

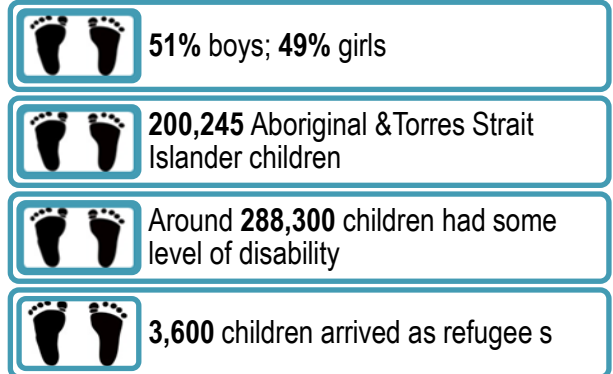


A snapshot of Australia's children (0–14 yrs)

Extracted from *A picture of Australia's children 2012*
Released Oct 2012

Who are they...

- An estimated **4.3 million** children lived in Australia in 2011.
- In total, there were **30,695** children living in Australia in 2011 who had arrived under refugee programs—the largest ethnic groups were Sudanese (20%), Iraqi (12%), African (12%), Burmese (11%) and Afghani (8%).



Proportion of children...

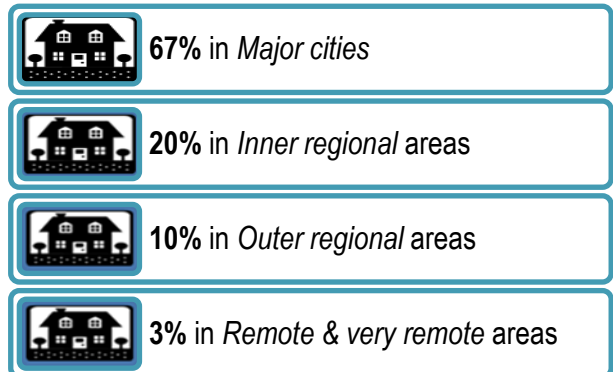
- The child population as a proportion of the total Australian population has been steadily declining due to sustained low fertility and increased life expectancy.

1958 → 30% of population were children

2011 → 19% of population were children

Where they live...

- Almost one-third (32%) lived in NSW, one-quarter (24%) in Vic and one-fifth (21%) in Qld.
- Around **32,000** children were living with relatives, foster families or in residential care.



Mortality...

- The three leading causes of child death between 1997 and 2010 were injuries, cancer and diseases of the nervous system.
- Infant mortality rates were **1.7 times** higher for Indigenous infants than for non-Indigenous infants.
- Child mortality rates (1–14 years) were **2.1 times** higher for Indigenous children than for non-Indigenous children.

Health and disability...

- Asthma was the most frequently reported long-term condition, followed by hay fever and allergic rhinitis.
- Although exclusive breastfeeding was initiated for most babies (90%), only **39%** of infants were exclusively breastfed to around 4 months, and 15% to around 6 months.
- Asthma cases ▼ **down**; New cases of cancers ■ **no change**; Incidence of Type 1 Diabetes → **stable since 2005**.
- An estimated **45%** of children aged 6 and **39%** aged 12 experienced dental decay (2007).
- **80%** of Australian children lived in areas with access to fluoridated water (2008).
- The most common disability types among children were intellectual and sensory/speech.

