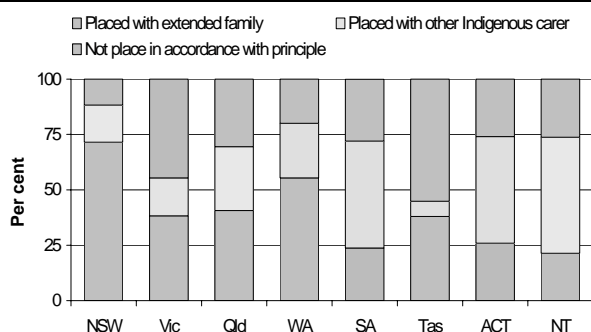


## PROTECTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES (CHAPTER 15)

- 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 at least \$797 million in 2001-02 (p. 5.19). Recurrent expenditure on the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) was \$277 million across Australia in 2001-02 (p. 5.36).
- Around 99 524 children were the subject of child protection notifications (9421 Indigenous and 90 103 non-Indigenous children) in 2001-02 (p. 15.6). At 30 June 2002, 20 557 children (4264 Indigenous and 16 293 non-Indigenous) were on care and protection orders (p. 15.8), and approximately 18 880 children (4199 Indigenous and 14 681 non-Indigenous) were in out-of-home care (p. 15.9). There were around 95 600 SAAP clients in 2001-02 (table 15A.165).

### Selection of results

Indigenous children placed in accordance with the Aboriginal child placement principle, 2002 (p. 15.26)



See over for data and footnotes.

Support needs of SAAP clients, by met and unmet demand, 2001-02 (p. 15.51)



See over for data and footnotes.

- 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 2002) ranged from 56.9 per cent in NSW to 13.3 per cent in SA. (p. 15.23).
- Placing younger 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 2002 ranged from 99.1 per cent in SA to 86.0 per cent in Tasmania (p. 15.23). Other significant indicators included: stability of placement (p. 15.22); child protection and out-of-home care efficiency indicators (p. 15.30)
- SAAP indicators included: access for those seeking SAAP services (p. 15.48); clients' income source (p. 15.41) and labour force status (p. 15.44) after receiving SAAP services (p. 15.48); existence of a support plan for SAAP clients (p. 15.47); and, SAAP efficiency indicators (p. 15.52).

[MORE]

## Progress since the 2002 Report

This Report continues to refine and improve the indicators that are reported in the Protection and Support chapter. This year for the first time the chapter includes SAAP data relating to Indigenous clients in the areas of income, housing, labour force status and support periods.

### Data for charts on previous page

*Placement of Indigenous children, 30 June 2002 (per cent of Indigenous children)*

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
Children placed in accordance with principle <sup>a</sup>								
Indigenous relative/kin	58.2	17.8	24.4	48.6	18.1	17.2	18.5	21.4
Non-Indigenous relative/kin	13.4	13.1	16.2	6.7	5.6	20.7	7.4	na
Other Indigenous caregiver	16.3	20.4	27.4	17.2	48.3	6.9	44.4	52.4
Indigenous residential care	0.4	4.1	1.4	7.5	–	–	3.7	–
Total placed in accordance with principle	88.3	55.4	69.5	80.0	72.0	44.8	74.1	73.8
Not placed in accordance with principle	11.7	44.6	30.5	20.0	27.9	55.2	25.9	26.2
<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.

Sources: tables 15A.17.

*Support needs of SAAP clients, by met and unmet demand, 2001-02<sup>a, b</sup>*

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
Provided only	84.4	72.0	82.6	89.0	78.8	82.8	75.1	90.2	81.1
Referred only	4.2	10.7	2.0	2.9	7.2	6.6	5.5	4.2	5.2
Provided & referred	6.7	9.4	3.7	4.7	7.9	4.6	15.2	3.3	6.4
Unmet	4.7	7.9	11.6	3.5	6.2	6.0	4.2	2.3	7.3
<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>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>a</sup> Figures have been weighted to adjust for agency non-participation and client consent

<sup>b</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: table 15A.174.

[END]

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**Please do not approach other parties for comment before Thursday, 6 February 2003.**

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