



## Key and emerging issues

Data breakdown for

# Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Region



## Summary

### Demographic profile of respondents

- Of the 20,207 young people who responded to the *Youth Survey 2021*, 2,288 respondents were from WA, 139 of whom resided in the SSJ region (56.5% females, 42.7% males and 0.8% gender diverse).
- 1.4% of young people from the SSJ region identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (compared with 5.7% of WA respondents).
- 12.9% of respondents from the SSJ region stated that they were born overseas (compared with 25.2% of WA) and 11.6% reported speaking a language other than English at home (compared with 21.0% of WA respondents).
- 10.2% of respondents from the SSJ region identified as living with disability (compared with 10.0% of WA respondents).

### Study and training

- 77.5% of respondents from the SSJ region were studying full-time (compared with 81.9% of WA respondents), 9.4% indicated they were studying part-time, while 13.0% reported not studying.
- Higher proportions of females than males from the SSJ region reported studying full-time (86.3% compared with 67.9%), whereas higher proportions of males than females reported studying part-time (14.3% compared with 5.5%) or not studying (17.9% compared with 8.2%).
- Close to six in 10 (57.1%) young people from the SSJ region reported they were *very satisfied* or *satisfied* with their studies (compared with 58.3% of WA respondents).

**Table: Young people's satisfaction with studies**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
Very satisfied or satisfied	58.3	57.1	56.7	66.7
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	30.1	31.9	32.8	24.4
Dissatisfied or very dissatisfied	11.6	10.9	10.4	8.9

- 93.9% of respondents from the SSJ region still at school planned to complete Year 12 (compared with 96.7% of WA respondents).
- *Go to university* was the most frequently reported post-school plan for young people from the SSJ region (48.3% compared with 53.1% of WA respondents).
- A higher proportion of females from the SSJ region indicated they planned to *go to university* after school (53.8% compared with 40.9% of males).
- A larger proportion of SSJ males indicated plans to *get an apprenticeship* (22.7% compared with 7.7%).

**Table: Plans after leaving school**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
Go to university	53.1	48.3	53.8	40.9
Get a job	8.7	14.7	15.4	13.6

<b>Go to TAFE or college</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>13.6</b>
Get an apprenticeship	8.3	12.9	7.7	<b>22.7</b>
Join the defence or police force	3.3	4.3	3.1	6.8
Travel/gap year	<b>10.0</b>	4.3	6.2	0.0
No choices are available to me	0.8	0.9	0.0	2.3
Other	3.1	0.9	1.5	0.0

Note: This question was asked to respondents who reported they were currently studying at school. Respondents were only able to choose one option from the list of predetermined items.

- Close to four in 10 (38.9%) of the SSJ region respondents reported feeling *extremely* or *very confident* in their ability to achieve their study or work goals after finishing school (compared with 44.8% of WA respondents).
- A higher proportion of males from the SSJ region indicated they felt *extremely* or *very confident* in their ability to achieve their study or work goals (42.9% compared with 35.9% of females).
- 55.8% of the SSJ region respondents indicated they felt *somewhat* or *slightly confident* in their ability to achieve their post-school goals (compared with 52.2% of WA respondents); the proportion was slightly higher for females than males (57.8% compared with 54.8%).
- A small proportion (5.3%) of SSJ young people felt *not at all confident* in their ability to achieve their study or work goals (compared with 3.0% of WA respondents).
- Two thirds (66.1%) of young people from the SSJ region felt there were barriers impacting on the achievement of their study or work goals (compared with 44.5% of WA respondents).
- Close to six in 10 (59.0%) SSJ young people who identified barriers felt *mental health* (49.5%) was a barriers, and close to four in 10 (37.2%) identified *academic ability* as a barrier.

**Table: Barriers to achieving study or work goals**

	<b>WA %</b>	<b>SSJ %</b>	<b>SSJ females %</b>	<b>SSJ males %</b>
<b>Mental health</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>36.0</b>
<b>Academic ability</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>41.7</b>	28.0
<b>COVID-19</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>25.6</b>	22.9	<b>36.0</b>
<b>Family responsibilities</b>	20.3	<b>25.6</b>	<b>25.0</b>	28.0
<b>Financial difficulty</b>	22.3	<b>25.6</b>	22.9	28.0
Lack of information	15.5	21.8	<b>25.0</b>	12.0
Transport	11.7	21.8	18.8	<b>32.0</b>
Admission/job requirements	15.9	19.2	18.8	24.0
Lack of school support	16.9	19.2	20.8	16.0
Lack of jobs	14.9	17.9	12.5	<b>32.0</b>
Where you live	13.6	17.9	16.7	24.0
Lack of family support	12.2	10.3	12.5	8.0
Physical health	11.9	10.3	14.6	4.0
Discrimination	7.1	3.8	4.2	0.0
Cultural responsibilities	3.3	1.3	0.0	4.0

## Employment

- More than half (51.5%) of respondents from the SSJ region reported working part-time (compared with 42.5% of WA respondents).
- More than one third (34.6%) of young people from the SSJ region reported they were currently looking for work (compared with 34.5% of WA respondents), while more than one in eight (13.8%) indicated they were neither working nor looking for work (compared with 22.3% of WA respondents).
- A higher proportions of females were in part-time employment (54.5% compared with 45.5% of males), while a higher proportion of males indicated they were looking for work (45.5% compared with 27.3% of males).

**Table: Engagement in paid work**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
Employed full-time	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Employed part-time	42.5	51.5	54.5	45.5
Not in paid employment, looking for work	34.5	34.6	27.3	45.5
Not in paid employment, not looking for work	22.3	13.8	18.2	9.1

## What do young people value?

The top three issues of personal concern for young people from the SSJ region were *friendships (other than family)*, *family relationships* and *mental health*.

- A higher proportion of SSJ females placed a high value on *friendships (other than family)* (86.3% compared with 66.1% of males).
- A higher proportion of SSJ males highly valued *physical health* (69.1% compared with 54.8% of female).

**Table: Young people's values**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
<b>Friendships (other than family)</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>86.3</b>	<b>66.1</b>
<b>Family relationships</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>78.6</b>
<b>Mental health</b>	62.4	<b>60.4</b>	63.5	60.7
Getting a job	44.5	59.7	56.8	64.3
Financial security	51.8	59.0	60.8	57.1
School or study satisfaction	61.5	59.0	<b>64.9</b>	55.4
Physical health	<b>63.5</b>	58.4	54.8	<b>69.1</b>
Culture	25.6	14.4	9.5	23.2

Note: Percentages are based on those who identified the issues were *extremely* or *very important*.

## What issues are of personal concern to young people?

The top three issues of personal concern for young people from the SSJ region were *coping with stress*, *mental health* and *school or study problems*. The next most personally concerning issues were *body image* and *financial security*.

- More than half (55.8%) of young people from the SSJ region were *extremely* or *very concerned* about *coping with stress* (compared with 40.1% of WA respondents).
- Half (50.4%) of respondents from the SSJ region felt *extremely* or *very concerned* about *mental health* (compared with 38.4% of WA respondents).
- More than four in ten (44.5%) of SSJ region respondents were *extremely* or *very concerned* about *school or study problems* (compared with 35.9% of WA respondents).
- More than double proportion of females than males from the SSJ region were *extremely* or *very concerned* about *mental health* (66.2% compared with 25.0%) and *school or study problems* (60.3% compared with 23.6%).

**Table: Issues of personal concern to young people**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
<b>Coping with stress</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>38.2</b>
<b>Mental health</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>66.2</b>	25.0
<b>School or study problems</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>60.3</b>	23.6
Body image	30.0	41.3	50.0	<b>25.5</b>
Financial security	18.7	36.7	37.8	<b>35.7</b>
Physical health	27.8	30.4	35.1	<b>25.5</b>
Personal safety	21.5	29.7	37.8	18.2
Family conflict	20.8	26.6	29.7	23.2
Climate change	23.4	24.5	24.3	23.2
Discrimination	18.6	22.5	27.4	14.3
Suicide	19.2	22.3	24.3	17.9
Bullying/emotional abuse	14.4	20.3	25.7	14.5
COVID-19	20.6	20.1	21.6	16.1
Social media	15.4	18.7	27.0	10.7
LGBTIQA+ issues	13.2	15.3	24.7	3.6
Domestic/family violence	13.0	15.2	13.7	17.9
Alcohol	6.4	6.5	5.4	8.9
Drugs	9.8	5.8	4.1	8.9
Gambling	4.2	2.9	1.4	5.5

Note: Percentages are based on those who identified they were *extremely* or *very concerned* about the issue.

\*Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex, Queer, Asexual issues.

## How has COVID-19 negatively impacted young people?

Young people were asked to identify the ways in which COVID-19 has negatively impacted them in the past year. *Education, participation in activities* and *mental health* were the top three areas young people from the SSJ region identified COVID-19 had negatively impacted them.

- Notably higher proportions of SSJ females felt their *mental health* was impacted by COVID-19 (70.3% compared with 28.6% of males).

**Table: Impact of COVID-19**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
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<b>Education</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>69.6</b>
<b>Participation in activities</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>57.1</b>
<b>Mental health</b>	38.3	<b>52.5</b>	<b>70.3</b>	28.6
Physical health	<b>39.5</b>	47.5	54.1	<b>42.9</b>
Family	38.3	41.3	47.9	35.7
Employment	27.7	39.6	37.8	41.1
Friendships	26.4	37.4	44.6	32.1
Financial security	25.5	33.8	39.2	25.0
Housing	9.2	13.7	12.2	17.9

## Have young people been treated unfairly?

Close to four in 10 (39.6%) of young people from the SSJ region reported they had been treated unfairly in the past year. A higher proportion of females than males reported being treated unfairly in the past year (48.6% compared with 28.6%).

Young people who reported being treated unfairly in the past year were asked to identify reasons for being treated unfairly from a list of suggested items. Of the 39.6% respondents from the SSJ region who had been treated unfairly in the past year:

- More than one third (34.5%) reported they had been treated unfairly due to their *gender* (compared with 34.8% of WA respondents).

**Table: Reasons for being treated unfairly**

	<b>WA %</b>	<b>SSJ %</b>	<b>SSJ females %</b>	<b>SSJ males %</b>
<b>Gender</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>31.3</b>
<b>Mental health</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>25.0</b>
<b>Other</b>	21.6	<b>23.6</b>	<b>30.6</b>	12.5
Sexuality	22.2	21.8	22.2	18.8
Age	18.0	14.5	13.9	18.8
Race	<b>31.8</b>	12.7	8.3	<b>25.0</b>
Disability	6.9	7.3	2.8	18.8
Financial	8.1	7.3	2.8	18.8
Religion	11.4	5.5	0.0	18.8

## Have young people witnessed unfair treatment?

More than six in 10 (62.0%) young people from the SSJ region reported they had witnessed someone being treated unfairly in the past year. A slightly higher proportion of SSJ females reported witnessing someone being treated unfairly in the past year (68.1% compared with 53.6% of males).

Young people who reported they had witnessed unfair treatment over the past year were asked to identify from a list of reasons why the person was being treated unfairly. Of the 62.0% of respondents who had witnessed unfair treatment:

- More than six in 10 (63.5%) reported they witnessed unfair treatment due to a person's *sexuality* (compared with 44.4% of WA respondents).

- More than half (52.9%) reported they witnessed unfair treatment due to a person's *race/cultural background* (compared with 58.5% of WA respondents).
- More than four in 10 (41.2%) young people from the SSJ region had witnessed unfair treatment due to a person's *gender* (compared with 41.2% of WA respondents).

**Table: Reasons of witnessed unfair treatment**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
<b>Sexuality</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>69.4</b>	<b>50.0</b>
<b>Race/cultural background</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>60.0</b>
<b>Gender</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>41.2</b>	34.7	<b>53.3</b>
Disability	32.3	40.0	<b>42.9</b>	36.7
Religion	27.3	32.9	32.7	33.3
Mental health	23.9	30.6	24.5	43.3
Age	18.6	20.0	18.4	23.3
Financial background	15.0	14.1	8.2	23.3
Other	10.5	9.4	6.1	16.7

## Where do young people go for help with important issues?

Respondents were asked to indicate from a number of sources where they would go for help with important issues in their lives.

- *Friend/s, parent/s or guardian/s and partner or significant other* were the three most frequently cited sources of help for young people from the SSJ region.

**Table: Sources of support**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
<b>Friend/s</b>	<b>78.7</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>78.2</b>
<b>Parent/s or guardian/s</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>70.3</b>	<b>67.3</b>
<b>Partner or significant other</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>49.6</b>	43.2	<b>59.3</b>
Internet	45.8	47.1	<b>48.6</b>	49.1
Relative/family friend	46.3	44.9	45.9	43.6
Brother/sister	45.7	35.5	41.9	27.3
GP or health professional	33.9	30.4	39.2	20.0
Teacher	24.8	30.2	35.1	25.0
Social media	17.6	28.1	35.1	23.2
Mobile apps	20.5	23.7	27.0	21.4
School counsellor	20.1	21.0	24.3	18.2
Other	12.7	12.8	10.3	14.6
Community agency	8.3	9.4	12.2	7.3
Spiritual/religious mentor	10.8	2.9	1.4	5.6

## How do young people rate their family's ability to get along?

Close to four in 10 (38.1%) respondents from the SSJ region rated their family's ability to get along very positively: 8.6% rated it as *excellent* and 29.5% rated it as *very good*. Close to one third (33.1%) of the SSJ region respondents rated their family's ability to get along as *good*. Close to three in 10 (28.8%) young people from the SSJ region indicated their family's ability to get along was either *fair* (20.1%) or *poor* (8.6%).

**Table: Family's ability to get along**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
Excellent	18.4	8.6	8.1	10.7
Very good	30.5	29.5	25.7	35.7
Good	26.3	33.1	32.4	32.1
Fair	15.9	20.1	21.6	16.1
Poor	8.9	8.6	12.2	5.4

## What activities are young people involved in?

- The top three activities for young people from the SSJ region were *sports (as a spectator)* (69.1%), *sports (as a participant)* (61.8%) and *arts/cultural/music activities* (40.4%).

**Table: Activities young people were involved in over the past year**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
<b>Sports (as a spectator)</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>65.8</b>	<b>75.9</b>
<b>Sports (as a participant)</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>63.0</b>
<b>Arts/cultural/music activities</b>	<b>44.6</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>43.8</b>	38.9
Volunteer work	44.1	36.5	33.8	<b>42.6</b>
Student leadership activities	35.6	28.7	29.7	30.2
Youth groups/activities	26.8	21.2	19.4	26.9
Environmental groups	22.3	17.6	16.4	22.2
Religious groups/activities	21.2	8.9	5.6	13.0
Political groups/organisations	9.5	7.4	4.1	13.0

## How stressed are young people?

More than half (54.0%) of young people from the SSJ region felt stressed either *all of the time* or *most of the time*.

- A much higher proportion of female respondents from the SSJ region felt stressed *all of the time* or *most of the time* (68.9% compared with 33.9% of males).

**Table: How stressed are young people?**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
All of the time	10.4	17.3	21.6	10.7
Most of the time	31.4	36.7	47.3	23.2

Some of the time	32.0	25.9	23.0	28.6
A little of the time	20.7	17.3	8.1	30.4
None of the time	4.9	2.9	0.0	7.1

## What do young people do to reduce stress?

The top three ways SSJ young people reported reducing stress was to *spend time online* (64.7%), *sleep* (64.0%) and *play games or watch TV/movies* (54.7%).

- A much higher proportion of female respondents from the SSJ region reported they would *sleep* to reduce stress (71.6% compared with 53.6% of males).
- A higher proportion of SSJ males reported they would *play games or watch TV/movies* to reduce stress (67.9% compared with 47.3% of females).

**Table: Ways young people reduce stress**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
<b>Spend time online</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>64.7</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>51.8</b>
<b>Sleep</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>53.6</b>
<b>Play games or watch TV/movies</b>	60.3	<b>54.7</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>67.9</b>
Do something relaxing	58.1	53.2	58.1	48.2
Physical activity	47.3	42.4	40.5	44.6
Do a hobby	44.3	41.0	36.5	48.2
Spend time with friends or family	44.8	40.3	41.9	39.3
Nothing	18.2	23.7	16.2	32.1
Consume alcohol and/or other drugs	14.5	11.5	12.2	10.7
Take medication prescribed by a health professional	5.6	7.2	5.4	5.9
Reach out to a professional	5.6	5.0	8.1	1.8
Other	7.3	4.3	4.1	5.4

## How much control do young people feel they have over their life?

Close to four in 10 (39.2%) SSJ young people felt they had control over their life: 5.1% reported having *complete control* and 34.1% felt *mostly in control*.

- A higher proportion of SSJ males felt they had *complete control* or were *mostly in control* of their lives (53.5% compared with 28.7% of females).
- Conversely, a higher proportion of SSJ females reported feeling *almost no control* or *no control* over their lives (20.5% compared with 12.5% of males).

**Table: Young people's level of control over their life**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
Complete control	8.2	5.1	2.7	8.9
Mostly in control	44.6	34.1	26.0	44.6
Some control	33.5	43.5	50.7	33.9

Almost no control	11.1	17.4	20.5	12.5
No control	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0

## How lonely are young people?

More than three in 10 (30.9%) young people from the SSJ region felt lonely *all of the time* or *most of the time* in the past four weeks.

- A higher proportion of SSJ females felt lonely *all or most of the time* (39.2% compared with 17.8% of males).

**Table: Young people's level of loneliness**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
All of the time	6.5	7.9	8.1	7.1
Most of the time	19.0	23.0	31.1	10.7
Some of the time	27.7	26.6	28.4	25.0
A little of the time	27.4	28.1	27.0	28.6
None of the time	19.4	14.4	5.4	28.6

## How do young people rate their mental health and wellbeing?

One in five (20.1%) young people from the SSJ region rated their mental health and wellbeing as *excellent* or *very good*.

- A higher proportion of SSJ females rated their mental health and wellbeing as *poor* (25.7% compared with 10.7% of males).

**Table: Young people's mental health and wellbeing**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
Excellent	10.1	7.9	1.4	17.9
Very good	20.8	12.2	8.1	19.6
Good	29.0	28.1	27.0	30.4
Fair	24.5	30.2	37.8	21.4
Poor	15.6	21.6	25.7	10.7

## How happy are young people?

More than one third (36.7%) of young people from the SSJ region indicated feeling *happy/very happy* with their life as a whole (compared with 51.4% of WA respondents).

- Close to half (46.0%) of the SSJ region respondents reported feeling *not happy or sad* (compared with 34.3% of WA respondents).
- Close to one in five (17.3%) respondents from the SSJ region reported feeling *very sad/sad* with their life overall (compared with 14.3% of WA respondents).
- A higher proportion of females from the SSJ region reported feeling *very sad/sad* with life as a whole (20.3% compared with 12.5% of males).

## How much time do young people spend on screens?

More than one third (33.8%) of young people from the SSJ region spent 5-6 hours or more on screens per day.

**Table: Young people's screen time per day**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
No screen time	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
1-2 hours	7.0	3.6	4.1	3.6
3-4 hours	20.0	22.3	25.7	21.4
<b>5-6 hours</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>37.5</b>
7-8 hours	16.2	12.9	16.2	8.9
9 hours or more	32.4	27.3	23.0	28.6

Close to half of SSJ young people spent 1-2 hours on *screens connecting with others* (45.9%). Close to four in 10 SSJ respondents spent 1-2 hours on *screens for entertainment* (38.7%) and *for learning* (36.8%).

**Table: Young people's screen time per day by purpose**

SSJ respondents	Connecting with others %	For entertainment %	For learning %
No screen time	4.4	0.7	12.8
<b>1-2 hours</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>36.8</b>
3-4 hours	28.1	27.0	15.8
5-6 hours	11.9	19.0	27.8
7-8 hours	5.2	8.8	3.8
9 hours or more	4.4	5.8	3.0

## How much time do young people spend sleeping?

Close to four in 10 (41.7%) young people from the SSJ region reported sleeping on average between 7-8 hours per night.

**Table: Young people's sleep per night**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
6 hours or less	23.0	27.3	28.4	23.2
<b>7-8 hours</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>37.5</b>
9-10 hours	17.7	17.3	10.8	25.0
11 hours or more	9.2	13.7	13.5	14.3

## How much time do young people spend exercising?

More than one in five (21.6%) of young people from the SSJ region spent 3-4 hours or 9 hours or more exercising per week.

**Table: Young people's exercise per week**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
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No exercise	7.7	13.7	14.9	12.5
1-2 hours	22.2	18.0	13.5	<b>21.4</b>
<b>3-4 hours</b>	18.0	<b>21.6</b>	<b>28.4</b>	14.3
5-6 hours	15.0	14.4	14.9	12.5
7-8 hours	10.5	10.8	6.8	17.9
<b>9 hours or more</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>21.6</b>	21.6	<b>21.4</b>

## What issues do young people think are the most important in Australia today?

In 2021, the top three issues identified by young people from the SSJ region were *COVID-19* (46.3%), *mental health* (38.8%) and *the environment* (33.1%).

- More than one quarter (26.4%) of young people from the SSJ region reported *equity and discrimination* as an important issues in Australia today.
- Higher proportions of females from the SSJ region indicated *mental health* is a key national issues (46.8% compared with 29.4% of males).
- Conversely, a higher proportion of males from the SSJ region reported that *COVID-19* is an important issue in Australia (51.0% compared with 43.5% of females).

**Table: Most important issues in Australia**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
<b>COVID-19</b>	<b>43.3</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>43.5</b>	<b>51.0</b>
<b>Mental health</b>	31.5	<b>38.8</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>29.4</b>
<b>The environment</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>23.5</b>
Equity and discrimination	<b>36.1</b>	26.4	27.4	23.5
Employment	8.6	17.4	12.9	25.5
Alcohol and drugs	15.4	14.9	12.9	17.6
The economy and financial matters	9.3	14.9	12.9	15.7
Crime, safety and violence	7.9	10.7	14.5	5.9
Education	8.8	10.7	6.5	17.6
LGBTIQA+ issues	5.7	9.1	12.9	2.0

## How do they feel about the future?

More than four in 10 (43.5%) young people from the SSJ region reported feeling *very positive* or *positive* about the future (compared with 50.0% of WA respondents). Close to one in five (19.6%) respondents from the SSJ region reported feeling *negative* or *very negative* about the future (compared with 18.1% of WA respondents).

**Table: Young people's feelings about the future**

	WA %	SSJ %	SSJ females %	SSJ males %
Very positive or positive	50.0	43.5	44.6	43.6
Neither positive nor negative	31.9	37.0	29.7	41.8
Negative or very negative	18.1	19.6	25.7	14.5