

# 10A PROTECTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Definitions for the descriptors and indicators in this attachment are in Section 10A.4.

Un sourced information has been obtained from Commonwealth, State or Territory Governments.

## 10A.1 Jurisdiction comments

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## New South Wales Government comments

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The data covering NSW services for 1995–96 provide only initial indications of the positive impact of the extensive policy and procedural reforms in the area of protection and support which have been undertaken by the NSW Government in recent times. These include:

### *Child Protection Program*

- release in early 1997 of Interagency Guidelines on Child Protection Intervention. Unique to NSW, these will provide an integrated framework for service provision;
- review of the Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987 and the Community Welfare Act 1987 and amendment of the former to enable protective and support services for 16 and 18 year olds, and to protect from civil suit and liability for defamation those involved in exchanging information in relation to child protection;
- development and initial implementation of a case coordination framework for improving practice in child protection interventions and a practice improvement program; and
- extension of co-located investigation teams for physical and sexual abuse across the metropolitan area, involving NSW Police and the NSW Department of Community Services.

### *Substitute Care Services*

- completion of a 10 year study on the outcomes for children in care called Wards Leaving Care conducted by the NSW Social Policy Research Centre;
- provision of new funding to develop a standard and monitoring process for out-of-home care services; support foster carers, particularly Aboriginal foster carers; and to expand the advocacy network for young people in care; and
- continuation of the case management and review program aimed at stabilising placement for young children in long term out-of-home care.

### *SAAP*

Consistent with the national SAAP reform agenda, NSW has commenced demonstration projects in domestic violence, boarding house accommodation and tenancy management; analysed major training needs and developed competency based training modules; initiated a comprehensive review of funding methodology for individual services; commenced the development of service standard for NSW service providers; and supported and assisted six pilot projects designed to test a case management approach for users of SAAP services in NSW.

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## Victoria Government comments

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All Victorian services covered by the data are entering a new phase of service redevelopment. Consistent with the Government's reform agenda, this will involve the application of contestability processes to services purchased and delivered by the Department. Regional and central structures now reflect the implementation of a funder-purchaser-provider model. Significant work will be undertaken to identify and specify desired outputs and quality standards from the service system. Data and performance indicators detailed in this chapter will play an important role in facilitating this process. Achievements by the various programs covered by the data in 1995–96 include:

### *Child Protection Program*

A new protocol agreed with Victoria Police on improved and better coordinated procedures for the joint investigation of physical and sexual abuse, including the extension of current training programs;

- expansion of family strengthening and placement prevention services to assist vulnerable families;
- commencement of a project to improve the outcomes for clients and families by improving the child protection response to notifications of child abuse and neglect.

### *Placement and Support Services*

Continued expansion of home based care options and significant improvements in rates of reimbursement paid to voluntary care givers;

- undertaken an extensive service mapping exercise and completed a strategic statement detailing the future direction of Victorian out of home care services;
- preliminary work to develop detailed guidelines for working with vulnerable, high risk clients.

### *SAAP Victoria*

SAAP Victoria has undertaken extensive planning and redevelopment and further work will be undertaken regarding domestic violence services, NESB and Koori access;

- the Victorian service mix is well balanced, with the larger part of available resources invested in transition support rather than short term crisis accommodation;
- a comprehensive training strategy has been established, providing a leading edge approach based on competencies, articulation to accredited courses, and recognition of prior learning.

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## Queensland Government comments

“ Queensland has continued its strategy for reform of child protection service delivery commenced in 1995–96. This has included: review of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under orders, increased funding of services for children in care with disabilities, and emphasis on relative care for children. The introduction of new information technology in March 1997 will significantly enhance Queensland’s ability to collect performance data and report on key outcome areas. Queensland’s child protection legislation is under review with plans to introduce new legislation during 1997.

*Child Protection:* Queensland does not record as child protection notifications allegations where a child was abused outside the home and the parents are providing appropriate protection. This may result in lower numbers per 1000 notified than states where this distinction is not always made. The new child protection information system will enable the compilation of more useful data from July 1997 about the actions causing harm to children as well as types of harm. Queensland’s substantiation rates currently do not include outcomes where a child protection service was provided because of “suspected abuse/neglect”.

*Supported care:* Queensland is currently unable to report on numbers of children in voluntary placement (that is, where the State makes a payment but the child is not under a guardianship order). With the increased emphasis on supporting families to prevent the need for protection orders, this type of placement is expected to increase in number. Queensland is currently undertaking a review of mechanisms for the reimbursement of care providers which will enable this data to be compiled. Data collection will be greatly improved by the new information technology, for example accuracy of data about the category of care provided. The Queensland figures for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children placed with Indigenous care providers is distorted in comparison with other States by the non-inclusion of children in voluntary care who are predominantly placed in culturally appropriate placements.

*Crisis and supported accommodation:* A Client Input and Feedback project has commenced in Queensland. This project will survey all funded services to gather data about the needs and experiences of people using SAAP services. Information will be available from this project after the anticipated completion date of October 1997.

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## Western Australia Government comments

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*Services to Protect Children:* reports of alleged child maltreatment decreased by approximately 40 per cent from 6237 (1994–95) to 3748 (1995–96). This coincided with the introduction of the new approach in child protection and family support, which distinguished between child maltreatment and other family concerns. The corresponding increase of 2539 child concern reports enabled more appropriate responses to families in need of support services. A better targeted child protection response shows in the substantiation rate increasing from 33 per cent of investigations in 1994–95 to 41 per cent in 1995–96.

Family and Children’s Services, together with other government and non government organisations have an important role in the protection of children. Co-ordination of services will be improved through the implementation, from July 1996 of an integrated *Child Protection Services Register*. Legislation will be introduced once the register has been trialed and evaluated in 1996–97. Western Australia is also currently working to update all child welfare legislation.

*Supported Care Services:* an information system has been developed which integrates placements made by funded non Government Agencies with departmentally arranged placements. Most children in placement during the year were in care for less than six months and in 1995–96, 81 per cent (540 children) of those with a goal of family reunification, returned home.

*Crisis Accommodation Services:* Assistance to people in crisis because of domestic violence or youth/adult homelessness is provided by Family and Children’s Services directly and by funded non government organisations. In 1995–96, \$16.84 million was provided to 108 services throughout the state. Of this, \$9.9 million was allocated to 69 organisations for supported accommodation and assistance services specifically for youths and adults.

Surveys of Community Attitudes and Customer Perception: results in 1996 included: 75 per cent of the 1266 customers randomly surveyed in 1996 were satisfied with their last contact with the department; 81 per cent of respondents perceived the service received as ‘very helpful’, ‘helpful’, or ‘a little helpful’ and 83 per cent were satisfied with the way they were treated by staff.

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## South Australia Government comments

“ *Child protection:* The Children’s Protection Act 1993 provides a legislative framework which ascribes a high value to partnership, family support, and maintaining children in their immediate family, and within the networks of kin, culture and community wherever possible. Research over the past year has highlighted the need to develop processes and systems that will enable greater differentiation of responses to the circumstances and needs of individuals and families. It is anticipated that changes in the child protection system will be introduced in 1997. Of particular concern are the ongoing over-representation of Aboriginal children throughout the system, including significantly higher rates of notification, substantiation, and entry into care. A high priority is placed on developing more appropriate support and intervention strategies for these children and families. Notifications of abuse have risen substantially from figures reported in 1995: this is predominantly due to a change in counting rules.

*Alternative care:* All but a small number of emergency placements in SA are accessed through and supervised by Family and Community Services. The system is fully funded by government, although both government and community agencies provide and support placements. The current restructure of alternative care will see increased purchasing of placement services, as well as improved specification of outputs and outcomes and higher quality data. The number of children in care is significantly less than the figure reported in 1995: this is due to increasing data accuracy, rather than changes to placement patterns. SA has very few placement alternatives aside from foster care — a major community survey conducted in 1996 indicates, however, that the potential pool of carers in the community, particularly for adolescents, is inadequate given the need for placements, and alternatives must be developed.

*Crisis and supported accommodation:* Under SAAP, 64 services, with approximately 300 outlets, are funded to provide services to homeless people. A research project is currently underway to develop performance indicators for purchased community services in SA. Indicators have been developed for client outcomes or impacts, outputs, and two quality measures — client access and satisfaction. These indicators are being trialed in SAAP metropolitan youth services. The information generated will complement the National SAAP Data Collection.”

## Tasmania Government comments

“ During the reporting period services were delivered under three Acts of Parliament: the *Residential Domestic Assistance Act 1947*, the *Child Welfare Act 1960* and the *Child Protection Act 1974*. The *Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act*, which was tabled in Parliament in November 1996 replaces this legislation.

Historically practice, governed by the legislation, separated investigations of allegations of abuse and responses to notifications of possible neglect. A new intake and assessment process has been developed in accordance with national trends to respond to all first contacts regarding concerns for the protection or general welfare of children. Workers employed by the Department to carry out intake and assessment functions can be either (or both) Child Welfare Officers gazetted under the *Child Welfare Act*, or Child Protection Officers authorised by the Child Protection Board of Tasmania. Case management services are also provided to children and their families following the finalisation of assessment or investigation if further intervention is required.

Alternative out of home care is provided for children who are not able to live with their natural families on a short or a long term basis. These services are provided in Departmental family group homes or through a variety of foster care options. Carers are recruited, assessed, trained, supported and reviewed by Department staff. Payment to carers is provided fortnightly on the basis of the age of the child with discretionary additional support being made available if the child has special needs or challenging behaviours. Some alternative care is provided by non-government agencies with funding provided through a grants program and board payments for each child.

The previously separated data collection systems — the Child Welfare System and the Child Protection System — have been integrated to enable the collection of a more comprehensive range of data. This integration has revealed some inconsistencies in work practice which has affected the integrity of the data. These issues are being addressed through the completion of an intake and assessment manual and other related training strategies.”

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### **Australian Capital Territory Government comments**

“ Family Services, within the Children’s, Youth and Family Services Bureau, receives and investigates notifications of alleged child abuse and neglect as authorised by the Children’s Services Act 1986. It is intended to review this Act to bring it up-to-date in relation to key concepts in child protection practice and recent developments in non-court options and permanency planning in child protection.

Mandatory reporting will be introduced in the ACT from 1 June 1997. The groups to be mandated are doctors, dentists, nurses, police officers, teachers, school counsellors, public servants working in the child welfare area and licensed child care providers. These groups are now being trained through a staged regional approach, so as to enable monitoring of the potential increase in notifications and also hopefully to avoid the sudden peak of notifications experienced by other jurisdictions on the introduction of mandatory reporting.

There is an increased emphasis being placed on kinship care; on developing Aboriginal foster placements; and on reviewing the intake process.

A project officer is employed to assist the ACT Child Abuse Prevention Strategy.

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## Northern Territory Government comments

“ The Family Youth and Children’s Services Program (FYCS) of Territory Health Services is responsible for child protection and out of home care services and administration of the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program.

The NT population is comparatively youthful with approximately 34 per cent of the population being under twenty years of age. One in three children are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, of whom up to 70 per cent live on Aboriginal communities in rural areas.

### *Child Protection:*

Universal mandatory reporting applies in the NT and all allegations accepted as notifications must be investigated by way of a home visit. All investigations whether substantiated or not are independently reviewed by Child Protection Teams which may recommend further action in relation to the management of the case. In the last year there have been no legislative, policy or program changes which would account for a reduction in the number of notifications received for investigation.

### *Supported Placements:*

Foster care is the primary placement option for children of all ages and is provided by FYCS and two Aboriginal Child Care Agencies. Comparatively few children are in group home care which is provided by FYCS and one non government organisation. All case management services to children in care and their families are presently provided by FYCS although protocols with the Aboriginal Child Care Agencies enable a role for these agencies in case planning.

Following a review of out of home care services in 1995, the Substitute Care and Guardianship Program is presently undergoing major change. Reforms include the development of new program and case management models, new care provider payment and client information systems, and new service delivery arrangements including the partial devolution of case management services for Aboriginal children to one of the Aboriginal Child Care Agencies.

### *Supported Accommodation Assistance Program:*

The twenty-nine service outlets which are funded under SAAP in the NT are located in the five main population centres, and provide services to a range of clients, including a significant proportion of Aboriginal clients, many of whom are from rural areas.

Major activity in the NT has revolved around implementing the SAAP reform agenda, and has included the completion of research into the support needs of children accompanying adults in SAAP, assisting agencies to implement and manage the National Data Collection, and the development of a case management approach to service delivery.

## 10A.2 All jurisdictions data

### 10A.2.1 Supported Accommodation Assistance Program

Table 10A.1: National SAAP descriptors — funding, 1995–96

<i>Client group</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
Youth	\$'000	28 764	14 681	9 950	5 474	8 300	2 354	1 320	2 112	72 955
Domestic violence	\$'000	18 870	10 079	7 808	6 130	5 700	1 495	1 673	na <sup>5</sup>	51 756
Families	\$'000	27 683 <sup>1</sup>	2 583	2 614	1 132	1 500	574	na	na <sup>6</sup>	36 086
Single women	\$'000	na <sup>1</sup>	1 784	384	906	300	426	172	2 870 <sup>7</sup>	6 842
Single men	\$'000	na <sup>1</sup>	4 039	2 371	1 596	2 400	735	652	na <sup>8</sup>	11 793
Multiple	\$'000	na <sup>1</sup>	9 789 <sup>3</sup>	4 569	1 603	700	946	851	1 443 <sup>9</sup>	19 901
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>80 359<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>48 400</b>	<b>29 898</b>	<b>16 964</b>	<b>20 400<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>6 820</b>	<b>5 096</b>	<b>9 196<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>217 133</b>

na not available separately, but included in the total figure.

1 Relate to agency funding only. Categories cannot be accurately matched with the department's existing data base.

2 Includes: funding for single women, single men, and multiple clients; agency training costs; all additional agency resource commitments; and program administration and operation costs.

3 Includes agencies funded for service support. For example, peak bodies.

4 Includes allocations for asset replacements, administration, training and industrial award transition not dis-aggregated into separate client groups.

5 Domestic violence funding included in funding for single women; no specific breakdown available.

6 Family funding included in multiple; no specific breakdown available.

7 Includes funding for single women, women with children and women escaping domestic violence; no specific breakdown available.

8 Single men funding included in multiple; no specific breakdown available.

9 Includes funding for single men and families; no specific breakdown available.

10 Total funding (\$9 195 923) comprises \$6 729 000 recurrent base grant, \$1 954 000 one off redevelopment funds, \$318 500 SAAP Reform Funds and \$194 423 rollover from 1994–95. The inclusion of the other figures with the recurrent base grant severely distorts the information.

Table 10A.2: National SAAP descriptors — providers, 1995–96

<i>Client group</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Australia</i>
Youth	No.	188 <sup>1</sup>	135 <sup>2</sup>	71	33	19	14	7	12	471
Domestic violence	No.	na <sup>1</sup>	49 <sup>3</sup>	46	31	20	8	6	na <sup>9</sup>	238
Families	No.	na <sup>1</sup>	25 <sup>4</sup>	22	7	8	4	na	na <sup>10</sup>	66
Single women	No.	na <sup>1</sup>	14 <sup>5</sup>	2	4	1	2	1	13 <sup>11</sup>	37
Single men	No.	na <sup>1</sup>	13 <sup>6</sup>	10	8	10	6	4	na <sup>12</sup>	51
Multiple	No.	na <sup>1</sup>	84 <sup>7</sup>	36	24	6	7	11	9 <sup>13</sup>	168
<b>Total</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>409<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>320</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>64<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>41</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1 191</b>

na not available separately but included in the total.

1 Based on existing data base which does not yet accord with national breakdowns. For families, single men, and multiple there were 105 providers. For single women and domestic violence there were 166 providers.

2 Providers refers to 'service outlets' — number of youth auspices 94.

3 Providers refers to 'service outlets' — number of domestic violence auspices 43.

4 Providers refers to 'service outlets' — number of families auspices 16.

5 Providers refers to 'service outlets' — number of single men auspices 6.

6 Providers refers to 'service outlets' — number of multiple auspices 60.

7 Providers refers to 'service outlets' — number of auspices 230.

8 Classification of providers in SA incorporates agencies operating across a variety of service types and target groups.

9 Domestic violence providers included in single women — no specific breakdown available.

10 Family providers included in multiple — no specific breakdown available.

11 Includes providers for single women, women with children and women escaping domestic violence, no specific breakdown available

12 Single men providers included in multiple — no specific breakdown available.

13 Includes funding for single men and families — no specific breakdown available.

## 10A.3 Single jurisdiction data

### 10A.3.1 New South Wales

Table 10A.3: NSW child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total <sup>2</sup>	No.	28 930
Notifications per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years <sup>3</sup> :		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	55
- Other	No.	15
- All children	No.	16
Notifications investigated — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	27 316
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>5,8</sup>	No.	24 663
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 — total	No.	2 653
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total <sup>6</sup>	No.	0
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>7</sup>	No.	1 614
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>3,8</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	48
- Other	No.	13
- All children	No.	14
Substantiations — total <sup>8,9</sup>	No.	14 063
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 <sup>3,9</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	30
- Other	No.	8
- All children	No.	8

1 Definitions of most items are provided in the definitions tables in this attachment. The following definitions differ, however, and are specific to this State. Where age is not stated almost all of these would be aged under 17 years of age. Notifications of child concerns could not be separated from notifications of child abuse and neglect. As a result the number of notifications is overstated.

2 Counts number of children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996. Includes children whose age was not stated or unknown.

3 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. NSW population data excludes Jervis Bay and Other Territories.

4 In NSW all notifications are investigated, except where the child cannot be located. A wide range of actions constitute an investigation, from a phone call to follow up information, to face to face interviews with the child.

5 Comprises children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996 and where the investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996. Each child is counted only once even if the subject of more than one investigation. A notification is finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded.

6 Dealt with by other means includes the provision of advice or referral.

7 Includes notifications where there was 'no action possible/no investigation possible'.

8 A notification is counted as having a finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded.

9 In NSW a notification is 'substantiated' when the information about the notification is confirmed, irrespective of whether or not it was a notification of maltreatment or a notification of a concern about the child's welfare. Most concerns would only be counted as a substantiation if they were of a serious nature.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.4: NSW child protection descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department	No.	2 614
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	1 211
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare	No.	844
- All orders	No.	4 669
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	17
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96 <sup>1</sup>	No.	1 218

1 Includes for the first time children on supervision orders recorded on the NSW Children's Court database. Care and protection orders are legal orders issued by a court in respect of a child deemed to be in need of care and/or protection. They exclude interim orders and offence orders.

2 There were 884 children on supervision orders where Aboriginality was not known. These are included with the 'Other' category. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. NSW population data excludes Jervis Bay and other territories.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.5: NSW child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	13 609
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations <sup>2</sup>	%	53.6
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total <sup>3</sup>	No.	12 617
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced <sup>3</sup>	%	46.2
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure	No.	10 810
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year <sup>4</sup>	%	88.1

1 Excluded were investigations where compliance was not stated (1947 investigations). The percentage of investigations commenced which complied with state standards was calculated using as the denominator the total number of investigations commenced (25 369 excluding 1947 unknowns). The standards applied for the commencement of an investigation have been based on the assessed urgency of a notification (which in NSW are: 1—'respond within 24 hours'; 2—'respond within 3 working days'; 3—'respond within 5 working days'). The commencement date of the investigation is the date of initial contact with the department.

2 Investigations commenced excluded 228 investigations where compliance was not stated. The total number of investigations commenced was 27 316.

3 Completion is defined in NSW as the recording of an assessment decision. The standard for completion of an investigation is within 28 days.

NSW provided the following possible explanation for the level of non-compliance with the standards of commencement and completion of investigations:

- In NSW, the investigation (and possible confirmation) of a report does not necessarily imply that actual harm or injury is believed to have occurred. Services offered to children and families in substantiated cases include early intervention and a range of family support services.

- It is not possible to determine an incidence of child abuse from an incidence of concern for the child. Therefore it is not possible to separate those instances of reported abuse where Departmental standards might be expected to be applied.

- In addition, industrial action from 23 December 1995 to the end of the reporting period banned any work being done in relation to category 3 ratings. From 1 July 1996, NSW have introduced a new system of responding to reports of child abuse and neglect and as a result the standards have changed.

4 The denominator used was the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1994–95 where the case was closed that year (12 268).

Table 10A.6: NSW supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	1 233
- Other	No.	4 204
- All children	No.	5 437
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	33
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>3</sup>		
a) Facility based:		
- where staff are rostered	No.	424
- where there is a live in carer	No.	51
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	0
- total facility based	No.	475
b) Home based		
- foster care/community care	No.	2 661
- relative/kinship care	No.	2 143
- other — including private board	No.	158
- total home based	No.	4 962
c) unknown		
- total	No.	5 437

1 Includes children whose age was not stated or unknown.

2 Total population figures from ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are unpublished experimental projections. NSW population data excludes Jervis Bay and other territories. Includes children in supported placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

3 Facility based care includes family group homes.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.7: NSW supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	4 138
- not on a legal order	No.	1 287
- not known	No.	12
-total	No.	5 437
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	306
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	742
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	661
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	911
- 2 years or more	No.	2 817
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	5 437
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	1 877
- Other	No.	8 067
- All children	No.	9 944
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children: <sup>4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	51
- Other	No.	5
- All children	No.	6

1 Children on interim orders are included under 'on a legal order'.

2 This indicates the length of time a child has been in supported placement on a continuous basis at 30 June 1996. A return home of less than 7 days is not counted as a break in the continuity of placement.

3 A child is only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. Includes children in supported placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

4 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. NSW population data excludes Jervis Bay and other territories.

Source: ABS unpublished



Table 10A.8: NSW supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship	No.	2 143
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	39.4
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers	No.	1 026
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported care placement <sup>2</sup>	%	90.2
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement	No.	3 303
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement	%	97

1 The total number of children in supported placements at 30 June 1996 was 5 437. ‘Relatives/kinship’ refers to family members other than parents, or a person well known to the child and/or family (based on a pre-existing relationship).

2 Based on the total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June 1996, 1 138, which excludes 95 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placements where the care giver’s Aboriginality was unknown at 30 June 1996.

Table 10A.9: NSW supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement <sup>1</sup>	No.	na
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	na
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months: <sup>2</sup>		
- 1 placement	No.	2 935
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	911
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	292
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	152
- 11 or more placements	No.	60
- unknown	No.	37
- total	No.	4 387

na not available

1 Only the date of the reported notification is recorded on the Department's database and not the date on which the incidence of abuse is alleged to have occurred. As a result it can not be determined with any accuracy whether a notification that was made during a placement actually refers to an incident during the placement.

2 Where a child returns home for less than 7 days and then returns to the former placement or to another placement, this is considered to be a 'continuous' placement. Holidays do not break the continuity of placement. Respite or temporary placements lasting less than 7 days are not counted as separate placements. For children in multiple placements, a placement is counted as a separate placement where there was:

- a change from a home based to a facility based placement or vice-versa;
- a change from a home based placement to another home based placement where there is a change of care giver or a change of venue (if in private board); or
- a change from a facility based placement to another facility based placement, where there is a change of venue. A return home does not count as a change of placement.

### 10A.3.2 Victoria

Table 10A.10: Victoria child protection descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	29 914
Notifications per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	90
- Other	No.	21
- All children	No.	22
Notifications investigated — total <sup>3</sup>	No.	14 279
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>3</sup>	No.	13 911
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>3</sup>	No.	368
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	0
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	5 317
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2,6</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	61
- Other	No.	na
- All children	No.	12
Substantiations — total	No.	6 663
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	32
- Other	No.	6
- All children	No.	6

na not available

1 Definitions of most items are provided in the definitions tables in this attachment. The following definitions differ, however, and are specific to this State. In Victoria notifications of abuse and neglect are called defined; that is, where the person reporting to the department believes that child abuse and neglect has occurred this is classed as a notification. Under the counting rules all notifications are counted for each individual child who is the subject of a notification during 1995–96. In Victoria, while a case is open, multiple notifications concerning a child are counted as one notification only, even if they relate to a different type of abuse or neglect or a different person is believed responsible for the abuse or neglect.

2 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections.

3 Includes direct investigations only. Direct investigations involve a face to face home visit/interview with the child or family. In addition there were 10 318 ‘other’ investigations (where there were initial investigations of risk to the child through phone calls, file checks and case consultations). For many of the investigations in the latter category, referrals to appropriate services are seen as the appropriate outcome. A notification is counted as having a finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded. If a child is the subject of more than one investigation in the year ended 30 June 1996, then each investigation is counted.

4 The number of notifications which were responded to by means other than investigation, for example, by provision of advice or referral.

5 Includes notifications where there was insufficient information for appropriate action and/or where there did not appear to be relevant immediate issues of risk to the child.

6 Comprises children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996 and where the investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.11: Victoria child protection descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department	No.	2 272
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	48
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare	No.	860
- All orders	No.	3 180
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	16
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96 <sup>1</sup>	No.	1 833

1 Victorian data on guardianship orders for 1995–96 includes children on orders granting custody or guardianship to DHS. The count of children on custody orders only includes those in custody to a party other than DHS. Excludes children on Permanent Care Orders (which transfer guardianship of a child to a party other than the welfare department).

2 Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.12: Victoria child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	11 174
	%	78.3
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations <sup>1</sup>		
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total <sup>2</sup>	No.	9 222
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced <sup>2</sup>	%	64.6
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>3</sup>	No.	4 521
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year	%	84.5

1 For Victoria, only direct investigations which involve a face to face home visit/interview with the child or family are counted. The total number of direct investigations commenced was 14 279. The Victorian standard in relation to commencement of investigations is that which applies to direct investigations involving face to face contact — that is, 5 working days. This indicator was affected by industrial disputation by child protection workers in the latter half of 1995–96.

2 The Victorian standard in relation to completion of investigations is that which applies to direct investigations involving face to face contact — that is, 28 days. This indicator was affected by industrial disputation by child protection workers in the latter half of 1995–96.

3 The percentage of children who were the subject of substantiated notifications for whom there was no further notification substantiated 12 months after their case had been closed was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1994–95 where the case was closed that year (5 348).

Table 10A.13: Victoria supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	318
- Other	No.	3 067
- All children	No.	3 385
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	36
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>3</sup>		
a) Facility based:		
- where staff are rostered	No.	268
- where there is a live in carer	No.	433
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	93
- total facility based	No.	794
b) Home based		
- foster care/community care	No.	1 849
- relative/kinship care	No.	638
- other — including private board	No.	104
- total home based	No.	2 591
c) unknown		
- total	No.	0
- total	No.	3 385

1 Estimate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement in Victoria is based on a census conducted in July 1995.

2 Total population figures from ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. Estimate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement in Victoria is based on a census conducted in July 1995.

3 Facility based care includes family group homes. Foster care/community category for Victoria includes children on permanent care orders where carers are receiving foster care payment and also children in individually tailored home based arrangements.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.14: Victoria supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	2 424
- not on a legal order	No.	961
- not known	No.	0
-total	No.	3 385
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	58
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	269
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	324
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	445
- 2 years or more	No.	1 186
- unknown	No.	142
- total	No.	2 424
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96:		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	na
- Other	No.	na
- All children	No.	na
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children:		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	na
- Other	No.	na
- All children	No.	na

na not available

1 Children on interim orders and permanent care orders are included under 'on a legal order'.

2 This indicates the length of time a child has been in supported placement on a continuous basis at 30 June 1996. A return home of less than 7 days is not counted as a break in the continuity of placement. Victorian data only relates to children on a legal order. Data for children not on a legal order (961) are not available for this performance indicator.

Table 10A.15: Victoria supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>1</sup>	No.	638
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	18.9
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers <sup>2</sup>	No.	248
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported care placement <sup>2</sup>	%	78.0
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement <sup>3</sup>	No.	1 610
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement <sup>3</sup>	%	86.3

1 Based on the total number of children in supported placements at 30 June 1996 (3 385). ‘Relatives/kinship’ refers to family members other than parents, or a person well known to the child and/or family (based on a pre-existing relationship).

2 Based on the total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (318). Estimate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement in Victoria is based on a census conducted in July 1995.

3 Based on the total number of children under 12 years old in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (1866).



Table 10A.16: Victoria supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement	No.	na
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement	%	na
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months: <sup>1</sup>		
- 1 placement	No.	701
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	678
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	323
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	210
- 11 or more placements	No.	43
- number of placements unknown	No.	0
-total	No.	1 955

na not available

1 Data for children not on a legal order (961) are not available for this performance indicator. Where a child returns home for less than 7 days and then returns to the former placement or to another placement, this is considered to be a ‘continuous’ placement. Holidays do not break the continuity of placement. Respite or temporary placements lasting less than 7 days are not counted as separate placements. For children in multiple placements, a placement is counted as a separate placement where there was:

- a change from a home based to a facility based placement or vice-versa;
- a change from a home based placement to another home based placement where there is a change of care giver or a change of venue (if in private board); or
- a change from a facility based placement to another facility based placement, where there is a change of venue. A return home does not count as a change of placement.

### 10A.3.3 Queensland

Table 10A.17: Queensland child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total <sup>2</sup>	No.	15 362
Notifications per 1 000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	42
- Other	No.	13
- All children	No.	14
Notifications investigated — total	No.	12 816
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	11 230
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 — total	No.	1 586
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	1 619
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>6</sup>	No.	927
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>3,4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	34
- Other	No.	9
- All children	No.	10
Substantiations — total <sup>7</sup>	No.	4 662
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	15
- Other	No.	4
- All children	No.	4

1 Definitions of most items are provided in the definitions tables in this attachment. The following definitions differ, however, and are specific to this State.

2 Counts number of children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996.

3 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. Queensland population data excludes Other Territories. Includes children where age is not stated.

4 A notification is counted as having a finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded. If a child is the subject of more than one investigation in the year ended 30 June 1996, then each investigation is counted.

5 Notifications dealt with by other means includes those classified as 'protective advice'.

6 Notifications which were not investigated or dealt with by other means includes notifications for which there was 'no action possible' / 'no investigation possible'.

7 A notification is 'substantiated' when there is reasonable cause to believe that the child has been or is being abused or neglected. If more than one substantiation relates to an individual child in the year ended 30 June 1996 then each substantiation is counted.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.18: Queensland child protection descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department	No.	2 624
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	0
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare	No.	235
- All orders	No.	2 859
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	19
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96 <sup>1</sup>	No.	519

1 All protective orders made in Queensland are made because the child has been or is at risk of child abuse or neglect. Queensland does not have custody orders.

2 Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. Queensland population data excludes other territories.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.19: Queensland child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	5 212
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations <sup>1</sup>	%	58.5
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total <sup>2</sup>	No.	11 669
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced <sup>2</sup>	%	91.1
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>3</sup>	No.	na
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year <sup>3</sup>	%	na

na not available

1 Counts, for the year ended 30 June 1996, the number of investigations where the time which elapsed between the day when the department received the notification, and the day when the department commenced investigating the notification, complied with State or Territory standards. The information provided for this indicator has been derived using the definition of a notification used for Queensland recording practices, rather than the definition specified by the counting rules for the performance indicators. Therefore for this indicator a notification and an investigation may refer to more than one child. As a result data for Queensland for this indicator are not comparable with other indicators for Queensland or with those of other States and Territories. The total number of investigations commenced (8914) excluded investigations for which compliance was unknown (865). The Queensland standard for commencement of an investigation is within 24 hours of notification.

2 The total number of investigations commenced was 12 816. Time taken to complete an investigation is calculated as the number of days between commencement and completion of an investigation. The standard for completion in Queensland is 30 days.

3 This information is unavailable until the redevelopment of the current data collection system used in Queensland in 1997–98.

Table 10A.20: Queensland supported placements descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	503
- Other	No.	1 607
- All children	No.	2 110
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	13
- Other	No.	2
- All children	No.	2
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>3</sup>		
a) Facility based:		
- where staff are rostered	No.	96
- where there is a live in carer	No.	72
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	0
- total facility based	No.	168
b) Home based		
-foster care/community care	No.	na
- relative/kinship care	No.	na
- other — including private board	No.	na
- total home based	No.	1 942
c) unknown		
- total	No.	2 110

na not available

1 These data were not comparable with data from other States and Territories. Queensland was only able to provide data for children on supported placement who were also on a care and protection order. The data also excluded children placed with relatives or kinship and children who were on offence orders at 30 June 1996 (32) and children in supported placements on a voluntary basis. Queensland have included, for the first time this year, children remanded in temporary custody awaiting the outcome of an application for care and protection who were in supported placement. As a result the performance indicators for Queensland for children in supported placement are not comparable with those of other jurisdictions. Furthermore, they are not comparable with previous results from Queensland due to the inclusion of children remanded in temporary custody awaiting the outcome of an application for care and protection.

2 Total population figures from ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. Queensland population data excludes other Territories. Excludes children in supported placement who were not on a care and protection order or in temporary custody.

3 Facility based placements refers only to placements in residentials licensed to provide care for children under orders. Other residential placements such as in departmental intellectual disability establishments are excluded. Some relatives are paid a foster allowance and others are not. As the collection of data is tied to payment of allowances, separate figures for categories under 'home based' care are not available.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.21: Queensland supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	2 110
- not on a legal order	No.	0
- not known	No.	0
-total	No.	2 110
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	152
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	456
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	283
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	345
- 2 years or more	No.	874
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	2 110
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	842
- Other	No.	2 607
- All children	No.	3 449
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children: <sup>4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	23
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	4

1 As data were only collected for placements with corresponding legal authority all children included in the collection were on legal orders.

2 Queensland were not able to provide length of time in continuous supported placement. Instead the Queensland data provided for this indicator referred to the length of time a child has been in their current supported placement at 30 June 1996. Excluded children in supported placement who were not on a care and protection order or in temporary custody.

3 A child is only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year.

4 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. Queensland population data excludes other Territories.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.22: Queensland supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>1</sup>	No.	na
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement	%	na
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers <sup>2</sup>	No.	334
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported care placement <sup>3</sup>	%	68.4
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement <sup>4</sup>	No.	1 200
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement <sup>4</sup>	%	96.5

na not available

1 Excluded children in supported placement who were not on a care and protection order or in temporary custody.

2 Excluded children where Aboriginality of child was not known.

3 The percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers was calculated using as the denominator the total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June where the cultural identity of the care giver was known (488 children). This excluded 15 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were in facility based care and, therefore, where the aboriginality of the care giver was unknown.

4 The percentage of children under 12 years in home based placements was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (1243).

Table 10A.23: Queensland supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement	No.	na
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement	%	na
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months:		
- 1 placement	No.	1 377
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	463
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	111
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	51
- 11 or more placements	No.	18
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	2 020

na not available



### 10A.3.4 Western Australia

Table 10A.24: WA child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	3 748
Notifications per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2,3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	28
- Other	No.	6
- All children	No.	7
Notifications investigated — total	No.	2 780
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	2 656
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	124
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	0
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>6</sup>	No.	968
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2,3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	22
- Other	No.	4
- All children	No.	5
Substantiations — total <sup>7</sup>	No.	1 095
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16: <sup>3,7</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	9
- Other	No.	2
- All children	No.	2

1 Definitions of most items are provided in the definitions tables in this attachment. The following definitions differ, however, and are specific to this State. Notification: WA introduced a new approach to dealing with and counting notifications in 1995–96, called ‘New Directions’. Under this approach, reports to the welfare department are classified as either Child Maltreatment Allegations (CMAs) or Child Concern Reports (CCRs). Previously, all were counted as notifications of abuse and neglect, whereas under New Directions only CMAs are counted as notifications. A contact is classified as a CMA where there is sufficient information to indicate that a child may have been physically or emotionally harmed or injured, or is at risk of significant harm or injury, has been exposed or subjected to sexual behaviour or activities which have been inappropriate to his or her developmental level or where a child may be the subject of persistent actions or inactions which are likely to result in the child’s development being significantly impaired. New Directions was trialed in 5 regions in WA in 1995–96 and introduced across the state on 1 June 1996. As 1995–96 was a phasing in year, the number of notifications of abuse and neglect are lower than in previous years (due to the new classification), but higher than would be expected if the system had been fully operational for the year (as the data on notifications for 1995–96 contains a proportion of reports that under the new system would be classified as CCRs).

2 Includes children whose age was not stated or unknown.

3 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projection data (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. WA population data excludes other Territories.

4 A notification is counted as having a finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded.

5 Dealt with by means other than investigation includes the provision of advice or referral.

6 Includes notifications where there was ‘no action possible/no investigation possible’.

7 Counts the number of children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996, where the investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996, and which was substantiated.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.25: WA child protection descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department <sup>1</sup>	No.	781
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	0
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare	No.	0
- All orders	No.	781
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	8
- Other	No.	1
- All children	No.	2
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96 <sup>1</sup>	No.	151

1 WA only has guardianship orders. Includes children on guardianship orders whose age was not stated or unknown.

2 Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. WA population data excludes other Territories.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.26: WA child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	2 073
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations <sup>1</sup>	%	78.1
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total <sup>2</sup>	No.	na
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced <sup>2</sup>	%	na
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>3</sup>	No.	854
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year <sup>3</sup>	%	87

1 Counts, for the year ended 30 June 1996, the number of investigations where the time which elapsed between the day when the department received the notification, and the day when the department commenced investigating the notification, complied with State or Territory standards. This is calculated as a percentage of 2,656 investigations which were commenced in 1995–96 (not including 124 investigations that were commenced but not finalised by 31 August 1996). Commencement date of an investigation is the date of initial contact. The standards applied for the commencement of an investigation have been based on the assessed urgency of a notification (priority 1 — ‘respond within one working day’; priority 2 — ‘respond within 2 to 5 working days’).

2 Western Australia has no standards for completion of an investigation.

3 The denominator for the calculation is the number of children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year (984 children).

Table 10A.27: WA supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	379
- Other	No.	827
- All children	No.	1 206
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	16
- Other	No.	2
- All children	No.	3
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>3</sup>		
a) Facility based: <sup>3</sup>		
- where staff are rostered	No.	na
- where there is a live in carer	No.	na
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	na
- total facility based	No.	209
b) Home based		
- foster care/community care	No.	651
- relative/kinship care	No.	309
- other — including private board	No.	32
- total home based	No.	992
c) unknown		
- total	No.	5
- total	No.	1 206

na not available

1 Includes children whose age was not stated or unknown.

2 Total population figures from ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. WA population data excludes other Territories. Includes children in supported placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

3 WA is unable to provide a breakdown of the number of children in facility based care. Facility based care includes family group homes.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.28: WA supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	781
- not on a legal order	No.	423
- not known	No.	2
-total <sup>1</sup>	No.	1 206
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	42
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	148
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	111
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	228
- 2 years or more	No.	634
- unknown	No.	43
- total <sup>2</sup>	No.	1 206
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	648
- Other	No.	1 596
- All children <sup>3</sup>	No.	2 244
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children: <sup>4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	28
- Other	No.	4
- All children	No.	5

1 Children on interim orders are included under 'on a legal order'.

2 This indicates the length of time a child has been in supported placement on a continuous basis at 30 June 1996. A return home of less than 7 days is not counted as a break in the continuity of placement.

3 A child is only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. Includes children on supported placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

4 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are estimates based on ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. WA population data excludes other territories.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.29: WA supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>1</sup>	No.	309
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	26
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers	No.	331
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported care placement <sup>2</sup>	%	85
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement	No.	674
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement <sup>3</sup>	%	90

1 'Relatives/kinship' is defined as family members other than parents, or a person well known to the child and/or family (based on a pre-existing relationship). Percentage is calculated as a proportion of children in supported placement at 30 June 1996 where placement type was known (1201 children). Excludes from both the denominator and the numerator 5 children whose placement type is unknown.

2 Percentage is calculated as a proportion of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children where the care giver's 'Aboriginality' was known (389 children). At 30 June 1996, there was 1 Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child in supported placement, where the care giver's Aboriginality was unknown.

3 Percentage is calculated as a proportion of children under 12 years of age in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (754 children).

Table 10A.30: WA supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement	No.	20
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	0.90
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months:		
- 1 placement	No.	na
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	na
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	na
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	na
- 11 or more placements	No.	na
- unknown	No.	na
- total	No.	na

na not available

1 Percentage is calculated as a proportion of children in supported placement during 1995–96 (2244 children). Included substantiated abuse and neglect of children placed in the private sector.

## 10A.3.5 South Australia

Table 10A.31: SA child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	8 935
Notifications per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	62
- Other	No.	17
- All children	No.	18
Notifications investigated — total <sup>3,4</sup>	No.	7 166
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	6 190
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 — total	No.	976
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total	No.	0
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	1 729
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2,5</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	51
- Other	No.	13
- All children	No.	14
Substantiations — total	No.	2 415
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	25
- Other	No.	6
- All children	No.	6

1 Definitions of most items are provided in the definitions tables in this attachment. The following definitions differ, however, and are specific to this State. The number of notifications was derived by combining the number of child protection assessments made on individual children which met the criteria for investigation (7206) and the number of assessments which did not meet the criteria for investigation (1729). This latter category was mainly comprised of notifications where the incident was not considered serious enough to warrant investigation. As this category was not included in previous data collections, 1995–96 notifications data are not be comparable with previous years. In 1995–96 SA had 40 notifications which resulted in substantiated abuse labelled ‘Threat of Abuse’. These are included in the count of notifications but are excluded from counts of investigations and substantiations. In addition, SA has a category of reports assessed as ‘other than child protection’ which are not included as notifications.

2 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. SA population data excludes other territories.

3 In SA, an investigation includes any contact with the child, family, friends or other professionals with the purpose of gaining further information about a notification which has been assessed as relating to child protection. A notification is counted as having a finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded.

4 Notifications which were not investigated or dealt with by other means. Includes notifications where there was ‘no action possible/no investigation possible’. In SA possible outcomes of an investigation include ‘inconclusive’ or ‘no action possible’. These are **not** included in this count of notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means, but are instead included as notifications investigated and outcome unsubstantiated.

5 Counts the number of children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996 and where the investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996.

Source: ABS unpublished



Table 10A.32: SA child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>	No.	na
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department	No.	na
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	na
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child’s welfare	No.	na
- All orders	No.	
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years:		na
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	na
- Other	No.	na
- All children	No.	na
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96	No.	na

na not available

1 Includes the number of orders only. As a result no data was provided for these measures.

Table 10A.33: SA child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total	No.	na
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations	%	na
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total	No.	na
Investigations completion which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced	%	na
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure	No.	na
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year	%	na
na not available		

Table 10A.34: SA supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	162
- Other	No.	902
- All children	No.	1 064
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	19
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>2</sup>		
a) Facility based:		
- where staff are rostered	No.	47
- where there is a live in carer	No.	6
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	0
- total facility based	No.	53
b) Home based		
- foster care/community care	No.	928
- relative/kinship care	No.	83
- other — including private board	No.	0
- total home based	No.	1 011
c) unknown		
- total	No.	1 064

1 Total population figures from ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. SA population data excludes other territories.

2 Facility based care includes family group homes.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.35: SA supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	518
- not on a legal order	No.	493
- not known	No.	53
-total	No.	1 064
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	39
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	115
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	91
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	122
- 2 years or more	No.	644
- unknown	No.	53
- total	No.	1 064
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	398
- Other	No.	2 121
- All children	No.	2 519
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children: <sup>4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	47
- Other	No.	6
- All children	No.	7

1 Children on interim orders are included under 'on a legal order'.

2 This indicates the length of time a child has been in out of home placement on a continuous basis at 30 June 1996. A return home of less than 7 days is not counted as a break in the continuity of placement.

3 A child is only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. Includes children in out of home placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

4 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. SA population data excludes other territories. Includes children in out of home placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

Table 10A.36: SA supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>1</sup>	No.	83
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	7.8
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers <sup>2</sup>	No.	108
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported care placement <sup>2</sup>	%	66.7
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement <sup>3</sup>	No.	405
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement <sup>3</sup>	%	98.5

1 The children recorded as being placed with relatives/kinship only represents those placements where the Department of Family and Community Services makes a financial contribution to the carer. There are many other placements which the Department has arranged and provides support for which are not included in this number because no financial contribution from the Department has been required.

2 The percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out of home placement placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers was calculated using as the denominator the total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out of home placement at 30 June 1996 (162).

3 The percentage of children under 12 years in home based placements was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in out of home placement at 30 June 1996 (411).

Table 10A.37: SA supported placements effectiveness indicators,  
1995–96

<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement	No.	na
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement	%	na
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months:		
- 1 placement	No.	na
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	na
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	na
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	na
- 11 or more placements	No.	na
- unknown	No.	na
- total	No.	na
na	not available	

### 10A.3.6 Tasmania

Table 10A.38: Tasmania child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total <sup>1, 2</sup>	No.	2 933
Notifications per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>3, 4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	27
- Other	No.	18
- All children	No.	19
Notifications investigated — total	No.	2 499
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>5, 8</sup>	No.	1 908
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	591
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total <sup>6</sup>	No.	0
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>7</sup>	No.	434
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>4, 8</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	12
- Other	No.	9
- All children	No.	9
Substantiations — total <sup>9</sup>	No.	235
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16: <sup>4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	3
- Other	No.	2
- All children	No.	2

1 Includes where age of child is not stated, as almost all of these would be under 18 years of age. Notifications of maltreatment consist of contacts made to an authorised department by persons or other bodies making allegations of child abuse and neglect. Child protection and child neglect are administered under different Acts. Prior to 1995–96 child abuse and neglect reported under the Child Protection Act was recorded on the Child Protection database and represented all reported abuse but only a minority of reported neglect. Reports of neglect under the Child Welfare Act were not included. Establishing a single entry has increased the number of initial notifications of abuse and neglect.

2 Include allegations of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment to a child.

3 Counts number of children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in 1995–96.

4 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections.

5 An investigation into a notification is an inquiry that is ongoing after the initial assessment. Some investigations may be terminated after initial inquiries have been made. These have been counted as notifications which were dealt with by means other than investigation.

6 Notifications are assessed to determine whether they warrant, or are able to be, investigated further. In 1995–96, following assessment, 712 notifications were categorised as not warranting, or not able to be investigated (327 notifications were assessed as ‘no action possible’ and 385 notifications were assessed as ‘allegation not investigation’).

7 Includes notifications where there was no action possible or no further investigation after the initial assessment. Include notifications where an initial decision not to investigate was made immediately or after initial inquiry.

8 Includes a small number of children aged 17 years.

9 If more than one substantiation relates to an individual child in the year ended 30 June 1996 then each substantiation is counted.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.39: Tasmania child protection descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>	No.	
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department	No.	336
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	3
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare	No.	85
- All orders	No.	424
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	8
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96 <sup>1</sup>	No.	79

1 Includes children whose age was not stated or unknown.

2 Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. Tasmanian population data excludes other territories.

Source: ABS unpublished



Table 10A.40: Tasmania child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total	No.	na
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations	%	na
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	na
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced <sup>1</sup>	%	na
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure	No.	na
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year	%	na

na not available

1 Tasmania had no standard for completion of an investigation.

Table 10A.41: Tasmania supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	44
- Other	No.	464
- All children	No.	508
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	9
- Other	No.	4
- All children	No.	4
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>3</sup>		
a) Facility based:		
- where staff are rostered	No.	0
- where there is a live in carer	No.	86
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	0
- total facility based	No.	86
b) Home based		
-foster care/community care	No.	240
- relative/kinship care	No.	182
- other — including private board	No.	0
- total home based	No.	422
c) unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	508

1 Includes children whose age was not stated or unknown.

2 Total population figures from ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. Tasmanian population data excludes other territories. Includes children in supported placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

3 Facility based care includes family group homes.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.42: Tasmania supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	300
- not on a legal order	No.	208
- not known	No.	0
-total	No.	508
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	59
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	156
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	76
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	87
- 2 years or more	No.	130
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	508
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	88
- Other	No.	967
- All children	No.	1 055
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children: <sup>4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	18
- Other	No.	8
- All children	No.	8

1 Children on interim orders are included under 'on a legal order'.

2 This indicates the length of time a child has been in supported placement on a continuous basis at 30 June 1996. A return home of less than 7 days is not counted as a break the continuity of placement.

3 A child is only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year. Includes children on supported placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

4 Total population figures are estimates based on ABS unpublished projection data (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population data are estimates based on ABS unpublished experimental projections. Tasmanian population data excludes Other Territories. Includes children on supported placement whose age was not stated or unknown.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.43: Tasmania supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>1</sup>	No.	182
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	36
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers	No.	na
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported care placement	%	na
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement <sup>2</sup>	No.	258
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement <sup>2</sup>	%	87.2

na not available

1 'Relatives/kinship' is defined as family members other than parents, or a person well known to the child and/or family (based on a pre-existing relationship). Calculated as a percentage of the number of children in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (508).

2 Calculated as a percentage of the number of children aged under 12 years of age in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (296).

Table 10A.44: Tasmania supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement <sup>1</sup>	No.	2
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	0.20
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months: <sup>2</sup>		
- 1 placement	No.	na
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	na
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	na
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	na
- 11 or more placements	No.	na
- unknown	No.	na
- total	No.	na

na not available

1 Calculated as a percentage of all children in supported placement during 1995–96 (1055).

2 Data on children placed ‘continuously for more than six months’ is not available from the current database in Tasmania.

### 10A.3.7 Australian Capital Territory

Table 10A.45: ACT child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	1 437
Notifications per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2, 3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	104
- Other	No.	14
- All children	No.	15
Notifications investigated — total	No.	1 178
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	1 043
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 — total	No.	135
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	0
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>6</sup>	No.	259
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>3, 7</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	85
- Other	No.	10
- All children	No.	11
Substantiations — total <sup>8</sup>	No.	445
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 <sup>3, 8</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	48
- Other	No.	4
- All children	No.	5

1 Definitions of most items are provided in the definitions tables in this attachment. The following definitions differ, however, and are specific to this Territory. ACT Children's, Youth and Family Services Bureau is responsible for child protection in the territory of Jervis Bay. As a result, the data on child protection and supported placements for the ACT includes children from Jervis Bay. Rates per 1 000 population: it is important to note that the ACT data from Care and Protection Services (numerator in rates calculations) includes children from Jervis Bay (for 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander', 'Other' and 'Total' children). While ACT population data for 'Other' and 'Total' children (the denominator) includes an estimate for Jervis Bay population, it was not possible to include an estimate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population for Jervis Bay. As a result the rates presented may be a slight over-estimate. Rates for ACT should also be interpreted carefully due to the relatively small population of the Territory. This is particularly the case for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

2 Includes children whose age was not stated or unknown.

3 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections.

4 A notification is counted as having a finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded.

5 The number of notifications which were responded to by means other than investigation, for example, by provision of advice or referral.

6 Includes notifications where there was 'no action possible/no investigation possible'.

7 Comprises children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996 and where the investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996. Includes 2 children whose age was not stated or unknown.

8 If more than one substantiated notification relates to an individual child in the year ended 30 June 1996 then each substantiated notification is counted.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.46: ACT child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>	No.	
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department	No.	44
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	161
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare	No.	42
- All orders	No.	247
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	26
- Other	No.	3
- All children	No.	3
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96 <sup>1</sup>	No.	165

<sup>1</sup> Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A) . Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. ACT population data for 'Other' and 'Total' includes an estimate for Jervis Bay population. However population data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children does not include an estimate for Jervis Bay. Therefore the rate of children on orders per 1 000 population for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children will be a slight over estimate.

*Source:* ABS unpublished

Table 10A.47: ACT child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	664
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations <sup>1</sup>	%	63.7
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total <sup>2</sup>	No.	na
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced <sup>2</sup>	%	na
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>3</sup>	No.	177
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year <sup>3</sup>	%	89

na not available

1 Counts, for the year ended 30 June 1996, the number of investigations where the time which elapsed between the day when the department received the notification, and the day when the department commenced investigating the notification, complied with State or Territory standards. The percentage of investigations commenced which complied with state standards was calculated using as the denominator the total number of investigations commenced (1 043). The standards applied for the commencement of an investigation have been based on the assessed urgency of a notification (which in the ACT are: 1 — ‘respond on the same day’; 2 — ‘respond within 24 hours’; 3 — ‘respond within 5 days’; 4 — ‘respond within 14 days’).

2 ACT was unable to supply information on this indicator.

3 The percentage of children who were the subject of substantiated notifications for whom there was no further notification substantiated 12 months after their case had been closed was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1994–95 where the case was closed that year (198).



Table 10A.48: ACT supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	25
- Other	No.	156
- All children	No.	181
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	27
- Other	No.	2
- All children	No.	2
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>3</sup>		
a) Facility based:		
- where staff are rostered	No.	13
- where there is a live in carer	No.	0
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	1
- total facility based	No.	14
b) Home based		
- foster care/community care	No.	140
- relative/kinship care	No.	27
- other — including private board	No.	0
- total home based	No.	167
c) unknown		
- total	No.	181

1 Total population figures are estimates based on ABS unpublished projections (Series A) . Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population data are estimates based on ABS unpublished experimental projections. ACT population data for 'Other' and 'Total' includes an estimate for Jervis Bay population. However population data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children does not include an estimate for Jervis Bay. Therefore the rate of children on orders per 1 000 population for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children will be a slight over-estimate.

2 Facility based care includes family group homes.

3 Children on interim orders are included under 'on a legal order'.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.49: ACT supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	164
- not on a legal order	No.	17
- not known	No.	0
-total	No.	181
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	20
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	56
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	23
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	32
- 2 years or more	No.	50
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	181
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	57
- Other	No.	459
- All children	No.	516
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	64
- Other	No.	6
- All children	No.	6

1 This indicates the length of time a child has been in supported placement on a continuous basis at 30 June 1996. A return home of less than 7 days is not counted as a break in the continuity of placement.

2 A child is only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year.

3 Total population figures are estimates based on ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. ACT population data for 'Other' and 'Total' includes an estimate for Jervis Bay population. However population data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children does not include an estimate for Jervis Bay. Therefore the rate of children on orders per 1 000 population for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children will be a slight over-estimate.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.50: ACT supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>1</sup>	No.	27
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	14.9
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers <sup>2</sup>	No.	na
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres strait Islander children in supported care placement <sup>2</sup>	%	na
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement <sup>3</sup>	No.	107
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement <sup>3</sup>	%	100

na not available

1 The percentage of children in supported placements who were placed with relatives/kinship was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children in supported placements at 30 June 1996 (181 children). 'Relatives/kinship' refers to family members other than parents, or a person well known to the child and/or family (based on a pre-existing relationship).

2 ACT could not provide data for this indicator.

3 The percentage of children under 12 years in home based placements was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (107 children).

Table 10A.51: ACT supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement <sup>1</sup>	No.	3
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	0.6
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months: <sup>2</sup>		
- 1 placement	No.	50
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	42
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	12
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	1
- 11 or more placements	No.	0
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	105

1 Percentage is calculated as a proportion of children in supported placement during 1995–96 (516 children).

2 This indicates, at 30 June 1996, for all children who have been in continuous supported placement for more than 6 months, the number of placements in the last 2 years. Where a child returns home for less than 7 days and then returns to the former placement or to another placement, this is considered to be a 'continuous' placement. A return home of 7 days or more is considered to break the continuity of the placement. Holidays do not break the continuity of placement. Respite or temporary placements lasting less than 7 days are not counted as separate placements. For children in multiple placements, a placement is counted as a separate placement where there was:

- a change from a home based to a facility based placement or vice-versa;
- a change from a home based placement to another home based placement where there is a change of care giver or a change of venue (if in private board); or
- a change from a facility based placement to another facility based placement, where there is a change of venue. A return home does not count as a change of placement.

### 10A.3.8 Northern Territory

Table 10A.52: NT child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment — total	No.	515
Notifications per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>2,3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	10
- Other	No.	8
- All children	No.	9
Notifications investigated — total	No.	494
Notifications investigated where investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996 — total <sup>4</sup>	No.	494
Notifications investigated where the investigation was not finalised by 31 August 1996 <sup>4</sup>	No.	0
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	0
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means — total <sup>5</sup>	No.	21
Finalised investigations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 years: <sup>3,4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	10
- Other	No.	8
- All children	No.	8
Substantiations — total <sup>6,7</sup>	No.	255
Substantiations per 1000 children aged 0 to 16 <sup>3,7</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	6
- Other	No.	4
- All children	No.	4

1 Definitions of most items are provided in the definitions tables in this attachment. The following definitions differ, however, and are specific to this State.

2 Counts number of children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996. Excludes one child whose age was not stated or unknown.

3 Total population figures are ABS unpublished projection data (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. NT population data excludes other Territories.

4 A notification is counted as having a finalised investigation when an assessment decision is recorded. For the 1995–96 period all investigations were finalised.

5 In NT a notification cannot be dealt with by any means other than investigation.

6 A notification is ‘substantiated’ when there is reasonable cause to believe that the child has been abused or neglected or there is substantial risk of abuse or neglect.

7 Counts the number of children aged 0 to 16 years who were the subject of a notification in the year ended 30 June 1996, where the investigation was finalised by 31 August 1996, and which was substantiated.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.53: NT child protection descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June: <sup>1</sup>	No.	
- Guardianship and custody to the welfare department	No.	75
- Custody to a third party (including an agency)	No.	0
- Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare	No.	10
- All orders	No.	85
Children on care and protection orders at 30 June per 1000 children aged 0 to 17 years: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	2
- Other	No.	1
- All children	No.	2
Children placed on a care and protection order during 1995–96 <sup>3</sup>	No.	68

1 Children on Immigration Act orders and Consent to Adopt orders were excluded from the data collection. Court orders which were adjourned have been excluded, as have interim orders and temporary custody orders. The following orders were regarded as guardianship orders:

- *Section 57* Transfer of guardianship from an interstate authority; and
- *Court orders* (which have not been adjourned) where the Minister has guardianship of the child.

The following orders were regarded as supervision/other orders:

- Court orders where the parent has guardianship of the child or where the child is jointly in the guardianship of the parent and the Minister.

2 Total population figures are ABS unpublished projection data (Series A) . Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. NT population data excludes other territories.

3 Excludes 171 children placed on voluntary, temporary custody orders during 1995–96.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.54: NT child protection effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement — total <sup>1</sup>	No.	328
Investigations commenced which comply with jurisdiction standards for commencement as a percentage of total investigations <sup>1</sup>	%	66
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation — total <sup>2</sup>	No.	472
Investigations completed which comply with jurisdiction standards for completion of investigation as a percentage of all investigations commenced <sup>2</sup>	%	96
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure <sup>3</sup>	No.	310
Children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year, the number who were NOT the subject of another substantiated notification in 12 months following case closure, as a percentage of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification in 1994–95 and where the case was closed during the year <sup>3</sup>	%	97

1 The total number of investigations commenced was 494. The commencement of investigation is defined as ‘the first action taken to investigate the circumstances of the child following acceptance of the notification’. If a notification was made on a weekend or public holiday, departmental staff on the after-hours roster would be required to make an initial investigation. The standard for commencement of investigation in the NT is within 24 hours

2 The completion of an investigation is counted when the outcome of the investigation has been determined as being substantiated or not substantiated. The time taken to complete an investigation is calculated as the number of days between the first contact and the outcome decision. The standard for completion in the NT is within 28 days.

3 The percentage of children who were the subject of substantiated notifications for whom there was no further notification substantiated 12 months after the case had been closed was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children subject to a substantiated notification in 1994–95 where the case was closed that year (319).

Table 10A.55: NT supported placements descriptors, 1995–96<sup>1</sup>

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	47
- Other	No.	41
- All children	No.	88
Children aged 0 to 17 years in supported placement at 30 June per 1000 children: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	2
- Other	No.	1
- All children	No.	2
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by placement type: <sup>4</sup>		
a) Facility based:		
- where staff are rostered <sup>5</sup>	No.	19
- where there is a live in carer	No.	0
- where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)	No.	0
- total facility based	No.	19
b) Home based		
-foster care/community care	No.	69
- relative/kinship care	No.	0
- other — including private board	No.	0
- total home based	No.	69
c) unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	88

1 The number of children reported in supported placements in the NT was an under-representation of the actual number for the following reasons. Voluntary placements which were financially supported by Territory Health Services were not reported as data were not available. Placements with relatives/kinship where the Territory Health Services made a financial payment were therefore excluded from the Northern Territory figures. As a result the figures for children in supported placements in the Northern Territory should be interpreted carefully. They are not comparable with those of other States and Territories.

2 Due to the lack of data of children in voluntary placements, the total for 'supported placements' does not represent all the children in supported placements in the Northern Territory at 30 June 1996, but only those on a legal order. These data excluded children placed in relative/kinship care as the NT cannot distinguish these children in their data set from children placed in their parent's care (which the counting rules excluded from the data collection).

3 Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. NT population data excludes other territories.

4 These data excluded children placed in relative/kinship care and children in supported placement who were not on a legal order. Facility based care includes family group homes.

5 This may include some facility based placements where there is a live in carer.

Source: ABS unpublished



Table 10A.56: NT supported placements descriptors, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
Children in supported placement at 30 June, by legal status: <sup>1</sup>		
- on a legal order	No.	88
- not on a legal order	No.	na
- not known	No.	0
-total	No.	88
Number of children in supported placement by length of time in continuous supported placement at 30 June: <sup>2</sup>		
- less than 1 month	No.	1
- 1 month to less than 6 months	No.	14
- 6 months to less than 1 year	No.	10
- 1 year to less than 2 years	No.	11
- 2 years or more	No.	52
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	88
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during 1995–96: <sup>3</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	163
- Other	No.	165
- All children	No.	328
Children aged 0 to 17 years in at least one supported placement at any time during the financial year, per 1000 children: <sup>4</sup>		
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	No.	8
- Other	No.	5
- All children	No.	6

na not available

1 As data were only collected for placements with corresponding legal authority all children included in the data set fall into the ‘children on a legal order’ category; as such, no information can be provided for ‘children not on a legal order’.

2 These data excluded children placed in relative/kinship care and children in supported placement who were not on a legal order.

3 A child is only counted once, regardless of the number of placements during the year.

4 Population is at 31 December 1995. Total population figures are ABS unpublished projections (Series A). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations are ABS unpublished experimental projections. NT population data excludes other territories.

Source: ABS unpublished

Table 10A.57: NT supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Service quality</i>		
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship <sup>1</sup>	No.	na
Children in supported care placement at 30 June placed with relatives/kinship, as a percentage of all children in out of care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	na
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers <sup>2</sup>	No.	na
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement at 30 June placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers as a percentage of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported care placement <sup>2</sup>	%	na
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement <sup>3</sup>	No.	57
Children aged under 12 years in supported care placement placed in home based placement as a percentage of all children under 12 years in supported care placement <sup>3</sup>	%	89

na not available

1 The NT could not distinguish between whether a child was placed with a parent or a relative. Placements with relatives/kinship where the Territory Health Services make a financial payment are therefore excluded from the Northern Territory figures. As a result this indicator cannot be measured.

2 Data on Aboriginality of care givers is currently not available in the NT.

3 The percentage of children under 12 years in home based placements was calculated using as the denominator the total number of children under 12 years old in supported placement at 30 June 1996 (63).

Table 10A.58: NT supported placements effectiveness indicators, 1995–96

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>
<i>Client outcomes</i>		
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement <sup>1</sup>	No.	na
Children in supported care placement for whom there was substantiated abuse or neglect while the child was living in a placement and where the person believed responsible was the care giver in that placement as a percentage of all children in supported care placement <sup>1</sup>	%	na
Number of placements in 1994–95 and 1995–96 for those children placed continuously for more than 6 months: <sup>2</sup>		
- 1 placement	No.	39
- 2 to 3 placements	No.	14
- 4 to 5 placements	No.	13
- 6 to 10 placements	No.	6
- 11 or more placements	No.	1
- unknown	No.	0
- total	No.	73

na not available

1 NT could not provide this data as they could not determine from their data set whether the person believed responsible for the abuse or neglect was also the care giver.

2 For children in multiple placements, a placement is counted as a separate placement where there was:  
 - a change from a home based to a facility based placement or vice-versa;  
 - a change from a home based placement to another home based placement where there is a change of care giver or a change of venue (if in private board); or  
 - a change from a facility based placement to another facility based placement, where there is a change of venue. A return home does not count as a change of placement. These data excluded children placed in relative/kinship care and children in supported placement who were not on a legal order.

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## 10A.4 Performance indicator definitions

### 10A.4.1 Child protection

Table 10A.59: Child protection and Care and Protection orders descriptor definitions

<i>Descriptor</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Notifications of child maltreatment	Contacts made to an authorised department by persons or other bodies. 'Maltreatment' is defined as 'child abuse and neglect'. Notifications are counted separately for each child who is the subject of a notification (that is, a notification made about a family of three children is counted as three notifications) and for each maltreatment event but notifications about the same 'event' from different sources are only counted once.
Notifications investigated	Where 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 or not abuse or neglect has occurred.
Notifications dealt with by means other than investigation	Responses by means other than investigation, such as advice and referral.
Notifications not investigated or not dealt with by other means	Includes where 'no action possible/no investigation possible'.
Substantiations	Finalised investigations of maltreatment where the department determined that there was reasonable cause to believe that the child had been or was being abused or neglected. Substantiations are counted separately for multiple events relating to an child which are substantiated.
Care and protection orders	Children who were on a court order for care and protection. These orders are categorised as: Guardianship and custody to the welfare department Custody to a third party (including an agency) Supervision orders and other orders which give the department some responsibility for a child's welfare (including joint shared guardianship). Excludes interim orders. Children are counted only once even if they are on more than one care and protection order. In instance where a child is on more than one care and protection order, the child is classified according to the order which incorporates the highest level of intervention.

(cont.)

Table 10A.60: Child protection and Care and Protection order effectiveness performance indicator definitions

<i>Performance indicator</i>	<i>Definition</i>
<i>Targeting</i>	
Substantiation rate	The share of substantiations in all finalised investigations.
<i>Service quality</i>	
Investigations complying with jurisdiction standards for commencement	The proportion of investigations which commenced within the jurisdiction time standard to commencement of an investigation. The time to commencement is defined as the time between receipt of the notification and the department commencing investigation.
Investigations completed complying with completion standard	The proportion of investigations commenced during the year which are completed within the jurisdiction time standard to completion.
<i>Outcomes</i>	
Children where there was no further substantiation of maltreatment	The proportion of all children who were the subject of a substantiated notification of maltreatment in a year and the case was closed during that year, who were not the subject of another substantiated notification in the following 12 months.

Table 10A.61: Child protection and protection and care order definitions

<i>Term</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
Age of child	Age is calculated from date of birth at the time a report is made, and is shown in completed years, or in completed months where age is less than one year old.
Authorised department	An authorised department is an organisation to which reports of child abuse and neglect are made. This includes all State and Territory departments and all other authorities recognised as being responsible for the collection of data on child abuse and neglect.
Child	A person under the age of 18 years.
Child at risk	Where no abuse or neglect can be substantiated but there are reasonable grounds to suspect the possibility of prior or future abuse or neglect and it is considered that continued departmental involvement is warranted. This category is used in Queensland, WA, Tasmania, and the ACT only.
No abuse or neglect found	Where an investigation has concluded that there is no reasonable cause to suspect prior, current or future abuse or neglect of the child.
No action possible	Where for any reason it was not possible to take action on a report of child abuse or neglect.
Abuse and neglect	When a person (generally having the care of a child) inflicts, or allows to be inflicted on the child (other than by accidental means) a physical injury or deprivation which may create a substantial risk of death, disfigurement, or the impairment of either physical health and development or emotional health and development.
Having the care of	Permanent or temporary custody, control or responsibility at the time of abuse or neglect, regardless of whether this is on a regular, part-time or ad hoc basis.
Substantiated notification	Where an investigation has concluded that there is reasonable cause to believe that the child has been or is being abused or neglected. It does not necessarily require sufficient evidence for a successful prosecution and does not imply that treatment or case management was, or is to be, provided.
No abuse or neglect	Where an investigation has concluded that there is no reasonable cause to suspect prior, current or future abuse or neglect of the child.
Maltreatment	Child abuse and neglect.
Notification	Where contact is made to an authorised department by persons or other bodies making allegations of child abuse or neglect.
Investigation	Where the authorised department makes substantial contacts, by any means, with the child and/or family, and/or persons known to the child and/or family, to assess whether or not abuse or neglect has occurred.

(cont.)

Table 10A.61: Child protection and protection and care order definitions  
(cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
Investigation finalised	Where an investigation was completed and an outcome recorded.
Investigation not finalised	Where an investigation was commenced but an outcome was not recorded
Notifications dealt with by other means	Where a notification was responded to by means other than investigation, such as advice or referral to services.
Notifications not investigated or dealt with by other means	Where a notification was not dealt with by any means. It includes notifications where investigation was warranted, but where no investigation or other action was possible.
Order — Guardianship	A legal or administrative order which gives the welfare department total responsibility for a child’s welfare.
Order — Legal	Any lawful direction which gives the department direct responsibility for a person over and above what is generally considered normal for most persons. Responsibility for an order may be undertaken directly by the authorised department, or indirectly through supervising another authority or person providing care. Only orders granted for care and/or protection reasons, excluding interim orders, are included. The involvement might take the form of total responsibility for the welfare of the child (for example, guardianship); responsibility to oversee the actions of the person or authority caring for the child; responsibility to provide or arrange accommodation or to report or give consideration to the person’s welfare. Depending on the State or Territory, the order can be from a Court, Children’s Panel, Minister of the Crown, authorised department officer (for example, Director) or similar tribunal or officer.
Order – Custody	Placement in custody of a third party, including an agency.
Order — Supervision and other	Where the department is given some responsibility for the child’s welfare, including joint shared guardianship.
Order issued for care and protection	Orders issued by a legal or administrative body in respect of an individual child deemed to be in need of care and/or protection (see ‘Legal order’ above).
Persons subject to orders	Any person for whom the authorised department has a responsibility because of some formal legal order in the form of guardianship or some other form of supervisory responsibility.

(cont.)

Table 10A.61: Child protection and protection and care order definitions  
(cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
Types of abuse or neglect	Substantiated abuse is classified into four categories: physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. Where more than one type of abuse or neglect has occurred the substantiated notification is classified to that type most likely to be the most severe in the short term or most likely to place the child at risk in the short term, or if such an assessment is not possible, to the most obvious form of abuse or neglect.
Physical abuse	Any non-accidental physical injury inflicted upon a child by a person having the care of a child.
Emotional abuse	Any act by a person having the care of a child which results in the child suffering any kind of significant emotional deprivation or trauma.
Sexual abuse	Any act by a person having the care of the child which exposes a child to, or involves a child in, sexual processes beyond his or her understanding or contrary to accepted community standards.
Neglect	Any serious omissions or commissions by a person having the care of a child which, within the bounds of cultural tradition, constitute a failure to provide conditions which are essential for the healthy, physical and emotional development of a child.
Guardianship of State or Territory welfare department	A person whose legal guardian is the Minister, Director or other official of an authorised department, where the guardianship is conferred under legislation other than legislation controlling the adoption of children or the Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1956. In some States, persons come under the legal guardianship of the State because they are on offence orders. These are excluded from this collection.

Sources: AIHW 1996a; AIHW 1996b.



## 10A.4.2 Supported placements

Table 10A.62: Supported placements descriptor definitions

<i>Descriptor</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Children in supported placement	Proportion of children (persons aged 0 to 17 years) in out of home overnight care including placements with relatives, other than parents, where the State makes a financial payment. Includes children in legal and in voluntary placements (that is, children on a legal order and children not on a legal order) but excludes placements made in disability services, psychiatric services, juvenile justice facilities, or in overnight child care services.
Children in supported placement by placement type	<p>Placement type has two categories each with three sub-categories:</p> <p>(a) Facility based (residential) building for the purpose of providing placements and involving paid staff :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) where staff are rostered</li> <li>(ii) where there is a live-in care giver</li> <li>(iii) where staff are off-site (lead tenant, supported residence)</li> </ul> <p>(b) Home based where placement is in the home of a carer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) foster care/community care—general authorised care giver supported by an approved agency.</li> <li>(ii) relative/kinship care—specific authorised care giver/‘particular person’.</li> <li>(iii) other—including private board.</li> </ul> <p>Family group homes are included in facility based care, category (ii).</p>
Children in supported placement by legal status	‘Legal status’ is categorised according to whether or not a child was on a legal order. Children on interim orders are categorised as on a legal order’.
Length of time in continuous supported placement	The length of time a child has been in supported placement on a continuous basis. A return home of less than 7 days does not break the continuity of placement.
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 is only counted once.

Table 10A.63: Supported placements effectiveness performance indicator definitions

<i>Performance indicator</i>	<i>Definition</i>
<i>Service quality</i>	
Children placed with relatives/kin	The proportion of children in supported placement who are placed with 'relatives/kin' — family members other than parents or a person well known to the child and/or family (based on a pre-existing relationship).
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers	The proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in supported placement who are placed with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care givers.
Children aged under 12 years placed in home based placements	The proportion of children under 12 years in supported placement who are placed in a 'home based placement'.
Abuse by a care provider	The proportion of children in supported placement during the year where the abuse or neglect occurred while the child was living in the placement and the person believed responsible for the abuse or neglect was a care giver in that placement.
Stability of placement	<p>Numbers of placements in the last 2 years of children who have been in 'continuous' supported placement for more than 6 months. A return home of less than 7 days or holidays do not break the continuity of the placement. Placements do not include respite or temporary placements lasting less than 7 days.</p> <p>Placements are counted separately where there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a change from a home based to a facility based placement or vice-versa;</li> <li>a change from a home based placement to another home based placement, where there is a change of care giver or where in private board a change of venue; or</li> <li>a change from a facility based placement to another facility based placement, where there is a change of venue.</li> </ul>

Table 10A.64: Supported placements definitions

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	A person who is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, who identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and is accepted as such by the community with which he or she is associated. A child is recorded as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander when the child identifies as such, or when the child's principal care giver identifies the child as such.
Age	Age is calculated from date of birth at the time a report is made, and is shown in completed years, or in completed months where age is less than one year old.
Child	Is based on the age at the time abuse or neglect is reported. For NSW, Victoria and Tasmania is a person aged under 17 years; for Queensland, WA, SA, the ACT and the NT is a person aged under 18 years. A small number of cases involving persons over these ages were investigated. In 1993–94, persons aged 18 years or more were involved in 51 finalised cases. There is some double-counting of children in States which have a statutory authority as well as a department investigating abuse or neglect unless there is a procedure to identify the same child in both organisations.
Children in care or protection	Children placed in the care and supervision of a relevant authority, individual or parent, for whom the authorised department has ultimate responsibility in ensuring that the child is receiving suitable or satisfactory care.
Children under guardianship	Children under guardianship of a State or Territory welfare department whose legal guardian is the Minister, Director or other official of an authorised department, where the guardianship is conferred under legislation other than legislation controlling the adoption of children or the Commonwealth Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1956.
Having the care of	Permanent or temporary custody, control or responsibility at the time of abuse or neglect, regardless of whether this is on a regular, part-time or ad hoc basis.
Living arrangements — care	The type of care in which the child is placed. It includes foster care, residential child care facilities, family group homes, unauthorised absence, other adult living arrangements, living independently and other/unknown.
Living with parent or other relative	Living with one or both natural or adoptive parents, or with any adult relative who does not receive a regular allowance for care of the child.
Foster care	Care of a child who is living apart from his natural or adoptive parents in a private household, by one or more adults who act as 'foster parents' and are paid a regular allowance for the child's support by a government authority or non-government organisation. The authorised department or non-government organisation provides continuing supervision or support while the child remains in the care of 'foster parents'.

*(cont.)*

Table 10A.64: Supported placements definitions (cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
Residential child care facilities	Residential establishments, other than 'family group homes', with a main activity of providing substitute care (accommodation, meals and some personal care, protection or control) to children. Included in this category are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>establishments for children with disabilities and establishments for children with serious behavioural problems;</li> <li>juvenile hostels — residential child care establishments mainly for children aged 15 years and over who may have left school, which provide full board and some personal care, protection, control, corrective treatment or detention; for example, youth refuges and child care hostels used as half-way houses' for children released from a corrective institution;</li> <li>campus homes — residential child care establishments consisting of two or more dwellings that do not share cooking or eating facilities, with some form of on-site centralised administration or control; and</li> <li>other homes for children — any other residential child care establishments that are mainly for children aged under 15, and consist of either single dwellings that are not 'family group homes', or two or more dwellings that share cooking or eating facilities.</li> </ul>
Family group homes	Residential child care single dwelling establishments which have as their main purpose the provision of substitute care to children. They are typically run like family homes, have a limited number of children who eat together as a family group and are cared for around-the clock by resident substitute parents.
Unauthorised absence	Absence from official living arrangements at the time of counting without the permission of the appropriate authorities (except where no specific permission is required).
Other adult living arrangements	Living with an adult (other than a parent, relative or foster parent) who has accepted responsibility for the child. (Includes persons placed in the custody of employer or landlord, with prospective adoptive parents who do not receive a regular allowance for care of the child, or with authorities of an Aboriginal reserve or mission).
Living independently	Living apart from parents, other adult relative, or other adult who has accepted responsibility for care or supervision of the child; for instance, when living as a private boarder, in rental accommodation, boarding house or refuge, private hotel or hostel for adults.
Other/unknown	Includes any living arrangements not elsewhere included, or not known.
Natural parent	Any male or female who is the biological or adoptive parent of the child.
Step-parent	Any person who is not the biological or adoptive parent of a child but is or was involved in a legal marriage relationship with one of the child's biological parents.
De facto parent	Any male or female who is not the biological or adoptive parent of the child and who is the de facto marital partner of the child's parent.

(cont.)

Table 10A.64: Supported placements definitions (cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
Guardian	Any person who has the legal and ongoing care and responsibility for the protection of a child.
Foster parent	A foster parent is defined as any person 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).
Sibling	A natural (that is, biological), adopted, foster, step or half-brother or sister.
Other relative	Grandparent, aunt, uncle or cousin, whether the relationship is of the whole blood or half-blood or by marriage. This category includes members of Aboriginal communities who are accepted as being related to the child by that community.
Maltreater	The person believed responsible for the abuse or neglect. Generally a person who has care of the child, although in some cases (particularly sexual abuse) abuse is by other persons.
Principal maltreater	Where there is more than one maltreater, the person who is known to have, alleged to have or confessed to have inflicted or be inflicting the most severe maltreatment, or is the most likely to have harmed or put the child at risk. Where it is not possible to assess this, the principal maltreater is the person who has inflicted or is inflicting the most obvious form of maltreatment.
Regular allowance	A payment of a set amount of money on a regular basis to substitute parents for the care of a child. This allowance is paid to a person or persons providing foster care by a government department or non-government organisation.
Residential care	Provision of accommodation in a residential establishment.
Residential child care establishments	Residential care establishments for children where the main activity is to provide substitute care (accommodation, meals, and some personal care, protection or control) for children. It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>establishments for children with disabilities and establishments for children with serious behavioural problems;</li> <li>juvenile hostels—residential child care establishments mainly for children aged 15 years and over who may have left school, which provide full board and some personal care, protection, control, corrective treatment or detention; for example, youth refuges and child care hostels used as 'half-way houses' for children released from a corrective institution;</li> <li>family group homes—residential child care single dwelling establishments which have as their main purpose the provision of substitute care for children. They are typically run like family homes, have a limited number of children who eat together as a family group and are cared for round the clock by resident substitute parents;</li> <li>campus homes—residential child care establishments consisting of two or more dwellings that do not share cooking or eating facilities, with some form of on-site centralised administration or control;</li> <li>other homes for children—any other residential child care establishments that are mainly for children aged under 15 years, and consist of either single dwellings that are not family group homes or two or more dwellings that share cooking or eating facilities.</li> </ul>

(cont.)

Table 10A.64: Supported placements definitions (cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
Substitute care	Provision of care for a child by persons other than the child's natural or adoptive parents who act as substitute parents. This includes foster care and residential care.
Type of living arrangements	Persons are shown in the type of living arrangements in which they spent the night of 30 June 1996 (except those on authorised absence or outing who are shown against their usual type of living arrangements).
Type of placement	Children are shown in the type of placement in which they spent the night of 30 June 1994 (except those on authorised absence or outing who are shown against their usual type of placement). The broad types of placement are residential child care, residential care, corrective establishments and other placements.
Other placements	<p>This category includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• foster care placement in a private household or in a general foster home approved by a State or Territory welfare department;</li> <li>• living with a parent or other relative — a child is living with one or both natural or adoptive parents, or with any adult relative who does not receive a regular allowance for care of the child;</li> <li>• in other adult care — a child is living with an adult (other than a parent or relative) who has accepted responsibility for the child, (includes persons placed in the custody of an employer or landlord, with prospective adoptive parents who do not receive a regular allowance for care of the child, or authorities of an Aboriginal reserve or mission);</li> <li>• unauthorised absence — absence from an official placement at the time of counting without the permission of the appropriate authorities (except where no specific permission is required);</li> <li>• living independently—a child is living apart from parents, other adult relatives, or any other adult who has accepted responsibility for care or supervision of the child; or when living as a private boarder, in rental accommodation, boarding house or refuge, private hotel or hostel for adults;</li> <li>• other placement or unknown—any placement not elsewhere included, or not known.</li> </ul>

### 10A.4.3 Supported Accommodation Assistance Program

Table 10A.65: Crisis and supported accommodation framework for performance indicators to be reported on in 1998

<i>Item</i>	<i>Information</i>
Descriptors	<p>The number and proportion of all clients receiving a supported accommodation service per 1000 of the total population.</p> <p>The number and proportion of children accompanying adults who receive a supported accommodation service.</p> <p>The number and proportion of all clients receiving support per 1000 of the total population.</p> <p>The number of clients of ATSI origin receiving support and the proportion per 1000 of the ATSI population and in relation to all clients receiving support.</p> <p>The number and proportion of clients receiving support by the main presenting reason for seeking assistance.</p> <p>The number of nights of supported accommodation.</p> <p>The percentage of crisis/short term supported accommodation which is less than 1 month, between 1 to 3 months, and greater than 3 months.</p> <p>The percentage of medium/long term supported accommodation which is less than 3 months, between 3 to 12 months, and greater than 12 months.</p> <p>The percentage of support periods which are less than 1 month, between 1 and 3 months, 3 to 12 months, and greater than 12 months.</p> <p>The total recurrent and capital funds provided by government for services.</p> <p>The total recurrent and capital funds provided for services by client group and the proportion dedicated to each client group.</p> <p>The number of agencies in receipt of recurrent government funding to provide a SAAP service by service type.</p>
Client outcome indicators	<p>The number and proportion of clients who have achieved identified goals on exit from service (to be determined).</p> <p>The number and proportion of clients returning to a crisis accommodation service within 6 months of exit from supported accommodation.</p> <p>The number and proportion of clients entering a SAAP service with no income who exit with some form of income.</p>
Appropriateness indicators	<p>The extent to which identified needs of clients align with services provided/referrals made.</p> <p>The extent to which identified needs of ATSI clients align with services provided/referrals made.</p> <p>The extent to which the identified needs of clients of a non English speaking background align with services provided/referrals made.</p>
Access indicators	<p>The number and proportion of people provided with supported accommodation in relation to all eligible requests for supported accommodation in a given period.</p> <p>The number and proportion of people of ATSI origin provided with supported accommodation in relation to all eligible requests for supported accommodation by ATSI people in a given period.</p>
Quality indicators	<p>The number and proportion of clients with an agreed case management plan.</p> <p>The number and proportion of clients reporting satisfaction with services provided by a SAAP agency (to be developed).</p>

Table 10A.66: SAAP definitions

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people	Persons who are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island descent, who identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and who are accepted as such by the community with which he or she is associated.
Additional SAAP Accommodation Places	A SAAP accommodation place which is temporary. These are the beds which the agency may use from time to time as needed, for example, temporary beds to accommodate an additional family member.
Agency	The body or establishment with which an agreement to provide a SAAP Service is made by the State/Territory Government or its representative. The legal entity must be incorporated.
Auspice	The body or establishment which governs a SAAP Agency. The auspice may or may not directly receive the funds from the department to administer a SAAP Service. The auspice does not directly provide services; services are provided by a SAAP Agency of the auspice.
Cross-target/multiple/general	SAAP Services targeted at more than one Primary Client Group category for example, SAAP Services for single persons regardless of their sex.
Crisis/short term supported accommodation	Supported accommodation for periods of generally not more than 3 months (short term) and for persons needing immediate short term accommodation (crisis).
Day support	Support only on a walk in basis for example, an agency which provides a drop in centre, showering facilities and a meals service at the location of the SAAP Agency.
Families	Persons who present to the service as a family (a group of two or more persons who usually live in the same household and who are related to each other by blood, marriage — including de facto and de jure marriages — or adoption).
High Volume Agencies	Agencies for which there is a high volume of client throughput. This may entail the provision of support to large numbers of persons. Agencies expected to be high volume are those which provide services using a day support type of service delivery model, such as the provision of meals, or a telephone support delivery model, such as a telephone counselling service.

(cont.)



Table 10A.66: SAAP definitions (cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
Legal Entity	The body or establishment with which an agreement to provide a SAAP Service is made with the State/Territory Government Department or its representative. The legal entity must be an incorporated body.
Medium/long term supported accommodation	Agencies classified as providing support through a medium/long term accommodation service delivery model are those which provide supported accommodation for periods of around 3-6 months (medium term) and for longer than 6 months (long term).
Multiple	SAAP Agencies which use more than one service delivery model for the provision of SAAP Services, for example, crisis/short term accommodation and support, as well day support, that is, the provision of meals.
Non-SAAP accommodation places	Accommodation places in the form of permanent beds, which are owned or managed by the agency, using funds other than SAAP Funds.
Other (service delivery model)	Service delivery models other than those specified above.
Other special characteristics	SAAP services that are targeted at persons whose primary or secondary characteristics are not included in the 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.
Outlet	A premise owned/managed/leased by an agency at which SAAP Services are delivered. It excludes accommodation purchased using SAAP funds, for example, at a motel.
Outreach support services	Services which exist to provide support and other related assistance specifically to homeless people. These people may be isolated and can receive services and support from a range of options that enhance flexibility for the client, for example, advocacy, life skills, counselling. In addition, generalist support and accommodation services may provide outreach support in the form of follow-up to clients where they are housed. In this context, support is provided 'off site'.
Non English speaking background services	Services which are targeted at persons whose first language is not English.
Providers	Agencies supplying support and accommodation services.

(cont.)

Table 10A.66: SAAP definitions

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
SAAP Agency	A body or establishment which receives a specified amount of money (SAAP Funds) to provide a SAAP Service. Funds may be allocated directly (that is, from the government department) or indirectly (that is, from the auspice of the agency). The agency may or may not manage its own funds. The SAAP Service may be provided at the same physical location as the agency or through an Outlet at a different physical location.
SAAP Service	Supported Accommodation, Support or One-Off Assistance, which is provided by a SAAP Agency, and intended to be used by Homeless Persons.
SAAP Service Provider	Workers or volunteers employed and/or engaged by a SAAP Agency, who either directly provide a SAAP Service or in some way contribute to the provision of a SAAP Service. A SAAP Service Provider includes persons such as administrative staff of an agency, whether paid or not paid. SAAP Service Providers may be employed or engaged full or part-time.
SAAP Client	A person who receives supported accommodation or support.
SAAP Casual Client	A person who is in contact with a SAAP Agency and receives One-off Assistance for a period of generally not more than one hour and who does not establish an ongoing relationship with an agency.
SAAP Unmet Demand	A Homeless Person who sought Supported Accommodation or Support, but was not provided with that Supported Accommodation or Support. A SAAP Unmet Demand may or may not receive One-Off Assistance.
SAAP Funds	Funds provided by a State/Territory government department to a legal entity for the purposes of administering a SAAP service.
SAAP Recurrent Funds	Funds provided by the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments to cover operating costs, salaries and rent.
SAAP Non-Recurrent Funds	SAAP Non-Recurrent Funds are SAAP Funds received for non-recurrent purposes, such as funds for research, a special one-off project, or for replacement of capital items (for example, furniture, white goods, motor vehicles, etc).
Supported Accommodation	Accommodation provided by a SAAP Agency in conjunction with Support. The accommodation component, of supported accommodation, is provided in the form of beds in particular locations or accommodation purchased using SAAP Funds, for example, at a motel. Agencies which provide accommodation without providing support, are considered as providing supported accommodation.
Support	SAAP Services, other than Supported Accommodation, which are 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 is ongoing and is provided as part of a client relationship between the SAAP Agency and the Homeless Person.

(cont.)

Table 10A.66: SAAP definitions

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition/explanation</i>
Support Period	<p>The support period commences when a SAAP Client establishes or re-establishes after the cessation of a previous support period, an ongoing relationship with a SAAP Agency. The support period ends when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support ceases due to the SAAP Client terminating the relationship with the SAAP Agency; or</li> <li>• support ceases due to the SAAP Agency terminating the relationship with the SAAP Client; or</li> <li>• no support is provided to the SAAP Client for a period of three months .</li> </ul> <p>A support period is only relevant to the provision of Supported Accommodation or Support. It is not applicable to the provision of One-Off Assistance.</p>
Service delivery model	<p>Refers to the mode or manner in which a service is provided through an agency. The modes of service delivery can be described as crisis/short term accommodation and support, medium/long term accommodation and support, day support, outreach support, information/referral or agency support. An agency may deliver its services through one or more of these means of service delivery.</p>
Single men services	<p>Services provided for males who present to the SAAP Agency without a partner or children.</p>
Single women services	<p>Services provided for females who present to the SAAP Agency without a partner or children.</p>
Telephone information/referral	<p>Support delivered via telephone without face to face contact. The type of support provided may include information and /or referral.</p>
Total funding	<p>Funding for allocation to agencies (not available at the individual client group level) training, equipment and other administration costs.</p>
Women escaping domestic violence services	<p>Services specifically designed to assist women and women accompanied by their children, who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, due to violence and/or abuse.</p>
Youth/young people services	<p>Services provided for persons who are independent, above the school leaving age for the state or territory concerned, and present to the SAAP Agency, unaccompanied by a parent/guardian.</p>

Source: DRAC 1995.

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