

Issues facing children and young people in the ACT

The ACT is home to more than **82,563** children and young people aged 0-14. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up **3.8%** of the population. More than **187,000** families live in the ACT with an average of **1.8** children per family. Around **45%** are couple families with children, **29.7%** are couple families without children and **9.1%** are one-parent families.



Neglect is the second most common type of maltreatment suffered by children in the ACT (**23%**), after **emotional** (**57%**), followed by **physical** (**17%**) and **sexual** (**4%**).

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), Child Protection 2020-21

Barnardos supports vulnerable children to recover and thrive.



The rate of Indigenous children in out-of-home care in NSW is over **11 times** the rate for non-Indigenous children.

AIHW Child Protection 2020-21



1 in 6 Australian children below the age of 14 live in poverty. The ACT accounts for at least **9,000** of those children.

ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS) 2022



In 2020-21, **2,595** children received child protection services in the ACT.

AIHW Child Protection 2020-21



The number of children in foster care in the ACT has more than **tripled** since 2003.

AIHW 2020-21



As of 30 June 2021, there were **690** children living in out-of-home care in the ACT.

AIHW Child Protection 2020-21



Over 2,200 people are experiencing homelessness in the ACT. 1 in 6 were children under the age of 10 (16% or 44,200 clients).

AIHW Homelessness and Homelessness Services 2021

1800 061 000
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Issues facing children and young people in NSW

NSW is home to more than **1.3 million** (over 955,000) children aged 0-19, two-thirds of whom live in Greater Sydney. NSW is also the State with the highest number of Indigenous children and youth (113,000). More than **1.9 million** families live in NSW with an average of **1.9** children per family. Around **45%** are couple families with children, **36%** are couple families without children and **16%** are one-parent families.



There were **37,715** people in NSW classified as homeless on Census night 2016 (up 37% from 27,479 in 2011). Almost 4,000 (or 11%) were children aged under 12.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
Census 2016

We listen, we act, and we advocate for the
safety of children

at risk of abuse and neglect, providing family support programs and services that empower children to reach their full potential.



Indigenous children make up more than **46%** of all children in out of home care in NSW

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), Child Protection 2020-21



53% of children in out-of-home care in NSW have been in care for five years or more.

AIHW Child Protection 2020-21



Over **58,500** children in NSW received child protection services in 2019-20.

AIHW Child Protection 2020-21



The number of children in foster care in NSW has almost **doubled** since 2003.

AIHW Child Protection 2020-21



16,000 children in NSW are unable to live with their parents due to abuse and neglect.

AIHW Child Protection 2020-21



In 2019-20, approximately **18,000** Specialist Homelessness Services clients were escaping domestic and family violence (38% of all clients).

Homelessness NSW

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