

Your privacy

Growing Up in Australia:
The Longitudinal Study of
Australian Children



The Growing Up in Australia study

Growing Up in Australia is conducted in partnership between the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS), with advice provided by a consortium of leading researchers. Roy Morgan, a research company, is responsible for the data collection for the study.

This brochure describes the privacy policies for *Growing Up in Australia*. Privacy is very important to us. Strict procedures are followed to ensure that only authorised people have access to the information provided to us and that all interviewers, researchers and others involved in the study comply with the *Privacy Act 1988*.

Our commitment to privacy

All providers involved in collecting the survey information adhere to the Research Society (RS) code of professional ISO 20252 standards and the Australian Privacy Principles (or APPs). You can find further information on privacy in relation to the study, including the study's Privacy Statement on our website.

What information is collected?

Information, or data, is collected as part of the survey. This includes both personal and sensitive information. Personal information is defined as any information or opinion about an identified individual. Any details relating to race, ethnicity or health are considered sensitive information. More information on privacy definitions as used in the study is available at: oaic.gov.au/privacy/australian-privacy-principles

Why is this data collected?

Your data is collected for a research study. You provide your information for the *Growing Up in Australia* study on a voluntary basis. It will only be used for:

- research and statistical purposes
- maintaining contact with study participants for the purposes of the study.

If a person withdraws their consent, the study will no longer collect data from the person withdrawing. Data previously released to approved researchers will continue to be used and form part of the study.

Where consent for data linkage has previously been provided, participants must explicitly notify the study if they wish to withdraw their consent to any future data linkage. More information on data linkage can be found in the Data Linkage brochure or on our website.



What personal and/or sensitive information is collected about you from others?

Parents/guardians of young adult participants

Parents and/or guardians may be asked to participate in a telephone survey.

Personal information about parents and/or guardians may be collected from the young person and their other parent(s).

Examples of personal information that may also be collected about parents and/or guardians include details of relationships, financial support provided to the young person, and contact details.

Young adult participants in the study

Personal and sensitive information about young people may be collected from parents and/or guardians. This may include questions about health and relationships with parents and/or guardians.

Other members of households where an interview is conducted

On occasion, we may also collect sensitive information from other people who are living with *Growing Up in Australia* participants. This may include household members.

Information collected may include name, sex, age, date of birth, country of birth and year of arrival in Australia, language, medical conditions and disability status. This information enables us to better understand the households study participants are living in.

We treat all information, whether it is provided by study young people or their family or household members, under the same strict privacy conditions. Provision of information is voluntary. Young people, family and household members

may choose not to have their information included in the study and *Growing Up in Australia* will not collect data from study participants who withdraw. De-identified data previously released will continue to be used and form part of the *Growing Up in Australia* study.

Why does the study collect sensitive information?

To understand the factors that impact how young people grow up and develop, it is important for us to ask some sensitive questions. Also, to gain a good understanding of the environment young people grow up in, it is important to collect some personal or sensitive information about all the people the young person lives with (and any parental figures living elsewhere).

To accurately identify changes in households over time, we need to confirm whether the same or different people are in the household. This may mean that some people in your household are given identifying information, such as name and date of birth, about other members of the household. We only do this to ensure that the information we have is accurate and that we are asking about the correct person. This information is not passed on to anyone else.

How is the data used?

Growing Up in Australia collects information using a variety of methods including paper forms, online, telephone and face-to-face interviews.

The purpose of the study is to provide data that enables a comprehensive understanding of the development of young people growing up in Australia today. The study gives policy makers and researchers access to quality data, which is used to help the government plan future policies and services.

International researchers from various fields can also apply to become approved data users (as for all data users, the data will be de-identified so no individual can be identified). By comparing *Growing Up in Australia* data with data from similar longitudinal studies conducted in other countries, similarities and differences between countries can be explored.

To find out more about the data and how it is being used, please contact us by:

Phone: 1800 005 508

Email: info@growingupinaustralia.gov.au

Website: growingupinaustralia.gov.au

How will my data be stored?

To ensure your online survey information is kept secure, we use strong encryption technology. This means that the information you provide is only accessed by study team members authorised to do so. To protect your stored data, multilevel password protection is used on all electronic storage systems.

How we prevent data breaches

We take the security of your information very seriously and take all reasonable precautions to actively protect your information from misuse. Roy Morgan ensures your information is stored securely in Australia and in line with strict data security standards set by the Australian Cyber Security Centre and the Information Security Management System standard ISO 27001. Your information is encrypted and is only accessed by authorised study team members on a need-to-know basis.

Duty of care

While in most circumstances we keep the information you provide strictly confidential, if you tell us you are going to hurt yourself or someone else, or you are being hurt, we will have to tell someone who can help you. If you tell us someone is hurting you, we might be required by law to report it.

How will my data be handled?

We will only publish your data in combined or aggregate form; that is, only grouped results will be shared and you (or your family) will not be personally identifiable.

If we share your information with other agencies, approved researchers and policy makers, it will be de-identified. All information that can identify you, such as names and addresses, will be removed. Strict procedures are followed by all agencies to ensure that all information collected is kept secure and strictly confidential.

If the organisation responsible for future data collection phases of the study changes, Roy Morgan will be required to disclose your information to that organisation.

Data released to approved researchers and policy makers is de-identified (this means names, addresses and any other information that could identify you is removed).

Who handles my data?

The DSS funds AIFS to manage the study. The DSS does not have access to personal information about survey participants. AIFS is responsible for survey design and implementation, data management and data linkage. The *Growing Up in Australia* team at AIFS also does not have access to personal information about survey participants. Roy Morgan is the research company commissioned to provide professional interviewers for the study. Roy Morgan requires your personal information to contact you to take part in the study interviews.

Data linkage

With your permission, we would like to link your *Growing Up in Australia* data to some other data sources.

This year we are seeking permission to link:

- data on your university and VET (Vocational Education and Training) studies
- Centrelink data (for 19–21 year olds).

You can view the documents relating to data linkage on our website growingupinaustralia.gov.au/data-linkage or by scanning the QR code here:



Contact information

Ethics

If you have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of the study, you may contact the AIFS Ethics Committee secretariat at ethicssecretariat@aifs.gov.au or (03) 9214 7921. The Ethics Committee secretariat is not connected with the research project and can facilitate a resolution to your concern in an impartial manner.

Accessing or correcting your personal information

Under the *Privacy Act 1988*, you are entitled to access, or seek correction of, personal information held about you by the study.

You can do this at any time by contacting the *Growing Up in Australia* study by:

Phone: 1800 005 508

Email: info@growingupinaustralia.gov.au

Writing to (no postage stamp required): *Growing Up in Australia*, Reply Paid GPO Box 2282, Melbourne VIC 3001

Further information

Further information on privacy in relation to the *Growing Up in Australia* study and the *Growing Up in Australia* Privacy Statement can be found at:

Website: growingupinaustralia.gov.au/privacy-ethics

Phone: 1800 005 508

Further information on privacy in relation to Roy Morgan can be found at:

Website: roymorgan.com/legal/privacy

Phone: 1800 337 332

Further information on privacy in relation to the DSS including the DSS Privacy Policy can be found at:

Website: dss.gov.au/privacy-policy

Phone: 1800 634 035

Further information on privacy in relation to AIFS including the AIFS Privacy Policy can be found at:

Website: aifs.gov.au/privacy

Phone: 03 9214 7888

Email: privacy@aifs.gov.au

If you have a privacy complaint in relation to the *Growing Up in Australia* study, you may lodge a complaint by:

Email: privacyofficer@roymorgan.com

Writing to: Privacy Officer, Roy Morgan, GPO BOX 2282, Melbourne VIC 3001

For general advice on privacy, or if you are not satisfied with Roy Morgan's Privacy Officer's response, you can contact the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner by visiting:

Website: oaic.gov.au/privacy/privacy-complaints

Writing to: GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001



Growing Up in Australia has been approved by the Australian Institute of Family Studies Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee ensures that the *Growing Up in Australia* study meets the ethical standards outlined in the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans. If you have any ethical concerns with the conduct of the study, you may contact the AIFS Ethics Committee Secretariat on (03) 9214 7888 or ethicssecretariat@aifs.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Institute of Family Studies acknowledges the traditional Country throughout Australia on which we gather, live, work and stand. We acknowledge all Traditional Custodians, their Elders past, present and future, and we pay our respects to their continuing connection to their culture, community, land, sea and rivers.

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