

ARCSHS survey data informs public health prevention strategies in South Australia

Preventive Health SA is a state government agency dedicated to enhancing the health and wellbeing of South Australians through evidence-based prevention programs and policies. Established in 2024, it has identified a number of prevention priorities including obesity, tobacco, vaping, mental health, suicide, alcohol and other drugs.

In 2025, Preventive Health SA engaged a team at La Trobe's [Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society](#) (ARCSHS) to provide them with a secondary analysis of data specific to these prevention priorities collected through the ARCSHS led surveys Private Lives, Writing Themselves In, and Pride and Pandemic.

The analysis identifies the frequency of each priority outcome, the factors that were found to be associated with each outcome (the social determinants), as well as key messages and recommendations.

ARCSHS survey data is recognised by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) as the 'largest and most comprehensive available for the LGBTQ+ population' in Australia and is used by the AIHW as the basis for its datasets on LGBTQA+ communities.

It was used to identify LGBTQA+ people as a priority population for mental health and suicidality for the first time in Australia in The National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement, and has informed the Disability Royal Commission, LGBTIQ+ Strategies in Victoria, NSW and the ACT, and the 10-year LGBTIQ+ Health and Wellbeing Action Plan developed by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

In December 2024, the federal government announced \$2 million in funding to support the next iterations of Private Lives and Writing Themselves In.

Now, in South Australia, ARCSHS data is being used to inform public health prevention priorities.

Read the report here: [LGBTQA+ Health and Wellbeing in South Australia](#)