

Multi-type maltreatment in youth

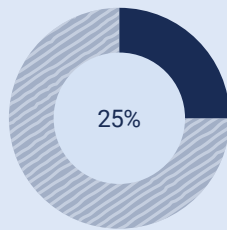
The ACMS has identified for the first time how many Australian young people aged 16-24 have experienced multi-type maltreatment. Multi-type maltreatment is when a child experiences >1 different type of maltreatment (physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or exposure to domestic violence)

Survey of 3500 Australians aged 16-24

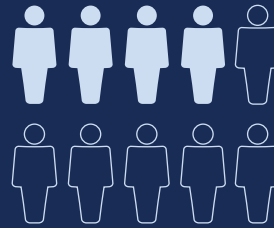


Multi-type maltreatment is concerningly common.

1 in 4
young people
experience:
3-5 types of abuse



4 in 10
young people
have experienced:
>1 type of abuse



40.2%



3.7%
of Australian
young people
have experienced:
all 5 types
of child
maltreatment

Girls are more
likely to experience:
>1
type of maltreatment



Girls are:



more likely
to experience
3-5 types



more likely
to experience
all 5 types

Each form of hardship (parental separation, family mental illness, family substance problems and family economic hardship) more than

Doubles

the risk of multi-type maltreatment

Children who experience multi-type maltreatment are more likely to have a mental disorder



and



health risk behaviours as adults

Multi-type maltreatment is associated with worse mental health and health risk behaviours, and greater health service utilisation than single-type maltreatment.

Higgins DJ, et al. (2023). The prevalence and nature of multi-type child maltreatment in Australia. Med J Aust. 218 (6).

For information about the ACMS and support services visit www.acms.au