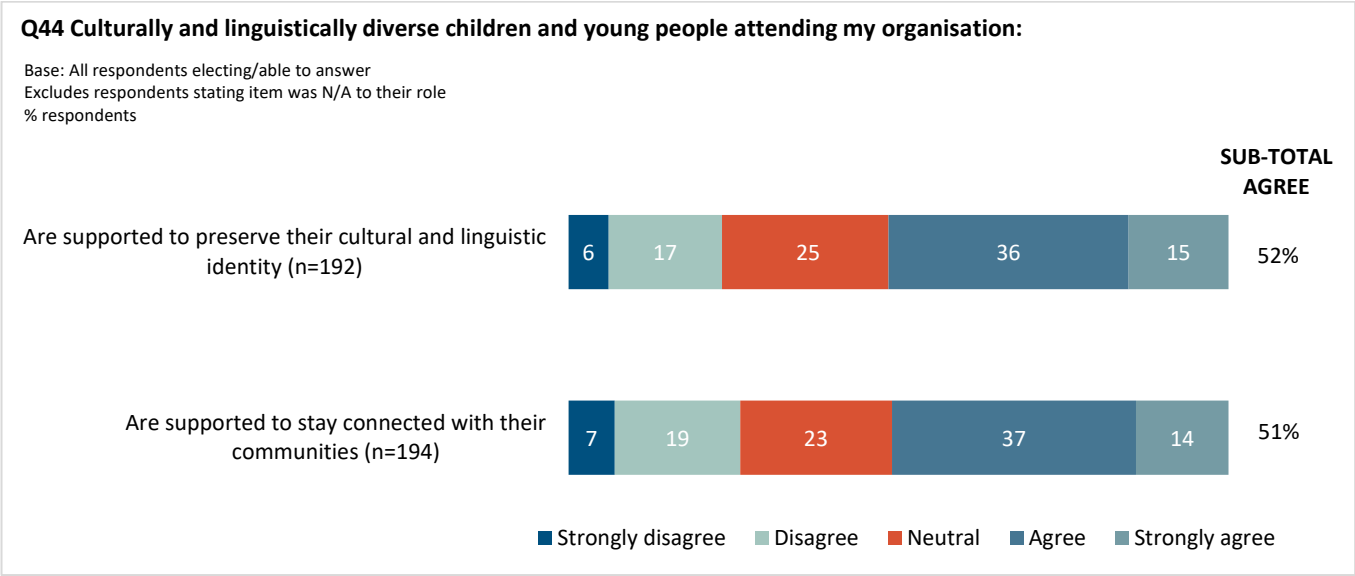
3.7.4 2025 result

Respondents were asked about cultural support provided to children and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. One half of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity (52%) or that they are supported to stay connected with their communities (51%).

Twenty-three per cent of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that children and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity, with 25% neutral.

Twenty-six per cent of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that children and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds are supported to stay connected with their community, with 23% neutral.

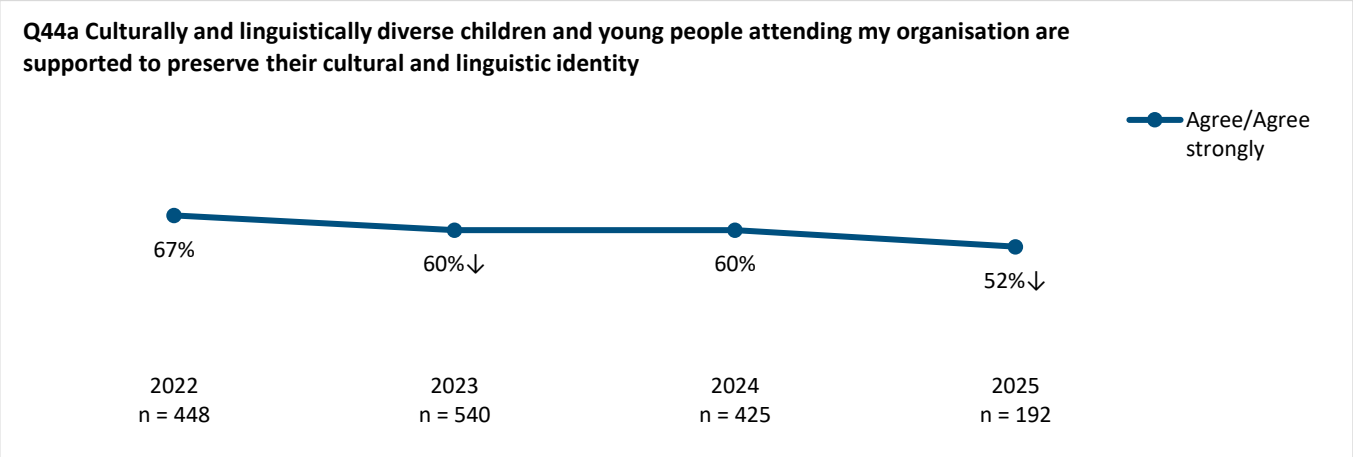
Figure 3.7.3: Supporting culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community (2025)

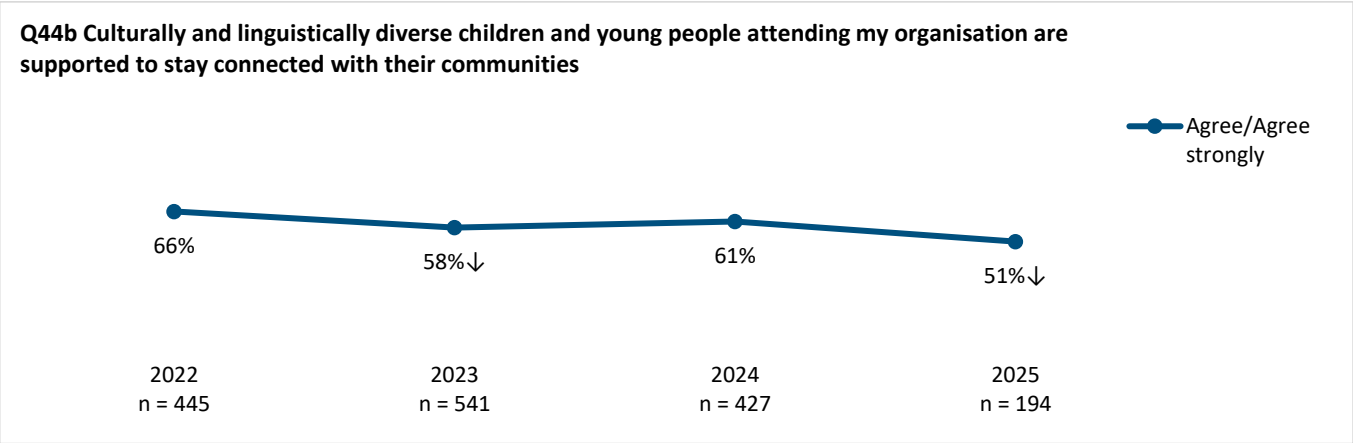


3.7.5 Comparison to previous survey data

Total agreement levels in 2025 regarding the supports provided to children and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to stay connected with their culture and community were significantly lower than reported in 2024.

Figure 3.7.4: Supporting culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community 2022–2025 trends





↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.7.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

No statistically significant differences were identified in the sub-group analysis regarding support for culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people.

Table 3.7.3: Supporting culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q44 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people attending my organisation are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity											
	Total 2025 n = 192	Govt n = 96	Non-govt n = 96	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 57	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 40	South West n = 34	North QLD n = 19^	Far North Queensland n = 14^	<10 n = 116	10+ n = 75
Strongly disagree	6%	7%	5%	5%	7%	10%		5%	14%	5%	8%
Disagree	17%	19%	16%	19%	18%	15%	12%	21%	21%	19%	15%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	23%	26%	21%	25%	25%	25%	12%	26%	36%	24%	23%
Neutral	25%	30%	20%	21%	25%	28%	32%	21%	21%	25%	25%
Agree	36%	33%	40%	42%	32%	38%	32%	37%	29%	41%	31%
Strongly agree	15%	10%	20%	12%	18%	10%	24%	16%	14%	10%	21%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	44%	59%	54%	50%	48%	56%	53%	43%	51%	52%
Culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people attending my organisation are supported to stay connected with their communities											
	Total 2025 n = 194	Govt n = 96	Non-govt n = 98	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 56	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 40	South West n = 35	North QLD n = 19^	Far North Queensland n = 16^	<10 n = 118	10+ n = 75
Strongly disagree	7%	7%	7%	5%	7%	10%	6%	5%	13%	7%	8%
Disagree	19%	20%	17%	20%	21%	18%	11%	16%	31%	20%	16%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	26%	27%	24%	25%	29%	28%	17%	21%	44%	27%	24%
Neutral	23%	29%	17%	25%	14%	28%	29%	26%	6%	23%	24%
Agree	37%	34%	40%	39%	39%	33%	40%	32%	38%	38%	36%
Strongly agree	14%	9%	18%	11%	18%	13%	14%	21%	13%	12%	16%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	51%	44%	58%	50%	57%	45%	54%	53%	50%	50%	52%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.7.4: Supporting culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity and stay connected with their community by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q44 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people attending my organisation are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity								
	Total 2025 n = 192	Child Protection n = 138	Youth Justice n = 17^	Residential Care n = 20^	Yes n = 18^	No n = 173	Yes n = 24^	No n = 167
Strongly disagree	6%	9%			22%	5%	8%	6%
Disagree	17%	19%		15%	6%	18%	17%	17%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	23%	28%		15%	28%	23%	25%	23%
Neutral	25%	25%	29%	25%	28%	24%	25%	25%
Agree	36%	36%	41%	45%	17%	39%	29%	38%
Strongly agree	15%	12%	29%	15%	28%	14%	21%	14%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	47%	71%	60%	44%	53%	50%	52%
Culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people attending my organisation are supported to stay connected with their communities								
	Total 2025 n = 194	Child Protection n = 139	Youth Justice n = 17^	Residential Care n = 21^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 174	Yes n = 24^	No n = 169
Strongly disagree	7%	10%			21%	6%	8%	7%
Disagree	19%	19%	6%	19%	5%	20%	21%	18%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	26%	29%	6%	19%	26%	26%	29%	25%
Neutral	23%	24%	29%	14%	32%	22%	21%	23%
Agree	37%	37%	47%	52%	26%	39%	33%	38%
Strongly agree	14%	11%	18%	14%	16%	14%	17%	14%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	51%	47%	65%	67%	42%	52%	50%	51%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q45 Children, young people and their families attending my organisation who have a disability can access appropriate support
Q46 Children, young people and their families attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and opportunities to keep their children at home where appropriate
Q47 The children and young people attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and linked to services to reduce recidivism
Q48 Young people on statutory community orders have a plan in place for when they transition out of the youth justice system

3.7.7 2025 result

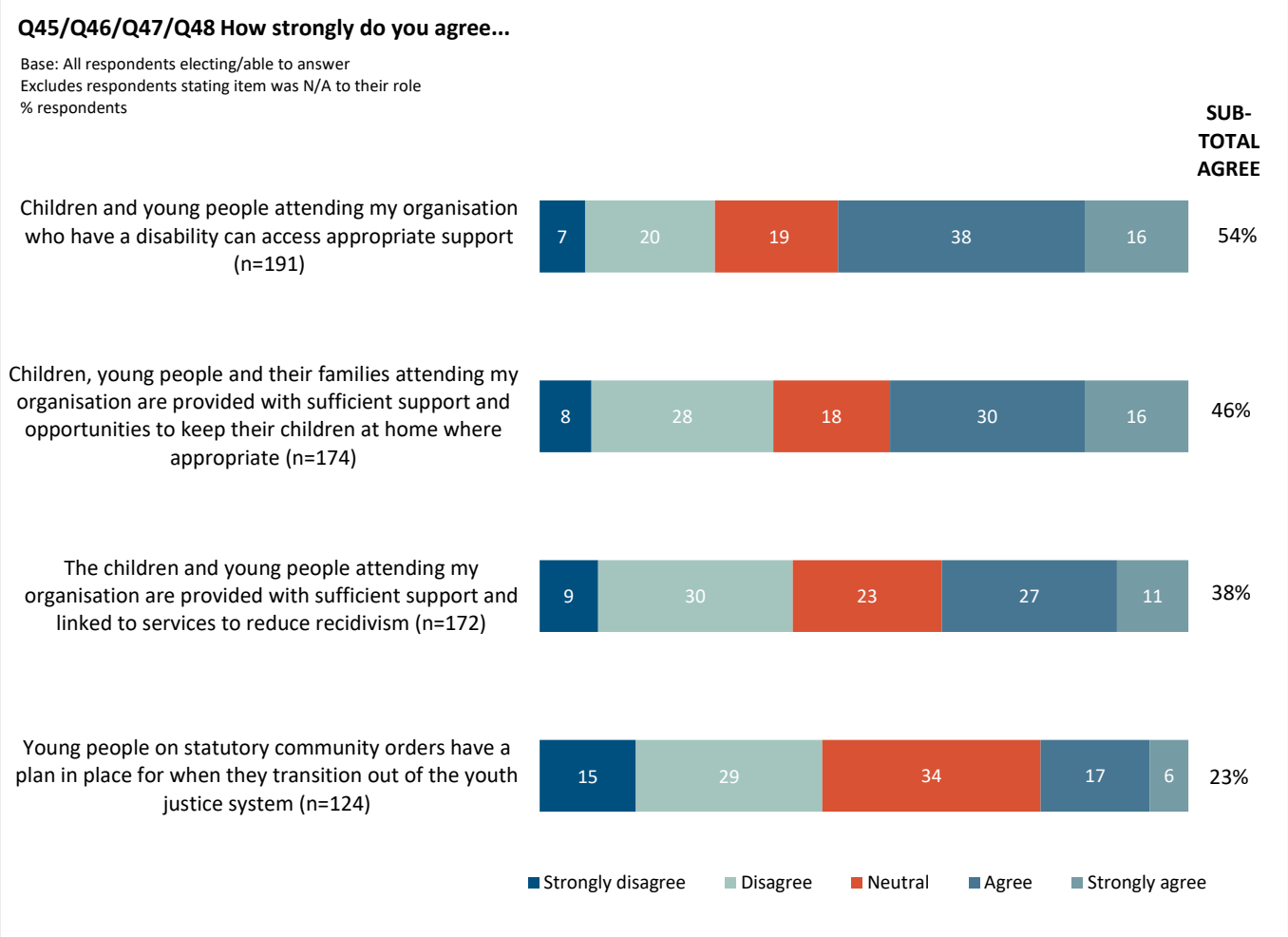
Fifty-four per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that children and young people with a disability can access appropriate support while 27% disagreed overall and 19% were neutral.

Opinions were mixed on the following statements regarding children, young people and families:

- are provided with sufficient support and opportunities to keep their children at home where appropriate (46% total agreement, 18% neutral, 36% total disagreement)
- are provided with sufficient support and linked to services to reduce recidivism (38% total agreement, 23% neutral, 38% total disagreement).

Respondents were more likely to disagree overall (44%) than agree overall (23%) that young people on statutory community orders have a plan in place for when they transition out of the youth justice system. Thirty-four per cent of respondents were neutral.

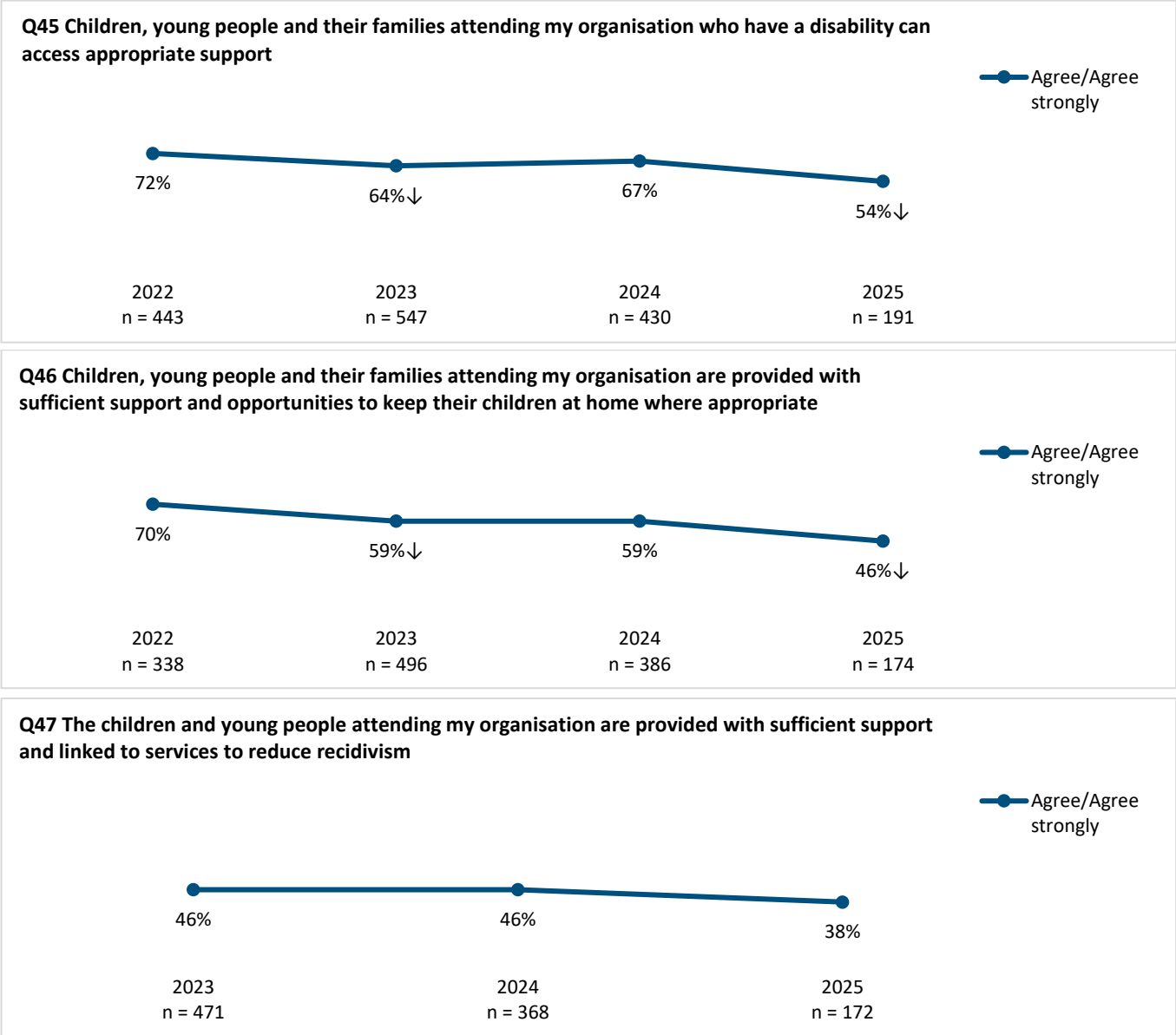
Figure 3.7.5: Supports for children, young people and families (2025)



3.7.8 Comparison to previous survey data

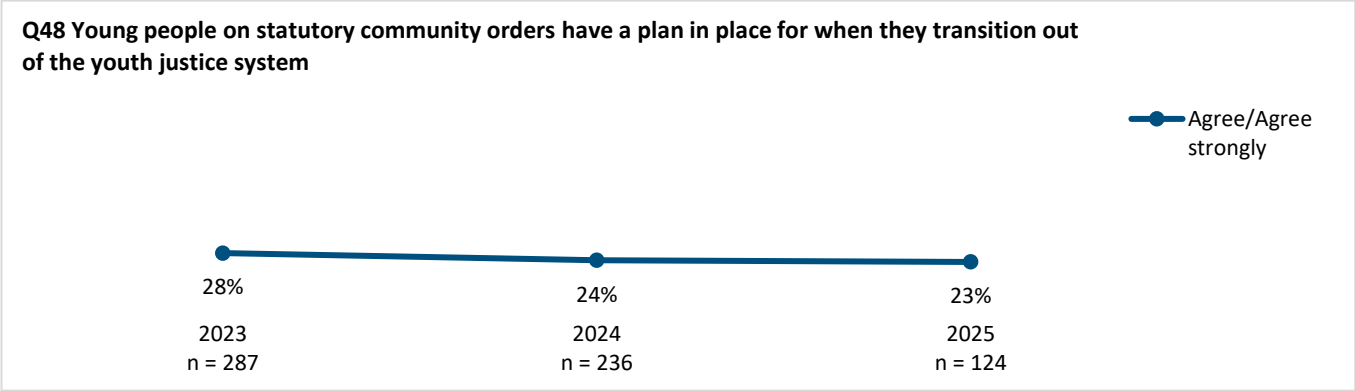
In 2025, total agreement was significantly lower regarding whether children, young people and their families who have a disability can access appropriate support (67% in 2024, 54% in 2025). Total agreement was also lower on whether children, young people and their families attending their organisation are provided with sufficient support and opportunities to keep their children at home where appropriate (59% in 2024, 46% in 2025). Other support aspects measured were stable or only recorded a minor change.

Figure 3.7.6: Supports for children, young people and families 2022–2025 trends[+]



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.7.6: Supports for children, young people and families 2022–2025 trends[+] (continued)



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.7.9 Sub-group differences (2025)

No statistically significant differences were identified in the sub-group analysis regarding support for children, young people and their families on the prompted factors. See Tables 3.7.5 and 3.7.6 for sub-group results.

Table 3.7.5: Supports for children, young people and families by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q45/Q46/Q47/Q48 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Children, young people and their families attending my organisation who have a disability can access appropriate support											
	Total 2025 n = 191	Govt n = 96	Non-govt n = 95	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 55	South East n = 27^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 41	South West n = 34	North QLD n = 20^	Far North Queensland n = 14^	<10 n = 115	10+ n = 75
Strongly disagree	7%	10%	4%	9%	4%	7%	6%	10%	7%	5%	11%
Disagree	20%	22%	18%	18%	19%	22%	18%	20%	29%	23%	16%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	27%	32%	22%	27%	22%	29%	24%	30%	36%	28%	27%
Neutral	19%	21%	17%	25%	11%	20%	15%	20%	14%	19%	19%
Agree	38%	36%	40%	36%	44%	37%	41%	30%	43%	41%	35%
Strongly agree	16%	10%	21%	11%	22%	15%	21%	20%	7%	12%	20%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	54%	47%	61%	47%	67%	51%	62%	50%	50%	53%	55%
Children young people and their families attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and opportunities to keep their children at home where appropriate											
	Total 2025 n = 174	Govt n = 94	Non-govt n = 80	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 48	South East n = 23^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 38	South West n = 33	North QLD n = 18^	Far North Queensland n = 14^	<10 n = 103	10+ n = 70
Strongly disagree	8%	9%	8%	6%	13%	3%	6%	11%	21%	9%	7%
Disagree	28%	29%	26%	31%	30%	18%	33%	22%	29%	29%	26%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	36%	37%	34%	38%	43%	21%	39%	33%	50%	38%	33%
Neutral	18%	21%	15%	21%	9%	24%	24%	17%		18%	19%
Agree	30%	30%	31%	31%	39%	37%	15%	28%	36%	30%	31%
Strongly agree	16%	12%	20%	10%	9%	18%	21%	22%	14%	14%	17%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	46%	41%	51%	42%	48%	55%	36%	50%	50%	44%	49%
The children and young people attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and linked to services to reduce recidivism											
	Total 2025 n = 172	Govt n = 90	Non-govt n = 82	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 46	South East n = 25^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 35	South West n = 33	North QLD n = 15^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 107	10+ n = 65
Strongly disagree	9%	11%	6%	7%	8%	3%	9%	20%	17%	9%	8%
Disagree	30%	32%	27%	22%	36%	29%	27%	33%	44%	28%	32%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	38%	43%	33%	28%	44%	31%	36%	53%	61%	37%	40%
Neutral	23%	27%	20%	35%	12%	23%	30%	20%		24%	22%
Agree	27%	24%	30%	28%	36%	34%	18%	13%	28%	30%	23%
Strongly agree	11%	6%	17%	9%	8%	11%	15%	13%	11%	8%	15%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	38%	30%	48%	37%	44%	46%	33%	27%	39%	38%	38%
Young people on statutory community orders have a plan in place for when they transition out of the youth justice system											
	Total 2025 n = 124	Govt n = 67	Non-govt n = 57	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 29^	South East n = 19^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 24^	South West n = 25^	North QLD n = 13^	Far North Queensland n = 14^	<10 n = 74	10+ n = 50
Strongly disagree	15%	12%	18%	10%	16%	13%	16%	15%	21%	14%	16%
Disagree	29%	28%	30%	28%	26%	13%	40%	31%	43%	30%	28%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	44%	40%	47%	38%	42%	25%	56%	46%	64%	43%	44%
Neutral	34%	36%	32%	45%	16%	54%	20%	31%	29%	35%	32%
Agree	17%	21%	12%	14%	42%	17%	8%	15%	7%	18%	16%
Strongly agree	6%	3%	9%	3%		4%	16%	8%		4%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	23%	24%	21%	17%	42%	21%	24%	23%	7%	22%	24%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.7.6: Supports for children, young people and families by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q45/Q46/Q47/Q48 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Children and young people attending my organisation who have a disability can access appropriate support								
	Total 2025 n = 191	Child Protection n = 137	Youth Justice n = 19^	Residential Care n = 20^	Yes n = 17^	No n = 173	Yes n = 21^	No n = 169
Strongly disagree	7%	9%	11%		6%	8%		8%
Disagree	20%	20%	26%	10%	35%	18%	24%	20%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	27%	29%	37%	10%	41%	26%	24%	28%
Neutral	19%	23%		15%	18%	18%	14%	19%
Agree	38%	34%	53%	55%	18%	40%	29%	40%
Strongly agree	16%	14%	11%	20%	24%	15%	33%	14%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	54%	48%	63%	75%	41%	55%	62%	53%
Children young people and their families attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and opportunities to keep their children at home where appropriate								
	Total 2025 n = 174	Child Protection n = 132	Youth Justice n = 11^	Residential Care n = 13^	Yes n = 17^	No n = 156	Yes n = 19^	No n = 154
Strongly disagree	8%	10%		8%	6%	8%	11%	8%
Disagree	28%	26%	45%	38%	24%	28%	32%	27%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	36%	36%	45%	46%	29%	37%	42%	35%
Neutral	18%	17%	18%	15%	18%	18%	21%	18%
Agree	30%	30%	18%	38%	24%	31%	21%	32%
Strongly agree	16%	17%	18%		29%	14%	16%	16%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	46%	47%	36%	38%	53%	46%	37%	47%
The children and young people attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and linked to services to reduce recidivism								
	Total 2025 n = 172	Child Protection n = 124	Youth Justice n = 19^	Residential Care n = 17^	Yes n = 17^	No n = 154	Yes n = 19^	No n = 152
Strongly disagree	9%	8%	16%	12%		10%	5%	9%
Disagree	30%	31%	21%	35%	41%	29%	37%	29%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	38%	40%	37%	47%	41%	38%	42%	38%
Neutral	23%	25%	5%	24%	24%	23%	37%	21%
Agree	27%	26%	32%	24%	6%	30%	11%	30%
Strongly agree	11%	10%	26%	6%	29%	9%	11%	11%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	38%	35%	58%	29%	35%	39%	21%	41%
Young people on statutory community orders have a plan in place for when they transition out of the youth justice system								
	Total 2025 n = 124	Child Protection n = 83	Youth Justice n = 19^	Residential Care n = 15^	Yes n = 15^	No n = 108	Yes n = 18^	No n = 105
Strongly disagree	15%	11%	21%	27%	20%	14%	28%	12%
Disagree	29%	29%	21%	40%	27%	30%	22%	30%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	44%	40%	42%	67%	47%	44%	50%	43%
Neutral	34%	37%	32%	13%	20%	35%	39%	32%
Agree	17%	19%	11%	20%	13%	18%	6%	19%
Strongly agree	6%	4%	16%		20%	4%	6%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	23%	23%	26%	20%	33%	21%	11%	25%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

3.8 Children's rights

Q49 Within my organisation:

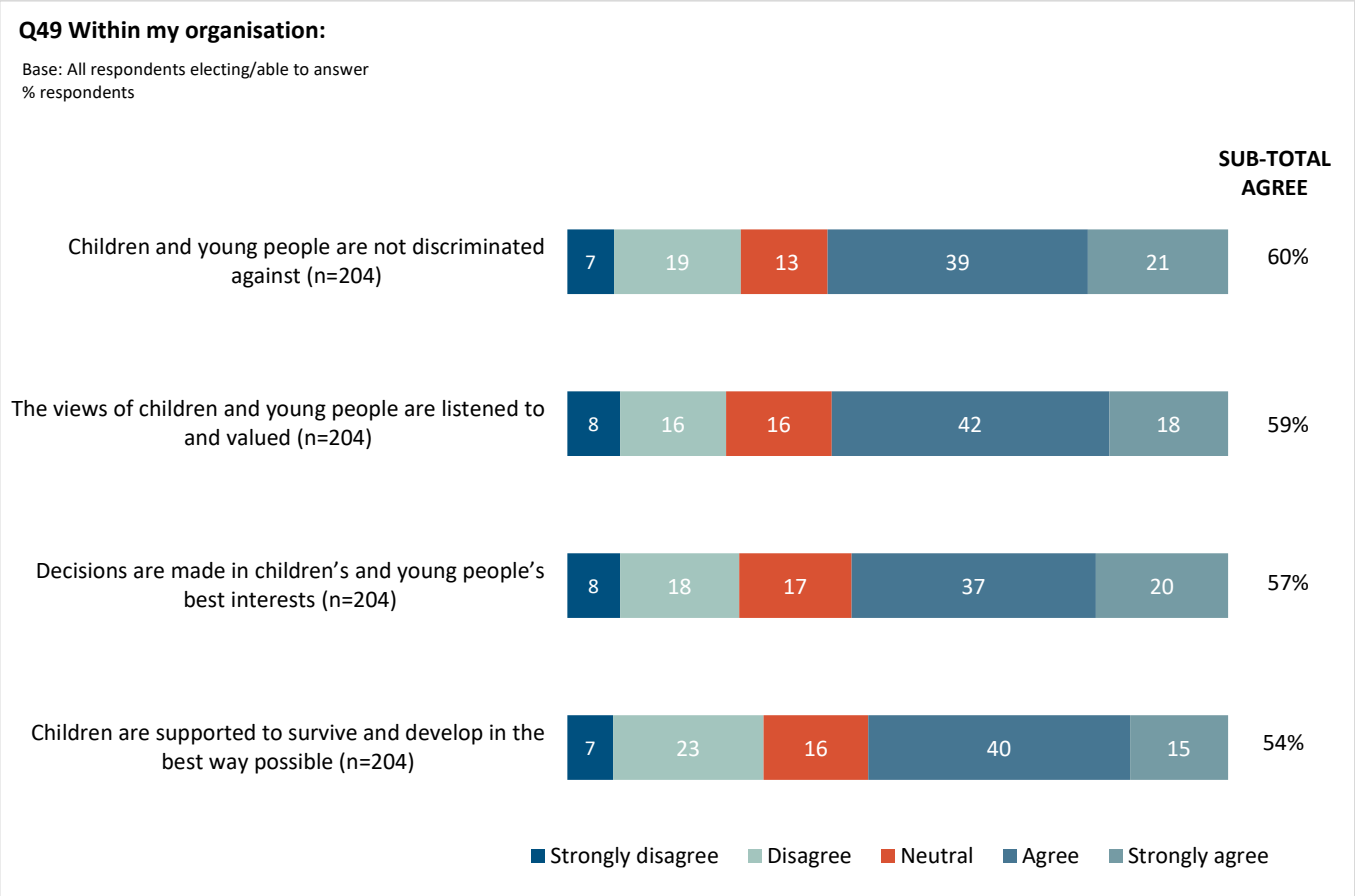
a) children are supported to survive and develop in the best way possible
b) decisions are made in children's and young people's best interests
c) the views of children and young people are listened to and valued
d) children and young people are not discriminated against

3.8.1 2025 result

At least half of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with all statements regarding children's rights being upheld within their organisation. Sixty per cent agreed overall that children and young people are not discriminated against and 59% agreed overall that the views of children and young people are listened to and valued.

Levels of disagreement with these statements fell between 25%-29% total disagreement.

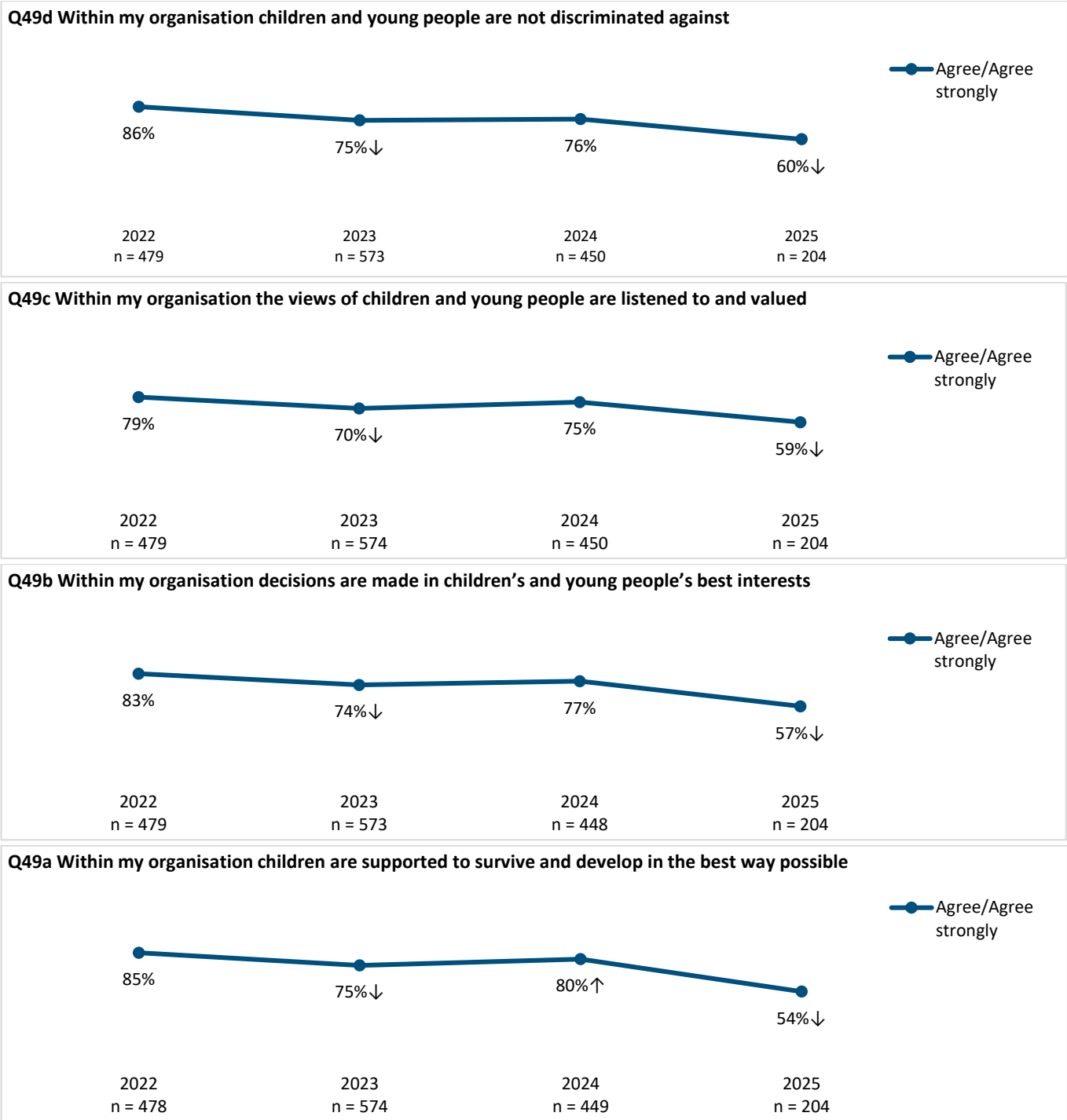
Figure 3.8.1: Children's rights upheld within their organisations (2025)



3.8.2 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, total agreement (agreed or strongly agreed) for all statements related to upholding children's rights were significantly lower than reported in 2024.

Figure 3.8.2: Children's rights upheld within their organisations 2022–2025 trends



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.8.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents who work for a non-government organisation were significantly more likely to agree overall than those working for a government organisation that within their organisation children are supported to survive and develop in the best possible way (72% non-government, 37% government). They were also more likely to display greater sentiment to strongly agree that children and young people are not discriminated against (32% non-government, 10% government) or are listened to and valued within their organisation (26% non-government, 9% government).

Those working in the child protection sector were significantly more likely to disagree or strongly disagree in contrast to respondents working in youth justice or residential care that within their organisation decisions are made in the children and young persons' best interests (32% disagreement overall, 26% average).

Other sub-group differences are outlined in Tables 3.8.1 and 3.8.2.

Table 3.8.1: Children's rights upheld within their organisations by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q49 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
Within my organisation children and young people are not discriminated against											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	7%	10%	5%	5%	7%	5%	11%	14%	6%	8%	6%
Disagree	19%	17%	22%	16%	18%	19%	22%	19%	28%	21%	17%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	26%	26%	26%	21%	25%	23%	33%	33%	33%	29%	23%
Neutral	13%	18%	9%	16%	14%	16%	11%	5%	11%	13%	14%
Agree	39%	46%	32%	38%	46%	47%	28%	43%	33%	39%	40%
Strongly agree	21%	10% ↓	32% ↑	26%	14%	14%	28%	19%	22%	19%	23%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	60%	56%	65%	64%	61%	60%	56%	62%	56%	58%	63%
Within my organisation the views of children and young people are listened to and valued											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	8%	10%	7%	3%	11%	5%	14%	10%	17%	9%	8%
Disagree	16%	13%	20%	19%	18%	14%	11%	5%	33%	18%	14%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	25%	23%	26%	22%	29%	19%	25%	14%	50%	26%	22%
Neutral	16%	21%	12%	21%	7%	21%	11%	14%	17%	18%	14%
Agree	42%	48%	35%	34%	50%	53%	36%	57%	17%	42%	41%
Strongly agree	18%	9% ↓	26% ↑	22%	14%	7%	28%	14%	17%	14%	23%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	59%	57%	62%	57%	64%	60%	64%	71%	33%	56%	64%
Within my organisation decisions are made in children's and young people's best interests											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	8%	9%	8%	3%	11%	5%	17%	5%	17%	9%	8%
Disagree	18%	20%	17%	16%	18%	26%	22%	5%	17%	22%	12%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	26%	28%	25%	19%	29%	30%	39%	10%	33%	31%	19%
Neutral	17%	23%	11%	19%	11%	12%	11%	29%	28%	14%	22%
Agree	37%	37%	36%	38%	46%	47%	19%	43%	22%	41%	31%
Strongly agree	20%	12%	28%	24%	14%	12%	31%	19%	17%	14%	28%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	57%	49%	65%	62%	61%	58%	50%	62%	39%	55%	59%
Within my organisation children are supported to survive and develop in the best way possible											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	7%	10%	4%	2%	7%	9%	11%	5%	11%	6%	9%
Disagree	23%	27%	18%	17%	36%	21%	22%	19%	28%	25%	19%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	29%	37%	22%	19%	43%	30%	33%	24%	39%	30%	28%
Neutral	16%	25% ↑	7% ↓	21%	18%	12%	11%	14%	22%	15%	18%
Agree	40%	32%	47%	45%	32%	47%	31%	48%	28%	46%	31%
Strongly agree	15%	5% ↓	25% ↑	16%	7%	12%	25%	14%	11%	9% ↓	23% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	54%	37% ↓	72% ↑	60%	39%	58%	56%	62%	39%	54%	54%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.8.2: Children's rights upheld within their organisations by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q49 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
Within my organisation children and young people are not discriminated against								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	7%	9%	10%		21%	6%	8%	7%
Disagree	19%	22%	15%	18%	26%	18%	25%	18%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	26%	31%	25%	18%	47%	24%	33%	26%
Neutral	13%	13%	10%	9%	5%	14%	8%	13%
Agree	39%	37%	50%	50%	21%	41%	38%	40%
Strongly agree	21%	19%	15%	23%	26%	21%	21%	21%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	60%	56%	65%	73%	47%	62%	58%	61%
Within my organisation the views of children and young people are listened to and valued								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	8%	10%	5%	5%	16%	8%	8%	8%
Disagree	16%	17%	15%	14%	26%	15%	25%	15%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	25%	28%	20%	18%	42%	23%	33%	23%
Neutral	16%	16%	20%	18%	11%	16%	13%	16%
Agree	42%	41%	40%	50%	26%	43%	38%	42%
Strongly agree	18%	15%	20%	14%	21%	17%	17%	18%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	59%	56%	60%	64%	47%	61%	54%	60%
Within my organisation decisions are made in children's and young people's best interests								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	8%	10%	10%	5%	21%	7%	13%	8%
Disagree	18%	22%	5%	18%	26%	17%	21%	18%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	26%	32% ↑	15%	23%	47%	24%	33%	26%
Neutral	17%	17%	30%	5%	11%	17%	13%	17%
Agree	37%	34%	35%	55%	16%	39%	33%	37%
Strongly agree	20%	17%	20%	18%	26%	20%	21%	20%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	57%	51%	55%	73%	42%	59%	54%	58%
Within my organisation children are supported to survive and develop in the best way possible								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	7%	8%	10%		11%	7%	4%	7%
Disagree	23%	25%	20%	18%	26%	22%	33%	21%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	29%	33%	30%	18%	37%	29%	38%	28%
Neutral	16%	17%	10%	14%	16%	16%	8%	17%
Agree	40%	38%	50%	50%	26%	41%	46%	39%
Strongly agree	15%	13%	10%	18%	21%	14%	8%	16%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	54%	50%	60%	68%	47%	55%	54%	55%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q50 Within my community, children and young people:

a) are protected from abuse and neglect
b) are supported to live safely at home with their families
c) live in safe communities
d) can access the services they need to stay healthy, such as GPs and hospitals
e) can access the services they need for healthy teeth, such as dentists
f) can access mental health services if needed
g) can access disability services if needed
h) can access NDIS supports if needed
i) can access early childhood education and care, such as kindergarten
j) have support to stay engaged in learning at school or TAFE
k) can access sporting, recreational or community activities
l) are supported to connect with their culture (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people)

3.8.4 2025 result

Respondents were asked their opinion on the broader community and the degree of access, support, and safety that children and young people have.

Respondents were most likely to agree (agreed or strongly agreed) with the following statements with respect to children and young people in their communities:

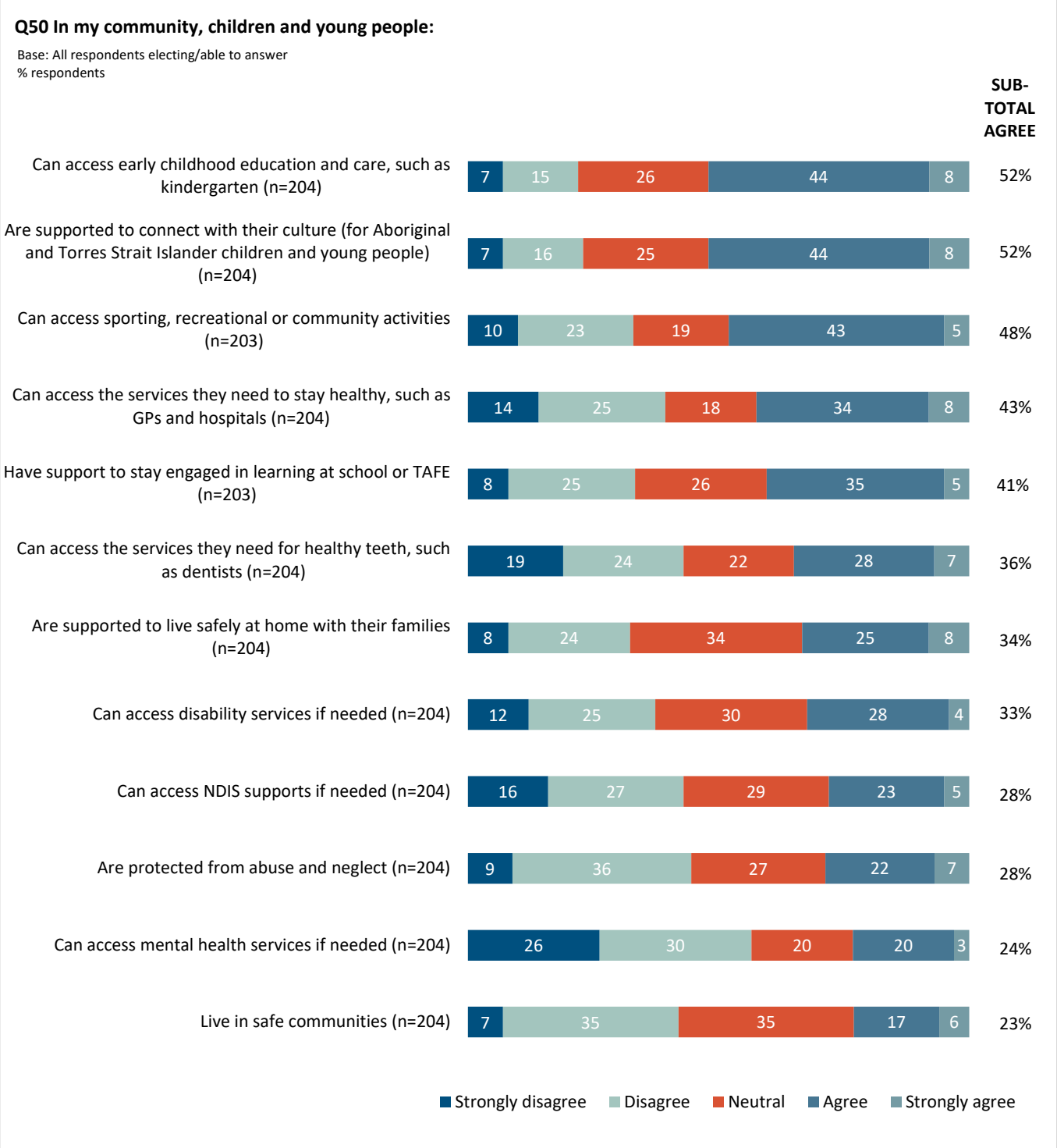
- Having access to early childhood education and care (52%)
- Being supported to connect with their culture (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people) (52%)
- Having access to sporting, recreation or community activities (48%).

Lower agreement was noted regarding children and young people in their communities:

- Having access to services they need for healthy teeth, such as dentists (36% agreed or strongly agreed, 43% disagreed or strongly disagreed).
- Are supported to live safely at home with their families (34% agreed or strongly agreed, 32% disagreed or strongly disagreed)
- Having access to disability services if needed (33% agreed or strongly agreed, 37% disagreed or strongly disagreed)
- Having access to NDIS supports if needed (28% agreed or strongly agreed, 43% disagreed or strongly disagreed)
- Being protected from abuse and neglect (28% agreed or strongly agreed, 45% disagreed or strongly disagreed)
- Having access to mental health services if needed (24% agreed or strongly agreed, 57% disagreed or strongly disagreed)
- Living in safe communities (23% agreed or strongly agreed, 42% disagreed or strongly disagreed).

The reader is referred to Figure 3.8.3 for full results.

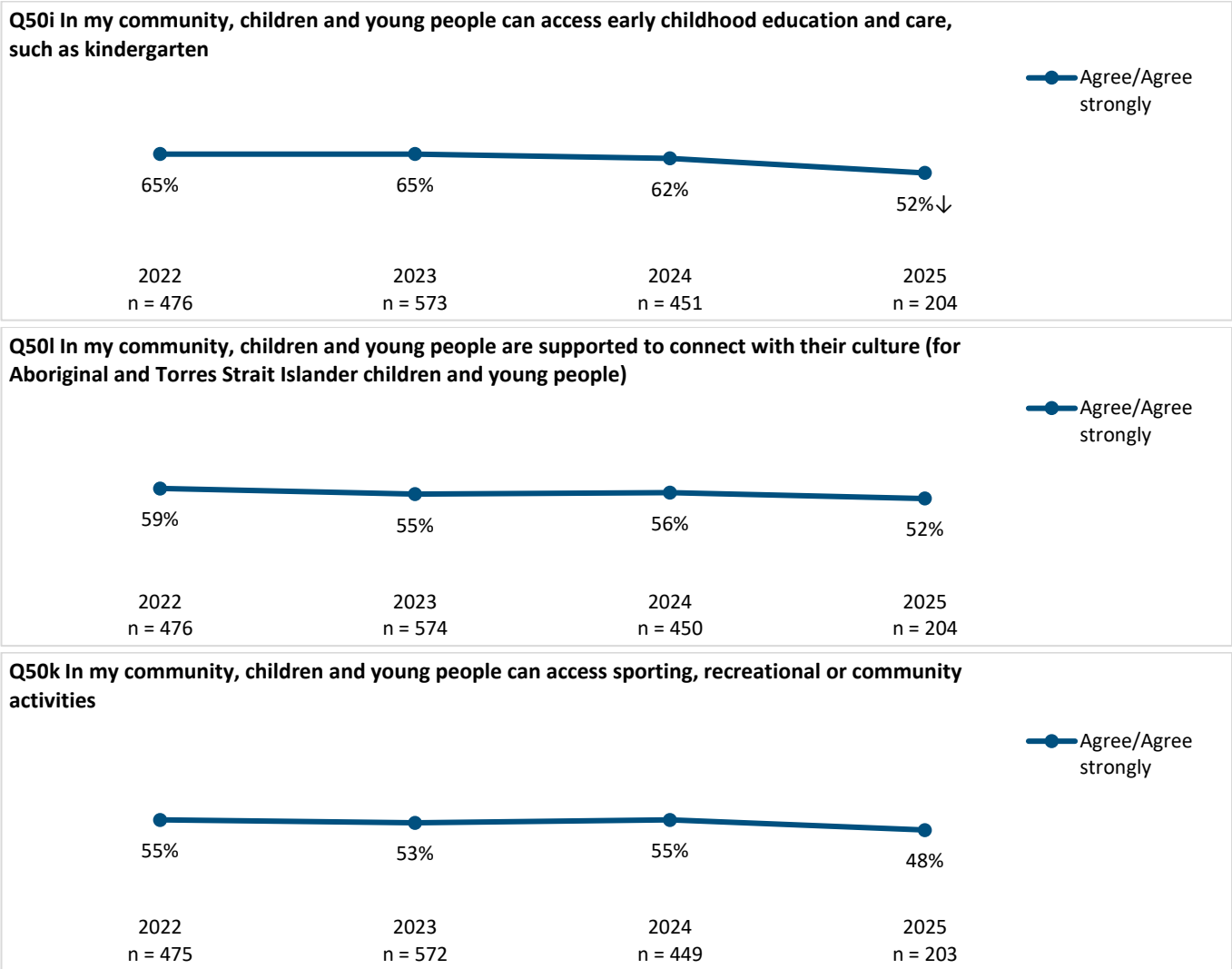
Figure 3.8.3: Agreement regarding the degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities (2025)



3.8.5 Comparison to previous survey data

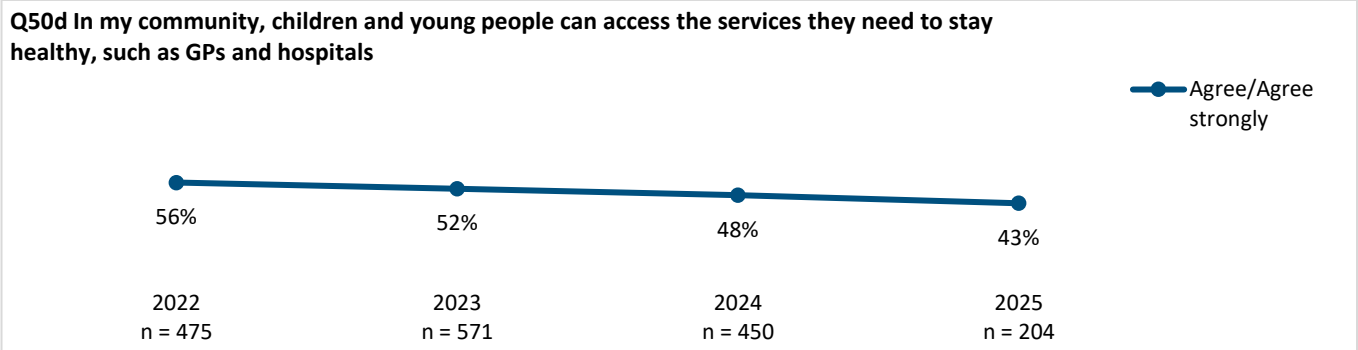
Respondents' perceptions as to the degree of access, support and safety that children and young people have in their communities was consistent from 2024 to 2025 on aspects such as being supported to connect with their culture, access to sporting, recreational or community activities, access to services to stay healthy and being supported to stay engaged in learning in school or TAFE. All other aspects measured saw a decrease in total agreement by respondents in 2025 compared to 2024.

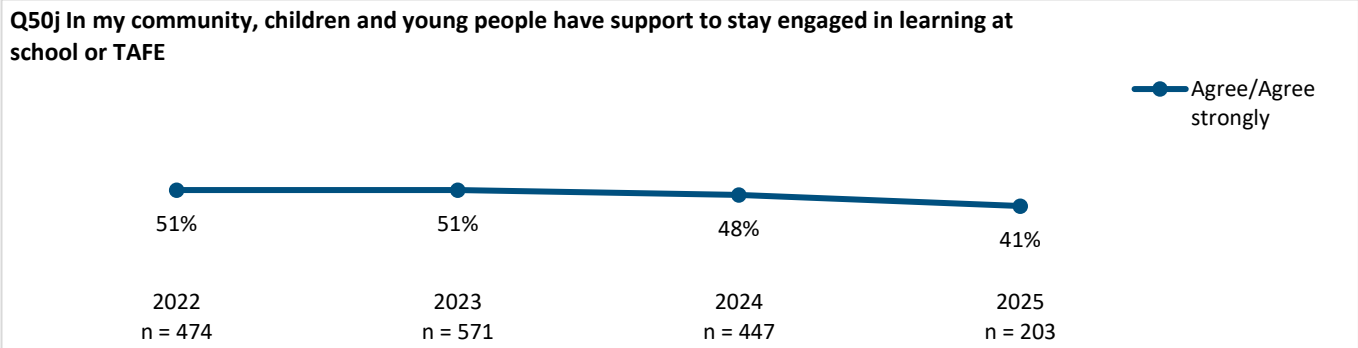
Figure 3.8.4: Agreement regarding the degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities 2022–2025 trends

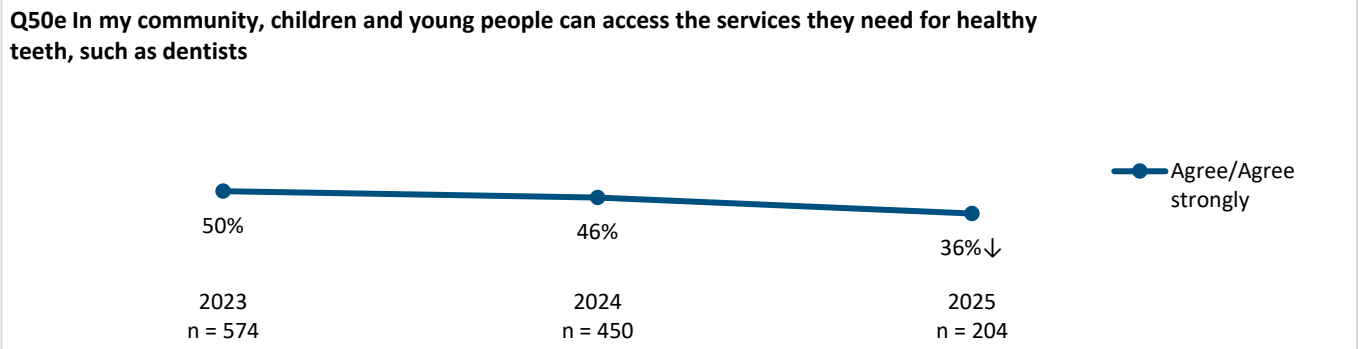


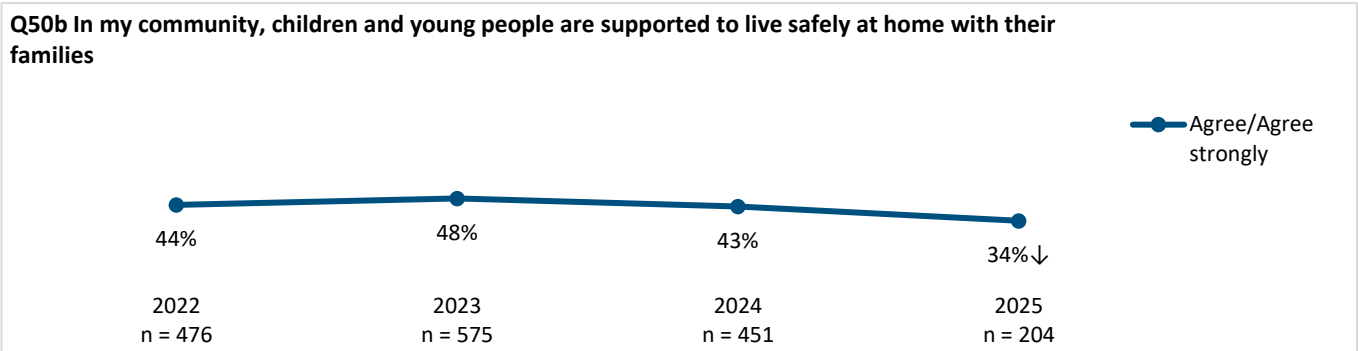
↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.8.4: Agreement regarding the degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities 2022–2025 trends (continued)



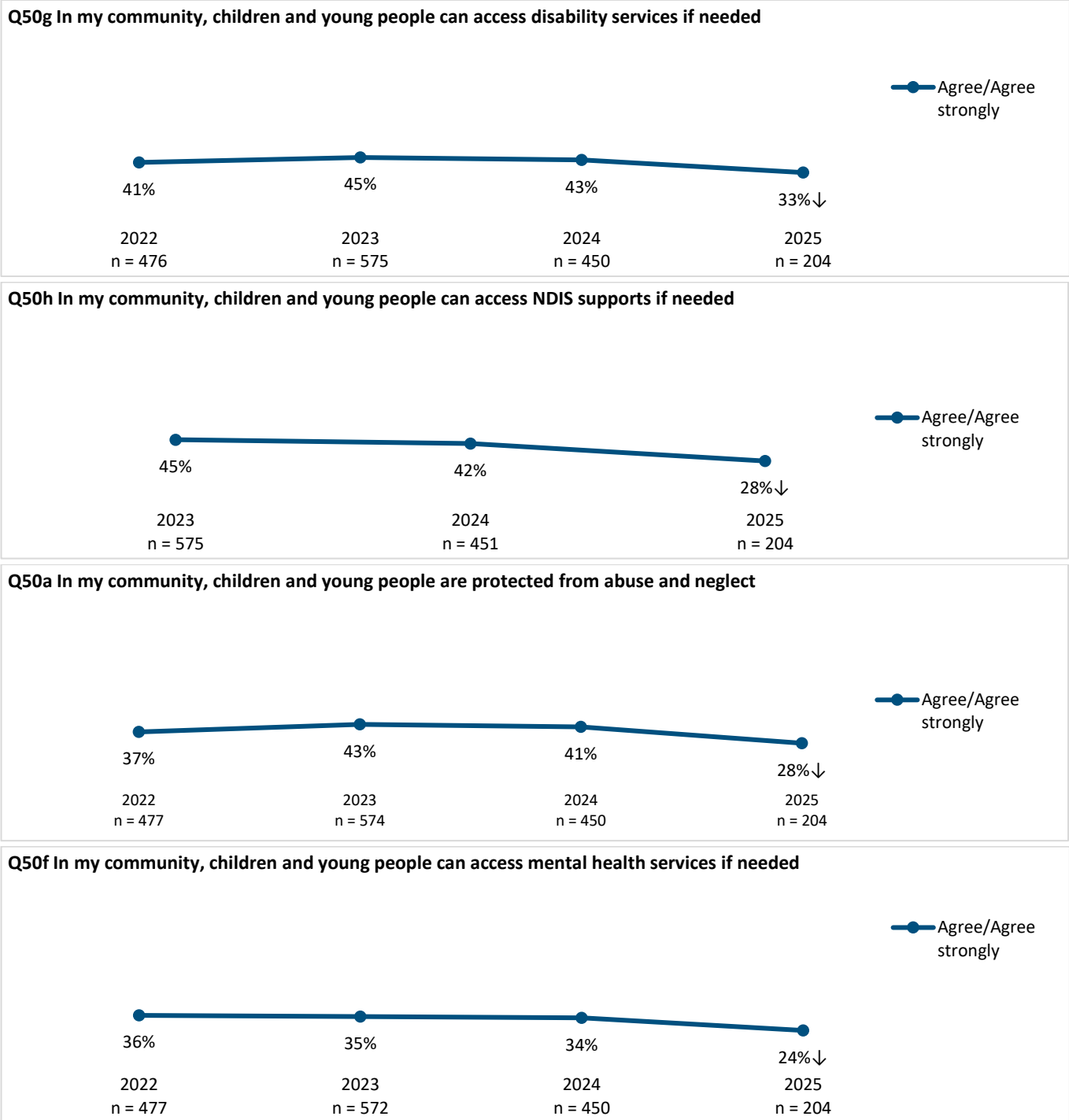






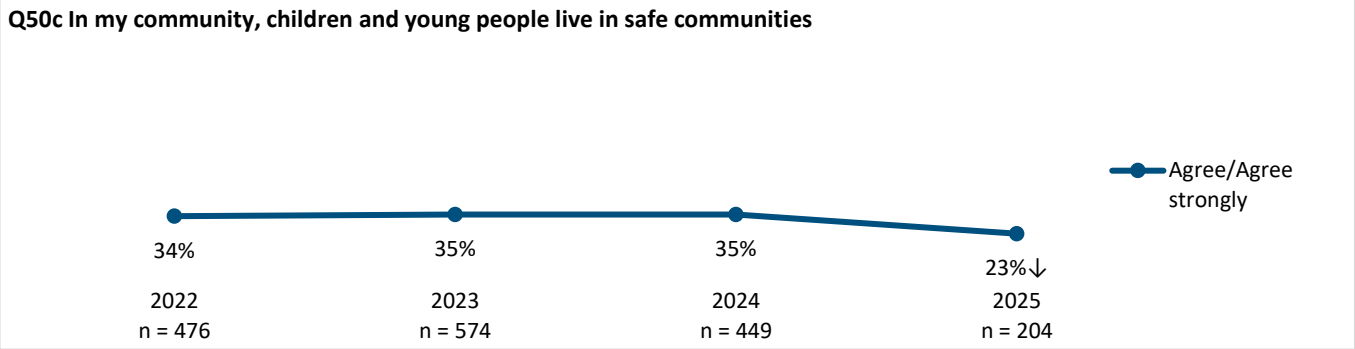
↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.8.4: Agreement regarding the degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities 2022–2025 trends (continued)



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

Figure 3.8.4: Agreement regarding the degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities 2022–2025 trends (continued)



↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.8.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in the South West DFSDSCS region were significantly more likely than average to strongly agree that in their community, children and young people have support to stay engaged in learning at school or TAFE (17% South West, 5% average).

Those working in the youth justice system and residential care system had a tendency to rate these community aspects neutrally resulting in statistical differences being flagged on various factors for those working in the child protection system (see Table 3.8.4 for specific data).

Details to support these findings and other sub-group differences are outlined in Tables 3.8.3 and 3.8.4 overleaf.

Table 3.8.3: Degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q50 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
In my community, children and young people can access early childhood education and care, such as kindergarten											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	7%	8%	7%	2%	7%	14%	6%	14%	6%	9%	5%
Disagree	15%	17%	13%	22%	11%	9%	14%	5%	22%	13%	18%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	22%	25%	20%	24%	18%	23%	19%	19%	28%	22%	23%
Neutral	26%	22%	30%	28%	21%	26%	25%	38%	17%	29%	21%
Agree	44%	46%	42%	43%	54%	44%	39%	33%	56%	42%	47%
Strongly agree	8%	8%	8%	5%	7%	7%	17%	10%		7%	9%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	54%	50%	48%	61%	51%	56%	43%	56%	50%	56%
In my community, children and young people are supported to connect with their culture (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people)											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	7%	8%	6%	9%	7%	7%	6%	5%	6%	8%	5%
Disagree	16%	18%	15%	12%	18%	14%	19%	19%	22%	14%	21%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	23%	25%	21%	21%	25%	21%	25%	24%	28%	22%	26%
Neutral	25%	22%	28%	29%	11%	30%	22%	33%	17%	23%	27%
Agree	44%	44%	44%	45%	54%	42%	42%	33%	50%	50%	36%
Strongly agree	8%	9%	7%	5%	11%	7%	11%	10%	6%	6%	12%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	53%	51%	50%	64%	49%	53%	43%	56%	55%	47%
In my community, children and young people can access sporting, recreational or community activities											
	Total 2025 n = 203	Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 17^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 77
Strongly disagree	10%	13%	7%	12%	7%	7%	6%	14%	18%	10%	9%
Disagree	23%	23%	23%	21%	29%	28%	22%	14%	18%	23%	22%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	33%	36%	29%	33%	36%	35%	28%	29%	35%	34%	31%
Neutral	19%	19%	20%	17%	18%	19%	22%	29%	12%	17%	23%
Agree	43%	39%	47%	45%	46%	40%	39%	38%	53%	44%	42%
Strongly agree	5%	7%	4%	5%		7%	11%	5%		6%	4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	48%	46%	51%	50%	46%	47%	50%	43%	53%	50%	45%
In my community, children and young people can access the services they need to stay healthy, such as GPs and hospitals											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	14%	15%	14%	12%	4%	23%	22%	5%	11%	13%	17%
Disagree	25%	28%	23%	22%	29%	26%	28%	19%	33%	22%	31%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	40%	43%	36%	34%	32%	49%	50%	24%	44%	35%	47%
Neutral	18%	15%	21%	22%	21%	16%	8%	29%	6%	22%	10%
Agree	34%	35%	33%	34%	36%	30%	28%	43%	44%	36%	32%
Strongly agree	8%	7%	10%	9%	11%	5%	14%	5%	6%	7%	10%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	43%	42%	43%	43%	46%	35%	42%	48%	50%	43%	42%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.8.3: Degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025) (continued)

Q50 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
In my community, children and young people have support to stay engaged in learning at school or TAFE											
	Total 2025 n = 203	Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 17^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 77
Strongly disagree	8%	11%	6%	7%	4%	14%	3%	14%	12%	8%	9%
Disagree	25%	29%	21%	24%	21%	14%	36%	19%	41%	21%	31%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	33%	40%	26%	31%	25%	28%	39%	33%	53%	29%	40%
Neutral	26%	20%	32%	31%	25%	30%	19%	24%	18%	25%	27%
Agree	35%	33%	38%	36%	46%	37%	25%	38%	29%	42%	25%
Strongly agree	5%	8%	3%	2%	4%	5%	17% ↑	5%		4%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	41%	41%	41%	38%	50%	42%	42%	43%	29%	46%	32%
In my community, children and young people can access the services they need for healthy teeth, such as dentists											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	19%	20%	18%	24%	14%	19%	19%	10%	17%	18%	21%
Disagree	24%	26%	22%	24%	14%	23%	31%	19%	33%	22%	27%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	43%	46%	39%	48%	29%	42%	50%	29%	50%	40%	47%
Neutral	22%	21%	23%	19%	29%	26%	14%	33%	11%	23%	18%
Agree	28%	27%	29%	24%	36%	26%	28%	33%	33%	29%	28%
Strongly agree	7%	6%	9%	9%	7%	7%	8%	5%	6%	8%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	36%	33%	38%	33%	43%	33%	36%	38%	39%	37%	35%
In my community, children and young people are supported to live safely at home with their families											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	8%	8%	8%	2%	14%	7%	11%	5%	17%	6%	10%
Disagree	24%	25%	24%	22%	21%	26%	28%	24%	22%	25%	23%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	32%	32%	31%	24%	36%	33%	39%	29%	39%	31%	33%
Neutral	34%	33%	35%	40%	39%	35%	25%	38%	22%	36%	31%
Agree	25%	28%	23%	26%	21%	28%	19%	29%	33%	25%	27%
Strongly agree	8%	6%	11%	10%	4%	5%	17%	5%	6%	8%	9%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	34%	34%	33%	36%	25%	33%	36%	33%	39%	33%	36%
In my community, children and young people can access disability services if needed											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	12%	15%	10%	14%	4%	19%	8%	19%	6%	11%	14%
Disagree	25%	26%	23%	21%	21%	26%	28%	19%	39%	25%	24%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	37%	41%	32%	34%	25%	44%	36%	38%	44%	36%	38%
Neutral	30%	24%	37%	36%	25%	30%	33%	19%	28%	31%	28%
Agree	28%	30%	26%	29%	39%	21%	22%	38%	28%	29%	28%
Strongly agree	4%	5%	4%		11%	5%	8%	5%		4%	5%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	33%	35%	30%	29%	50%	26%	31%	43%	28%	33%	33%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.8.3: Degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025) (continued)

Q50 Column %	TOTAL	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
In my community, children and young people can access NDIS supports if needed											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	16%	14%	18%	21%	4%	23%	14%	14%	6%	16%	15%
Disagree	27%	30%	24%	22%	25%	19%	33%	24%	56%	26%	29%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	43%	44%	41%	43%	29%	42%	47%	38%	61%	42%	45%
Neutral	29%	24%	34%	31%	29%	37%	22%	24%	22%	29%	28%
Agree	23%	27%	19%	24%	32%	16%	19%	33%	17%	23%	23%
Strongly agree	5%	5%	6%	2%	11%	5%	11%	5%		6%	4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	28%	32%	25%	26%	43%	21%	31%	38%	17%	30%	27%
In my community, children and young people are protected from abuse and neglect											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	9%	9%	9%	3%	7%	9%	17%	10%	11%	8%	10%
Disagree	36%	40%	31%	33%	32%	42%	36%	29%	44%	37%	33%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	45%	49%	40%	36%	39%	51%	53%	38%	56%	45%	44%
Neutral	27%	25%	29%	29%	36%	28%	17%	29%	22%	29%	24%
Agree	22%	24%	20%	24%	18%	19%	19%	29%	22%	20%	24%
Strongly agree	7%	3%	11%	10%	7%	2%	11%	5%		6%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	28%	26%	30%	34%	25%	21%	31%	33%	22%	26%	32%
In my community, children and young people can access mental health services if needed											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	26%	27%	25%	22%	25%	33%	22%	24%	39%	25%	29%
Disagree	30%	33%	27%	36%	39%	14%	39%	24%	28%	30%	32%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	57%	61%	53%	59%	64%	47%	61%	48%	67%	54%	62%
Neutral	20%	16%	24%	17%	11%	33%	17%	19%	17%	22%	15%
Agree	20%	20%	21%	24%	21%	16%	14%	29%	17%	22%	18%
Strongly agree	3%	4%	3%		4%	5%	8%	5%		2%	5%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	24%	24%	24%	24%	25%	21%	22%	33%	17%	24%	23%
In my community, children and young people live in safe communities											
	Total 2025 n = 204	Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	7%	10%	5%	3%	11%	7%	6%	14%	11%	7%	8%
Disagree	35%	39%	30%	33%	36%	28%	44%	24%	50%	38%	31%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	42%	49%	35%	36%	46%	35%	50%	38%	61%	45%	38%
Neutral	35%	30%	40%	41%	29%	47%	19%	38%	28%	32%	40%
Agree	17%	17%	17%	17%	21%	16%	14%	19%	11%	18%	15%
Strongly agree	6%	4%	8%	5%	4%	2%	17%	5%		6%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	23%	21%	25%	22%	25%	19%	31%	24%	11%	23%	22%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.8.4: Degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q50 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
In my community, children and young people can access early childhood education and care, such as kindergarten								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	7%	6%	15%	9%		8%	13%	7%
Disagree	15%	16%	10%	18%	21%	14%	8%	16%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	22%	22%	25%	27%	21%	22%	21%	22%
Neutral	26%	21% ↓	55%	23%	37%	24%	33%	25%
Agree	44%	49%	20%	36%	37%	45%	42%	45%
Strongly agree	8%	8%		14%	5%	8%	4%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	57%	20%	50%	42%	53%	46%	53%
In my community, children and young people are supported to connect with their culture (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people)								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	7%	8%	5%		16%	6%	4%	7%
Disagree	16%	17%	15%	18%	21%	16%	17%	16%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	23%	25%	20%	18%	37%	22%	21%	23%
Neutral	25%	22%	40%	32%	21%	25%	21%	25%
Agree	44%	45%	35%	41%	42%	45%	50%	44%
Strongly agree	8%	8%	5%	9%		9%	8%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	52%	53%	40%	50%	42%	53%	58%	51%
In my community, children and young people can access sporting, recreational or community activities								
	Total 2025 n = 203	Child Protection n = 143	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 183	Yes n = 24^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	10%	6% ↓	35%	5%	5%	10%	4%	11%
Disagree	23%	26%	20%	9%	37%	21%	25%	22%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	33%	32%	55%	14%	42%	32%	29%	33%
Neutral	19%	18%	20%	27%	21%	19%	21%	19%
Agree	43%	43%	25%	59%	32%	44%	46%	43%
Strongly agree	5%	6%			5%	5%	4%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	48%	50%	25%	59%	37%	50%	50%	48%
In my community, children and young people can access the services they need to stay healthy, such as GPs and hospitals								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	14%	15%	25%	5%	26%	13%	13%	15%
Disagree	25%	24%	30%	18%	16%	27%	17%	27%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	40%	39%	55%	23%	42%	40%	29%	41%
Neutral	18%	16%	10%	23%	21%	17%	21%	17%
Agree	34%	38%	30%	36%	32%	35%	38%	34%
Strongly agree	8%	8%	5%	18%	5%	9%	13%	8%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	43%	45%	35%	55%	37%	43%	50%	42%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.8.4: Degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025) (continued)

Q50 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
In my community, children and young people have support to stay engaged in learning at school or TAFE								
	Total 2025 n = 203	Child Protection n = 143	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 183	Yes n = 24^	No n = 178
Strongly disagree	8%	7%	25%	5%		9%	8%	8%
Disagree	25%	26%	40%	5%	42%	23%	21%	25%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	33%	33%	65%	9%	42%	32%	29%	34%
Neutral	26%	24%	10%	41%	26%	26%	38%	24%
Agree	35%	37%	25%	45%	32%	36%	21%	38%
Strongly agree	5%	6%		5%		6%	13%	4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	41%	43%	25%	50%	32%	42%	33%	42%
In my community, children and young people can access the services they need for healthy teeth, such as dentists								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	19%	18%	45%	5%	26%	18%	17%	19%
Disagree	24%	22%	25%	23%	16%	25%	13%	26%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	43%	40%	70%	27%	42%	43%	29%	45%
Neutral	22%	21%	10%	23%	21%	21%	29%	20%
Agree	28%	32%	15%	36%	32%	28%	33%	28%
Strongly agree	7%	7%	5%	14%	5%	8%	8%	7%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	36%	39%	20%	50%	37%	36%	42%	35%
In my community, children and young people are supported to live safely at home with their families								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	8%	8%	20%	5%	21%	7%	13%	7%
Disagree	24%	26%	15%	23%	26%	24%	42%	22%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	32%	33%	35%	27%	47%	30%	54%	29%
Neutral	34%	28% ↓	50%	50%	11%	36%	25%	35%
Agree	25%	30%	10%	18%	32%	25%	17%	27%
Strongly agree	8%	8%	5%	5%	11%	8%	4%	9%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	34%	38%	15%	23%	42%	33%	21%	36%
In In my community, children and young people can access disability services if needed								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	12%	13%	20%	5%	16%	12%	8%	13%
Disagree	25%	27%	30%		21%	25%	17%	26%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	37%	40%	50%	5%	37%	37%	25%	39%
Neutral	30%	26%	30%	45%	47%	28%	29%	30%
Agree	28%	30%	20%	41%	16%	30%	38%	27%
Strongly agree	4%	4%		9%		5%	8%	4%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	33%	34%	20%	50%	16%	35%	46%	31%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.8.4: Degree to which children's rights are upheld within local communities by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025) (continued)

Q50 Column %	TOTAL	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
In my community, children and young people can access NDIS supports if needed								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	16%	17%	25%	5%	16%	16%	8%	17%
Disagree	27%	28%	30%	14%	37%	26%	29%	27%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	43%	44%	55%	18%	53%	42%	38%	44%
Neutral	29%	24% ↓	35%	45%	32%	28%	21%	30%
Agree	23%	27%	10%	23%	16%	24%	38%	21%
Strongly agree	5%	5%		14%		6%	4%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	28%	32%	10%	36%	16%	30%	42%	27%
In my community, children and young people are protected from abuse and neglect								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	9%	9%	20%	5%	11%	9%	13%	8%
Disagree	36%	35%	35%	32%	21%	38%	46%	35%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	45%	44%	55%	36%	32%	46%	58%	43%
Neutral	27%	24%	30%	36%	37%	26%	21%	27%
Agree	22%	25%	15%	18%	21%	22%	17%	22%
Strongly agree	7%	6%		9%	11%	7%	4%	7%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	28%	31%	15%	27%	32%	28%	21%	30%
In my community, children and young people can access mental health services if needed								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	26%	27%	40%	14%	37%	26%	21%	27%
Disagree	30%	32%	20%	27%	26%	31%	25%	31%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	57%	59%	60%	41%	63%	57%	46%	59%
Neutral	20%	17%	15%	32%	21%	19%	21%	19%
Agree	20%	21%	25%	23%	16%	21%	25%	20%
Strongly agree	3%	3%		5%		4%	8%	3%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	24%	24%	25%	27%	16%	24%	33%	22%
In my community, children and young people live in safe communities								
	Total 2025 n = 204	Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	7%	7%	20%	5%		8%	17%	6%
Disagree	35%	33%	45%	41%	42%	34%	33%	35%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	42%	40%	65%	45%	42%	42%	50%	41%
Neutral	35%	36%	20%	32%	26%	36%	21%	37%
Agree	17%	19%	10%	18%	26%	16%	25%	16%
Strongly agree	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%	6%	4%	6%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	23%	24%	15%	23%	32%	22%	29%	22%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

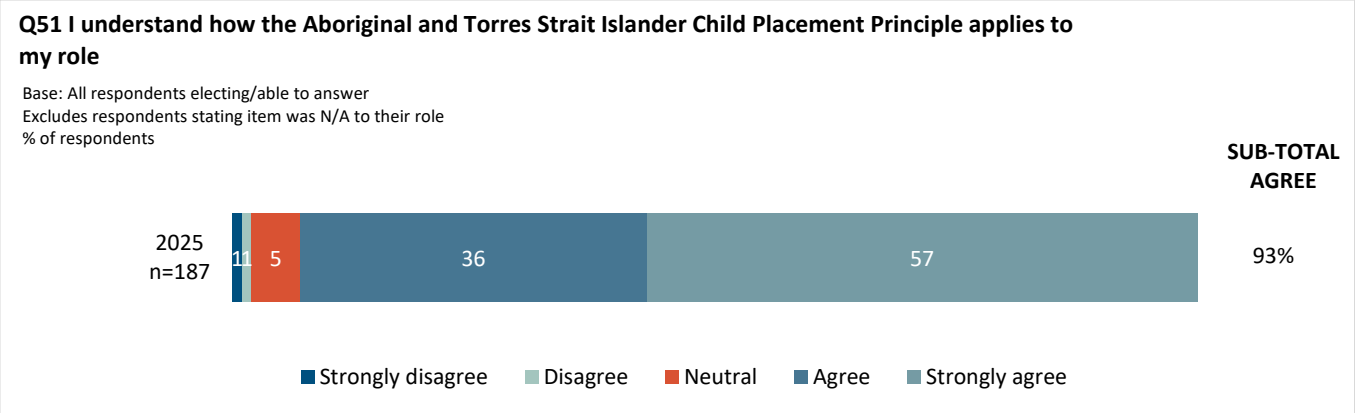
3.9 Cultural capability

Q51 I understand how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to my role

3.9.1 2025 result

The majority (93%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they understand how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to their role (57% strongly agreed, 36% agreed). In total, 2% of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that they understand how this applies to their role, while 5% were neutral.

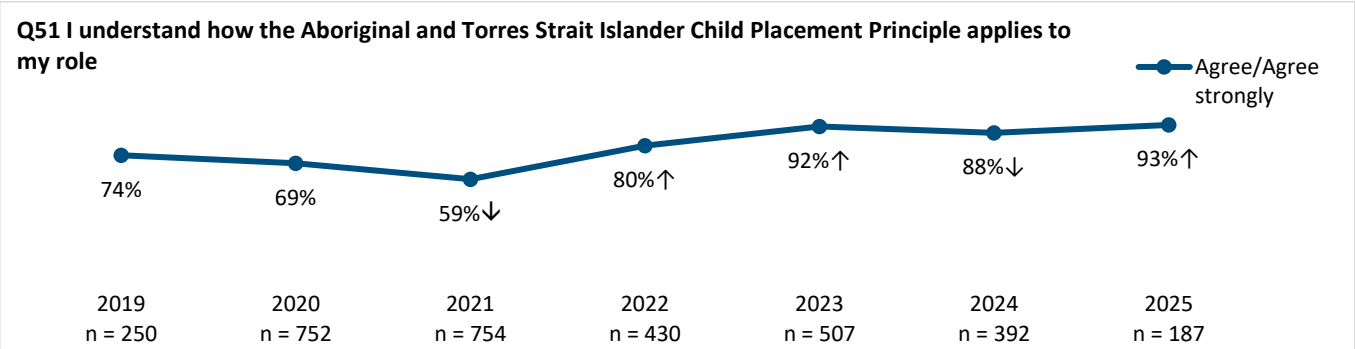
Figure 3.9.1: Understanding of how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to their role (2025)



3.9.2 Comparison to previous survey data

In 2025, total agreement with personal understanding of how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to their role was significantly higher (93%) than reported in 2024 (88%).

Figure 3.9.2: Understanding of how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to their role 2019–2025 trends+



+ Data for 2019 to 2022 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2023-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. Data from 2023 onwards included a 'Not applicable to my role' option that was not available in previous years. The number of respondents selecting N/A and excluded from the base was 2023 n=66, 2024 n=57, 2025 n=17. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.9.3 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents with 10 years or more experience were significantly more likely than those with less experience to strongly agree that they understand how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to their role (72% 10+ years, 47% <10 years).

Table 3.9.1: Understanding of how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to their role by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q51 Column %	Total 2025 n = 187	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 92	Non-govt n = 95	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 54	South East n = 26^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 38	South West n = 35	North QLD n = 20^	Far North Queensland n = 14^	<10 n = 114	10+ n = 72
Strongly disagree	1%	1%	1%	2%		3%				1%	1%
Disagree	1%	1%	1%				3%	5%		2%	
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	2%	2%	2%	2%		3%	3%	5%		3%	1%
Neutral	5%	4%	5%	6%	4%		3%	15%	7%	8%	
Agree	36%	33%	39%	33%	38%	42%	40%	25%	29%	42%	26%
Strongly agree	57%	61%	54%	59%	58%	55%	54%	55%	64%	47% ↓	72% ↑
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	93%	93%	93%	93%	96%	97%	94%	80%	93%	89%	99%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.9.2: Understanding of how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to their role by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q51 Column %	Total 2025 n = 187	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 139	Youth Justice n = 12^	Residential Care n = 21^	Yes n = 18^	No n = 168	Yes n = 23^	No n = 163
Strongly disagree	1%	1%				1%	4%	1%
Disagree	1%		8%	5%		1%	4%	1%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	2%	1%	8%	5%		2%	9%	1%
Neutral	5%	3%	17%	10%		5%	9%	4%
Agree	36%	35%	50%	38%	22%	37%	26%	37%
Strongly agree	57%	60%	25%	48%	78%	55%	57%	58%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	93%	96%	75%	86%	100%	92%	83%	94%

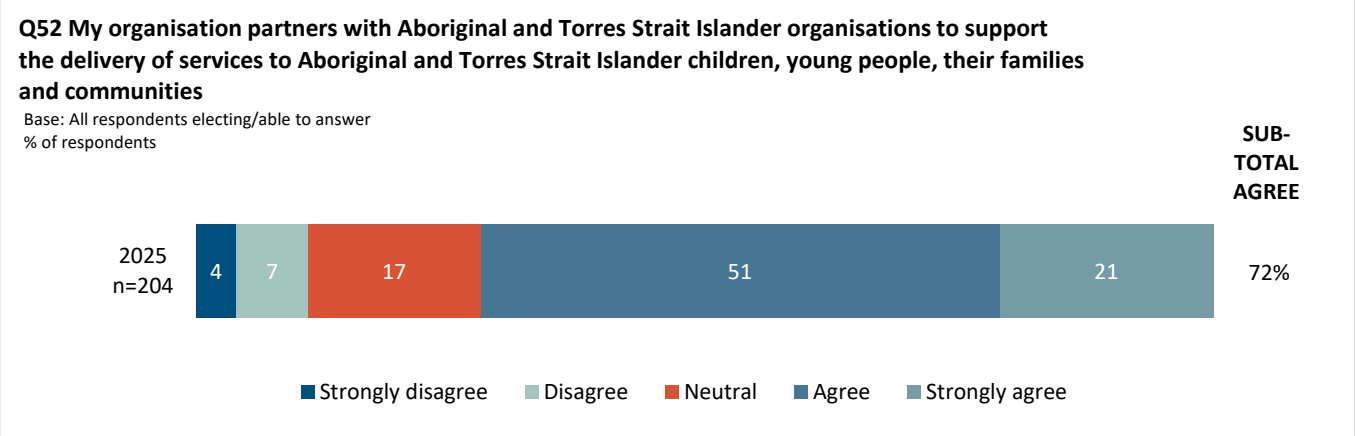
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q52 My organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to support the delivery of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people, their families and communities.

3.9.4 2025 result

Seventy-two per cent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to support the delivery of services, with 21% strongly agreeing. Eleven per cent of respondents indicated that their organisation does not partner in this way. The remaining 17% were neutral on this issue.

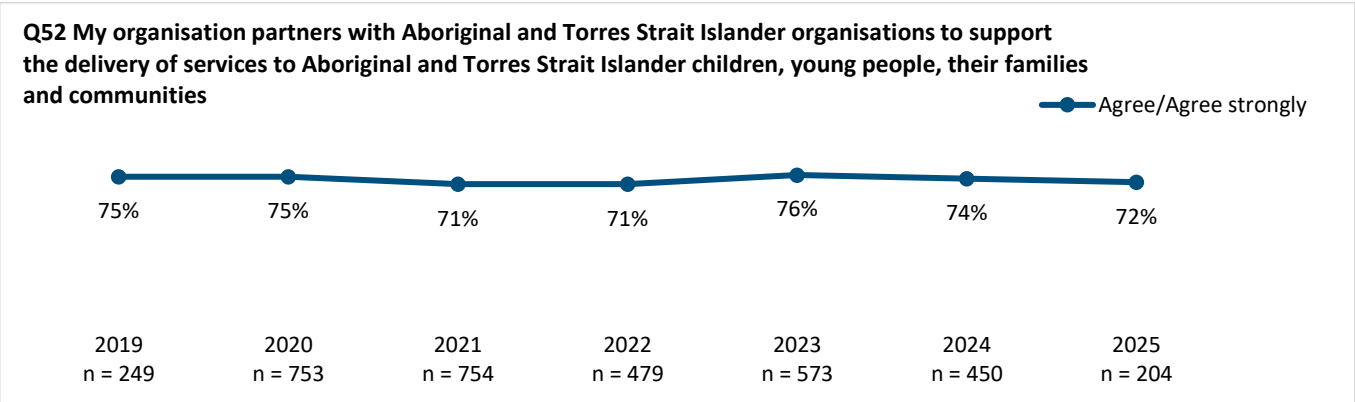
Figure 3.9.3: Their organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations (2025)



3.9.5 Comparison to previous survey data

There was no statistically significant difference in the incidence of partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations among respondents between the 2024 and 2025 surveys.

Figure 3.9.4: Their organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations 2019 – 2025 trends+



+ Data for 2019 to 2021 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2022-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.9.6 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in the child protection sector were significantly more likely than those working in youth justice or residential care sectors to agree overall (agreed or strongly agreed) that their organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations (77% child protection, 72% average).

Table 3.9.3: Their organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q52 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	4%	2%	4%	9%	3%		6%	4%	4%
Disagree	7%	6%	8%	9%		7%	11%	5%	6%	8%	5%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	11%	10%	12%	10%	4%	16%	14%	5%	11%	12%	9%
Neutral	17%	14%	21%	16%	14%	16%	17%	10%	39%	18%	15%
Agree	51%	55%	48%	53%	61%	47%	47%	67%	33%	53%	50%
Strongly agree	21%	22%	20%	21%	21%	21%	22%	19%	17%	17%	26%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	72%	76%	68%	74%	82%	67%	69%	86%	50%	70%	76%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.9.4: Their organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q52 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	4%	6%				4%	4%	4%
Disagree	7%	6%		18%	11%	7%	8%	7%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	11%	11%		18%	11%	11%	13%	11%
Neutral	17%	12% ↓	35%	27%	11%	17%	21%	16%
Agree	51%	58% ↑	35%	45%	47%	52%	54%	51%
Strongly agree	21%	19%	30%	9%	32%	20%	13%	22%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	72%	77% ↑	65%	55%	79%	72%	67%	73%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

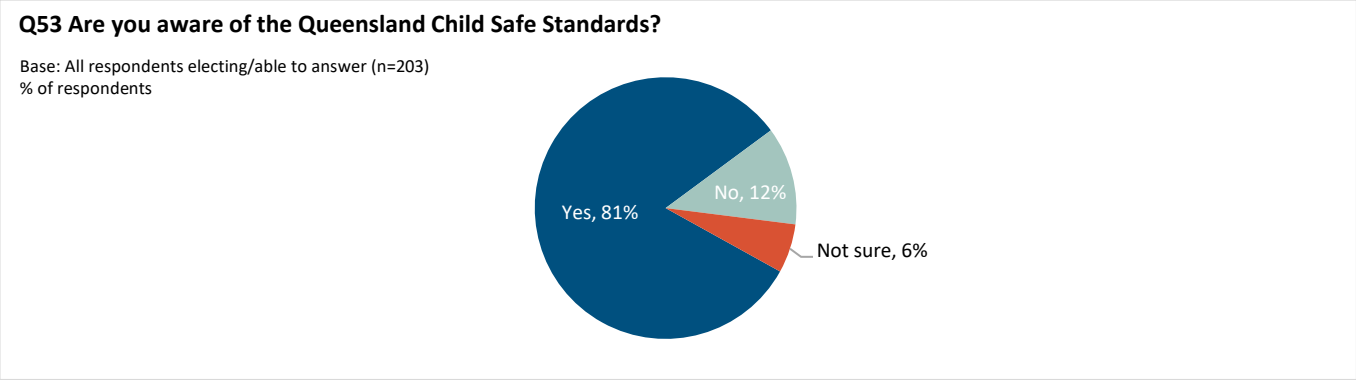
3.10 Child Safe Standards

Q53 Are you aware of the Queensland Child Safe Standards?
New question in 2025

3.10.1 2025 result

A total of 81% of respondents were aware of the Queensland Child Safe Standards and 12% indicated they were not. The remaining 6% were not sure.

Figure 3.10.1: Awareness of Queensland Child Safe Standards (2025)



3.10.2 Sub-group differences (2025)

Respondents working in a non-government organisation were more aware than those working in a government organisation of the Queensland Child Safe Standards (92% non-government, 70% government).

Table 3.10.1: Awareness of Queensland Child Safe Standards by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q53 Column %	Total 2025 n = 203	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 101	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 42	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 124	10+ n = 78
Yes	81%	70% ↓	92% ↑	88%	86%	79%	78%	76%	72%	77%	88%
No	12%	21% ↑	4% ↓	7%	14%	12%	14%	24%	11%	14%	10%
Not sure	6%	9%	4%	5%		10%	8%		17%	10%	1%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.10.2: Awareness of Queensland Child Safe Standards by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q53 Column %	Total 2025 n = 203	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 143	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 183	Yes n = 24^	No n = 178
Yes	81%	83%	60%	95%	95%	80%	83%	81%
No	12%	11%	25%	5%		14%	8%	13%
Not sure	6%	6%	15%		5%	6%	8%	6%

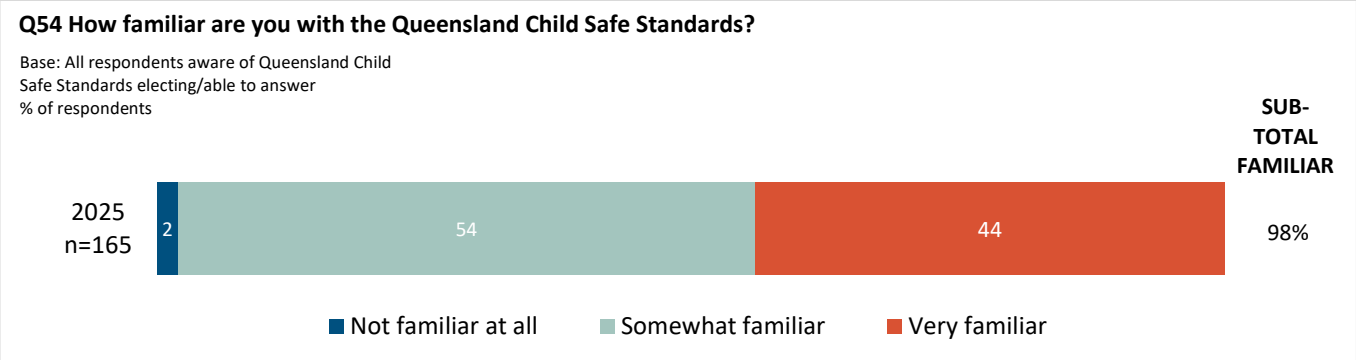
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Asked of those aware of Queensland Child Safe Standards:
Q54 How familiar are you with the Queensland Child Safe Standards?
New question in 2025

3.10.3 2025 result

Among those aware of the Queensland Child Safe Standards, 44% considered themselves very familiar with the standards and 54% considered themselves somewhat familiar.

Figure 3.10.2: Familiarity with Queensland Child Safe Standards (2025)



3.10.4 Sub-group differences (2025)

Non-government respondents were significantly more likely than those working for a government organisation to consider themselves very familiar with the Queensland Child Safe Standards (60% non-government, 24% government).

Table 3.10.3: Familiarity with Queensland Child Safe Standards by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q54 Column %	Total 2025 n = 165	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 71	Non-govt n = 94	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 51	South East n = 24^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 33	South West n = 28^	North QLD n = 16^	Far North Queensland n = 13^	<10 n = 95	10+ n = 69
Not familiar at all	2%	3%	1%	2%	4%				8%	1%	3%
Somewhat familiar	54%	73% ↑	39% ↓	59%	50%	48%	54%	69%	38%	55%	52%
Very familiar	44%	24% ↓	60% ↑	39%	46%	52%	46%	31%	54%	44%	45%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.10.4: Familiarity with Queensland Child Safe Standards by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q54 Column %	Total 2025 n = 165	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 118	Youth Justice n = 12^	Residential Care n = 21^	Yes n = 18^	No n = 147	Yes n = 20^	No n = 145
Not familiar at all	2%	2%	8%			2%		2%
Somewhat familiar	54%	57%	75%	19%	56%	54%	30%	57%
Very familiar	44%	42%	17%	81%	44%	44%	70%	41%

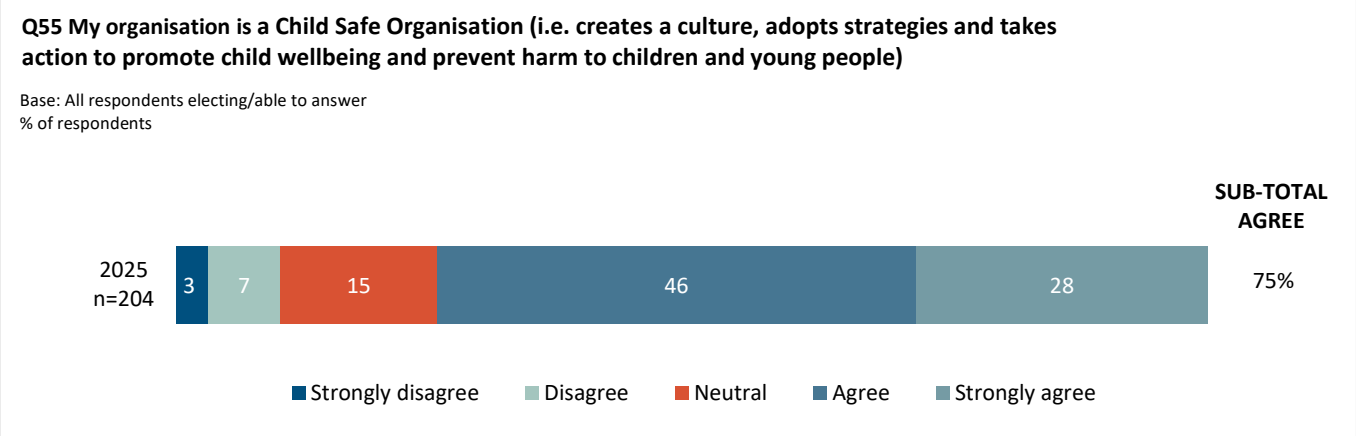
Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Q55 Thinking about your organisation, how much do you agree or disagree my organisation is a Child Safe Organisation (i.e., creates a culture, adopts strategies and takes action to promote child wellbeing and prevent harm to children and young people)

3.10.5 2025 result

Three quarters of respondents (75%) agreed or strongly agreed that their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation that creates a culture, adopts strategies and takes action to promote child wellbeing and prevent harm to children and young people, with 28% strongly agreeing. Eleven per cent disagreed overall that their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation and 15% were neutral in response.

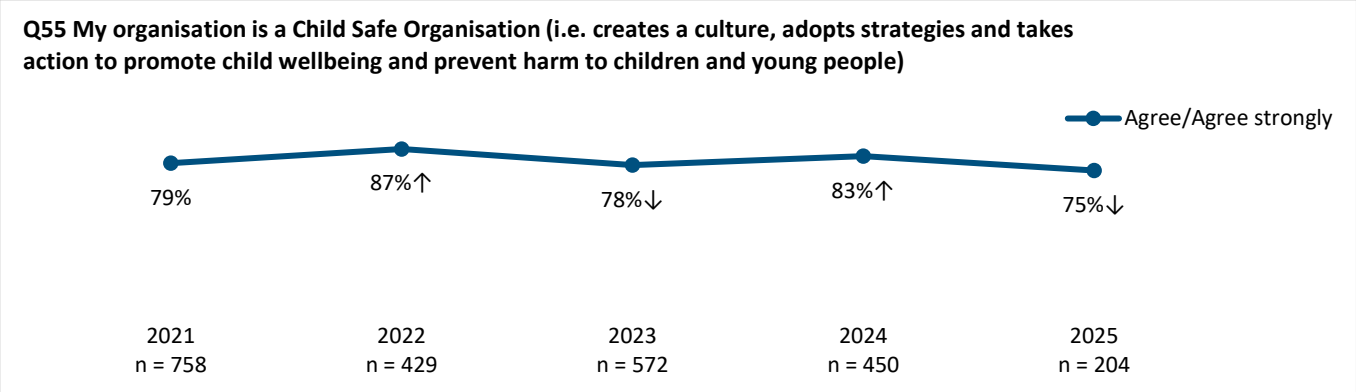
Figure 3.10.3: Their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation (2025)



3.10.6 Comparison to previous survey data

The proportion of respondents who reported working within a Child Safe Organisation was significantly lower in 2025 (75%) than in 2024 (83%).

Figure 3.10.4: Their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation 2021–2025 trends+



+ Data for 2021 and 2022 only includes Child Protection (CP) workers. Data for 2023-2025 includes Youth Justice (YJ) along with Child Protection (CP) workers. ↑↓ indicates a significant increase or decrease from the previous wave at at least the 95% confidence level. Important note: Any changes in the 2025 results may be due to the change in the methodology, and not due to a change in actual sentiment. See methodology notes in Table 2.4.

3.10.7 Sub-group differences (2025)

Non-government respondents (83%) were more likely than government respondents (66%) to agree or strongly agree that their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation.

Table 3.10.5: Their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation by organisation type, region and years in sector (2025)

Q55 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	ORGANISATION TYPE		DFSDSCS REGION						YEARS IN SECTOR	
		Govt n = 102	Non-govt n = 102	Brisbane & Moreton Bay n = 58	South East n = 28^	Sunshine Coast & Central n = 43	South West n = 36	North QLD n = 21^	Far North Queensland n = 18^	<10 n = 125	10+ n = 78
Strongly disagree	3%	2%	5%	3%	7%		3%		11%	4%	3%
Disagree	7%	13% ↑	2% ↓	9%	4%		17%	10%	6%	7%	8%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	11%	15%	7%	12%	11%		19%	10%	17%	11%	10%
Neutral	15%	20%	10%	14%	18%	9%	11%	19%	28%	17%	12%
Agree	46%	55%	37%	48%	46%	58%	39%	48%	22%	47%	45%
Strongly agree	28%	11% ↓	46% ↑	26%	25%	33%	31%	24%	33%	25%	33%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	75%	66% ↓	83% ↑	74%	71%	91%	69%	71%	56%	72%	78%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

Table 3.10.6: Their organisation is a Child Safe Organisation by sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status and culturally and linguistically diverse respondents (2025)

Q55 Column %	Total 2025 n = 204	SECTOR			ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER		CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE	
		Child Protection n = 144	Youth Justice n = 20^	Residential Care n = 22^	Yes n = 19^	No n = 184	Yes n = 24^	No n = 179
Strongly disagree	3%	1%		23%		4%	8%	3%
Disagree	7%	10%			16%	7%	8%	7%
SUB-TOTAL DISAGREE	11%	11%		23%	16%	10%	17%	10%
Neutral	15%	15%	25%		26%	13%	21%	13%
Agree	46%	48%	50%	41%	26%	48%	38%	47%
Strongly agree	28%	26%	25%	36%	32%	28%	25%	29%
SUB-TOTAL AGREE	75%	74%	75%	77%	58%	77%	63%	77%

Blue↑/Red↓ figures and arrows indicate the result is significantly higher/lower compared with others within that sub-group (e.g. region) at at least the 95% confidence level. Base: All respondents electing/able to answer. ^ Caution small cell size.

4. Appendices

Appendix A – 2025 Statutory systems workforce survey

The Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) has a legislative responsibility to evaluate, at a systemic level, monitor and report on the performance of, Queensland statutory systems (child protection and youth justice). One of the ways we meet this responsibility is by conducting an annual workforce survey.

This survey will collect information about the experiences of frontline staff and service providers who work within Queensland child protection systems. This information will contribute to knowledge about system performance and reporting products in line with the QFCC's functions. Survey results with are publicly shared so that decision-makers, sector professionals and the community can benefit from information about key issues.

Participation will involve completing an online survey that will take approximately 20 minutes. The survey includes questions with fixed and free text response options. The survey covers a variety of topics, including (but not limited to) system performance, how you are supported to perform and develop in your role, cultural capability, how you work with clients and children's rights. You are free to skip any questions you do not wish to answer.

Your responses will be collated with those of other respondents so you will not be identifiable in our reporting. Completion of this online survey will be taken to indicate informed consent to participate.

If you find any of the questions distressing, please contact your Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or Lifeline for support.

The following questions are being asked so we can describe the sample of people who responded to our survey

No.	Item	Response scale
Q1	What is your workplace postcode? *Note: Exit message if not a Queensland postcode:* Thank you for your interest in completing this survey. We are interested in the views of staff who work in Queensland.	Free text (4 numerical spaces)
Q2	Do you work mainly with:	☐ Children and young people and their families in contact with the child protection and family support system ☐ Children and young people in contact with the youth justice system ☐ Children and young people in residential care ☐ Other – please specify (Free text)
Q3	Is your workplace a government or non-government organisation?	☐ Government ☐ Non-government
Q4	*Note: Only ask if 'yes' to a or d at Q2 and Non-government' at Q3:*	☐ Yes ☐ No

No.	Item	Response scale
	a) Do you work for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisation? b) Do you work for a Family and Child Connect Service? c) Do you work for an Intensive Family Support service? d) Do you work for a Family Wellbeing Service? e) Do you work for a Secondary Family Support service?	
Q5	In your role, which of the following best describes the **main** service/s you provide to children, young people and their families?	☐ Child protection – tertiary services ☐ Child protection – secondary/prevention services ☐ Youth justice services – detention centre or service centre ☐ Youth justice services – community based ☐ Counselling and other mental health services ☐ Drug and alcohol services ☐ Domestic and family violence services ☐ Disability services ☐ Educational/schools/early education ☐ Health and hospitals ☐ Other_____ Free text
Q6	How long have you worked in one of the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) sector?	☐ Less than 1 year ☐ 1–2 years ☐ 3–5 years ☐ 6–9 years ☐ 10–14 years ☐ 15–19 years ☐ 20+ years
Q7	How would you describe your experience in the relevant statutory system (child protection or youth justice) sector?	☐ I have only worked in government agencies ☐ I have mostly worked in government agencies ☐ I have fairly equal experience in government agencies and non-government organisations ☐ I have mostly worked in non-government organisations ☐ I have only worked in non-government organisations

No.	Item	Response scale
Q8	What is your highest level of tertiary qualification relevant to your role?	☐ No tertiary qualification ☐ Cert II ☐ Cert III ☐ Cert IV ☐ Diploma ☐ Advanced Diploma ☐ Bachelor ☐ Graduate Certificate/Diploma ☐ Masters ☐ PhD/Professional Doctorate
Q9	Do you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person?	☐ Aboriginal person ☐ Torres Strait Islander person ☐ Both ☐ No
Q10	Are you from a culturally and linguistically diverse background?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Q11	I would recommend working in the child protection or youth justice sector to others	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q12	I intend to leave the sector within the next 12 months	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

The following questions ask your views about the statutory systems (child protection or youth justice) as a whole.

No.	Item	Response scale
Q13	The child protection and family support system meets the needs of children, young people and families	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

No.	Item	Response scale
Q14	The youth justice system meets the needs of young people, families and the community	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q15	The community has confidence in the child protection and family support system	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q16	The community should have confidence in the child protection and family support system	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q17	The community has confidence in the youth justice system	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q18	The community should have confidence in the youth justice system	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q19	There is sufficient capacity within the secondary support service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q20	There is sufficient capacity within the statutory service system I work in (child protection or youth justice) to meet demand	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q21	Child safety reports are likely to increase in the next 12 months	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

No.	Item	Response scale
Q22	Children and young people under youth justice supervision are likely to increase in the next 12 months	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q23	How much do you agree or disagree with the following? a) The clients we work with have more complexities in their lives than 3 years ago b) My work/role has become more complex	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

The following questions ask about your role and professional development

No.	Item	Response scale
Q24	I have a clear understanding of my role and responsibilities	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q25	I consider my workload to be manageable	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q26	I am able to spend enough time with children, young people and their families to do my job well	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q27	I receive support from my colleagues/peers to do my job well	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q28	I receive the right amount of professional practice supervision to do my job well	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

No.	Item	Response scale
Q29	I have been provided with enough training and other learning opportunities to undertake my role well	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q30	In your opinion, what are the highest learning and development priorities for the child protection and family support workforce?	Free text
Q31	In your opinion, what are the highest learning and development priorities for the youth justice workforce?	Free text
Q32	I am confident I've been trained and have the skills to recognise the signs of: a) Methamphetamine use b) Domestic and Family Violence c) Alcohol and other substance abuse d) Mental health issues e) Physical abuse f) Sexual abuse	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q33	How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? a) I am aware of the impact of trauma on brain development b) I keep up with the latest evidence about child and adolescent brain development	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q34	My organisation supports staff to manage work stress and maximise our health and wellbeing	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q35	The work I do: a) serves an important purpose b) leads to positive change c) gives me a sense of satisfaction	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q36	Overall, what would help you to carry out your role to support children, young people and families?	Free text

The following questions ask about how you work with clients

No.	Item	Response scale
Q37	My workplace has a culture that supports collaboration with other organisations to achieve client outcomes	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q38	I have enough time in my role to build relationships with other organisations/service providers	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q39	In my organisation, children, young people and their families have the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their lives	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q41	Children and families attending my organisation: a) feel cared for and welcome b) feel safe	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q42	Children and families attending my organisation: a) have access to the documents they need (such as identity documents) for accessing support and other services b) can access health services when they need them c) can access mental health services when they need them d) receive sufficient support to access early childhood education and care e) receive sufficient support to attend school	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work
Q43	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people attending my organisation: a) are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity b) are supported to stay connected with their communities	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work

No.	Item	Response scale
Q44	Culturally and linguistically diverse children and young people attending my organisation: a) are supported to preserve their cultural and linguistic identity b) are supported to stay connected with their communities	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work
Q45	Children, young people and their families attending my organisation who have a disability can access appropriate support	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work
Q46	Children, young people and their families attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and opportunities to keep their children at home where appropriate	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work
Q47	The children and young people attending my organisation are provided with sufficient support and linked to services to reduce recidivism	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work
Q48	Young people on statutory community orders have a plan in place for when they transition out of the youth justice system	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work

The following questions ask about children's rights

No.	Item	Response scale
Q49	Within my organisation: a) children are supported to survive and develop in the best way possible b) decisions are made in children's and young people's best interests c) the views of children and young people are listened to and valued d) children and young people are not discriminated against	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree
Q50	In my community, children and young people: a) are protected from abuse and neglect b) are supported to live safely at home with their families c) live in safe communities d) can access the services they need to stay healthy, such as GPs and hospitals e) can access the services they need for healthy teeth, such as dentists f) can access mental health services if needed g) can access disability services if needed h) can access NDIS supports if needed i) can access early childhood education and care, such as kindergarten j) have support to stay engaged in learning at school or TAFE k) can access sporting, recreational or community activities l) are supported to connect with their culture (for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people)	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

The following questions ask about cultural capability

No.	Item	Response scale
Q51	I understand how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle applies to my role	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree ☐ Not applicable to my work
Q52	My organisation partners with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to support the delivery of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people, their families and communities	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

The following questions ask about Queensland Child Safe Standards

No.	Item	Response scale
Q53	Are you aware of the Queensland Child Safe Standards?	☐ Yes ☐ No SKIP TO Q55 ☐ Unsure SKIP TO Q55
Q54	*Note: Only ask if 'yes' to Q53:* How familiar are you with the Queensland Child Safe Standards?	☐ Very familiar ☐ Somewhat familiar ☐ Not familiar at all
Q55	*Ask all:* How much to do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My organisation is a Child Safe Organisation (i.e. creates a culture, adopts strategies and takes action to promote child wellbeing and prevent harm to children and young people)	☐ Strongly disagree ☐ Disagree ☐ Neutral ☐ Agree ☐ Strongly agree

The following questions ask about policy issues

No.	Item	Response scale
Q56	In your opinion, what could be done to improve the child protection and family support system?	Free text
Q57	In your opinion, what could be done to improve the youth justice system?	Free text

Jump to separate survey (so responses cannot be linked)

Item	Response scale
Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey. If you would like to receive information about the survey results, or future surveys, please enter your email address. Email addresses cannot be linked to survey responses.	Free text

Closing message:
We understand your time is limited and appreciate that you have prioritised completing this survey. We expect survey results to be published on the QFCC website by the end of 2025. To get in touch with us, please send your enquiry via the Contact Us form at www.qfcc.qld.gov.au/contact-us

If you would like to encourage others who work as frontline statutory systems staff and service providers (within the Queensland child protection, family support and youth justice systems) to complete this survey, copy and paste the text below to share with your relevant contacts:

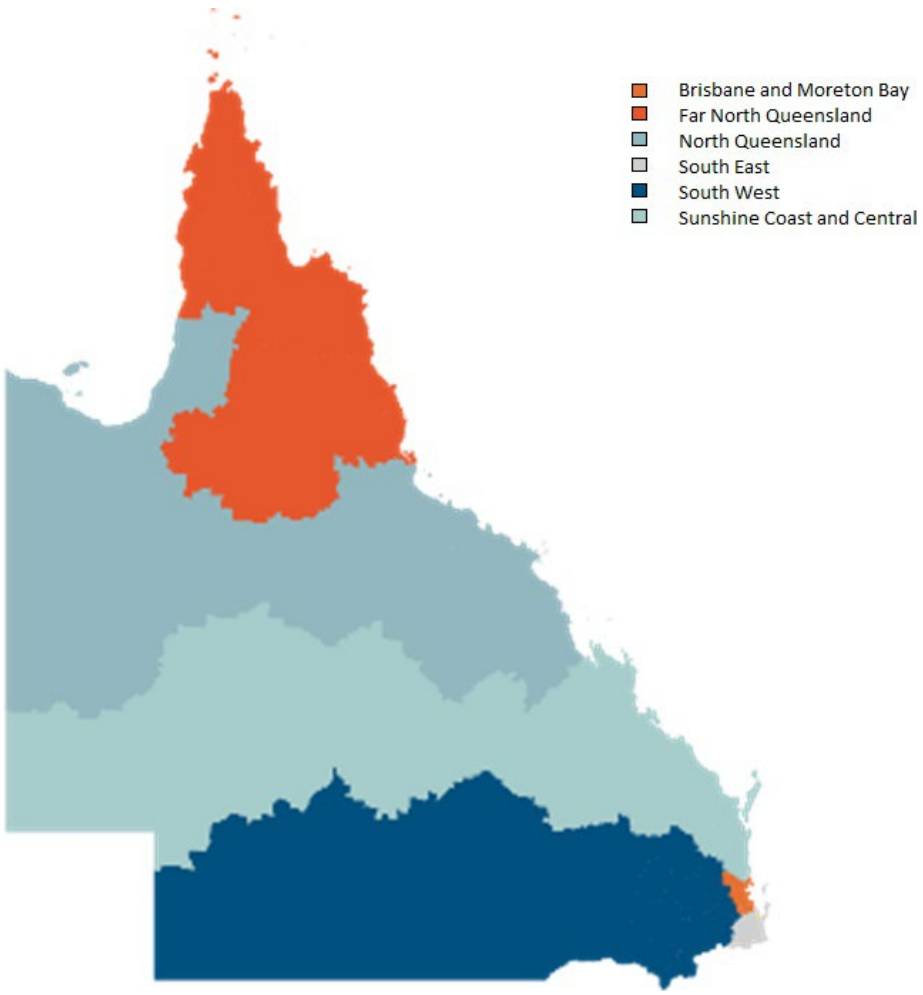
> The Queensland Family and Child Commission conducts annual surveys of frontline staff and service providers who work within the Queensland statutory system (child protection and youth justice).
>
> This year's online survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete, with a mixture of fixed and free text response options. The survey covers a variety of topics, including (but not limited to) system performance, how you are supported to perform and develop in your role, cultural capability, how you work with clients and children's rights.
>
> To complete the survey, visit: www.survey.ipsos.com.au/workforce

Redirect traffic to:
www.qfcc.qld.gov.au

Appendix B – Regional Boundaries

Throughout the tables in this report, the data has been reported on a regional basis, with these six regions being:

1. Brisbane and Moreton Bay
2. Far North Queensland
3. North Queensland
4. South East
5. South West
6. Sunshine Coast and Central



Appendix C – Sampling error chart

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with non-response, error associated with question wording and response options and post survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, MCR avoids the words 'margin of error' as they are not able to be verified. All that can be calculated are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities of pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published surveys come close to this ideal. At the absolute minimum, sampling error based on various cell sizes for this survey could fall within the following ranges (at the 95% confidence level).

Sample size	10/90	20/80	30/70	40/60	50/50
100	±6.0	±8.0	±9.2	±9.8	±10.0
200	±4.2	±5.6	±6.5	±6.9	±7.0
300	±3.5	±4.6	±5.3	±5.7	±5.8
400	±3.0	±4.0	±4.6	±4.9	±5.0
500	±2.7	±3.6	±4.1	±4.4	±4.5
600	±2.4	±3.3	±3.7	±4.0	±4.1
700	±2.3	±3.0	±3.5	±3.7	±3.8
800	±2.1	±2.8	±3.2	±3.5	±3.5
900	±2.0	±2.4	±3.1	±3.3	±3.3
1000	±1.9	±2.5	±2.9	±3.1	±3.2
1100	±1.8	±2.4	±2.7	±2.9	±3.0
1200	±1.7	±2.3	±2.6	±2.8	±2.8
1300	±1.6	±2.2	±2.5	±2.7	±2.7
1400	±1.6	±2.1	±2.4	±2.6	±2.6
1500	±1.5	±2.0	±2.3	±2.5	±2.5
1600	±1.5	±2.0	±2.3	±2.4	±2.5
1700	±1.4	±1.9	±2.2	±2.3	±2.4
1800	±1.4	±1.9	±2.1	±2.3	±2.3
1900	±1.4	±1.8	±2.1	±2.2	±2.3
2000	±1.3	±1.8	±2.0	±2.2	±2.2
2100	±1.3	±1.7	±2.0	±2.1	±2.1
2200	±1.3	±1.7	±1.9	±2.1	±2.1
2300	±1.2	±1.6	±1.9	±2.0	±2.0
2400	±1.2	±1.6	±1.8	±2.0	±2.0
2500	±1.2	±1.6	±1.8	±1.9	±2.0