

National Sorry Day Statement

We acknowledge the historic and continuing effects of government policies on the Stolen Generations, their families, communities and culture.

Today, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people continue to face disadvantage. In 2019-20, 1 in 3 children and young people aged 15-24 who sought assistance from homelessness services were Indigenous. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are [2.3 times more likely](#) to experience rental stress than the rest of the population.

As highlighted in the [Uluru Statement from the Heart](#), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system. In our state last year, [45% of the 251 children and young people](#) incarcerated on an average day were Indigenous. These figures are particularly alarming, considering only 6% of 10 to 17 years in NSW [in the 2016 census](#) were Indigenous.

Indigenous children and young people are also more likely to be placed in out of home care. In NSW, [40% of children in out of home care](#) are Aboriginal, despite only constituting 5% of the population.

If we are going to address this historical and current inequality, we must listen to and prioritise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices. Today on National Sorry Day, we call on the federal government to implement a constitutional Voice to Parliament.

Read more in [our submission on the Uluru Statement from the Heart here](#).