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## 13A Protection and support services attachment

Notes that do not appear below tables in this attachment are in section 13A.1. Definitions for the descriptors and indicators in this attachment are in section 13A.5. Unsourced information was obtained from Commonwealth, State or Territory Governments. Data from State and Territory Governments were collected and collated by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

### 13A.1 General footnotes for tables

\* *Population*

All population estimates or projections were based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics 1996 Census. For 1997-98 data, population estimates were at 31 December 1997 and indigenous population projections were the average of June 1997 and June 1998. For 30 June 1998 data, population estimates were at 30 March 1998 and indigenous population projections were at June 1998.

NT population data excluded other Territories.

*Victorian data on indigenous children*

Victoria was the only State or Territory that did not have an unknown category for indigenous and non-indigenous status. As a result the rates for indigenous children per 1000 population were higher than would have been the case had there been an unknown category. This needs to be taken into account in comparing indigenous rates for Victoria with those of other jurisdictions.

## 13A.2 Child protection services

### New South Wales

Table 13A.1 Child protection descriptive indicators, part 1\*

	<i>April 1997– June 1997<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>1997-98</i>
No. of notifications of child maltreatment	7 776	31 223
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	39.3	35.4
– non-indigenous	18.3	16.4
– all children	19.0	17.1
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	4 023	18 997
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	953	3 186
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated (including dealt with by other means) <sup>d</sup>	2 800	9 040
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>e</sup>		
– indigenous	22.8	24.9
– non-indigenous	9.5	10.4
– all children	9.9	10.8
Total number of substantiations <sup>f</sup>	1 791	8 406
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>g</sup>		
– indigenous	10.8	12.9
– non-indigenous	4.2	4.7
– all children	4.5	5.0

<sup>a</sup> Data on child abuse and neglect notifications, investigations and substantiations for 1996-97 were for a three month period only: 1 April to 30 June 1997. <sup>b</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>c</sup> Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as not finalised. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. <sup>d</sup> In NSW all notifications were initially assessed to see if they required further investigation. <sup>e</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>f</sup> A notification was 'substantiated' when there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year ended 30 June, then each substantiation was counted. 1997-98 data included 609 substantiations where the harm or risk was not classified. 1996-97 data did not include this group. <sup>g</sup> 1997-98 data included 522 children where the harm or risk could not be classified. 1996-97 data did not include this group. Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year.

**Table 13A.2 Child protection descriptive indicators, part 2\***

	1996-97	1997-98
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>a</sup>		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	3 901	4 396
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	723	na
– interim and temporary orders	720	978
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	420	587
– other/not specified	–	26
– all orders	5 764	5 987
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	20.4	22.3
– non-indigenous	3.1	3.1
– all children	3.7	3.8
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order: <sup>b</sup>		
– children admitted for first time to an order	na	na
– children who had prior admissions to orders	na	na
– total children admitted to orders	3 330	3 454

<sup>a</sup> The data on children on care and protection orders in 1997-98 were not comparable with the 1996-97 data. The 1997-98 data did not include children on 'finalised other court orders' because this information was no longer provided to the Department of Community Services by the Children's Court. In 1996-97 there were 723 children in this category. <sup>b</sup> NSW could not identify whether a child was admitted to an order for the first time. **na** Not available. – Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.3 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes**

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure	na	na
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year	na	na

**na** Not available.

## Victoria

Table 13A.4 **Child protection descriptive indicators\***

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of notifications of child maltreatment <sup>a</sup>	31 707	33 163
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	92.6	113.2
– non-indigenous	22.0	23.1
– all children	22.8	24.0
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	14 006	14 431
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	410	262
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were dealt with by other means <sup>d</sup>	17 291	18 470
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>e</sup>		
– indigenous	65.3	80.9
– non-indigenous	11.1	10.5
– all children	11.8	11.1
Total number of substantiations <sup>f</sup>	7 034	7 357
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>g</sup>		
– indigenous	38.1	46.4
– non-indigenous	5.8	5.6
– all children	6.2	5.9
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>h</sup>		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	2 702	2 912
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	997	1 112
– interim and temporary orders	166	191
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	–	–
– all orders	3 865	4 215
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	22.7	28.2
– non-indigenous	3.2	3.5
– all children	3.4	3.7

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**Table 13A.5 (Continued)**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order:		
– children admitted for first time to an order	2 111	2 465
– children who had prior admissions to orders	824	1 138
– total children admitted to orders	<b>2 935</b>	<b>3 603</b>

<sup>a</sup> In Victoria notifications were caller defined. That is, if the person reporting to the department believed that child abuse and neglect had occurred, it was recorded as a notification. While a case was open, further notifications concerning a child after the first notification were not counted as additional separate notifications even if they related to another type of abuse or neglect or a different person was believed responsible for the abuse and neglect. <sup>b</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. <sup>c</sup> Notifications were initially assessed through phone calls, file searches etc, to determine if they required investigation. Investigations only included those notifications which, after this initial assessment, required further investigation (including a face-to-face home visit/interview with the child or family). In 1997-98 there were 18 470 notifications that were not investigated after an initial assessment and these were included under the category 'notifications dealt with by other means' as they involve responses to the notifier, file checks and/or case conferences. While a case was open, investigations of additional notifications concerning a child were not counted as separate investigations even if they related to another type of abuse or neglect or a different person was believed responsible for the abuse and neglect. Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as not finalised. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. <sup>d</sup> Included notifications that were assessed through phone calls, file searches, case conferences etc. Referrals to appropriate services were seen as an appropriate outcome for many of these assessments (rather than an investigation as an outcome). This category can also be referred to as 'No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated', the title used in other jurisdiction's tables. <sup>e</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>f</sup> A notification was 'substantiated' when there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year ended 30 June, then each substantiation was counted. <sup>g</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year. <sup>h</sup> Permanent care orders were included in finalised guardianship orders. – Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.6 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes**

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure	3 912	3 645
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year	83%	80%

## Queensland

Table 13A.7 Child protection descriptive indicators\*, a

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of notifications of child maltreatment	15 478	17 233
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	33.5	37.5
– non-indigenous	13.1	13.9
– all children	14.2	15.3
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	11 663	11 728
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	1 263	3 517
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated (including dealt with by other means)	2 552	1 988
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>d</sup>		
– indigenous	27.3	26.2
– non-indigenous	9.6	9.2
– all children	10.6	10.2
Total number of substantiations <sup>e</sup>	4 895	6 323
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>f</sup>		
– indigenous	12.6	15.8
– non-indigenous	3.9	4.5
– all children	4.1	5.1
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June:		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	2 809	2 867
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	257	319
– interim and temporary orders	183	247
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	..	..
– all orders	3 249	3 433
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	17.2	16.5
– non-indigenous	2.9	3.1
– all children	3.7	3.8

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Table 13A.8 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order: <sup>g</sup>		
– children admitted for first time to an order	598	684
– children who had prior admissions to orders	310	285
– total children admitted to orders	908	969

<sup>a</sup> 1996-97 data on child abuse and neglect notifications, investigations and substantiations were for the period 1 January to 31 December 1996. <sup>b</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>c</sup> Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 31 August in the following financial year (28 February in relation to 1996 data), it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 31 August in the following financial year (28 February in relation to 1996 data), it was classified as not finalised. Only investigations with an outcome of substantiated and unsubstantiated have been included. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. In 1997-98 notifications where no assessment was possible or the investigation was administratively closed without an outcome being recorded were included in investigations which were not finalised. <sup>d</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>e</sup> A notification was 'substantiated' when there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected or identified risk of abuse or neglect was substantiated. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year ended 30 June, then each substantiation was counted. <sup>f</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year. <sup>g</sup> It was not possible to determine if the child was previously admitted to an order in another jurisdiction. .. Not applicable.

Table 13A.9 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure	na	na
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year	na	na

na Not available.

## Western Australia

Table 13A.10 Child protection descriptive indicators\*

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of notifications of child maltreatment	2 099	2 447
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>a</sup>		
– indigenous	18.1	18.8
– non-indigenous	3.5	4.1
– all children	4.3	4.9
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>b</sup>	1 711	2 096
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>b</sup>	222	189
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated (including dealt with by other means) <sup>c</sup>	166	162
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>d</sup>		
– indigenous	14.4	16.3
– non-indigenous	3.2	3.5
– all children	3.8	4.2
Total number of substantiations <sup>e</sup>	982	1 135
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>f</sup>		
– indigenous	9.4	10.8
– non-indigenous	1.8	1.9
– all children	2.2	2.4
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>g</sup>		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	785	799
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	..	..
– interim and temporary orders	..	..
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	..	..
– all orders	785	799
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	8.2	8.1
– non-indigenous	1.3	1.3
– all children	1.7	1.7

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Table 13A.8 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order: <sup>h</sup>		
– children admitted for first time to an order	132	na
– children who had prior admissions to orders	–	na
– total children admitted to orders	132	120

<sup>a</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>b</sup> Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 19 July in the following financial year, it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 19 July in the following financial year, it was classified as not finalised. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. <sup>c</sup> Notifications not investigated included those where a decision was made not to investigate and those where an investigation was not possible. <sup>d</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>e</sup> A notification was 'substantiated' when there was sufficient information to make a professional judgment that a child was being, or was at risk of being, emotionally or physically harmed and/or had been exposed to exploitative or inappropriate sexual behaviour. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year ended 30 June, then each substantiation was counted. <sup>f</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year. <sup>g</sup> WA only had guardianship orders. <sup>h</sup> WA could not clearly distinguish whether orders were issued for the first time. **na** Not available. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 13A.11 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>a</sup>	na	904
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year <sup>b</sup>	na	90%

<sup>a</sup> The concept of case closure was difficult to define in WA. Data were based on when the investigation was finalised. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1996-97 where the investigation was finalised. **na** Not available.

## South Australia

Table 13A.12 Child protection descriptive indicators\*

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of notifications of child maltreatment <sup>a</sup>	10 094	11 651
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	63.2	81.5
– non-indigenous	18.3	20.7
– all children	19.5	22.5
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	6 986	4 777
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	337	64
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated (including dealt with by other means) <sup>d</sup>	2 771	6 810
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>e</sup>		
– indigenous	52.0	46.7
– non-indigenous	14.9	9.4
– all children	15.9	10.5
Total number of substantiations <sup>f</sup>	2 527	1 915
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>g</sup>		
– indigenous	25.9	26.3
– non-indigenous	5.6	4.0
– all children	6.2	4.7
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>h</sup>		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	1 063	na
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	71	na
– interim and temporary orders	na	na
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	38	na
– all orders	1 172	1 102
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	18.4	15.3
– non-indigenous	2.9	2.7
– all children	3.3	3.1

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Table 13A.13 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order:		
– children admitted for first time to an order	na	na
– children who had prior admissions to orders	na	na
– total children admitted to orders	235	318

<sup>a</sup> Notifications in South Australia included child concern reports. <sup>b</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>c</sup> Data for 1996-97 and 1997-98 were not comparable. Notifications investigated in 1997-98 included those cases that were investigated and had an outcome of abuse confirmed or abuse not confirmed. The 1996-97 data on notifications investigated also included cases where the investigation was conducted by others, proper arrangements existed for the child's safety, partially investigated cases, there were no grounds for investigation, the child was not located and resources prevented investigation. These cases were included in notifications not investigated (including dealt with by other means) in 1997-98. Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as not finalised. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. <sup>d</sup> Data for 1996-97 and 1997-98 were not comparable. See footnote (c). <sup>e</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>f</sup> A notification was 'substantiated' when there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year ended 30 June, then each substantiation was counted. <sup>g</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year. <sup>h</sup> SA was not able to provide data for 1997-98 on the types of care and protection orders that children were placed on. **na** Not available.

Table 13A.14 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure	na	705
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year <sup>a</sup>	na	71%

<sup>a</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1996-97 where the investigation was finalised. **na** Not available.

## Tasmania

Table 13A.15 Child protection descriptive indicators\*

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of notifications of child maltreatment <sup>a</sup>	2 363	1 016
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>a</sup>		
– indigenous	10.0	1.6
– non-indigenous	15.0	7.4
– all children	15.0	7.1
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>b</sup>	1 832	585
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>b</sup>	46	24
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated (including dealt with by other means)	485	407
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>c</sup>		
– indigenous	7.0	1.6
– non-indigenous	13.0	5.0
– all children	13.0	4.8
Total number of substantiations <sup>d</sup>	244	135
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>e</sup>		
– indigenous	2.4	0.4
– non-indigenous	1.8	1.1
– all children	1.9	1.1
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June:		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	301	318
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	146	154
– interim and temporary orders	38	34
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	23	14
– all orders	508	520
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>f</sup>		
– indigenous	5.0	4.6
– non-indigenous	4.0	4.2
– all children	4.0	4.2

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Table 13A.16 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order:		
– children admitted for first time to an order	219	na
– children who had prior admissions to orders	27	na
– total children admitted to orders	246	na

<sup>a</sup> In July 1997 Tasmania introduced new intake and assessment guidelines. From July 1997 child and family concern reports were no longer included in the count for notifications. Notifications include allegations of maltreatment and the focus of the department is on the level of harm rather than the incident. It is likely that these changes have contributed to the drop in the number of notifications in 1997-98. Care should be taken in interpreting indigenous rates due to the relatively small size of the indigenous population in Tasmania. Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>b</sup> Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as not finalised. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. <sup>c</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>d</sup> There was a lag in the redevelopment of the data system following the introduction of the new intake and assessment guidelines. The data provided by Tasmania may therefore not include all cases that were closed or substantiated. It should be noted that in Tasmania, a substantiation was not entered onto the system until a case was withdrawn. A case was only withdrawn when there was no further action required — that is, a child becomes a ward or where the family was no longer receiving support services. The data on substantiations therefore only included cases where substantiation has been finalised within a legal context. There were a further 146 children, not included in the number of substantiations who were classified as 'child at risk'. A notification was 'substantiated' when there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year ended 30 June, then each substantiation was counted. <sup>e</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year. <sup>f</sup> Care should be taken in interpreting indigenous rates due to the relatively small size of the indigenous population in Tasmania. **na** Not available.

Table 13A.17 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>a</sup>	203	236
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year <sup>b</sup>	97%	92%

<sup>a</sup> The data on substantiations excluded children classified as 'child at risk'. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1996-97 where the investigation was finalised.

## Australian Capital Territory

Table 13A.18 Child protection descriptive indicators<sup>a, \*</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of notifications of child maltreatment <sup>b</sup>	1 220	1 125
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>a, c</sup>		
– indigenous	43.9	52.4
– non-indigenous	11.5	11.3
– all children	12.1	12.0
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>d</sup>	944	836
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>d</sup>	55	76
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated (including dealt with by other means)	221	213
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>a, e</sup>		
– indigenous	34.6	38.7
– non-indigenous	8.9	8.7
– all children	9.3	9.2
Total number of substantiations <sup>f</sup>	376	411
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>a, g</sup>		
– indigenous	17.7	23.7
– non-indigenous	3.9	4.4
– all children	4.1	4.7
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June:		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	193	190
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	49	39
– interim and temporary orders	8	11
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	14	15
– all orders	264	255
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>a</sup>		
– indigenous	21.5	31.2
– non-indigenous	2.9	2.7
– all children	3.2	3.2

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Table 13A.19 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order: <sup>h</sup>		
– children admitted for first time to an order	na	127
– children who had prior admissions to orders	na	24
– total children admitted to orders	na	151

<sup>a</sup> Care should be taken in interpreting rates for the ACT — given the relatively small population — and particularly rates for the small indigenous population. <sup>b</sup> Only included allegations of child maltreatment where the intake officer believed statutory interventions may be required. <sup>c</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>d</sup> In the ACT any action taken to follow up a notification constitutes an investigation. Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as not finalised. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. <sup>e</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>f</sup> A notification was 'substantiated' when there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year ended 30 June, then each substantiation was counted. <sup>g</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year. <sup>h</sup> It was not possible to determine if the child was previously admitted to an order in another jurisdiction. **na** Not available.

Table 13A.20 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>a</sup>	na	216
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year <sup>b</sup>	na	92%

<sup>a</sup> The data for 1997-98 related to children who were notified in 1996-97 and subsequently substantiated, because date of substantiation was not recorded in the ACT. A case was classified as closed if it was closed within 12 months of the commencement of an investigation. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1996-97 where the case was closed within 12 months. **na** Not available.

## Northern Territory

Table 13A.21 Child protection descriptive indicators\*

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of notifications of child maltreatment <sup>a</sup>	481	710
No. of individual children notified per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>a, b</sup>		
– indigenous	9.4	13.1
– non-indigenous	7.7	9.5
– all children	8.3	10.9
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	473	683
No. of notifications of maltreatment investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August in the following financial year <sup>c</sup>	–	1
No. of notifications of maltreatment which were not investigated (including dealt with by other means)	8	26
No. of individual children who were the subject of a finalised investigation, per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>d</sup>		
– indigenous	9.3	12.5
– non-indigenous	7.6	9.2
– all children	8.2	10.5
Total number of substantiations <sup>e</sup>	252	343
No. of children substantiated per 1000 children aged 0–16 years: <sup>f</sup>		
– indigenous	6.1	7.3
– non-indigenous	3.3	4.4
– all children	4.4	5.6
Total no. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>g</sup>		
– finalised guardianship and custody orders	73	84
– finalised other court orders (including supervisory orders)	19	38
– interim and temporary orders	8	4
– administrative/voluntary arrangements for care and protection	11	12
– all orders	111	138
No. of children on care and protection orders at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>g</sup>		
– indigenous	2.6	3.1
– non-indigenous	1.5	1.9
– all children	1.9	2.4

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Table 13A.16 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children who were placed on a care and protection order: <sup>h</sup>		
– children admitted for first time to an order	141	146
– children who had prior admissions to orders	105	95
– total children admitted to orders	246	241

<sup>a</sup> The NT included child concern reports in notifications. <sup>b</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one notification. Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>c</sup> Investigations related to notifications received in the financial year. If the investigation was completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as finalised. If the investigation was not completed by 31 August in the following financial year, it was classified as not finalised. If a child was the subject of more than one investigation in the period, then each investigation was counted in the number of investigations. <sup>d</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one investigation in the year. <sup>e</sup> A notification was substantiated when there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected. If the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year, then each substantiation was counted. The number of substantiations included child concern reports. <sup>f</sup> Each child was counted only once even if the child was the subject of more than one substantiation in the year. <sup>g</sup> NT policy guidelines dictated that orders and arrangements should only be sought where no other intervention would ensure adequate care of the child. <sup>h</sup> The NT could not determine if the child was previously admitted to an order in another jurisdiction. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 13A.22 Child protection effectiveness indicators — client outcomes

	1996-97	1997-98
Of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>a</sup>	231	na
– as a proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in the previous year and where the case was closed during that year <sup>b</sup>	98%	na

<sup>a</sup> The NT information system could not reliably ascertain when a case had been closed. 1996-97 data were based on when the investigation was finalised, not when the case was closed. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1995-96 where the investigation was finalised. **na** Not available.

## 13A.3 Supported placements

### New South Wales

Table 13A.23 Out-of-home care descriptive indicators<sup>\*, a</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– indigenous	1 270	1 153
– non-indigenous	4 147	4 450
– all children	5 417	5 603
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	25.6	21.5
– non-indigenous	2.7	2.9
– all children	3.4	3.5
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>b</sup>		
• facility based care	311	351
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	2 583	2 395
– relative/kinship care	2 375	2 507
– other home based care <sup>b</sup>	148	–
– total home based care	5 106	4 902
• independent living (including private board)	..	147
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	–	203
• total	5 417	5 603
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order: <sup>c</sup>		
– on a care and protection order	4 715	5 337
– not on a care and protection order	702	266
– not known	–	–
– total	5 417	5 603
No. of children in out-of-home care, by length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>d</sup>		
• respite	537	561
• nonrespite		
– less than 1 month	194	183
– 1 month to <6 months	719	779
– 6 months to <1 year	610	727
– 1 year to <2 years	760	893
– 2 years or more	2 590	2 453
– not stated/unknown nonrespite	7	–
– total nonrespite	4 880	5 035
• not stated/unknown	–	7
• total	5 417	5 603

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Table 13A.24 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care: <sup>e</sup>		
– less than 1 month	..	na
– 1 month to <6 months	..	na
– 6 months to <1 year	..	na
– 1 year to <2 years	..	na
– 2 years or more	..	na
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year: <sup>f</sup>		
– indigenous	1 919	1 402
– non-indigenous	7 673	6 652
– all children	9 592	8 054
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	38.7	26.5
– non-indigenous	4.9	4.4
– all children	6.1	5.1

<sup>a</sup> Included the following categories of children even if they did not meet the definition of 'out-of-home care': wards, children under a guardianship order, protected persons (including overseas adoptees) and pre-adoption placements. 1996-97 data included some children placed with care givers who were not reimbursed. <sup>b</sup> Facility based care included family group homes. The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. <sup>c</sup> Children on interim orders and voluntary/administrative arrangements with a government department were included in 'on a care and protection order'. The category did not include children on other orders such as offence orders. <sup>d</sup> A return home of less than seven days was not counted as a break in the continuity of placement. <sup>e</sup> NSW could not provide data on those exiting care. <sup>f</sup> A child was only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. **na** Not available. **..** Not applicable. **–** Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.25 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality<sup>a</sup>**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– number placed with indigenous care givers	1 067	951
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	86%	82%
– number placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin <sup>c</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care	na	na
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement	3 350	3 360
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>d</sup>	98%	96%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>e</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care during 1996-97	na	na

<sup>a</sup> Included the following categories of children even if they did not meet the definition of 'out-of-home care': wards, children under a guardianship order, protected persons (including overseas adoptees) and pre-adoption placements. 1996-97 data included some children placed with care givers who were not reimbursed.

<sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of indigenous children in out-of-home placement at 30 June. <sup>c</sup> NSW could not provide data on indigenous children who were placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin. <sup>d</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>e</sup> Data was not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. NSW could not provide data for this indicator in 1997-98. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.26 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>a</sup></i>				
	1	2-3	4-5	6-10	11+
– less than 1 month	na	na	na	na	na
– 1 month to <6 months	na	na	na	na	na
– 6 months to <1 year	na	na	na	na	na
– 1 year to <2 years	na	na	na	na	na
– 2 years or more	na	na	na	na	na

<sup>a</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.27 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes<sup>a</sup>**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship	2 375	2 507
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	44%	45%

<sup>a</sup> Included the following categories of children even if they did not meet the definition of 'out-of-home care': wards, children under a guardianship order, protected persons (including overseas adoptees) and pre-adoption placements. 1996-97 data included some children placed with care givers who were not reimbursed.

<sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement was known.

## Victoria

Table 13A.28 Out-of-home care descriptive indicators\*

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– indigenous	304	320
– non-indigenous	3 089	3 295
– all children	3 393	3 615
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	30.5	30.7
– non-indigenous	2.7	2.9
– all children	3.0	3.2
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>a</sup>		
• facility based care	689	619
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	1 893	1 988
– relative/kinship care	737	888
– other home based care <sup>a</sup>	74	105
– total home based care	2 704	2 981
• independent living (including private board)	..	15
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	–	–
• total	3 393	3 615
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order: <sup>b</sup>		
– on a care and protection order	2 316	2 462
– not on a care and protection order	1 077	1 153
– not known	–	–
– total	3 393	3 615
No. of children in out-of-home care, by length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>c</sup>		
• respite	na	na
• nonrespite:		
– less than 1 month	na	na
– 1 month to <6 months	na	na
– 6 months to <1 year	na	na
– 1 year to <2 years	na	na
– 2 years or more	na	na
– not stated/unknown	na	na
– total nonrespite	na	na
• total	na	na

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Table 13A.29 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care:		
– less than 1 month	..	na
– 1 month to <6 months	..	na
– 6 months to <1 year	..	na
– 1 year to <2 years	..	na
– 2 years or more	..	na
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year:		
– indigenous	na	na
– non-indigenous	na	na
– all children	na	na
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	na	na
– non-indigenous	na	na
– all children	na	na

<sup>a</sup> Foster care/community care category for Victoria included children on permanent care orders where carers were in receipt of foster care payment and children in individually tailored home based arrangements. Facility based care included family group homes. The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. <sup>b</sup> Children on interim orders and voluntary/administrative arrangements with a government department were included in 'on a care and protection order'. The category did not include children on other orders such as offence orders. <sup>c</sup> Data for 1997-98 on length of time in out-of-home care was not available for Victoria. The 1996-97 data provided for last year's Report only counted length of time in continuous care for children on an order. **na** Not available. **..** Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.30 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>a</sup>		
– number placed with indigenous care givers	na	na
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care	na	na
– number placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin	na	na
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care	na	na
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement	1 644	1 714
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	88%	92%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>c</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care during 1996-97	na	na

<sup>a</sup> Separate data on the number of indigenous children placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin were not available for 1997-98 because the indigenous status of care givers was not available in Victoria. The data provided for last year's Report on indigenous children placed with indigenous care givers were an approximation. The data showed the number of indigenous children whose care was provided by agencies that work solely or predominantly with indigenous children. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>c</sup> Data was not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.31 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>a</sup></i>				
	1	2-3	4-5	6-10	11+
– less than 1 month	na	na	na	na	na
– 1 month to <6 months	na	na	na	na	na
– 6 months to <1 year	na	na	na	na	na
– 1 year to <2 years	na	na	na	na	na
– 2 years or more	na	na	na	na	na

<sup>a</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.32 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship	737	888
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>a</sup>	22%	25%

<sup>a</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement was known.

## Queensland

Table 13A.33 Out-of-home care descriptive indicators<sup>\*, a</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– indigenous	549	522
– non-indigenous	1 662	1 824
– all children	2 211	2 346
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	11.7	10.1
– non-indigenous	1.9	2.2
– all children	2.5	2.6
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>b</sup>		
• facility based care	167	120
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	2 044	1 729
– relative/kinship care	na	497
– other home based care <sup>b</sup>	–	–
– total home based care	2 044	2 226
• independent living (including private board)	..	–
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	–	–
• total	2 211	2 346
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order: <sup>c</sup>		
– on a care and protection order	2 190	2 338
– not on a care and protection order	21	8
– not known	–	–
– total	2 211	2 346
No. of children in out-of-home care, by length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>d</sup>		
– less than 1 month	139	111
– 1 month to <6 months	437	442
– 6 months to <1 year	326	340
– 1 year to <2 years	403	434
– 2 years or more	906	1 019
– not stated/unknown	–	–
Total	2 211	2 346

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Table 13A.34 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care:		
– less than 1 month	..	164
– 1 month to <6 months	..	276
– 6 months to <1 year	..	94
– 1 year to <2 years	..	93
– 2 years or more	..	222
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year: <sup>e</sup>		
– indigenous	759	749
– non-indigenous	2 262	2 395
– all children	3 021	3 144
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	16.1	14.7
– non-indigenous	2.6	2.8
– all children	3.4	3.5

<sup>a</sup> The data included three children aged 18 years or older. Children on juvenile justice orders were also included. <sup>b</sup> Facility based care included family group homes. The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. In 1996-97 data on children in home based care living with relatives/kin were included in the category 'foster/community care'. <sup>c</sup> In Queensland all children in out-of-home care were on some type of order or were remanded in temporary custody awaiting the outcome of an order. 'On a care and protection order' included children on interim orders but did not include children on other orders such as offence orders. These children were included in 'not on a care and protection order'. Queensland was unable to report on children on placements for protective reasons, who were not on an order. <sup>d</sup> Queensland was unable to distinguish between respite and nonrespite care. As a result both types of placement were included if they satisfied the general definition of out-of-home care. <sup>e</sup> A child was only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. **na** Not available. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.35 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality<sup>a</sup>**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>b</sup>		
– number placed with indigenous care givers	381	339
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>c</sup>	73%	67%
– number placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin	na	51
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>c</sup>	na	10%
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement	1 249	1 371
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>d</sup>	97%	98%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>e</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care during 1996-97	na	na

<sup>a</sup> The data included three children aged 18 years or older. Children on juvenile justice orders were also included. <sup>b</sup> The data for this indicator related to children in home based care only, as the indigenous status of carer was not recorded for children in other types of care. <sup>c</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of indigenous children in home based care at 30 June. <sup>d</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>e</sup> Data was not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.36 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>b</sup></i>				
	1	2-3	4-5	6-10	11+
– less than 1 month	160	4	–	–	–
– 1 month to <6 months	200	72	3	1	–
– 6 months to <1 year	46	43	5	–	–
– 1 year to <2 years	37	42	9	5	–
– 2 years or more	79	66	45	24	8

<sup>a</sup> The data included three children aged 18 years or older. Children on juvenile justice orders were also included. <sup>b</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98. Where a continuous placement was broken by a temporary placement of less than seven days, the continuous placement was counted as two distinct placements. – Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.37 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes<sup>a</sup>**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship	na	497
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	na	21%

<sup>a</sup> The data included three children aged 18 years or older. Children on juvenile justice orders were also included. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement was known. **na** Not available.

## Western Australia

Table 13A.38 Out-of-home care descriptive indicators<sup>\*, a</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	318	310
– non-indigenous	732	783
– all children	1 050	1 093
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	12.8	11.6
– non-indigenous	1.6	1.7
– all children	2.2	2.3
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>c</sup>		
• facility based care	177	158
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	649	689
– relative/kinship care	216	226
– other home based care <sup>c</sup>	–	–
– total home based care	865	915
• independent living (including private board)	..	13
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	8	7
• total	1 050	1 093
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order:		
– on a care and protection order	683	799
– not on a care and protection order	367	294
– not known	–	–
– total	1 050	1 093
No. of children in out-of-home care: length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>d</sup>		
– less than 1 month	90	30
– 1 month to <6 months	252	167
– 6 months to <1 year	149	123
– 1 year to <2 years	163	129
– 2 years or more	396	639
– not stated/unknown	–	5
Total	1 050	1 093
Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care:		
– less than 1 month	..	35
– 1 month to <6 months	..	66
– 6 months to <1 year	..	50
– 1 year to <2 years	..	36
– 2 years or more	..	89

(Continued on next page)

Table 13A.30 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement during the year: <sup>e</sup>		
– indigenous	687	632
– non-indigenous	1 445	1 437
– all children	2 132	2 069
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	27.7	23.7
– non-indigenous	3.2	3.2
– all children	4.5	4.3

<sup>a</sup> Included a small number of children placed with relatives who were not reimbursed. <sup>b</sup> Children of unknown indigenous status were included as non-indigenous. <sup>c</sup> Facility based care included family group homes. The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. <sup>d</sup> A return home of less than seven days was not counted as a break in the continuity of placement. WA was unable to reliably distinguish between respite and nonrespite care, so both types of placement were included if they satisfied the general definition of out-of-home care. The data for 1997-98 were different from the data for 1996-97 because the 1997-98 data counted total length of time in out-of-home care while the 1996-97 data only counted length of time in current placement. <sup>e</sup> A child was only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 13A.39 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality<sup>a</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with:		
– indigenous care givers	241	263
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	76%	85%
– non-indigenous relatives/kin	na	10
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	na	3%
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement	603	630
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>c</sup>	88%	89%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>d</sup>	na	17
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care	na	<1%

<sup>a</sup> Included a small number of children placed with relatives who were not reimbursed. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of indigenous children in out-of-home placement at 30 June. Care givers whose indigenous status was unknown were counted as non-indigenous. <sup>c</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>d</sup> Data were not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.40 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>b</sup></i>				
	<i>1</i>	<i>2-3</i>	<i>4-5</i>	<i>6-10</i>	<i>11+</i>
- less than 1 month	7	27	-	1	-
- 1 month to <6 months	7	46	11	2	-
- 6 months to <1 year	3	32	3	2	-
- 1 year to <2 years	1	24	9	2	-
- 2 years or more	13	40	15	17	4

<sup>a</sup> Included a small number of children placed with relatives who were not reimbursed. <sup>b</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98. - Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.41 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>1996-97</i>	<i>1997-98</i>
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship	216	226
- as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	21%	21%

<sup>a</sup> Included a small number of children placed with relatives who were not reimbursed. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement was known.

## South Australia

Table 13A.42 **Out-of-home care descriptive indicators\***,<sup>a</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– indigenous	219	188
– non-indigenous	930	819
– all children	1 149	1 007
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	22.9	18.0
– non-indigenous	2.6	2.4
– all children	3.2	2.8
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>b</sup>		
• facility based care	na	na
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	1 053	907
– relative/kinship care	96	86
– other home based care <sup>b</sup>	–	14
– total home based care	1 149	1 007
• independent living (including private board)	..	na
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	–	–
• total	1 149	1 007

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Table 13A.43 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order: <sup>c</sup>		
– on a care and protection order	630	680
– not on a care and protection order	519	327
– not known	–	–
– total	1 149	1 007

No. of children in out-of-home care, by length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June:<sup>d</sup>

– less than 1 month	65	71
– 1 month to <6 months	196	196
– 6 months to <1 year	111	101
– 1 year to <2 years	135	118
– 2 years or more	642	521
– not stated/unknown	–	–
• total	1 149	1 007

Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care:

– less than 1 month	..	975
– 1 month to <6 months	..	308
– 6 months to <1 year	..	115
– 1 year to <2 years	..	132
– 2 years or more	..	540

No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year:<sup>e</sup>

– indigenous	406	381
– non-indigenous	1 996	1 834
– all children	2 402	2 215

No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:

– indigenous	42.4	36.9
– non-indigenous	5.6	5.3
– all children	6.7	6.2

<sup>a</sup> The data for children in out-of-home care only included children in home based care. There were an additional 48 children in residential care for whom no other details were known. <sup>b</sup> The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. <sup>c</sup> Children on interim orders and voluntary/administrative arrangements with a government department were included in 'on a care and protection order'. The category did not include children on other orders such as offence orders. <sup>d</sup> A return home of less than seven days was not counted as a break in the continuity of placement. South Australia was unable to distinguish between respite and nonrespite care. As a result both types of placement were included if they satisfied the general definition of out-of-home care. <sup>e</sup> A child was only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. **na** Not available. **..** Not applicable. **–** Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.44 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality<sup>a</sup>**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– number placed with indigenous care givers	138	118
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	63%	63%
– number placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin	na	11
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care	na	6%
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement <sup>a</sup>	681	583
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>c</sup>	100%	100%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>d</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care during 1996-97	na	na

<sup>a</sup> The data for children in out-of-home care only included children in home based care. There were an additional 48 children in residential care for which no other details were known. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of indigenous children in out-of-home placement at 30 June. <sup>c</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>d</sup> Data was not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.45 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>b</sup></i>				
	1	2-3	4-5	6-10	11+
– less than 1 month	333	176	44	15	0
– 1 month to <6 months	22	85	62	81	22
– 6 months to <1 year	4	12	11	15	23
– 1 year to <2 years	2	8	12	10	9
– 2 years or more	16	29	22	29	22

<sup>a</sup> The data for children in out-of-home care only included children in home based care. There were an additional 48 children in residential care for which no other details were known. <sup>b</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98.

**Table 13A.46 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes<sup>a</sup>**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship	96	86
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	8%	9%

<sup>a</sup> The data for children in out-of-home care only included children in home based care. There were an additional 48 children in residential care for which no other details were known. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in home based out-of-home care at 30 June.

## Tasmania

Table 13A.47 Out-of-home care descriptive indicators\*

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>a</sup>		
– indigenous	39	34
– non-indigenous	422	408
– all children	461	442
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>a</sup>		
– indigenous	5.5	4.6
– non-indigenous	3.6	3.5
– all children	3.7	3.6
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>b</sup>		
• facility based care	93	74
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	213	202
– relative/kinship care	155	166
– other home based care <sup>b</sup>	–	–
– total home based care	368	368
• independent living (including private board)	..	–
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	–	–
• total	461	442
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order: <sup>c</sup>		
– on a care and protection order	358	276
– not on a care and protection order	103	166
– not known	–	–
– total	461	442
No. of children in out-of-home care, by length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>d</sup>		
– less than 1 month	51	44
– 1 month to <6 months	95	91
– 6 months to <1 year	53	55
– 1 year to <2 years	96	64
– 2 years or more	166	188
– not stated/unknown	–	–
• total	461	442

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Table 13A.48 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care:		
– less than 1 month	..	na
– 1 month to <6 months	..	na
– 6 months to <1 year	..	na
– 1 year to <2 years	..	na
– 2 years or more	..	na
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year: <sup>a, e</sup>		
– indigenous	74	80
– non-indigenous	1 033	1 085
– all children	1 107	1 165
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>a</sup>		
– indigenous	10.5	10.8
– non-indigenous	8.7	9.3
– all children	8.8	9.4

<sup>a</sup> Care should be taken in interpreting indigenous rates due to the relatively small size of the indigenous population in Tasmania. <sup>b</sup> Facility based care included family group homes. The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. Relative/kinship care included children living with relatives on 'relatives allowance'. <sup>c</sup> Children on interim orders and voluntary/administrative arrangements with a government department were included in 'on a care and protection order'. The category did not include children on other orders such as offence orders. <sup>d</sup> A return home of less than seven days was not counted as a break in the continuity of placement. Tasmania was unable to distinguish between respite and nonrespite care. As a result both types of placement were included if they satisfied the general definition of out-of-home care. <sup>e</sup> A child was only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. **na** Not available. **..** Not applicable. **–** Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.49 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– number placed with indigenous care givers	2	7
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>a</sup>	5%	21%
– number placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin	na	10
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>a</sup>	na	29%
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement	208	221
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	83%	86%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>c</sup>	na	1
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care during 1996-97	na	<1%

<sup>a</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of indigenous children in out-of-home placement at 30 June. Relative/kinship care included children living with relatives on 'relatives allowance'. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>c</sup> Data was not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.50 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>a</sup></i>				
	1	2-3	4-5	6-10	11+
– less than 1 month	na	na	na	na	na
– 1 month to <6 months	na	na	na	na	na
– 6 months to <1 year	na	na	na	na	na
– 1 year to <2 years	na	na	na	na	na
– 2 years or more	na	na	na	na	na

<sup>a</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.51 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>a</sup>	155	166
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	34%	38%

<sup>a</sup> Relative/kinship care included children living with relatives on 'relatives allowance'. <sup>b</sup> The denominator was the total number of children in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement was known.

## Australian Capital Territory

Table 13A.52 **Out-of-home care descriptive indicators\***

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>a</sup>		
– indigenous	28	36
– non-indigenous	145	143
– all children	173	179
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	20.8	24.4
– non-indigenous	1.8	1.8
– all children	2.1	2.2
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>c</sup>		
• facility based care	11	16
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	125	118
– relative/kinship care	37	40
– other home based care <sup>c</sup>	–	–
– total home based care	162	158
• independent living (including private board)	..	5
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	–	–
• total	173	179

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Table 13A.53 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order: <sup>d</sup>		
– on a care and protection order	159	168
– not on a care and protection order	14	11
– not known	–	–
– total	173	179
No. of children in out-of-home care, by length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>e</sup>		
• respite	3	9
• nonrespite		
– less than 1 month	12	7
– 1 month to <6 months	26	24
– 6 months to <1 year	26	25
– 1 year to <2 years	40	27
– 2 years or more	66	87
– not stated/unknown	–	–
– total nonrespite	170	170
• total	173	179
Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care: <sup>f</sup>		
– less than 1 month	..	55
– 1 month to <6 months	..	33
– 6 months to <1 year	..	9
– 1 year to <2 years	..	12
– 2 years or more	..	9
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement during the year: <sup>g</sup>		
– indigenous	64	59
– non-indigenous	533	515
– all children	597	574
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years: <sup>b</sup>		
– indigenous	47.4	40.3
– non-indigenous	6.6	6.5
– all children	7.3	7.2

<sup>a</sup> SAAP placements were counted in out-of-home care where Family Services made a financial payment. <sup>b</sup> Care should be taken in interpreting rates for the ACT — given the relatively small population — and particularly rates for the small indigenous population. <sup>c</sup> Facility based care included family group homes. The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. A small number of carers who were recruited by a non-government organisation and included in the category 'foster care/community care' may have been relatives/kin of the subject child. <sup>d</sup> Children on interim orders and voluntary/administrative arrangements with a government department were included in 'on a care and protection order'. This category did not include children on other orders such as offence orders. <sup>e</sup> A return home of less than seven days was not counted as a break in the continuity of placement. Respite care included children who were in emergency or planned respite from the home for non-child protection reasons, such as where the parents were ill or unable to care for the child. Nonrespite included children in care for child protection reasons. <sup>f</sup> Excluded children in respite care or temporary placements. <sup>g</sup> A child was only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.54 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality**

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– number placed with indigenous care givers	12	15
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care <sup>a</sup>	43%	42%
– number placed with non-indigenous relatives/kin	na	1
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care	na	3%
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement	102	106
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	99%	99%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>c</sup>	na	4
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care during 1996-97	na	1%

<sup>a</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of indigenous children in out-of-home placement at 30 June. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>c</sup> Excluded children in respite care or temporary placements. Data was not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.55 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>a</sup></i>				
	1	2-3	4-5	6-10	11+
– less than 1 month	50	5	–	–	–
– 1 month to <6 months	18	9	5	1	–
– 6 months to <1 year	3	3	2	1	–
– 1 year to <2 years	4	6	1	1	–
– 2 years or more	1	7	1	–	–

<sup>a</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98. – Nil or rounded to zero.

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**Table 13A.56 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes**

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	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>a</sup>	37	40
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>a, b</sup>	21%	22%

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<sup>a</sup> A small number of children placed by a non-Government organisation with relatives or kin may be included in the category foster care. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement was known.

## Northern Territory

Table 13A.57 Out-of-home care descriptive indicators<sup>\*, a</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in out-of-home care at 30 June:		
– indigenous	58	71
– non-indigenous	53	66
– all children	111	137
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	2.6	3.0
– non-indigenous	1.5	1.9
– all children	1.9	2.3
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>b</sup>		
• facility based care	17	29
• home based care:		
– foster care/community care	68	61
– relative/kinship care	20	36
– other home based <sup>b</sup>	6	7
– total home based	94	104
• independent living (including private board)	..	3
• other (including unknown living arrangements)	–	1
• total	111	134
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June, by whether on a care and protection order: <sup>c</sup>		
– on a care and protection order	111	137
– not on a care and protection order		
– not known		
– total	111	137
No. of children in out-of-home care, by length of time in continuous out-of-home care at 30 June: <sup>d</sup>		
– less than 1 month	2	8
– 1 month to <6 months	11	14
– 6 months to <1 year	13	15
– 1 year to <2 years	18	25
– 2 years or more	67	75
– not stated/unknown	–	–
Total	111	137
Those who exited care during the year, by length of time spent in care:		
– less than 1 month	..	112
– 1 month to <6 months	..	30
– 6 months to <1 year	..	4
– 1 year to <2 years	..	4
– 2 years or more	..	9

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Table 13A.58 (Continued)

	1996-97	1997-98
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement during the year: <sup>e</sup>		
– indigenous	158	154
– non-indigenous	138	126
– all children	296	280
No. of children aged 0–17 years in at least one out-of-home care placement at any time during the year, per 1000 children aged 0–17 years:		
– indigenous	7.2	6.6
– non-indigenous	3.9	3.6
– all children	5.2	4.8

<sup>a</sup> The NT only counted children in out-of-home care who were also on a legal order. This means that the numbers here may be underestimated. <sup>b</sup> Facility based care included family group homes. The categories for home based care were changed in 1997-98: in 1996-97 the category 'other home based care' included children who were living independently; these children were included in a separate category in 1997-98. NT data in the category 'relative/kinship care' may include a small number of children who were living with relatives or parents and who were not being reimbursed. <sup>c</sup> No information can be provided for children not on an order. Children on interim orders and voluntary/administrative arrangements with a government department were included in 'on an order'. <sup>d</sup> A return home of less than seven days was not counted as a break in the continuity of placement. The NT was unable to distinguish between respite and nonrespite care, so both types of placement were included if they satisfied the general definition of out-of-home care. <sup>e</sup> A child was only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Table 13A.59 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality<sup>a</sup>

	1996-97	1997-98
No. indigenous children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with:		
– indigenous care givers <sup>b</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care	na	na
– non-indigenous relatives/kin <sup>b</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all indigenous children in out-of-home care	na	na
No. children aged under 12 years in out-of-home care at 30 June placed in home based placement	61	79
– as a proportion of all children under 12 years in out-of-home care <sup>c</sup>	91%	81%
No. of children in out-of-home care for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect, and where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was living in the household at the time <sup>d</sup>	na	na
– as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care during 1996-97	na	na

<sup>a</sup> The NT only counted children in out-of-home care who were also on a legal order. This means that the numbers here may be underestimated. <sup>b</sup> Data on the indigenous status of the care giver was not available in the NT. <sup>c</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement type was known. <sup>d</sup> Data was not collected on this indicator for 1996-97. The NT could not provide data for 1997-98 because it could not determine whether the person believed responsible for the abuse and neglect was living in the household at the time of the abuse and neglect. **na** Not available.

**Table 13A.60 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — service quality, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Length of time in care</i>	<i>Number of placements per child placed in out-of-home care<sup>b</sup></i>				
	<i>1</i>	<i>2-3</i>	<i>4-5</i>	<i>6-10</i>	<i>11+</i>
- less than 1 month	103	9	-	-	-
- 1 month to <6 months	18	12	-	-	-
- 6 months to <1 year	-	3	1	-	-
- 1 year to <2 years	-	1	1	2	-
- 2 years or more	-	1	3	3	2

<sup>a</sup> The NT only counted children in out-of-home care who were also on a legal order. This means that the numbers here may be underestimated. <sup>b</sup> Refers to children who exited care in 1997-98. - Nil or rounded to zero.

**Table 13A.61 Out-of-home care effectiveness indicators — client outcomes<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>1996-97</i>	<i>1997-98</i>
No. of children in out-of-home care at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship	20	36
- as a proportion of all children in out-of-home care <sup>b</sup>	18%	26%

<sup>a</sup> The NT only counted children in out-of-home care who were also on a legal order. This means that the numbers here may be underestimated. <sup>b</sup> Calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in out-of-home placement at 30 June where placement was known.

## 13A.4 Supported accommodation and assistance

### Descriptors

**Table 13A.62 Composition of SAAP support periods, 1997-98<sup>a, b</sup>**

<i>Support services provided</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Housing/ accommodation	%	89.4	60.3	76.5	88.7	73.5	70.4	86.2	77.9	77.4
Financial assistance/ employment assistance	%	26.6	42.0	32.4	32.6	31.1	28.0	42.1	35.5	32.9
Counselling	%	24.2	45.8	40.5	43.0	36.7	47.1	48.0	44.2	36.8
General support/ advocacy	%	61.3	78.7	71.1	65.1	79.6	69.1	83.4	78.2	70.3
Specialist services	%	20.4	18.9	20.8	35.9	18.4	14.3	33.8	41.4	21.9
Other	%	88.1	47.2	71.2	78.1	64.4	62.0	85.2	79.9	71.0
<b>Total number</b>	<b>(‘000)</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>6 063</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>156.5</b>

<sup>a</sup> Agencies may provide more than one type of service as a part of a single support period; thus services provided do not sum to 100 per cent. <sup>b</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.63 SAAP agencies, primary target group, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Primary target group</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Proportion of SAAP agencies targeting client group</i>
Young people	%	38.9
Single men only	%	8.4
Single women only	%	3.6
Families	%	7.7
Women escaping domestic violence	%	21.1
Cross target/multiple/general	%	20.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>1 215</b>

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.64 SAAP agencies, service delivery model, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Service delivery model</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Proportion of SAAP agencies with service delivery model</i>
Crisis/short term accommodation	%	33.8
Medium/long term accommodation	%	40.4
Day support	%	2.3
Outreach support	%	4.6
Telephone information/referral	%	1.5
Agency support	%	2.1
Multiple	%	11.2
Other	%	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>1 215</b>

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.65 Recurrent SAAP program funding, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
<i>Level of funding</i>										
Commonwealth allocation	\$m	43.0	28.4	18.2	10.3	12.7	5.6	3.7	2.9	124.8
State/Territory allocation	\$m	38.5	20.9	13.4	7.8	8.6	4.3	3.4	2.0	98.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$m</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>223.7</b>
<i>Proportion of total funding</i>										
Commonwealth allocation	%	52.7	57.5	57.6	56.9	59.7	56.6	51.8	59.3	55.8
State/Territory allocation	%	47.3	42.5	42.4	43.1	40.3	43.4	48.2	40.7	44.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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> Total SAAP recurrent allocations (including State/Territory level allocations for program administration) were included in the analysis.

**Table 13A.66 Recurrent SAAP program funding, 1995-96 to 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
<i>Nominal funding (\$m)</i>										
1995-96	\$m	73.6	46.1	29.8	17.3	20.5	6.8	6.7	4.8	205.5
1996-97	\$m	80.1	48.4	31.1	17.7	20.9	9.7	6.9	4.9	219.7
1997-98	\$m	81.6	49.3	31.7	18.0	21.3	9.8	7.1	5.0	223.7
<i>Real funding (1997-98 dollars)</i>										
1995-96	1997-98 \$m	75.8	47.5	30.7	17.8	21.1	7.0	6.9	4.9	211.7
1996-97	1997-98 \$m	81.1	49.0	31.5	17.9	21.2	9.8	7.0	4.9	222.4
1997-98	1997-98 \$m	81.6	49.3	31.7	18.0	21.3	9.8	7.1	5.0	223.7

<sup>a</sup> Total SAAP recurrent allocations (including State/Territory level allocations for program administration) were included in the analysis.

**Table 13A.67 Recurrent SAAP program funding per person in the total population (in 1997-98 dollars)<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
1995-96	12.4	10.5	9.4	10.3	14.3	14.7	22.7	27.7	11.7
1996-97	13.1	10.7	9.4	10.1	14.4	20.6	22.8	27.1	12.1
1997-98	13.0	10.7	9.3	10.0	14.4	20.8	22.9	26.5	12.1

<sup>a</sup> Total SAAP recurrent allocations (including State/Territory level allocations for program administration) were included in the analysis. <sup>b</sup> The total population figure is not indicative of the demand for SAAP services.

## Effectiveness indicators

### Outcomes

Table 13A.68 **Change in client's income source after SAAP support, 1997-98<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
From no income to some income	%	5.3	6.3	5.6	3.7	5.5	3.5	5.1	4.1	5.3
Obtained own benefit/extra benefit/wages	%	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.1	1.2	2.0	4.4	2.4
No substantive change	%	82.7	84.7	81.6	88.7	85.4	91.6	84.0	82.8	84.4
No income before or after support	%	8.8	4.7	9.1	4.0	5.8	3.2	7.9	7.7	6.6
From wage to govt payments/ some income to no income	%	0.8	1.9	1.2	1.1	1.3	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>16 750</b>	<b>18 206</b>	<b>9 184</b>	<b>6 599</b>	<b>4 899</b>	<b>2 713</b>	<b>1 885</b>	<b>2 389</b>	<b>62 625</b>

<sup>a</sup> Excluded high volume records because income source after support was not collected. <sup>b</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.69 Change in clients' type of housing after SAAP support, 1997-98<sup>a, b</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
<i>Independent housing</i>										
Private rental	%	38.3	47.4	49.8	41.6	37.9	48.7	22.1	32.8	43.0
Owner-occupied	%	3.1	4.8	2.2	4.6	3.7	2.9	1.6	1.5	3.6
Public housing	%	14.5	12.2	13.1	21.1	21.8	19.0	20.9	28.2	15.7
Other <sup>c</sup>	%	14.5	11.6	13.6	8.0	13.0	8.8	17.1	15.9	12.5
<i>Non-independent housing</i>										
SAAP crisis/short term	%	10.9	11.0	8.0	5.1	6.8	6.8	11.9	4.5	9.3
SAAP medium/short term	%	6.3	4.9	3.3	3.1	3.7	3.2	5.5	1.9	4.6
Other <sup>d</sup>	%	12.5	8.0	10.0	16.4	13.2	10.6	21.0	15.2	11.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>12 889</b>	<b>17 162</b>	<b>7 300</b>	<b>5 353</b>	<b>4 050</b>	<b>2 137</b>	<b>1 419</b>	<b>1 935</b>	<b>52 245</b>

<sup>a</sup> Excluded high volume records because not all items were included in high volume forms. <sup>b</sup> Preliminary data.

<sup>c</sup> 'Other' independent housing may include living rent free in a house or flat. <sup>d</sup> 'Other' non-independent housing may include SAAP funded accommodation at hostels, hotels or community placements; non-SAAP emergency accommodation; a car, tent or squat; or an institutional setting.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.70 Labour force status of clients before SAAP support, 1997-98<sup>a, b</sup>**

<i>Labour force status</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Employed full time	%	3.1	3.5	3.5	4.0	2.5	2.4	3.0	7.0	3.4
Employed part time	%	2.3	3.1	2.9	3.7	2.6	1.7	2.1	3.9	2.8
Employed on casual basis	%	2.7	3.3	3.3	2.6	3.0	2.3	3.4	4.3	3.1
Unemployed	%	37.0	34.2	38.7	35.0	34.9	40.7	42.7	42.0	36.6
Not in labour force	%	54.9	55.9	51.5	54.7	56.9	53.0	48.8	42.8	54.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>21 174</b>	<b>23 318</b>	<b>11 416</b>	<b>8 592</b>	<b>6 450</b>	<b>3 513</b>	<b>2 370</b>	<b>2 799</b>	<b>79 632</b>

<sup>a</sup> Excluded high volume records. <sup>b</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.71 Change in labour force status of clients after SAAP support, 1997-98<sup>a, b, c</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Employed full time	%	3.3	2.9	2.7	3.9	2.3	1.2	1.9	5.8	3.1
Employed part time	%	1.6	1.8	2.2	1.3	1.9	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.7
Employed on casual basis	%	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.1	2.2	1.5	2.0	3.4	2.5
<i>Employed — sub-total</i>	%	<i>7.4</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>7.4</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>7.2</i>
Unemployed — studying	%	4.2	4.1	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.2	2.2	3.7	3.8
Unemployed — not studying	%	85.4	84.4	86.3	84.6	85.3	90.7	88.4	83.2	85.5
<i>Unemployed — sub-total</i>	%	<i>89.6</i>	<i>88.5</i>	<i>89.8</i>	<i>88.4</i>	<i>89.2</i>	<i>94.0</i>	<i>90.6</i>	<i>86.9</i>	<i>89.3</i>
Not in labour force — studying	%	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.9
Not in labour force — not studying	%	2.1	2.9	1.9	3.4	3.6	1.2	3.4	2.3	2.5
<i>Not in labour force — sub-total</i>	%	<i>3.0</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>4.2</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>3.5</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>5643</b>	<b>5731</b>	<b>3329</b>	<b>1961</b>	<b>1616</b>	<b>1027</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>20992</b>

<sup>a</sup> Data were for people who were unemployed when entering SAAP services. <sup>b</sup> Excluded high volume records because not all items were included on high volume forms. <sup>c</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.72 SAAP clients who exited from the service in 1997-98 and who returned to SAAP agencies before the end of that year<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Total number of support periods</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
1	%	76.1	82.8	82.5	79.8	80.4	82.3	80.5	76.9	80.1
2	%	12.1	11.4	11.5	13.1	12.3	11.3	13.3	12.6	11.9
3	%	4.7	3.1	3.4	4.1	4.3	3.5	4.0	5.7	3.9
4	%	2.5	1.2	1.3	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.4	2.4	1.7
5	%	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.8
6+	%	3.4	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.3	1.4	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>23 663</b>	<b>22 767</b>	<b>12 428</b>	<b>6 645</b>	<b>6 965</b>	<b>2 734</b>	<b>1 828</b>	<b>2 359</b>	<b>79 389</b>
<i>Proportion of SAAP clients who return to SAAP within 12 months</i>										
2+	%	23.9	17.2	17.5	20.2	19.6	17.7	19.5	23.1	19.9

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.73 Indicative estimates of clients exiting to independent housing and not returning within six months, 1997<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Total clients <sup>b</sup>									
No.	36 726	32 793	21 967	9 707	10 031	5 244	2 638	4 157	110 263
Clients who provide information on accommodation on exit from support <sup>c, d</sup>									
No.	9 389	11 795	5 201	3 569	2 967	1 487	1 169	1 007	36 584
As a proportion of total clients									
%	26	36	24	37	30	28	44	24	33
Clients recorded as exiting to independent accommodation and not returning within six months <sup>c</sup>									
No.	3 397	5 015	2 007	1 334	1 080	618	442	377	14 270
<b>Indicative estimates of clients exiting to independent housing and not returning within six months<sup>c, d, e</sup></b>									
%	36	43	39	37	36	42	38	37	39

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data. <sup>b</sup> Estimated total number of clients for 1997-98 (not 1997), based on the following calculation: of 156 589 forms received nationally in 1997-98, 112 744 forms had a valid alpha code and related to 79 389 clients. This represents an average of 1.42 support periods per client. Assuming that clients who did not supply alpha codes were provided with the same number of support periods, it was estimated that the remaining 43 845 forms represent 30 874 individuals. Thus the best national estimate for the total number of clients was 79 389 + 30 874 = 110 263. This calculation has been applied to each State/Territory, using the relevant client and form numbers. The average number of support periods varies in each State and Territory. The national estimate varies from the total of each State/Territory estimate as a result of rounding. <sup>c</sup> Clients whose support period ended on or after 1 January 1997 and before 1 January 1998 were included in the analysis. Excluded high volume records because not all items were included on high volume forms. Data should be interpreted with caution. Consent and valid alpha codes were required for each support period for the clients; after support information was not commonly completed; and particular client groups (for example, women escaping domestic violence) may be underrepresented in this calculation because of a higher incidence of non-consent. <sup>d</sup> A client may receive two or more periods of support in the year. To minimise double counting of individual clients, only one record per client which had exit information was included in the analysis. <sup>e</sup> Clients recorded as exiting to independent accommodation and not returning within six months as a proportion of clients who provide information on accommodation on exit from support.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

### Quality

**Table 13A.74 Support periods, by existence of a support plan, 1997-98<sup>a, b</sup>**

<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>	
Support plan	%	56.8	61.8	50.7	56.6	54.8	46.5	64.4	50.3	56.5
No support plan	%	17.5	13.2	17.7	18.3	22.0	22.1	9.0	20.1	16.9
Support plan not appropriate	%	25.7	24.9	31.6	25.1	23.2	31.4	26.7	29.6	26.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>27 303</b>	<b>29 707</b>	<b>16 987</b>	<b>10 603</b>	<b>8 363</b>	<b>5 258</b>	<b>3 069</b>	<b>4 146</b>	<b>105 436</b>

<sup>a</sup> Excluded high volume records because not all items were included on high volume forms. <sup>b</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

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## Access

**Table 13A.75 Potential clients unable to be supported, main reason for support not provided, 1997-98 (per cent)<sup>a, b, c, d</sup>**

<i>Main reason support not provided</i>	<i>Proportion of potential clients</i>
Insufficient staff	5.2
No accommodation available	80.1
Facilities for disability needs not available	0.8
Facilities for cultural needs not available	0.1
Facilities for other special needs not available	2.2
Age of male child	0.4
Other	11.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>82 186</b>

<sup>a</sup> A two-week Unmet Demand Collection is conducted annually to gather information about homeless people who were not accepted as clients of SAAP agencies. In 1997-98, the collection was held between 13–26 November 1997 and over the fortnight, agencies recorded 7 240 unmet requests. The calculation of the number of unmet requests for assistance has changed this year. In this table, unmet requests exclude those where the person refused an offer of assistance; those where a similar request was made at a SAAP funded agency within the collection period (to limit double counting); and those where the reason their request was not met was either that the referral was inappropriate (wrong target group) or that the service requested was not provided by the agency. <sup>b</sup> As potential client data were only recorded during a two week period, a weighting of 26 has been applied to the count. <sup>c</sup> Data on unmet requests should be interpreted with caution for several reasons. First, a person can make requests on more than one occasion and to more than one SAAP agency. While double counting has been limited through the exclusion of those requests where the person had made a similar request to a SAAP agency within the collection period, this information may not have been available to record. Thus, the figure 82 186 does not represent actual people. Second, a number of people may receive the ongoing support or accommodation from a SAAP agency at a later time, quite possibly soon after their initial request. As a result, this estimate may overstate the actual level of unmet demand. Third, a number of potential clients have their needs met by other means and do not return to a SAAP agency. And finally, there are shortfalls in pro-rating from a two-week collection period to the full year. Many factors influence the capacity of individual SAAP agencies to meet day-to-day demand for their services: it is not possible to identify a two-week period which is 'typical' for all SAAP agencies. <sup>d</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.76 SAAP clients as a proportion of estimated total demand, 1997-98 (per cent)<sup>a, b, c, d, e, f</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Total SAAP clients <sup>b</sup>	'000	36.7	32.8	22.0	9.7	10.0	5.2	2.6	4.2	110.3
Potential clients unable to be supported <sup>c, d, e</sup>	'000	26.1	20.0	16.7	6.7	8.3	2.1	1.5	0.8	82.2
Total estimated demand	'000	62.8	52.8	38.7	16.4	18.4	7.4	4.2	4.9	192.4
SAAP clients as a proportion of total estimated demand	%	58.5	62.1	56.7	59.3	54.7	71.1	63.2	84.6	57.3

<sup>a</sup> Data should be interpreted with extreme caution. <sup>b</sup> Estimates of SAAP clients were based on the following calculation: of 156 589 forms received nationally in 1997-98, 112 744 forms had a valid alpha code and related to 79 389 clients. This represents an average of 1.42 support periods per client. Assuming that clients who did not supply alpha codes were provided with the same number of support periods, it was estimated that the remaining 43 845 forms represent 30 874 individuals. Thus the best national estimate for the total number of clients was 79 389 + 30 874 = 110 263. This calculation has been applied to each State/Territory, using the relevant client and form numbers. The average number of support periods varies in each State and Territory. The national estimate varies from the total of each State/Territory estimate as a result of rounding. <sup>c</sup> Data for unmet demand are estimates only based on information collected in the two-week period 13-26 November 1997. As potential client data were only recorded during a two week period, a weighting of 26 has been applied to the count. <sup>d</sup> Unmet requests exclude those where the person refused an offer of assistance; those where a similar request was made at a SAAP funded agency within the collection period (to limit double counting); and those where the reason their request was not met was either that the referral was inappropriate (wrong target group) or that the service requested was not provided by the agency. <sup>e</sup> Data on unmet demand should be interpreted with caution for several reasons. First, a person can make a request on more than one occasion and to more than one SAAP agency. While double counting has been limited through the exclusion of those requests where the person had made a similar request to a SAAP agency within the collection period, this information may not have been available to record. Therefore, the total numbers do not represent actual people. Second, a number of people may receive the ongoing support or accommodation from a SAAP agency at a later time, quite possibly soon after their initial request. As a result, this estimate may overstate the actual level of unmet demand. Third, a number of potential clients have their needs met by other means and do not return to a SAAP agency. And finally, there are shortfalls in pro-rating from a two-week collection period to the full year. Many factors influence the capacity of individual SAAP agencies to meet day-to-day demand for their services: it is not possible to identify a two-week period which is 'typical' for all SAAP agencies. <sup>f</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.77 Indigenous people among SAAP clients and among people unable to be provided with a SAAP service, 1997-98 (per cent)<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Representation among SAAP clients	13.5	4.1	12.9	30.1	12.3	8.4	7.4	37.6	12.4
Representation among people unable to be provided with a SAAP service <sup>b, c, d</sup>	11.4	3.5	16.1	31.0	14.7	6.6	20.0	50.0	12.7

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data. <sup>b</sup> Data were estimates only based on information collected in the two-week period 13–26 November 1997. As potential client data were only recorded during a two week period, a weighting of 26 has been applied to the count. <sup>c</sup> Unmet requests exclude those where the person refused an offer of assistance; those where a similar request was made at a SAAP funded agency within the collection period (to limit double counting); and those where the reason their request was not met was either that the referral was inappropriate (wrong target group) or that the service requested was not provided by the agency. <sup>d</sup> Data on unmet requests should be interpreted with caution for several reasons. First, a person can make request on more than one occasion and to more than one SAAP agency. While double counting has been limited through the exclusion of those requests where the person had made a similar request to a SAAP agency within the collection period, this information may not have been available to record. Therefore, the total numbers do not represent actual people. Second, a number of people may receive the ongoing support or accommodation from a SAAP agency at a later time, quite possibly soon after their initial request. As a result, this estimate may overstate the actual level of unmet demand. Third, a number of potential clients have their needs met by other means and do not return to a SAAP agency. And finally, there are shortfalls in pro-rating from a two-week collection period to the full year. It was not possible to identify a two-week period which is 'typical' for all SAAP agencies.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.78 Representation of people from non-English speaking backgrounds among SAAP clients and among people unable to be provided with a SAAP service, 1997-98 (per cent)<sup>a, b, c, d</sup>**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Representation among SAAP clients	10.2	12.1	5.5	12.6	7.4	2.3	11.1	4.7	9.6
Representation among people unable to be provided with a SAAP service <sup>b, c, d</sup>	9.8	7.9	3.3	9.2	2.2	3.3	2.5	4.2	6.9

<sup>a</sup> Data were estimates only based on information collected in the two-week period 13–26 November 1997. As potential client data were only recorded during a two week period, a weighting of 26 has been applied to the count. <sup>b</sup> Unmet requests exclude those where the person refused an offer of assistance; those where a similar request was made at a SAAP funded agency within the collection period (to limit double counting); and those where the reason their request was not met was either that the referral was inappropriate (wrong target group) or that the service requested was not provided by the agency. <sup>c</sup> Data on unmet requests should be interpreted with caution for several reasons. First, a person can make request on more than one occasion and to more than one SAAP agency. While double counting has been limited through the exclusion of those requests where the person had made a similar request to a SAAP agency within the collection period, this information may not have been available to record. Therefore, the total numbers do not represent actual people. Second, a number of people may receive the ongoing support or accommodation from a SAAP agency at a later time, quite possibly soon after their initial request. As a result, this estimate may overstate the actual level of unmet demand. Third, a number of potential clients have their needs met by other means and do not return to a SAAP agency. And finally, there are shortfalls in pro-rating from a two-week collection period to the full year. It was not possible to identify a two-week period which is 'typical' for all SAAP agencies. <sup>d</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

### Appropriateness

**Table 13A.79 Support needs of SAAP clients, met and unmet, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Provided only	%	80.8	67.1	82.6	80.4	72.9	77.6	73.7	78.1	76.5
Referred only	%	5.5	11.7	6.3	5.8	8.5	7.2	7.2	9.6	7.8
Provided & referred	%	6.2	11.4	5.6	6.1	11.4	6.3	10.9	6.6	8.0
Unmet	%	7.5	9.8	5.6	7.7	7.2	8.8	8.2	5.7	7.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>'000</b>	<b>311.6</b>	<b>245.1</b>	<b>153.1</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>965.4</b>

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.80 Support needs of indigenous clients, met and unmet, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Provided only	%	81.7	65.6	80.8	82.3	73.5	76.7	75.4	79.1	78.7
Referred only	%	6.4	12.0	5.4	4.7	7.6	5.3	7.6	8.3	6.9
Provided & referred	%	5.3	11.7	6.4	5.4	11.6	7.0	10.7	7.4	7.1
Unmet	%	6.6	10.8	7.4	7.5	7.3	11.0	6.3	5.2	7.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>'000</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>115.5</b>

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.81 Support needs of clients from non-English speaking backgrounds, met and unmet, 1997-98<sup>a</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Provided only	%	79.3	66.0	79.9	76.5	73.1	80.1	71.2	74.7	73.6
Referred only	%	5.8	11.2	6.5	7.6	9.7	6.2	8.8	13.0	8.5
Provided & referred	%	8.8	12.9	7.6	5.7	11.6	6.6	12.2	7.1	10.1
Unmet	%	6.1	9.9	6.0	10.3	5.6	7.1	7.8	5.3	7.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>%</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>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>109.4</b>

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

## Efficiency indicators

**Table 13A.82 Recurrent cost per day of support for homeless clients, 1997-98<sup>a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Recurrent allocation	\$m	78.8	46.1	29.5	17.6	19.9	9.2	6.7	4.8	212.7
Number of support days	'000	1 426	2 075	692	350	559	230	175	105	5 612
Cost per support day	\$	55	22	43	50	36	40	38	46	38

<sup>a</sup> All participating SAAP agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>b</sup> The length of support excluded any dates outside the reference period. For instance, if a support period started in December 1996 and ended in September 1997, only the support dates between July and September 1997 were included. <sup>c</sup> Clients whose support period was ongoing on 30 June 1998 were included. <sup>d</sup> Only agency level recurrent allocations were included in this analysis. <sup>e</sup> There was a small number of SAAP agencies that received recurrent funding but did not send in any client forms. These agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>f</sup> There was a small number of participating SAAP agencies that did not receive recurrent funding. These agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>g</sup> Preliminary data. <sup>h</sup> Accompanying children in SAAP were included in the efficiency calculations.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.83 Recurrent cost per completed support period, 1997-98 (\$)<sup>a, b, c, d, e, f</sup>**

	<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Recurrent allocation	\$m	78.8	46.1	29.5	17.6	19.9	9.2	6.7	4.8	212.7
Closed support periods	No.	49 899	35 723	23 945	11 043	11 080	5 508	2 791	5 098	145 087
Cost per completed support period	\$	1 580	1 291	1 231	1 597	1 797	1 662	2 402	948	1 466

<sup>a</sup> All participating SAAP agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>b</sup> Only agency level recurrent allocations were included in the analysis. <sup>c</sup> There was a small number of participating SAAP agencies that did not receive recurrent funding. These agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>d</sup> There was a small number of SAAP agencies that received recurrent funding but did not send in any client forms. These agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>e</sup> Preliminary data. <sup>f</sup> Accompanying children in SAAP were included in the efficiency calculations.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.84 Recurrent cost per client accessing services, 1997-98**  
 (\$)<sup>a, b, c, d, e, f, g</sup>

<i>Unit</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Recurrent allocation									
\$m	78.8	46.1	29.5	17.6	19.9	9.2	6.7	4.8	212.7
Reported number of clients									
No.	23 663	22 767	12 428	6 645	6 965	2 734	1 828	2 359	79 389
Estimated total number of clients <sup>h</sup>									
No.	36 726	32 793	21 967	9 707	10 031	5 244	2 638	4 157	110 263
Estimated cost per client									
\$	2 146	1 406	1 341	1 817	1 984	1 746	2 541	1 163	1 929

<sup>a</sup> All participating SAAP agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>b</sup> Ongoing clients were included in the analysis. <sup>c</sup> Only agency level recurrent allocations were included in this analysis. <sup>d</sup> There was a small number of participating SAAP agencies that did not receive recurrent funding. These agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>e</sup> There was a small number of SAAP agencies that received recurrent funding but did not send in any client forms. These agencies were included in the analysis. <sup>f</sup> Accompanying children in SAAP were included in the efficiency calculations. <sup>g</sup> Preliminary data. <sup>h</sup> Estimate based on the following calculation: of 156 589 forms received nationally in 1997-98, 112 744 forms had a valid alpha code and related to 79 389 clients. This represented an average of 1.42 support periods per client. Assuming that clients who did not supply alpha codes were provided with the same number of support periods, it was estimated that the remaining 43 845 forms represent 30 874 individuals. Thus the best national estimate for the total number of clients was 79 389 + 30 874 = 110 263. This calculation has been applied to each State/Territory, using the relevant client and form numbers. The average number of support periods varies in each State and Territory. The national estimate varies from the total of each State/Territory estimate as a result of rounding.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

**Table 13A.85 Average accommodation load and caseload per day, 1997-98<sup>a, b, c</sup>**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Average accommodation load per day	8.4	8.7	7.7	6.9	13.8	7.3	12.6	5.9	8.5
Average caseload per day	11.4	20.0	11.6	10.6	23.7	16.2	16.2	10.6	14.8

<sup>a</sup> The accommodation load of agencies was calculated by dividing the number of accommodation days by the number of days the agency was operational during the reporting period, where the number of accommodation days equals the sum of accommodation days for all clients of an agency who were supported during the reporting period. The average accommodation load was the mean value of all agencies' accommodation loads. Support periods without valid accommodation dates were assigned the inter-quartile modal duration of accommodation for agencies of the same service delivery model in the same jurisdiction. <sup>b</sup> The caseload of agencies was calculated by dividing the number of support days by the number of days the agency was operational during the reporting period, where the number of support days equals the sum of support days for all clients of the agency who were supported during the reporting period. The average caseload was the mean value of all agencies' caseloads. Support periods without valid support dates were assigned the inter-quartile modal duration of support for agencies of the same service delivery model in the same jurisdiction. <sup>c</sup> Preliminary data.

Source: SAAP NDCA Administrative Data and Client Collections.

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## 13A.5 Definitions

### Child protection services

Table 13A.86 **Child protection terminology**

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person	Person who was of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, who identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and was accepted as such by the community with which they were associated. A child was recorded as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander when the child identified as such, or when the child's principal care giver identified the child as such.
Abuse and neglect	When a person (generally having the care of a child) inflicted, or allowed to be inflicted on the child (other than by accidental means) a physical injury or deprivation which may have created a substantial risk of harm or injury
Care and protection orders	<p>Legal orders or administrative/voluntary arrangements involving the community services department, issued in respect of an individual child who was deemed to be in need of care and/or protection. Community services department involvement may have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• total responsibility for the welfare of the child (for example, guardianship);</li><li>• responsibility to oversee the actions of the person or authority caring for the child;</li><li>• responsibility to provide or arrange accommodation or to report or give consideration to the child's welfare.</li></ul> <p>The order may have been from a court, children's panel, Minister of the Crown, authorised community services department officer or similar tribunal or officer.</p> <p>Care and protection orders were categorised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• finalised guardianship and finalised custody orders sought through a court;</li><li>• finalised supervision and other finalised court orders which gave the department some responsibility for the child's welfare (excluding interim orders);</li><li>• interim and temporary orders (including orders that were not finalised); and</li><li>• administrative or voluntary arrangements with the community services department, for the purpose of child protection.</li></ul> <p>Children were counted only once even if they were on more than one care and protection order.</p>
Child	A person aged 0–17 years
Child at risk	A child for whom no abuse or neglect could be substantiated but there were reasonable grounds to suspect the possibility of prior or future abuse or neglect and it was considered that continued departmental involvement was warranted

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Table 13A.74 (Continued)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Child concern reports	Reports to community services departments regarding concerns about a child, as distinct from notifications of child abuse and neglect. The distinction between the two differed across and within jurisdictions.
Child subject to orders	Any child for whom the community services department had a responsibility as a result of some formal legal order or an administrative/voluntary arrangement. Only orders issued for protective reasons were included.
Emotional abuse	Any act by a person having the care of a child which resulted in the child suffering any kind of significant emotional deprivation or trauma
Having the care of	Permanent or temporary custody, control or responsibility at the time of abuse or neglect, whether on a regular, part time or <i>ad hoc</i> basis
Indigenous person	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person
Investigation finalised	Where an investigation was completed and an outcome was recorded
Investigation not finalised	Where an investigation was commenced but an outcome was not recorded
Maltreatment	Child abuse and neglect
Neglect	Any serious omissions or commissions by a person having the care of a child which, within the bounds of cultural tradition, constituted a failure to provide conditions which were essential for the healthy, physical and emotional development of a child
No abuse or neglect found	Where an investigation concluded that there was no reasonable cause to suspect prior, current or future abuse or neglect of the child
Notification	Contact with an authorised department by persons or other bodies making allegations of child abuse or neglect. Notification was not necessarily investigated
Notification investigated	Notification for which the department made substantial contacts, by any means, with the child and/or family, and/or persons known to the child and/or family, to assess whether abuse or neglect had occurred. The investigation may have been finalised.
Notification not investigated	Notification for which response included means other than investigation, such as advice or referral to services
Physical abuse	Any non-accidental physical injury inflicted on a child by a person having the care of the child

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**Table 13A.87 (Continued)**

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Sexual abuse	Any act by a person having the care of a child which exposed the child to, or involved the child in, sexual processes beyond his or her understanding or contrary to accepted community standards
Substantiated notification (substantiation)	Notification for which an investigation concluded that there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been, was being, or was likely to be abused or neglected. It did not necessarily require sufficient evidence for a successful prosecution and did not imply that treatment or case management was, or was to be, provided.

## Supported placements

**Table 13A.88 Supported placements terminology**

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person	Person who was of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, who identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and was accepted as such by the community with which they were associated. A child was recorded as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander when the child identified as such, or when the child's principal care giver identified the child as such.
Child	A person aged 0–17 years
Children in care or protection	Children placed in the care and supervision of a relevant authority, individual or parent, for whom the authorised department had ultimate responsibility in ensuring that the was child receiving suitable or satisfactory care
Children under guardianship	Children whose legal guardian was the Minister, Director or other official of an authorised department, where the guardianship was conferred under legislation other than legislation controlling the adoption of children or the <i>Commonwealth Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1956</i> .
Exited out-of-home care	Where a child did not return to care within two months
Family based care	Home based care (see placement types)
Family group homes	Residential child care single dwelling establishments which had as their main purpose the provision of substitute care to children. They were typically run like family homes, with a limited number of children who ate together as a family group and were cared for around-the clock by resident substitute parents.

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Table 13A.89 (Continued)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Foster care	Care of a child who was living apart from his or her natural or adoptive parents in a private household, by one or more adults who acted as 'foster parents' and were paid a regular allowance for the child's support by a government authority or non-government organisation. The authorised department or non-government organisation provided continuing supervision or support while the child remained in the care of 'foster parents'.
Foster parent	Any person who was being paid a foster allowance (or such a person's spouse) by a government or non-government organisation for the care of a child (excluding children in family group homes)
Guardian	Any person who had the legal and ongoing care and responsibility for the protection of a child
Having the care of	Permanent or temporary custody, control or responsibility at the time of abuse or neglect, whether this was on a regular, part time or <i>ad hoc</i> basis
Indigenous person	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person
Living with parent or other relative	Living with one or both natural or adoptive parents, or with any adult relative who did not receive a regular allowance for care of the child
Maltreater	The person believed responsible for the abuse or neglect of a child. The maltreater was generally a person who had care of the child, although in some cases (particularly sexual abuse) abuse was by other persons.
Nonrespite care	Supported placement for children for child protection reasons
Other relative	Grandparent, aunt, uncle or cousin, whether the relationship was half, full or step or through adoption and could be traced through or to a person whose parents were not married to each other at the time of his or her birth. This category included members of Aboriginal communities who were accepted by that community as being related to the child.
Out-of-home care	Supported placement
Placement types	There were four main categories for placement type: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• facility based care (placement in a residential building whose purpose was to provide placement for children and where there were paid staff, including placements in family group homes);</li> <li>• home based care (placement in the home of a carer who was reimbursed for expenses for the care of the child). There were three subcategories of home based care — foster care/community care, relative/kinship care and other;</li> <li>• independent living (including private board); and</li> <li>• other (including unknown).</li> </ul>

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**Table 13A.90 (Continued)**

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Relatives/kin	Family members other than parents or a person well known to the child and/or family (based on a pre-existing relationship)
Respite care	Supported placement on a temporary basis for reasons other than child protection — for example, when parents were ill. Excluded emergency care provided to children who were removed from their homes for protective reasons.
Sibling	A natural (that is, biological), adopted, foster, step or half-brother or sister
Substitute care	Provision of care for a child by persons (other than the child's natural or adoptive parents) who acted as substitute parents. This included foster care and residential care.
Supported placement	Out-of-home overnight care, including placement with relatives (other than parents) where government made a financial payment. Included children in legal and voluntary placements (that is, children on and not on a legal order) but excluded placements made in disability services, psychiatric services, juvenile justice facilities or overnight child care services.

**Table 13A.91 Supported placements descriptors**

<i>Descriptor</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Children in supported placement during the year	The total number of children who were in at least one supported placement at any time during the year. A child who was in more than one placement was only counted once.
Length of time in continuous supported placement	The length of time for which a child was in supported placement on a continuous basis. A return home of less than seven days was not considered to break the continuity of placement.

**Table 13A.92 Supported placements indicators**

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Abuse or neglect in supported placement	Abuse or neglect that occurred while the child was living in a supported placement and while the person believed responsible for the abuse or neglect was living in the household at the time.
Stability of placement	Numbers of placements for children who had exited out-of-home care in 1997-98. A return home of less than seven days or holidays were not considered to break the continuity of the placement. Placements did not include respite or temporary placements lasting less than seven days. Placements were counted separately where there was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a change in the placement type — for example, from a home based to a facility based placement; or</li><li>• within placement type, a change in venue, for example, and a change from one home based placement to a different home based placement.</li></ul>

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## Supported accommodation and assistance

Table 13A.93 **Supported accommodation and assistance terminology**

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person	Person who was of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island descent, who identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and who was accepted as such by the community with they were associated
Accommodation	Crisis or short term accommodation, medium to long-term accommodation, and other SAAP funded accommodation (which comprised accommodation at hostels, motels and hotels, accommodation in caravans, community placements and other SAAP funded arrangements)
Agency	The body or establishment with which the State or Territory Government or its representative agreed to provide a SAAP service. The legal entity had to be incorporated. Funding from the State or Territory Government could be allocated directly (that is, from the government department) or indirectly (that is, from the auspice of the agency). The SAAP service could be provided at the agency's location or through an outlet at a different location.
Casual client	A person who was in contact with a SAAP agency and received one-off assistance for a period of generally not more than one hour, and who did not establish an ongoing relationship with an agency
Client	A person who received supported accommodation or support
Crisis or short term supported accommodation	Supported accommodation for periods of generally not more than three months (short term) and for persons needing immediate short term accommodation (crisis)
Cross-target/multiple/general services	SAAP services targeted at more than one primary client group category — for example, SAAP services for single persons regardless of their gender
Day support	Support only on a walk-in basis — for example, an agency which provided a drop-in centre, showering facilities and a meals service at the location of the SAAP agency

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**Table 13A.94 (Continued)**

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Homeless person	<p>A person who did not have access to safe, secure and adequate housing. A person was considered to not have access to such housing if the only housing to which the person had access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• damaged, or was likely to damage, the person's health; or</li> <li>• threatened the person's safety; or</li> <li>• marginalised the person through failing to provide access to adequate personal amenities or the economic and social supports that a home normally affords; or</li> <li>• placed the person in circumstances which threatened or adversely affected the adequacy, safety, security and affordability of that housing; or</li> <li>• had no security of tenure.</li> </ul> <p>A person was also considered homeless if he or she was living in accommodation provided by a SAAP agency or some other form of emergency accommodation.</p>
Indigenous person	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person
Medium to long term supported accommodation	Supported accommodation for periods over three months. Medium term was around three to six months and long term was longer than six months.
Multiple service delivery model	SAAP agencies which used more than one service delivery model to provide SAAP services — for example, crisis or short term accommodation and support, as well day support (that is, the provision of meals)
Non-English speaking background services	Services that were targeted at persons whose first language was not English
Non-recurrent funds	SAAP funds received for non-recurrent purposes, such as funds for research, a special one-off project or replacement of capital items (for example, furniture, motor vehicles, etc.)
Non-SAAP accommodation places	Accommodation places in the form of permanent beds (owned or managed by the agency) that used funds other than SAAP funds
One-off assistance	Assistance provided to a person who was not a client, such as the provision of a meal, a shower, transport, money, clothing, telephone advice, information or a referral
Ongoing support period	A support period for which, at the end of the reporting period, no support end date and no after-support information were provided
Other special characteristics	Primary or secondary characteristics that were not included in those of a service's primary client or group or in other categories of the secondary client group — for example, a service specifically targeted at homeless persons with a disability

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**Table 13A.95 (Continued)**

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Outlet	A premise owned/managed/leased by an agency at which SAAP services were delivered. Excluded accommodation purchased using SAAP funds (for example, at a motel).
Outreach support services	Services which existed to provide support and other related assistance specifically to homeless people. These people may have been isolated and able to receive services and support from a range of options that enhanced flexibility for the client (for example, advocacy, life skills, counselling). Generalist support and accommodation services may also have provided outreach support in the form of follow-up to clients where they were housed. In this context, support was provided 'off site'.
Providers	Agencies that supplied support and accommodation services
Real expenditure	Actual expenditure adjusted for changes in prices. Adjustments were made using the GDP(E) price deflator and expressed in terms of final year prices.
Recurrent funding	Funding provided by the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments to cover operating costs, salaries and rent
Referral	When a SAAP agency contacted another agency and that agency accepted the person concerned for an appointment or interview. A referral was not provided if the person was not accepted for an appointment or interview.
SAAP service	Supported accommodation, support or one-off assistance, which was provided by a SAAP agency and intended to be used by homeless persons
Service delivery model	The mode or manner in which a service was provided through an agency. The modes of service delivery could be described as crisis or short term accommodation and support; medium to long term accommodation and support; day support; outreach support; telephone information and referral or agency support. An agency may have delivered its services through one or more of these means of delivery.
Service provider	Workers or volunteers employed and/or engaged by a SAAP agency, who either directly provided a SAAP service or in some way contributed to the provision of a SAAP service. Included persons such as administrative staff of an agency, whether paid or not paid.
Single men services	Services provided for males who presented to the SAAP agency without a partner or children
Single women services	Services provided for females who presented to the SAAP agency without a partner or children

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Table 13A.96 (Continued)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Support	SAAP services, other than supported accommodation, which were provided to assist homeless people or persons at imminent risk of becoming a homeless person, to achieve the maximum possible degree of self reliance and independence. Support was ongoing and provided as part of a client relationship between the SAAP agency and the homeless person.
Support period	<p>The period that commenced when a SAAP client established or re-established (after the cessation of a previous support period) an ongoing relationship with a SAAP agency. The support period ended when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support ceased because the SAAP client terminated the relationship with the SAAP agency; or</li> <li>• support ceased because the SAAP agency terminated the relationship with the SAAP client; or</li> <li>• no support was provided to the SAAP client for a period of three months.</li> </ul> <p>A support period was only relevant to the provision of supported accommodation or support, not the provision of one-off assistance.</p>
Supported accommodation	Accommodation provided by a SAAP agency in conjunction with support. The accommodation component of supported accommodation was provided in the form of beds in particular locations or accommodation purchased using SAAP funds (for example, at a motel). Agencies that provided accommodation without providing support were considered to provide supported accommodation.
Telephone information and referral	Support delivered via telephone without face-to-face contact. Support provided may have included information and/or referral.
Total funding	Funding for allocation to agencies (not available at the individual client group level) for training, equipment and other administration costs
Unmet demand	A homeless person who sought supported accommodation or support, but was not provided with that supported accommodation or support. The person may have received one-off assistance.
Women escaping domestic violence services	Services specifically designed to assist women and women accompanied by their children, who were homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless as a result of violence and/or abuse
Youth/young people services	Services provided for persons who were independent, and above the school leaving age for the state or territory concerned, and who presented to the SAAP agency unaccompanied by a parent/guardian

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**Table 13A.97 Supported accommodation and assistance indicators**

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<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Accommodation load (of agencies)	Calculated by dividing the number of accommodation days by the number of days the agency was operational during the reporting period, where the number of accommodation days equals the sum of accommodation days for all clients of an agency who were supported during the reporting period. The average accommodation load was the mean value of all agencies' accommodation loads. Support periods without valid accommodation dates were assigned the inter-quartile modal duration of accommodation for agencies of the same service delivery model in the same jurisdiction.
Caseload (of agencies)	Calculated by dividing the number of support days by the number of days the agency was operational during the reporting period, where the number of support days equals the sum of support days for all clients of the agency who were supported during the reporting period. The average caseload was the mean value of all agencies' caseloads. Support periods without valid support dates were assigned the inter-quartile modal duration of support for agencies of the same service delivery model in the same jurisdiction

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