

Across Australia, there are approximately 2.65 million informal carers, around 10.8% of the population; 861,600 primary carers and 1.79 million non-primary carers (ABS 2019).

Around one in nine (10.8%) Australians provided unpaid care to people with disability and older Australians

**Carers SA is the *Voice of Carers* in South Australia and provides services and supports to carers, including services under the Carer Gateway across SA.**

***COMMITMENTS SOUGHT FROM SA GOVERNMENT TO SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CARERS:***

**Adopt an up-to-date, consistent and clear approach to Respect and Recognition of SA's Carers**

- Build budget and resource capacity within strategic operations of the South Australian Government to pursue, take part in and support projects and committees across Governments, that further the Recognition of Carers. , including state support for the recommendations listed in the Carers Australia Federal Pre-Budget submissions.
- Resource the development of a SA State Carer Strategy and an update of the South Australian Carer Recognition Act.
- Adopt a meaningful, co-design approach with carers in the development of services and policy across all areas of Government business that are touch-points of carers.
- Set in place meaningful measures and public reporting on progress and outcomes for carers.
- Provide state support to national initiatives to develop a National Carer Strategy to demonstrate a real commitment to the crucial role of carers.

**Young Carers require meaningful, partisan Whole of Government and Services Sector support**

- Address funding gaps in the provision of services and supports for young carers in regards, to their wellbeing, their caring role, education and citizenship.
- Interventions and supports must have either direct services or entry options to available and suitable supports at key young carer touch points, i.e.: Health, education, youth recreation and young carer services. Intervention and support models must be based on child and adolescent development and wellbeing research, to ensure that the rights of children and young adults to age appropriate development, to play, and peer equality in education outcomes are achievable.

**Carers and others from Vulnerable Populations deserve access and service equality**

- Increase health and wellbeing outcomes for First Nation carers as 'partners in care' as well as consumers of the South Australian Health System.
- Address process and operational procedures, which in practice, limit the engagement and access to services for carers and consumers from vulnerable populations.
- Measure the access to interventions and services as well as the health and wellbeing outcomes of vulnerable populations within the health system.
- Publish progress outcome reports that are based on Result Based Accountability principles.

**Carers SA pledges its support to the SA Government during discussions and as a partner in activities towards achieving these commitments for the benefit of carers and the wellbeing of the South Australian community.**

## Carers Snapshot - South Australia

- 181,300 carers in SA – nationally = 2,645,600
- 46,700 older carers in SA (65+)
- 25,000 to 30,000 young carers under 25 years in SA (Carers SA estimate).
- The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS 2015) calculated 28,000
- 56,100 are primary carer
- 5.3% are Aboriginal carers (population estimate)
- 69% of carers live in the Adelaide metropolitan area
- 21% in inner regional
- 9% in remote areas

## Further Reading – References

ABS 2019 – Disability Ageing and Carers (SDAC) Statistical Findings 2018

<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4430.0.30.002Main+Features12018>

Australian Human Rights Commission, 2020, Wiyi Yani U Thangani—(Women’s Voices)—Securing Our Rights, Securing Our Future Report 2020 – [Population data an First Nation Women’s and girl’s insights] <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-social-justice/publications/wiyi-yani-u-thangani>

Carers SA – National Carer Survey 2020 – South Australian Summary (n:2255) Nov 2020

<https://www.carerssa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/National-Carers-Survey-SA-Data-Report-final.pdf>

Carers Australia - National Carer Survey 2020 – Summary Report (n:7735): <https://www.carerssa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/2020-National-Carer-Survey-Report.pdf>

Carers Australia - Pre-Budget Submission August 2020 - <https://www.carersaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2020-21Carers-Australia-Pre-budget-submission.pdf>

Health Performance Council 2020, Stakeholder consultation report: [SA’s Local Health Networks related] **experiences for people living with disability** Download the report about this consultation held in March-April 2020 . *Also available as an easy-read edition*

Health Performance Council 2020 Audit Report: **Institutional racism in South Australia’s Local Health Networks** – can be accessed via: their Sept 2020 Health Performance Council summary report and their Full audit report

## Young Carer Specific - evidence research

Carers SA 2017, Resource Document “Key Transition Points for Young Carers – Supporting Young Carers through Key Transitions”, <https://www.carerssa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Young-Carer-Transition-Points-Sector-Resource-May-2017.pdf>

Carers SA 2016, Report “Young Carers What Next” <https://www.carerssa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Young-Carers-Sector-Forum-Paper-Research-Oct-2016.pdf>

EU – Me-We Project – for a European Perspective on wellbeing of adolescent young carers: <https://www.vilans.org/project/me-we-wellbeing-of-adolescent-young-carers/>

Poulton, R. et.al. 2015, The Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Study: overview of the first 40 years, with an eye to the future Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol. 2015; 50(5): 679–693. Published online 2015 Apr 3. doi: 10.1007/s00127-015-1048-8

South Australian Commissioner for Children and Young People, 2020, “Take Care Report: What can be done at school to support children and young people with caring responsibilities at home” <https://www.cccyp.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Screen-Take-Care-Report-4.pdf>

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