

3A Children's services — attachment

Tables in this attachment are sourced from the Children's services attachment of the 2011 Report — table numbers from the 2011 Report are identified in the source information. For example, a source reference to '2011 Report, table 3A.15' refers to attachment table 15 of attachment 3A of the 2011 Report.

Definitions for indicators and descriptors in this attachment are in the Children's services chapter of the Compendium.

Data in this Report are examined by the Children's Services Working Group, but have not been formally audited by the Secretariat. Unsourced information was obtained from the Australian, State and Territory governments.

This file is available in Adobe PDF format on the Review web page (www.pc.gov.au/gsp).

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Table 3A.1

Table 3A.1 Early Childhood Education and Care in Australia, as at 30 June 2010 (a)

	Child care		Preschool			Transition to primary school	
	Agency (b)	Program	Age of entry	Agency (b)	School year	Year prior to	Age of entry
NSW (c)	Dept of Human Services	Preschool	generally 3 and 4 year olds	Dept of Human Services (licensing for all services, funding for community based services)	Kindergarten	Kindergarten	5 by 31 July
Vic	Dept of Education and Early Childhood Development	Kindergarten	4 by 30 April	Dept of Education & Training (funding for government run preschools)	Preparatory (Prep)	Preparatory (Prep)	5 by 30 April
Qld (d)	Dept of Education and Training	Kindergarten, Pre-Preparatory (Pre-Prep)	4 by 30 June	Dept of Education and Training	Preparatory Year (Prep)	Preparatory Year (Prep)	5 by 30 June
WA	Dept for Communities	Kindergarten	4 by 30 June	Dept of Education	Pre Primary	Pre Primary	5 by 30 June
SA (e)	Dept of Education and Children's Services	Preschool Kindergarten	entry after 4th birthday	Dept of Education and Children's Services	Reception	Reception	entry after 5 th birthday
Tas	Dept of Education	Kindergarten	4 by 1 January	Dept of Education	Preparatory	Preparatory	5 by 1 January
ACT (f)	Dept of Disability, Housing and Community Services	Preschool	4 by 30 April	Dept Education and Training	Kindergarten	Kindergarten	5 by 30 April
NT (g)	Dept of Education and Training	Preschool	4 by 30 June, or 3 for Indigenous children in remote areas	Dept of Education and Training	Transition	Transition	5 by 30 June

(a) The Children's services chapter reports data for child care and preschool services only. Data on primary school are reported in the School education chapter (2011 Report, chapter 4), but relate to 2009. Information on the first year of primary school are included here to show the point at which children can transition from preschool to the first year of primary school in each jurisdiction.

(b) The departmental responsibility of agencies varies between child care and preschool. Agency responsibility refers to licensing services for child care, and licensing, funding and/or providing services for preschool programs. State and Territory education departments are responsible for primary school.

(c) In NSW, all licensed children's services for under 6 year olds (who have not commenced Kindergarten) are required to offer programs that meet children's educational and developmental needs.

Table 3A.1 Early Childhood Education and Care in Australia, as at 30 June 2010 (a)

- (d) All licensed children's services in Queensland are required to provide an appropriate program that is designed to stimulate and develop each child's creative, emotional, intellectual, lingual, physical, recreational and social potential.
- (e) In SA, some children are entitled to enrol in preschool earlier. Indigenous children and children under the guardianship of the Minister can enter from 3 years, children with additional needs (which includes gifted children) and those living in small rural communities may commence at 3 ½ years. The compulsory school starting age in SA is 6 years at the oldest.
- (f) In the ACT, private preschools are licensed by Dept of Disability, Housing and Community Services.
- (g) In the NT, Indigenous children aged 3 years in remote Indigenous communities can attend preschool if accompanied by an adult.

Source: State and Territory governments (unpublished); 2011 Report, table 3A.1.

Table 3A.2

Table 3A.2 Representation of special needs groups attending Australian Government approved child care services (per cent), by age group, 2010 (a), (b), (c)

	Unit	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
Children from non-English speaking backgrounds										
Children aged 0–5 in child care services	%	20.9	18.4	7.2	10.8	9.2	3.5	14.7	11.7	14.9
Children aged 0–5 in the community	%	24.6	23.2	12.8	16.8	14.8	8.1	17.8	37.0	20.1
Children aged 6–12 in child care services	%	16.4	15.2	4.8	6.5	6.0	2.7	10.6	9.3	11.1
Children aged 6–12 in the community	%	22.1	20.5	11.2	14.5	12.8	6.5	14.9	36.5	17.7
Indigenous children										
Children aged 0–5 in child care services	%	2.2	0.6	2.8	2.1	1.4	1.3	0.9	8.2	2.0
Children aged 0–5 in the community	%	4.1	1.2	6.4	5.6	3.4	6.6	2.2	38.9	4.4
Children aged 6–12 in child care services	%	1.8	0.7	3.1	2.0	1.3	1.9	0.9	11.5	1.9
Children aged 6–12 in the community	%	4.1	1.2	6.1	5.5	3.3	6.4	2.3	39.4	4.3
Children from low-income families										
Children aged 0–5 in child care services	%	25.6	24.2	26.1	22.5	24.3	26.3	9.6	14.9	24.8
Children aged 0–5 in the community	%	23.0	22.8	22.3	23.1	25.5	28.6	13.1	21.5	22.9
Children aged 6–12 in child care services	%	19.5	23.5	22.1	23.3	23.9	21.8	7.1	13.6	21.6
Children aged 6–12 in the community	%	25.8	23.3	19.6	19.3	27.4	37.8	8.6	16.1	23.3
Children with a disability										
Children aged 0–5 in child care services	%	3.4	2.1	1.6	2.1	2.9	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.5
Children aged 0–5 in the community	%	4.7	4.6	5.1	6.0	7.0	4.4	9.1	np	5.2
Children aged 6–12 in child care services	%	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.6	4.6	1.8	2.0	4.1	2.9
Children aged 6–12 in the community	%	10.7	8.5	9.5	11.4	10.2	7.7	6.2	np	9.8
Children from regional areas										
Children aged 0–5 in child care services	%	26.6	24.3	33.5	21.2	20.5	99.2	1.6	77.9	28.7
Children aged 0–5 in the community	%	27.0	26.5	44.3	23.8	25.7	97.8	0.1	50.6	31.5
Children aged 6–12 in child care services	%	23.6	22.1	29.6	18.5	15.7	99.8	0.0	84.3	25.8
Children aged 6–12 in the community	%	30.2	29.6	46.6	32.0	27.3	97.6	0.3	51.4	34.2
Children from remote areas										
Children aged 0–5 in child care services	%	0.2	–	1.2	3.8	2.2	0.8	–	22.4	1.0
Children aged 0–5 in the community	%	0.7	0.1	4.6	8.9	4.3	2.0	–	50.5	3.1
Children aged 6–12 in child care services	%	0.2	–	1.0	2.0	1.2	0.2	–	15.8	0.7
Children aged 6–12 in the community	%	0.7	0.1	4.2	8.3	4.4	2.1	–	50.1	3.0

(a) Refer to table 3A.3 for complete footnotes.

(b) Excludes children aged 6–12 years attending Occasional Care services. The number of children aged 6–12 years using Occasional care services were too small to be included here.

(c) Data in italics have relative standard errors greater than 25 per cent and need to be used with caution.

np Not published. ... Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: DEEWR (unpublished) *National Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Census, 2010* (preliminary data); administrative data collection, *Australian Government Census of Child Care Services 2006* and *Australian Government Child Care Provider Survey 2007-08*; ABS (unpublished) *Survey of Income and Housing Costs 2007-08*, Cat. no. 6523.0, *2006 Census of Population and Housing* and *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003*, Cat. no. 4430.0, Canberra; 2011 Report, table 3A.14.

Table 3A.3

Table 3A.3 Representation of special needs groups attending Australian Government approved child care services, children aged 0–12 (per cent) (a), (b)

	<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>
Children from non-English speaking backgrounds (c), (d), (e), (f)									
Representation in child care services									
2004	17.4	13.5	6.3	7.9	6.9	3.4	12.1	8.1	11.6
2006	17.0	12.8	5.1	6.4	8.0	2.5	9.7	8.5	10.9
2008-09	18.0	17.2	7.3	9.7	9.3	4.2	10.3	11.5	13.2
2010	19.7	17.4	6.5	9.6	7.8	3.3	12.9	10.8	13.7
Representation in the community (g)	23.2	21.7	11.9	15.5	13.7	7.2	16.2	36.8	18.8
Indigenous children (c), (d), (h)									
Representation in child care services									
2004	1.6	0.6	2.5	1.8	1.3	1.0	0.7	10.7	1.6
2006	1.6	0.7	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.4	0.7	11.1	1.7
2008-09	2.5	0.9	3.1	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.4	10.6	2.3
2010	2.1	0.6	2.9	2.1	1.4	1.5	0.9	9.4	1.9
Representation in the community (h)	4.1	1.2	6.2	5.6	3.3	6.5	2.3	39.2	4.4
Children from low-income families (i)									
Representation in child care services									
2004	28.0	28.3	33.8	32.6	33.0	31.5	12.4	18.8	29.9
2006	25.2	26.5	28.6	27.6	29.3	29.1	10.4	17.5	26.6
2008-09	24.4	23.7	24.7	22.7	24.6	24.8	9.6	16.2	23.9
2010	24.1	24.0	24.9	22.7	24.1	24.8	8.8	14.4	23.9
Representation in the community (j)	24.5	23.1	20.9	21.0	26.6	33.8	10.8	18.9	23.2
Children with a disability (c), (d), (k)									
Representation in child care services									
2004	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.7	3.5	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.1
2006	3.1	2.4	2.2	2.5	3.8	2.3	1.8	3.7	2.7
2008-09	3.8	2.5	2.6	2.5	5.5	2.7	1.9	3.7	3.2
2010	3.3	2.2	2.0	2.2	3.6	2.1	1.9	2.8	2.6
Representation in the community (k)	8.0	6.8	7.6	8.9	8.8	6.2	7.5	np	7.7
Children from regional and remote areas (l)									
Regional									
Representation in child care services									
2004	25.9	22.5	38.9	18.2	16.2	99.6	–	74.0	28.8
2006	25.6	25.0	36.6	18.9	17.9	99.4	0.1	77.3	29.0
2008-09	26.3	24.6	32.5	20.5	19.4	99.2	0.1	79.1	28.5
2010	26.0	23.6	32.4	20.6	18.7	100.4	1.1	79.9	28.0
Representation in the community (g)	28.8	28.2	45.6	24.7	26.6	97.7	0.2	51.0	33.0

Table 3A.3

Table 3A.3 Representation of special needs groups attending Australian Government approved child care services, children aged 0–12 (per cent) (a), (b)

	<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>
Remote									
Representation in child care services									
2004	0.4	0.1	1.6	5.0	2.0	0.4	..	26.0	1.4
2006	0.3	–	1.3	3.7	2.0	0.6	..	22.7	1.1
2008-09	0.2	–	1.1	3.4	1.7	0.8	..	21.0	1.0
2010	0.2	–	1.2	3.3	1.8	0.6	–	20.2	0.9
Representation in the community (g)	0.7	0.1	4.4	8.6	4.4	2.0		50.3	3.0

- (a) Data in italics have relative standard errors above 25 per cent, and need to be used with caution.
- (b) Data for 2004 and 2006 are drawn from the respective AGCCCS, while data for 2008-09 are drawn from the AGCCPS and DEEWR administrative data. Data for 2008-09 are not comparable to previous years due to the change in the source for data collection.
- (c) Children attending approved services in 2004, 2006 and 2010 may be counted more than once if attending more than one service during the reference week. In 2008-09, children are counted once for each care type they use.
- (d) Data for 2010 are weighted data drawn from the *National Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Census*. 2010 Data were collected for all services except vacation care during the reference week 31 May- 6 June (excluding Tasmania where the reference week was 21-27 June 2010). The reference week for vacation care was 5-11 July 2010 (excluding Tasmania, where the reference week was 7-13 June 2010).
- (e) Excludes Aboriginal Playgroups and Enrichment Programs, Mobile and Toy Library services and Aboriginal Playgroups as data from these service types were not available.
- (f) Children from non-English speaking backgrounds in child care services are children who speak, or whose parent/guardian speak a language other than English at home. Data on representation in the community refer to the proportion of children who do not speak English as their main language at home.
- (g) Data for representation in the community are estimated from the ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing.
- (h) Indigenous children in child care services are children who child care services identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. The representation in the community data from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing refer to children of an Indigenous descent who identify as being Indigenous. The ABS Census Post Enumeration Survey has estimated an undercount of Indigenous people in the 2006 Census, and the data on the proportion of Indigenous represented in children in the community should be treated with caution.
- (i) Children from low income families include those families in receipt of the maximum rate of Child Care Benefit (CCB). The maximum CCB rate was \$31755 in 2003-04, \$33361 in 2005-06, \$35478 in 2007-08, and \$36573 in 2008-09.
- (j) The data showing representation children from low income families in the community are drawn from the *ABS Survey of Income and Housing 2007-08*.
- (k) Children with a disability in child care services are children who child care services identify as having a continuing disability including intellectual, sensory or physical impairment. Data on representation in the community refer to children with any limitation, restriction or impairment, which has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least six months and restricts everyday activities. These data were obtained from the *ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003*. Due to the small sample size, data for the NT are not published.

Table 3A.3

Table 3A.3 Representation of special needs groups attending Australian Government approved child care services, children aged 0–12 (per cent) (a), (b)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
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(l) Regional and remote areas based on the Australian Standard Geographical Classification of Remoteness Areas (ASGC) (ABS 2006). Regional areas include inner regional and outer regional areas. Remote areas include remote, very remote and migratory areas. Children can use care in multiple regions and states, and may be counted in more than one region.

na Not available. **np** Not published. .. Not applicable. – Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: DEEWR (unpublished) *National Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Census, 2010* (preliminary data); administrative data collection, *Australian Government Census of Child Care Services 2006* and *Australian Government Child Care Provider Survey 2007-08*; FaCSIA (unpublished) *Australian Government Census of Child Care Services 2004*; ABS (unpublished) *Survey of Income and Housing Costs 2007-08*, Cat. no. 6523.0, *2006 Census of Population and Housing* and *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003*, Cat. no. 4430.0, Canberra; 2011 Report, table 3A.15.

Table 3A.4

Table 3A.4 Representation of children from special needs groups in State and Territory Government child care and preschool services, 2009-10 (a), (b)

	Unit	NSW (c)	Vic	Qld (d)	WA (e)	SA (f)	Tas	ACT (g)	NT (h)	Aust (i)
Children from non-English speaking backgrounds										
Number of children										
Child care services	no.	12 362	603	49	na	260	6	na	na	13 280
Preschool services	no.	7 138	11 467	608	na	2 550	na	835	na	22 598
Preschool in the year before full time school	no.	1 679	11 467	504	na	na	na	771	na	14 421
Representation in children's services										
Child care services	%	11.6	11.7	4.2	na	10.2	0.9	na	na	11.4
Preschool services	%	11.1	17.1	3.8	na	11.4	na	21.0	na	10.6
Preschool in the year before full time school	%	3.3	17.2	3.7	na	na	na	20.7	na	7.6
Representation in the community										
Children aged 3-5 years	%	23.2	21.6	11.6	15.6	13.5	7.2	16.1	38.7	18.7
Children aged 0-12 years	%	23.2	21.7	11.9	15.5	13.7	7.2	16.2	36.8	18.8
Indigenous children										
Number of children										
Child care services	no.	4 179	8	265	na	80	5	na	na	4 537
Preschool services	no.	3 187	876	1 240	2 862	1 420	303	128	1 391	11 407
Preschool in the year before full time school	no.	452	731	978	2 676	na	na	85	1 108	6 030
Representation in children's services										
Child care services	%	3.9	0.2	22.8	na	3.1	0.7	na	na	3.9
Preschool services	%	4.9	1.3	7.8	9.3	6.3	5.2	3.2	43.2	5.3
Preschool in the year before full time school	%	0.9	1.1	7.1	9.3	na	na	2.3	39.6	3.2
Representation in the community										
Children aged 3-5 years	%	4.1	1.2	6.4	5.8	3.5	6.4	2.3	41.8	4.5
Children aged 0-12 years	%	4.1	1.2	6.2	5.6	3.3	6.5	2.3	39.2	4.4

Table 3A.4

Table 3A.4 Representation of children from special needs groups in State and Territory Government child care and preschool services, 2009-10 (a), (b)

	Unit	NSW (c)	Vic	Qld (d)	WA (e)	SA (f)	Tas	ACT (g)	NT (h)	Aust (i)
Children with a disability (j)										
Number of children										
Child care services	no.	4 492	173	23	na	260	20	na	na	4 968
Preschool services	no.	3 546	4 139	956	950	3 100	na	179	128	12 998
Preschool in the year before full time school	no.	114	4 139	811	888	na	na	128	95	6 175
Representation in children's services										
Child care services	%	4.2	3.4	2.0	na	10.2	2.9	na	na	4.3
Preschool services	%	5.5	6.2	6.0	3.1	13.8	na	4.5	4.0	6.1
Preschool in the year before full time school	%	0.2	6.2	5.9	3.1	na	na	3.4	3.4	3.3
Representation in the community										
Children aged 3-5 years	%	7.7	6.5	8.6	10.2	8.3	7.2	14.3	np	8.0
Children aged 0-12 years	%	8.0	6.8	7.6	8.9	8.8	6.2	7.5	np	7.7
Children from regional areas										
Number of children										
Child care services	no.	28 338	5 137	477	na	700	644	na	na	35 296
Preschool services	no.	20 175	16 013	6 364	5 991	5 910	5 763	na	1 432	61 648
Preschool in the year before full time school	no.	4 002	16 013	5 402	5 601	15 850	na	na	1 337	48 205
Representation in children's services										
Child care services	%	26.6	99.8	41.0	na	27.3	92.3	na	na	30.4
Preschool services	%	31.3	23.9	40.2	19.5	26.3	98.3	na	44.4	28.9
Preschool in the year before full time school	%	7.8	24.0	39.3	19.5	95.1	na	na	47.8	25.4
Representation in the community										
Children aged 3-5 years	%	28.0	27.5	45.1	24.5	26.2	97.7	0.1	48.2	32.3
Children aged 0-12 years	%	28.8	28.2	45.6	24.7	26.6	97.7	0.2	51.0	33.0

Table 3A.4

Table 3A.4 Representation of children from special needs groups in State and Territory Government child care and preschool services, 2009-10 (a), (b)

	Unit	NSW (c)	Vic	Qld (d)	WA (e)	SA (f)	Tas	ACT (g)	NT (h)	Aust (i)
Children from remote areas										
Number of children										
Child care services	no.	893	9	329	na	230	54	..	na	1 515
Preschool services	no.	777	42	1 966	2 539	1 280	97	..	1 790	8 491
Preschool in the year before full time school	no.	91	42	1 589	2 374	820	na	..	1 463	6 379
Representation in children's services										
Child care services	%	0.8	0.2	28.3	na	9.0	7.7	..	na	1.3
Preschool services	%	1.2	0.1	12.4	8.3	5.7	1.7	..	55.6	4.0
Preschool in the year before full time school	%	0.2	0.1	11.6	8.3	4.9	na	..	52.3	3.4
Representation in the community										
Children aged 3-5 years	%	0.7	0.1	4.7	9.0	4.4	2.0	..	53.1	3.2
Children aged 0-12 years	%	0.7	0.1	4.4	8.6	4.4	2.0	-	50.3	3.0

(a) Data for representation in the community are estimated from the ABS *Census of Population and Housing 2006*, except for 'children with a disability'. Data for the representation of children with a disability in the community were obtained from the ABS *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003*. Due to the various data sources used in different years, caution should be used when making comparisons across the years.

(b) Data in italics have relative standard errors above 25 per cent, and need to be used with caution.

(c) As NSW does not discriminate between child care and preschool services, special needs children counted in child care services includes the count of children accessing designated preschool services. Data are for children attending funded licensed services during the survey week in September. In NSW, total special needs children using child care services and total special needs children using preschool services should not be added together as a total and should be interpreted with caution.

(d) Queensland child care data are based on an annual voluntary census and response rates are variable by service type and over time. Preschool data include Indigenous Community Pre-Preparatory services and C&K community kindergarten services. Data on regional and remote areas are children attending in the census week, based on location of services according to the Australian Standard Geographic Classification.

(e) For WA, it is assumed that the ratio of disabled students in the non-government system is the same as the government system.

(f) In SA, children in preschool in the year before full time school include 4 and 5 year old children only.

(g) In the ACT there are no regions classified as remote. In the ACT preschool students may be counted in more than one special needs groups.

Table 3A.4

Table 3A.4 Representation of children from special needs groups in State and Territory Government child care and preschool services, 2009-10 (a), (b)

	Unit	NSW (c)	Vic	Qld (d)	WA (e)	SA (f)	Tas	ACT (g)	NT (h)	Aust (i)
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(h) NT preschools data include Catholic Remote schools. Data for children from non-English speaking backgrounds are of a quality too poor to report. Indigenous children and children with a disability in preschools include 3 year old children. Indigenous children aged 4 years in preschool are a proxy for children in preschool in the year before full time school. Children with a disability aged 4 and 5 years in preschool are a proxy for children in preschool in the year before full time school.

(i) Data for Australia for children in services are the total of the sum of the states and territories for which data are available, and should not be interpreted as national data. All other data for Australia represent all states and territories and can be considered a national data.

(j) Data are not directly comparable between jurisdictions because there is no national definition or standard on children with a disability. In Victoria, children with a disability in preschool services are children identified as having additional needs by the qualified early childhood teacher delivering the funded kindergarten program. In Queensland, the definition of disability refers to a diagnosed disability.

na Not available. **np** Not published. .. Nil or rounded to zero.

Source: State and Territory governments (unpublished); ABS (unpublished) *Survey of Income and Housing Costs 2007-08*, Cat. no. 6523.0, 2006 *Census of Population and Housing and Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2003*, Cat. no. 4430.0, Canberra; 2011 Report, table 3A.16.

Table 3A.5

Table 3A.5 Indigenous children enrolled in State and Territory Government preschool services, 2005-06 to 2009-10

	Unit	NSW (a)	Vic (b)	Qld (c)	WA	SA	Tas (d)	ACT	NT (e)	Aust (f)	
2005-06											
	Number of Indigenous children in preschool	no.	1 912	na	3 894	2 523	1 210	337	108	1 414	11 398
	Representation of Indigenous children in preschool (g)	%	3.1	na	6.1	9.6	5.7	5.5	3.1	42.5	6.1
2006-07											
	Number of Indigenous children in preschool	no.	2 384	na	3 858	2 322	1 240	285	106	1 389	11 584
	Representation of Indigenous children in preschool (g)	%	3.6	na	6.1	9.1	5.9	4.8	3.0	42.3	6.1
2007-08											
	Number of Indigenous children in preschool	no.	2 341	na	1 326	2 494	1 280	310	102	1 477	9 330
	Representation of Indigenous children in preschool (g)	%	3.7	na	7.7	9.1	5.9	5.2	2.7	43.5	6.5
2008-09											
	Number of Indigenous children in preschool	no.	2 608	561	1 268	2 622	1 370	285	122	1 364	10 200
	Representation of Indigenous children in preschool (g)	%	4.0	0.9	8.0	8.9	6.3	4.9	3.0	43.2	4.9
2009-10											
	Number of Indigenous children in preschool	no.	3 187	876	1 240	2 862	1 420	303	128	1 391	11 407
	Representation of Indigenous children in preschool (g)	%	4.9	1.3	7.8	9.3	6.3	5.2	3.2	43.2	5.3

(a) As NSW does not discriminate between child care and preschool services, children counted in child care services includes the count of children accessing designated preschool services. Data are for children attending funded licensed services during the survey week in September. In NSW, children using child care services and children using preschool services should not be added together as a total and should be interpreted with caution. All NSW licensed and funded long day care centres offer a preschool program. There is an under-representation of Indigenous children attending preschool in NSW data, as Indigenous children attending long day care centres in the year before school are not included.

(b) In Victoria in 2009-10, 145 Indigenous children attended a program as part of the Early Start Kindergarten for the Three Year Old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children initiative.

(c) Queensland data from 2007-08 include Indigenous Community Pre-Preparatory and C&K community kindergarten services. Data for C&K community kindergarten services from 2008-09 are not comparable to data for previous years, as these data relate to children attending in the census week (as reported by the services responding to Child Care Services Census). Data for previous years were enrolment data. 2010 data for Queensland relate to attendance at community kindergarten services and enrolment in pre-preparatory services.

(d) Tasmanian preschool services includes data for government preschools only.

Table 3A.5

Table 3A.5 Indigenous children enrolled in State and Territory Government preschool services, 2005-06 to 2009-10

	<i>Unit</i>	NSW (a)	Vic (b)	Qld (c)	WA	SA	Tas (d)	ACT	NT (e)	Aust (f)
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(e) NT preschools data from 2006-07 include Catholic Remote Schools.

(f) The totals for Australia are calculated as the sum of the states and territories for which data are available.

(g) Representation in preschool is Indigenous children enrolled in preschool as a proportion of all children enrolled in preschool.
na Not available.

Source: State and Territory governments (unpublished); ABS (unpublished) 2006 *Census of Population and Housing*; 2011 Report, table 3A.17.

Table 3A.6

Table 3A.6 Children absent from non-government preschools, 2009 (a), (b), (c)

	Unit	NSW	Vic	Q/ld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT (d)	NT	Aust
Number of children enrolled										
Indigenous children	no.	2 616	860	841	240	289	46	np	126	np
Non-Indigenous children (e)	no.	53 294	77 645	16 359	8 073	4 561	1 615	np	152	np
All children	no.	55 910	78 505	17 200	8 313	4 850	1 661	686	278	167 403
Number of children absent										
Indigenous children	no.	764	288	277	109	135	13	np	81	np
Non-Indigenous children (e)	no.	6 092	14 049	2 752	1 668	753	256	np	39	np
All children	no.	6 856	14 337	3 029	1 777	888	269	132	120	27 408
Proportion of children absent										
Indigenous children	%	29.2	33.5	32.9	45.4	46.7	28.3	np	64.3	np
Non-Indigenous children (e)	%	11.4	18.1	16.8	20.7	16.5	15.9	np	25.7	np
All children	%	12.3	18.3	17.6	21.4	18.3	16.2	19.2	43.2	16.4
Non-government preschools										
Number of non-government preschools	no.	893	1519	365	238	83	57	14	9	3178
Proportion of all preschools (f)	%	90.0	100.0	93.4	27.4	17.5	25.8	17.3	6.9	68.0

(a) Data on attendance are limited to non-government preschools, and exclude government preschools.

(b) Attendance measured during the Census week of 3–7 August 2009. Children are counted as absent if they miss one or more of the sessions that they were enrolled in during this week. Absences due to illness may be higher during winter than at other times of the year.

(c) Preschool attendance is not compulsory.

(d) ACT Indigenous data for 2009 are not provided for privacy reasons.

(e) Data for Non-Indigenous children are derived from data on Indigenous children and All children.

(f) Non-government preschools as a proportion of all preschools (which includes government and non-government preschools) approached in the NPC. Preschool attendance data for jurisdictions with a small proportion of non-government schools should be interpreted with care.

np Not published.

Source: DEEWR (unpublished) *National Preschool Census 2010*; 2011 Report, table 3A.18.