

Growing Up Strong in 2020

Findings from Footprints in Time: The Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC)

Footprints in Time: is a research study involving more than 1700 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children growing up across Australia. The young people and their families have been interviewed by Indigenous researchers for more than 17 years. This factsheet presents findings from the LSIC Wave 13 interviews, conducted entirely by telephone during the COVID-19 pandemic (June to December 2020). A total of 755 families were surveyed in Wave 13.

In Footprints in Time, there are many sets of questions that repeat every year and sometimes new questions are introduced. In the 13th year of interviews (2020), Study Youth were asked what it means to grow up strong and how they see themselves and their friends. Their responses highlight the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth.

Growing up strong

In 2020, a total of 553 Study Youth were asked by their interviewer "What does 'grow up strong' mean for you? Not just physically." Here are some recurring themes:

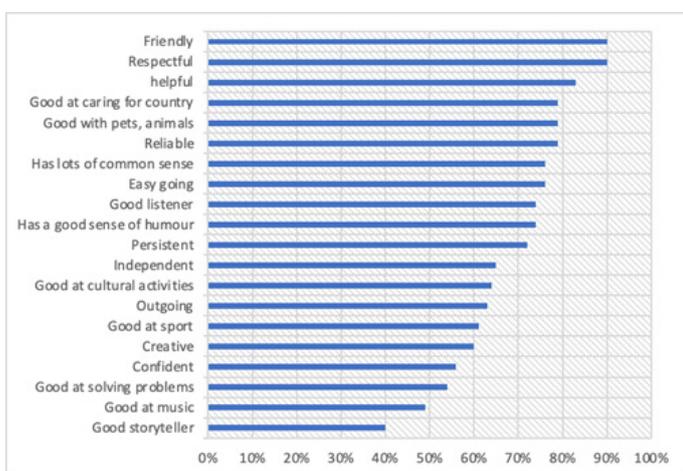


Study Youth are at a stage in their life where they have clear ideas about the qualities they need to grow up strong. Most voice positive outcomes in their future.



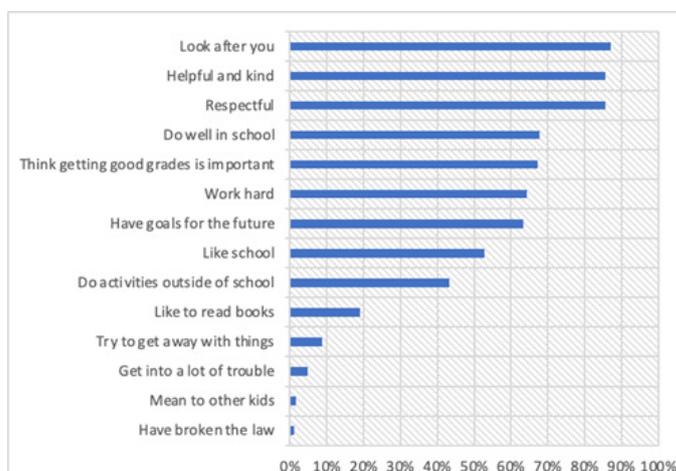
How I see myself

Study Youth were asked how each of the following word/phrase describe them. Below is the percentage of those who responded, 'a lot'.



How I see my friends

Study Youth were asked how many of their friends and kids they spend time with identify with the following qualities. This is the percentage of those who said, 'most or all'.



Study youth have a generally optimistic self-image and strongly promote a set of values that identify the capacities and capabilities of themselves and their friends.

Please see the full report for detail on the study findings: Cooms, V., Dinku, Y., Howard-Wagner, D., Edwards, B., & Biddle, N. (2024). Footprints in Time: Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC)-Wave 13 Summary Report, Australian National University, Canberra.

This summary of findings can be cited as: Cooms, V., Howard-Wagner, D., Dinku, Y., Edwards, B., & Biddle, N. (2024). Growing Up Strong in 2020-Wave 13 Summary Report for Footprints in Time: The Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC), Australian National University Canberra

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