

Gathering the data for all 92 indicators together into one database has been an ambitious and complex task. Currently the range and quality of information varies; over time, more data will become available and the means of collecting and reporting it will improve. In addition, there are several gaps in the available data. In particular, some of these gaps relate to healthy weight, children's experience of family violence, and children and young people with a disability.

In this section of the report, all 92 indicators are set out to show the most recent data collected at a statewide level. When commenting on the data, certain indicators have been presented in more detail either over time, at a locality level or for different age groups to provide a clearer picture of how Tasmania's children and young people are faring.

		Tasmanian Value	Comparison	Year
THE CHILD				
1 Optimal Antenatal and Infant Development				
1.1	Percentage of live born infants of low birth weight*	6.9%	6.4% – Australia, 2006	2006
1.2	Infant mortality rate	4.1 per 1,000	4.7 per 1,000 – Australia	2006
1.3	Child mortality rate for children aged 0–4 years old*	1.0 per 1,000	1.2 per 1,000 – Australia	2006
1.4	Percentage of infants with congenital malformation at birth	1.5%	–	2006
1.5	Percentage of babies born full term (37 weeks plus)	91.8%	91.8% – Australia	2006
2 Adequate Nutrition				
2.1a	Percentage of mothers attending Nurse Health Assessments who were exclusively breastfeeding at 6 weeks*	53.0%	–	2007–08
2.1b	Percentage of mothers attending Nurse Health Assessments who were breastfeeding at 6 weeks*	65.6%	–	2007–08
2.1c	Percentage of mothers attending Nurse Health Assessments who were breastfeeding at 6 months*	49.7%	80.0% – Australia (target)	2007–08
2.2a	Percentage of children aged 4–12 consuming at least the NHMRC minimum recommended serves of fruit per day (TasCHWS)	86.0%	90.0% – Victoria, 2006	2009
2.2b	Percentage of children aged 4–12 consuming at least the NHMRC minimum recommended serves of vegetables per day (TasCHWS)	37.0%	38.6% – Victoria, 2006	2009
3 Free from Preventable Diseases				
3.1a	Percentage of children on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register fully immunised at 1 year*	91.0%	91.2% – Australia	As at 30 June 2008
3.1b	Percentage of children on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register fully immunised at 2 years*	93.4%	92.8% – Australia	As at 30 June 2008
3.2a	Mean number of decayed, missing or filled deciduous teeth (dmft) among 6-year-old children accessing public services*	2.7	–	2008
3.2b	Mean number of decayed, missing or filled adult teeth (DMFT) among 12-year-old children accessing public services*	1.2	–	2008

*Please refer to Appendix B for caveats and further information.

Data sources for each indicator and comparisons are available in Appendix C.

		Tasmanian Value	Comparison	Year
3.3	Percentage of children aged 6 months–12 years visiting a dentist in the last 12 months (TasCHWS)	63.2%	–	2009
4	Optimal Social and Emotional Development			
4.1	Percentage of children achieving Health and Wellbeing markers (HW 9) on the Kindergarten Development Check*	97.2%	–	2007
5	Optimal Physical Health			
5.1	Incidence rate of Type 1 diabetes among 0–14 year olds	34.8 per 100,000	22.6 per 100,000 – Australia	2006
5.2	Percentage of children aged 5–14 with a severe or profound core activity limitation*	5.7%	4.9% – Australia	2003
5.3	Percentage of children aged 0–12 that have ever been diagnosed with asthma (TasCHWS)	17.4%	20.8%(+/- 1.4) – Australia (Children 0–15), 2004/05	2009
5.4	Rate of children and young people aged 0–17 hospitalised due to asthma*	2.9 per 1,000	4.0 per 1,000 – Victoria, 2005	2006–07
5.5	Percentage of parents reporting the health status of their child as 'excellent' or 'very good' (TasCHWS)	89.2%	89.0% – Victoria, 2006	2009
6	Optimal Language and Cognitive Development			
6.1	Percentage of children meeting literacy, numeracy and cognition markers on the Kindergarten Development Check*	77.9%	–	2007
6.2a	Percentage of children in Prep achieving expected outcomes in literacy (Performance Indicators in Primary Schools)	83.3%	–	2007
6.2b	Percentage of children in Prep achieving expected outcomes in numeracy (Performance Indicators in Primary Schools)	83.9%	–	2007
7	Adequate Exercise and Physical Activity			
7.1	Percentage of Kindergarten students achieving the gross motor skills marker on the Kindergarten Development Check (HW3)*	94.0%	–	2007
7.2	Percentage of children aged 5–12 physically active for at least 60 minutes each day (TasCHWS)	62.0%	71.0% – Victoria, 2006	2009
7.3	Percentage of children aged 1–12 who use electronic media for more than 2 hours per day other than for educational purposes (TasCHWS)	48.0%	–	2009
8	Positive Child Behaviour and Mental Health			
8.1	Percentage of children with emotional or behavioural difficulties (TasCHWS)	7.0%	8.0% – New South Wales, 2006	2009
8.2	Rate of children and young aged 0–17 hospitalised for mental or behavioural problems	2.1 per 1,000	–	2006
8.3	Percentage of children with autism on the Severe Disability Register (all grades)	15.5%	–	2007
9	Successful in Literacy and Numeracy			
9.1a	Percentage of Year 3 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for reading*	92.8% (± 1.0)	92.1% (± 0.3) – Australia	2008
9.1b	Percentage of Year 3 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for writing *	97.1% (± 0.5)	95.4%(± 0.2) – Australia	2008
9.1c	Percentage of Year 3 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for numeracy*	96.7% (± 0.6)	95.0% (± 0.2) – Australia	2008
9.2a	Percentage of Year 5 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for reading*	89.7% (± 1.4)	91.0% (± 0.3) – Australia	2008

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		Tasmanian Value	Comparison	Year
9.2b	Percentage of Year 5 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for writing*	92.6% (± 1.1)	92.6% (± 0.2) – Australia	2008
9.2c	Percentage of Year 5 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for numeracy*	92.1% (± 1.2)	92.7% (± 0.2) – Australia	2008
9.3a	Percentage of Year 7 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for reading*	93.9% (± 1.5)	94.2% (± 0.3) – Australia	2008
9.3b	Percentage of Year 7 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for writing*	90.0% (± 2.0)	91.8% (± 0.3) – Australia	2008
9.3c	Percentage of Year 7 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for numeracy*	95.2% (± 1.3)	95.4% (± 0.2) – Australia	2008
9.4a	Percentage of Year 9 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for reading*	93.0% (± 1.7)	92.9% (± 0.4) – Australia	2008
9.4b	Percentage of Year 9 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for writing*	84.1% (± 2.8)	87.2% (± 0.5) – Australia	2008
9.4c	Percentage of Year 9 students from all Tasmanian schools at or above the national minimum standard for numeracy*	92.3% (± 1.8)	93.6% (± 0.3) – Australia	2008

10 Safe from Injury and Harm

10.1	Death rate from all injuries for children aged 0–14 years*	10.7 per 100,000	6.0 per 100,000 – Australia	2004–06
10.2	Percentage of children hospitalised due to injury*	1.9%	–	2006–07
10.3	Rate of assaults on children and young people aged 0–17*	5.0 per 1,000	7.3 per 1,000 – Tasmania (all ages)	2007–08
10.4	Rate of sexual assaults on children and young people aged 0–17*	1.1 per 1,000	0.5 per 1,000 – Tasmania (all ages)	2007–08

11 Prosocial Young People's Lifestyle and Law Abiding Behaviour

11.1	Number of young people detained in Youth Justice facilities	121	5,487 – Australia	2006–07
11.2	Percentage of average daily number of young people under supervision in detention	11.2%	15.7% – Australia	2006–07
11.3a	Rate of young people aged 0–17 in juvenile justice supervision*	6.6 per 1,000	4.7 per 1,000 – Australia	2006–07
11.3b	Rate of young people aged 0–17 in juvenile justice community based supervision*	6.3 per 1,000	3.9 per 1,000 – Australia	2006–07
11.3c	Rate of young people aged 0–17 in juvenile justice detention*	2.0 per 1,000	2.2 per 1,000 – Australia	2006–07

12 Healthy Young People's Lifestyle

12.1	Age-specific fertility rate for 15–19 year old women*	27.9 per 1,000	15.3 per 1,000 – Australia	2006
12.2	Percentage of young people aged 12–17 who use alcohol (current drinkers)*	33%	29% – Australia	2005
12.3	Percentage of young people aged 12–17 who smoke (current smokers)*	12%	9% – Australia	2005
12.4	Percentage of young people aged 12–17 who had used illicit drugs (at any time)*	21%	20% – Australia	2005

13 Young People Complete Secondary Education

13.1	Percentage of students continuing in post-compulsory education or training (i.e. post-Year 10)	83.8%	–	2009
13.2	Percentage of 15–19 year olds who complete Year 12 or equivalent (as an age weighted cohort)	43.7%	–	2008

*Please refer to Appendix B for caveats and further information.

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		Tasmanian Value	Comparison	Year
THE FAMILY				
14 Healthy Parental Lifestyle				
14.1	Percentage of children with exposure to cigarette smoke in the home (TasCHWS)*	4.2%	9.0% – NSW, 2006	2009
14.2	Percentage of women who drank alcohol during pregnancy (self reported)*	15.9%	–	2006
14.3	Percentage of women who smoked during pregnancy (self reported)*	27.1%	17.3% – Australia	2006
14.4	Percentage of women reporting illicit drug use during pregnancy (self reported)*	4.2%	–	2006
15 Parent Promotion of Child Health and Development				
15.1	Percentage of children read to by a family member most days (aged 6 months to 5 years) (TasCHWS)*	78.9%	–	2009
16 Good Parental Mental Health				
16.1	Percentage of new adult clients receiving care from Mental Health Services who have children living with them at home	16.0%	–	2007–08
17 Free from Abuse and Neglect				
17.1	Rate of child protection notifications for children aged 0–17 years*	51.7 per 1,000	–	2007–08
17.2	Rate of children and young people aged 0–17 referred for a child protection investigation*	19.5 per 1,000	–	2007–08
17.3	Rate of children and young people aged 0–17 in out-of-home care*	5.8 per 1,000	6.2 per 1,000 – Australia	as at 30 June 2008
17.4	Percentage of children and young people aged 0–17 in out-of-home care in home-based care	90.0%	93.8% – Australia*	as at 30 June 2008
17.5	Percentage of children and young people aged 0–17 in out-of-home care in care living with relatives	27.0%	45.0% – Australia	as at 30 June 2008
17.6	Rate of children aged 0–12 years who were the subject of a substantiation of a notification*	8.7 per 1,000	7.4 per 1,000 – Australia	2007–08
18 Free from Child Exposure to Conflict or Family Violence				
18.1	Percentage of children experiencing family violence	–	–	–
19 Ability to Pay for Essentials				
19.1	Percentage of households with children with no parent in employment	20.8%	18.7% – Australia	2006
19.2	Percentage of children and young people aged 0–19 living in low-income households (households with equivalised income less than 50% of the national median)	25.0%	21.7% – Australia	2006
19.3	Percentage of children and young people living in families that ran out of food and couldn't afford to buy more (TasCHWS)	3.9%	5.5% – NSW, 2006	2009
19.4	Percentage of families who frequently experienced difficulty in paying bills (TasCHWS)	25.2%	–	2009
19.5	Percentage of households where the primary source of income is government pensions or allowances	31.5%	26.1% – Australia	2005–06
19.6	Mean equivalised disposable household income for low-income households with dependent children aged 0–12 (\$ per week)*	342.0	347.0 – Australia	2005–06
19.7	Income difference between low- and middle-income households with children aged 0–12 (\$ per week)*	236.0	218.0 – Australia	2005–06

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		Tasmanian Value	Comparison	Year
20 Adequate Family Housing				
20.1	Rate of children 0–17 seeking assistance from the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (accompanied and unaccompanied)	26.9 per 1,000	–	2006–07
20.2	Percentage of public housing wait list applicants with children*	35.6%	–	as at 30 June 2008
20.3	Percentage of low-income earners in Tasmania who experience housing stress in the private rental market (rent takes 30% or more of income)	27.1%	34.4% – Australia	as at 30 June 2007
21 Positive Family Functioning				
21.1	Percentage of families reporting 'healthy' family functioning (TasCHWS)	88.0%	94.8% – NSW, 2006	2009
THE COMMUNITY				
22 Living in a Health Promoting Environment				
22.1	Percentage of population serviced by a public drinking water supply system with access to clean, safe drinking water*	98.9%	–	2006–07
22.2	Percentage of population serviced by a public drinking water supply system with access to fluoridated water*	97.1%	–	2006–07
22.3	Percentage of schools accredited with the 'Cool Canteen' program*	14.7%	–	2008
23 Communities that Enable Parents, Children and Young People to Build Connections and Draw Informal Assistance				
23.1	Percentage of households with children aged 0–12 years where the respondent was able to get support in time of crisis from persons living outside the household (TasCHWS)*	97.0%	94.4% – Australia, 2006	2009
23.2	Percentage of households with children aged 0–12 able to raise \$2000 within two days in an emergency (TasCHWS)	83.4%	84.9% – Victoria, 2006	2009
23.3	Percentage of households with children aged 0–19 with access to the Internet	69.2%	75.2% – Australia	2006
24 Accessible Local Recreation Spaces, Activities and Community Facilities				
24.1	Percentage of parents able to access a doctor or receive medical treatment all or most of the time for themselves or their children when necessary (TasCHWS)*	86.0%	–	2009
24.2	Percentage of children with easy access to parks and recreational spaces (TasCHWS)*	90.0%	–	2009
24.3	Percentage of dwellings with a car	91.4%	90.5% – Australia, 2006	2006
25 Low Levels of Crime in the Community				
25.1	Average score of how safe children feel at school (out of 100)	74.8		2008
25.2	Rate of children and young people aged 0–19 years old who are victims of selected offences against the person*	8.9 per 1,000	9.4 per 1,000 – Tasmania (all ages), 2007	2007
25.3a	Percentage of people who feel safe at home alone during the day	95%	93% – Australia	2007–08
25.3b	Percentage of people who feel safe at home alone after dark	86%	83% – Australia	2007–08
25.3c	Percentage of people who feel safe walking or jogging during the day	92%	89% – Australia	2007–08
25.3d	Percentage of people who feel safe walking or jogging after dark	67%	60% – Australia	2007–08

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		Tasmanian Value	Comparison	Year
SUPPORTS AND SERVICES				
26 Early Identification of and Attention to Child Health and Wellbeing Needs				
26.1a	Percentage of children attending the 0–4 week Nurse Health Assessment (CHAPS)	89.9%	–	2007–08
26.1b	Percentage of children attending the 6 week Nurse Health Assessment (CHAPS)	79.9%	–	2007–08
26.1c	Percentage of children attending the 6 month Nurse Health Assessment (CHAPS)	66.6%	–	2007–08
26.1d	Percentage of children attending the 18 month Nurse Health Assessment (CHAPS)	47.1%	–	2007–08
26.1e	Percentage of children attending the 3.5 years Nurse Health Assessment (CHAPS)	37.9%	55.7% – Victoria, 2005	2007–08
26.2	Percentage of substantiations that were re-substantiations within 12 months	14.9%	–	2006–07
26.3	Percentage of Indigenous children in out-of-home care placed according to the Aboriginal Placement Principle	35.3%	74.0% – Australia	2007–08
26.4	Percentage of children and young people aged 0–17 in out-of-home care who had more than three placements in the past 12 months*	23.7%	–	2007–08
27 High Quality Early Education and Care Experiences Available				
27.1	Percentage of students in all schools enrolling in Kindergarten from the average population of 4–5 year olds	96.5%	–	2008
27.2	Number of children participating in Launching into Learning programs*	2,255	–	2007–08
27.3	Percentage of parents generally satisfied with their child's education (state schools only)	90.9%	–	2008
27.4	Percentage of children aged 0–4 who attended a pre-school, kindergarten or activity group on a regular basis during the previous 6 months (TasCHWS)	67.4%	–	2008
28 Adequate Supports to Meet Needs of Families with Children with Disabilities				
28.1	Percentage of newly registered clients on the Severe Disability Register (SDR) who have accessed Early Childhood Intervention Services (ECIS)	90.6%	–	2008
28.2	Percentage of children in Prep on the Severe Disability Register (SDR) attending mainstream schooling	90.7%	–	2007
29 Children Attend and Enjoy School				
29.1	Absence rates for all government schools	8.3%	–	2007
29.2	Percentage of children and young people in primary and secondary schools with 30 or more days of unexplained absence (government schools only)	3.0%	–	2007
29.3	Rate of children and young people suspended for 30 or more days per year (government schools only)	0.9 per 1,000	–	2007
29.4	Average score of how connected children feel with peers (out of 100)	76.8	–	2008
30 Support for Teenage Parents				
30.1	Percentage of teen parents enrolled in the cu@home program	16.5%	–	2007–08

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Data Collection and Reporting

Data were collected from a wide variety of sources including Tasmanian Government departments, Australian Government departments and a comprehensive telephone survey. Where possible, up to six years of data were provided by data custodians and disaggregated according to age, gender and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. Once collected, this information was imported into a purpose-built database designed to report data in a uniform and consistent manner.

The advantages of using this database include the ability to efficiently disseminate data throughout government agencies, to generate tailored reports to suit specific requirements, and utilise sophisticated data mining technology to identify trends and correlations that are not immediately apparent.

The establishment of this carefully designed and implemented database will support the continued collection and monitoring of outcomes data through an increased degree of automation in the collection and reporting of required indicators.

Using and Interpreting the Data in this Report

In addition to summary data provided in the Kids Come First Outcomes Framework, a selection of indicators has been reviewed in detail to describe how Tasmania's children are faring against various markers of development. These markers include children and young people's health, development, learning, safety and wellbeing.

In order to compare differences between various geographic regions, a statistical test called the Wilson Score Interval was used. This test determines with 95% confidence if an area, LGA or suburb performed better or worse than the state average. Rating performance better or worse than the state average is dependent upon the attributes of the indicator in question; for example, a high rate of exclusive breastfeeding is desirable, compared with low birth weight, where a low rate is desirable.

Where no indication of difference from the state average is provided, this may be due to insufficient data for a statistically significant conclusion to be drawn or the fact there is no statistical difference. In addition, data for small LGAs such as Tasman, Central Highlands, Flinders and King Island should be used with caution due to small population numbers, which makes it difficult to draw conclusions about specific numbers or rates with confidence. For more information on the Wilson Score Interval, please refer to Appendix F.

No statistical analysis has been undertaken regarding differences between LGAs or the magnitude of difference between LGAs and the state average. Further work is required to statistically verify these statements.

Where appropriate, national or best-practice comparisons or targets for selected indicators have been included. Comparisons have not been provided where appropriate data are not available.

When reviewing the selected indicators, a number of points need to be considered.

- Population-based calculations have been based on 2006 Census data. More recent population projections have not been used due to the absence of population data available at the suburb level after the 2006 Census. It should also be noted that where small populations are reported, there is a possibility of substantial variation from the true value due to change in population size over time from 2006 onwards.
- For some indicators there may be small differences in calculation methods between Tasmanian data and comparative data, e.g. different methods used to calculate relevant populations. Where significant differences do exist, comparative data have not been used.
- Data from the suburbs of Granton and Trevallyn have been assigned to the respective LGAs of Glenorchy and West Tamar, as each of these suburbs traverses LGA and regional boundaries.
- Every effort has been made to assign client localities to defined ABS suburbs. Where this has not been possible, unknown clients have been included in the state totals or regional totals but not in the LGA totals.
- Regional boundaries for DHHS, Tasmania Police and the Department of Education are identical (see reference maps for more detail) except for Bicheno Primary School, which is part of Learning Services (North) even though it is located in the Glamorgan/Spring Bay LGA. All other schools in the Glamorgan/Spring Bay LGA are part of Learning Services (South East).
- Rates per 1,000 or 100,000 rather than percentages have been used for selected indicators due to low numbers and/or to align with international standards or other comparative figures.
- Suburb data for the Burnie LGA have not been mapped for a number of indicators due to data coding issues that have been identified within the Burnie LGA. These issues include inconsistent coding practices for the suburbs of Burnie, Acton and Acton Park.

Limitations and Gaps

There are certain important outcome areas or indicators where there are limited or no data for Tasmanian children. These include mental health, healthy weight in childhood, disability and measurable subjective indicators of children's wellbeing. There are also only limited data on sub groups of the population who are known to be more vulnerable, such as children in out-of-home care, Aboriginal children and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Mental health

Maternal depression both in the antenatal and post-natal period is common, and known to be associated with a range of long-term adverse health and development consequences for mother and infant.^{25,26} In Victoria, a large randomised trial in both rural and metropolitan areas found a prevalence of post-natal depression of 15% among mothers six months after birth.²⁷

25. Murray, L., and Cooper, B. (1997). Effects of postnatal depression on infant development. *Archives of Disease Childhood*, 77(2),99-101.

26. Kovalenko, N. et al. (2000) The perinatal period: early interventions for mental health. The Australian Early Intervention Network for Mental Health in Young People. <http://www.auseinet.flinders.edu.au>

27. Lumley et al 2006.

Currently Tasmania's child health nurses screen for maternal depression at six weeks and six months, using the internationally validated Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale. An earlier report indicated rates of depression in Tasmania of 13% at six weeks and 11% at six months.²⁸ However, currently the participation in the screening is not high, and it is thought that many women with depression now access GPs and psychologists directly. They may be less likely to attend for nurse health assessments at six weeks and six months, hence the screening results no longer represent a true sample and so are not reported here.

The only other available data on parental mental health are in relation to the numbers of clients of mental health services who are living with children in the household. This is an important indicator as it allows planning for programs of early intervention and prevention, since we know that children of parents with mental illness are twice as likely to develop psychological disorders or mental illness compared to children in the general population.²⁹

Healthy weight

While we do not have recent reliable Tasmanian data for overweight and obesity, the Australian rates from the recent National Health Survey 2007–08 (which included Tasmanian data) suggest that 25% of children aged 5–17 are overweight or obese and over 60% of adults aged over 18 are overweight or obese. In this study 17% of children were classified as overweight and 7.8% as obese, and the number of males who were obese (9.7%) was higher than females (5.8%).³⁰

Data are also available from the *Longitudinal Study of Australian Children*, which included a very small Tasmanian sample. This study found that at age four to five 15.2% of Australian pre-schoolers were estimated to be overweight, and 5.5% obese. There was a marked socio-economic gradient, with the highest rates of overweight and obesity found in children living in families with the highest rates of social disadvantage.³¹

Disability

At present there are very limited Tasmanian data available on either the number or severity of children and young people with a disability.

The ABS 2003 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers found that nationally around 10% of children aged 5–14 years had a disability, and of these around half (or 5%) had profound or severe core activity limitations.³² These are the data we have used for indicator 5.3, as there are no more recent Tasmanian data. Data are, however, available from the Department of Education in respect of children enrolled with Early Childhood Intervention Services, and attendance at mainstream schools. DHHS is currently examining the possibility of developing a new information system that will include reporting for children with a disability. It is clearly important to have timely and reliable data in order to plan responsive services. Children with a disability can have diverse physical and/or intellectual impairments, which may result in limitations to participation

and activity. This in turn may restrict their full involvement in society and can create serious financial hardship for families.³³

Family violence

Children and young people are present in around 60% of homes where family violence occurs, either directly witnessing or hearing verbal or physical abuse.³⁴ As a result they may live in an atmosphere of fear, tension and confusion, as well as often assuming a care-taking role beyond their years for either a parent or younger siblings. Anxiety, depression, guilt and low self-esteem may result, and post-traumatic-stress disorder is also common.

In Tasmania, Safe at Home³⁵ is an integrated response to family violence, enabled by the *Family Violence Act 2004*, and offering a range of services working together to protect and support victims of family violence. These include both individual and group work support and counselling for affected children.

While data are collected regarding children affected by family violence, there are a number of data issues that need to be addressed before accurate data can be reported as part of this framework.

Subjective wellbeing indicators of children and young people

It was identified that existing frameworks frequently do not measure the subjective experience of the people they are intended to benefit, namely children and young people. There are reports that aim to provide an overview of the wellbeing of children.³⁶ The majority, however, record what adult carers report about children's wellbeing, as in the Tasmanian Child Health and Wellbeing Survey, or define wellbeing as the absence of deficits across the child's life.

For example, one of the strongest positive wellbeing indicators is positive relationships with others, particularly parents. Provision of support to parents or family does not necessarily provide children with the support they require to deal with their problems. Examples include the proportion of children and young people who have a trusted adult in their life, and the proportion of children who feel their parents listen to them and spend enough time with them.

The data necessary to evaluate these "subjective wellbeing indicators" are not generally part of government data collection routines. Relevant data therefore can only be obtained by surveying young people. The resources required to complete such a process have prevented such indicators being included in the Kids Come First Outcomes Framework. However, options for the measurement of the subjective wellbeing indicators of young people should be explored in the future, including the possibility of outsourcing a survey of young people to strengthen the Kids Come First framework. Further discussion regarding the potential identification and collection of these indicators is provided in the Commissioner for Children's report titled *Children's Views on Wellbeing – Consultation Proposal*.³⁷

28. Bennett, E. (2001) A universal screening program for Postnatal Depression in Tasmania. Presented at the 1st Congress on Women's Mental Health, Berlin, March 2–31, 2001

29. Leverton, T. (2003) Parental psychiatric illness: the implications for children. *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*, 16:395-402.

30. Australian Bureau of Statistics, (2009). National Health Survey: summary of results, 2007–08. ABS, Cat.No: 4364. May 2009

31. Wake, M., Hardy, P., Canterford, L., Sawyer, M., and Carlin, J.B. (2006) Overweight, obesity and girth of Australian pre-schoolers: prevalence and socio-economic correlates. *International Journal of Obesity*, 31, 1044-1051.

32. Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat. no 4430.055.001 Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Disability and Long Term Health Conditions, table 1 (2004)

33. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2008) Key national indicators of children's health, development and wellbeing. Bulletin 58, April 2008.