

FUTURE HEALTHY COUNTDOWN 2030

Measuring what matters for good health and wellbeing for all of Australia's children and young people

Presentation to Second National Forum:
Setting Australia's Wellbeing Agenda
June 2024

Presenter: Dr Carolyn Wallace
cwallace@vichealth.vic.gov.au



Presentation overview

- Who's behind the Countdown
- Why we need the Countdown
- What we hope to achieve
- The story so far
- Policy Priorities of the Countdown
- What we've learnt



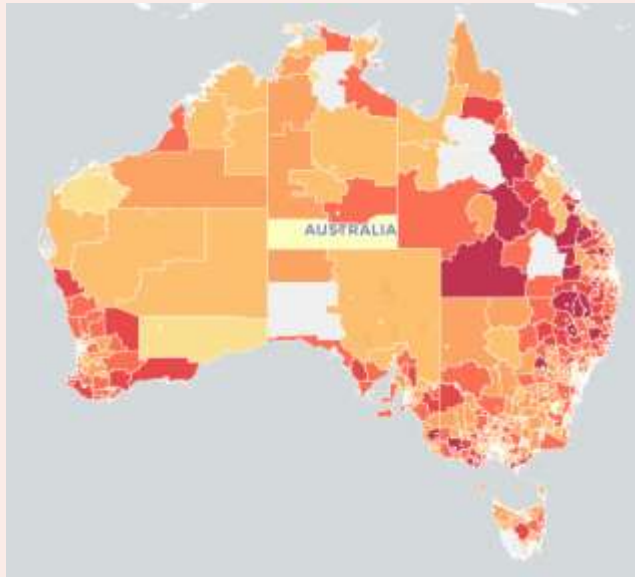
Partners



Why we need the Countdown



Inequalities across all wellbeing domains for children and young people



In some cases, outcomes are getting worse not better, e.g.

- Subjective wellbeing 15–19-year-olds happy or very happy: 71% (2012) 58% (2020)
- Suicide deaths per 100,000 15-24 year-olds: 10.3 (2007) 14.1 (2019)

Continued gap between wellbeing of general population and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, e.g.

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under 18 years are 7 times more likely to be in out of home care than the population average.

The domains



What we hope to achieve

1. Identify key policy levers and associated targets and indicators to effect meaningful change for all children, young people and future generations in a 6-year timespan.
2. Provide policy cut through, focus and amplification, NOT duplication, competition.
3. Incorporate the active participation of young people and children.
4. Report on progress and identify opportunities through an annual supplement in the Medical Journal of Australia (MJA).
5. Create a coalition of actors who will work together to embed policy change.



The story so far

1. Growing a coalition of researchers, institutions, policy actors
2. Published a [special issue of the Medical Journal of Australia](#) Nov 2023- 27 authors including 13 young people
3. Launch at Parliament House on 27 November 2023, featuring some of our young authors and showcased, the [Australian Child and Youth Wellbeing Atlas](#).
4. Survey and consensus building workshop March 2024 to finalise Countdown Priorities- 61 experts- 24% of these young people
5. 2024 special issue to Medical Journal of Australia will feature the Countdown and focus on the Participating domain
6. Increasing input from young people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in authorship and governance



Policy priorities

- The Countdown will present one policy priority for each domain and an overarching policy priority
- There are associated targets and indicators for each priority
- This will be published in a special supplement of the Medical Journal of Australia November 2024, along with other papers adding to the evidence base for the COuntdown



What we've learnt

- Different actors have different viewpoints and blind spots
- Most domains are missing strength-based indicators
- Need to maintain strong connections with other actors and indicator/data experts
- Meaningful involvement of children and young people is richly rewarding, but there are barriers to address
- Challenge to create a simple and compelling policy platform backed by data to cover all domains for 0-24 year-olds!!!





Scan to access the
full FHC2030

And watch this space
for further updates...

Thank you.

