
11A CHILDREN'S SERVICES ATTACHMENT

Definitions for the descriptors and indicators in this attachment are in Section 11A.4. Unsourced information has been obtained from Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments.

11A.1 Jurisdictions' comments

Commonwealth Government comments

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The Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services is responsible for the Commonwealth Government's policy and programs to provide accessible, affordable, quality child care.

Data collected through the Department's Annual Child Care Census; the Quality Improvement and Accreditation System; and the Program planning and administrative systems provide a comprehensive national picture of the Commonwealth's involvement in child care.

While there has been a general commitment to develop data collection processes that ensure data are collected in the format required for reporting under the agreed performance indicators, the Commonwealth is concerned about the possibility of double counting of service provision and consequent distortions in reporting and analysis particularly where preschool programs are provided in long day care centres.

The Commonwealth recommends that consideration be given to streamlining the data collection processes and reports pertaining to children's services in light of overlaps that now exist with collections and reports such as *Australia's Welfare* and those undertaken by the National Community Services Information Management Group.

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New South Wales Government comments

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Families require services that are affordable, convenient, safe and provide appropriate age development programs for their children. NSW aims to provide a child care system that is responsive to these needs.

Statewide and local service planning is undertaken to ensure policy objectives are met and that an appropriate mix of services is available to meet families' needs. The NSW regulations for centre-based services for children under school age enable the delivery of a seamless service system within which individual service models co-exist with multi-purpose and less traditional service types. What is traditionally termed as a 'preschool' program is available for children whether they attend a preschool, a long day care, or an occasional care service. NSW recognises that exposure to a quality early childhood education service can give children an opportunity for an important head start in life. Funding is specifically targeted to address access issues for children from disadvantaged and vulnerable families and communities so they may participate in quality programs.

Priorities for NSW in 1996–97 saw a number of new initiatives announced or commenced, aimed at improving choice, affordability, supply and quality, and at improving mechanisms for compliance to standards.

The requirements of families participating in the workforce and the need for places for children under three years was acknowledged through approval of \$5.5 million in capital funding to increase supply for this age group by an additional 700 places. As well, an additional \$6.2 million was allocated to improve the choice and supply of services by an extra 970 places to make services more affordable, and to upgrade health and safety aspects. These initiatives are additional to the continued maintenance of funding effort for the sector, including continuance of an operational subsidy for community based long day care services.

New regulations for the sector which progress and strengthen the standards by which services are licensed and must operate, have been introduced. The NSW Department of Community Services, which has responsibility for children's services, has developed a risk management approach for compliance monitoring of these regulated standards. The approach was developed with major industry representatives. It identifies risks against a set of key regulatory elements such as the physical environment, health/hygiene/nutrition, policies and programs, and staff/child interaction. The approach gives service providers a clear picture of their duty of care responsibilities and what priority issues they need to manage to ensure they provide a service that is safe for children. It also gives Departmental staff very clear targets for regulatory compliance work.

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Victoria Government comments

“ The Department of Human Services (DHS) regulates and/or funds children’s services in Victoria; it is not directly involved in service provision.

In Victoria, there are approximately 3200 registered centre-based services for children aged 0 to 6 years. A new legislative and regulatory framework is being developed for these services. The *Children’s Services Act 1996*, which was passed by the Parliament in the Spring Session 1996, establishes for the first time a separate legislative framework for children’s services in Victoria. Such a framework offers a flexible and streamlined approach to the provision of children’s services. Regulations to be made under the Act will be finalised in early 1998, following responses to the Regulatory Impact Statement. The new children’s services legislation will be implemented by 1 July 1998.

In addition, Victoria either funds directly or manages Commonwealth/State Government funding to approximately 1800 agencies providing children’s services at approximately 2600 service delivery locations across the state, including preschool, occasional care, TAFE long day care and school age services. The State also provides information and publications to support regulated and funded services, and the broad children’s services sector.

Victoria is committed to the development of flexible, integrated services, enabling families to access a range of services at the one location. An increasing number of long day care centres are offering a funded preschool service, with 337 long day care centres receiving preschool funding in 1997 compared with 176 in 1996. Increased integration is also demonstrated by almost 90 per cent of funded preschool locations offering at least one other type of children’s service in addition to the funded preschool service. In addition, Victoria has recently announced that state primary schools will be able to become preschool providers from 1998. Furthermore, the establishment of the Office of the Family within DHS aims to increase links between children’s services and other services to families.

Victoria collects and analyses a considerable amount of data on children’s services; however, many of the items collected differ from the data requirements for this Report. While the Working Group has, during 1997, refined some of the definitions for the descriptors and indicators used, it has only been possible for Victoria to provide a relatively small number of items this year. The ability to provide common national data items is restricted by the diversity in the operational and administrative arrangements in the children’s services sector and the lead time required to modify existing data collections. Victoria (and the Working Group) will re-examine these issues in 1998.

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Queensland Government comments

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Queensland is committed to enhancing child care and education provision throughout the state. For example, funding initiatives have focused on expanding the range and diversity of services which respond flexibly to the needs of children and their families, as in:

- Rural Children's Centres Program which aims over three years to develop services in up to 40 small rural and remote communities;
- Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care Program which supports services in Far North Queensland communities;
- Outside School Hours Care Upgrading Program which assists services to improve facilities to meet national standards; and
- Outside School Hours Care Activities for Young People Program which establishes safe and supervised programs for 13 to 15 year olds.

In addition, child care legislation has been reviewed to incorporate national standards for LDC and FDC. Consultation is under way to implement National Standards for Outside School Hours Care. Queensland continues to work with training institutions to enhance training offered to early childhood students and to increase the number of courses offered across the state.

The Queensland Child Care Information Service assisted more than 18 000 child care consumers, students, developers and others in 1997, a 53 per cent increase over 1996. Callers to the free telephone service are provided with comprehensive information on the location of services, how to access assistance with fees, and services for children with special needs. More than 15 000 free publications to assist parents were distributed and a web site on the Internet now gives customers 24 hours access to information about child care in Queensland.

The *Preschool Curriculum Guidelines*, developed by the Queensland School Curriculum Council, were distributed free in early 1998 to teachers of preschool-age children in all relevant settings. The *Guidelines* are intended to assist teachers with designing an effective preschool curriculum. They establish the purposes, balance and outcomes of preschool education and demonstrate how all aspects of learning and development are integrated. Professional development courses are being developed by training providers to support the implementation of the guidelines. Course providers will be registered by Education Queensland to ensure high quality course materials and delivery.

The Queensland Government is committed to the ongoing development and refinement of data collection against the agreed performance indicators.

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Western Australia Government comments

“ WA is committed to the principle of ensuring quality care for children and early educational opportunities for all children prior to commencement of full-time schooling.

Family and Children's Services is responsible for licensing of child care places, support to providers and contributes to planning for new services. The Education Department of WA provides early childhood education programs in the form of a kindergarten program for children in the year they turn four and a pre-primary program for children in the year they turn five. Currently Family and Children's Services also provides kindergarten places by funding and supporting community groups to run services. These places are being progressively transferred to the Education Department.

The state has comprehensive regulations for child care services including all family day carers irrespective of their participation in FDC schemes, and occasional care. During 1997 the Community Services (Child Care) Regulations have been reviewed and feedback sought from the public and industry representatives on the deliberations of the Review Committee. This process will be completed in 1998 and changes to regulations implemented.

Consultations are under way with service providers, industry representatives and parents regarding the maintenance of standards in OSHC with a possible option being to regulate these services.

The Education Department plans to increase provision of early childhood education programs in the years ahead: in 1998 all children will have access to a full-time (four days per week) government funded pre-primary program in the year they turn five and by 2001 all children will have access to a government funded kindergarten program in the year they turn four.

During 1997 the Education Department and Family and Children's Services have supported a pilot project to deliver Education Department Kindergarten programs in community based child care centres. This will continue in 1998.

The body of the Report includes cautionary notes on making comparisons between states and territories. It should also be noted that the WA child care figures do not include children attending early childhood education programs; these are included in the child care figures for some other states and territories.

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South Australia Government comments

“ The Department for Education and Children’s Services (DECS) is the State Government agency responsible for children’s services in SA. It operates the majority of preschool services (97 per cent) with the remaining operated by non-government and religious organisations. DECS also has responsibility for the administration of OSHC and FDC services, performs the licensing function for child care centres and provides advisory and specialist support for all children’s services.

During 1997 a Licensing and Standards Unit was centralised to carry out all of the licensing functions. This single point of service is designed to ensure greater consistency in administration of the regulations and to improve customer service to operators of child care services. The changed administration arrangements have also provided the basis for the centralised collection of data relating to complaints and breaches which will enable SA to accurately report on these matters in subsequent reports.

During 1996–97, 10 child care centres closed in the state. It is anticipated that there may be additional closures in the future if services are unable to adjust their operations in response to loss of operational subsidy.

One of the priorities for DECS in 1997 has been to strengthen the management of child care services and assist them in adjusting to the funding changes. A number of amalgamations have occurred. DECS has also funded the Child Care Business Initiative (Kidsbiz) in community-based centres. Kidsbiz provides centres with a computerised administration and management system as well as an ongoing consultancy service. It is currently operational in 81 centres across the state.

A further priority for DECS is to support the OSHC sector to plan for the necessary adjustments arising from Commonwealth funding changes. A feasibility study into the expansion of Kidsbiz to OSHC services will be carried out in 1998.

Curriculum support and staff development continue to be a major focus within DECS. The curriculum document *Foundation Areas of Learning* for 3 to 4 year olds (FALS) has been implemented in all preschools and is widely used in child care services. A document *Deadly Nukin Ere — Aboriginal Perspectives on Foundation Areas of Learning* is being developed as a supplementary curriculum resource, and a second FALS document for children from 0 to 3 years is in development. A particular focus on early literacy has resulted in the implementation of the ECLIPSE early learning program which is designed to support children’s early literacy and is developed for use by staff and parents.”

Tasmania Government comments

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The Tasmanian Government currently divides the provision of children's services between two separate departments: the Department of Community and Health Services (DCHS) which provides support for a range of child care services for children 0 to 12 years, and the Department of Education, Community and Cultural Development (DECCD), which provides non-compulsory kindergarten (preschool) services as an entry to the education system.

In July 1997, DCHS implemented the new Tasmanian Centre Based Child Care Licensing Guidelines incorporating national standards for long day care which have been the subject of consultation and review between government and the child care industry since 1995. All new long day care centres will now be required to meet these standards before being licensed and action plans are currently being developed for existing centres setting out steps towards meeting all standards by the year 2000.

Another major focus during 1996–97 was the Review of the Department of Community and Health Services. Among other things, the Review was commissioned to recommend appropriate service groupings in the Department and associated structural changes to enable a better response to the needs of the Tasmanian community, particularly in the light of Tasmania's demographic profile, and health and wellbeing status. The Review's recommendations were framed to ensure like services are linked together, thus maximising integration and co-ordination in support of service delivery.

This resulted in the Review recommending that responsibility for child care be transferred from DCHS to DECCD to facilitate greater policy linkages between early childhood education and child care. This transfer takes effect from January 1998.

The Tasmanian response is limited to data that the state already collects and which is deemed reliable. A problem experienced for the 1996–97 financial data in particular stemmed from difficulties in matching information held with the requirements of this Report. The Tasmanian Government is committed, within its resources, to ongoing development of data collection systems.

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Australian Capital Territory Government comments

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Recent changes to the ACT workforce have altered the child care usage patterns in the last year. The effects of these changes are that fewer parents are participating in the workforce thus requiring less child care and resulting in high vacancy rates. More parents are working part-time and some have moved away from Canberra. Impacts of these social and demographic changes on preschool and child care can be seen in lower usage of both services. Baby vacancies in long day care are high whilst occasional care is experiencing an increased demand for baby places.

There is differing reporting of occasional care usage in the ACT according to whether it is funded by the Commonwealth or the ACT Governments. Usage is reported as 5.3 hours per week in Commonwealth services and as 8 hours in ACT funded services. Occasional care has met a need for parents who arrived in the ACT without the support of extended families. Its usage has extended in recent years to include part-time and casual work related, as well as occasional respite care for family support purposes.

School age care including vacation care services in the ACT enjoy a one to ten staff to child ratio and therefore costs of services are greater than in those jurisdictions where services may have fewer staff to children. The ACT has now implemented national standards in its licence conditions for school age care.

Over the past three years, the ACT Government funded some pilot programs for provision of school age care programs for children and adolescents with disabilities. Evaluation of these programs has been very positive and there is strong community support for ongoing provision and expansion of these services particularly for adolescents both after school and in vacations.

When ACT administrative costs are compared with costs incurred by other jurisdictions, it should be noted that the ACT Government combines the roles of Territory and municipal Governments and is also the only jurisdiction that currently licenses school age care and vacation care.

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Northern Territory Government comments

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The NT has a young population, with a high proportion of children with families in the workforce. In 1995, 51 per cent of children 0 to 4 years and 75 per cent of children 5 to 12 years in the NT had families in the paid workforce.

The NT Government is committed to supporting the provision of child care for NT families and in 1997 approved a Five Year Children's Services Plan to:

- improve access to child care services;
- tailor services to meet family needs;
- ensure quality in services for children;
- maintain the affordability of child care and development services; and
- ensure that child care and development services are coordinated for the convenience of families and children.

The NT Government provides an operational subsidy to all licensed child care centres. Child care costs in the NT remain amongst the lowest in Australia. The average centre-based fee in 1996–97 was \$136 for a 50 hour week.

Under the joint Commonwealth/NT Agreement, four innovative pilot projects on remote Aboriginal communities are being undertaken to provide services for children 0 to 5 years. The services have a particular focus on culture appropriateness. Progress in the development of innovative services has been limited by constraints such as access to the communities in the wet season, high cost of construction and the recruitment and training of staff. A service evaluation will take place 12 months after commencement of the centres.

National minimum standards for child care centres have been approved for implementation in the NT. Implementation of minimum standards for other areas of the child care sector are expected in the near future to further enhance the quality of services available to NT families.

In 1996–97, an additional 320 places became available. This was partly the result of a reduction in the indoor play space required per child, which brought NT regulations into line with the National Minimum Standards. There was also a significant growth in the private sector. Private providers now operate approximately 29 per cent of centre-based child care places in the NT, an increase of 8 per cent since 1995–96.

The NT data collection is limited and unfortunately does not correspond with the required format of this Report. Development of more effective data collection and analysis has been included in the Children's Service Plan to enhance reporting and monitoring in the future.

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11A.2 All jurisdictions' data

11A.2.1 Descriptors

Table 11A.1: Children 12 years and younger in Australia (number)

Age	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust ^d
30 June 1995									
0 to 1	173 161	126 714	94 003	49 822	38 622	13 512	8 908	7 180	512 019
2 to 3	175 132	127 434	95 248	49 578	39 528	13 459	8 977	7 027	516 448
4	88 673	64 250	48 661	25 645	20 061	7 057	4 671	3 229	262 310
5	87 934	63 696	48 282	26 179	20 170	6 954	4 524	3 226	261 022
6 to 12	601 052	435 389	336 671	183 947	142 356	50 497	30 688	22 000	1 803 096
Total	1 125 952	817 483	622 865	335 171	260 737	91 479	57 768	42 662	3 354 895
30 June 1996									
0 to 2	172 073	123 888	94 386	49 842	38 147	13 136	8 990	7 304	507 869
3	175 651	127 618	96 401	50 071	39 219	13 710	8 881	7 014	518 379
4	87 371	63 329	48 469	25 021	19 632	6 402	4 473	3 574	258 566
5	89 122	64 281	49 566	25 936	20 056	7 019	4 616	3 240	263 899
6 to 12	606 539	437 848	340 635	185 528	142 479	49 993	30 611	22 113	1 815 910
Total	1 130 756	816 964	629 457	336 398	259 533	90 260	57 571	43 245	3 364 623

a Data for Australia included other territories.

Source: ABS 1997b, Cat. No 3201.0

Table 11A.2: Services included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
1995–96										
Children	No	184 300	122 700	141 000	46 100	40 800	15 400	13 700	6 300	570 300
Paid primary contact staff	FTE	9 200	6 700	7 300	2 800	1 700	600	800	300	29 400
Paid administrative staff	FTE	1 000	900	900	400	300	80	90	50	3 720
Other paid staff	FTE	800	500	400	200	100	30	30	30	2 090
Family day carers	FTE	5 400	5 300	4 800	1 100	2 100	500	900	400	20 500
Unpaid staff	FTE	2 200	1 500	1 600	600	400	200	100	80	6 680
1996–97										
Children	No	187 900	139 300	137 700	46 500	42 100	15 300	15 100	6 900	590 800
Paid primary contact staff	FTE	10 100	8 000	8 000	2 900	1 900	600	900	400	32 800
Paid administrative staff	FTE	1 200	1 100	1 100	400	300	100	100	50	4 350
Other paid staff	FTE	900	600	400	300	100	50	50	30	2 430
Family day carers	FTE	5 600	5 500	5 000	1 100	2 100	600	1 000	400	21 300
Unpaid staff	FTE	1 600	1 600	920	350	270	70	60	50	4 920

Table 11A.3: Services included in Health and Family Services census of child care, places, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (number)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
1995–96									
Centre based long day care	54 200	35 100	50 400	13 900	8 100	2 000	3 000	1 400	168 100
Family day care	19 200	16 400	10 700	3 700	5 100	1 700	2 500	900	60 200
Vacation care	2 000	1 700	2 600	800	700	100	200	70	8 170
Outside school hours care ^a	22 100	16 500	10 000	4 700	5 400	1 600	1 800	630	62 730
Occasional care	1 400	1 300	700	600	400	300	100	50	4 850
Other care	500	200	200	300	200	50	0	200	1 650
1996–97									
Centre based long day care	58 100	41 100	52 700	14 800	9 100	2 200	3 200	1 600	182 800
Family day care	20 200	17 000	11 300	3 800	5 100	1 800	2 600	860	62 660
Vacation care	3 300	2 300	3 200	1 200	900	100	190	130	11 320
Before school hours care	7 000	3 200	1 260	800	1 120	70	120	10	13 580
After school hours care	16 900	14 100	10 400	4 200	4 400	1 300	1 800	680	53 780
Occasional care	1 400	1 330	740	550	420	250	130	50	4 870
Other care	500	250	220	270	180	230	0	220	1 870

a Disaggregated data were not available for before and after school hours services.

Table 11A.4: Services included in Health and Family Services census of child care, fees, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
1995–96								
Centre based long day care ^a	146.55	146.12	138.67	144.94	158.52	157.03	152.54	132.48
Family day care ^a	129.00	117.00	116.00	125.00	125.00	133.00	122.00	117.00
Vacation care ^a	49.00	63.00	58.00	59.00	57.00	100	89.00	70
Before school hours care ^b	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
After school hours care ^b	5.66	5.19	4.62	5.42	4.95	4.59	7.25	7.29
Occasional care ^c	3.60	3.51	3.58	3.57	3.14	3.42	3.23	4.50
Other care ^d	113.00	140.00	111.00	140.00	147.00	na	0	127.00
1996–97								
Centre based long day care ^a	155.37	150.58	146.61	150.71	158.28	166.18	167.11	136.10
Family day care ^a	128.00	117.00	116.00	125.00	125.00	133.00	122.00	117.00
Vacation care ^a	57.00	66.00	57.00	79.00	55.00	85.00	98.00	98.00
Before school hours care ^b	4.58	3.81	3.20	3.96	2.85	4.27	4.14	2.50
After school hours care ^b	6.36	5.44	5.21	6.24	5.39	6.06	7.77	8.19
Occasional care ^c	3.89	3.35	3.94	3.35	2.48	3.77	3.42	4.40
Other care ^d	130.00	152.00	126.00	151.00	165.00	na	0	134.00

na not available

a Average weekly fee.

b Average sessional fee.

c Average hourly fee.

d Average weekly fee for Multifunctional children's services only.

Table 11A.5: Services included in Health and Family Services census of child care, attendance, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (hours per child)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
1995–96								
Centre based long day care	17.7	23.6	20.5	19.5	19.2	13.5	28.7	25.3
Family day care	21.0	17.4	21.9	19.3	15.2	13.8	24.8	25.5
Vacation care ^a	2.8	2.4	3.9	2.9	2.4	na	3.1	na
Outside school hours care ^b	8.5	5.5	7.1	7.9	5.3	4.5	7.5	8.4
Occasional care	4.3	3.9	4.2	4.7	3.6	4.0	5.1	3.4
Other care	7.0	10.8	5.4	13.5	15.4	13.8	0.0	7.0
1996–97								
Centre based long day care	18.4	24.0	20.7	20.2	19.1	14.1	28.8	25.5
Family day care	20.3	17.2	21.9	19.5	15.7	13.7	24.7	25.4
Vacation care ^a	2.6	2.5	4.3	1.8	2.4	2.0	2.7	3.6
Before school hours care	5.1	3.6	4.0	4.6	3.1	2.5	3.2	1.2
After school hours care	7.3	5.3	6.6	7.5	5.0	5.0	7.7	9.6
Occasional care	4.2	3.8	4.0	4.5	3.3	3.9	5.3	4.0
Other care	14.7	20.0	18.8	19.4	18.2	12.5	0	23.5

na not available

a Average days of attendance.

b Disaggregated data were not available for before and after school hours care services.

Table 11A.6: Services included in Health and Family Services census of child care, services providing non-standard hours of care, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
1995–96								
Centre based long day care	48.3	94.0	80.5	35.3	87.9	43.1	47.4	37.5
Family day care ^a	2.1	4.1	5.6	3.8	15.4	1.7	1.9	3.6
Vacation care	81.25	57.1	79.7	88.9	90.3	7.7	0.0	66.7
Before school hours care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
After school hours care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Occasional care	7.6	na	7.1	9.2	7.7	22.6	16.7	66.7
Other care	7.7	0.0	0.0	12.5	14.3	0.0	na	0.0
1996–97								
Centre based long day care	45.1	85.6	78.4	37.0	86.5	40.0	45.0	37.5
Family day care ^a	2.6	4.8	8.4	4.6	18.0	1.9	2.4	4.4
Vacation care	na	43.3	na	50.0	74.7	8.3	0.0	44.4
Before school hours care	25.7	8.3	18.8	22.0	1.3	33.3	0.0	0.0
After school hours care	39.4	9.0	23.3	25.4	16.0	17.5	1.7	22.7
Occasional care	20.0	25.7	29.4	31.8	25.0	100.0	25.0	100.0
Other care	7.7	0.0	0.0	12.5	14.3	0.0	na	0.0

na not available

a Proportion of children attending family day care services that receive non-standard hours of care.

Table 11A.7: Total services providing non-standard hours of care, 1996–97 (per cent)

1996–97	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
Centre based long day care	45.1	83.8	78.4	70.8	na	40.0	45.1	na
Family day care ^a	2.6	4.8	8.4	4.6	18.0	1.9	2.4	4.4
Vacation care	na	35.8	na	23.6	33.5	2.0	0.0	52.9
Before school hours care	25.7	7.3	18.8	22.0	1.3	33.3	0.0	0.0
After school hours care	39.4	7.6	23.3	25.4	16.0	17.5	1.7	22.7
Occasional care	13.6	25.7	7.8	31.8	4.0	9.9	23.5	na
Other care	7.7	0.0	5.9	12.5	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

na not available

a Proportion of children attending family day care services that receive non-standard hours of care.

Table 11A.8: Commonwealth Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
1995–96									
Administrative expenditure	5 234	3 511	3 478	1 886	1 274	565	546	645	17 139
Other expenditure on service provision	59 310	42 182	33 238	17 295	16 614	5 854	5 176	4 699	184 369
Expenditure on assets ^a	1 821	3 351	2 019	483	1 631	785	262	401	10 753
Income support	185 677	145 628	204 572	53 076	43 251	10 350	9 062	5 398	657 015
Total	252 043	194 672	243 308	72 740	62 770	17 555	15 046	11 143	869 277
1996–97									
Administrative expenditure	3 535	2 588	2 754	1 426	1 056	457	384	492	12 691
Other expenditure on service provision	61 973	45 792	34 982	17 173	17 808	6 072	5 498	4 869	194 168
Expenditure on assets ^a	1 550	5 539	2 520	422	1 588	817	566	290	13 292
Income support	204 764	161 448	216 873	58 010	41 563	11 685	9 785	6 422	710 549
Total	271 823	215 367	257 128	77 031	62 015	19 030	16 233	12 073	930 701

a Data include families receiving the Childcare Cash Rebate for informal care services.

Table 11A.9: Commonwealth Government expenditure on children's services, 1995-96 to 1996-97 (\$'000 in 1996-97 dollars)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
1995-96									
Administrative expenditure	5 322	3 570	3 537	1 917	1 296	575	555	656	17 428
Other expenditure on service provision	60 309	42 893	33 798	17 586	16 894	5 953	5 264	4 778	187 474
Expenditure on assets	1 852	3 407	2 053	491	1 659	799	266	408	10 935
Income support ^a	188 805	148 081	208 018	53 970	43 979	10 525	9 214	5 489	668 082
Total	256 289	197 951	247 406	73 965	63 828	17 851	15 300	11 331	883 919
1996-97									
Administrative expenditure	3 535	2 588	2 754	1 426	1 056	457	384	492	12 691
Other expenditure on service provision	61 973	45 792	34 982	17 173	17 808	6 072	5 498	4 869	194 168
Expenditure on assets	1 550	5 539	2 520	422	1 588	817	566	290	13 292
Income support ^a	204 764	161 448	216 873	58 010	41 563	11 685	9 785	6 422	710 549
Total	271 823	215 367	257 128	77 031	62 015	19 030	16 233	12 073	930 701

a Data include families receiving the Childcare Cash Rebate for informal care services.

Table 11A.10: Commonwealth primary paid contact staff in child care with training or experience, 1995–96

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
<i>Number</i>									
Paid primary contact staff with a relevant formal qualification	7 600	6 100	7 200	1 700	1 700	600	700	300	25 900
Paid primary contact staff with no relevant formal qualification by the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	2 200	1 700	800	600	600	200	300	90	6 490
Paid primary contact staff with neither a relevant formal qualification or the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	2 400	2 000	1 800	500	500	200	400	100	7 900
Total paid primary contact staff	12 200	9 800	9 800	2 800	2 800	1 000	1 400	490	40 290
<i>Per cent</i>									
Paid primary contact staff with a relevant formal qualification	62.3	62.3	73.5	60.7	60.7	60.0	50.0	61.2	64.3
Paid primary contact staff with no relevant formal qualification by the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	18.0	17.3	8.2	21.4	21.4	20.0	21.4	18.4	16.1
Paid primary contact staff with neither a relevant formal qualification or the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	19.7	20.4	18.4	17.9	17.9	20.0	28.6	20.4	19.6
Total paid primary contact staff	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

11A.2.2 Effectiveness

Table 11A.11: Proportion of attendees at child care services from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Proportion of attendees at child care services</i>		<i>Proportion of total children in the community^d</i>
	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>	
Children from non-English speaking backgrounds	9.6 ^b	9.6 ^c	3.3
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	1.9 ^b	1.8 ^c	3.7
Children from single parent families	20.8 ^d	20.4 ^e	15.7
Children with disabilities	2.6 ^d	2.7 ^b	6.7
Children from rural and remote areas	na	22.1 ^b	17.3

na not available

a Data on the representation of children from non-English speaking backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from single parent families and children from rural and remote areas in the community were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing. Data on the representation of children with disabilities in the community were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

b Excluded children attending some services in NSW, Victoria, Queensland, WA, Tasmania and the NT.

c Excluded children attending some services in NSW, Victoria, WA, SA, Tasmania and the NT.

d Excluded children attending some services in NSW, Victoria, Queensland, WA, SA, Tasmania, and the NT.

e Excluded children attending some services in NSW, Victoria, Queensland, WA, SA, Tasmania, the ACT and the NT.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory Government unpublished, Commonwealth Government unpublished

Table 11A.12: Proportion of attendees of children's services included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995-96 to 1996-97 (per cent)^a

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>									
1995-96	14.0	12.2	1.6	5.4	5.1	3.2	10.9	7.9	9.5
1996-97	13.5	12.1	4.8	7.1	6.2	3.1	10.3	6.7	9.7
Representation in community ^a	4.3	3.8	1.9	2.9	2.1	0.9	3.9	2.0	3.3
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>									
1995-96	1.5	0.6	2.4	2.8	2.9	1.3	0.7	17.5	1.9
1996-97	1.3	0.5	2.3	2.2	1.6	1.0	0.9	15.9	1.6
Representation in community ^a	3.3	0.9	5.5	5.3	2.8	5.4	1.9	35.9	3.7
<i>Children from single parent families</i>									
1995-96	18.7	21.0	21.3	26.5	24.5	20.8	21.2	20.6	21.0
1996-97	18.7	20.1	22.4	25.8	26.1	21.6	18.9	18.8	21.0
Representation in community ^a	15.9	14.4	16.7	15.4	16.9	16.9	15.4	18.9	15.7

(cont.)

Table 11A.12: Proportion of attendees of children's services included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995-96 to 1996-97 (per cent)^a (cont.)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
<i>Children with disabilities</i>									
1995-96	2.9	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.9	3.2	2.2	1.6	2.6
1996-97	3.0	2.2	2.5	2.4	4.0	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.7
Representation in community ^b	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7
<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>									
1995-96	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
1996-97	22.9	23.1	21.6	19.1	17.1	17.3	0.0	47.1	21.5
Representation in community ^a	11.7	18.6	23.6	23.6	17.3	27.1	0.3	55.7	17.3

na not available

a Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

b Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished and Commonwealth Government unpublished

11A.2.3 Efficiency

Table 11A.13: Recurrent funding per hour of service for services receiving assistance from the Commonwealth Government 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$ per hour)^a

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
1995–96								
Centre based long day care	1.21	1.15	1.29	1.23	1.18	1.32	0.75	1.09
Family day care	1.51	1.96	2.23	2.18	2.66	2.13	1.50	1.72
Vacation care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Outside school hours care ^b	0.61	0.64	0.63	0.73	0.62	0.54	0.20	0.60
Occasional care	2.62	2.30	2.03	2.92	2.99	2.27	1.33	11.44
Other care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97								
Centre based long day care	1.23	1.16	1.32	1.27	1.16	1.36	0.81	1.25
Family day care	1.49	1.77	2.12	1.99	2.25	2.28	1.47	1.69
Vacation care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Outside school hours care ^b	0.73	0.74	0.73	0.74	0.77	0.59	0.54	0.72
Occasional care	3.19	2.16	1.98	2.78	3.78	1.48	1.37	11.51
Other care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na

na not available

a These data excluded expenditure on administration.

b Disaggregated data were not available for before and after school hours care services.

Table 11A.14: Commonwealth Government recurrent expenditure on child care services 1995–96 to 1996–97
 (\$ per hour in 1996–97 dollars)^a

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
1995–96								
Centre based long day care	1.23	1.17	1.31	1.25	1.20	1.34	0.76	1.11
Family day care	1.53	1.99	2.27	2.22	2.71	2.16	1.53	1.75
Vacation care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Outside school hours care ^b	0.62	0.65	0.64	0.74	0.63	0.55	0.21	0.61
Occasional care	2.67	2.34	2.07	2.97	3.04	2.31	1.36	11.64
Other care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97								
Centre based long day care	1.23	1.16	1.32	1.27	1.16	1.36	0.81	1.25
Family day care	1.49	1.77	2.12	1.99	2.25	2.28	1.47	1.69
Vacation care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Outside school hours care ^b	0.73	0.74	0.73	0.74	0.77	0.59	0.54	0.72
Occasional care	3.19	2.16	1.98	2.78	3.78	1.48	1.37	11.51
Other care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na

na not available

a These data excluded expenditure on administration.

b Disaggregated data were not available for before and after school hours care services.

Table 11A.15: Commonwealth and State and Territory Government recurrent expenditure, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$ per hour)^a

		<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>
Long day care	1995–96	na	1.15	na	1.25	na	na	na	1.35
	1996–97	1.32	1.19	1.33	1.29	na	na	0.85	1.55
Family day care	1995–96	1.51	1.96	2.23	2.20	na	na	1.50	1.72
	1996–97	1.49	1.77	2.12	2.00	2.36	na	1.47	1.69
Vacation care	1995–96	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
	1996–97	na	na	0.01	0.39	na	na	0.17	2.52
Outside school hours care ^b	1995–96	0.61	na	0.63	0.86	na	na	na	0.60
	1996–97	0.73	na	0.73	0.90	0.96	na	0.50	0.72
Occasional care	1995–96	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	12.11
	1996–97	1.74	na	1.79	3.23	na	na	1.44	12.17
Other care	1995–96	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
	1996–97	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na

na not available

a Commonwealth Government expenditure data excluded administration expenditure.

b Disaggregated data were not available for before school hours care and after school hours care.

Table 11A.16: Commonwealth and State and Territory Government recurrent expenditure, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$ per hour in 1996–97 dollars)^a

		<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>NT</i>
Long day care	1995–96	na	1.17	na	1.27	na	na	na	1.37
	1996–97	1.32	1.19	1.33	1.29	na	na	0.85	1.55
Family day care	1995–96	1.53	1.99	2.27	2.24 ^b	na	na	1.53	1.75
	1996–97	1.49	1.77	2.12	2.00 ^b	2.36	na	1.47	1.69
Vacation care	1995–96	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
	1996–97	na	na	0.01	0.39	na	na	0.17	2.52
Outside school hours care ^c	1995–96	0.62	na	0.64	0.87	na	na	na	0.61
	1996–97	0.73	na	0.73	0.90	0.96	na	0.50	0.72
Occasional care	1995–96	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	12.31
	1996–97	1.74	na	1.79	3.23	na	na	1.44	12.17
Other care	1995–96	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
	1996–97	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na

na not available

a Commonwealth Government expenditure data excluded administration expenditure.

b Data were not available for Victoria, Tasmania or the NT.

c Disaggregated data were not available for before school hours care and after school hours care.

11A.3 Single jurisdiction data

11A.3.1 New South Wales

Table 11A.17: NSW, services not included in Health and Family
Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96
to 1996–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services	No	8 819 ^a	35 428
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services	No	62 965	62 266
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff	FTE	na	3 466
Paid administrative staff	FTE	na	276 ^b
Other paid staff	FTE	na	0
Family day carers	FTE	na	na
Unpaid staff	FTE	na	na

na not available

a Excluded children attending vacation care.

b Excluded paid administrative staff in preschools funded by the Dept of Education.

Table 11A.18: NSW primary paid contact staff in children's services with training or experience, 1996–97

	<i>Child care</i>		<i>Preschool</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Paid primary contact staff with a relevant formal qualification	357	53.4	2 534	57.7
Paid primary contact staff with no relevant formal qualification but the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	na	na	15	0.3
Paid primary contact staff with neither a relevant formal qualification or the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	na	na	1 847	42.0
Total paid primary contact staff	668	100.0	4 396	100.0

na not available

Table 11A.19: NSW services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	Places		Average fees		Average attendance		Services providing non standard hours	
	No	No	\$	Hours	Hours	%	%	
	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97
Centre-based long day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacation care	na	12 652 ^a	1.5 ^b	1.6 ^b	na	6.0	na	na
Before school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occasional care	2 455	2 729	3.4 ^b	3.6 ^b	6.3	6.4	9.4	11.9
Other care	0	0	0	0	na	na	na	na
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling)	27 196	27 663	3.7 ^b	3.0 ^b	5.9	6.2	91.9	91.9
Preschool (for younger children)	na	na	na	na	na	na	—	—

na not available

a Average number of places throughout the year.

b Average fee per hour.

Table 11A.20: NSW Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	1995–96	1996–97
Administrative expenditure	8 220	9 818
Other expenditure on service provision		
Child care	21 188	22 871
Preschool	68 181	70 643
Expenditure on assets	6 374 ^a	3 002
Income support	0	0
Total expenditure	103 963	106 334

a Data referred to expenditure on assets for child care services only.

Effectiveness

Table 11A.21: NSW proportion of attendees of services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in attendees of child care services^a</i>					
1995–96	10.7	0.7	12.3	2.5	29.5
1996–97	7.6	0.9	11.0	2.6	23.3
<i>Representation in attendees of preschool services</i>					
1995–96	8.2	2.3	12.2	7.7	43.1
1996–97	8.3	2.1	11.0	8.2	42.8
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^b	4.3	3.3	15.9	6.7 ^c	11.7

a Excluded children attending vacation care services.

b Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

c Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished

Efficiency

Table 11A.22: NSW unit cost of State Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
Government recurrent expenditure per hour of service		
Preschool ^a	na	1.79

na not available

a Data excluded preschools funded by the Department of Education.

11A.3.2 Victoria

Descriptors

Table 11A.23: Victoria services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1997–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services ^a	No	na	na
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services			
In the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling ^b	No	57 749	59 415
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff ^c	FTE	1 897	1 920
Paid administrative staff	FTE	na	na
Other paid staff	FTE	na	na
Family day carers	FTE	na	na
Unpaid staff	FTE	na	na

na not available

a Victoria collected data on attendances of children at some vacation care, before and after school hours care and occasional care services, not individual children.

b Data included some children attending preschool services conducted in a child care centre.

c Data excluded paid primary contact staff in child care services receiving only State Government funding.

Table 11A.24: Victorian services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	Places		Average fees		Average attendance		Services providing non standard hours	
	No	No	\$	Hours	Hours	%	%	
	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97
Centre-based long day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacation care	7 230 ^b	7 515 ^c	75 ^a	75 ^a	na	na	na	60.0
Before school hours care	na	885 ^c	4.00 ^d	4.00 ^d	na	na	na	0
After school hours care	4 850 ^{e,b}	4 275 ^c	6.00 ^d	6.00 ^d	na	na	na	0.9
Occasional care	333.66	324.83	1.68 ^f	1.66 ^f	na	na	na	na
Other care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling	57 749	59 415	9.50 ^a	9.76 ^a	na	na	na	na

na not available

a Average weekly fee. The Victorian Government provides a Health Card Grant to services for families on low incomes. This grant is used to reduce the term fee for those families. All fees were voluntary.

b As at 30 June 1996.

c As at 30 June 1997.

d Average sessional fee.

e Includes before school hours care places.

f Average hourly fee.

Table 11A.25: Victoria Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	1995–96	1996–97
Administrative expenditure	3 389	3 496
Other expenditure on service provision		
Child care	5 915	6 971
Preschool (for children in the year before school starts)	52 054	54 544
Expenditure on assets		
Child care	0	0
Preschool (for children in the year before school starts)	0	7 073
Income support	0	0
Total expenditure	61 358	72 084

Effectiveness

Table 11A.26: Victoria proportion of attendees of services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking background</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in attendees of child care services</i>					
1995–96	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97	na	na	na	na	na
<i>Representation in attendees of preschool services</i>					
1995–96	na	0.5	na	na	na
1996–97	na	0.4	na	na	na
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^a	3.8	0.9	14.4	6.7 ^b	18.6

na not available

a Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

b Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished.

11A.3.3 Queensland

Descriptors

Table 11A.27: Queensland services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1997–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services ^a	No	7 384	14 203
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services			
In the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling	No	34 397 ^b	40 768
Younger children	No	na	9 313
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff	No	1 152 ^c	3 100
Paid administrative staff	No	1 034 ^c	969
Other paid staff	No	5 ^c	8
Family day carers	FTE	0	0
Unpaid staff	FTE	0	0

na not available

a Excluded children using unlicensed services under the Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care program.

b Excluded children attending community kindergartens.

c Data excluded paid primary contact staff in child care services receiving only State Government funding.

Table 11A.28: Queensland services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995-96 to 1996-97

	Places		Average fees		Average attendance		Services providing non standard hours	
	No	No	\$	Hours	Hours	%	%	
	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97
Centre-based long day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family day care	0	0	na	0	0	0	0	0
Vacation care	7 073	6 509	na	40.65 ^a	na	17.5	na	50.0
Before school hours care	0	0	na	0	0	0	0	0
After school hours care	0	0	na	0	0	0	0	0
Occasional care	1 184	1 168	na	2.14 ^b	na	7.6	na	1.7
Other care	800	na	na	0	na	na	na	9.1
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling)	34 397	38 837	0	28.00 ^c	12.5	13.1	na	na
Preschool (for younger children)	na	na	na	21.00	na	11.0	—	—

na not available

— not applicable

a Average weekly fee.

b Average hourly fee.

c Average weekly fee for kindergarten. All state-funded preschool services are free.

Table 11A.29: Queensland primary paid contact staff in children's services with training or experience, 1996–97

	<i>Child care</i>		<i>Preschool</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Paid primary contact staff with a relevant formal qualification	367	36.0	1 872	61.7
Paid primary contact staff with no relevant formal qualification but the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	657	64.0	1 163	38.3
Paid primary contact staff with neither a relevant formal qualification or the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total paid primary contact staff	1 024	100.0	3 034	100.0

Table 11A.30: Queensland Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
Administrative expenditure		
Child care	3 700	2 714
Preschool	na	3 800
Other expenditure on service provision		
Child care	8 132	5 375
Preschool	na	87 401
Expenditure on assets		
Child care	3 820	7 459
Preschool	na	4 920
Income support	0	0
Total expenditure		
Child care	15 652	15 548
Preschool	na	96 121

na not available

Effectiveness

Table 11A.31: Queensland proportion of attendees of services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in attendees of child care services</i>					
1995–96	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97 ^a	2.1	10.7	na	2.3	33.8
<i>Representation in attendees of preschool services</i>					
1995–96	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97	na	na	na	na	na
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^b	1.9	5.5	16.7	6.7 ^c	23.6

na not available

a Excluded children using unlicensed services funded under the Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care program.

b Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

c Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished

Efficiency

Table 11A.32: Queensland unit cost of State Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
Government recurrent expenditure per hour of service		
Preschool	na	3.43

na not available

11A.3.4 Western Australia

Descriptors

Table 11A.33: WA services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services ^a	No	na	na
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services			
In the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling	No	20 926	20 244
Younger children	No	na	16 245
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff	FTE	1 438 ^b	1 834
Paid administrative staff	FTE	na	66 ^c
Other paid staff	FTE	na	na
Family day carers	FTE	na	na
Unpaid staff	FTE	na	na

na not available

a WA collected data on attendances of children at some vacation care services, not individual children.

b Excluded paid primary contact staff in preschools funded by the Dept of Family and Children's Services.

c Excluded paid administrative staff in preschools funded by the Dept of Education.

Table 11A.34: WA primary paid contact staff in preschool services with training or experience, 1996–97^a

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Paid primary contact staff with a relevant formal qualification	789	50.0
Paid primary contact staff with no relevant formal qualification but the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	na	na
Paid primary contact staff with neither a relevant formal qualification or the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	na	na
Total paid primary contact staff	1 578	100.0

na not available

a Data referred to Department of Education preschool services only.

Table 11A.35: WA services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995-96 to 1996-97

	Places			Average fees			Average attendance			Services providing non standard hours		
	No	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1995-96	1996-97	1996-97
				\$			Hours		%			
Centre-based long day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacation care	na	9 630	100 ^a	na	100 ^a	na	na	50	na	na	na	na
Before school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occasional care	0	0	0	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Other care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling)	20 926	20 244	0.23 ^b	na	0.23 ^b	15.5	17.2	na	na	43.1 ^c	na	43.1 ^c
Preschool (for younger children)	na	16 245	5.00	na	5.00	na	5.3	na	na	na	na	na

na not available

a Full weekly fee without any subsidy

b Average weekly fee.

c Included preschool services for younger children.

Table 11A.36: WA Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	1995–96	1996–97
Administrative expenditure		
Child care	671 ^b	701 ^b
Preschool ^a	698	728
Other expenditure on service provision		
Child care ^c	1 795	1 719
Preschool ^a	5 525	4 971
Expenditure on assets		
Child care	201	552
Preschool ^a	0.3	0.2
Income support	0	0
Total expenditure		
Child care	2 667	2 972
Preschool ^a	6 223	5 701

na not available

a Excluded expenditure on preschools funded by the Department of Education.

b Different methods were used to calculate administrative expenditure on child care services between 1995–96 and 1996–97. Administrative expenditure also included the costs of licensing private home based carers not attached to a FDC scheme.

c Included funding for the Child Care Services Board and grants to services from the Lotteries Commission.

Effectiveness

Table 11A.37: WA incidence of non-compliance with regulations, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (number)

	Total complaints and alleged breaches		Substantiated complaints per registered or licensed service		Formal action taken							
	1995–96	1996–97	1995–	1996–97	Provider fined		Provider licence suspended		Provider licence revoked		Other action	
	1995–96	1996–97	1995–	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97
Centre-based long day care	199	203	na	0.24	na	na	0	0	0	0	9	0
Family day care	40	48	na	0.01	na	na	2	1	1	2	2	0
Vacation care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Before school hours care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
After school hours care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Occasional care	6	5	na	0.02	na	na	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Preschool ^a	na	1	na	0.00	0	na	0	0	0	0	0	0

na not available

a Data excluded preschools funded by the Department of Education.

Table 11A.38: WA proportion of attendees of services not included in the Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in attendees of child care services</i>					
1995–96	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97	na	na	na	na	na
<i>Representation in attendees of preschool services</i>					
1995–96	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97	na	12.7 ^a	na	2.3 ^c	na
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^b	2.9	5.3	15.4	6.7 ^c	23.6

na not available

a Excluded preschools funded by the Department of Family and Children's Services.

b Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

c Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished

Efficiency

Table 11A.39: WA unit cost of State Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	1995–96	1996–97
Government recurrent expenditure per hour of service		
Preschool ^a	na	4.18

na not available

a Data excluded preschools funded by the Department of Education.

11A.3.5 South Australia*Descriptors*

Table 11A.40: SA services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1997–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services ^a	No	3 532	na
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services			
In the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling	No	18 365	18 423
Younger children	No	4 983	4 540
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff			
Child care ^b	No	na	290
Preschool	FTE	na	948
Paid administrative staff	FTE	na	na
Other paid staff	FTE	na	na
Family day carers	FTE	na	na
Unpaid staff	FTE	na	na

na not available

a Data referred to children attending some centre-based long day care, vacation care and occasional care services.

b Data referred to total paid employees.

Table 11A.41: SA services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	Places			Average fees			Average attendance			Services providing non standard hours		
	No	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1996–97
				\$			Hours			%		
Centre-based long day care	214	214	214	na	0	na	na	na	na	na	na	0
Family day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacation care	3 489	3 252	3 252	na	90.00 ^a	na	na	na	na	0	0	0
Before school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occasional care	3 028	3 028	3 028	3 ^b	1.00 ^b	3 ^b	3.0	na	na	na	na	0
Other care	0	0	0	0	0.50 ^a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling)	18 365	18 423	18 423	na	3.70 ^a	na	11.0	11.0	11.0	na	na	78.1 ^c
Preschool (for younger children)	4 983	4 540	4 540	na	1.00 ^a	na	2.6	2.6	2.6	—	—	—

na not available

— not applicable

a Average weekly fee. It is a voluntary contribution.

b Average hourly fee.

c Included preschool services for younger children.

Table 11A.42: SA primary paid contact staff in children's services with training or experience, 1996–97

	<i>Child care</i>		<i>Preschool</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Paid primary contact staff with a relevant formal qualification	179	61.7	1 121	70.0
Paid primary contact staff with no relevant formal qualification but the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	34	11.7	336	20.9
Paid primary contact staff with neither a relevant formal qualification or the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	77	26.6	144	9.0
Total paid primary contact staff	290	100.0	1 601	100.0

Table 11A.43: SA Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
Administrative expenditure	na	3 174
Other expenditure on service provision		
Child care	na	8 605
Preschool	na	41 338
Expenditure on assets		
Child care	na	3 234
Preschool	na	1 643
Income support	na	0
Total expenditure	na	57 994

na not available

Effectiveness

Table 11A.44: SA proportion of attendees of services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in attendees of child care services</i>					
1995–96	12.1	8.8	na	na	27.2
1996–97	na	na	na	na	na
<i>Representation in attendees of preschool services</i>					
1995–96	8.2	4.2	17.1	13.4	34.3
1996–97	8.2	4.5	na	na	34.1
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^a	2.1	2.8	16.9	6.7 ^b	27.1

na not available

a Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

b Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished

11A.3.6 Tasmania*Descriptors*

Table 11A.45: Tasmania services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services ^a	No	na	na
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services			
In the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling	No	5 923	5 781
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff	FTE	144.1	146.2
Paid administrative staff	FTE	na	na
Other paid staff	FTE	na	na
Family day carers	FTE	na	na
Unpaid staff	FTE	na	na

na not available

a Data referred to children attending some vacation care and occasional care services.

Table 11A.46: Tasmania services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995-96 to 1996-97

	Places			Average fees			Average attendance			Services providing non standard hours	
	No	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97
				\$			Hours			%	
Centre-based long day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacation care	566	577	27	na	27	na	na	na	na	na	0
Before school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occasional care	504	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	0	0
Other care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling)	5 923	5 781	0	na	0	10	10	10	na	na	na
Preschool (for younger children)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—

na not available

— not applicable

Table 11A.47: Tasmania Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	1995–96	1996–97
Child care		
Administrative expenditure	na	na
Other expenditure on service provision	na	na
Expenditure on assets	na	na
Income support	na	na
Total	na	na
Preschool	11 681	11 676

na not available

Effectiveness

Table 11A.48: Tasmania proportion of attendees of services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in child care services</i>					
1995–96	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97	na	na	na	na	na
<i>Representation in preschool services</i>					
1995–96	na	4.9	na	na	41.4
1996–97	na	4.8	na	na	41.7
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^a	0.9	5.4	16.9	6.7 ^b	27.1

na not available

a Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

b Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished

11A.3.7 Australian Capital Territory

Descriptors

Table 11A.49: ACT services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services	No	2 807	2 278
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services			
In the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling	No	4 216	3 928
Younger children	No	na	387
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff	FTE ^a	282	305.6
Paid administrative staff	FTE ^a	17	19.1
Other paid staff	FTE ^a	9	5.5
Family day carers	FTE	0	0
Unpaid staff	FTE	0	0

na not available

a Full-time equivalent staff numbers were based on the following definitions:

Long day care:	10 hours per day
Occasional care	8 hours per day
Vacation care	10 hours per day
Preschool	36.5 hours per week

Table 11A.50: ACT services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995-96 to 1996-97

	Places			Average fees			Average attendance			Services providing non standard hours		
	No	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1996-97
				\$			Hours			%		
Centre-based long day care	81	76	140 ^a	162 ^a	140 ^a	na	37	na	na	50		
Family day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Vacation care	570	617	90 ^a	100 ^a	90 ^a	na	24	na	na	na		
Before school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
After school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Occasional care	399	376	3 ^b	na	3 ^b	na	8	na	na	23		
Other care	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	0	0		
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling)	4 595	4 599	4 ^a	4.5 ^a	4 ^a	11	10.5	5	na	na		
Preschool (for younger children)	na	387	2 ^a	na	2 ^a	na	5.5	na	na	na		

na not available

a Average weekly fee. This is a voluntary contribution.

b Average hourly fee. This is a voluntary contribution.

Table 11A.51: ACT primary paid contact staff in children's services with training or experience, 1996–97

	<i>Child care</i>		<i>Preschool</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Paid primary contact staff with a relevant formal qualification	119.5	48.4	111	51.1
Paid primary contact staff with no relevant formal qualification by the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	52.1	21.0	100	46.1
Paid primary contact staff with neither a relevant formal qualification or the equivalent of three years full-time work experience	76.8	30.9	6	2.8
Total paid primary contact staff	248.4	100.0	217	100.0

Table 11A.52: ACT Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
Administrative expenditure		
Child care	na	405
Preschool	na	221
Other expenditure on service provision		
Child care	na	1 991
Preschool	na	7 366
Expenditure on assets		
Child care	na	728
Preschool	na	744
Income support	na	0
Total expenditure		
Child care	na	3 125
Preschool	na	8 331

na not available

Effectiveness

Table 11A.53: ACT proportion of attendees of services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in attendees of child care services</i>					
1995–96	7.8	1.0	7.8	7.5	na
1996–97	10.7	0.7	na	1.8	0
<i>Representation in attendees of preschool services</i>					
1995–96	6.0	1.6	21.3	4.8	0.5
1996–97	8.5	2.1 ^b	na	6.8	0.5
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^a	3.9	1.9	15.4	6.7 ^c	0.3

na not available

a Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

b Included children attending Early entry program and Mainstream program.

c Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished

Table 11A.54: ACT incidence of non-compliance with regulations (number)

	<i>Total complaints and alleged breaches</i>		<i>Substantiated complaints per registered or licensed service</i>	
	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>	<i>1995–</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
All licensed child care and preschool services	na	137	na	0.116

na not available

Efficiency

Table 11A.55: ACT unit cost of State Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
Government recurrent expenditure per hour of service		
Preschool	na	4.28

na not available

11A.3.8 Northern Territory

Descriptors

Table 11A.56: NT services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, children and staff, 1995–96 to 1996–97

	<i>Units</i>	<i>1995–96</i>	<i>1996–97</i>
<i>Children</i>			
Children using government funded and/or provided child care services ^a	No	na	na
Children using government funded and/or provided preschool services			
In the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling	No	3 243 ^b	3 237 ^c
<i>Staff</i>			
Paid primary contact staff	FTE	na	na
Paid administrative staff	FTE	na	na
Other paid staff	FTE	na	na
Family day carers	FTE	na	na
Unpaid staff	FTE	na	na

na not available

a Data referred to children attending some vacation care services.

b As at August 1995.

c As at August 1996.

Table 11A.57: NT services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care, description of services, 1995-96 to 1996-97

	Places		Average fees		Average attendance		Services providing non standard hours	
	No	No	\$	Hours	Hours	%	%	
	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97
Centre-based long day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family day care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacation care	na	850	na	75 ^a	na	0.2	na	56
Before school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After school hours care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occasional care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preschool (for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling)	3 580 ^b	4 050 ^c	na	na	na	na	0	0
Preschool (for younger children)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

na not available

a Average weekly fee.

b As at August 1995.

c As at August 1996.

Table 11A.58: NT Government expenditure on children's services, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (\$'000)

	1995–96	1996–97
<i>Child care</i>		
Administrative expenditure	186	291
Other expenditure on service provision	989	1 238
Expenditure on assets	150	673
Income support	0	0
Total expenditure	1 325	2 202
<i>Preschool</i>		
Total expenditure	na	10 188

na not available

Effectiveness

Table 11A.59: NT proportion of attendees of services not included in Health and Family Services census of child care from special needs groups, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (per cent)

	<i>Children from non-English speaking backgrounds</i>	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children</i>	<i>Children from single parent families</i>	<i>Children with disabilities</i>	<i>Children from rural/remote areas</i>
<i>Representation in attendees of child care services</i>					
1995–96	na	na	na	na	na
1996–97	na	na	na	na	na
<i>Representation in attendees of preschool services</i>					
1995–96	na	33.0	na	na	26.8
1996–97	na	32.2	na	na	26.9
<i>Representation in community</i>					
1996 ^a	2.0	35.9	18.9	6.7 ^b	55.7

na not available

a Data were obtained from the 1996 Census of Population and Housing.

b Data were obtained from the 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers.

Sources: ABS unpublished, State and Territory unpublished

Table 11A.60: NT incidence of non-compliance with regulations, 1995–96 to 1996–97 (number)

	Total complaints and alleged breaches		Complaints per registered or licensed service ^a		Formal action taken							
	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97	1995–96	1996–97
Centre-based long day care ^b	18	31	0.4	0.6	na	na	na	na	na	na	18	31

na not available

a Included alleged breaches.

b Included Multifunctional children’s services and Multifunctional Aboriginal children’s services

11A.4 Definitions and explanatory notes

Table 11A.61: Definition of indicators

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Proportion of special needs groups using services relative to their population proportions	Equals the number of children from special needs groups using children's services divided by the total number of children using children's services. Results are presented separately for child care and preschool services with special needs groups divided into children from a non-English speaking background, children from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island background, children from single parent families, children with disabilities and children from remote or rural areas. These are compared with their representation in the community.
Serious injuries sustained the notifiable outbreaks of disease per registered or licensed service	Equals the total number of serious injuries sustained by children and total number of notifiable outbreaks of disease divided by the total number of registered or licensed services. Results are presented separately by service type
Complaints per registered or licensed service	Equals the number of complaints divided by the total number of registered or licensed services. Results are presented separately by service type with complaints divided into total complaints and alleged breaches, substantiated complaints and complaints against which form action was taken (service provider being fined, service provider having licence suspended, service provider having licence revoked and some other action taken).
Out of pocket costs relative to family income for children's services	Equals the average amount paid for child care per week divided by the average weekly income of families with children in care.
Government recurrent expenditure per hour of service	Equals total government recurrent funding on children's services divided by the total hours of care provided by services receiving government funding. Results are presented separately by service type.
Administrative expenditure as a proportion of total government expenditure	Equals total government administrative expenditure divided by total government expenditure. Results to be presented separately for child care and preschool services.

Table 11A.62: Definitions of variables

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Administration expenditure	Direct salaries associated with providing the following support services: licensing; advice; policy development; grants administration and training. Administrative expenditure should be limited to that proportion of expenditure spent on government funded and/or provided services.
Approved	Refers to preschool care that meets State and Territory Government licensing requirements (where such requirements exist).
Centre-based long day care	Care for children, usually aged 0 to 5 years, in a licensed child care centre which is open for a minimum of 8 hours a day, 5 days per week and 48 weeks per year.
Child care	Care provided to a child by a person other than the child's parent or guardian.
Children	All resident male and female Australians 12 years of age and younger.
Children from non-English speaking backgrounds	Children living in situations where the main language spoken at home is not English.
Children's Services	Children's services includes all government funded and/or provided child care and preschool services.
Disability related care	Includes children who have a developmental delay or disability including intellectual, sensory, or physical impairment, or parent(s) with a disability.
Expenditure on assets	Expenditure on major and minor capital works. Expenditure spent on leasing equipment should be included as administrative expenditure.
Family day care	Centre-based long day care provided for children in the carer's own home. Largely aimed at children aged 0 to 5 years, but primary school aged children may also receive care before and after school. A network of carers is organised and supported by a central coordination unit.
Formal child care	Organised care provided by a person other than the child's parent or guardian usually outside of the child's home. For example, centre-based long day care, family day care, outside school hours care, vacation care, and occasional care (not including baby sitting).
Formal qualifications	Early childhood related teaching degree (3 or 4 years), a child care certificate or associate diploma (2 years), and/or other relevant qualifications (for example, a diploma or degree in child care (3 years or more), a basic child care certificate (1 year), primary teaching, other teaching, nursing (including mothercraft nursing), psychology and social work).
Full-time equivalent staff numbers	Number of staff working standard hours in a working week.
Government funded or/and provided	All government financed services; that is, services that receive government contributions towards providing a specified service (including private services receiving Childcare Assistance and Childcare Cash Rebate) and/or services for which the government has primary responsibility for delivering the service.
Income support	Any form of fee relief paid by Governments to the users of children's services (for example, Childcare Assistance and Childcare Cash Rebate).

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Table 11A.65 Definitions of variables (cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Informal child care	Child care arrangements provided privately (for example, by friends, relatives, nannies) for which no government assistance is provided other than the Commonwealth's Childcare Cash Rebate. In most states and Territories it is unregulated.
Non-standard hours of care	Non-standard hours of care by service type are defined as: CBLDC — services providing care for more than 10 hours a day Monday to Friday and/or providing care on weekends; FDC — services providing care for more than 10 hours a day Monday to Friday and/or providing care overnight and/or on weekends; VC — services providing care for more than 10 hours a day; BSHC — services providing care for more than 2 hours before school; ASHC — services providing care for more than 3 hours after school; OCC — services providing care for more than 8 hours a day; and Other — services providing care for more than 10 hours a day.
Notifiable outbreaks of disease	Situations where the relevant health department is notified.
Occasional care	Care provided on an hourly or sessional basis for short periods of time or at irregular intervals.
Operational place	A licensed place (where a licensing system exists, or in receipt of government funding where not licensed) and able to accept children as at 30 June each year.
Other care	Services included in 'other care' are; multifunctional services, multifunctional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children's services, mobiles and toy libraries.
Other expenditure on service provision	Continuing payments to funded and/or provided services and one-off non-capital payments to peak agencies.
Outside School Hours Care	Care provided for school aged children (5 to 12 years) during term time. Related terms are Before and After School Hours Care which refer to care during term time only.
Preschools	Services provided in the year or two before full-time schooling commences. For this Report, preschool services are split into those provided for children in the year immediately prior to the commencement of full-time schooling; and those offered to younger children. These services are offered during school terms.
Primary contact staff	Staff whose primary function is its to provide care and/or preschool services to children.
Real expenditure	Actual expenditure adjusted for changes in prices. Adjustments are made using the GDP (E) price deflator, and expressed in terms of final year prices.
Recurrent expenditure	Continuing payments for funded and/or provided services and one-off non-capital payments to peak agencies. Administration expenditure should be excluded.
Residential places	Residential care, which excludes child care, is defined as establishments where the main activity is to provide substitute care (accommodation, meals, some personal care, protection or control) for children. Includes juvenile hostels, family group homes, campus homes and other homes for children.

(cont.)

Table 11A.65 Definitions of variables (cont.)

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Rural and remote areas	Defined as per the 1994 Human Services and Health and Department of Primary Industry and Energy publication <i>Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas Classification 1991 Census Edition</i> . In this publication, a measure of remoteness is assigned to each statistical local area (SLA) in Australia. A list showing the classification assigned to each SLA by state and territory is provided as Attachment A. Jurisdictions can use this table to establish the total number of rural and remote places receiving State or Territory Government funding only.
Serious injury	Those injuries requiring a visit to (or by) a doctor or hospitalisation.
Service	A certain type of activity for example long day care. A location may offer a number of services. For example, a given location may offer both preschool and occasional care services. Services may be offered at a number of locations. For example, after school hours care may be offered at a number of different locations.
Service type	The categories for which data are being collected are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre-based long day care (CBLDC); • Family day care (FDC); • Vacation care; • Outside school hours care (OSHC); • Occasional care; and • 'Other' care; • Preschools.
Vacation care	Services are those that provide care for school age children over vacation periods only.