

# A snapshot of Australia's children & families

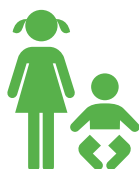
There are over 6.1 million families in Australia, including people related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering. Approximately 5.2 million children and young people (0-18 years) live in Australia, making up almost 22% of the total Australian population. 5% are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. Couples with dependent children make up 45 per cent of all Australian families. Single parent families with dependent children make up 16 percent of all Australian families.



**Every day in Australia there are more than 167 substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect.**  
AIHW 15/16



**Children under one year old are most likely to be the subject of substantiated abuse and neglect.**  
AIHW 15/16



**41 per cent of children unable to live with their parents are living with a foster carer.**  
AIHW 15/16

**More than 46,000 Australian children are unable to live with their parents.**  
AIHW 15/16



**Between 2012 and 2015 almost 200,000 women and children were made homeless due to family violence.**  
AIHW 2015



**Nearly a quarter of the children living in out-of-home care are under four years of age.**  
AIHW 15/16



## Key issues facing Australia's children & families

**Abuse:** Substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect increased by over 45% from 2010 to 2016. (AIHW 15/16)

**Violence:** 61% of women experienced violence from an ex-partner while children were present. (ABS 2012)

**Poverty:** Approximately 14% of all Australians, including 17% of all children (730,000) live in poverty. That equates to one child in six. (Homelessness Australia 2016)

**Homelessness:** Children under 18 years of age make up 27% of people experiencing homelessness. (ABS 2012)

**Mental illness:** One in seven young Australians experience a mental health condition (14% of children aged 4-17).  
[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

**Single parent hardship:** Children in lone parent households are more than 3 times as likely to be living in poverty. (Poverty in Australia ACOSS 2016)

**Disability:** Almost 7% of children aged 0-14 years with a severe disability live in low-income households. (ABS 2010)

**Substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect increased by 45% from 2010 to 2016**

AIHW 15/16

**1800 061 000**  
**barnardos.org.au**

### Find out more

- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), A picture of Australia's Children 2012
- AIHW, Child Protection Australia 2015-16



**Barnardos**  
**Australia**

# How Barnardos Australia helps children & families

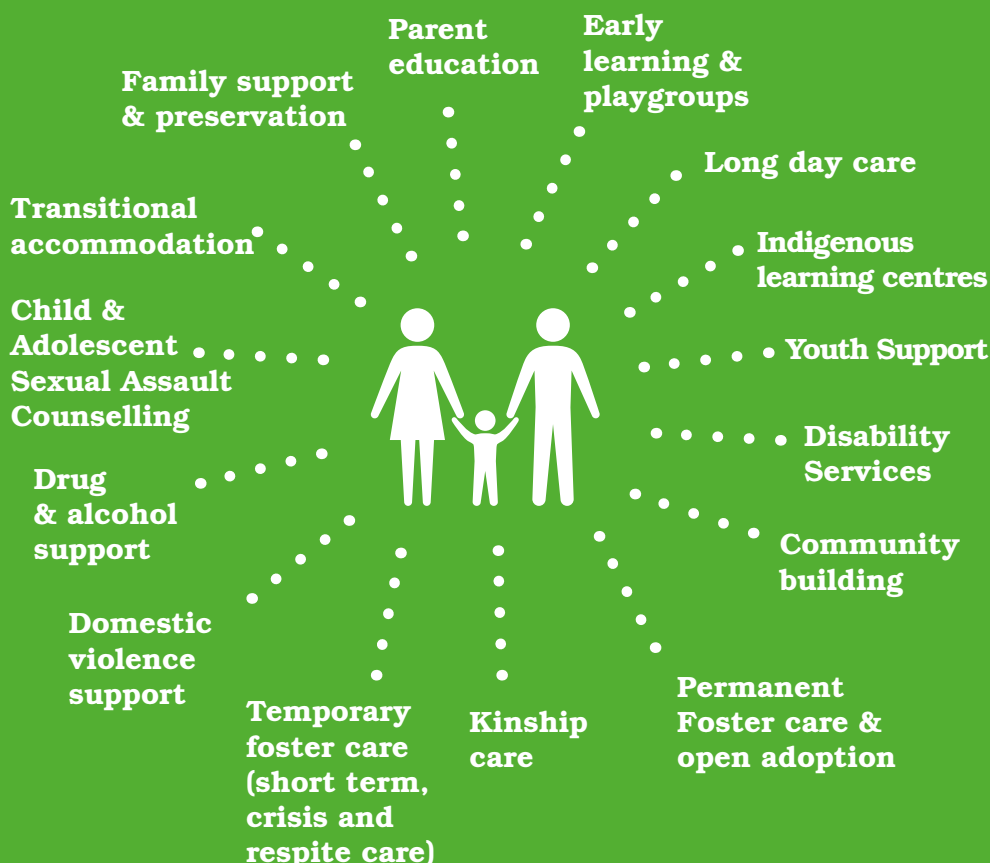
Barnardos Australia believes every child deserves a safe and stable home free from violence and neglect.

We work with families to keep children safe within their own homes. When it is not possible for a child to remain safely at home – we find safe and loving homes through foster care and open adoption.

We provide support for families suffering from poverty, social isolation, disability, mental illness, domestic violence or drug and alcohol abuse. We provide information, support and practical assistance across a range of areas including child rearing, child care, solving problems, and living with a disability.

Our programs are aimed at improving the quality of life for vulnerable children and their families.

## Barnardos Australia provides an extensive range of services to help families and their children including:

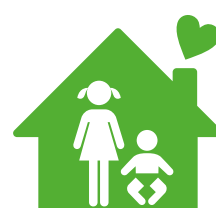


In 2016/17 we directly helped:



22,496 children through all our programs

Delivered 172 programs and services



7,857 children & young people 'at risk' of abuse were kept safe in their families

1550 children & young people kept safe through foster & kinship care



## We believe in keeping families together

1800 061 000  
barnardos.org.au



**Barnardos Australia**