

S A A P N D C A R E P O R T

**SAAP
NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION**

ACCOMPANYING CHILDREN SPECIAL COLLECTION

1998

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Preface

This is a special report of the SAAP National Data Collection on accompanying children who were assisted at SAAP agencies between 21 May and 30 June 1998. The report provides information on accompanying children who attended SAAP agencies with people who were homeless or at risk of being homeless.

The data collection could not have been undertaken without the cooperation and contributions of SAAP service providers and clients. Their vital role is acknowledged. The data collection has also been assisted by the productive and cooperative partnership between the SAAP National Data Collection Agency (NDCA), managed by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, SAAP agencies and the Data and Research Advisory Committee (DRAC), comprised of government, community and expert representatives. After consultations with peak organisations about items for inclusion, the DRAC provided advice to the NDCA and an appropriate questionnaire was designed in consultation with the DRAC children's working group. Advice and direction to the data collection has been provided by the SAAP Coordination and Development Committee, which is responsible for the national direction of the SAAP program.

The key to producing this report has been the willingness of agencies to collect and provide data to the NDCA, knowing that any personal information provided by clients is protected by the strict confidentiality provisions of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act.

This is a first attempt to undertake a comprehensive study on accompanying children who receive assistance at SAAP agencies. We are confident that we can further improve the quality of the information provided to help policy makers and the community better understand and provide for the needs of those who are homeless or at risk of being so. The publication of this report is one step towards this goal.

Australian Institute of
Health & Welfare

SAAP Coordination
and Development
Committee

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The authors acknowledge the support of a number of other people who provided helpful comments on the report, including Ching Choi and Justin Griffin of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, and members of the SAAP Data and Research Advisory Committee and the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services.

This report could not have been produced without the cooperation and contributions of SAAP service providers and clients. This vital role played by data providers is acknowledged.

Glossary

Accompanying child	<p>A person who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• is under 18 years of age;• receives support, accommodation or assistance at a SAAP agency; and• has a parent or guardian who is a client of a SAAP agency.
Agency	<p>An organisation or establishment that receives a specified amount of SAAP funds to provide services.</p>
Case management	<p>Case management initiatives involve agency and client collaboration to devise ways to achieve positive outcomes for individual clients. Such initiatives might commence at any time from the initial contact with a SAAP agency through to when a client has left SAAP. Strategies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• development (and subsequent assessment) of personal plans or support agreements;• assistance measures such as direct help, the use of relevant mainstream services or referrals to other agencies;• assistance in linking clients with a range of support mechanisms and options when leaving SAAP support; and• follow-up assistance after a client has exited SAAP.
Case	<p>A <i>support period</i> provided to a SAAP <i>client</i>. The terms <i>case</i> and <i>support period</i> are used interchangeably in this report.</p>
Client	<p>A person who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• receives <i>support</i> or assistance from a SAAP <i>agency</i> which entails generally one hour or more of a worker's time, either with that client directly or on behalf of that client, on a given day; or• is accommodated by a SAAP agency; or• enters into an <i>ongoing support relationship</i> with a SAAP agency.
Consent	<p>For the purposes of the Accompanying Children Collection, consent refers to permission obtained from either the parent or guardian, or the <i>accompanying child</i>, to answer particular questions on the Accompanying Child Form.</p>
DRAC	<p>Data and Research Advisory Committee. DRAC is an advisory committee to the National SAAP Coordination and Development Committee (CAD).</p>
DV	<p>Domestic violence.</p>
Family code	<p>This is a unique number allocated to a family unit that enables the NDCA to link data across different members of a family.</p>

Family unit	<p>The family unit consists of all related and unrelated persons occupying a significant place in the child's life, as indicated by the child or a parent/guardian.</p> <p>The family unit of an accompanying child comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the parent/guardians who are clients at the SAAP agency; • siblings to whom the agency provides support, accommodation or assistance; and/or • any other related or unrelated persons who are clients at the SAAP agency and who occupy a significant place in the child's life. For example, a family friend who is providing additional support to the family would be recognised as being a part of the family unit.
In scope	<p>Any agency that indicated they had at least one accompanying child attending their agency according to the NDCA database records for the previous calendar year (1997). High-volume agencies were excluded from the special collection.</p>
Legal Processes	<p>Upon attending a SAAP agency an accompanying child could be involved in any of the following legal processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection/guardianship order – relates to persons under the age of 18 years and includes orders where legal guardianship is transferred to a Minister, Director or other official in the community services department, giving the department total responsibility for the young person; and non-guardianship orders where the Minister, Director or other official is given some responsibility for a young person's welfare, such as supervision, custody or accommodation arrangements. • Restraining/intervention order – is an order taken out to protect a victim of domestic violence from the perpetrator of the violence, by requiring the person responsible to stay away from the victim. • Access and custody (contact and residence) – relates to where the custody of the child is shared between both (separated) parents, or if there is a legal order granting the non-custodial parent access to the child. • Immigration – refers to instances where the child is involved in legal processes relating to her/his Australian residency status. • Other legal process – includes (but is not limited to): good behaviour bonds; probation orders; parole orders or orders resulting from early release programs; and release from police custody on bail or a personal guarantee.
NDCA	<p>National Data Collection Agency. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare performs the role of this agency under contract with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services (now Family and Community Services).</p>
One-off assistance	<p>Assistance provided to a person who is a <i>client</i>. It might include the provision of a meal, a shower, transport, money, clothing, telephone advice, information or a <i>referral</i>.</p>

Ongoing support relationship	<p>An ongoing support relationship exists between a SAAP <i>agency</i> and a person if some assistance has been provided to that person and it is agreed that future contact will occur between the person and the agency for the purpose of providing additional assistance.</p> <p>Future contact can be assumed if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a definite appointment has been made with the person to work through particular problems or issues; or • an agreement has been reached with the person to work through particular problems or issues even if a specific appointment has not been made.
Record	<p>A unit of analysis. In any particular situation it may refer to a <i>client</i>, an <i>occasion of support</i>, an instance of <i>unmet need</i>, a request for <i>one-off assistance</i>, etc.</p>
Referral	<p>For the purposes of the Accompanying Children Collection, a referral means a formal referral process—not simply the provision of information. A (formal) referral occurs when a SAAP <i>agency</i> contacts another agency and that agency accepts the person concerned for an appointment or interview. A referral has not been provided if the person is not accepted for an appointment or interview.</p>
SAAP	<p>Supported Accommodation Assistance Program.</p>
Support	<p>Assistance, other than <i>supported accommodation</i>, provided to a <i>client</i> as part of an <i>ongoing support relationship</i> between a SAAP <i>agency</i> and the client. For the purposes of the Accompanying Children Collection, support also includes contact with, or work on behalf of, a client for generally more than one hour on a given day. Support may be provided to the client individually or in group sessions. A person whose request for support or supported accommodation is not met may receive <i>one-off assistance</i> but, by definition, cannot receive support.</p>
Supported accommodation	<p>Accommodation paid for or provided directly by a SAAP <i>agency</i>. The accommodation may be provided at the agency, or may be purchased using SAAP funds—at a motel, for example.</p>
Support period	<p>An occasion of support provided to a SAAP <i>client</i>. A support period commences when a client begins to receive support from a SAAP <i>agency</i>. The support period is considered to finish when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the client ends the relationship with the agency; or • the agency ends the relationship with the client. <p>If it is not clear whether the agency or the client has ended the relationship, the support period is assumed to have ended if no assistance has been provided to the client for a period of one month. In such a case, the date the support period ended is one month after the last contact with the client.</p>
Support plan	<p>Support plans or personal plans are an integral part of the case management process. Such plans contain a statement of the client's problem or need, case goals and strategies to achieve goals. Plans are jointly developed and agreed upon by an agency and individual client.</p>

Executive summary

This report summarises the findings from data relating to children who accompanied an adult and received supported accommodation or assistance under the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) agencies in the period 21 May to 30 June 1998. Discussion centres on:

- participating SAAP agencies Australia-wide;
- background of the accompanying children;
- circumstances of accompanying children as at 21 May-30 June 1998;
- support and services provided to accompanying children and unmet need; and
- discussion of the results from the agency profile component of the collection.

The SAAP National Data Collection Agency (NDCA) at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) prepared the report.

PART A: Accompanying children

Six hundred and three (603) out of a possible 1,103 agencies Australia-wide responded to the Accompanying Children Collection in 1998. This was a participation rate of 55% which is relatively low compared to the 95% participation rate currently (1998-1999) being achieved for the general Client Collection. However, it is possible that some of the agencies that did not respond to the collection did not have accompanying children, therefore obscuring the true extent of non-participation (for a more detailed explanation of reasons for non-participation, refer to section 1.4). Of the 603, one hundred and eighty (180) returned a form stating that they had not had any accompanying children attend their agency during the collection period or had chosen not to take part in the collection for various reasons. Therefore, 423 agencies returned survey forms to the NDCA on accompanying children out of the possible 1,103 'in scope' agencies.

During the collection period 8,827 forms detailing the background, circumstances and support provided to accompanying children by SAAP service providers were returned to the NDCA. The majority of the data came from accompanying children who had attended agencies assisting women escaping domestic violence (40%), families (24%) and agencies with cross target, general or multiple targets (23%). As expected, much smaller proportions of forms were returned from agencies targeting young people (10%), single men only (1%) and single women only (2%).

The majority of accompanying children came from one-child families (48%). The highest proportion of accompanying children from one-child families were found in other metropolitan areas (58%), whereas rural areas reported the highest proportion of three- and four-child families (16% and 9% respectively). Accompanying children from families of five children or more were most common in remote areas of Australia (8%).

Most accompanying children came from single-parent families (54%). This proportion is higher in non-capital city metropolitan (57%) and capital city (56%) areas. The second most common living situation for accompanying children was with both parents in the same household (38%). Only in remote areas of Australia was it more common for accompanying children to live with both parents in the same household (57%) than it was for them to live in a single-parent household. Further to this, a considerable proportion of accompanying children reported that they also lived with their siblings (31%).

More than 60% of accompanying children across Australia had two or more homes in the year prior to attending a SAAP agency. Those living in non-capital city metropolitan areas reported having moved most frequently (40% had moved three or more times during the year), whereas the majority living in remote areas reported having had just one home throughout the year (51%). On average across Australia, 37% of accompanying children had one home in the year prior to SAAP assistance. Two per cent of accompanying children (117 children) reported having been completely homeless during the year prior to presenting to a SAAP agency. This pattern of home occupation is somewhat different when looking at the number of homes in the month prior to attending a SAAP agency. More than half (58%) of accompanying children reported having had one home in the month prior to receiving assistance, though a sizeable proportion of children (23%) reported having had two, three or more homes over the space of one month. Nineteen per cent reported they had been without a home in the month prior to SAAP support.

The majority of accompanying children were involved in some sort of legal process when they attended a SAAP agency, only 4% reported no legal process, whilst 5% provided no information. In most instances this related to protection or guardianship orders (68%). In terms of service delivery models, 80% of accompanying children who attended a day support agency were subject to a protection or guardianship order. The next most common legal process for accompanying children to be involved in related to immigration matters (18%). Of all the primary target groups, those agencies that target women escaping domestic violence had by far the highest level of accompanying children involved in immigration matters at 27% (12% higher than any other primary target group).

More than 50% of accompanying children were less than six years of age (54%), where proportionately two- to five-year-olds presented to SAAP agencies most frequently (in 35% of cases). Accompanying children were least likely to be aged over 11 years—only 14% of accompanying children were aged 12 to 17.

Nationally, the sex ratio of accompanying children was approximately fifty-fifty. There were slightly more female accompanying children in remote and rural areas of Australia (55% and 53% respectively) than males.

PART B: Agency Profile

Of the 603 agencies that participated in the Accompanying Children Collection Australia-wide, 518 provided the NDCA with a profile of their agency's ability to support accompanying children.

The greatest number of agency profiles were returned from Victoria (30%), New South Wales (26%) and Queensland (19%). Smaller numbers of agencies provided profile information in South Australia (8%), Western Australia (8%), Tasmania (3%), Northern Territory (3%) and the Australian Capital Territory (3%).

Of those agencies that returned profiles, most were located in capital cities (54%) and rural areas (33%). Lesser numbers of profiles were returned from agencies in other metropolitan (8%) and remote areas (5%). Most provided crisis or short-term (36%) and medium- to long-term accommodation (43%) to their clients. Eighteen per cent of agencies were providing 'other' forms of accommodation, whilst 3% of participating agencies provided outreach services.

The majority of agencies who participated in the collection were able to provide clients and accompanying children at SAAP services with information on children's services (68%), motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (63%), and a quiet, private indoor space (54%). Nearly half of the agencies that participated were able to provide accompanying children with indoor (40%) and outdoor (41%) play areas and equipment for babies (cots and change tables) (40%). A much smaller number of agencies had access to information available on children's services in other languages (12%), study areas (25%), covered outdoor areas (26%) or safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (26%).

The greatest level of need for particular facilities and services across agencies was reported to be the ability to provide accompanying children with a covered outdoor area (45%) and safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (38%). Further to this, approximately one-third of agencies report that they need access to safe and appropriate indoor play equipment (33%), a quiet or private outdoor space (32%), a study area (33%), areas suitable for teenagers (33%) and information on children's services in languages other than English (37%).

Eighty per cent or more of agencies had links with other service providers such as counselling services (88%), health services (83%), social security (84%) and child welfare or protective services (88%). Sixty to seventy per cent of agencies reported having links to service providers such as a childcare centre or child minding (64%), kindergarten, preschool, school (62%), mental health services (77%) and legal services (73%). A much smaller proportion of agencies had links with a migrant resource centre (41%).

The majority of agencies were fully accessible to prams (60%). Thirty-three per cent reported that their facilities were partially accessible to people with children in a pram, whilst only a small number reported that they were completely inaccessible (7%). This compares to disabled persons' access where a much larger proportion of agencies reported that their facilities were inaccessible to families with a parent or child who had a physical disability (19%). The majority of agencies (51%) reported that their facilities were partially accessible to families who had a member with a physical disability, whilst 30% reported that their facilities were fully accessible.

The vast majority (85%) of SAAP agencies reported that they had less than one SAAP-funded specific or targeted child support worker (full-time equivalent) working in their agency. This figure was arrived at by agencies calculating how many hours each worker worked each week, based on the assumption that a full-time worker would spend 40 hours a week in the office. Eleven per cent of agencies had one to two workers, 1% had two to three, 1% had three to four workers and 2% of agencies had four or more full-time equivalent child support workers.

The number of 'other' SAAP-funded workers at agencies (who were not child support workers) is quite different and more evenly distributed. Twenty-two per cent of agencies had less than one full-time worker, 19% had one to two, 16% had two to three, 15% had three to four and 29% had four or more SAAP-funded workers.

One-third or more of the child support workers at SAAP agencies had qualifications in child development (47%), childcare (36%), early education development (30%) or child and family counselling (33%). In conjunction to qualifications, more than half of these child support workers indicated that they had also had experience in child development (73%), childcare (68%), early education development (52%) and child or family counselling (64%).

'Other' SAAP-funded workers had a different pattern of qualifications and experience compared to SAAP-funded child-targeted support workers. Almost one-third or more of 'other' workers had qualifications in child or family counselling (34%), social work (43%) and psychology (28%). Comparatively few had formal qualifications in childcare (13%), child or family counselling (13%) or 'other' qualifications (13%). One-third or more did however indicate that they had first hand experience in child development (47%), childcare (44%), early education development (30%), child or family counselling (49%) and teaching (32%).

1 Introduction

1.1 The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program

The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) is a joint Commonwealth, State and Territory program. Non-government and local government organisations are funded to provide assistance to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, including families escaping domestic violence. In 1995, the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services (now the Department of Family and Community Services), on behalf of all funding departments, contracted the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) to develop and manage the SAAP National Data Collection—ensuring nationally consistent information about the clients of SAAP services.

To date, the National Data Collection has not provided detailed information about children accompanying adults to SAAP services. In order to fill this gap, a special collection on accompanying children at SAAP services took place from 21 May to 30 June 1998. This report presents the findings of that collection.

1.2 Background to the Accompanying Children Collection

The Accompanying Children Collection was designed to better inform policy makers and service providers about the needs and circumstances of children in SAAP, and of the resources available and required by SAAP agencies to assist clients with children more effectively.

The subject for the special collection was chosen in response to proposals from service providers, peak organisations and program administrators. Once this decision was made, the Data and Research Advisory Committee (DRAC) formally sought comments and suggestions from the peak organisations, providing a list of possible items to be included for their consideration. Specifications for the Accompanying Children Collection were subsequently provided to the National Data Collection Agency (NDCA) by the DRAC and the data collection form was designed in consultation with the DRAC children's working group. This group included two SAAP service provider representatives.

The collection was then trialed with a number of SAAP agencies in Victoria and New South Wales and the child form was substantially revised in response to feedback from those agencies.

1.3 The Accompanying Children Collection

The Accompanying Children Collection is comprised of two distinct components: the Accompanying Child Form; and the Accompanying Children Agency Profile.

The Accompanying Child Form provided information related to children. Each form represents an accompanying child who obtained support, accommodation or assistance from a SAAP agency during the collection period. Part A provides a discussion of data items collected, including demographics of the accompanying children—their age, gender and family composition; information about issues and circumstances the children had experienced; and the type of support they required, and were provided with by the agencies.

The agency profile form provided details of resources, facilities, and staffing levels and expertise available at SAAP-funded agencies for children in homeless and crisis situations. Part B is dedicated to the discussion of the results from the agency profile.

1.4 Participation in the Accompanying Children Collection

In order to put the statistics in the following chapters into context, it is necessary to assess the level of participation and the distribution of accompanying children across various category types. Nationally, 1,103 SAAP agencies were considered to be 'in scope' and were provided with data forms for the Accompanying Children Collection. 'In scope' agencies were those that indicated that they had had at least one accompanying child attend their agency according to the NDCA database records for the previous calendar year (not necessarily during the collection period). It did not include high-volume agencies due to the difficulty in collecting detailed data from highly transient populations. Six hundred and three (603) out of a possible 1,103 agencies Australia-wide responded to the Accompanying Children Collection in 1998. This was a participation rate of 55% which is low compared to the 95% participation rate currently (1998–1999) being achieved for the general Client Collection. However, it is possible that some of the agencies that did not respond did not have accompanying children during the collection period, therefore obscuring the true extent of non-participation. Of the 603, one hundred and eighty (180) only returned a form stating that they had not had any accompanying children attend their agency during the collection period or had chosen not to take part in the collection for various reasons as outlined in the paragraph below. As such, 423 agencies returned information to the NDCA on accompanying children out of the possible 1,103 in-scope agencies.

Full participation in the Accompanying Children Collection was affected by a number of factors including:

- the timing of the collection;
- concern from some members in the field about the appropriateness of the collection; and
- a large number of agencies without accompanying children.

Of the reasons given by the 180 agencies who did not provide information on the returned forms, 89 had not dealt with any accompanying children during 21 May–30 June 1998; 39 agencies were not in the target group or did not accept children; 15 agencies described their services as relating to youth aged 12–18 years and therefore did not provide services for accompanying children; nine agencies cited concerns about legal implications of releasing information; five agencies offered a number of other reasons including those relating to staffing arrangements; and 23 agencies provided no reasons for not completing child forms. Overall, 143 out of 180 agencies did not provide information in their

forms as they did not have any accompanying children during the Collection period.

The following is a brief discussion of the participation rates for a number of key categories, based on the detailed statistics contained in Table 1.1. These categories are used to describe key areas in the provision of SAAP services based on:

- State and Territory;
- location of agency;
- primary target group of agency; and
- service delivery model of agency.

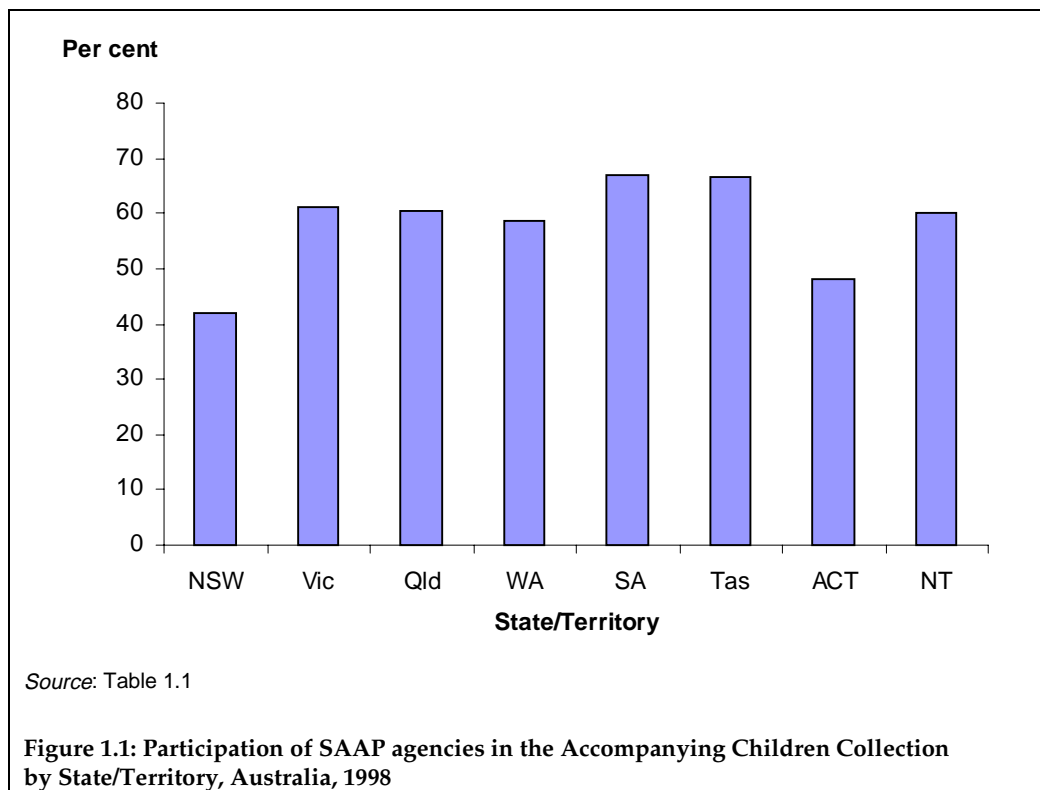
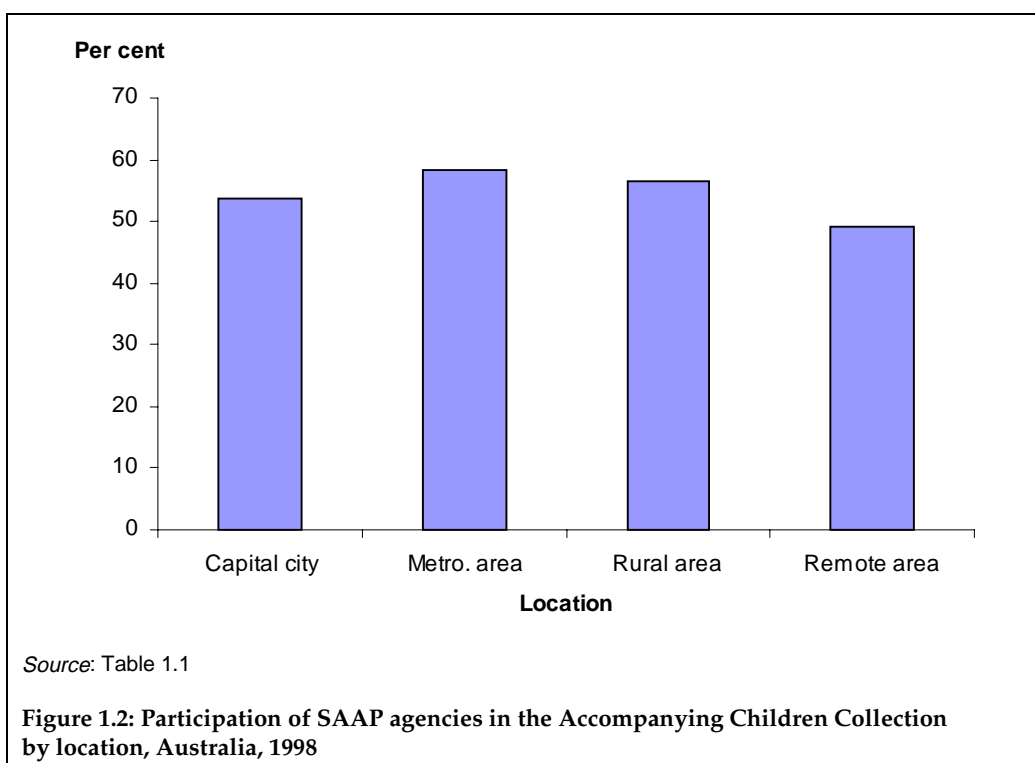
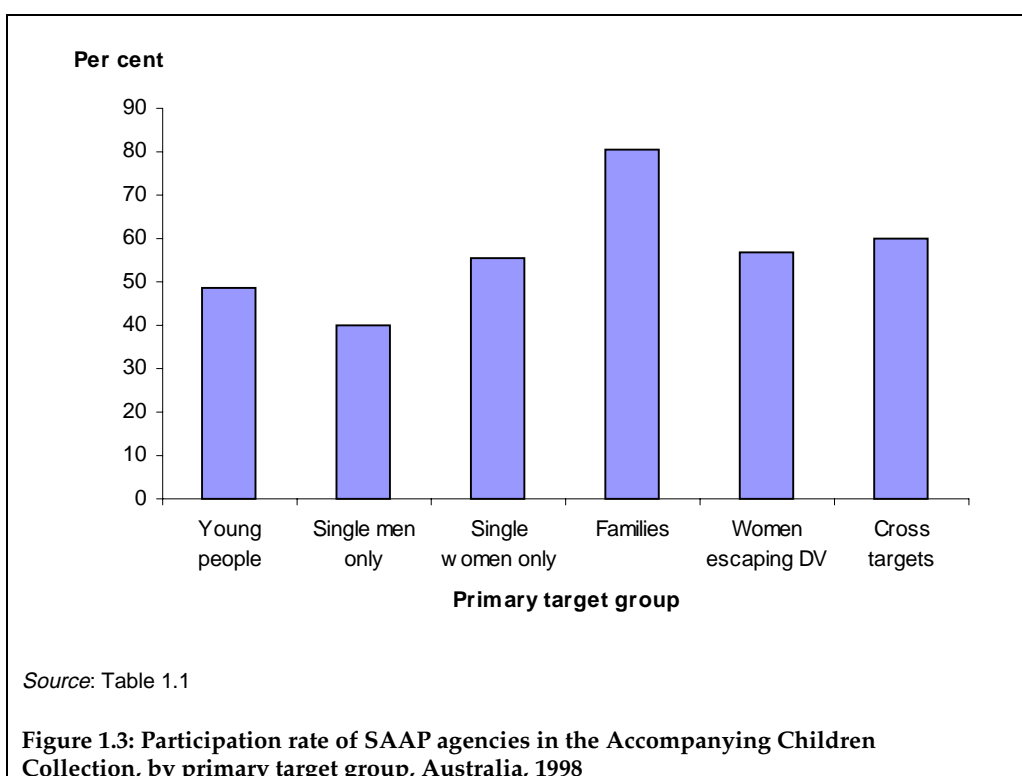


Figure 1.1 shows that participation rates across the States and Territories varied quite significantly. The highest rate of participation was 67% in South Australia and Tasmania, the lowest was 42% in New South Wales. The actual number of forms returned also varied quite significantly, from 3,182 forms from Victoria, to 183 in the Australian Capital Territory. In total 8,827 forms were returned to the National Data Collection Agency (refer to Table 1.1 for greater detail). Due to these variations in participation rates and counts, comparisons of one State to another are difficult and, in some instances, misleading. For example, because Victoria returned the greatest number of forms, turning this into a percentage of the total number of forms returned will always suggest that Victoria had a higher percentage of occurrences of support to accompanying children compared to other States and Territories. This, however, may not be the case. Hence, examining distributions across States and Territories will be avoided within the report. Comparisons of distributions within jurisdictions, however, can be made.

In terms of location, the majority of 'in scope' agencies were located in capital cities (56%) or rural areas (31%), as opposed to other metropolitan (8%) and remote (5%) areas. However, approximately only half of the total number of 'in scope' agencies in each location participated in the collection as can be seen in Figure 1.2.

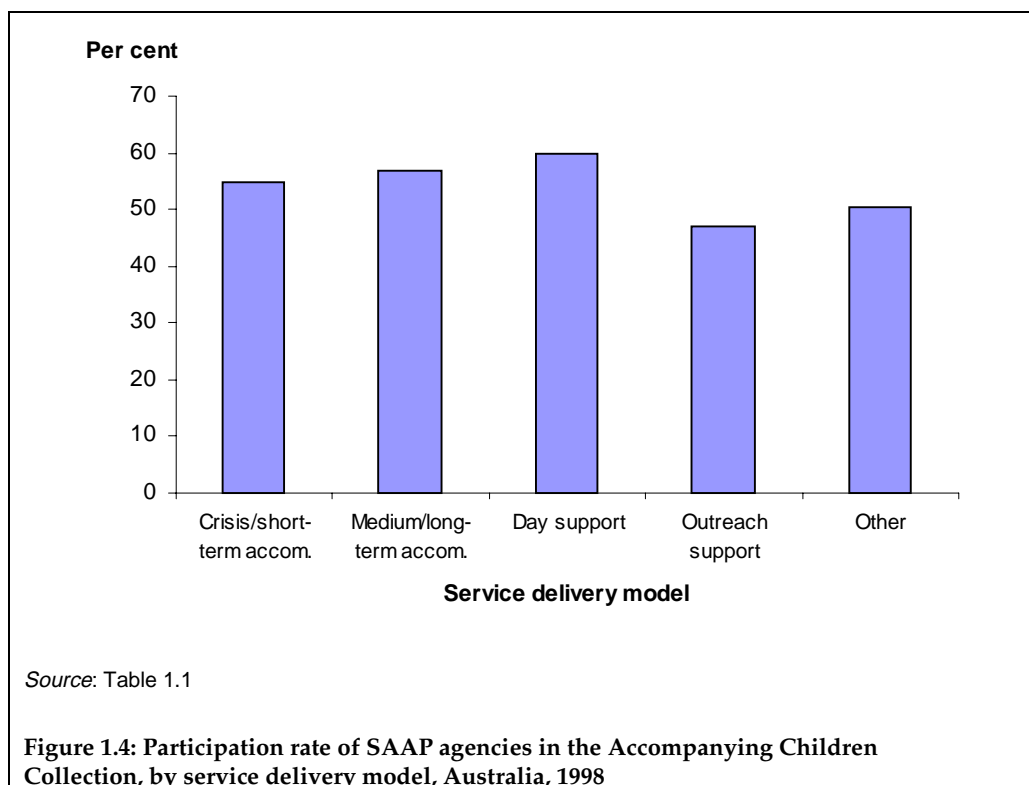


Of the six primary target groups, the biggest potential 'in scope' populations amongst the agencies targeted their services to young people (38%), women escaping domestic violence (22%) and those with cross target, multiple target or general client groups (18%) (Table 1.1).



As expected, the highest participation rate amongst the primary target groups came from those agencies targeting families, where 81% (2,120 forms returned) of such agencies participated. Participation from all other primary target groups ranged from the lowest of 40% (95 forms returned) at single men-only agencies to 60% (2,001 forms returned) participation at cross target, multiple target and general client groups (Figure 1.3).

Looking at the service delivery model classification, the majority of 'in-scope' agencies provided either crisis or short-term accommodation (36%) or medium- to long-term accommodation (49%). Only 1% of in-scope agencies provided day support services. They recorded the highest participation rate of all the service delivery models (60%). For the remaining service models, participation ranged from 47% for outreach services to 57% participation for medium- to long-term service providers (Figure 1.4).



1.5 Completeness of data

In assessing the quality of data in any collection, it is important to consider not only participation rates but also accuracy in filling out data collection forms and the degree to which the forms returned are complete. All data collections and surveys invariably have some 'missing data' which may not undermine the validity or reliability of information obtained; however, high levels of non-response to particular questions mean that some caution should be taken when interpreting data. Further, in some cases significant errors in filling out accompanying child forms were made so that these forms were discarded and not entered onto the database.

In this context it should be noted that the protocols established for the National Data Collection and the Accompanying Children Collection require that 'SAAP clients provide information in a climate of informed consent...' (SAAP 1996). If

consent is not obtained, only a limited number of questions may be completed on data collection forms therefore affecting the degree of representativeness of the data. Hence, consent is one of the variables that affects the proportion of missing data, reference to which can be seen often footnoted at the bottom of tables. For the Accompanying Children Collection, consent could be obtained from either the child or their parent or guardian. On average the national consent level was 71%. Some variation in consent can be seen across the States and Territories, ranging from 64% in the Northern Territory to 78% in South Australia. A more significant variance in the level of consent can be seen by location, primary target group and service delivery model. In terms of location, more accompanying children in other metropolitan (80%) and rural areas (75%) provided consent for details of their support period to be recorded than in capital cities (69%) and remote areas (60%). Whilst in most primary target groups accompanying children provided consent between 70% to 75% of the time, those attending agencies targeting single women only provided consent in 51% of cases. Those who received day support under the SAAP only gave consent 55% of the time.

During consulting on the design of the data collection a small number of agencies expressed concern about the intrusive nature of Question 12 on the Accompanying Child Form. This question asked agencies to indicate issues that accompanying children may have been dealing with at the commencement of support or at any time during the support period. Because of this concern, the DRAC agreed that response to this question was optional. Only in 4% of the forms was this question considered to be inappropriate with the participating agencies indicating that they had either opted not to answer it, or did not want their responses to that question entered onto the database. All agencies that participated in the collection in South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory completed Question 12. There were low levels of non-completion of Question 12 in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales (1%), Queensland (4%) and Western Australia (3%). Agencies in Victoria recorded the highest proportion of non-completion of this question (7%), compared to the national average of 4%. Across target groups, figures reported by agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence and single women showed non-response rates of 10% and 4% respectively. Among service delivery models, other service agencies and crisis or short-term accommodation agencies showed non-response rates of 10% and 6% respectively.

1.6 Interpretation of analyses

As well as participation rates and the completeness of the data, accurate interpretation of the analyses presented here requires an understanding of the particular definitions of concepts and terms used in the National Data Collection. A glossary of terms has been included at the beginning of this report, and important information about the measurement of concepts and the counting rules used in the analyses contained in this report is presented in Appendix A. The Accompanying Children Collection collectors' manual contains additional useful information for the use and interpretation of the data presented here.

1.7 Structure and content of the report

This report summarises the information collected from SAAP agencies, between 21 May and 30 June 1998, about the children accompanying clients at their agency. Data contained in the tables and figures describe the background and circumstances of accompanying children along with details of the services and support that they accessed.

The report is comprised of four chapters. Following this introductory chapter, an analysis of accompanying children's demographics and family composition is presented in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 provides information about various facets of accompanying children's lives when they sought SAAP agency help. Included in Chapter 3 is information relating to their usual living situation, homes and schools. Chapter 4 is divided into two sections. The first part outlines the assistance measures accessed by accompanying children along with their amenability to support plans and case management strategies. As well, information on duration of support periods is given. The latter part of Chapter 4 examines instances when accompanying children were unable to obtain a number of SAAP support services or assistance measures (unmet demand). Chapter 5 examines the results from the agency profile. Detailed tables follow the discussion in each chapter and the appendices contain the counting rules used in this report, as well as a copy of the Accompanying Child Form and agency profile.

1.8 Detailed tables

Table 1.1: Accompanying Children Collection, completeness of the data, Australia

	Number of 'in scope' agencies	Number of agencies that responded	Participation rate (%)	Number of accompanying child forms	Consent (%)	Question 12 not completed (%)
State/Territory						
New South Wales	373	157	42.1	1,198	70.7	0.7
Victoria	289	177	61.2	3,182	70.8	7.4
Queensland	177	107	60.5	1,731	69.6	4.2
Western Australia	97	57	58.8	920	71.0	3.2
South Australia	70	47	67.1	1,066	78.5	0.0
Tasmania	39	26	66.7	220	74.5	0.0
Australian Capital Territory	29	14	48.3	183	68.3	0.5
Northern Territory	30	18	60.0	326	64.4	0.0
Location						
Capital city	623	334	53.6	5,239	69.7	6.1
Other metropolitan area	79	46	58.2	423	80.1	1.4
Rural area	344	195	56.5	2,743	74.8	0.1
Remote area	57	28	49.1	422	60.7	4.7
Primary target group						
Young people	422	205	48.6	922	75.6	0.3
Single men only	100	40	40.0	95	75.8	0.0
Single women only	45	25	55.6	186	51.6	4.3
Families	92	75	80.6	2,120	73.5	0.0
Women escaping DV	247	140	56.7	3,503	70.3	9.6
Cross target/multiple/general	197	118	59.9	2,001	70.5	0.0
Service delivery model						
Crisis/short-term accommodation	402	220	54.7	3,483	71.8	5.5
Medium/long-term accommodation	454	258	56.8	3,749	70.9	1.1
Day support	15	9	60.0	163	55.2	0.0
Outreach support	49	23	46.9	315	67.6	1.0
Other	183	93	50.5	1,117	74.4	9.8
Total	1,103	603	54.6	8,827	71.3	3.9

Notes

1. Based on forms returned from agencies 'in scope' for the Accompanying Children Collection in 1998.
2. 'Agencies' refers to the number of agencies that should have been participating in the reference period.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

PART A

Accompanying Children

2 Characteristics of accompanying children

The aim of the Accompanying Children Collection was to provide information to SAAP agencies, peak organisations and policy makers regarding the circumstances surrounding the lives of children (under 18 years of age) who accompany a parent or guardian requiring assistance from a SAAP agency. Accompanying children of clients at SAAP agencies may receive support on more than one occasion—either from the same SAAP agency or from different SAAP agencies. Each occasion of support is defined as a support period, which may be as short as one hour’s duration or may extend over several years (see glossary at the beginning of this report).

This chapter builds upon the context set in Chapter 1, focusing on the demographic characteristics of accompanying children in areas such as gender, age and family structure.

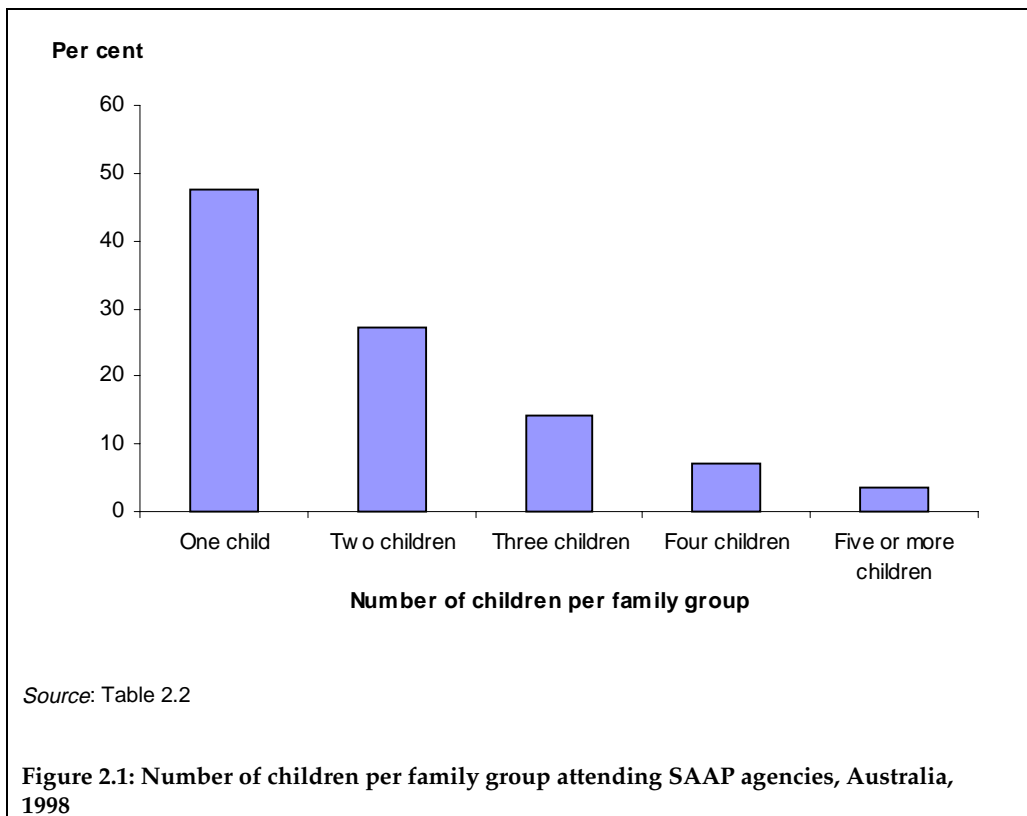
2.1 Background of accompanying children

2.1.1 Family structure

The structures of families from which the accompanying children have come vary considerably between types of agencies. This is expected because agencies have different target groups and the basis for targeting, in many cases, is related to family types. SAAP agencies have six primary target groups: young people; single men; single women; families; women escaping domestic violence; and cross target, multiple target and general client groups.

Participation rates and data counts varied significantly amongst States and Territories and across target groups. Table 2.1 shows that in some States there were no instances of accompanying children having attended certain primary target group agencies, i.e. data on accompanying children attending single women-only agencies were only returned from agencies in New South Wales and Victoria.

Forty-eight per cent of accompanying children across Australia came from one-child families (Figure 2.1). As anticipated, the proportion of the total number decreases with the addition of each child. For example, 27% of accompanying children came from two-child families, 14% from three-child families, 8% from four-child families and 4% from five-child families. Compared to the national average (of 27%), more Tasmanian children came from two-child families (34%), whilst more children living in the Australian Capital Territory came from three-child families (20% as opposed to 14%) (Table 2.2).



In other metropolitan areas the majority of accompanying children came from one child families (58%), much more so than in other locations. Three- (16%) and four-child (9%) families were most common in rural areas, whereas the greatest number of five-child families were situated in remote areas of Australia (8%) (Table 2.3).

Table 2.4 shows that a high proportion (74%) of accompanying children in agencies targeting young people came from one-child families. Agencies targeting single women or single men also show high proportions (67% and 68% respectively) of children from one-child families, compared with the national average of 48%. Although agencies targeting families show a higher than average proportion of children from families of two or more children (56%), it is agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence that recorded the highest proportion (59%) of children from such families.

Family groups also differ between service delivery models. Whilst an average 48% of all children came from one child families, the proportion who attended agencies providing day support, outreach accommodation or 'other' accommodation were higher, ranging from 53% to 58%. Greater proportions of accompanying children in crisis or short-term and medium- to long-term assistance were from two child families than in other service delivery models, whereas accompanying children from families of three or more children were more or less equally represented in any of the various service delivery model types (Table 2.5).

Tables 2.2 to 2.5 suggest that accompanying children who attended agencies targeting young people, single men and single women were more likely to be from one-child families, and were more likely to receive day support or outreach services, whereas accompanying children who attend agencies targeting families, women escaping domestic violence and those with cross

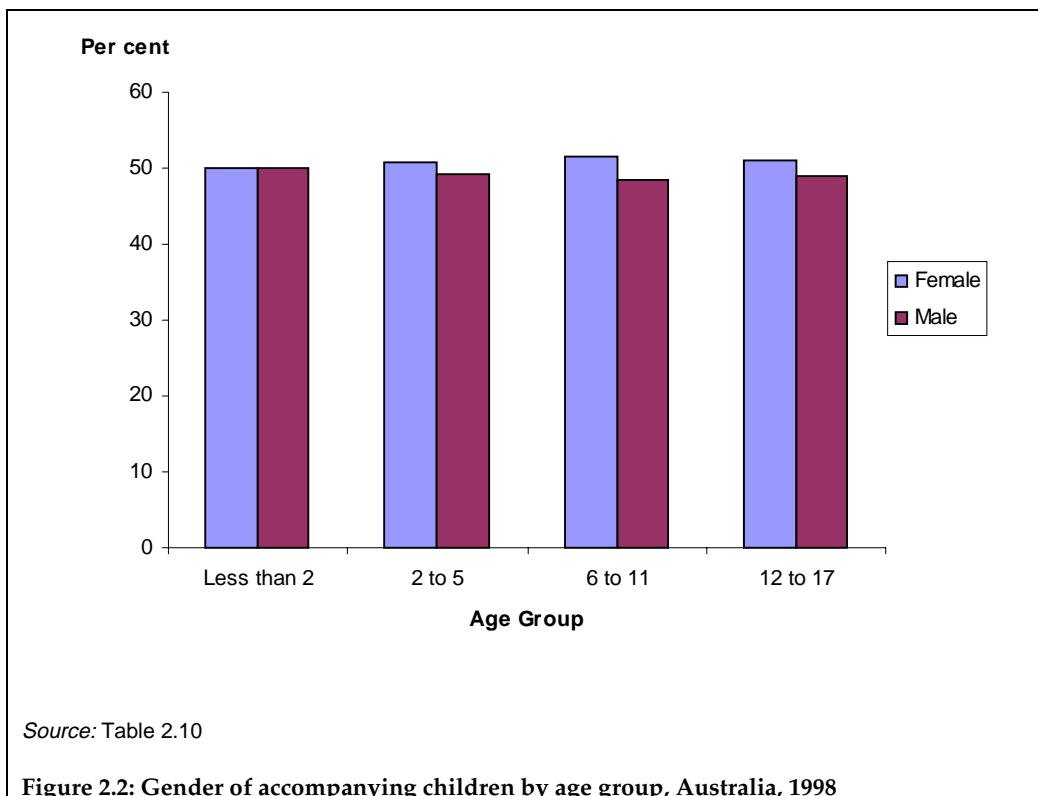
target, multiple target and general client groups were more likely to be part of a family with two or more children, and require short-term to medium-term crisis accommodation.

2.1.2 Demographic details

The majority of accompanying children across Australia were less than six years of age (54%), where proportionately two- to five-year olds presented to SAAP agencies most frequently (in 35% of cases). Twelve- to seventeen-year-olds presented least frequently (in only 14% of cases) around the country (Table 2.6).

Some variation from the national average can be seen on a State by State basis (Table 2.6). For example, the 12- to 17-year-old age group presented to SAAP agencies most frequently in the Northern Territory (in 23% of cases). A variation from the national average can also be observed in the Tasmanian accompanying children population compared to the rest of Australia, where nearly half (49%) of all children who present in SAAP agencies were aged between two and five years (compared to 35% nationally).

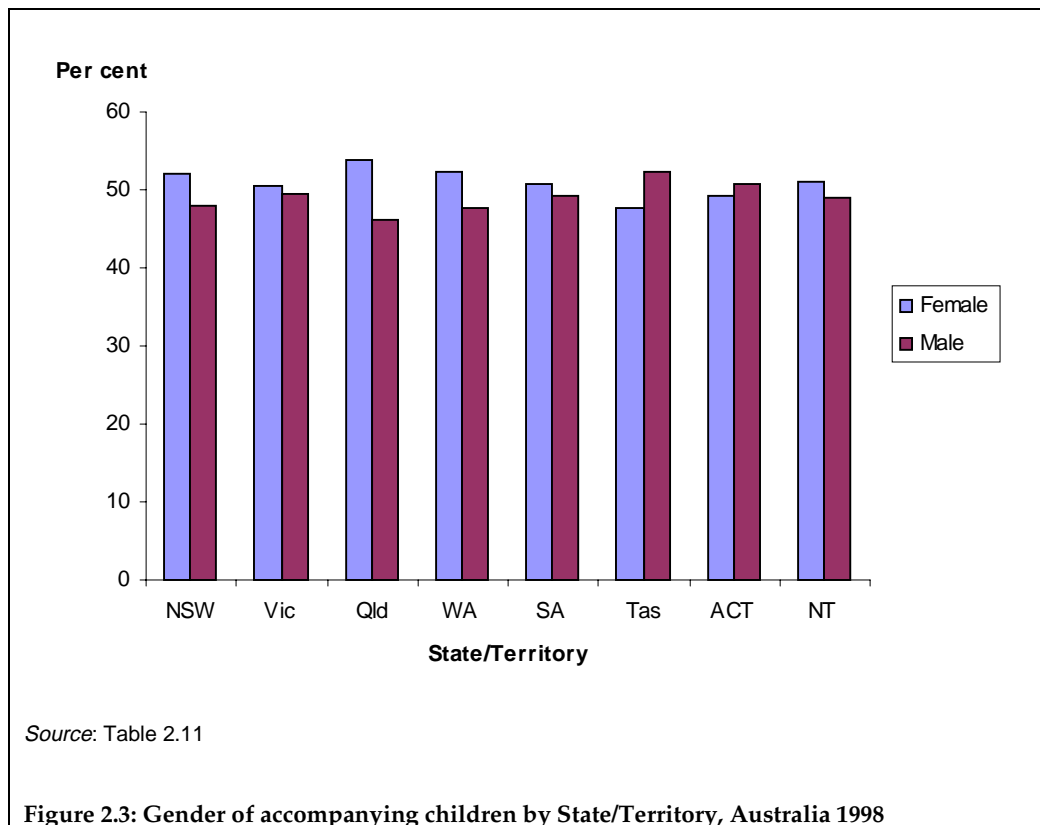
Some interesting variations in the age groups of accompanying children can also be seen when comparing across locations (Table 2.6). There were proportionately more children aged less than two years presenting to agencies in other metropolitan areas (27%), whereas children were more likely to be aged 12 to 17 in rural areas (16%) than in other areas.



Clients at agencies targeting young people and single women tended to have younger accompanying children than those attending agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence and families. Forty per cent of children who attended agencies targeting young people were aged less than two years. This compares with children who presented to agencies targeting women escaping

domestic violence, 39% of whom were aged six to 11 years. The most frequently presenting age group was two to five-year-olds for agencies whose primary target group was either single males, single females, families or women escaping domestic violence (Table 2.8). Children assisted by day support agencies were younger than children assisted by other agencies: 26% of them were under two years of age; 39% were aged two to five years. This compares to 20% and 35% respectively for all children (Table 2.9).

The sex ratio amongst accompanying children is almost fifty-fifty across all age groups (Figure 2.2), with slightly more females (51%) than males (49%). Of interest in the data on sex of accompanying children is the breakdown by State in Figure 2.3. Here it can be seen that New South Wales, Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia had higher numbers of females, whereas Tasmania and the ACT had higher numbers of male accompanying children. Further to this, it is worth noting that whereas capital cities and other metropolitan areas had fairly even numbers of females and males, rural and remote areas had higher numbers of female accompanying children (Table 2.11).



2.2 Detailed tables

2.2.1 Background of accompanying children

Table 2.1: Accompanying children, type of primary target group accompanying children attended in each State and Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

Primary target group	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia	Total number
Young people	12.9	6.9	18.0	4.9	7.9	13.6	12.6	16.6	10.4	922
Single men only	1.7	1.4	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	1.0	95
Single women only	7.6	2.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	186
Families	30.6	16.6	27.3	32.3	34.1	16.8	24.0	4.3	24.0	2,120
Women escaping DV	30.7	39.7	34.3	56.0	43.5	53.6	62.3	20.3	39.7	3,503
Cross/multiple/general target	16.4	32.5	18.7	7.0	14.5	15.0	1.1	58.6	22.6	2,001
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Based on forms returned from agencies 'in scope' for the Accompanying Children Collection 1998.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.2: Number of children by family group size by State or Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

Family group size	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia	Total number
One child	53.5	48.1	44.7	42.1	51.0	46.7	41.9	42.8	47.7	2,187
Two children	26.7	27.0	27.9	27.7	25.3	33.8	30.1	27.9	27.3	1,252
Three children	10.4	16.1	15.6	12.4	11.8	14.5	20.4	12.3	14.2	654
Four Children	6.7	5.8	7.9	10.3	7.8	4.8	4.3	11.6	7.1	328
Five or more Children	2.5	2.8	3.6	7.2	3.9	0.0	3.2	5.1	3.5	161
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	4,580

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.3: Number of children by family group size by location, Australia 1998 (%)

Family group size	Other metro.				Australia	Total number
	Capital city	Area	Rural area	Remote area		
One child	48.9	57.8	43.2	48.0	47.7	2,187
Two children	27.3	25.9	27.9	24.5	27.3	1,252
Three children	14.0	9.8	15.6	13.4	14.2	654
Four children	6.7	4.7	8.6	6.2	7.1	328
Five or more children	2.9	1.5	4.4	7.6	3.5	161
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	4,580

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.4: Number of children by family group size by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

Family group size	Young people	Single women only	Single men only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross/multiple/general targets	Australia	Total number
Two children	16.1	19.6	19.0	28.1	31.5	27.8	27.3	1,251
Three children	5.8	8.2	7.4	14.3	17.0	15.9	14.2	653
Four children	2.7	1.6	3.3	8.9	7.0	9.1	7.1	328
Five or more Children	1.23	3.2	2.4	4.6	3.5	4.0	3.5	161
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	4,580

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.5: Number of children by family group size by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

Family group size	Crisis/ short-term	Medium/ long-term	Day support	Outreach	Other	Australia	Total number
One child	43.9	47.4	58.2	52.9	56.6	47.7	2,187
Two children	30.4	26.9	19.7	22.0	22.1	27.3	1,251
Three children	15.0	14.6	15.3	12.5	11.3	14.2	653
Four children	7.3	7.1	2.2	9.5	6.8	7.1	328
Five or more Children	3.2	3.9	4.4	2.9	3.0	3.5	161
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	4,580

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.6: Accompanying children, age of children by State/Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

State/Territory	Less than 2 years	2–5 years	6–11 years	12–17 years	<i>Total</i>
NSW	24.3	35.5	27.6	12.6	<i>100</i>
Vic	20.1	35.4	30.4	14.0	<i>100</i>
Qld	15.4	35.1	34.6	14.8	<i>100</i>
WA	20.6	28.7	39.4	11.4	<i>100</i>
SA	17.1	32.9	33.1	17.0	<i>100</i>
Tas	20.4	48.8	22.8	8.0	<i>100</i>
ACT	21.0	35.5	36.3	7.4	<i>100</i>
NT	13.5	30.0	33.3	23.2	<i>100</i>
Australia	19.0	35.2	32.2	13.5	<i>100</i>
Total number	1,194	2,142	1,996	876	6,208

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 3
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,616
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.7: Accompanying children, by age and geographical location, Australia 1998 (%)

Location	Less than 2 years	2–5 years	6–11 years	12–17 years	Total
Capital city	19.3	34.5	32.6	13.5	100
Other metropolitan area	27.2	34.6	25.7	12.4	100
Rural area	17.4	34.6	32.2	15.5	100
Remote area	21.6	32.9	32.1	13.2	100
Australia	21.4	34.1	30.7	13.6	100
Total number	1,194	2,142	1,996	876	6,208

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 3
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,616
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.8: Accompanying children, age of accompanying children by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

Primary target group	Less than 2 years	2–5 years	6–11 years	12–17 years	Total
Young people	39.5	38.5	13.9	7.9	100
Single men only	20.8	41.6	30.5	6.9	100
Single women only	28.7	34.0	24.4	12.7	100
Families	15.3	34.3	34.2	16.0	100
Women escaping DV	16.6	36.3	35.6	11.4	100
Cross target/multiple/ general	17.3	29.1	33.2	20.2	100
Australia	19.5	33.4	31.9	15.1	100
Total number	1,194	2,142	1,996	876	6,208

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 3
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,616
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.9: Accompanying children, age of accompanying children by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

Service delivery model	Less than 2 years	2–5 years	6–11 years	12–17 years	<i>Total</i>
Crisis/short-term accommodation	18.4	35.0	34.1	12.3	100
Medium/long-term accommodation	18.8	34.4	31.2	15.6	100
Day support	25.5	38.8	27.7	7.7	100
Outreach support	15.0	32.3	33.8	18.7	100
Other	23.4	33.2	29.1	14.1	100
Australia	20.2	34.7	31.2	13.7	100
Total number	1,194	2,142	1,996	876	6,208

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 3
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,616
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.10: Accompanying children, age of accompanying children by gender, Australia 1998 (%)

Age	Female	Male	<i>Total</i>
Less than two	49.9	50.1	100
Two to five	50.7	49.3	100
Six to 11	51.5	48.5	100
12 to 17	51.0	49.0	100
Australia	<i>50.8</i>	<i>49.2</i>	100
Total number	3,142	3,012	6,154

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,673
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 2.11: Accompanying children, gender of accompanying children by State and Territory, location, primary target group and service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

	Female	Male	Total
State/Territory			
New South Wales	51.9	50.5	100
Victoria	50.5	49.4	100
Queensland	53.8	46.2	100
Western Australia	50.8	49.1	100
South Australia	50.8	49.1	100
Tasmania	47.7	52.2	100
Australian Capital Territory	49.1	50.8	100
Northern Territory	51.0	48.9	100
Location			
Capital city	50.6	49.4	100
Other metropolitan area	50.1	49.8	100
Rural area	52.9	47.0	100
Remote area	54.8	45.1	100
Primary target group			
Young people	53.7	46.2	100
Single men only	54.8	45.1	100
Single women only	57.5	42.5	100
Families	48.8	51.1	100
Women escaping DV	52.4	47.5	100
Cross target/multiple/general	51.0	48.9	100
Service delivery model			
Crisis/short-term accommodation	52.3	47.6	100
Medium/long-term accommodation	50.5	49.4	100
Day support	52.0	47.9	100
Outreach support	51.1	48.8	100
Other	52.3	47.6	100
Australia	<i>51.5</i>	<i>48.5</i>	<i>100</i>
Total number	4,450	4,188	8,638

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 8
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 181
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

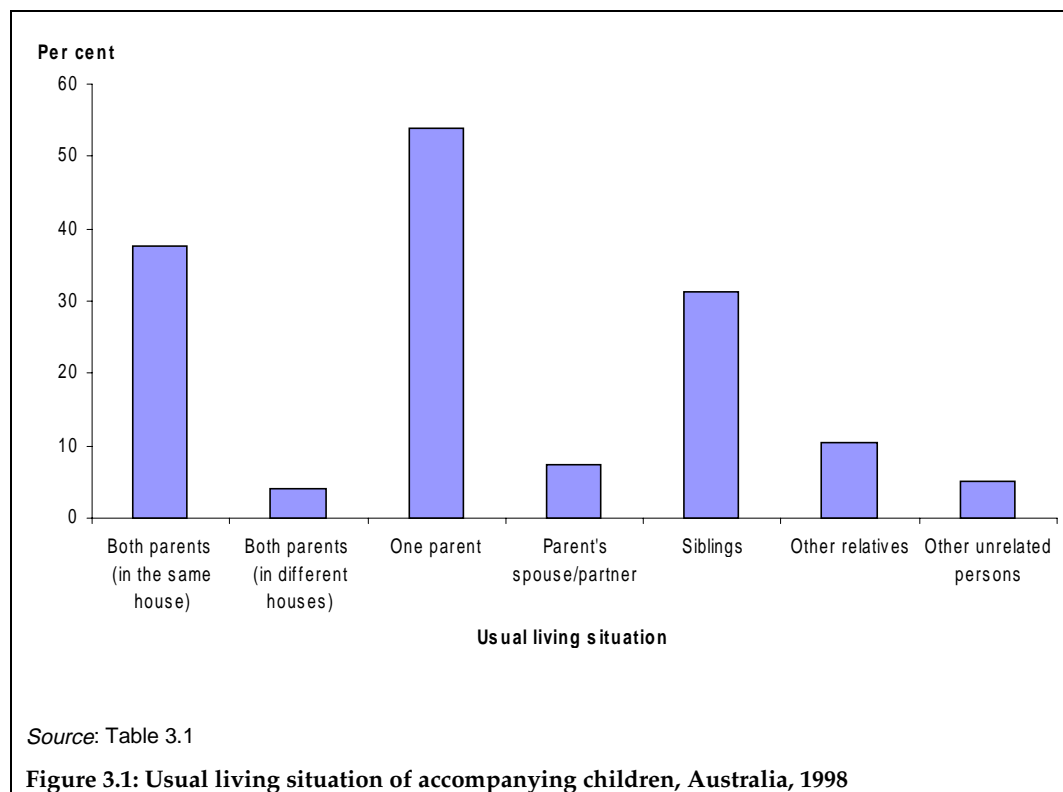
Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

3 Circumstances of accompanying children

The previous chapter focused on the demographic characteristics of individual accompanying children. This chapter discusses the circumstances of accompanying children prior to and during their support periods, including their living arrangements, household compositions and number of residences, and school attendance. The aim of this chapter, as in other chapters, is to pull the most salient information from the very large set of data gathered during the collection, to identify the most common circumstances for accompanying children across Australia when they attend a SAAP agency.

3.1 Usual living situation

Across the States and Territories, some differences are observed in household compositions and living situations for accompanying children who received assistance at SAAP agencies. Significantly, accompanying children resided in various combinations and blends of households, for varying periods.

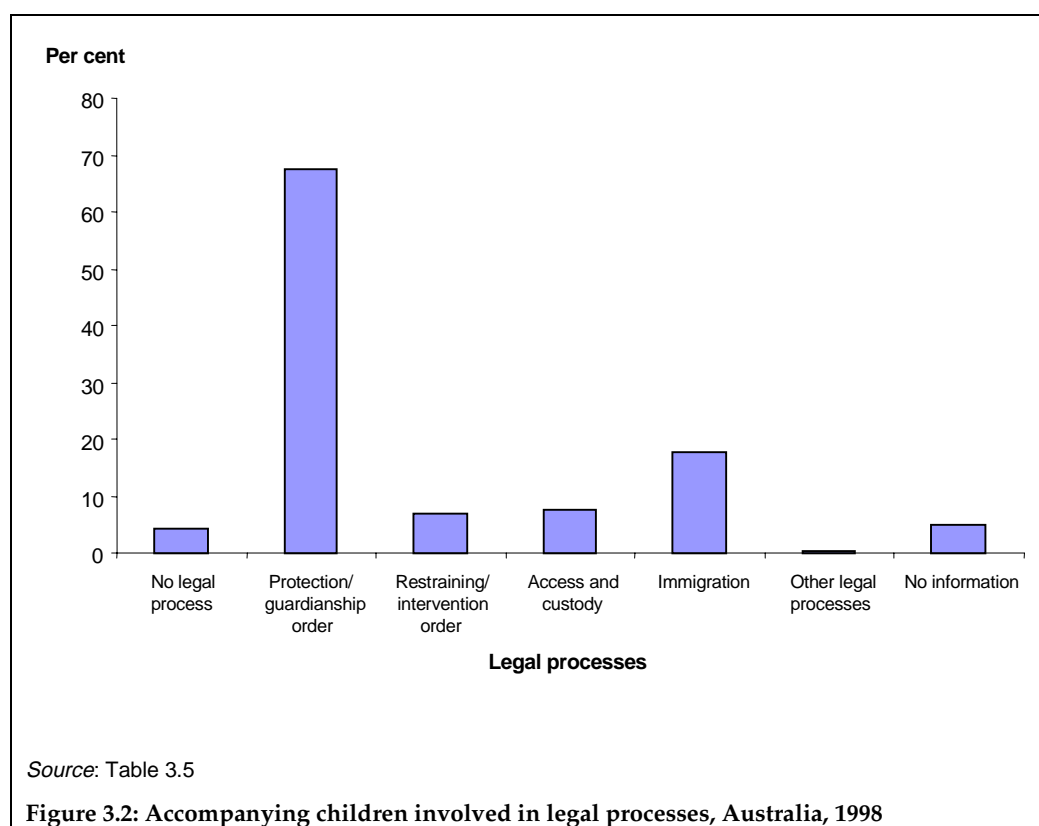


Nationally, the most common living situation for accompanying children was in single-parent households (on average in 54% of cases) (Figure 3.1). The next most frequent living situation was for accompanying children to live with both parents in the same residence (in 38% of cases). Only in Western Australia (in 47% of cases) and, in locational terms, only in remote areas of the country (in 57% of cases) was it more common for accompanying children to live in a household with both parents present than to live in a single-parent household (Tables 3.1 and 3.2). It can be seen that a significant proportion of accompanying children also lived with their siblings (30%).

Levels of need for particular service types varied according to the living situation of the accompanying children. Accompanying children who lived with both parents in the same house and/or with siblings most often sought assistance from crisis or short-term providers. Those children living with one parent most frequently sought assistance from day support agencies.

3.2 Legal processes

The majority of accompanying children's support periods at all SAAP agencies were the subject of some form of legal process (Table 3.5). These processes included protection or guardianship orders; restraining or intervention orders; access and custody; immigration; and other legal processes (refer to glossary for definitions of each legal process). It was found that the majority of accompanying children around Australia were involved in a protection or guardianship order at the time of this collection (an average of 68% of cases). This figure ranged from 81% of children in Western Australia to 45% in the Northern Territory.



Second to protection or guardianship orders were immigration matters. Eighteen per cent of support periods to accompanying children were to children who were subject to legal issues relating to immigration. SAAP agencies reported that legal issues relating to immigration matters featured prominently in Victoria and South Australia (23% each) and the Australian Capital Territory (22%), but less often in Western Australia and the Northern Territory (8% each) (Table 3.5). It can be seen that for SAAP agencies whose primary target is women escaping domestic violence, 27% of children attending those agencies were reported as being involved in legal immigration matters (much higher than the national average of 17%) (Table 3.7).

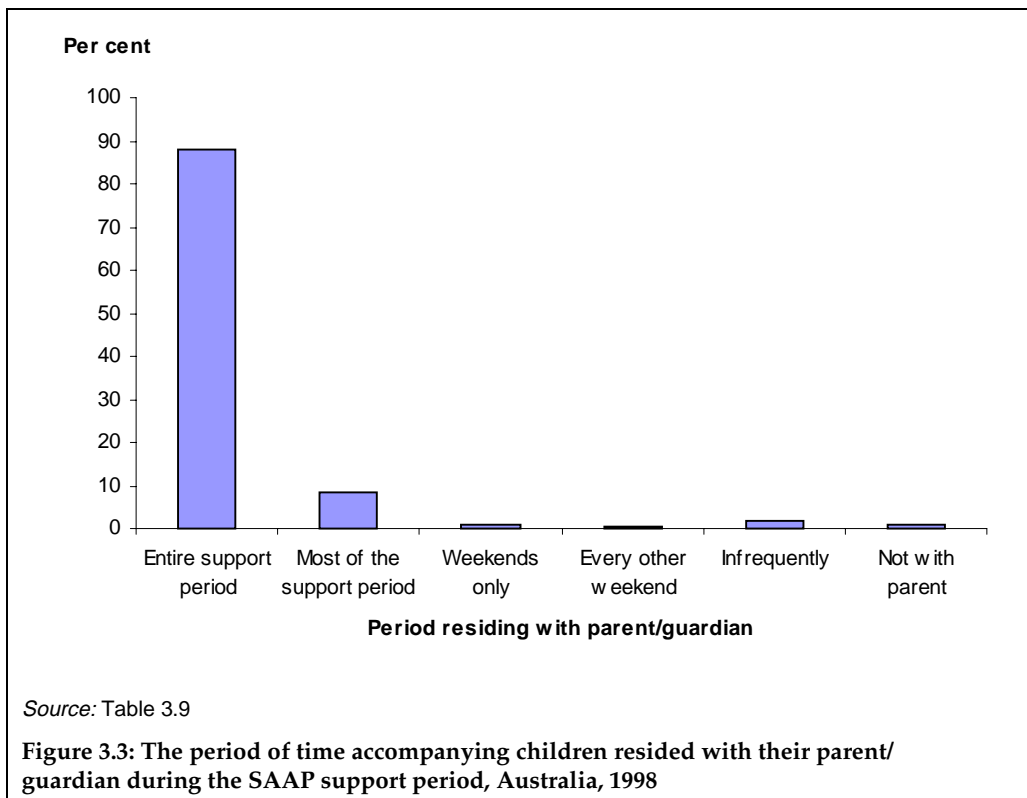
The proportion of accompanying children involved in legal processes varied across locations. Protection or guardianship orders featured more often in remote areas (85%), than other metropolitan, rural and capital city locations (70%, 69% and 65%) (Table 3.6). Accompanying children receiving SAAP support in capital city locations were the subject of immigration processes (20%) more often than other locations. There was minimal variation between locations in the frequency of restraining or intervention orders and access and custody orders.

In terms of service delivery model, day support centres most frequently reported that accompanying children were involved in protection or guardianship orders (80%). The highest level of restraining or intervention orders were encountered in medium- to long-term service providers (8%). Access and custody (10%) as well as immigration issues (19%) were most frequently encountered in crisis or short-term accommodation service providers. Outreach support centres exhibited slightly different patterns to other service models in that 25% of their clients were not involved in any sort of legal process (compared to only 4% of clients in all other models of service delivery). As well as this a significant proportion of accompanying children receiving outreach support provided no information on legal processes (16%).

3.3 Experience and recent history of children

3.3.1 Period children reside with parent or guardian during SAAP support

The younger the accompanying children, the more likely they were to reside with their parent or guardian for the entire support period (Table 3.9). Eighty to ninety per cent of children reported that they stayed with their primary care giver for the entire support period (Figure 3.3). The 12- to 17-year-old age group exhibits a slightly different pattern compared to other age groups in that fewer of them stayed with the SAAP client for the entire support period (81%), rather spending 'most' or 'infrequent' periods of time with their parents or guardians. Apart from this, there is little variation across age groups in the periods of time children reside with their parent or guardian.



3.3.2 Number of homes before assistance

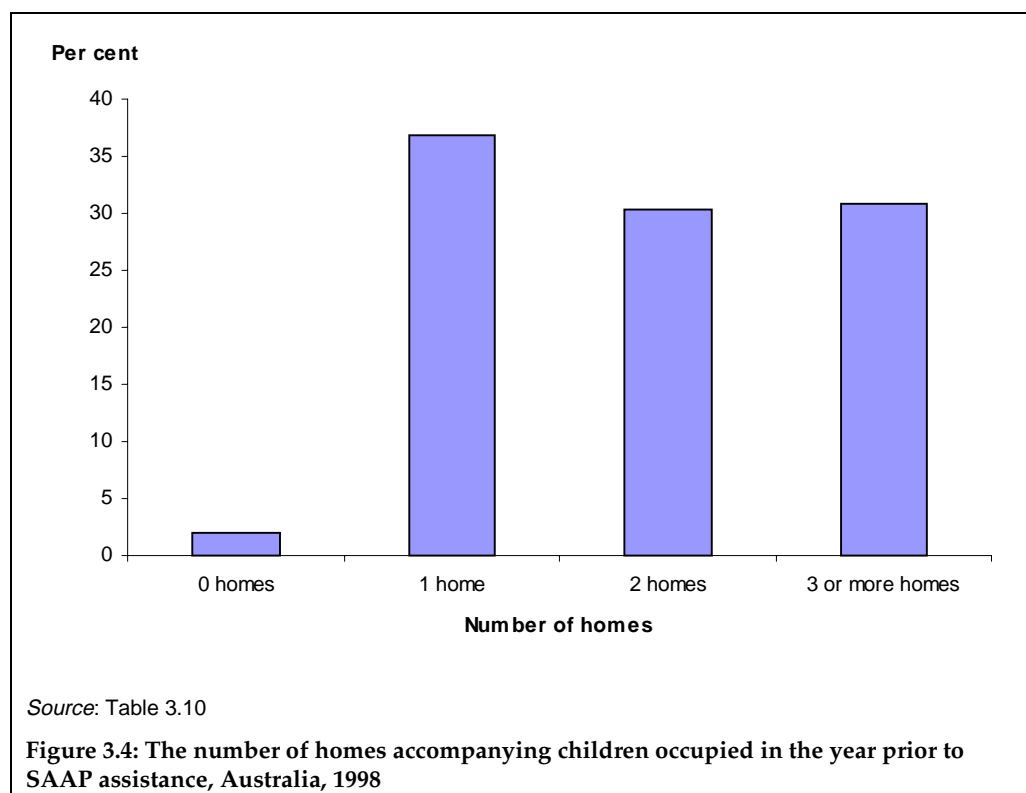
There are important variations in the number of homes lived in by accompanying children over the past year and past month prior to attending a SAAP agency. Nationally, agencies reported that 2% of accompanying children had been without a home throughout the year prior to accessing SAAP support services, ranging from 5% of cases in New South Wales to no instances of homelessness recorded in the Northern Territory (Figure 3.4 and Table 3.10).

There was considerable variation across the States and Territories in the number of homes resided in by accompanying children over the 12 months prior to receiving SAAP assistance. In Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania it was most common for accompanying children to have lived in only one home in the 12 months prior to SAAP assistance (38%, 38%, 44% and 45% of cases respectively). However, in New South Wales, South Australia, Australia Capital Territory and Northern Territory it was more common for accompanying children to have lived in three or more homes over the 12 months prior to their support period (34%, 36%, 37% and 39% of cases respectively) (Table 3.10).

Further, children living in other metropolitan areas tended to move homes most frequently. Almost 80% of those living in these metropolitan areas lived in two (39%) or three or more homes (40%) in the 12 months prior to presenting at SAAP agencies (Table 3.11).

The frequency for accompanying children to move home differs between primary target groups. Those attending single men's agencies and agencies targeting families and cross target, multiple target and general client groups moved most frequently, with 52%, 41% and 36% respectively having lived in three or more homes in the year prior to SAAP assistance (Table 3.12).

Children attending agencies that provide medium- to long-term accommodation or day support are most likely to have moved homes frequently over the 12-month period (Table 3.13).

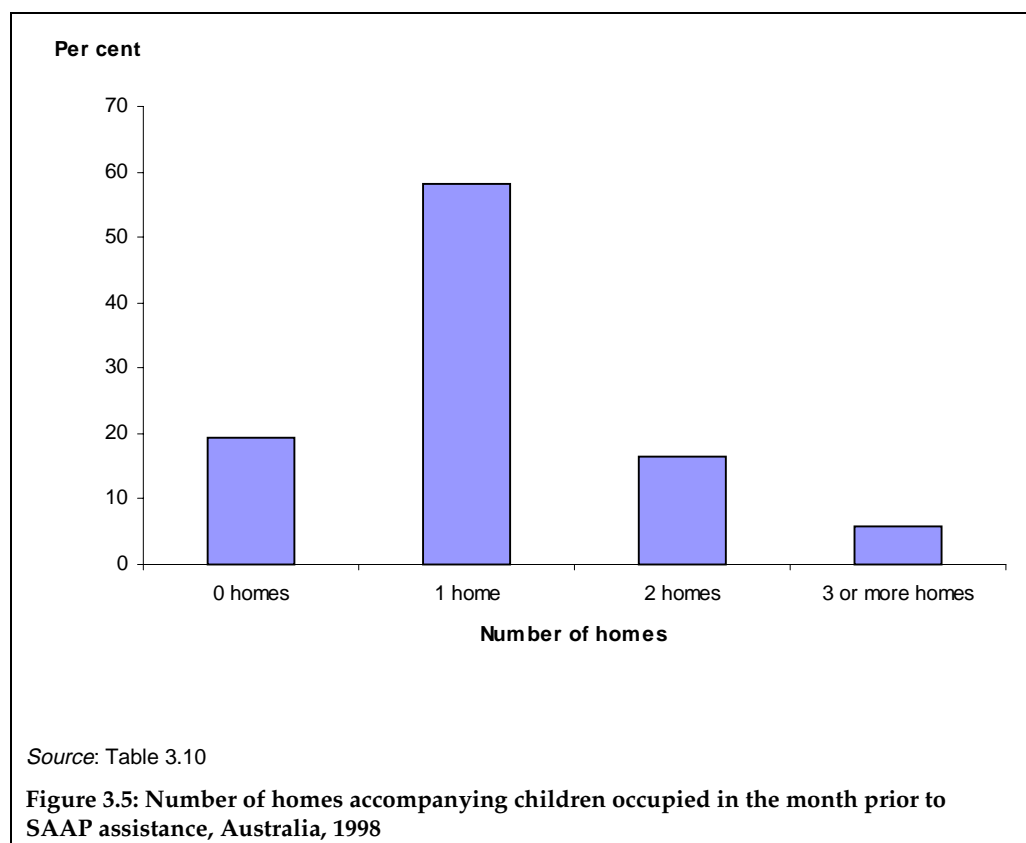


Whilst data on the number of times certain accompanying children tend to move homes show that a small proportion of children (2%) were without a home in the year prior to SAAP assistance, a slightly different pattern emerges if the data are analysed on a monthly basis. Monthly data show that a fairly significant proportion of accompanying children had not had a home in the month prior to SAAP assistance (an average of 19% of cases nationally) (Figure 3.5). In particular, in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory the level of homelessness of accompanying children in the month prior to SAAP assistance (19%) was as high as 30% of presenting cases. Across the country the majority (58%) of accompanying children had lived in one home in the month prior to attending a SAAP agency (Table 3.10).

Many accompanying children who attended agencies located in other metropolitan areas reported having been homeless in the month prior to SAAP assistance (in 33% of cases) (Table 3.11). The high rate of homelessness recorded in other metropolitan locations over the period of a month, observed in conjunction with the fact that 40% of accompanying children in such areas had three or more homes over the previous year, suggests that accompanying children in these locations had experienced homelessness on a more regular basis than those in other locations. This may indicate that accompanying children living in other metropolitan areas maintain more transient existences than those living in other areas.

It is notable that almost one-half of accompanying children were reported to be homeless in the month prior to SAAP assistance upon attending agencies targeting single women only (49%) (Table 3.12). Accompanying children

attending agencies that provided medium- to long-term (22%) and 'other' services (20%) were more likely than other accompanying children to have been without a home the month before receiving SAAP assistance (Table 3.13). Of those who attended day support agencies 34% had moved home twice in the course of the month. Most obviously though, the majority of accompanying children had lived in one home during the month prior to attending a SAAP agency (58%).



3.3.3 School attendance

The legal requirement that a child attends school is affected by the age of the child. Ninety-nine to 100% of accompanying children aged six to 13 had attended at least one school in the 12 months prior to attending a SAAP agency (Table 3.14). Further to this, 98% of 14- to 16-year-olds had attended a school in the 12 months prior to support. Slightly fewer (93%) 17-year-olds who presented to an agency as an accompanying child reported having attended at least one school in the prior 12 months.

Of the younger children, a large proportion of four and five year olds (89% and 95% respectively) were reported to have attended a school (including preschool) in the 12 months before SAAP support. Of children aged less than four years, where it was reported that they had attended a school in the 12 months previous to SAAP support, it can be assumed that preschool refers to any form of kindergarten or childcare that the child had been placed in. Forty-eight per cent of three-year-olds, 23% of two-year-olds, 5% of one-year olds and 4% of children aged less than one had attended some form of preschool in the 12 months prior to SAAP support.

3.3.4 Issues at the commencement of or during support

SAAP agencies reported that a significant number of social, relationship and health issues were experienced or witnessed by accompanying children either at the commencement of or during SAAP support periods (Table 3.15).

Nationally, a substantial number of accompanying children (67%) witnessed domestic violence with the highest figures reported by SAAP agencies in South Australia (79%) and the Australian Capital Territory (72%), and the lowest noted in the Northern Territory (40%) (Table 3.15). Accompanying children who had experienced sexual abuse were, in most States and Territories, close to the national average (5%). Similarly, figures of accompanying children who had experienced physical abuse aligned closely with the national average of 16%, except for South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory where agencies registered higher proportions (27% and 20% respectively). Physical abuse applied to only 8% of SAAP support periods in the Northern Territory.

Across Australia, SAAP agencies reported that accompanying children experienced emotional abuse or neglect; crisis, trauma or grief; behavioural issues; and health problems such as anxiety in 32%, 32%, 31% and 27% of cases respectively. South Australian agencies reported that in almost half of all support periods accompanying children had experienced emotional abuse or neglect (48%) while in the Australian Capital Territory crisis, trauma or grief featured prominently (65% of cases). Nationally, the least reported issues for accompanying children were sexual abuse (5%), eating disorder or dietary issues (4%), intellectual disability (3%), child substance abuse (2%), physical and sensory disabilities (2% each), child psychiatric illness and pregnancy (1% each).

Anxiety was most frequently an issue for accompanying children who presented at agencies in the Australian Capital Territory (41%), the Northern Territory (32%) and South Australia (30%) and depression was recorded more frequently in the Northern Territory (20%), South Australia (16%), the Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania (13% each)—the national figures were 27% for anxiety and 11% for depression. Substance abuse of the parent or guardian (31%) and ongoing medical or health conditions (21%) featured most often in Tasmania and least often in the Northern Territory (8% and 10% respectively).

Agencies in rural areas reported that accompanying children had witnessed domestic violence and experienced physical abuse and emotional abuse or neglect more often than in other areas (76%, 18% and 36% respectively) (Table 3.16). While national figures illustrate that accompanying children experienced problems with substance abuse in only 2% of cases, the figure was somewhat higher for accompanying children with parents or guardians with substance abuse (18% of cases). The issue of parent or guardian substance abuse was reported more often in other metropolitan areas (23%) than in remote areas (11%). The average figure across locations for psychiatric illness of a parent or guardian was 6%. However, in remote areas, agencies recorded few such issues during accompanying children's SAAP support periods.

Other issues, including crisis, trauma or grief (38%), access or custody difficulties (24%), learning difficulties (12%), developmental issues (14%) and other unspecified issues (14%), were recorded more commonly in other metropolitan areas than in remote areas (18%, 5%, 6%, 4% and 8% respectively).

Agencies in remote areas reported behavioural issues least often (18%) of all other locations.

Not surprisingly, agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence reported the highest proportion of children who had witnessed domestic violence (78%) and experienced emotional abuse or neglect (40%) (Table 3.17). Agencies targeting single men reported more instances where accompanying children had experienced sexual abuse (7%) than agencies targeting other groups.

Problems with issues related to crisis, trauma or grief (44%), ongoing medical or health conditions (35%), anxiety (33%), developmental issues (26%), physical abuse (24%), depression (17%), eating disorder or dietary issues (11%) and psychiatric illness of the child (2%), were reported more often by agencies targeting young women than other target groups. Single men's agencies reported the highest proportion of issues for accompanying children related to behavioural issues (35%), learning difficulties (16%), psychiatric illness (8%) and sensory and physical disability (3% each). Family agencies reported that 9% of children had intellectual disabilities—higher than other agencies, with the least reports of crisis, trauma or grief (6%) and depression (3%).

Pregnancy was not an issue for children at agencies targeting young women and families. Similarly, these target groups recorded no incidence of child substance abuse though that issue appeared to a small extent among children at agencies targeting young people, single men and cross target, multiple target and general clients (2% each) and at agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence (1%).

The distribution of relevant issues for accompanying children, at either the commencement of or during their SAAP support periods, across service delivery models is set out in Table 3.18. Among recipients of crisis or short-term accommodation, day support services and medium- to long-term accommodation agencies accompanying children had witnessed domestic violence either prior to commencement or during their support period in 74%, 69% and 67% of cases respectively. These agencies reported much fewer instances where accompanying children had experienced sexual abuse than other agencies. Figures ranged from 7% of cases for accompanying children who accessed medium- to long-term accommodation agencies to no cases for those in receipt of outreach support services.

Prior to commencement or during their support time, more than one-fifth (21%) of accompanying children who presented at crisis or short-term accommodation agencies had experienced physical abuse. Across all service delivery models, substantial numbers of accompanying children had experienced emotional abuse or neglect, ranging from 51% of accompanying children who accessed day support agencies to 21% of those who utilised outreach services.

Accompanying children who accessed crisis or short-term accommodation, medium- to long-term accommodation and outreach support agencies had experienced anxiety prior to commencement of or during their SAAP support period in 31%, 28% and 26% of cases respectively. Agencies which provided outreach support and crisis or short-term accommodation services reported that in 16% and 13% of cases respectively, accompanying children had experienced depression. Agencies providing day support reported that in 25% and 11% of

cases respectively, substance abuse and psychiatric illness of parents and guardians was an issue.

Medium- to long-term accommodation agencies reported behavioural issues (32%), access or custody difficulties (22%), ongoing medical or health conditions (14%), learning difficulties (12%) and developmental difficulties (12%) more often than other agencies.

Among accompanying children who had accessed crisis or short-term accommodation services, 38% had experienced crisis, trauma or grief either prior to the commencement or during their SAAP support period. This was the case for 30% of those accompanying children who attended medium- to long-term accommodation agencies. Across service delivery models, other unspecified issues were relatively low with the exception of accompanying children who received assistance at outreach agencies (46%).

3.4 Detailed tables

Table 3.1: Accompanying children, usual living situation of accompanying children by State or Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

Usual living situation	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Both parents (in the same house)	35.5	35.6	37.9	47.1	37.6	46.0	26.6	37.0	37.6
Both parents (in different houses)	3.0	4.3	4.0	2.2	5.4	4.3	7.3	5.3	4.1
One parent	56.1	56.3	53.7	40.8	55.5	47.2	54.8	57.2	53.8
Also lived with parent's spouse/partner	5.4	6.8	8.6	5.9	10.7	5.6	16.9	5.8	7.5
Also lived with siblings	26.5	27.5	38.0	30.4	39.8	25.5	37.1	17.8	31.2
Other relatives	11.5	8.3	10.6	18.2	10.0	6.8	11.3	10.6	10.5
Other unrelated persons	4.6	4.2	7.6	6.4	5.3	2.5	4.8	2.4	5.2
Total number	834	2,161	1,181	628	816	161	124	208	6,113

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,714
3. The usual living situation could consist of multiple categories so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.2: Accompanying children, usual living situation of accompanying children by geographical location, Australia 1998 (%)

Usual living situation	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Both parents (in the same house)	35.5	33.5	39.7	56.5	37.6
Both parents (in different houses)	3.7	4.8	4.8	2.0	4.1
One parent	56.4	56.5	51.5	32.9	53.8
Also lived with parent's spouse/partner	7.6	4.5	7.9	7.5	7.5
Also lived with siblings	32.4	31.7	30.0	22.0	31.2
Other relatives	10.2	6.3	11.0	16.5	10.5
Other unrelated persons	6.3	6.0	3.2	4.3	5.2
Total number	3,524	331	2,003	255	6,113

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,714
3. The usual living situation could consist of multiple categories so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.3: Accompanying children, usual living situation of accompanying children by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

Usual living situation	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross/multiple/general targets	Australia
Both parents (in the same house)	28.4	18.1	26.6	29.9	48.1	34.4	37.6
Both parents (in different houses)	3.4	4.2	1.1	4.2	3.4	5.7	4.1
One parent	62.2	66.7	48.9	61.7	44.5	56.9	53.8
Also lived with parent's spouse/partner	4.4	2.8	10.6	6.3	9.7	6.8	7.5
Also lived with siblings	16.3	6.9	26.6	36.0	35.7	26.8	31.2
Other relatives	11.4	9.7	7.4	12.7	9.0	10.7	10.5
Other unrelated persons	5.0	2.8	3.2	6.9	4.6	4.6	5.2
Total number	675	72	94	1,517	2,378	1,377	6,113

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,714
3. The usual living situation could consist of multiple categories so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.4: Accompanying children, usual living situation of accompanying children by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

Usual living situation	Crisis/short-term	Medium/long-term	Day support	Outreach support	Other	Australia
Both parents (in the same house)	45.5	28.5	22.7	40.1	44.5	37.6
Both parents (in different houses)	3.5	4.8	1.1	2.4	4.3	4.1
One parent	47.1	61.1	78.4	57.5	47.0	53.8
Also lived with parent's spouse/partner	9.2	7.3	10.2	2.4	4.0	7.5
Also lived with siblings	35.6	31.7	26.1	4.7	23.0	31.2
Other relatives	10.5	11.3	11.4	7.1	8.9	10.5
Other unrelated persons	5.6	5.9	4.5	0.9	2.6	5.2
Total number	2,450	2,590	88	212	773	6,113

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,714
3. The usual living situation could consist of multiple categories so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.5: Accompanying children, legal processes relating to accompanying children by State and Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

Legal process	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
No legal processes	2.9	3.6	5.9	3.1	2.0	0.0	0.8	24.9	4.2
Protection/guardianship order	75.3	60.2	71.5	81.0	67.9	75.5	69.6	44.5	67.6
Restraining/intervention order	4.1	11.2	5.0	2.6	4.9	3.9	4.0	3.8	6.8
Access and custody	9.3	8.8	7.0	4.0	6.9	14.2	8.8	3.8	7.7
Immigration	12.6	23.1	14.2	7.7	22.6	17.4	21.6	8.1	17.6
Other legal processes	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
No information	2.8	5.8	4.0	4.5	5.0	0.6	1.6	18.2	5.0
Total number	835	2181	1179	620	814	155	125	209	6118

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,709
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children could be subject to more than one legal process so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.6: Accompanying children, legal processes relating to accompanying children by geographical location, Australia 1998 (%)

Legal process	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
No legal processes	4.9	1.8	3.9	1.6	4.2
Protection/guardianship order	65.3	70.3	69.2	85.3	67.6
Restraining/intervention order	6.5	4.0	7.9	4.8	6.8
Access and custody	7.5	8.0	8.5	4.4	7.7
Immigration	19.6	16.2	16.0	4.0	17.6
Other legal processes	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.4
No information	5.7	4.0	4.3	2.8	5.0
Total number	3,546	327	1,994	251	6,118

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,709
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children could be subject to more than one legal process so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.7: Accompanying children, legal processes relating to accompanying children by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

Legal process	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross/multiple/general target	Australia
No legal processes	9.2	4.3	0.0	3.2	1.8	7.4	4.2
Protection/guardianship order	73.4	89.9	79.6	75.5	60.7	66.3	67.6
Restraining/intervention order	6.6	0.0	6.5	5.7	8.6	5.2	6.8
Access and custody	3.7	0.0	5.4	5.4	12.9	4.0	7.7
Immigration	7.7	4.3	8.6	12.1	26.7	14.1	17.6
Other legal processes	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.7	0.4
No information	2.8	1.4	1.1	4.1	5.0	7.6	5.0
Total number	684	69	93	1,510	2,385	1377	6,118

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,709
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children could be subject to more than one legal process so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.8: Accompanying children, legal processes relating to accompanying children by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

Legal process	Crisis/short-term	Medium/long-term	Day Support	Outreach Support	Other	Australia
No legal processes	2.1	5.4	2.2	25.0	1.8	4.2
Protection/guardianship order	69.6	65	79.8	46.7	74.5	67.6
Restraining/intervention order	6.1	8.4	3.4	2.4	4.9	6.8
Access and custody	9.5	7.5	3.4	5.2	4.6	7.7
Immigration	18.9	17.3	12.4	7.5	17.9	17.6
Other legal processes	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.4
No information	4.3	5.6	6.7	15.6	2.3	5.0
Total number	2,412	2,594	89	212	811	6,118

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,709
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children could be subject to more than one legal process so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.9: Accompanying children, period the child residing with the parent/guardian by age of accompanying child, Australia 1998 (%)

Residing with parent/guardian	Less than 2 years	2-5 years	6-11 years	12-17 years	Australia
Entire support period	91.2	88.7	87.8	81.4	87.9
Most of the support period	6.4	8.0	8.3	11.5	8.3
Weekends only	0.3	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.7
Every other weekend	0.1	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.6
Infrequently	1.0	1.3	1.6	3.5	1.7
Not with parent	1.0	0.8	0.4	2.3	0.9
Total number	1,169	2,100	1,947	855	6,071

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 3
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2,753
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.10: Accompanying children, number of homes before the accompanying child was assisted by State and Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Year before assistance									
0 homes	4.5	1.9	1.2	2.6	0.9	1.3	4.1	0.0	2.0
1 home	31.0	38.2	37.8	44.2	34.4	45.0	24.4	26.6	36.8
2 homes	30.6	29.8	32.5	25.7	29.4	33.8	34.1	34.5	30.3
3 or more homes	33.8	30.2	28.5	27.5	35.4	20.0	37.4	38.9	30.9
<i>Total %</i>	<i>12.8</i>	<i>35.8</i>	<i>19.0</i>	<i>10.2</i>	<i>13.6</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>100</i>
Total number	754	2,104	1,116	604	803	160	123	203	5,867[†]
Month before assistance									
0 homes	30.6	18.6	21.0	18.7	11.5	9.6	29.3	6.8	19.4
1 home	51.3	57.2	59.1	59.2	63.0	66.4	54.5	66.9	58.2
2 homes	12.7	18.6	16.0	15.7	18.3	17.1	4.1	18.0	16.6
3 or more homes	5.5	5.6	3.9	6.4	7.2	6.8	12.2	8.3	5.8
Total number	710	1,858	1,019	498	738	146	123	133	5,225[‡]

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2960[†] 3602[‡]
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.11: Accompanying children, number of homes before the accompanying child was assisted by location, Australia 1998 (%)

	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Year before assistance					
0 homes	1.9	6.4	1.3	3.3	2.0
1 home	36.5	14.0	38.6	51.2	36.8
2 homes	30.9	39.4	29.1	22.1	30.3
3 or more homes	30.7	40.2	31.0	23.4	30.9
Total number	3,399	264	1,960	244	5,867[†]
Month before assistance					
0 homes	18.1	33.3	20.3	14.2	19.4
1 home	59.4	38.9	57.4	70.8	58.2
2 homes	15.8	20.2	17.8	13.3	16.6
3 homes	6.7	7.5	4.6	1.8	5.8
Total number	2,935	252	1,812	226	5,225[‡]

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2960[†] 3602[‡]
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.12: Accompanying children, number of homes before the child was assisted by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Year before assistance							
0 homes	4.6	3.0	16.1	2.2	0.8	1.5	2.0
1 home	39.5	34.3	29.0	25.6	47.3	30.0	36.8
2 homes	24.5	10.4	33.3	31.4	30.2	32.9	30.3
3 or more homes	31.4	52.2	21.5	40.9	21.7	35.6	30.9
Total number	628	67	93	1,438	2,307	1,334	5,867[†]
Month before assistance							
0 homes	25.5	7.3	49.3	23.7	16.1	16.1	19.4
1 home	55.5	69.1	38.7	53.0	64.3	54.7	58.2
2 homes	13.2	21.8	8.0	16.6	14.7	22.5	16.6
3 or more homes	5.9	1.8	4.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	5.8
Total number	593	55	75	1,289	2,131	1,082	5,225[‡]

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2960[†] 3602[‡]
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.13: Accompanying children, number of homes before the child was assisted by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

	Crisis/ short-term accomm.	Medium/ long-term accomm	Day support	Outreach suport	Other	Australia
Year before assistance						
0 homes	1.0	2.7	1.1	0.0	3.4	2.0
1 home	43.0	32.0	23.9	39.6	33.9	36.8
2 homes	31.7	28.7	43.2	28.7	29.9	30.3
3 or more homes	24.3	36.6	31.8	31.7	32.8	30.9
Total number	2,366	2,509	88	202	702	5,867ⁱ
Month before assistance						
0 homes	17.3	22.3	11.3	7.3	20.3	19.4
1 home	62.2	53.7	46.3	69.3	59.5	58.2
2 homes	14.6	18.0	33.8	16.8	16.2	16.6
3 or more homes	5.9	6.1	8.8	6.6	3.9	5.8
Total number	2,155	2,219	80	137	634	5,225ⁱⁱ

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2960ⁱ 3602ⁱⁱ
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.14: Accompanying children, number of accompanying children who attended school, Australia 1998 (%)

Age	Attended at least one school	Attended no school	Total
Less than 1	4.2	95.8	100
1	5.0	95.0	100
2	22.9	77.1	100
3	47.8	52.2	100
4	88.5	11.5	100
5	95.2	4.8	100
6	99.2	0.8	100
7	99.7	0.3	100
8	99.4	0.7	100
9	99.4	0.6	100
10	100.0	0.0	100
11	100.0	0.0	100
12	100.0	0.0	100
13	100.0	0.0	100
14	98.1	2.0	100
15	98.1	1.9	100
16	98.7	1.3	100
17	92.7	7.3	100
Total number	3,372	576	3,948

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 4879
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

3.4.1 Issues at the commencement of or during support

Table 3.15: Accompanying children, issues at the commencement of or during support by State and Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Violence/abuse									
Witnessed domestic violence	64.4	63.9	66.6	65.4	79.0	74.6	72.4	40.4	66.5
Experienced sexual abuse	5.2	5.0	5.4	4.0	6.3	2.5	6.0	2.8	5.1
Experienced physical abuse	15.3	12.5	16.5	16.8	26.5	18.9	19.8	8.4	16.2
Experienced emotional abuse/neglect	25.3	31.9	33.5	20.8	48.3	36.9	31.0	18.5	32.3
Health									
Anxiety	25.8	25.7	27.2	23.8	30.1	20.5	41.4	32.0	26.9
Depression	9.5	9.8	7.3	9.8	16.3	13.1	12.9	20.2	10.8
Pregnancy	0.2	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Substance abuse of the child	1.3	1.8	1.3	2.4	1.8	1.6	3.4	0.6	1.7
Substance abuse of the parent/guardian	18.1	16.7	18.8	17.6	23.0	31.1	22.4	7.9	18.4
Ongoing medical/health conditions	16.1	11.6	11.2	14.4	15.5	20.5	13.8	9.6	13.2
Eating disorder/dietary issues	3.8	3.2	3.9	3.0	4.2	3.3	5.2	3.4	3.6
Psychiatric illness of the child	0.2	0.6	1.2	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.0	1.1	0.7
Psychiatric illness of the parent/guardian	7.0	6.4	3.1	0.8	7.9	7.4	11.2	1.7	5.5
Disability									
Physical disability	1.6	1.9	2.1	0.2	2.7	1.6	1.7	0.6	1.8
Intellectual disability	3.3	3.0	2.8	1.4	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.1	2.6
Sensory disability	0.8	1.2	2.5	2.2	3.3	0.8	1.7	0.6	1.8
Other									
Crisis/trauma/grief	39.3	25.4	32.3	23.0	42.0	35.2	64.7	38.8	32.2
Access/custody difficulties	19.9	19.6	14.1	8.2	24.9	16.4	25.0	6.7	17.9
Learning difficulty	11.3	10.4	11.6	11.0	14.3	11.5	13.8	9.0	11.4
Developmental issues	10.5	9.8	12.3	5.2	12.8	6.6	8.6	5.1	10.0
Behavioural issues	29.6	27.7	31.7	25.0	39.2	27.0	34.5	36.5	30.5
Other (not specified above)	15.6	7.9	3.2	8.8	7.9	12.3	12.1	36.5	9.4
Total number	629	1,805	863	500	735	122	116	178	4,948

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 3,879
3. Accompanying children could have multiple issues so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.16: Accompanying children, issues at the commencement of or during support by location, Australia 1998 (%)

	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Violence/abuse					
Witnessed domestic violence	61.4	61.8	76.4	68.2	66.5
Experienced sexual abuse	5.2	4.4	5.3	3.1	5.1
Experienced physical abuse	15.9	13.5	17.9	11.5	16.2
Experienced emotional abuse/neglect	31.7	20.7	36.4	24.0	32.3
Health					
Anxiety	28.1	20.0	27.2	16.1	26.9
Depression	11.9	7.3	9.5	10.9	10.8
Pregnancy	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5
Substance abuse of the child	1.4	2.5	2.2	0.5	1.7
Substance abuse of the parent/guardian	17.5	23.3	20.2	10.9	18.4
Ongoing medical/health conditions	13.7	12.7	12.5	9.9	13.2
Eating disorder/dietary issues	3.8	1.8	3.6	2.6	3.6
Psychiatric illness of the child	0.7	0.0	0.9	0.5	0.7
Psychiatric illness of the parent/guardian	6.1	5.5	5.2	0.0	5.5
Disability					
Physical disability	1.5	2.5	2.4	0.5	1.8
Intellectual disability	2.8	2.2	2.4	1.6	2.6
Sensory disability	1.9	1.5	1.7	1.0	1.8
Other					
Crisis/trauma/grief	34.5	38.2	28.8	17.7	32.2
Access/custody difficulties	17.8	24.0	18.5	5.2	17.9
Learning difficulty	12.4	12.4	10.1	6.3	11.4
Developmental issues	10.6	14.2	8.9	4.2	10.0
Behavioural issues	30.8	30.9	31.4	18.2	30.5
Other (not specified above)	11.4	14.2	5.0	7.8	9.4
Total number	2,910	275	1571	192	4,948

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 3,879
3. Accompanying children could have multiple issues so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.17: Accompanying children, issues at the commencement of or during support by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Violence/abuse							
Witnessed domestic violence	57.3	60.9	61.2	58.1	77.6	56.5	66.5
Experienced sexual abuse	2.6	4.3	4.5	6.6	4.3	6.1	5.1
Experienced physical abuse	9.6	23.9	10.4	12.9	20.8	13.0	16.2
Experienced emotional abuse/neglect	23.8	34.8	23.9	27.4	39.7	25.8	32.3
Health							
Anxiety	19.7	32.6	13.4	24.1	31.9	22.8	26.9
Depression	6.0	17.4	3.0	10.5	11.8	11.2	10.8
Pregnancy	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5
Substance abuse of the child	1.6	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.4	2.2	1.7
Substance abuse of the parent/guardian	23.1	10.9	19.4	21.8	13.6	23.4	18.4
Ongoing medical/health conditions	14.8	34.8	13.4	16.9	10.0	14.0	13.2
Eating disorder/dietary issues	4.7	10.9	7.5	5.7	2.5	2.6	3.6
Psychiatric illness of the child	0.8	2.2	0.0	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.7
Psychiatric illness of the parent/guardian	3.6	2.2	3.0	7.9	3.9	7.3	5.5
Disability							
Physical disability	1.6	0.0	1.5	2.6	1.4	1.8	1.8
Intellectual disability	1.8	2.2	9.0	4.0	1.6	2.9	2.6
Sensory disability	2.1	2.2	0.0	3.3	1.0	1.7	1.8
Other							
Crisis/trauma/grief	19.2	43.5	6.0	34.8	35.7	27.8	32.2
Access/custody difficulties	18.9	19.6	10.4	19.5	17.9	16.1	17.9
Learning difficulty	7.8	15.2	7.5	15.9	9.5	11.8	11.4
Developmental issues	11.9	26.1	0.0	11.8	8.8	9.1	10.0
Behavioural issues	28.2	28.3	23.9	35.0	29.0	29.9	30.5
Other (not specified above)	11.4	6.5	9.0	11.1	5.4	15.2	9.4
Total number	386	46	67	1,211	2,199	1,039	4,948

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 3,879
3. Accompanying children could have multiple issues so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 3.18: Accompanying children, issues at the commencement or during support by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

	Crisis/ short-term accomm.	Medium/ long-term accomm.	Day support	Outreach support	Other	Australia
Violence/abuse						
Witnessed domestic violence	74.2	66.5	69.2	29.1	50.5	66.5
Experienced sexual abuse	4.6	6.5	6.2	0.0	3.2	5.1
Experienced physical abuse	20.9	13.7	13.8	10.6	11.1	16.2
Experienced emotional abuse/neglect	36.7	30.9	50.8	20.5	23.9	32.3
Health						
Anxiety	30.9	27.9	9.2	25.8	13.4	26.9
Depression	13.2	10.0	4.6	15.9	5.3	10.8
Pregnancy	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.5
Substance abuse of the child	1.7	1.7	0.0	1.3	1.8	1.7
Substance abuse of the parent/guardian	17.3	20.7	24.6	4.0	17.7	18.4
Ongoing medical/health conditions	13.3	13.8	9.2	9.3	11.9	13.2
Eating disorder/dietary issues	3.3	4.0	1.5	1.3	3.8	3.6
Psychiatric illness of the child	0.9	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.7
Psychiatric illness of the parent/guardian	4.1	6.8	10.8	2.0	6.5	5.5
Disability						
Physical disability	1.5	2.0	0.0	0.7	2.4	1.8
Intellectual disability	2.3	3.0	3.1	0.0	2.7	2.6
Sensory disability	1.5	2.1	1.5	0.0	2.3	1.8
Other						
Crisis/trauma/grief	38.2	30.0	27.7	23.8	23.1	32.2
Access/custody difficulties	15.8	22.4	16.9	5.3	13.5	17.9
Learning difficulty	11.0	12.4	7.7	6.0	11.4	11.4
Developmental issues	9.4	11.7	7.7	2.0	8.8	10.0
Behavioural issues	31.4	31.7	16.9	27.2	26.5	30.5
Other (not specified above)	7.5	9.5	12.3	46.4	6.1	9.4
Total number	2,034	2,041	65	151	657	4,948

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 3,879
3. Accompanying children could have multiple issues so percentages do not total 100.
4. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

4 Support services to accompanying children and unmet needs

SAAP agencies provide a diverse range of services to meet the needs of accompanying children who present at agencies with clients who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Support for accompanying children may include supported accommodation and/or a range of support services. Such support may be provided in the context of an agreed case management or support plan. It may be intensive and short-lived for clients in extreme crisis or provided on an ongoing basis to clients who are not in SAAP housing.

This chapter describes the extent and nature of support provided to accompanying children. It examines the provision of accommodation and support services, the duration of support periods and the utilisation of case management and support plans. The chapter contains information about accompanying children's needs for other services including advice and information, counselling, financial and material aid, health services, recreation and sporting activities, and transport. Included as well is information on instances where accompanying children were unable to obtain the services they needed.

4.1 Support services provided or referred

Support services consist of 35 distinct types of support which have been grouped into seven categories. The categories are: accommodation; counselling or support; education and income; health; behavioural skills; disability; and other services.

SAAP or CAP (Crisis Accommodation Program) accommodation was provided to almost one-half (48%) of accompanying children nationally (Table 4.1). A substantial proportion of support periods involved transport (25%), advocacy or liaison on behalf of the child (21%), advice and information (20%), child care (19%), financial assistance or material aid (16%) and recreation and sporting activities (15%). Other health or medical services (11%), domestic violence counselling or support, child health services and social skills (9% each) were provided in significant numbers of support periods. In 7% of support periods, education (including homework), culturally appropriate support and family or relationship counselling or support were provided, while in 6% of support periods anger management and living skills or personal development skills were provided. Conflict resolution, legal issues or court support and other unspecified requests were made in 5% of cases.

SAAP/CAP accommodation was provided to accompanying children in Tasmania, South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales in 61%, 60%, 59% and 58% of support periods respectively (Table 4.1). The lowest provision for this service was reported in the Northern Territory (29% of cases). As well, agencies in South Australia reported the provision of other housing in 20% of cases—almost twice the national average of 11%.

In a considerable number of cases, accompanying children were provided with counselling assistance. In South Australia and Victoria, accompanying children were provided with domestic violence counselling in 16% and 11% of cases respectively. Emotional support or other counselling was a feature of support periods in the Australian Capital Territory, South Australia and Queensland in 37%, 26% and 23% of cases.

As expected, very few accompanying children required assistance to obtain a cash benefit, pension or other government allowance or employment and training assistance. However, higher provision of assistance with education (including homework) was reported, ranging from 10% of cases in the Australian Capital Territory to 5% in Tasmania. In all States and Territories, there was a low level of provision of physical, intellectual and sensory disability services as well as provision of a number of specialist health services. However, child health (including immunisation) assistance was provided in a considerable proportion of cases such as in the Australian Capital Territory, South Australia and Victoria (13%, 12% and 9% of cases respectively). Other health or medical services were provided in the Australian Capital Territory, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland in 16%, 13%, 11%, 11% and 10% of cases.

Moderate levels of behavioural skills assistance were provided. Accompanying children who accessed SAAP support in South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory obtained assistance in conflict resolution (10% each) and assistance with anger management in 9% and 14% of cases respectively. Accompanying children in the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland and South Australia received help with living skills or personal development in 9%, 8% and 8% of cases respectively. Relatively more assistance with social skills was provided in the Australian Capital Territory (20% of cases) and Queensland and South Australia (12% each), contrasting with a lower level of this service recorded in Western Australia and the Northern Territory (3% of cases).

Across jurisdictions, the highest provision for culturally appropriate services occurred in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory (15% and 10% of cases respectively). In all States and Territories, SAAP support periods for accompanying children were characterised by substantial use of child care. Such services were called for in the Australian Capital Territory, Tasmania, South Australia and New South Wales in 36%, 29%, 27% and 22% of cases respectively—and to a lesser extent in Victoria (17%), Western Australia and Queensland (16% each) and the Northern Territory (10%).

Across all States and Territories, moderate levels of financial assistance or material aid were provided, with the Northern Territory reporting the highest figure (33% of cases). Transport services were often provided in some jurisdictions. In New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory, transport was provided in 32%, 30%, 28% and 27% of cases respectively. Other States and Territories provided transport in at least

one-fifth of support periods except for Tasmania where this service was provided in only 17% of cases.

In a significant proportion of support periods, advice and information services were provided. Figures for this service were 29%, 23% and 21% in South Australia, Queensland and Victoria respectively. Similarly, advocacy or liaison on behalf of the child was utilised in South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and New South Wales in 29%, 28%, 25% and 23% of cases respectively.

The pattern of referrals or service provision to accompanying children varied across locations. More than half (54%) of support periods in remote areas and other metropolitan areas (53%) were characterised by the use of SAAP/CAP accommodation (Table 4.2). Proportionally, this service was accessed to a lesser degree in rural areas and capital city locations (49% and 46% of cases respectively). Other housing was obtained in capital city locations and rural areas in 12% and 10% of cases respectively.

Domestic violence counselling was provided in 10% of SAAP support periods in capital cities and rural areas, and in 2% of cases in other metropolitan and remote areas. In 22% of support periods in capital city locations and rural areas, emotional support or other counselling services were obtained. This service was provided in 12% of cases in remote areas.

Agencies in capital city locations reported the highest need for assistance to obtain a benefit or other government allowance (2%) while employment and training assistance was provided in only 1% of cases in capital city, rural and other metropolitan areas—it was not needed in remote areas. Help with education (including homework) was provided mostly by capital city agencies (in 8% of support periods). Fairly consistent levels of other health or medical services were obtained across locations, registering 12%, 9%, 8% and 7% in capital city, rural, remote and other metropolitan areas respectively. Agencies reported that psychological services were accessed more often (3%) in capital city areas than other locations.

In terms of behavioural skills, social skills (10%), living skills or personal development (7%) and anger management assistance (6%) were provided more often in capital cities than in remote areas (2%, 5% and 1% respectively). Nine per cent of support services in remote areas were characterised by the utilisation of culturally appropriate support but interpreter services were not required. Legal issues or court support services were provided in less than 1% of cases in remote areas but more often in capital city and rural areas (5% each).

Agencies reported that financial assistance or material aid were provided, ranging from 18% in capital cities to 11% in remote areas. Child care was provided more often in capital city (20%) and rural areas (19%) than other metropolitan (15%) and remote locations (7%). In other metropolitan areas transport was provided more often (in 30% of cases) than other areas. Provision of recreation and sporting activities ranged from 18% of cases in remote areas to 13% in rural areas. Advice and information services were provided or referred in capital city, rural, other metropolitan and remote areas in 21%, 20%, 17% and 14% of cases respectively. Advocacy on behalf of the child was provided in a similar number of support periods in other metropolitan, capital city and rural locations (26%, 23% and 20% respectively) and less in remote locations (10%).

Support patterns differed according to agencies' service delivery model and target group. SAAP agencies targeting families, women escaping domestic

violence, young people and single men, reported that in 57%, 49%, 45% and 44% of cases respectively, SAAP/CAP accommodation was provided or referred (Table 4.3). Other housing was provided to a smaller extent for all target groups. Agencies targeting single men reported that in 5% of cases, accompanying children had required placement in community or foster care or other arrangements, constituting a higher proportion than for other target groups.

Agencies noted the use of varying degrees of counselling or support services. Accompanying children at agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence and single men were provided with domestic violence counselling in 16% and 7% of support periods respectively. Emotional support or other counselling services were provided in 27%, 22% and 21% of cases where accompanying children attended agencies for women escaping domestic violence, single men and families. Agencies targeting single men and women escaping domestic violence recorded the highest levels of the need for assistance with education (including homework) (10% and 9% of cases respectively).

Health service provision varied across target groups. Psychological services were provided more often (8%) by accompanying children at agencies targeting single men than other target groups. Agency target groups reported that child health services (including immunisation) were the most frequently provided health services. In 19% and 14% of cases respectively, at agencies targeting single men and women escaping domestic violence, accompanying children obtained other health services. This was provided in only 5% of cases at agencies targeting single women and cross target, multiple target and general client agencies.

Assistance with anger management and living skills or personal development was provided in 10% of cases among accompanying children at agencies for single men and in 8% each of cases at agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence. Twelve per cent of support periods at agencies for single men consisted of help with social skills. This service was provided at agencies for women escaping domestic violence and families in 12% and 11% of cases respectively.

Accompanying children at agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence were provided with childcare (27% of support periods), culturally appropriate support (10%) and recreation and sporting activities (21%). Substantial proportions of accompanying children at agencies targeting single men, families and cross target, multiple target and general client groups were provided with financial assistance or material aid—26%, 19%, 18% of cases respectively. Accompanying children at agencies targeting single men utilised brokerage services in 19% of cases and transport services were accessed at agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence (32%), single men (31%), families (28%) and young people (21%).

The highest proportion of support periods in which advice and information was provided were recorded by agencies targeting single men (30%) and cross target, multiple target and general client groups (22%). Advocacy and liaison on behalf of the child was most often provided or referred at agencies for single men (27% of cases). This service was provided in a substantial number of support periods at agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence (24%) and families (23%) but to a lesser extent at agencies for young people (13%).

Crisis or short-term accommodation agencies had the highest referral or provision of SAAP/CAP accommodation (60% of support periods) while day support agencies had the lowest (13%) (Table 4.4). High levels of SAAP/CAP accommodation (54%) were provided or referred at other service agencies and other housing was provided or referred in a significant number of support periods at medium- to long-term accommodation and day support agencies (15% each).

Thirty per cent of support periods for accompanying children at crisis or short-term accommodation agencies entailed some type of counselling or support services. This was higher than for other agencies. Agencies providing crisis or short-term accommodation reported a substantial number of cases where domestic violence counselling (14%) was provided. Further, accompanying children who presented at crisis or short-term accommodation services accessed education (including homework) assistance in 9% of cases, constituting a higher figure than that reported from other service delivery models.

Health service provision or referral was not reported at day support agencies, except for other health or medical services (1%). This contrasted markedly with the higher provision of health-related services at crisis or short-term accommodation agencies, where accompanying children received other health or medical services (14%) and child health services (including immunisation) (10%), and at other agencies where 11% obtained child health services. Similarly, a broad range of behavioural skills measures (17%) and child care assistance (27%) were provided more often at crisis or short-term accommodation than other agencies.

Substantial levels of financial assistance or material aid were obtained or referrals made at outreach and day support agencies, representing 35% and 27% of support periods for these service delivery models respectively. Transport, advocacy or liaison on behalf of the child, advice and information and recreation and sporting activities were provided or referred for accompanying children at crisis or short-term accommodation agencies in 34%, 23%, 23% and 22% of cases respectively. Comparable figures for other service delivery model agencies were 30%, 23%, 24% and 20%. Agencies providing day support noted that advice and information was supplied in 28% of support periods for accompanying children.

4.2 Case management and support plans

Upon attending a SAAP agency, 49% of accompanying children were supported using a case management approach, 24% were not, whilst it was not applicable for 27% (Table 4.5). More than 50% of accompanying children were supported using a case management approach in the Australian Capital Territory (65%), South Australia (59%), Queensland (52%) and New South Wales (51%). Comparatively few accompanying children in Western Australia were part of a case management program (29%). The highest proportion of accompanying children to which case management was not applicable was reported in the Northern Territory (39%).

More than half of accompanying children who attended an agency located in a capital city (55%) or other metropolitan area (52%) were part of a case management approach, whilst the greatest proportion of accompanying children who were not part of case management were located in remote (43%) and rural areas (31%). Agencies located in remote areas reported the highest

proportion of children to whom case management was not applicable (32%) (Table 4.5).

At least 50% of accompanying children who attended agencies targeting families (54%) and women escaping domestic violence (50%) were part of a case management program, whereas more than 50% of accompanying children attending single men's agencies were not (51%). Of all the primary target groups, case management was not applicable to 36% of accompanying children who attended agencies targeting young people.

Whilst 40% or more of accompanying children using crisis or short-term, medium- to long-term, outreach and 'other' forms of service delivery model were part of a case management approach, only 4% of those who received day support were using case management. Day support agencies hence recorded the highest percentage of children with no case management (51%) or not applicable (44%).

As well as or instead of case management, accompanying children could be on a support plan. Forty-five per cent of accompanying children around Australia had a support plan, 28% did not, whilst support plans were not applicable to 27%. More than 50% of accompanying children in the Australian Capital Territory (53%) and South Australia (52%) were on support plans. The highest proportion of accompanying children not on a support plan were reported in Queensland (38%) and Western Australia (36%), with Western Australia also reporting the highest level of accompanying children to whom a support plan was not applicable (33%) along with the Northern Territory (38%).

The greatest proportion of accompanying children on support plans were located in capital city areas (50%), whereas the greatest proportion not on a support plan (41%) or to whom a support plan was not applicable (38%) were located in remote areas.

At least half of the accompanying children who attended agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence were on a support plan (51%). This is compared to agencies targeting single men only and single women only who reported that 50% or more of accompanying children at their agencies were not on a support plan (68% and 55% respectively), whilst agencies targeting young people reported that a support plan was not applicable to 33% of accompanying children attending their agencies (the highest of all primary target groups).

Of all the service delivery models, crisis or short-term and 'other' service providers reported the highest number of accompanying children on support plans (54% and 52% respectively). This is as opposed to day support service providers who reported the highest number of accompanying children not on a support plan (48%) and to whom a support plan was not applicable (41%).

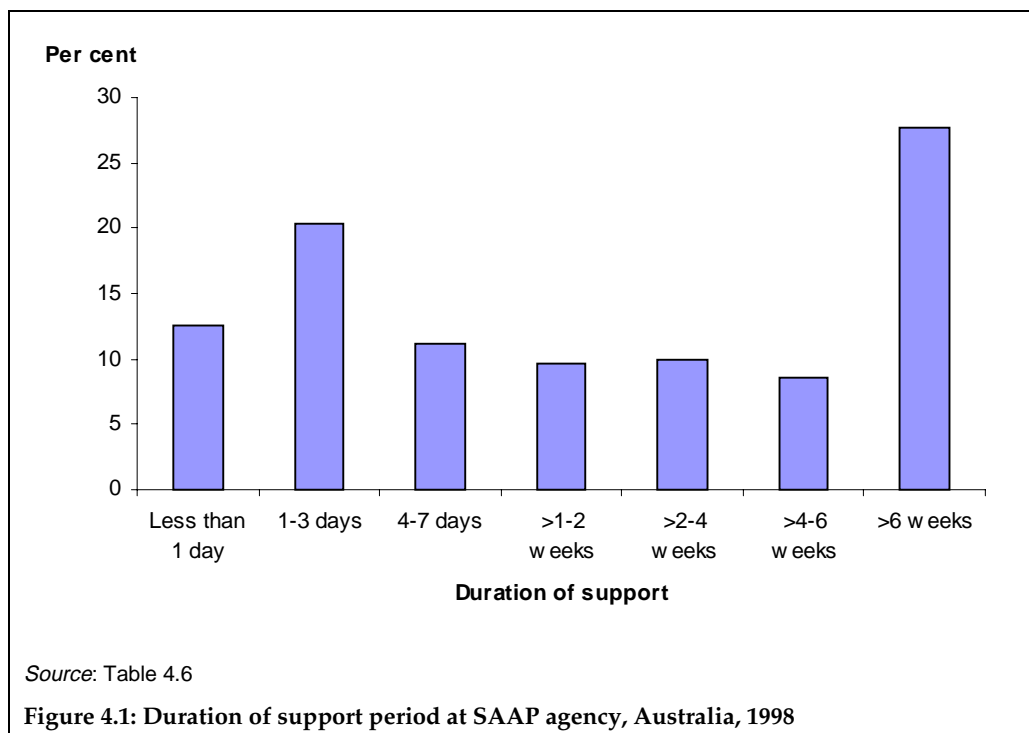
4.3 Duration of support

Across the States and Territories accompanying children most commonly received support from SAAP agencies for periods of one to three days or alternately for six weeks or more (Figure 4.1). For example, in New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory accompanying children most commonly received assistance for a period of one to three days, where as children in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory tended to more frequently receive assistance for six weeks or more (Table 4.6). It is interesting to note some of the polarities within each State.

For example, in Victoria the majority of the time children either received assistance of less than one day (21%) or more than six weeks (34%). Similar polarities exist in most other States across different lengths of support periods, whereas in the Territories a greater evenness across all support periods seems to exist.

Polarities in the length of support periods are also interesting if viewed in light of variations by location. For example, in capital cities and other metropolitan areas it is most common for accompanying children to receive assistance for six weeks or more (33% and 38% respectively), whereas in rural and remote areas it is most common for children to receive assistance for one to three days (27% and 45% respectively) (Table 4.7).

There appear to be definite variations in the length of support period across SAAP agency primary target groups (Table 4.8). For example, accompanying children attending SAAP agencies targeting single women only (52%) and young people (32%) most commonly had support periods lasting less than one day; accompanying children attending agencies targeting single men had support periods lasting six weeks or more (58%); accompanying children attending agencies targeting families most commonly had support periods lasting four weeks or more (78%), in fact accompanying children at such SAAP agencies rarely had support periods lasting less than four days; in agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence and agencies with cross target, multiple target and general client populations it was most common for accompanying children to either have a one- to three-day support period (26% and 35% respectively) or a support period lasting longer than six weeks (22% and 25% respectively).



Duration of support can reflect the type of service delivery model of the agency a child attended, for example more than 50% of those who attended a medium- to long-term service provider had a support period lasting six weeks or more, whereas not surprisingly 94% of accompanying children who attended a day

support agency had a support period lasting less than one day (Table 4.9). Of interest is that whilst 28% of accompanying children who presented at a crisis or short-term service provider were supported for one- to three-days a further 26% were supported for four weeks or more (a more medium- to long-term support time frame).

4.4 Unmet needs

SAAP agencies provide a wide range of services and support to clients and their accompanying children via direct assistance or referral to other agencies. However, occasions arise when agencies do not have the capacity to meet the particular needs of clients. The vast majority of the 164,938 needs identified for accompanying children were met by SAAP agencies through provision or referral (91%), with the remaining 10% of needs unmet (Table 4.10).

Across jurisdictions, agencies reported that accompanying children experienced a small degree of unmet need for particular services (Table 4.11). Nationally, needs for counselling or support services (9%), other services (10%), accommodation services (4%), assistance with behavioural skills (11%) and health services (10%) were unmet. Proportionately, in the Australian Capital Territory emotional support or other counselling (7%) and domestic violence counselling or support (6%) were more frequently unmet, compared with the national average of 3% for each category. Accompanying children in the Australian Capital Territory and South Australia were unable to obtain family or relationship counselling services in 4% of cases. Further, other housing (6%) and SAAP/CAP accommodation (5%) were unsuccessfully sought more often in the Australian Capital Territory than other jurisdictions.

Generally, there were very few occasions when accompanying children were unable to obtain education and income support services. One per cent of accompanying children Australia-wide were unable to access this service, with figures ranging from 2% of cases in the Australian Capital Territory and South Australia to no cases recorded in Tasmania.

There were relatively few occasions when accompanying children were unable to obtain required health services. Unmet need for other health or medical services was highest in the Australian Capital Territory (4%) and for child health services, unmet need was proportionately greater in South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory (2% each).

Patterns for services related to behavioural skills fluctuated across States and Territories. At twice the national average, social skills assistance was unmet in the Australian Capital Territory and South Australia (in 4% of cases each). Agencies in these two jurisdictions reported higher levels of unmet need for conflict resolution services (3% each) than other States and Territories. Assistance with anger management was sought but not provided in 4% of cases in South Australia, compared with the national average of 2%. Among other services that were needed but not provided, there was minimal variation across jurisdictions. Unmet need for services relating to child care was highest in Tasmania (4%) and South Australia (3%) and for advocacy or liaison on behalf of the child, unmet need was highest in the Australian Capital Territory (2%).

Across locations, a range of sought-after services were not provided. Other metropolitan areas (6%) and capital city locations (4%) experienced higher levels of unmet need for accommodation services than other areas, compared

with rural and remote area (1%) agencies. Proportions of support periods entailing counselling services varied marginally among locations, comprising 5% of unmet need in rural areas, other metropolitan locations and capital cities and 4% in remote areas.

Very few cases were recorded where accompanying children missed out on education and income support services, with agencies in other metropolitan areas recording the highest level of unmet need for these services (2%). Similarly, low levels of unmet need were noted for health services with agencies in other metropolitan areas reporting the highest level (5%) of unmet need.

The largest proportion of occasions when behavioural skills assistance was unavailable was recorded in capital city locations, rural areas and other metropolitan areas (3% each). Further, 6% and 5% of support periods in other metropolitan areas and capital city locations respectively, were characterised by the non-availability of other services. Accompanying children in remote areas were unable to access other services in less than 1% of support periods.

SAAP agencies reported that in 7% and 5% of cases respectively, accompanying children at agencies targeting cross target, multiple target or general clients and single men were unable to secure accommodation services. The level of unmet need for accommodation services was lower at agencies targeting families, women escaping domestic violence, young people and single women (3%, 2%, 2% and 1% of accompanying children respectively).

Accompanying children at agencies for women escaping domestic violence and cross target, multiple target and general client agencies were unable to obtain counselling services in 6% and 5% of cases respectively. Other primary target groups reported lower levels of unmet need for counselling services.

Measured across all primary target groups, there were very few reports of unsuccessful attempts to obtain education and income services with the highest level of unmet need for this service occurring at cross target, multiple target or general client agencies (2% of support periods). Figures from agencies targeting single men show that 5% of cases were characterised by unmet need for health services—more than twice the national average of 2%.

SAAP agencies reported that accompanying children were more commonly unable to gain assistance with behavioural skills at agencies targeting single women and families (5% each). Unmet needs among all primary target groups for other services varied only slightly.

Across service delivery models, no major variations were noted in the inability to obtain services (Table 4.13). Accommodation needs were more commonly not met at agencies providing day support services (6%) than any other service delivery models. Accommodation was not available in 4% of cases at medium- to long-term accommodation agencies and other agencies and in 3% of cases at crisis or short-term accommodation agencies.

The proportion of accompanying children who were unable to obtain counselling services at medium- to long-term accommodation and crisis or short-term accommodation agencies was 5% each. This figure contrasted with unmet need for counselling services at outreach agencies (1%). Accompanying children who sought help at agencies providing crisis or short-term accommodation (4%), medium- to long-term accommodation (3%) and other agencies (3%), were less likely to gain assistance with behavioural skills than SAAP recipients at other service delivery models. Other agencies experienced

the highest proportion of cases (2%) where accompanying children could not access health (3%) or other services (6%). Across service delivery models, low levels of unmet need for education and income support assistance were recorded.

4.5 Detailed Tables

4.5.1 Support Services to Accompanying Children

Table 4.1: Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by State and Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Accommodation									
SAAP/CAP accommodation	58.1	34.1	54.7	58.6	59.7	61.4	53.0	29.4	47.9
Placement in community/foster care or other arrangement	1.9	3.0	1.9	0.8	4.2	5.0	0.5	0.0	2.4
Other housing	6.9	13.7	8.1	5.8	19.5	6.8	14.8	1.8	11.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>59.4</i>	<i>44.7</i>	<i>56.9</i>	<i>60.3</i>	<i>64.8</i>	<i>63.2</i>	<i>56.3</i>	<i>29.4</i>	<i>53.3</i>
Counselling/support									
Incest/sexual abuse	1.1	2.0	1.3	1.5	2.1	0.9	2.7	1.2	1.7
Domestic violence	4.3	10.9	7.4	6.0	16.0	9.1	9.3	2.8	9.1
Family/relationship	5.4	6.3	6.1	5.3	12.2	2.3	12.6	2.1	6.6
Emotional support/other counselling	17.3	20.9	23.2	15.7	26.3	16.8	36.6	16.0	21.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>19.7</i>	<i>25.3</i>	<i>26.4</i>	<i>18.4</i>	<i>32.6</i>	<i>18.6</i>	<i>40.4</i>	<i>16.3</i>	<i>24.7</i>
Education and income									
Assistance to obtain benefit/pension/other government allowance	1.2	2.3	1.2	1.2	2.3	2.3	2.7	0.6	1.8
Employment and training assistance	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6
Education (including homework)	8.3	5.9	7.7	6.5	6.7	5.0	9.8	5.5	6.8
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>8.9</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>8.4</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>12.0</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>8.3</i>
Disability services									
Physical disability services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5
Intellectual disability services	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.7
Sensory disability services	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>1.5</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>1.3</i>
Health									
Psychological services	0.3	2.7	1.3	2.1	4.6	1.4	2.7	1.5	2.2
Psychiatric services	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.6	0.4
Family planning support	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.6
Pregnancy support	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2
Child health services (including immunisation)	11.0	8.9	5.9	5.9	12.2	7.3	12.6	1.8	8.5
Drug/alcohol support or rehabilitation	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4
Other health/medical services	10.6	11.2	10.0	8.0	12.7	6.4	15.8	5.2	10.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>17.2</i>	<i>18.0</i>	<i>15.2</i>	<i>13.8</i>	<i>22.7</i>	<i>13.2</i>	<i>23.5</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>17.0</i>
Behavioural skills									
Conflict resolution	2.6	4.3	5.1	1.7	9.6	3.2	9.8	0.6	4.5
Anger management	3.8	5.8	6.1	2.1	9.3	3.6	13.7	1.2	5.5
Living skills/personal development	5.7	5.7	8.3	1.8	7.6	1.8	8.7	5.2	6.0
Social skills	8.6	8.0	12.2	3.4	12.0	6.4	19.7	3.1	8.9
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i>12.5</i>	<i>16.8</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>17.9</i>	<i>7.3</i>	<i>23.0</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>13.1</i>

continued

Table 4.1 (continued): Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by State and Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Other									
Culturally appropriate support	6.2	6.4	4.8	8.4	6.7	1.8	15.3	10.4	6.5
Interpreter services	0.7	0.8	0.2	2.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Legal issues/court support	1.4	7.3	2.9	2.6	6.4	2.7	4.9	0.9	4.6
Child care	21.5	16.6	16.1	16.3	26.7	28.6	36.1	10.1	18.8
Financial assistance/material aid	12.6	15.1	18.2	11.8	17.7	10.0	15.3	33.4	15.9
Brokerage services	2.5	2.5	2.0	0.1	0.6	0.0	6.0	1.8	1.9
Transport	32.3	21.1	30.3	21.6	28.1	17.3	27.3	21.2	25.4
Recreation and sporting activities	16.6	11.3	21.6	10.4	16.7	12.3	16.4	18.4	15.0
Advice and information	18.4	20.9	22.5	9.8	29.3	6.8	18.0	13.8	20.1
Advocacy/liaison on behalf of the child	23.4	24.5	16.6	13.0	29.1	8.2	28.4	11.3	21.3
Other (not specified above)	7.6	6.3	2.9	2.7	4.0	4.1	12.0	1.8	5.1
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>52.3</i>	<i>46.0</i>	<i>46.0</i>	<i>42.6</i>	<i>55.0</i>	<i>38.6</i>	<i>56.3</i>	<i>55.8</i>	<i>48.0</i>
Total number	1,198	3,182	1,732	920	1,066	220	183	326	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children were able to receive multiple services so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.2: Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by location, Australia 1998 (%)

	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Accommodation					
SAAP/CAP accommodation	46.4	52.5	49.3	53.6	47.9
Placement in community/foster care or other arrangement	2.3	2.1	3.0	0.2	2.4
Other housing	12.4	4.3	10.4	3.1	11.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>52.0</i>	<i>54.8</i>	<i>55.4</i>	<i>54.0</i>	<i>53.3</i>
Counselling/support					
Incest/sexual abuse	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.7
Domestic violence	9.8	2.1	9.7	1.9	9.1
Family/relationship	7.2	3.1	6.7	2.4	6.6
Emotional support/other counselling	21.7	17.3	21.6	12.1	21.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>25.6</i>	<i>18.4</i>	<i>25.8</i>	<i>12.8</i>	<i>24.7</i>
Education and income					
Assistance to obtain benefit/ pension/ other government allowance	2.2	0.7	1.3	0.5	1.8
Employment and training assistance	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.6
Education (including homework)	7.7	4.7	5.6	5.9	6.8
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>9.6</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>6.7</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>8.3</i>
Disability services					
Physical disability services	0.5	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.5
Intellectual disability services	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.7
Sensory disability services	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>1.3</i>
Health					
Psychological services	2.6	0.5	1.9	0.5	2.2
Psychiatric services	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.4
Family planning support	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.6
Pregnancy support	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2
Child health services (including immunisation)	9.9	9.7	6.2	4.0	8.5
Drug/alcohol support or rehabilitation	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4
Other health/medical services	12.0	6.9	8.7	7.6	10.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>19.3</i>	<i>13.7</i>	<i>14.4</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>17.0</i>
Behavioural skills					
Conflict resolution	5.4	4.0	3.5	0.9	4.5
Anger management	6.2	5.2	5.0	1.2	5.5
Living skills/personal development	6.8	6.1	4.6	4.7	6.0
Social skills	10.3	5.7	7.7	2.1	8.9
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>14.3</i>	<i>9.9</i>	<i>12.4</i>	<i>6.2</i>	<i>13.1</i>

continued

Table 4.2 (continued): Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by location, Australia 1998 (%)

	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Other					
Culturally appropriate support	7.5	6.1	4.4	9.0	6.5
Interpreter services	1.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.7
Legal issues/court support	5.2	3.3	4.5	0.7	4.6
Child care	19.9	15.1	19.0	7.3	18.8
Financial assistance/material aid	17.5	13.0	14.1	10.7	15.9
Brokerage services	2.2	4.7	1.3	0.0	1.9
Transport	24.5	30.3	26.2	25.4	25.4
Recreation and sporting activities	15.7	16.8	12.9	17.5	15.0
Advice and information	21.0	16.5	19.7	14.2	20.1
Advocacy/liaison on behalf of the child	22.8	25.5	19.7	10.2	21.3
Other (not specified above)	5.6	10.9	3.5	2.1	5.1
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>49.7</i>	<i>52.2</i>	<i>46.0</i>	<i>34.8</i>	<i>48.0</i>
Total number	5,239	423	2,743	422	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children were able to receive multiple services so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.3: Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Accommodation							
SAAP/CAP accommodation	45.4	44.2	30.1	56.9	49.2	39.1	47.9
Placement in community/foster care or other arrangement	2.4	5.3	0.5	2.7	2.2	2.6	2.4
Other housing	10.3	10.5	3.8	12.9	9.0	13.2	11.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>51.2</i>	<i>53.7</i>	<i>33.3</i>	<i>61.8</i>	<i>51.9</i>	<i>49.5</i>	<i>53.3</i>
Counselling/support							
Incest/sexual abuse	0.7	2.1	1.1	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.7
Domestic violence	2.1	7.4	0.5	4.0	16.3	5.8	9.1
Family/relationship	7.4	4.2	4.3	7.3	7.0	5.3	6.6
Emotional support/other counselling	13.8	22.1	3.2	21.1	26.6	15.9	21.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>16.3</i>	<i>24.2</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>23.6</i>	<i>31.2</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>24.7</i>
Education and income							
Assistance to obtain benefit/pension/other government allowance	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.8
Employment and training assistance	0.4	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.9	0.6
Education (including homework)	2.6	9.5	3.8	8.0	8.7	4.3	6.8
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>3.8</i>	<i>11.6</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>10.0</i>	<i>6.1</i>	<i>8.3</i>
Disability services							
Physical disability services	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.5
Intellectual disability services	0.3	0.0	0.5	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.7
Sensory disability services	0.3	1.1	0.0	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>2.3</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>1.3</i>
Health							
Psychological services	0.7	7.4	2.2	2.5	2.7	1.5	2.2
Psychiatric services	0.2	2.1	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.4
Family planning support	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.6
Pregnancy support	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Child health services (including immunisation)	12.7	13.7	10.8	10.7	8.4	3.9	8.5
Drug/alcohol support or rehabilitation	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.4
Other health/medical services	7.3	18.9	4.8	11.7	14.0	4.7	10.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>16.2</i>	<i>29.5</i>	<i>14.0</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>19.7</i>	<i>9.1</i>	<i>17.0</i>
Behavioural skills							
Conflict resolution	2.4	6.3	0.0	4.8	6.1	2.8	4.5
Anger management	2.8	9.5	1.1	5.4	7.7	3.4	5.5
Living skills/personal development	3.0	9.5	1.6	7.5	7.8	2.7	6.0
Social skills	5.2	11.6	2.7	10.9	11.8	3.8	8.9
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>9.1</i>	<i>21.1</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<i>15.2</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>13.1</i>

continued

Table 4.3 (continued): Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Other							
Culturally appropriate support	1.5	1.1	0.5	5.1	10.1	4.8	6.5
Interpreter services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.9	1.2	0.7
Legal issues/court support	3.9	1.1	2.2	3.2	6.8	3.1	4.6
Child care	14.6	15.8	9.1	18.0	27.1	8.0	18.8
Financial assistance/material aid	11.5	26.3	14.0	18.9	13.9	17.9	15.9
Brokerage services	2.3	18.9	5.4	2.1	1.5	1.1	1.9
Transport	21.1	30.5	16.1	28.1	31.8	13.8	25.4
Recreation and sporting activities	6.3	6.3	1.1	17.5	21.4	6.8	15.0
Advice and information	14.3	29.5	4.8	21.1	20.6	21.5	20.1
Advocacy/liaison on behalf of the child	12.9	27.4	5.4	23.3	24.4	18.9	21.3
Other (not specified above)	5.6	2.1	7.0	6.3	5.1	3.4	5.1
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>41.8</i>	<i>56.8</i>	<i>28.0</i>	<i>50.2</i>	<i>50.5</i>	<i>45.6</i>	<i>48.0</i>
Total number	922	95	186	2,120	3,503	2,001	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children were able to receive multiple services so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.4: Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

	Crisis/ short-term accomm.	Medium/ long-term accomm	Day support	Outreach support	Other	Australia
Accommodation						
SAAP/CAP accommodation	59.8	38.3	12.9	27.6	54.2	47.9
Placement in community/foster care or other arrangement	2.2	2.8	1.2	1.0	2.5	2.4
Other housing	9.1	14.7	14.7	6.3	5.1	11.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>62.2</i>	<i>47.3</i>	<i>25.8</i>	<i>31.4</i>	<i>55.9</i>	<i>53.3</i>
Counselling/support						
Incest/sexual abuse	1.6	2.0	1.8	0.3	1.1	1.7
Domestic violence	13.8	6.5	5.5	2.2	5.2	9.1
Family/relationship	6.6	6.7	3.1	3.8	7.6	6.6
Emotional support/other counselling	26.1	18.3	8.6	9.8	19.1	21.0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>29.5</i>	<i>22.3</i>	<i>10.4</i>	<i>11.1</i>	<i>23.6</i>	<i>24.7</i>
Education and income						
Assistance to obtain benefit/pension/other government allowance	1.6	1.5	0.0	1.9	3.5	1.8
Employment and training assistance	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.6
Education (including homework)	9.4	4.9	0.6	1.9	7.3	6.8
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>10.7</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>10.1</i>	<i>8.3</i>
Disability services						
Physical disability services	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.3	1.0	0.5
Intellectual disability services	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.3	1.0	0.7
Sensory disability services	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>1.3</i>
Health						
Psychological services	2.5	2.6	0.0	0.3	0.7	2.2
Psychiatric services	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.4
Family planning support	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.6
Pregnancy support	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.2
Child health services (including immunisation)	9.5	7.2	0.0	6.3	11.3	8.5
Drug/alcohol support or rehabilitation	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4
Other health/medical services	13.8	7.6	0.6	4.4	13.2	10.5
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>20.6</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>7.3</i>	<i>20.7</i>	<i>17.0</i>
Behavioural skills						
Conflict resolution	6.1	3.3	0.0	0.3	5.6	4.5
Anger management	7.7	4.2	0.0	1.6	5.4	5.5
Living skills/personal development	7.6	4.7	0.0	1.6	7.3	6.0
Social skills	11.6	6.7	0.0	1.9	11.0	8.9
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>16.6</i>	<i>10.7</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>14.7</i>	<i>13.1</i>

continued

Table 4.4 (continued): Accompanying children, support services provided or referred by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

	Crisis/ short term accomm.	Medium/ long term accomm.	Day support	Outreach support	Other	Australia
Other						
Culturally appropriate support	7.8	3.9	0.0	2.2	13.6	6.5
Interpreter services	0.9	0.6	0.0	1.0	0.9	0.7
Legal issues/court support	4.1	5.4	6.1	2.9	4.2	4.6
Child care	26.9	13.3	0.0	5.4	18.5	18.8
Financial assistance/material aid	14.2	15.0	27.0	35.2	17.0	15.9
Brokerage services	1.7	1.9	7.4	1.0	2.1	1.9
Transport	33.9	18.4	0.0	10.5	30.0	25.4
Recreation and sporting activities	22.0	8.6	0.6	1.6	20.1	15.0
Advice and information	22.8	17.1	28.2	6.7	24.2	20.1
Advocacy/liaison on behalf of the child	22.8	21.3	10.4	6.7	22.6	21.3
Other (not specified above)	5.7	5.6	3.7	2.9	2.1	5.1
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>53.0</i>	<i>42.9</i>	<i>39.3</i>	<i>42.9</i>	<i>52.1</i>	<i>48.0</i>
Total number	3,483	3,749	163	315	1,117	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children were able to receive multiple services so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

4.5.2 Case management and support plans

Table 4.5: Accompanying children, case management approach used/support plan developed, Australia 1998 (%)

	Case management †				Support plan ‡			
	Yes	No	NA	Total number	Yes	No	NA	Total number
State/Territory								
New South Wales	51.2	23.7	25.1	816	47.8	27.1	25.1	808
Victoria	48.8	21.0	30.2	2,175	48.3	22.4	29.3	2,173
Queensland	51.7	24.9	23.5	1,154	41.0	37.6	21.4	1,163
Western Australia	28.8	42.4	28.8	622	30.9	35.7	33.4	614
South Australia	58.9	18.4	22.7	815	52.4	24.7	22.9	813
Tasmania	37.1	27.9	35.0	140	43.9	28.0	28.0	132
Australian Capital Territory	65.0	16.3	18.7	123	52.9	19.5	27.6	123
Northern Territory	33.8	27.5	38.7	207	37.2	24.6	38.2	207
Location								
Capital city	54.9	19.7	25.4	3,542	49.8	23.7	26.5	3,518
Other metropolitan area	52.3	19.5	28.2	323	43.7	24.5	31.8	318
Rural area	39.3	30.9	29.8	1,933	39.6	34.0	26.5	1,944
Remote area	24.8	43.3	31.9	254	26.9	41.1	32.0	253
Primary target group								
Young people	44.0	20.2	35.9	685	34.9	32.1	33.0	676
Single men only	31.9	51.4	16.7	72	15.3	68.1	16.7	72
Single women only	38.9	46.7	14.4	90	25.8	55.1	19.1	89
Families	53.7	23.4	22.9	1,500	48.7	27.1	24.2	1,507
Women escaping DV	50.4	22.2	27.5	2,352	50.8	21.9	27.3	2,343
Cross target/multiple/general	43.5	27.9	28.7	1,353	39.7	32.5	27.8	1,346
Service delivery model								
Crisis/short-term accommodation	50.3	23.0	26.8	2,369	51.6	23.3	25.2	2,373
Medium/long-term accommodation	47.4	24.3	28.3	2,580	39.8	30.5	29.7	2,563
Day support	4.6	51.1	44.3	88	11.2	48.3	40.5	89
Outreach support	44.8	30.5	24.8	210	21.5	46.9	31.6	209
Other	52.7	23.1	24.2	805	53.6	25.0	21.4	799
<i>Total</i>	<i>48.6</i>	<i>24.2</i>	<i>27.2</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>45.2</i>	<i>27.7</i>	<i>27.0</i>	<i>100</i>
Australia	2,937	1,466	1,649	6,052	2,728	1,675	1,630	6,033

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 17†, 14‡
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 2758†, 2780‡
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.6: Accompanying children, closed support periods, duration of support provided to accompanying child by State and Territory, Australia 1998 (%)

Duration of support	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Less than 1 day	9.4	20.3	11.2	4.3	7.8	5.7	21.1	3.4	12.5
1–3 days	27.4	8.8	23.3	40.7	14.8	24.5	13.2	24.4	20.4
4–7 days	10.4	6.6	10.4	18.8	12.0	22.6	6.6	21.0	11.2
>1–2 weeks	9.9	8.7	9.7	12.6	4.8	10.4	5.3	19.3	9.6
>2–4 weeks	8.9	10.4	11.2	7.1	9.0	17.0	10.5	10.9	10.0
>4–6 weeks	10.7	11.2	9.0	1.8	6.9	10.4	17.1	0.0	8.6
>6 weeks	23.4	33.9	25.2	14.8	44.6	9.4	26.3	21.0	27.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
Total number	394	1,130	670	494	332	106	76	119	3,321

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.7: Accompanying children, closed support periods, duration of support provided to accompanying child by location, Australia 1998 (%)

Duration of support	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Less than 1 day	15.4	5.4	10.5	4.3	12.5
1–3 days	13.0	11.8	26.7	44.9	20.4
4–7 days	9.0	14.0	12.2	20.3	11.2
>1–2 weeks	8.0	3.2	11.5	13.6	9.6
>2–4 weeks	10.7	15.1	8.5	10.0	10.0
>4–6 weeks	10.8	11.8	6.8	0.7	8.6
>6 weeks	33.0	38.7	24.0	6.3	27.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total number	1,817	93	1,110	301	3,321

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.8: Accompanying children, closed support periods, duration of support provided to accompanying child by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

Duration of support	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Less than 1 day	15.6	51.6	0.0	2.7	6.0	32.0	12.5
1–3 days	35.1	22.6	0.0	8.2	25.9	10.1	20.4
4–7 days	6.4	12.9	11.1	3.7	14.7	9.0	11.2
>1–2 weeks	7.1	3.2	6.7	4.6	12.9	5.9	9.6
>2–4 weeks	5.7	6.5	4.4	11.6	10.6	9.7	10.0
>4–6 weeks	5.7	0.0	37.8	11.6	7.8	8.3	8.6
>6 weeks	24.5	3.2	40.0	57.5	22.1	25.1	27.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total number	282	31	45	438	1,791	734	3,321

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.9: Accompanying children, closed support periods, duration of support provided to accompanying child by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

Duration of support	Crisis/short-term accomm.	Medium/long-term accommodation	Day support	Outreach support	Other	Australia
Less than 1 day	6.7	9.3	94.4	12.8	12.2	12.5
1–3 days	28.4	4.4	2.5	48.0	19.6	20.4
4–7 days	15.7	4.1	1.9	6.4	13.1	11.2
>1–2 weeks	12.6	6.5	0.0	6.4	7.7	9.6
>2–4 weeks	11.2	11.4	0.0	2.4	7.4	10.0
>4–6 weeks	8.2	11.9	1.2	8.0	5.7	8.6
>6 weeks	17.3	52.3	0.0	16.0	34.4	27.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total number	1,782	901	161	125	352	3,321

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

4.5.4. Unmet needs

Table 4.10: Accompanying children, met and unmet need by type of support requested, Australia, 1998 (%)

Met and unmet demand	Accommodation	Counselling/ support	Education & income	Disability services	Health services	Behavioural skills	Other	Total
Provided or referred	94.2	83.9	88.7	82.2	89.0	81.8	94.3	90.1
Unmet	5.7	16.0	11.2	17.8	10.9	18.1	5.6	9.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total number	5,742	4,032	910	191	2,248	2,692	6,914	22,729

Source: SAAP NDCA Client Collection

Table 4.11: Accompanying children, unmet needs, support services requested location, Australia 1998 (%)

Support services	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Accommodation	4.1	6.1	2.2	0.5	3.4
Counselling/support	4.6	4.7	4.9	3.6	4.7
Education and income	1.1	1.7	0.8	0.7	1.0
Disability services	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.3
Health services	2.6	4.7	1.5	0.0	2.2
Behavioural skills	3.3	2.6	3.3	1.2	3.2
Other	4.5	6.1	3.9	0.7	4.2
Total number	5,239	423	2,743	422	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children were able to receive multiple support services so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.12: Accompanying children, unmet needs, support services requested by primary target group, Australia 1998 (%)

Support Services	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Accommodation	1.8	5.3	1.1	3.0	2.3	6.7	3.4
Counselling/support	2.2	3.2	2.2	3.9	6.1	4.5	4.7
Education and income	0.9	1.1	0.0	1.2	0.8	1.5	1.0
Disability services	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3
Health	3.3	5.3	1.1	2.9	1.5	2.1	2.2
Behavioural skills	2.3	3.2	4.8	4.8	2.9	2.1	3.2
Other	4.1	3.2	4.3	5.0	3.6	4.5	4.2
Total number	922	95	186	2,120	3,503	2,001	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children were able to receive multiple support services so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 4.13: Accompanying children, unmet needs, support services requested by service delivery model, Australia 1998 (%)

Support services	Crisis/short-term accommodation	Medium/long-term accommodation	Day support	Outreach support	Other	Australia
Accommodation	2.8	4.0	6.1	0.0	4.1	3.4
Counselling/support	4.9	5.1	3.7	1.3	3.4	4.7
Education and income	1.2	0.7	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.0
Disability services	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3
Health	2.1	2.1	1.2	1.9	2.9	2.2
Behavioural skills	3.5	3.3	1.2	0.6	2.8	3.2
Other	3.4	4.8	4.9	1.3	5.6	4.2
Total number	3,483	3,749	163	315	1,117	8,827

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 0
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Accompanying children were able to receive multiple support services so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

PART B

Agency Profile

5 Agency profile

The Accompanying Children Collection was made up of two parts: a form collecting data on the children themselves (as has been discussed in preceding chapters); and a form collecting data on the SAAP agencies providing services to accompanying children, known as the agency profile. This chapter outlines the details as provided by participating SAAP agencies regarding their ability to provide services to accompanying children. Aspects covered include facilities, accessibility, case management, links with other services, and the number, qualifications and experience of SAAP agency workers.

In total, 518 agencies returned agency profiles to the SAAP NDCA. These 518 responses were returned from a possible 1,103 'in scope' agencies, a participation rate of 47% of agencies. From the 518 agencies that returned profiles, some may have also returned Accompanying Child forms, others may have only returned an agency profile and not returned any Accompanying Child forms, and other agencies may have only returned Accompanying Child forms and chosen not to return an agency profile. As such, the reader must remain aware that some agencies participation in the Collection is uncertain. Nonetheless some valuable data was provided by those agencies that did participate in the agency profile as is outlined in the following sections.

5.1 Resources and facilities at SAAP agencies

RESOURCES & FACILITIES

- Indoor play area(s)
- Outdoor play area(s)
- Safe & appropriate indoor play equipment
- Safe & appropriate outdoor play equipment
- Covered outdoor area
- Quiet/private/discreet indoor space
- Quiet/private/discreet outdoor space
- Study area
- Areas suitable for teenagers
- Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints
- Equipment for babies (cots/change table)
- Information available on children's services
- Information available on children's services in other languages

Amongst the agencies that participated in the agency profile there seems to be a significant amount of variation in the level of access and need for appropriate facilities and equipment for accompanying children. The discussion of resources and facilities at SAAP agencies is divided into three categories: agencies with facilities on site; agencies with facilities accessible off site; and agencies that need access to facilities. The agency was requested to indicate from a list of thirteen categories the various types of resources and facilities they had on site, had access to off site or that they needed access to (as outlined in the grey reference box).

The agency profile form also asked agencies to provide an indication of whether they have, have access to or need day care, after school care and occasional care facilities (discussed in section 5.1.2), and provide an

indication of the level of accessibility of their agency for prams and clients with disabilities (section 5.1.3).

5.1.1 Facilities

Overall, 38% of agencies indicated that they had at least one of the listed resources and facilities located at their agency, 10% indicated that they could gain access to such facilities off site, whilst an average of 29% of agencies indicated that they did not have access to some of these facilities and hence needed them. Below is a more comprehensive discussion of the agencies that 'Have', 'Have access to' and those that 'Need' resources and facilities for children.

Agencies with facilities on site

On a national level, the majority of agencies, that is, more than 50%, that participated in the agency profile indicated that their agency had access to facilities such as information on children's services (68%), motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (63%), and a quiet/private/discreet indoor space (54%) (Table 5.1). Slightly fewer agencies (approximately one-third or more) indicated that they had facilities such as outdoor (41%) and indoor (40%) play areas, equipment for babies (40%), safe and appropriate indoor play equipment (37%), areas suitable for teenagers (32%) and quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (31%).

On a State and Territory level some variations in the types of facilities and resources found at SAAP agencies suitable for accompanying children can be seen, compared to the national average. From the 13 categories of resources and facilities listed the Northern Territory and Western Australia were above the national average in 10 and 12 of the 13 categories respectively. More specifically across the States and Territories:

- Victoria reported the highest proportion of agencies with on site access to a quiet/private/discreet space for children (63%);
- South Australia reported the highest proportion of agencies with indoor (53%) and outdoor (60%) play areas as well as 50% reporting they had on site access to a covered outdoor area;
- Tasmanian agencies reported the highest proportion with access on site to safe and appropriate indoor play equipment (44%) and information available on children's services (88%);
- agencies in the Northern Territory reported the highest proportion with access to safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (46%), study areas (46%), motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (92%) and equipment for babies (77%); and
- Western Australia reported having the highest percentage of agencies with areas suitable for teenagers (50%) and with information available on children's services in other languages (19%).

A comparison of facilities by location reveals that agencies located in capital cities had the greatest access to resources for children on site. Ten out of the 13 categories were above the national averages in agencies located in capital cities (Table 5.2). More specifically, agencies in capital cities had greater access on site to motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (64%), indoor play areas (45%),

safe and appropriate indoor play equipment (40%), and information on children's services in other languages (14%) than agencies located in other metropolitan, rural or remote areas. In other metropolitan areas more agencies had access to equipment for babies (47%), areas suitable for teenagers (42%), covered outdoor areas (31%) and study areas (28%) than agencies in other locations. In rural areas more agencies had access to information on children's services (73%) and quiet/private/discreet indoor space (58%). Whilst in remote areas more agencies had access to outdoor play area(s) (65%), safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (44%) and quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (44%) than in other locations.

Agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence reported the highest levels of access to on-site resources and facilities out of all the primary target groups. Such agencies more often had access to motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (90%), information on children's services (85%), equipment for babies (75%), indoor play area(s) (75%), outdoor play area(s) (75%), safe and appropriate indoor play equipment (72%), safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (62%), quiet/private/discreet indoor (60%) and outdoor (50%) space, and information on children's services in other languages (18%) than any other primary target group. This result stands to reason because of their target group and because agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence reported the greatest numbers of accompanying children attending any of the primary target groups, hence their resources are specifically designed to cater to such clients. Agencies that target young people more often had areas suitable for teenagers (55%) and study areas (30%) than other primary target groups. Agencies targeting single men more often had covered outdoor areas (44%) than other primary target groups.

A similar one-sided result in the 'Have' category can be noted for service delivery model comparisons (Table 5.4). Crisis or short-term service providers more often had access on site to outdoor (61%) and indoor (52%) play areas, equipment for babies (55%), safe and appropriate indoor (47%) and outdoor (45%) play equipment, quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (41%), covered outdoor areas (39%) and study areas (27%) than other service delivery models. Medium- to long-term service providers more often had access on site to information on children's services (70%), motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (65%) and quiet/private/discreet indoor space (60%), than other service providers. Other forms of service and accommodation providers more often had access to areas suitable for teenagers (41%) and information available on children's services in other languages (15%).

Agencies with facilities accessible off site

Whilst some agencies may not have access to resources and facilities suitable for accompanying children on site at their agency, they may be able to gain access to such amenities elsewhere. It was most common for agencies to gain access off site to resources such as information on children's services (23%), information on children's services in other languages (22%), and outdoor play areas (14%). It was least common for agencies around Australia to be able to gain off-site access to safe and appropriate indoor play equipment (7%) and covered outdoor play equipment (4%) if their agency did not have such facilities (Table 5.5).

Across the States and Territories, out of the 13 categories of resources and facilities, Victoria and Tasmania were above the national average for 12 and

eight of the categories respectively, hence they had greater access to off-site facilities for children (Table 5.5). The Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory agencies indicated that they had no off-site access to some categories at all such as areas suitable for teenagers, motor vehicles with appropriate restraints, quiet/private/discreet outdoor or indoor space, or covered outdoor areas.

Across locations it appears that it is easier for agencies located in capital city (11%) or rural areas (11%) to gain access to off-site resources for children than in other metropolitan (8%) and remote areas (8%) (Table 5.6). More specifically, agencies located in capital cities were more often able to gain access off site to resources such as outdoor (15%) and indoor play areas (11%), safe and appropriate outdoor (11%) and indoor (8%) play equipment, and study areas (11%) compared to agencies in other locations. Agencies in other metropolitan areas more often were able to gain access to off-site covered outdoor areas (11%) for children to use compared to agencies in other locations. Agencies in rural areas were more often able to gain off-site access to areas suitable for teenagers (13%), equipment for babies (11%) and quiet/private/discreet indoor (10%) and outdoor (10%) space for children compared to agencies in other locations, whilst more agencies in remote areas reported being able to gain off-site access to resources such as information on children's services (26%), information on children's services in other languages (26%) and motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (13%) compared to agencies in other locations.

Agencies that target young people and single women reported having greater access to off-site facilities than other primary target groups (Table 5.7). Interestingly, both of these primary target groups reported having lower access to such facilities on site and presumably had to develop off-site contingencies for assisting children attending their agencies. Single men-only agencies had by far the least options for off-site use of resources for accompanying children. They also reported the lowest level of access to children's on site facilities of any primary target group. Single men's agencies who participated in the agency profile indicated that they had no off-site access at all to resources such as indoor play area(s), safe and appropriate indoor or outdoor play equipment, covered outdoor areas, or equipment for babies. However, their results should be viewed in the context that single men-only agencies also reported the fewest accompanying children of all primary target groups. For other primary target groups, agencies targeting young people more often reported having access to off-site facilities for children such as information on children's services (26%), indoor play areas (12%), motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (10%), quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (9%) and covered outdoor areas (6%) compared to other primary target agencies. Even though agencies targeting single men only reported having no off-site access at all to children's resources in many categories, they more often reported having off-site access to areas suitable for teenagers (13%) compared to other primary target groups. Agencies targeting single women only more often reported having off site access to safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (22%), outdoor play areas (17%), study areas (17%), a quiet/private/discreet indoor space (11%) and indoor play equipment (11%) for accompanying children, compared to other primary target groups. Agencies targeting families more often reported having off-site access to information on children's services in other languages (31%) than other primary target groups, whilst agencies with cross target, multiple target and general client groups more often reported having off-site access to equipment for babies (15%) compared to other primary target groups.

Across service delivery models, medium- to long-term and outreach service providers reported having the greatest access to off-site facilities for children (Table 5.8). More specifically, medium- to long-term service providers reported having the most off-site access to information on children's services in other languages (26%), outdoor play areas (17%), safe and appropriate outdoor (12%) and indoor (10%) play equipment, equipment for babies (11%), quiet/private/discreet indoor space (9%) and motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (9%) compared to other service delivery models. Outreach service providers more often reported having off-site access to areas suitable for teenagers (21%), study areas (14%), covered outdoor areas (14%) and indoor play areas (14%) than other service delivery models. Other forms of service providers more often reported having off-site access to information on children's services (27%) and a quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (9%) compared to other service delivery models.

Agencies that need access to facilities

A significant proportion of agencies indicated that they were in need of many resources for children. Around 40% of the agencies that provided an agency profile were in need of a covered outdoor area (45%), safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (38%), and information on children's services in other languages (37%). Other common needs were for safe and appropriate indoor (33%) and outdoor (45%) equipment, study areas (33%), areas suitable for teenagers (33%), and a quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (32%) (Table 5.9).

In terms of location (Table 5.10), agencies located in remote areas more often reported needing safe and appropriate indoor (44%) and outdoor (44%) play equipment, areas suitable for teenagers (44%), equipment for babies (39%), study areas (35%), and indoor play areas (30%) than agencies in other locations. Agencies located in rural areas more often reported needing covered outdoor areas (48%), a quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (36%), and outdoor play areas (32%). Agencies located in other metropolitan areas more often reported needing information available on children's services (11%) compared to agencies in other locations, whilst agencies located in capital city areas more often reported needing information on children's services in other languages (41%) and quiet/private/discreet indoor space (27%).

Across the primary target groups agencies targeting families and cross target, multiple target and general client groups appear to have the greatest need for resources and facilities to cater to accompanying children. Out of the 13 categories of resources and facilities, agencies targeting families reported averages above the national average in 11 of the categories, whilst cross target, multiple target and general client agencies reported averages above the national average in nine of the categories (Table 5.11). Single men-only agencies reported the lowest level of need across nearly all 13 categories, presumably because they rarely have accompanying children attending their agencies. More specifically across the 13 categories, agencies targeting young people more often reported needing information available on children's services (11%) than any other primary target groups. Agencies targeting single women only more often reported needing safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment (56%), outdoor (44%) and indoor (44%) play areas, and quiet/private/discreet indoor space (39%), than other primary target groups. Agencies targeting families more often reported needing covered outdoor areas (58%), quiet/private/discreet outdoor space (46%), safe and appropriate indoor play equipment (46%), and equipment

for babies (34%), than other primary target groups. Agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence more often reported needing areas suitable for teenagers (61%), information on children's services in other languages (56%), and study areas (53%) than other primary target groups, whilst agencies with cross target, multiple target or general client groups more often reported needing motor vehicles with appropriate restraints (18%) than other primary target groups.

Across service delivery models, outreach service providers indicated that they were in need of the majority of resources from the 13 categories with an average of 43% compared to the national average of 29%. Medium- to long-term service providers also reported a high level of need (32%) compared to the national average (29%). More specifically across the 13 categories of resources and facilities, crisis or short-term service providers indicated that they required areas suitable for teenagers (40%) and study areas (38%) compared to other service models.

5.1.2 Child care facilities

Agencies with facilities on site

Of those agencies that participated in the agency profile it was not common to have day care, after school care and occasional care at the agency. Only 12% of agencies had day care or after-school services, whilst 13% indicated that they had occasional care services (Table 5.13).

Of all the States and Territories, Queensland reported the smallest number of agencies with any of the child care facilities mentioned, whereas Victorian agencies reported having much better access to such facilities on site (Table 5.13).

As might be expected, across geographical locations agencies in capital cities reported having access to such child care facilities on site much more frequently than agencies in other locations. Comparatively, agencies in remote locations reported much lower levels of on-site access to child care facilities, in particular no agencies at all reported having after school care services on site.

A similar dichotomy exists across primary target groups, where agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence reported the highest numbers of agencies with access on site to child care facilities (20% or more), whereas no agencies targeting single men reported having access to any of the child care services on site.

The crisis or short-term service delivery model providers reported the highest proportion of agencies with access to on-site after school care (20%) and day care (17%), whilst Outreach service providers reported the highest level of access to occasional care (27%).

Agencies with access to facilities off site

Across the States and Territories, all States except Tasmania reported 50% or more of agencies having access to day care facilities. Access to after school care was slightly less common across the States and Territories (Table 5.14): 50% or more agencies had access to after school care in the Northern Territory (80%), South Australia (60%), Queensland (56%) and Western Australia (54%), but it was much lower in other locales. Comparatively, less than 50% of agencies had

access to occasional care in New South Wales (43%), Tasmania (42%) and the Australian Capital Territory (30%).

Across locations, agencies in other metropolitan areas reported having much better off-site access to day care (70%) and after school care facilities (59%) than agencies in other locations. Agencies located in rural areas reported better access to occasional care (59%) than other locations. Comparatively, remote areas reported having the least number of agencies with access to day care (53%) and occasional care facilities (41%), whilst agencies in capital cities reported the least number of agencies with access to after school care (47%).

The level of access to child facilities across the primary target groups varied quite significantly. For example, agencies targeting single women reported the best level of off-site access to day care (71%), agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence had the best level of access to after school care facilities (59%) and cross target, multiple target or general client agencies reported the best level of access to occasional care facilities (63%). Agencies targeting young people reported having the least number of agencies with access to after school care and occasional care (42% respectively), whilst agencies targeting single men reported having the least number of agencies with access to day care (43%).

Overall crisis or short-term service delivery models reported having the best level of off-site access to day care (67%), after school care (55%) and occasional care (58%) compared to other service delivery models. Comparatively 'other' forms of delivery models reported the lowest level of access to child care facilities.

Agencies that need access to facilities

Around Australia, 40% or more of agencies in the Australian Capital Territory (60%), Tasmania (50%), Queensland (42%) and New South Wales (40%) indicated that they need occasional care facilities. Western Australian agencies reported the highest level of need for day care (29%) and after school care (36%) compared to all other States and Territories, whilst out of the small number of Northern Territory agencies who participated, very few if any reported a need for after school care (10%), day care (0%) or occasional care (0%) (Table 5.15).

Across locations, agencies in remote areas reported the greatest level of need for day care (41%) and after school care facilities (35%), whilst agencies in other metropolitan areas reported the greatest need for occasional care across the locations (56%).

Agencies whose primary target group was young people reported the greatest level of need for day care (30%) and occasional care facilities (48%), whereas agencies targeting families reported the greatest level of need for after school care (32%).

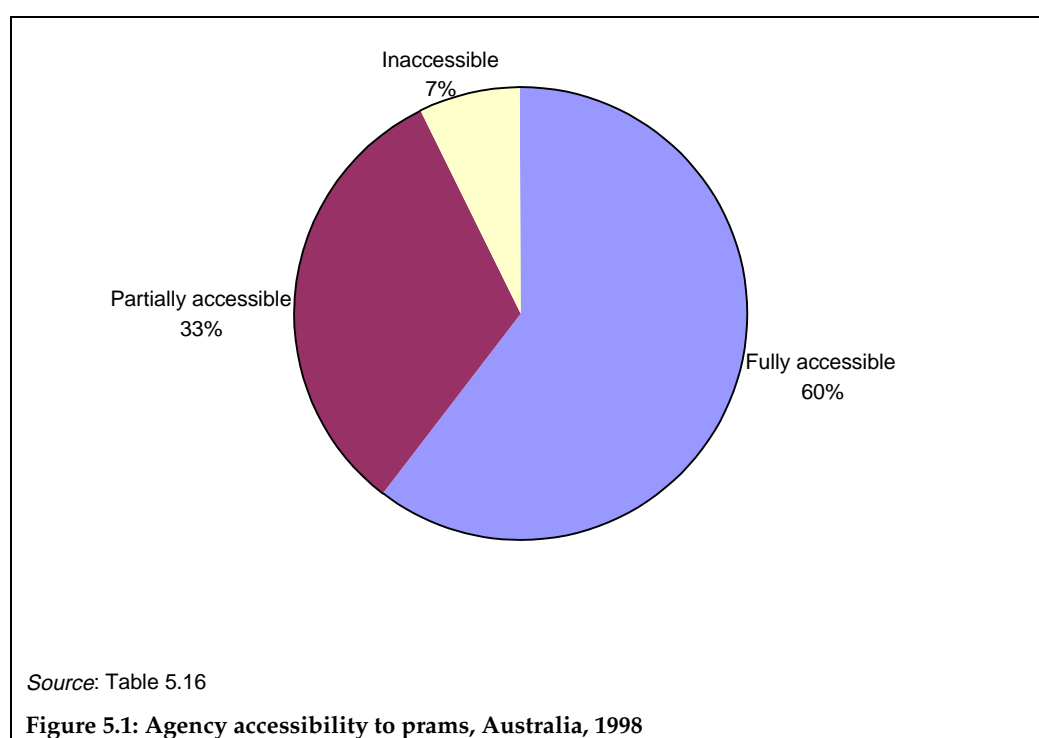
Of the service delivery models, outreach service providers indicated the greatest need for day care services (27%) whilst 'other' forms of service provider reported the greatest need for after school care (30%) and occasional care (61%).

5.2 Physical accessibility to agencies

Physical accessibility of agencies to clients with children in prams or with a disability is an important issue. In the agency profile an agency could be classified as inaccessible, partially accessible or fully accessible to accompanying children with a disability or those attending the agency with a pram. Outlined below are the results from the agency profile describing the level of accessibility of SAAP agencies for children with a disability or for children in prams.

5.2.1 Pram access

Overall, 60% of SAAP agencies that participated in the agency profile indicated that their site was fully accessible to children in prams, 33% were partially accessible, whilst 7% were inaccessible to prams (Figure 5.1).



Of all the States and Territories, South Australia reported the greatest number of agencies (71%) that were fully accessible to prams, whilst Northern Territory agencies reported the highest number of agencies that were inaccessible to prams (15%) (Table 5.16).

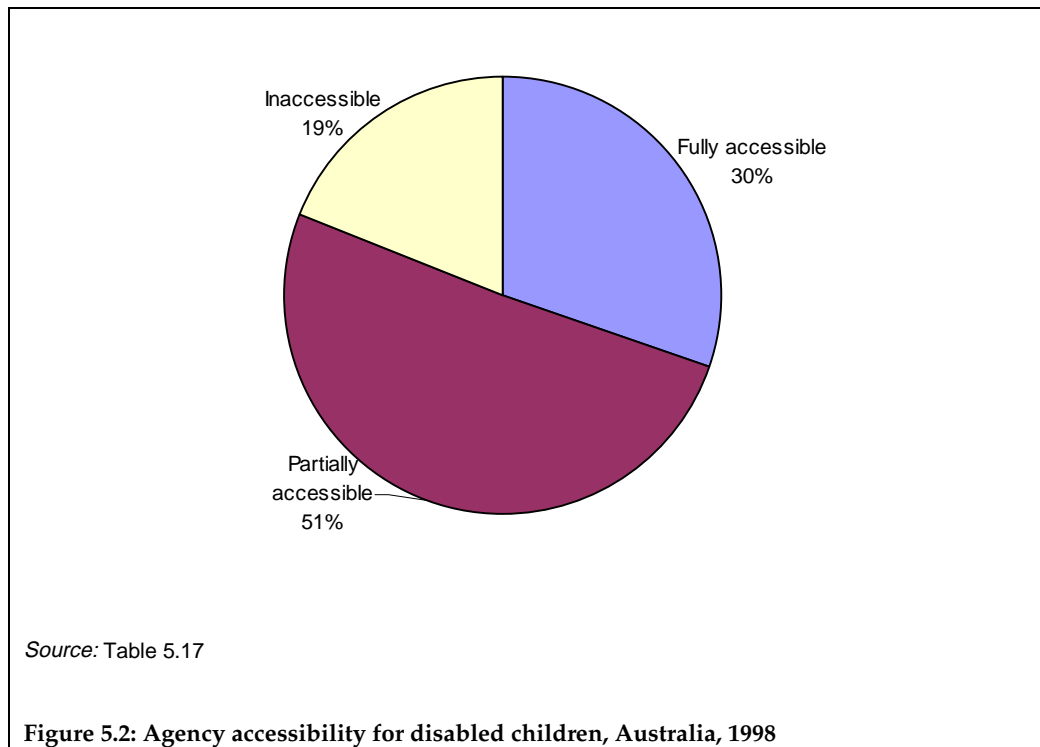
Across all four different locations the greatest number of agencies that reported being inaccessible to prams were located in rural areas (9%), whilst agencies in remote areas indicated that none of their agencies were inaccessible to prams.

Of the primary target groups, agencies that target families reported by far the highest proportion that were fully accessible to prams (78%). A much smaller number of agencies which target single men only indicated that they were fully accessible (39%), with this group having the greatest proportion completely inaccessible (23%) of all target groups.

Finally, the level of accessibility of agencies to prams across the service delivery models ranged between 53% and 61%, whilst inaccessibility was below 10% for all models.

5.2.2 Disability

The majority of agencies who participated in the Agency Profile indicated that they were partially accessible to clients with a physical disability or with an accompanying child with a disability (51%). A considerable number (30%) reported being fully accessible whilst the remaining 19% reported that they were inaccessible (Figure 5.2).



The greatest number of agencies that indicated they were fully accessible for accompanying children with a disability were located in Victoria (39%). The highest level of inaccessibility existed in agencies situated in the Australian Capital Territory (29%) (Table 5.17). Interestingly, of all the locations, agencies in remote areas indicated that they had both the highest level of full accessibility (42%) as well as the highest level of inaccessibility (29%). Of the primary target groups, the greatest proportion of agencies that indicated their facilities were fully accessible for children with disabilities were those with cross target, multiple target and general client groups (42%). Agencies targeting single men reported the greatest level of inaccessibility (37%). Across the service delivery models the level of full accessibility across all agencies was roughly similar at around 30%, however the level of inaccessibility was much higher for crisis or short-term accommodation service providers (25%) than for other delivery models.

5.3 Services at SAAP agencies

Amongst the many services that SAAP agencies provide to clients, the agency profile for the Accompanying Children Collection focuses on case management or support plans and the types of links that the agencies have to other external sources important in dealing with children. The results detailing the usage of case management and links with other services are outlined below.

5.3.1 Case management

The majority of agencies had specific case management or support plans for families (77%), fewer had support plans for children (47%). Overall, 21% of agencies had no specific support plan approach for children and families.

The Northern Territory had the highest percentage (79%) of agencies using case management for accompanying children compared to the national average (47%), whereas South Australia had the lowest percentage (40%) of agencies using case management for accompanying children (Table 5.18). Victoria had the highest percentage of agencies using a case management approach for families (85%) compared to the national average (77%), whilst the Australian Capital Territory had the lowest (54%). Further to this, the Australian Capital Territory had the highest number of agencies with no specific case management approach (39%).

Across differing geographical locations, other metropolitan areas had the highest proportion of agencies using support plans for children (59%), rural areas had the highest proportion of agencies using support plans for families (79%), whilst agencies in remote areas had the highest number of agencies with no specific support plans (32%) (Table 5.19).

Agencies whose primary target group was women escaping domestic violence most frequently used case management for children (63%) (Table 5.20). Almost all family agencies used support plans for family groups (98%), much higher than the national average (77%). The majority of single men's agencies did not use a case management approach for children or families (65%).

Among service delivery models, crisis or short-term accommodation services had the highest percentage of agencies using support plans for children (54%), whereas medium- to long-term service providers had the greatest percentage of agencies using support plans for families (83%). Outreach service providers reported the highest number of agencies without a specific case management approach for children and families (50%), compared to the national average (21%).

5.3.2 Links with other services

More than 80% of SAAP agencies reported having links with other services for working with children, such as child welfare/protective services (88%), counselling services (88%), social security (84%) and health/medical services (83%) (Table 5.22). More than 60% of agencies around Australia had links with other services such as mental health services (77%), legal services (73%) childcare centre/child minding (64%), and kindergarten/preschool/school (62%). Much fewer agencies had links with migrant resource centres (41%) or 'other' services (17%).

More specifically, across the States and Territories, the highest percentage of agencies that had links to services such as childcare centre/child minding (85%), kindergarten/preschool/school (85%), migrant resources (92%), mental health services (92%), social security (92%), legal services (85%) and other services (23%) were located in the Northern Territory (though it must be noted that the Northern Territory made up the smallest proportion of total agencies to respond to the agency profile). Victorian agencies reported the highest percentage of agencies with links to counselling services (94%), agencies in South Australia reported the highest percentage of agencies with links to health/medical services (92%), whilst Tasmanian agencies reported the best level of access to child welfare/protective services (100%).

A comparison across differing locations of agency links to other children's services shows that agencies located in capital cities reported having greater access to legal services (76%) compared to agencies in other locations, agencies in rural areas reported higher levels of access to other children's services such as child welfare/protective services (94%) and child care (70%). Agencies in other metropolitan and remote areas reported greater extremes in access levels, that is, greater access to some links and lower level access to others. For example, agencies in other metropolitan areas had much better access to migrant resource centres (53%) compared to the national average (41%), but worse access to legal services (63%) compared to the national average (73%). Similarly, agencies in remote areas reported much better access to kindergartens and preschools (83%) compared to the national average (62%), but much worse access to migrant resource centres (28%) compared to the national average (41%).

Of all the primary target groups, agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence reported having greater links with other services for children (78%) compared to the national average (68%), whilst agencies targeting single men had comparatively few links to such services (44%). Out of the 10 types of services the NDCA asked about in the profile, agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence reported having better access to seven of those services (child care 83%, kindergartens 87%, migrant resource centres 61%, counselling services 92%, health services 92%, social security 87% and protective services 98%) compared to other target groups. Comparatively agencies targeting single women had better access to legal services (88%) and other types of services (29%), and youth target group agencies had better access to counselling services (91%) and mental health services (81%) for children compared to other agencies.

5.4 Human resources

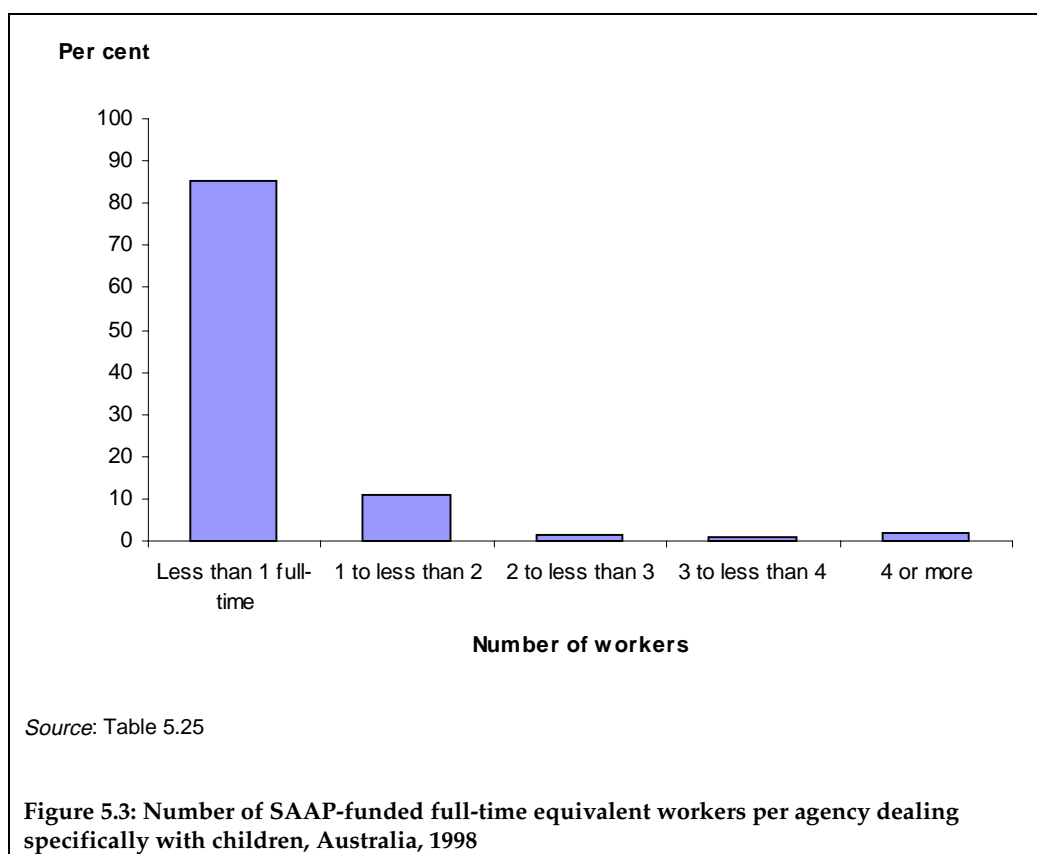
The agency profile sought to research the number of SAAP-funded workers specifically dealing with children as well as their level of qualifications and experience. SAAP agencies were therefore asked to distinguish between the number of SAAP-funded workers they had that specifically dealt with children compared to all other SAAP-funded workers at their agency. The results are outlined below.

5.4.1 Number of workers

SAAP-funded child-specific or targeted workers

The vast majority of agencies (85%) reported having less than one full-time worker specifically dealing with accompanying children. Only 4% of agencies reported having two or more SAAP-funded workers that specifically dealt with children (Figure 5.3).

A similar pattern existed across most States and Territories, with a few exceptions (Table 5.25). For example, 100% of SAAP agencies in the Australian Capital Territory indicated that they had less than one full-time worker targeting children. This can be contrasted with other States like Queensland and South Australia where more agencies had one to less than two full-time workers targeting children (16% each). Seven per cent of Northern Territory agencies indicated that they had four or more workers targeting children which was much higher than all other States or Territories (the national average for this number of workers was 2%). Interestingly, no agencies in Victoria or Tasmania had more than two workers targeting children.



Again, the vast majority of agencies across locations had less than one full-time worker targeting children (Table 5.26). No agencies located in other metropolitan areas had any more than one to less than two workers, whilst no agencies located in remote areas had more than two to less than three workers. Agencies located in capital cities and rural areas ranged in the number of workers targeting children from less than one to four or more, though the majority in both locations had less than one (83% and 88% respectively).

Much larger variations in the proportions of SAAP workers that specifically deal with children can be seen when comparing primary target groups (Table 5.27). Whilst more than 90% of agencies targeting young people, single men, single women and cross target, multiple target and general client groups reported having less than one full-time worker targeting children, agencies targeting families and women escaping domestic violence were much different. Eighty per cent of agencies targeting family groups and only 59% of agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence reported having less than one full-time worker for children. A relatively large number of family agencies reported more often having one to less than two workers (13%) and 5% of agencies reported having four or more workers specifically dealing with children. A large proportion of agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence (35%) reported that they had one to less than two workers, and a small number had four or more workers dealing with children. No agencies targeting single women and cross target, multiple target and general client groups reported having more than one to less than two workers dealing with children.

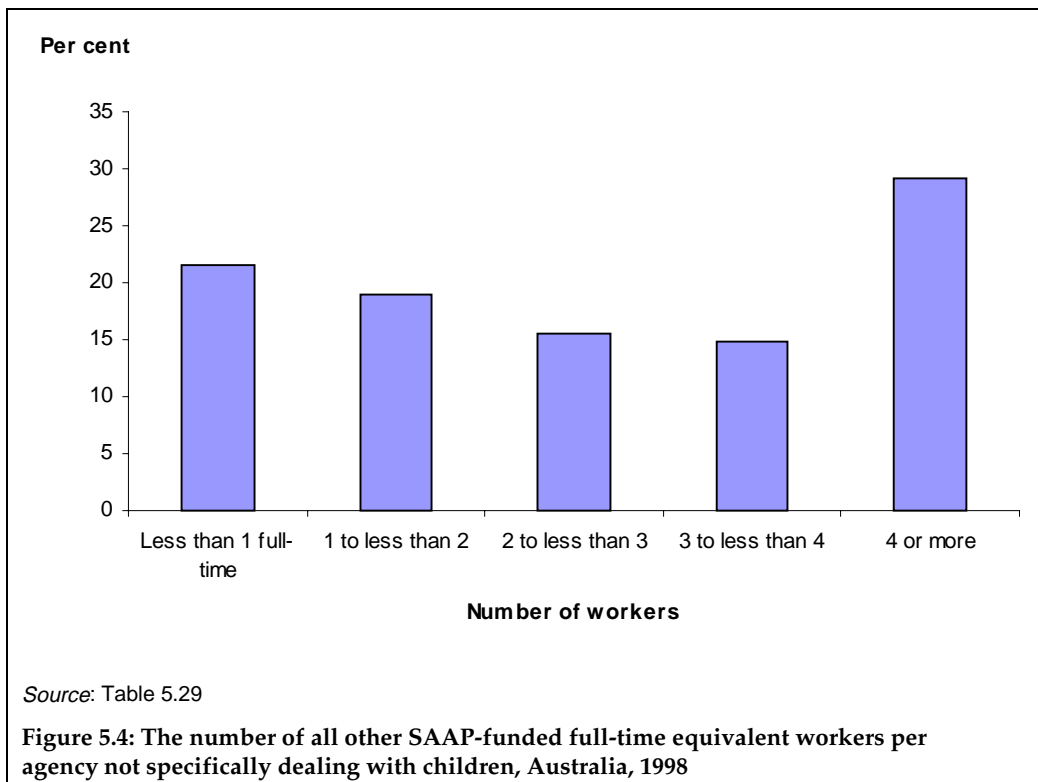
In terms of service delivery models, 85% or more of medium- to long-term service providers, outreach services and 'other' forms of service providers reported having less than one full-time worker specifically for children (Table 5.28). Crisis or short-term service providers reported fewer agencies with less than one full-time worker (74%) and a much greater number of agencies with one to less than two workers targeting children (21%), compared to other service delivery models. Outreach service providers and 'other' forms of service providers reported the greatest number of agencies with four or more workers for children (6% and 4% respectively).

Other SAAP-funded non-child-specific workers

The number of workers across SAAP agencies who deal with clients other than accompanying children ranged from between less than one full time worker to four or more (Table 5.29). The largest proportion of agencies (29%) indicated that they had four or more workers, 22% had less than one full-time equivalent worker(s), 19% had one to less than two full-time workers, 16% had two to less than three, whilst 15% had three to less than four workers (Figure 5.4).

Participating agencies in Victoria (33%), Queensland (27%), South Australia (45%), Western Australia (49%) and Tasmania (32%) most commonly reported having four or more SAAP-funded agency workers. However, South Australia (24%) and Western Australia (29%), along with the Northern Territory (29%) and New South Wales (33%), reported the largest proportion of agencies with less than one full-time equivalent worker. Further to this, agencies located in New South Wales had the greatest proportion of less than one or no full-time worker (33%), whilst Northern Territory agencies most frequently reported having three or more full-time workers (36%) and the Australian Capital Territory most frequently reported having one to less than two (44%) (Table 5.29).

Across locations it was most common for agencies located in capital cities and rural areas to report that they had four or more SAAP-funded workers (32% and 28% respectively). Comparatively, agencies located in other metropolitan and remote areas more frequently reported having one to less than two full-time equivalent workers (29% and 27% respectively). Agencies located in remote areas also reported the largest proportion of agencies with less than 1 full-time equivalent worker (27%) (Table 5.30).



Across the primary target groups, agencies targeting single women (42%), women escaping domestic violence (40%) and young people (33%) recorded the greatest number of agencies with four or more full-time equivalent workers. Of the number of agencies targeting single men only, the greatest proportion reported having less than one full-time worker (35%), whilst agencies with cross target, multiple target and general client groups most commonly reported having one to less than two full-time workers, and agencies targeting families reported most frequently that they had two to less than three SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers.

Finally, across service delivery models, the greatest proportion of crisis or short-term accommodation (40%) and 'other' service providers (26%) reported having four or more SAAP-funded full-time workers, whilst outreach (47%) and medium- to long-term accommodation (25%) service providers most frequently reported having one to less than two workers per agency. As well as reporting the highest number of agencies with four or more full-time equivalent workers, crisis or short-term service providers reported the highest number of agencies with less than one full-time worker (26%)

5.4.2 Qualifications of workers

The response to the question on qualifications and experience of workers on the agency profile was relatively low. Only 107 agencies provided details on the qualifications and experience of agency workers dealing specifically with children, whilst 385 agencies provided such details on all other SAAP-funded workers at their agencies. Many SAAP agency workers who dealt specifically with children had qualifications in child development (47%), child care (36%) and child or family counselling (33%). Further to this, 73% of such workers also reported they had experience in child development, 68% in child care and 64% in child or family counselling. Comparatively few had teaching (17%),

psychology (17%) or nursing qualifications (16%), and a similar proportion indicated that they had had experience in nursing (14%) or 'other' areas (19%).

Out of all other SAAP workers who were not specifically working with children, the greatest proportion had social work (43%) or child or family counselling (34%) qualifications. The least number of workers had child care (13%), early development (13%) or 'other' (13%) qualifications. Even though relatively few SAAP workers indicated having qualifications in many areas, a much greater number reported having had experience in the areas of child and family counselling (49%), child development (47%), child care (44%) and social work (40%). A much smaller proportion reported having had experience in the areas of nursing (19%) or 'other' areas (14%).

5.5 Detailed tables

Table 5.1: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have facilities appropriate for accompanying children on site by State and Territory, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Indoor play area/s	36.3	41.3	36.0	47.2	52.5	43.8	46.2	33.3	40.3
Outdoor play area/s	41.9	26.6	44.9	55.6	60.0	50.0	53.8	46.7	41.2
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	31.5	39.2	39.3	41.7	37.5	43.8	38.5	26.7	37.0
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	23.4	16.1	27.0	41.7	42.5	31.3	46.2	26.7	25.8
Covered outdoor area	29.0	16.8	21.3	41.7	50.0	12.5	38.5	33.3	26.5
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	54.8	62.9	41.6	61.1	52.5	56.3	46.2	40.0	54.4
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	27.4	25.9	28.1	41.7	40.0	31.3	46.2	53.3	30.7
Study area	35.5	16.1	19.1	22.2	35.0	25.0	46.2	13.3	24.8
Areas suitable for teenagers	39.5	26.6	25.8	50.0	35.0	18.8	30.8	26.7	32.1
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	54.0	76.9	58.4	66.7	47.5	68.8	92.3	33.3	63.0
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	37.1	39.9	36.0	52.8	47.5	37.5	76.9	20.0	40.3
Information available on children's services	60.5	74.8	60.7	77.8	62.5	87.5	76.9	60.0	67.6
Information available on children's services in other languages	10.5	12.6	10.1	19.4	17.5	0.0	7.7	13.3	12.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>26.0</i>	<i>30.0</i>	<i>18.6</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>8.4</i>	<i>3.3</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>100</i>
Total number	124	143	89	36	40	16	13	15	476

Notes:

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions : 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.2: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have facilities appropriate for accompanying children on site by geographical locations, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Indoor play area/s	44.6	33.3	35.8	34.8	40.3
Outdoor play area/s	43.4	44.4	33.3	65.2	41.2
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	39.5	38.9	34.0	26.1	37.0
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	27.1	22.2	22.0	43.5	25.8
Covered outdoor area	27.1	30.6	23.9	30.4	26.5
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	54.3	44.4	57.9	47.8	54.4
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	31.8	19.4	29.6	43.5	30.7
Study area	23.6	27.8	25.8	26.1	24.8
Areas suitable for teenagers	31.8	41.7	32.1	21.7	32.1
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	64.3	55.6	64.2	52.2	63.0
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	43.0	47.2	35.2	34.8	40.3
Information available on children's services	66.3	66.7	73.0	47.8	67.6
Information available on children's services in other languages	14.0	2.8	11.3	8.7	12.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>54.2</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>33.4</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>100</i>
Total number	258	36	159	23	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions : 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.3: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have facilities appropriate for accompanying children on site by primary target groups, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Indoor play area/s	25.7	8.7	16.7	54.2	74.6	28.6	40.3
Outdoor play area/s	27.5	17.4	27.8	45.8	75.4	29.7	41.2
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	21.6	8.7	38.9	44.1	71.9	24.2	37.0
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	7.6	4.3	16.7	37.3	62.3	14.3	25.8
Covered outdoor area	21.6	43.5	22.2	22.0	40.4	17.6	26.5
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	55.0	52.2	38.9	55.9	59.6	49.5	54.4
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	25.1	34.8	38.9	18.6	50.0	22.0	30.7
Study area	29.8	17.4	22.2	20.3	26.3	18.7	24.8
Areas suitable for teenagers	55.0	13.0	38.9	20.3	20.2	15.4	32.1
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	53.8	8.7	72.2	71.2	89.5	53.8	63.0
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	22.8	8.7	50.0	50.8	75.4	28.6	40.3
Information available on children's services	55.6	43.5	77.8	76.3	85.1	67.0	67.6
Information available on children's services in other languages	9.4	8.7	11.1	13.6	18.4	8.8	12.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>35.9</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>23.9</i>	<i>19.1</i>	<i>100</i>
Total number	171	23	18	59	114	91	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.4: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have facilities appropriate for accompanying children on site by service delivery model, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Crisis/short term accom.	Medium/long term accom.	Outreach accom.	Other accom.	Australia
Indoor play area/s	52.4	35.4	21.4	31.4	40.3
Outdoor play area/s	61.2	29.1	28.6	32.6	41.2
Safe and appropriate indoor play equip.	47.1	34.0	35.7	24.4	37.0
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equip.	45.3	12.6	7.1	22.1	25.8
Covered outdoor area	38.8	17.5	7.1	26.7	26.5
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	50.6	59.7	35.7	52.3	54.4
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	41.2	23.3	21.4	29.1	30.7
Study area	26.5	24.8	21.4	22.1	24.8
Areas suitable for teenagers	31.8	29.6	21.4	40.7	32.1
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	64.1	65.0	57.1	57.0	63.0
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	55.3	29.1	28.6	39.5	40.3
Info. Available on children's services	66.5	69.9	64.3	65.1	67.6
Info. Available on children's services in other languages	12.9	10.2	7.1	15.1	12.0
Total number	170	206	14	86	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.5: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have access to facilities appropriate for accompanying children off site by States and Territories, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Indoor play area/s	6.5	14.0	5.6	5.6	10.0	18.8	23.1	13.3	9.9
Outdoor play area/s	12.1	14.7	11.2	13.9	20.0	18.8	23.1	6.7	13.9
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	4.0	9.1	5.6	8.3	5.0	12.5	7.7	6.7	6.7
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	9.7	11.9	6.7	13.9	12.5	6.3	7.7	0.0	9.9
Covered outdoor area	4.8	3.5	2.2	5.6	5.0	12.5	7.7	0.0	4.2
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	4.8	8.4	5.6	16.7	12.5	12.5	7.7	0.0	7.8
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	7.3	9.1	6.7	5.6	5.0	6.3	0.0	6.7	7.1
Study area	4.8	15.4	4.5	8.3	7.5	12.5	23.1	6.7	9.2
Areas suitable for teenagers	11.3	12.6	4.5	5.6	7.5	12.5	0.0	0.0	9.0
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	6.5	8.4	5.6	5.6	10.0	6.3	0.0	13.3	7.1
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	7.3	11.9	4.5	8.3	12.5	12.5	7.7	6.7	8.8
Information available on children's services	25.0	24.5	21.3	16.7	25	18.8	15.4	33.3	23.3
Information available on children's services in other languages	16.1	26.6	19.1	36.1	22.5	12.5	23.1	26.7	22.3
Total number	124	143	89	36	40	16	13	15	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.6: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have access to facilities appropriate for accompanying children off site by locations, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Capital city	Other Metro. area	Rural area	Remote area	Australia
Indoor play area/s	10.9	5.6	10.1	4.3	9.9
Outdoor play area/s	15.5	11.1	11.9	13.0	13.9
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	8.1	2.8	5.7	4.3	6.7
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	11.2	11.1	8.2	4.3	9.9
Covered outdoor area	3.9	11.1	3.8	0.0	4.2
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	8.1	0.0	10.1	0.0	7.8
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	5.4	5.6	10.1	8.7	7.1
Study area	10.9	2.8	9.4	0.0	9.2
Areas suitable for teenagers	8.1	5.6	12.6	0.0	9.0
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	7.0	11.1	5.7	13.0	7.1
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	8.1	2.8	11.3	8.7	8.8
Information available on children's services	24.0	19.4	22.6	26.1	23.3
Information available on children's services in other languages	22.5	19.4	22.0	26.1	22.3
Total number	258	36	159	23	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.7: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have access to facilities appropriate for accompanying children off site, by primary target group, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Indoor play area/s	12.3	0.0	11.1	11.9	9.6	6.6	9.9
Outdoor play area/s	15.8	8.7	16.7	15.3	12.3	12.1	13.9
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	7.6	0.0	11.1	8.5	7.0	4.4	6.7
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	9.4	0.0	22.2	16.9	9.6	6.6	9.9
Covered outdoor area	5.8	0.0	5.6	3.4	4.4	2.2	4.2
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	8.2	4.3	11.1	6.8	8.8	6.6	7.8
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	8.8	4.3	5.6	5.1	7.9	5.5	7.1
Study area	10.5	4.3	16.7	8.5	7.9	8.8	9.2
Areas suitable for teenagers	11.1	13.0	11.1	3.4	7.9	8.8	9.0
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	9.9	4.3	5.6	6.8	4.4	6.6	7.1
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	9.9	0.0	5.6	10.2	3.5	15.4	8.8
Information available on children's services	26.3	8.7	11.1	30.5	21.1	22.0	23.3
Information available on children's services in other languages	19.9	13.0	16.7	30.5	21.9	25.3	22.3
Total number	171	23	18	59	114	91	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.8: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that have access to facilities appropriate for accompanying children off site, by service delivery model, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Crisis/short-term accom.	Medium/long-term accom.	Outreach accom.	Other accom.	Australia
Indoor play area/s	7.6	13.1	14.3	5.8	9.9
Outdoor play area/s	11.8	16.5	14.3	11.6	13.9
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	4.1	9.7	7.1	4.7	6.7
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	9.4	11.7	7.1	7.0	9.9
Covered outdoor area	3.5	4.4	14.3	3.5	4.2
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	7.1	9.2	7.1	5.8	7.8
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	5.3	7.8	7.1	9.3	7.1
Study area	10.6	9.2	14.3	5.8	9.2
Areas suitable for teenagers	7.6	9.7	21.4	8.1	9.0
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	5.9	8.7	0.0	7.0	7.1
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	7.6	11.2	7.1	5.8	8.8
Information available on children's services	21.8	23.3	21.4	26.7	23.3
Information available on children's services in other languages	20.6	25.7	14.3	18.6	22.3
Total number	170	206	14	86	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.9: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that needed access to resources & facilities appropriate for accompanying children by State and Territories, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Indoor play area/s	21.8	26.6	27.0	33.3	17.5	31.3	15.4	33.3	25.2
Outdoor play area/s	20.2	37.1	25.8	13.9	7.5	6.3	15.4	40.0	24.8
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	31.5	35.7	34.8	33.3	17.5	31.3	53.8	46.7	33.4
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	33.9	42.7	44.9	33.3	20.0	31.3	30.8	53.3	37.8
Covered outdoor area	41.1	52.4	49.4	36.1	22.5	68.8	46.2	46.7	45.4
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	24.2	22.4	37.1	19.4	17.5	18.8	53.8	33.3	26.1
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	29.8	37.8	33.7	27.8	27.5	12.5	46.2	20.0	32.1
Study area	29.8	33.6	36.0	41.7	27.5	18.8	30.8	33.3	32.6
Areas suitable for teenagers	29.8	32.2	39.3	25.0	30.0	18.8	53.8	40.0	32.6
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	11.3	9.8	19.1	13.9	20.0	12.5	0.0	26.7	13.4
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	21.0	33.6	34.8	16.7	10.0	31.3	15.4	46.7	27.1
Information available on children's services	12.9	7.0	14.6	2.8	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.6
Information available on children's services in other languages	37.9	39.9	37.1	25.0	27.5	62.5	61.5	20.0	37.4
Total number	124	143	89	36	40	16	13	15	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.10: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that need access to facilities appropriate for accompanying children by location, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Other				Australia
	Capital city	metro area	Rural area	Remote area	
Indoor play area/s	25.6	16.7	25.8	30.4	25.2
Outdoor play area/s	22.9	11.1	32.1	17.4	24.8
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	30.6	30.6	37.1	43.5	33.4
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	35.3	27.8	43.4	43.5	37.8
Covered outdoor area	46.5	22.2	48.4	47.8	45.4
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	27.1	25.0	25.2	21.7	26.1
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	31.4	25.0	35.8	26.1	32.1
Study area	32.9	27.8	32.7	34.8	32.6
Areas suitable for teenagers	33.3	22.2	32.1	43.5	32.6
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	12.0	11.1	15.7	17.4	13.4
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	24.0	13.9	33.3	39.1	27.1
Information available on children's services	10.1	11.1	6.3	4.3	8.6
Information available on children's services in other languages	40.7	38.9	32.1	34.8	37.4
Total number	258	36	159	23	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.11: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that need access to facilities appropriate for accompanying children, by primary target group, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Indoor play area/s	26.9	8.7	44.4	27.1	14.9	34.1	25.2
Outdoor play area/s	27.5	8.7	44.4	25.4	17.5	28.6	24.8
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	31.0	8.7	33.3	45.8	28.9	41.8	33.4
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	37.4	8.7	55.6	37.3	36.0	45.1	37.8
Covered outdoor area	40.4	13.0	50.0	57.6	52.6	45.1	45.4
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	21.6	4.3	38.9	30.5	33.3	25.3	26.1
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	28.1	13.0	33.3	45.8	33.3	34.1	32.1
Study area	22.8	17.4	27.8	33.9	52.6	29.7	32.6
Areas suitable for teenagers	18.1	8.7	0.0	35.6	61.4	34.1	32.6
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	14.0	8.7	11.1	16.9	8.8	17.6	13.4
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	26.9	8.7	27.8	33.9	22.8	33.0	27.1
Information available on children's services	10.5	8.7	5.6	6.8	6.1	9.9	8.6
Information available on children's services in other languages	29.2	4.3	55.6	47.5	56.1	27.5	37.4
Total number	171	23	18	59	114	91	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.12: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies that need access to facilities appropriate for accompanying children, by service delivery models, Australia, 1998 (%)

Agency access to facilities & resources	Crisis/short-term accom.	Medium/long-term accom.	Outreach accom.	Other accom.	Australia
Indoor play area/s	17.6	29.6	57.1	24.4	25.2
Outdoor play area/s	15.9	33.0	35.7	20.9	24.8
Safe and appropriate indoor play equipment	28.8	35.4	57.1	33.7	33.4
Safe and appropriate outdoor play equipment	31.8	42.2	64.3	34.9	37.8
Covered outdoor area	41.8	49.5	57.1	40.7	45.4
Quiet/private/discreet/indoor space	27.6	23.3	50.0	25.6	26.1
Quiet/private/discreet/outdoor space	28.2	35.4	42.9	30.2	32.1
Study area	37.6	31.6	28.6	25.6	32.6
Areas suitable for teenagers	40.0	30.6	28.6	23.3	32.6
Motor vehicles with appropriate restraints	10.0	15.5	21.4	14.0	13.4
Equipment for babies (cots/change table)	17.6	36.9	50.0	18.6	27.1
Information available on children's services	7.6	9.7	14.3	7.0	8.6
Information available on children's services in other languages	41.2	37.4	57.1	26.7	37.4
Total number	170	206	14	86	476

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 42
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.13: SAAP agencies, number of SAAP agencies that have child care facilities on site, Australia, 1998 (%)

	Day care	After school care	Occasional care
State/Territory			
New South Wales	11.3	10.0	8.8
Victoria	13.5	19.0	18.3
Queensland	3.0	4.5	4.5
Western Australia	10.7	10.7	10.7
South Australia	13.3	10.0	13.3
Tasmania	25.0	8.3	16.7
Northern Territory	20.0	10.0	20.0
Australian Capital Territory	20.0	10.0	20.0
Location			
Capital city	13.9	16.0	15.5
Other metropolitan area	7.4	7.4	3.7
Rural area	9.7	8.9	11.3
Remote area	5.9	0.0	5.9
Primary target group			
Young people	8.3	6.5	7.4
Single men only	0.0	0.0	0.0
Single women only	0.0	14.3	14.3
Families	10.5	12.3	10.5
Women escaping DV	21.3	21.3	22.2
Cross target/multiple/general	5.9	7.4	8.8
Service delivery model			
Crisis/short term accommodation	16.7	19.7	16.7
Medium/long term accommodation	10.3	9.7	12.1
Outreach accommodation	9.1	9.1	27.3
Other accommodation	3.7	1.9	1.9
Total number	42†	44‡	46F

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0† 0‡ 0F
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 320† 318‡ 316F
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.14: SAAP agencies, number of SAAP agencies that have access childcare facilities off site, Australia, 1998 %

	Daycare	After school care	Occasional Care
State/Territory			
New South Wales	62.5	47.5	42.5
Victoria	57.9	46.8	57.9
Queensland	65.2	56.1	50.0
Western Australia	60.7	53.6	60.7
South Australia	56.7	60.0	50.0
Tasmania	41.7	41.7	41.7
Northern Territory	90.0	80.0	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	60.0	40.0	30.0
Location			
Capital city	55.7	46.9	50.0
Other metropolitan area	70.4	59.3	48.1
Rural area	67.7	55.6	58.9
Remote area	52.9	47.1	41.2
Primary target group			
Young people	45.5	41.7	41.7
Single men only	42.9	42.9	57.1
Single women only	71.4	50.0	42.9
Families	64.9	43.9	47.4
Women escaping DV	67.6	59.3	60.2
Cross target/multiple/general	70.6	58.8	63.2
Service delivery model			
Crisis/short term accommodation	67.4	55.3	58.3
Medium/long term accommodation	57.0	49.1	53.9
Outreach accommodation	63.6	54.5	45.5
Other accommodation	55.6	44.4	35.2
Total number	42†	44‡	46F

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0† 0‡ 0F
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 320† 318‡ 316F
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.15: SAAP agencies, number of SAAP agencies that need access to child care facilities, Australia 1998 (%)

	Day care	After school care	Occasional care
State/Territory			
New South Wales	25.0	31.3	40.0
Victoria	20.6	26.2	34.9
Queensland	24.2	18.2	42.4
Western Australia	28.6	35.7	39.3
South Australia	23.3	10.0	26.7
Tasmania	8.3	8.3	50.0
Northern Territory	0.0	10.0	0.0
Australian Capital Territory	20.0	30.0	60.0
Location			
Capital city	23.2	22.2	39.2
Other metropolitan area	22.2	22.2	55.6
Rural area	17.7	26.6	28.2
Remote area	41.2	35.3	52.9
Primary target group			
Young people	29.6	28.7	48.1
Single men only	14.3	0.0	28.6
Single women only	28.6	14.3	42.9
Families	26.3	31.6	42.1
Women escaping DV	18.5	24.1	28.7
Cross target/multiple/general	11.8	16.2	29.4
Service delivery model			
Crisis/short-term accommodation	19.7	22.7	28.0
Medium/long-term accommodation	22.4	24.2	37.0
Outreach accommodation	27.3	18.2	36.4
Other accommodation	25.9	29.6	61.1
Total number	42†	44‡	46F

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 0† 0‡ 0F
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 320† 318‡ 316F
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.16: SAAP agencies, level of accessibility of SAAP agencies for prams, Australia, 1998 (%)

	Fully accessible	Partially accessible	Inaccessible	Total
State/Territory				
New South Wales	53.8	36.2	10.0	100
Victoria	68.5	28.8	2.7	100
Queensland	48.9	40.9	10.2	100
Western Australia	65.8	28.9	5.3	100
South Australia	70.7	26.8	2.4	100
Tasmania	63.2	26.3	10.5	100
Northern Territory	53.8	30.8	15.4	100
Australian Capital Territory	61.1	27.8	11.1	100
Location				
Capital city	60.3	32.4	7.4	100
Other metropolitan area	63.2	34.2	2.6	100
Rural area	58.6	32.7	8.6	100
Remote area	66.7	33.3	0.0	100
Primary target group				
Young people	51.1	39.2	9.1	100
Single men only	38.7	38.7	22.6	100
Single women only	52.6	47.4	0.0	100
Families	78.3	20.0	1.7	100
Women escaping DV	68.4	24.6	7.0	100
Cross target/multiple/general	64.5	33.3	2.2	100
Service delivery model				
Crisis/short-term accommodation	60.2	30.7	9.1	100
Medium/long-term accommodation	60.8	34.4	4.8	100
Outreach accommodation	52.9	41.2	5.9	100
Other accommodation	60.4	30.8	8.8	100
Total number	297	161	35	493

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 10
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 15
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.17: SAAP agencies, level of accessibility of SAAP agencies for disabled clients and children, Australia, 1998 (%)

	Fully accessible	Partially accessible	Inaccessible	Total
State/Territory				
New South Wales	23.1	56.2	20.8	100
Victoria	39.3	48.3	12.4	100
Queensland	33.3	43.7	23.0	100
Western Australia	26.3	57.9	15.8	100
South Australia	31.7	43.9	24.4	100
Tasmania	16.7	61.1	22.2	100
Northern Territory	14.3	64.3	21.4	100
Australian Capital Territory	29.4	41.2	29.4	100
Location				
Capital city	28.2	51.3	20.5	100
Other metropolitan area	29.7	59.5	10.8	100
Rural area	32.7	50.3	17.0	100
Remote area	42.9	28.6	28.6	100
Primary target group				
Young people	27.3	50.6	22.2	100
Single men only	23.3	40.0	36.7	100
Single women only	31.6	52.6	15.8	100
Families	35.0	51.7	13.3	100
Women escaping DV	25.4	52.6	21.9	100
Cross target/multiple/general	41.8	50.5	7.7	100
Service delivery model				
Crisis/short-term accommodation	24.9	49.7	25.4	100
Medium/long-term accommodation	34.0	50.7	15.3	100
Outreach accommodation	35.3	52.9	11.8	100
Other accommodation	31.9	51.6	16.5	100
Total number	149	248	93	490

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors: 14
2. Number of records excluded due to omissions: 14
3. Percentages are based on valid values only.
4. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.18: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies providing case management/support plans for children and families, by States and Territories, Australia, 1998 (%)

Case management	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Children	51.4	42.1	45.8	51.5	40.0	40.0	78.6	46.2	46.9
Families	66.7	85.0	84.3	72.7	71.4	73.3	78.6	53.8	76.7
No specific plan	26.1	15.0	14.5	27.3	25.7	26.7	14.3	38.5	20.6
Total number	111	133	83	33	35	15	14	13	437

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 81
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.19: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies providing case management/support plans for children and families, by location, Australia, 1998 (%)

Case management	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Total
Children	47.5	59.4	44.0	42.1	46.9
Families	76.3	75.0	78.7	68.4	76.7
No specific plan	21.2	18.8	18.7	31.6	20.6
Total number	236	32	150	19	437

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 81
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.20: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies providing case management/support plans for children and families, by primary target groups, Australia, 1998 (%)

Case management	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Total
Children	43.0	17.6	43.8	53.3	62.5	35.6	46.9
Families	64.1	29.4	93.8	98.3	90.2	71.1	76.7
No specific plan	25.4	64.7	18.8	3.3	8.9	31.1	20.6
Total number	142	17	16	60	112	90	437

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 81
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.21: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies providing case management/support plans for children and families, by service delivery models, Australia, 1998 (%)

Case management	Crisis/short-term accomm.	Medium/long-term accomm.	Outreach	Other accomm.	Australia
Children	54.2	45.2	28.6	40.5	46.9
Families	81.0	82.8	50.0	59.5	76.7
No specific plan	17.6	12.9	50.0	38.1	20.6
Total number	153	186	14	84	437

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 81
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.22: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies with links to other children's services, by States and Territories, Australia, 1998 (%)

Links to other services	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Child care centre/child minding	52.9	69.9	75.0	64.7	50.0	56.3	84.6	64.3	64.4
Kindergarten/pre-school/school	53.8	61.7	67.5	70.6	55.6	62.5	84.6	71.4	62.1
Migrant resource centre	39.4	42.9	31.3	38.2	47.2	50.0	92.3	28.6	41.2
Counselling services	88.5	94.0	78.8	79.4	91.7	93.8	92.3	78.6	87.9
Mental health services	74.0	80.5	71.3	79.4	75.0	87.5	92.3	71.4	77.0
Health/medical services	76.9	82.7	86.3	76.5	91.7	87.5	92.3	85.7	82.8
Social security	81.7	82.7	87.5	82.4	83.3	87.5	92.3	85.7	84.0
Child welfare/protective services	88.5	87.2	91.3	79.4	91.7	100.0	92.3	78.6	88.4
Legal services	70.2	73.7	70.0	70.6	75.0	81.3	84.6	78.6	72.8
Other	15.4	20.3	17.5	5.9	8.3	18.8	23.1	21.4	16.5
Total number	104	133	80	34	36	16	13	14	430

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 88
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.23: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies with links to other children's services, by location, Australia, 1998 (%)

Links to other services	Other				Australia
	Capital city	metro area	Rural area	Remote area	
Child care centre/child minding	61.3	68.8	70.0	55.6	64.4
Kindergarten/pre-school/school	58.8	53.1	67.1	83.3	62.1
Migrant resource centre	47.5	53.1	29.3	27.8	41.2
Counselling services	85.0	93.8	92.1	83.3	87.9
Mental health services	71.3	75.0	86.4	83.3	77.0
Health/medical services	80.0	75.0	87.9	94.4	82.8
Social security	83.8	81.3	84.3	88.9	84.0
Child welfare/protective services	83.8	93.8	94.3	94.4	88.4
Legal services	75.8	62.5	70.7	66.7	72.8
Other	17.9	21.9	13.6	11.1	16.5
Total number	240	32	140	18	430

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 88
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.24: SAAP agencies, percentage of SAAP agencies with links to other children's services, by primary target groups, Australia, 1998 (%)

Links to other services	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Total
Kindergarten/pre-school/school	44.9	11.1	35.3	79.7	87.2	63.8	62.1
Migrant resource centre	34.7	33.3	41.2	39.0	60.6	30.0	41.2
Counselling services	91.2	55.6	82.4	89.8	91.7	83.8	87.9
Mental health services	81.0	66.7	64.7	74.6	79.8	72.5	77.0
Health/medical services	80.3	72.2	76.5	84.7	91.7	77.5	82.8
Social security	81.0	77.8	82.4	84.7	87.2	86.3	84.0
Child welfare/protective services	86.4	50.0	88.2	91.5	98.2	85.0	88.4
Legal services	71.4	44.4	88.2	79.7	85.3	56.3	72.8
Other	17.7	16.7	29.4	13.6	15.6	15.0	16.5
Total number	147	18	17	59	109	80	430

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 88
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.25: SAAP agencies, number of SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers dealing specifically with children, by States and Territories, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Less than 1 full-time	88	84.8	83.1	84.6	77.3	84.2	78.6	100	85.1
1 to less than 2	4.2	13.9	15.7	12.8	15.9	10.5	14.3	0.0	11.0
2 to less than 3	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.0	4.5	5.3	0.0	0.0	1.4
3 to less than 4	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
4 or more	3.5	0.0	1.1	2.6	2.3	0.0	7.1	0.0	1.7
Total number	142	151	89	39	44	19	14	18	516

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 2
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.26: SAAP agencies, number of SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers dealing specifically with children, by location, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	Other				Australia
	Capital city	metro area	Rural area	Remote area	
Less than 1 full-time	82.6	87.8	87.8	91.3	85.1
1 to less than 2	12.5	12.2	9.1	4.3	11.0
2 to less than 3	1.7	0.0	0.6	4.3	1.4
3 to less than 4	1.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.8
4 or more	2.1	0.0	1.8	0.0	1.7
Total number	288	41	164	23	516

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 2
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.27: SAAP agencies, number of SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers dealing specifically with children, by primary target group, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Australia
Less than 1 full-time	93.7	94.7	94.7	80.0	59.3	95.8	85.1
1 to less than 2	1.6	2.6	5.3	13.3	35.4	4.2	11.0
2 to less than 3	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.7	2.7	0.0	1.4
3 to less than 4	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.8
4 or more	1.6	2.6	0.0	5.0	1.8	0.0	1.7
Total Number	191	38	19	60	113	95	516

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 2
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.28: SAAP agencies, number of SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers dealing specifically with children, by service delivery model, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	Crisis/short-term accom	Medium/long-term accom.	Outreach accom.	Other accom.	Australia
Less than 1 full-time	74.3	92.3	94.1	87.4	85.1
1 to less than 2	21.3	5.4	0.0	6.3	11.0
2 to less than 3	1.6	0.9	0.0	2.1	1.4
3 to less than 4	1.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.8
4 or more	1.6	0.5	5.9	4.2	1.7
Total number	183	221	17	95	516

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 2
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.29: SAAP agencies, number of other SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers not dealing specifically with children, by State and Territory, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Less than 1 full-time	33.1	15.2	15.6	23.8	28.2	5.3	28.6	5.6	21.6
1 to less than 2	17.6	23.8	15.6	11.9	7.7	26.3	14.3	44.4	19.0
2 to less than 3	14.8	15.9	21.1	9.5	7.7	10.5	14.3	27.8	15.5
3 to less than 4	13.4	12.6	21.1	9.5	7.7	26.3	35.7	11.1	14.8
4 or more	21.1	32.5	26.7	45.2	48.7	31.6	7.1	11.1	29.1
Total number	142	151	90	42	39	19	14	18	515

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 3
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.30: SAAP agencies, number of other SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers not dealing specifically with children, by location, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	Capital city	Other metro area	Rural area	Remote area	Total
Less than 1 full-time	22.6	22.0	18.8	27.3	21.6
1 to less than 2	16.0	29.3	20.6	27.3	19.0
2 to less than 3	13.6	9.8	19.4	22.7	15.5
3 to less than 4	16.0	17.1	13.3	4.5	14.8
4 or more	31.7	22.0	27.9	18.2	29.1
Total number	287	41	165	22	515

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 3
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.31: SAAP agencies, number of other SAAP-funded full-time equivalent workers not dealing specifically with children, by primary target group, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	Young people	Single men only	Single women only	Families	Women escaping DV	Cross target/multiple/general	Total
Less than 1 full-time	25.1	35.1	10.5	15.0	14.2	24.2	21.6
1 to less than 2	16.2	16.2	21.1	23.3	9.7	33.7	19.0
2 to less than 3	12.0	8.1	15.8	31.7	13.3	17.9	15.5
3 to less than 4	14.1	10.8	10.5	11.7	23.0	10.5	14.8
4 or more	32.5	29.7	42.1	18.3	39.8	13.7	29.1
Total number	191	37	19	60	113	95	515

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 3
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.32: SAAP agencies, number of other SAAP funded full-time equivalent workers not dealing specifically with children, by service delivery model, Australia, 1998 (%)

No. workers	Crisis/short-term accommodation	Medium/long-term accommodation	Outreach accommodation	Other accommodation	Australia
Less than 1 full-time	25.8	17.2	17.6	24.2	21.6
1 to less than 2	8.2	25.3	47.1	20.0	19.0
2 to less than 3	11.5	21.3	0.0	12.6	15.5
3 to less than 4	14.3	14.5	11.8	16.8	14.8
4 or more	40.1	21.7	23.5	26.3	29.1
Total number	182	221	17	95	515

Notes

1. Number of records excluded due to errors or omissions: 3
2. Percentages are based on valid values only.
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

Table 5.33: SAAP agencies, qualifications of SAAP workers, Australia, 1998 (%)

	SAAP workers specifically dealing with children	All other SAAP workers
Qualifications		
Child development	46.7	21.8
Child care	35.5	13.0
Early education development	29.9	13.0
Child/family counselling	32.7	34.3
Teaching	16.8	24.2
Social work	23.4	43.1
Psychology	16.8	27.8
Nursing	15.9	20.0
Other	20.6	13.2
Experience		
Child development	72.9	47.0
Child care	68.2	44.2
Early education development	52.3	30.4
Child/family counselling	63.6	49.1
Teaching	24.3	31.7
Social work	30.8	40.0
Psychology	22.4	25.7
Nursing	14.0	19.2
Other	18.7	13.5
Total number	107	385

Notes

1. Number of records on SAAP workers dealing specifically with children excluded due to omissions: 411
2. Number of records on all other SAAP workers excluded due to omissions: 133
3. Agencies may have ticked more than one option so percentages do not total 100.

Source: SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection

PART C

Appendices

Appendix A: Counting rules

Age of accompanying child	The age of the accompanying child relates to the clients age at the beginning of the collection period or the date support started where this was between the collection dates.
Agency	An organisation or establishment that receives a specified amount of SAAP funds to provide services.
Clients unable to be supported	<p>Clients unable to be supported are adults aged 18 years and over and unaccompanied young people who made unsuccessful valid requests for support or supported accommodation.</p> <p>Valid requests are those made by individuals who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• did not refuse an offer of support or supported accommodation from the SAAP agency; and• requested appropriate services—requests for services that the agency did not normally provide (for example, requests for accommodation at a day centre) are excluded; and• fell within the target group of the agency at which the request was made.
Living situation	<p>The SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection specifies seven distinct categories for the living situation of accompanying children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• with both parents in the same house;• with one parent in different houses;• with one parent;• with a parent’s spouse or partner;• with a sibling(s);• with other relatives; and• with other unrelated persons.
Percentages	Percentages presented in the report are based on valid values only; that is, records without values for the relevant data item are excluded from the denominator before percentages are calculated.

Presenting unit	<p>The SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection describes four main groups with which accompanying children could have presented at SAAP agencies in any combination of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a mother; • a father; • sibling(s) or other related family group; and • other unrelated family group.
Region	<p>The Rural, Remote and Other Metropolitan Areas Classification developed by the then Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health and the Department of Primary Industries and Energy is used in analyses presented in this report. The classification consists of seven categories but they are combined here into the following five groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capital city—State and Territory capital city statistical divisions; • other metropolitan centre—one or more statistical subdivisions which have an urban centre with a population of 100,000 or more; • large rural centre—areas in which most people reside in urban centres with a population of 25,000 or more; • other rural area—small rural areas containing urban centres with populations of between 10,000 and 24,999 and other rural areas; and • remote area—remote urban centres with a population of 5,000 or more and other remote areas. <p>The classification is based on 1991 populations and statistical local areas—the most recent available at the time of writing. Further details of the classification are contained in <i>Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas Classification 1991 Census Edition</i> (November 1994).</p>
SAAP accommodation	<p>The SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection specifies six distinct types of SAAP accommodation that may be provided to clients. In this report, the six types are combined into three groups as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • crisis or short-term accommodation; • medium- to long-term accommodation; and • other SAAP-funded accommodation, which comprises accommodation in hostels, motels, hotels, caravans, community placements and other SAAP-funded arrangements.

**Service
delivery model**

The SAAP NDCA Administrative Data Collection specifies eight distinct service delivery models for SAAP agencies:

- crisis or short-term supported accommodation agencies—those predominantly providing supported accommodation to persons needing immediate (crisis) accommodation for periods of generally not more than three months (short-term);
- medium- to long-term supported accommodation agencies—those predominantly providing supported accommodation for periods of around three to six months (medium-term) and for longer than six months (long-term);
- day support agencies—those predominantly providing support only on a walk-in basis;
- outreach support agencies—those providing support predominantly in a setting other than the agency or an outlet of the agency;
- telephone information and referral agencies—those providing support predominantly via telephone contact;
- agency support agencies—those predominantly providing support to, or representation of, other SAAP agencies;
- multiple agencies—those that provide support using more than one service delivery model; and
- other agencies—those that provide support using a service delivery model not specified above.

The service delivery model classification of outreach support is not used in Victoria and that State makes no distinction between agencies that provide medium- to long-term support and those that provide medium- to long-term supported accommodation. Accordingly, all such agencies are classified as medium- to long-term supported accommodation agencies.

No distinction is made in Western Australia between agencies that provide support at an agency setting and those that provide support at a setting other than the agency or an outlet of the agency. All such agencies are classified as outreach support agencies. Also, the service delivery model classification of multiple is not used in Western Australia.

The service delivery model classifications of day support and agency support are not used in Tasmania. The service delivery model classification of agency support is not used in Queensland. The service delivery model classification of telephone information and referral is not used in the Northern Territory. The service delivery model classifications of day support and agency support are not used in New South Wales. The service delivery model classifications of telephone information and referral and outreach support are not used in the Australian Capital Territory. Agencies with multiple, telephone information and referral, agency support and 'other' service delivery model have been classified into one category labelled 'other'.

Support to accompanying children

The SAAP NDCA Accompanying Children Collection specifies 30 distinct types of support and allows agencies to record other types of support not listed on the data form. This report presents individual support types and includes a subtotal for six distinct groupings.

The major classifications are:

- accommodation services comprising SAAP/CAP accommodation, other housing—includes other emergency accommodation or independent housing such as public housing, private rental, community housing or owner-occupied housing, and placement in community/foster care or other arrangement;
- counselling or support—comprising incest or sexual abuse counselling, domestic violence counselling, family or relationship counselling and support, emotional support and other counselling;
- education and income assistance—comprising assistance to obtain a benefit or pension or other government allowance, employment and training assistance and assistance with education (including homework);
- disability services—comprising physical disability, intellectual disability and sensory disability services;
- health services—comprising psychological services, psychiatric services, pregnancy support, family planning support, drug or alcohol support or rehabilitation, child health services (including immunisation) and other health or medical services;
- behavioural skills—comprising living skills and personal development assistance, conflict resolution, anger management and social skills; and
- other support—comprising culturally appropriate support, interpreter services, legal issues or court support, child care, financial assistance or material aid, recreation and sporting activities, transport, brokerage services, advice and information, advocacy or liaison on behalf of the child, and other support not specified elsewhere.

Target group

The SAAP NDCA Administrative Data Collection specifies six distinct target groups for SAAP agencies as detailed below:

- agencies targeted at young people—those that predominantly provide support for persons who are independent, are above the school-leaving age for the State/Territory concerned, and present to agencies unaccompanied by a parent or guardian;
- agencies targeted at single men only—those that predominantly provide support for males who present without a partner or children;
- agencies targeted at single women only—those that predominantly provide support for females who present without a partner or children;
- agencies targeted at families—those that predominantly provide support to persons who present as a family (defined as a group of two or more persons who usually live in the same household and who are related to each other by blood, *de facto* or *de jure* marriage or adoption);
- agencies targeted at women and women with children escaping domestic violence—those that predominantly provide support for women and women accompanied by their children, who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless as a result of violence and/or abuse; and
- cross target, multiple target and general client, or multiple target or general client agencies—those that target more than one client group.

Unmet need

Unmet need arises when the particular needs of existing clients and their accompanying children cannot be met either by the direct provision of services by SAAP agencies or through referrals to other agencies. It should be noted that data about the final outcome of referrals are not collected, so it is assumed that clients' needs are met through the referral process. This may not always be the case and thus unmet need may be underestimated accordingly. This type of unmet need is assessed via data from the Accompanying Children Collection. Counting units are the identified needs recorded on accompanying child forms.

Appendix B: Accompanying Child Form

Appendix C: Accompanying Children Agency Profile

References

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