

HOW YOUNG AUSTRALIANS ARE FARING DURING COVID-19

Every aspect of how the **3,223,000 young people** (15-24) across Australia live, learn and work has been forever changed by COVID-19 and its economic and social impacts. The effect of this will continue to be felt by young people in the decade to come.

The data and analysis presented in this factsheet is drawn from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), and a nationally representative poll of 1,020 young people (18-24), conducted by Essential Research on behalf of the Foundation for Young Australians in June 2020.

WORKING



The real youth unemployment rate¹ is likely **closer to 26%** as of May 2020.²

290,000 young people have left the labour market since March.²

Many of these young people are not looking for work because there are no jobs.

49% of young people³ say they are concerned about being unable to pay bills due to losing their job or reduced hours.

LEARNING



66% of young people³ are currently studying part-time or full-time.

73% of young people³ say the Government should invest as a priority in training and TAFE to ensure there are qualified people to do jobs that are needed.

42% of young people³ say they don't think they will find a job that is part of their long-term career plans in the next two years, if ever.

LIVING



33% of young people⁴ are living in a rental property.

66% of young people³ say that as a result of COVID-19 they have cut down their spending or made changes to their lifestyle to save money.

55% of young people³ are concerned about their mental wellbeing in the long-term as a result of COVID-19.

Right now decisions are being made that will impact how young people will live, learn and work into the future. Young people have ideas and opinions that can help inform the solutions.

78% of young people³ say that the Government should maintain support measures like JobKeeper and JobSeeker while people are getting back into work.



56% of young people³ have attended a town hall, signed a petition, attended a protest or engaged with an MP or politician on issues that they care about.

1. This is composed of young people who are officially unemployed and those have left the labour force since the pandemic began.
2. FYA analysis, ABS Labour Force Statistics, May 2020.

3. Essential Research Polling undertaken for FYA, June 2020
4. ABS, Discover your Commonwealth Electoral Division, March 2019