The views of children and young people in out-of-home care in NSW

Findings from the 2018 NSW Out-Of-Home Care (OOHC) and Residential Care Surveys

The 2018 NSW OOHC and Residential Care Surveys asked children and young people (8-17 years) about their views and experiences in foster care, relative/kinship care and residential care. Data from these two surveys were provided to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) to inform the National OOHC Survey.

Key findings

- **Having a significant adult who cares about them**: 98% (NSW OOHC Survey) and 92% (NSW Residential Care Survey)
- **Having knowledge of their family background**: 97% (NSW OOHC Survey) and 92% (NSW Residential Care Survey)
- **Feeling safe and secure**: 95% (NSW OOHC Survey) and 78% (NSW Residential Care Survey)
- **Feeling connected and close to family**: 94% (NSW OOHC Survey) and 81% (NSW Residential Care Survey)

**Community activity**

- Around 7 in 10 children and young people in both surveys received adequate support to participate in sporting, cultural or community activities.

**Satisfaction with contact**

- Around 3 in 4 children and young people in both surveys were satisfied with one of more types of family contact.

**Areas for improvement**

- **Participation in decision making and feeling listened to**: 1 in 4 and 2 in 4 don’t usually get to have a say and/or usually feel listened to.
- **Leaving care planning (15-17 year olds)** around 3 in 10 and 6 in 10 were not getting as much help as they needed to make decisions about their future.

Notes:
- This infographic was produced by FACS Insights Analysis and Research, part of the NSW Department of Communities and Justice. Further publications and statistics can be found at [www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/resources).
- The aim of the surveys was to understand how children and young people are tracking against eight key indicators which map to a sub-set of the OOHC national standards: sense of security; participation; community activity; family connection; family contact; sense of community; significant person; and leaving care.
- More detailed analysis of the NSW survey results is available in the FACSIAR Report, The views and experiences of children and young people in out-of-home care.