

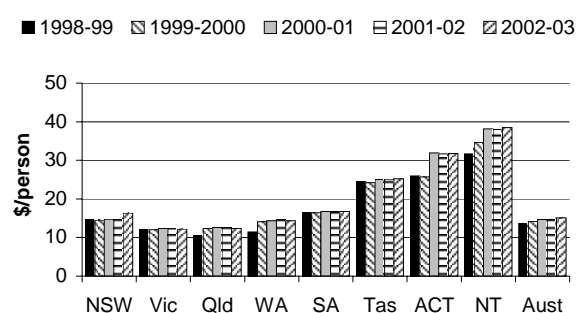
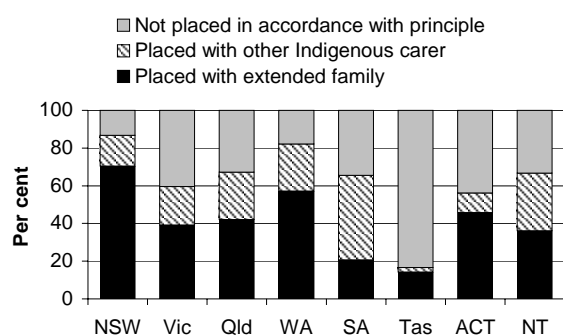
## PROTECTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES (CHAPTER 15)

- This chapter reports on child protection, out-of-home care, and supported accommodation and assistance services.
- Total recurrent expenditure on child protection and out-of-home care across Australia was \$899 million in 2002-03 (p. 15.10). Recurrent expenditure on the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) was \$297 million across Australia in 2002-03 (p. 15.35).
- Around 130 224 children were the subject of child protection notifications (12 542 Indigenous and 117 682 non-Indigenous children) in 2002-03 (p. 15.8). At 30 June 2003, 22 130 children (4803 Indigenous and 17 327 non-Indigenous) were on care and protection orders (p. 15.9), and approximately 20 297 children (4750 Indigenous and 15 547 non-Indigenous) were in out-of-home care (p. 15.10). There were around 97 600 SAAP clients in 2002-03 (table 15A.175).

### Selection of results

Indigenous children placed in accordance with the Aboriginal child placement principle, 2003 (p. 15.21)

Real recurrent SAAP funding per person in the residential population (2002-03 dollars) (p. 15.36)



See over for data and footnotes.

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- Placing children with their relatives or kin is generally preferred for all children in out-of-home care. The proportion of all children placed with relatives or kin (at 30 June 2003) ranged from 57.1 per cent in NSW to 13.9 per cent in SA (p. 15.19).
- Placing children in home-based care is generally considered to be in their best interests, particularly for younger children. The proportion of children under 12 years placed in home based-care at 30 June 2003 ranged from 99.4 per cent in Queensland to 73.3 per cent in Tasmania. In Tasmania a number of children are cared for in family group homes. As this form of placement is included in the category of residential care, the rate of home based care is lower (p. 15.20). Other significant indicators include stability of placement (p. 15.17) and child protection and out-of-home care efficiency indicators (from p. 15.22).
- SAAP indicators include: access for those seeking SAAP services (p. 15.39); existence of a support plan for SAAP clients (p. 15.42); SAAP efficiency indicators (from p. 15.43); client's labour force status (p. 15.48) and income source (p. 15.53) after receiving SAAP services.

## Progress since the 2003 Report

This Report continues to refine and improve the indicators that are reported in the Protection and Support chapter.

## Data for charts on previous page

### Placement of Indigenous children, 30 June 2003 (per cent of Indigenous children)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
Children placed in accordance with principle <sup>a, b, c</sup>								
Indigenous relative/kin	56.8	24.2	39.7	50.7	15.5	–	39.6	36.2
Non-Indigenous relative/kin	13.7	15.1	2.3	6.6	5.2	14.3	6.3	na
Other Indigenous caregiver	15.7	17.4	24.4	20.2	44.8	2.4	10.4	30.5
Indigenous residential care	0.5	2.8	0.7	4.6	–	–	–	–
<b>Total placed in accordance with principle</b>	<b>86.7</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>66.7</b>
Not placed in accordance with principle	13.3	40.5	32.8	17.9	34.5	83.3	43.8	33.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>a</sup> The Aboriginal Child Placement Principle outlines a preference for the placement of Indigenous children and includes: placement with the child's extended family, placement within the child's Indigenous community, and/or placement with other Indigenous people. <sup>b</sup> The denominator for calculating the percentage of children placed in accordance with the principle excludes Indigenous children living independently and those whose living arrangements were unknown. <sup>c</sup> Data for Tasmania and the ACT relate to a small number of Indigenous children (43 and 48 respectively).

Sources: tables 15A.17.

### Real recurrent SAAP funding per person in the total population, Australia (2002-03 dollars)<sup>a, b</sup>

	Unit	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
1998-99	\$	14.74	12.18	10.58	11.41	16.57	24.49	26.00	31.72	13.76
1999-2000	\$	14.48	11.98	12.34	14.06	16.44	24.20	25.69	34.68	14.22
2000-01	\$	14.78	12.34	12.62	14.33	16.77	25.01	31.89	38.16	14.66
2001-02	\$	14.68	12.25	12.57	14.48	16.78	25.11	31.68	37.95	14.60
2002-03	\$	16.30	12.17	12.37	14.38	16.78	25.19	31.76	38.51	15.07

<sup>a</sup> Includes SAAP recurrent allocations (including State and Territory allocations for program administration). <sup>b</sup> The total population figure is not indicative of the demand for SAAP services.

Source: table 15A.165.

[END]

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**Please do not approach other parties for comment before Thursday, 29 January 2004.**

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