

# Issues facing young people in Australia



## Out-of-home care

**46,000** children and young people are unable to live with their parents due to abuse and neglect. **47%** or more than **22,000** children in out-of-home care are aged 10-17 years.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare - Child Protection 2019-20



## Substance abuse

Alcohol and illicit drug use were the **leading causes** of total burden of disease in males aged 15-24 and the second and third leading causes (respectively) for females.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Alcohol, Tobacco and other drugs in Australia 2020



## Mental health

**1 in 7** children and young people aged 4 - 17 years experience a mental health condition in any given year.

AIHW - Australia's Youth - Mental Illness 2021



## Homelessness

**24,200** young people aged 15-24 experienced homelessness on Census night 2016.

AIHW - Australia's Youth - Homelessness and Overcrowding 2021



## Abuse

**1 in 6** girls and **1 in 9** boys were physically and/or sexually abused before the age of 15.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare - Health impacts of family, domestic and sexual violence 2020



## Care leavers

**Within one year** of exiting out-of-home care, **50%** of care leavers will be unemployed, in jail, homeless or become a new parent.

Homestretch.org.au



## Unemployment

Youth unemployment is **16%** which is more than twice that of the overall population.

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census 2016, and Labour Force, Australia, July 2020



## Poverty

**424,800** young people or Australians aged 15-24 years are living in poverty.

Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) Poverty in Australia 2020

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

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# How Barnardos helps

## Building resilience

We offer young people a chance for their voices to be heard while understanding the enormous pressure and expectations placed on them.

We prevent youth homelessness by reconnecting young people with their families, community and education, giving them the tools and resilience to deal with life's challenges.



Youth homelessness services



Counselling and mediation



Mentoring and advocacy



Youth drop-in and street outreach



Drug and alcohol services



Juvenile justice support

## Barnardos made a big impact in 2020-21!\*

**10,987**

children, young people and their families were assisted by Barnardos.

**1,262**

children in out-of-home care programs.

**35**

children adopted from out-of-home care.

**9,725**

children, young people and families supported through Safety and Prevention programs.

**4,158** children, young people and families helped through referrals and information.

**880** children and families assisted through parenting programs.

**913** children, young people and families assisted through early learning and education.

**1,808** young people assisted through youth programs.

**812** children, young people and families assisted through supported housing.

\* in NSW and ACT

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