



Strategic Plan Research 2024

Prepared for The Office of the Advocate for Children
and Young People (ACYP) | September 2024

Background, objectives and context

Background and objectives

The Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People launched its second whole-of-government Plan for all children and young people in NSW in August 2024.

The Plan brings together initiatives undertaken across government under six core commitment areas:

- Hope for the future
- Love, connection and safety
- Health and wellbeing
- A good standard of living
- Environments for joy and fun
- Respect and acceptance

These pillars are shown in more detail on the next slide. The objectives of this research is to provide a robust and independent measure of the issues that underpin the pillars of its strategic plan. This includes measuring key metrics each year to track outcomes of children and young people across NSW.

Contextual considerations

When interpreting the results of this report it is important to consider the following contextual milestones for the 2024 wave of this survey:

- Ongoing cost of living and housing crisis, including inquiries into grocery prices at major supermarkets
- Outlawing importing, manufacturing and supplying vapes.
- 2024 Paris Olympics.
- Conflict between Israel and Palestine causing widespread protests around the country.
- Right to Disconnect laws came into effect.
- Local Council elections.
- Lead up to the US Election.
- Multiple data breaches from Ticketmaster, Optus and a significant outage from Microsoft

This report presents findings from the fourth wave of tracking research conducted in late August and early September of 2024 and tracking from 2021.

Methodology

Fieldwork and methodology

A 15-minute, self-complete online survey with 1,017 young people in NSW aged 10-24 years

The fieldwork period ran from 16 – 30 August 2024.

Participants were sourced via the Octopus Group research panel. Young people aged 14-24 years were recruited directly from the panel. Those aged 10-13 years were recruited from the panel via their parents.

All participants who completed the survey received an incentive payment commensurate with the source panel's usual protocols.

Other methodological notes:

- ◆ Survey questions and sample sizes are shown at the bottom of each page.
- ◆ Results may not always total 100% due to rounding or multiple-response questions.
- ◆ To ensure data reliability, results are typically only shown when the sample size is at least n=30.

Sample design

Quota targets were set to provide a good cross section of children and young people across demographic subgroups.

Cell weighting was applied to the sample to match population benchmarks (ABS Census) for age, gender, location, CALD and First Nations status.

The table below shows (unweighted) sample sizes by subgroup and the associated margin of error (**at a 95% confidence interval**).

	n=	MoE %
Total	1,010	3.1
Males	506	4.4
Females	504	4.4
Age 10-17	501	4.4
Age 18-24	509	4.3
Greater Sydney	706	3.7
Rest of NSW	304	5.6

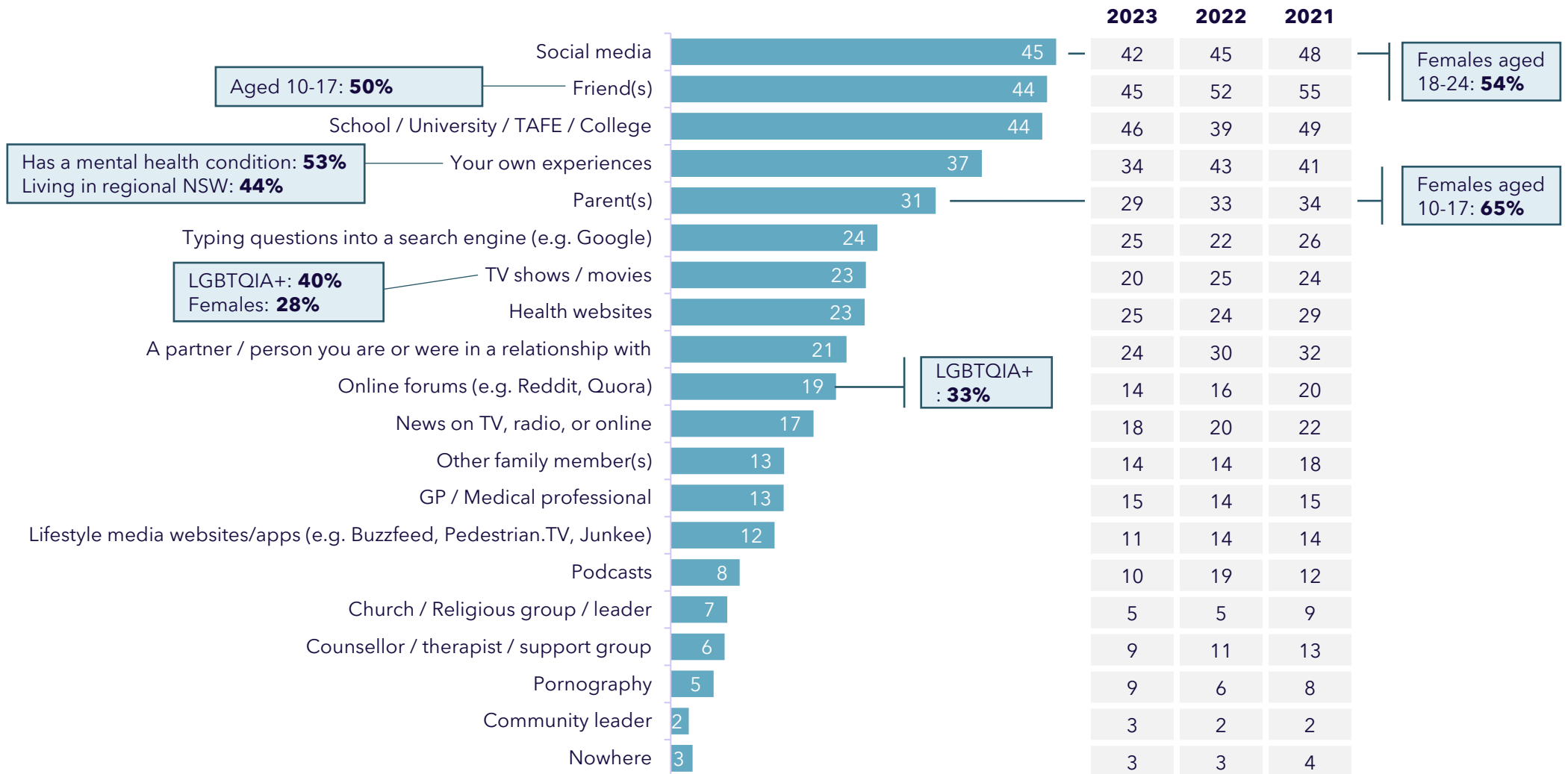
Sexual consent



Information sources for respectful relationships

Social media has become the primary source of learning about sexual consent (especially for females aged 18-24), closely followed by formal education and friends - although there appears to be a trend away from young people discussing consent with their friends.

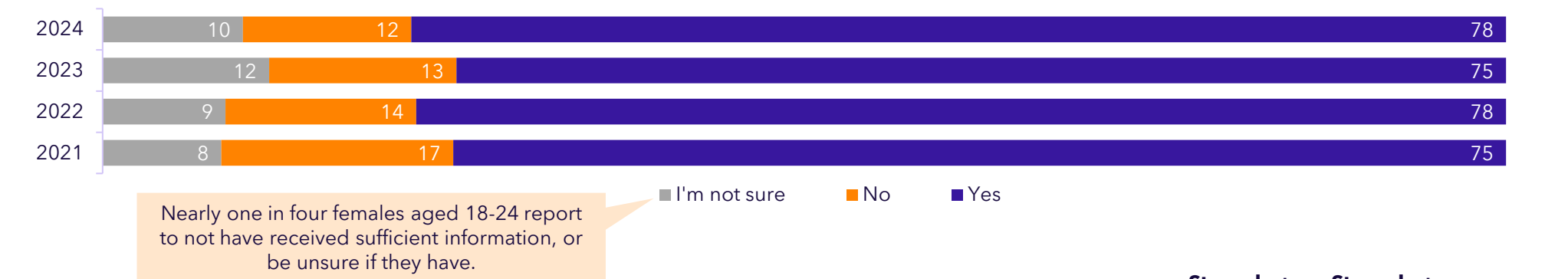
Sources of information about sexual consent or respectful relationships (%)



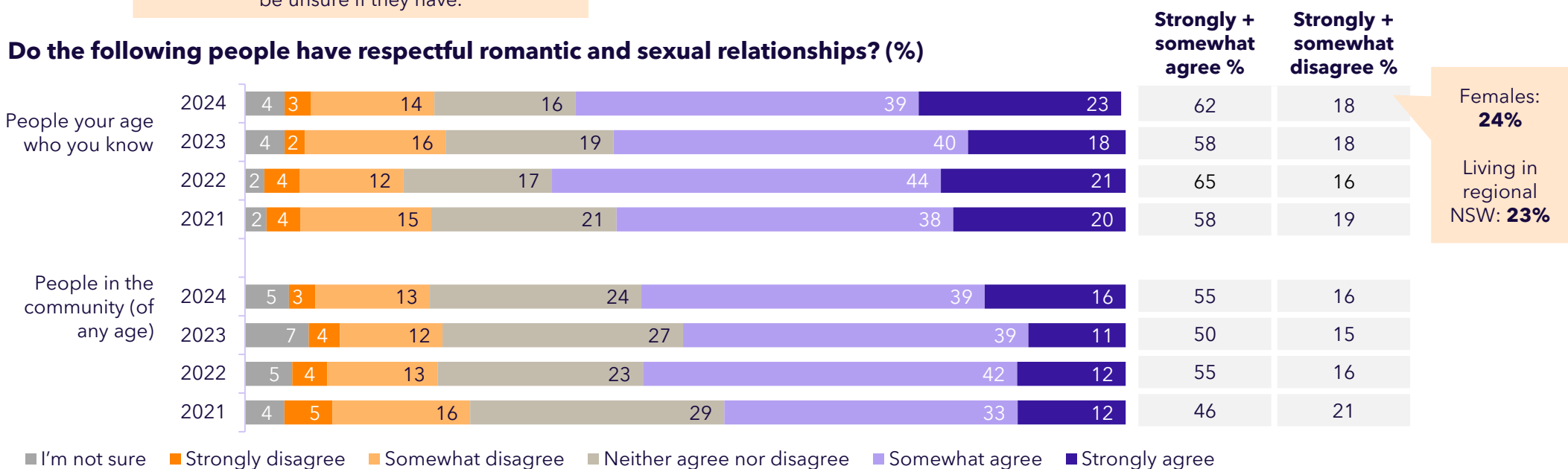
Consent and relationship information and role modelling

A majority of young people continue to feel they have enough information on sexual consent and respectful relationships. While they are still more likely to feel their peers have respectful relationships compared to the broader community, the gap is narrowing.

Sufficient information on sexual consent and respectful relationships (%)



Do the following people have respectful romantic and sexual relationships? (%)



Appendix



Sample profile *UNWEIGHTED*

Gender	%	n
Male	50	502
Female	49	499
A gender not listed here	0.89	9

Age

10 - 13 years	20	199
14 - 15 years	15	152
16 - 17 years	15	150
18 - 20 years	18	184
21 - 24 years	32	325

Location

Greater Sydney	70	706
Rest of NSW	30	304

Occupation

Primary school	11	108
High school	40	404
TAFE or other VET training	7	67
University	21	217
Part time	11	110
Casual	11	112
Full time	16	162
Not working or studying	3	32

Do any of the following apply to you...	%	n
In out of home care	1	7
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	7	67
Speak a language other than English at home	18	185
Refugee or migrant who has arrived in Australia in the last 5 years	1	12
LGBTIQA+	8	81
Have been given a warning or caution by police (other than for minor traffic offences)	2	16
Have been arrested by police	1	6
Have been detained in a juvenile justice centre	0	2
Young parent	10	96
Experiencing financial difficulty	18	181

Disability status

Physical disability	1	12
Chronic / ongoing illness	4	36
Visual disability	2	18
Hearing disability	0.4	4
Mental illness	14	142
Autism	5	48
Intellectual disability	1	9
Learning disability	4	39
Other disability	1	13

Dependence status

Dependent	81	817
Independent	19	193



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