

Issues facing families in Australia



Family violence

1 in 4
children are exposed to
domestic violence.

Australian Domestic and Family
Violence Clearinghouse 2011,
The Impact of Domestic Violence
on Children: A Literature Review



Drug abuse

Children whose parents
use drugs are **three times**
more likely to be physically,
sexually and emotionally
abused, and **four times** more
likely to be neglected.

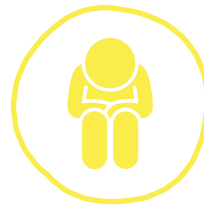
Australian Government Department of
Health 2019



Child safety

45,000
children are unable to live
with their parents due to
abuse or neglect.

Australian Institute of Health and
Welfare (AIHW) Child Protection in
Australia 2021-22



Poverty

3.3 million people in
Australia, including 761,000
children, are living in poverty.
That is **1 in 8** Australians and
1 in 6 Australian children.

Australian Council of Social Service
(ACOSS) Poverty in Australia 2023



Single parent hardship

Single parent families are
three times more likely to
be living in poverty than two
parent families.

ACOSS Poverty in Australia 2022



Homelessness

In 2021-22, **108,000**
Specialist Homelessness
Services (SHS) clients had
experienced family and
domestic violence, equating
to **39%** of all clients.

AIHW Homelessness and
Homelessness Services 2021



Disability

1 in 10
(10%) school children aged
5-18 have some level of
disability.

AIHW People with Disability in
Australia 2022



Unemployment

7.8%
households with children
are jobless families.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2022

1800 061 000
barnardos.org.au



How Barnardos helps

We keep vulnerable children and young people safe from abuse and neglect by assisting families facing issues such as violence, poverty, homelessness, drug and alcohol misuse and mental illness.



We give parents the tools and confidence to care for their children, encouraging them to be their child's first teacher, strengthening parent-child relationships and their connection to community.



We focus on early learning, school readiness and engagement. We also provide breakfast clubs and homework support through our Aboriginal learning centres.



We assist families with complex issues such as domestic violence, poverty, homelessness, drug and alcohol misuse and mental illness through wraparound services and specialist Aboriginal programs.



We provide youth homelessness services, counselling and mediation, mentoring and advocacy, youth drop-in and street outreach programs, drug and alcohol services, and juvenile justice support.



We provide short-term foster care while we work with birth parents to have their children restored. If the courts rule a child cannot safely return home, we provide permanent foster care and open adoption.

Barnardos made a big impact in 2023-24!*

14,494

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

7,465

children aged 0-17 in foster care.

56

children were safely restored to family.

5,804

children aged 0-17 assisted through our Children's Family Centres.

3,818 children, young people and families helped through referrals and information.

878 children and families assisted through parenting programs.

1,068 children, young people and families assisted through early learning and education.

1,880 young people assisted through youth programs.

686 children, young people and families assisted through supported housing.

* in NSW and ACT

1800 061 000
barnardos.org.au



Barnardos
Australia