

PROFORMA FOR PROVIDING DATA ON INVESTMENT IN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITY-CONTROLLED CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Real recurrent expenditure on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled services for 2016-17 (\$ and % of total expenditure) using ROGS definitions and counting rules¹

	Total expenditure (\$'000) (NSW Total for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Non-Aboriginal) ²	Expenditure (\$'000) on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled services ³	% of total expenditure on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled services	Expenditure (\$'000) provided to non-Aboriginal organisations to deliver services specifically to Aboriginal clients, or in partnership with an Aboriginal organisation
Family support services ⁴	117,429	14,667	12.5	4,863
Intensive family support ⁵	181,948	12,874	7.1	6,532
Child protection ⁶	418,447	-	-	-
Out-of-home care ⁷	1,135,516	71,326	6.3	3,087
TOTAL	1,853,340	98,867	5.3	14,482

¹ Financial data provided by the NSW Department of Family and Community Services

² Data source: Report on Government Services 2018 – Table 16A.6 State and Territory Government real recurrent expenditure on all child protection services (2016-17 dollars).

³ Includes 'Aboriginal organisations' and 'Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations' as per definitions specified in legislation, as Aboriginal Community Health Organisations and under the NSW Prequalification Scheme; and via a FACS process for accepting organisations that are controlled or owned by Aboriginal people providing services to Aboriginal people (*Services For and By Aboriginal People- Identifying Aboriginal Organisations*, FACS, July 2015).

⁴ Includes Targeted Earlier Intervention Programs- Aboriginal Child & Family Centres, Aboriginal Child, Youth & Family Strategy (excluding Partnerships and Networks and Community Capacity Building projects that weren't related to family support), Families NSW (excluding Partnerships and Networks and Community Capacity Building projects that weren't related to family support) and Getting it Together.

⁵ Includes Brighter Futures, Intensive Family Based Services and Intensive Family Support Programs.

⁶ Includes all statutory child protection support costs including brokerage. Note: Intensive family support previously categorised under child protection.

⁷ Includes all OHC contracted care

PROFORMA FOR PROVIDING DATA ON ACCESS TO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Children commencing intensive family support services, by Indigenous status, 2016-17

	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Aboriginal children	Program name / type (if data can be disaggregated by program)
Children commencing intensive family support services ⁸	3,274	6,907	n/a

Add additional lines for multiple programs if required

Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available

Children accessing family support services (non-intensive), by Indigenous status, 2016-17

	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Aboriginal children	Program name / type (if data can be disaggregated by program)
Children accessing a family support service	n/a	n/a	n/a

Add additional lines for multiple programs if required

Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available

⁸ Data source: Report on Government Services 2018 - Table 16A.31 Intensive family support services: number of children aged 0-17 years commencing intensive family support services by Indigenous status.

PROFORMA FOR PROVIDING DATA ON PERMANENCY AND ADOPTION

1. Children subject to a permanent care order* (or equivalent order in your jurisdiction), number and rate, by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (i.e. Indigenous) status of the child, at 30 June 2017.
2. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children subject to a permanent care order at 30 June 2017, number and % who are placed with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander carer

	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Aboriginal children	% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with an Indigenous carer
Children subject to a permanent care order or equivalent (Finalised third party parental responsibility order) ⁹	1,723	3,460	n/a

**In AIHW Child Protection Australia, these are termed "Finalised third-party parental responsibility orders" – please provide the name of the order.
Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available*

3. Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were admitted to an adoption order during the 2016-17 year.
4. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children admitted to an adoption order, number who were adopted by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person

	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Aboriginal children	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children adopted by an Indigenous person
Children adopted ¹⁰	2	127	0 ¹¹

Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available

⁹ Data source: AIHW Child Protection Australia 2016-17 - Table S30: Children on care and protection orders by type of order and Indigenous status, 30 June 2017

¹⁰ Children adopted relates to OOHCA adoptions in NSW – these data are not published

¹¹ No recorded instances in 2016/17

PROFORMA FOR PROVIDING DATA ON REUNIFICATION / RESTORATION AND RECONNECTION

Please provide whatever data is available across each and any of the variables for each and any of the years, even if the tables are incomplete.

REUNIFICATION / RESTORATION¹²

Year	Metric	Number of children	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Aboriginal children
2000/01	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,473	813	2,660
2001/02	Children admitted to care and protection orders	2,874	501	2,373
2002/03	Children admitted to care and protection orders	2,989	726	2,263
2003/04	Children admitted to care and protection orders	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
2004/05	Children admitted to care and protection orders	2,537	622	1,915
2005/06	Children admitted to care and protection orders	2,977	823	2,154
2006/07	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,495	913	2,582
2007/08	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,614	910	2,704
2008/09	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,827	1,130	2,697
2009/10	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,381	1,071	2,310
2010/11	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,006	921	2,085
2011/12	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,017	958	2,059
2012/13	Children admitted to care and protection orders	2,756	869	1,887
2013/14	Children admitted to care and protection orders	2,995	1,036	1,959
2014/15	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,229	1,207	2,022
2015/16	Children admitted to care and protection orders	3,554	1,228	2,326
2016/17	Children admitted to care and protection orders	2,822	1,024	1,798

¹² Data source: Report on Government Services, 2002 to 2008, *Table 15A.6 Children admitted to and discharged from care and protection orders by Indigenous status*, and Report on Government Services, 2018, *Table 16A.4 Children admitted to and discharged from care and protection orders by Indigenous status*.

2000/01	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
2001/02	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	1,977	333	1,644
2002/03	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	1,935	464	1,471
2003/04	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
2004/05	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	1,718	391	1,327
2005/06	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,077	521	1,556
2006/07	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,426	556	1,870
2007/08	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,778	674	2,104
2008/09	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	3,102	850	2,252
2009/10	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,786	859	1,927
2010/11	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,469	735	1,734
2011/12	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,474	740	1,734
2012/13	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,328	701	1,627
2013/14	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,539	844	1,695
2014/15	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,721	980	1,741
2015/16	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	3,171	1061	2,110
2016/17	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	2,544	900	1,644
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	n/a	n/a	n/a

RECONNECTION

Year	Metric	Number	% of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care
2016/17	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children placed with relatives/kin or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carers	5,454 ¹³	80.9%
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who had been living in a placement with non-relative/kin or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carer/s who changed to a placement with relatives/kin or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carers	n/a	n/a

Please also include data for 2017/18 if available

STRATEGIES

Strategies aimed at reducing the number of Aboriginal Children and young people in OOHC

Family and Community Services (FACS) number one priority in the FACS Strategic Plan is to improve the long-term outcomes for Aboriginal children and families. The Aboriginal Outcomes Strategy (AOS) 2017 to 2021, sets out FACS' new approach to help achieve this goal and improve outcomes for Aboriginal people more broadly. A focus area of the AOS is to reduce the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home-care (OOHC), by eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in OOHC by 2040. Over the next five years FACS will:

- Reduce the number of Aboriginal children and young people entering OOHC by 20 per cent
- Transition 1200 Aboriginal children and young people to guardianship orders
- Restore 1500 Aboriginal children and young people to their families
- Reduce the number of Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC by 10 per cent by 30 June 2020.

Alongside the AOS, FACS has implemented two supporting initiatives to enhance the work of the Strategy and assist staff to build relationships with the Aboriginal people we work with:

- Aboriginal Impact Statements; and
- the Aboriginal Cultural Capability Framework

Please find below some of the programs and actions aimed at reducing the overrepresentation.

¹³ Data source: Report on Government Services 2018 – Table 16A.20 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care by relationship of caregiver, 30 June

Permanency Support Program (PSP)

PSP Preservation Packages

As part of the child protection continuum, permanency support services have a responsibility to do everything possible to prevent children and young people from entering care. An initial 190 preservation packages were made available from 1 October 2018, including 37 per cent targeted specifically for Aboriginal families. Seventeen Funded Service Providers are delivering Family Preservation packages in 2018/19. Six of the organisations delivering these packages are Aboriginal community-controlled organisations.

These packages provide evidence-based supports and services to safely keep a child or young person in their home environment and avoid entry to OOHC. They are designed to embed a continuum of care within service providers as a first step in implementing an investment approach, that is, as the number of children and young people in care reduce, PSP funds will be reinvested into additional preservation activities.

There will be an additional allocation of at least 190 packages each year over the life of the PSP.

There is a separate **Baseline Package for Aboriginal Care**.

This package is for Aboriginal service providers who provide Aboriginal Care. The package is similar to the Foster Care Baseline Package. However, it provides extra funds in recognition of the additional work Aboriginal service providers undertake within communities to build local capacity and resources.

A Cultural Plan (Aboriginal) specialist package

Provides comprehensive and holistic cultural care planning and genealogy work to support connection to family, community and culture for every Aboriginal child in OOHC.

Targeted Earlier Intervention Reform

FACS is working with clients, service providers, other government departments and related organisations to redesign the targeted earlier intervention service system, because, despite our best endeavors, the number of children reported at risk of significant harm continues to grow, and we need to intervene earlier.

Prevention and Early Intervention Joint Investment Framework

In February 2018, the NSW and Commonwealth Governments agreed to jointly invest in an Aboriginal early intervention place-based initiative under the Community Ministers Prevention and Early Intervention Joint Investment Framework. NSW is one of ten demonstration sites.

Aboriginal Child and Family Centre Program

FACS funds nine Aboriginal Child and Family Centres in NSW to provide quality early childhood education and care, and integrated health and support services for Aboriginal children and families.

Intensive Family Based Services (IFBS):

IFBS is targeted at children who are at imminent risk of removal from their families, but where an assessment is made that there is a reasonable prospect of improvement within the family. The broad aim of IFBS is to build capacity in the Aboriginal non-governmental organisation sector to deliver culturally appropriate child protection services to Aboriginal families.

Intensive Family Preservation:

The Intensive Family Preservation Service's focus is to improve children's safety (i.e. family preservation), offers placement stability and restoration support. Out of the total families who received the services, about one third were Aboriginal families. In the recent years, Aboriginal families have also shown continued improvements in achieving their case plan goals.

Sector Development Program

Through the Sector Development Program, FACS funds AbSec, and other peaks to deliver various capacity building initiatives that support Aboriginal organisations. These are focused particularly in supporting organisations in the context of reforms to the OOHC and targeted earlier intervention sectors.

Aboriginal child and family industry development strategy (the Strategy)

The six year strategy provides a roadmap to strengthening the Aboriginal child and family sector in NSW. There are 20 Initiatives covering five focus areas:

- State wide coverage
- Support existing capacity to reach scale and maturity to deliver quality services
- Enhance current workforce capabilities and promote employment opportunities in the sector
- Target supports to assist Aboriginal organisations through periods of rapid growth or change
- Measure outcomes and share knowledge.

The strategy is intended to establish a safety net of Aboriginal organisations through which:

- Service models are self-determined by Aboriginal communities
- A high standard of service quality is maintained that effectively meet the needs of Aboriginal children, families and communities through holistic and individually tailored services.
- There are meaningful employment opportunities for Aboriginal people

Investing in Western and Far Western NSW Aboriginal service systems

The Western NSW and Far Western NSW initiatives align with the objectives of the Aboriginal Child and Family Industry Development Strategy. Through these initiatives, holistic Aboriginal child and family service providers will be established in each of the regions that have the capacity to deliver across the care continuum with the scale necessary to do more for Aboriginal children, young people and families over time.

After establishment and accreditation of the holistic Aboriginal child and family service providers, AbSec will work with FACS to transition an effective Aboriginal Care service model to the providers.

Aboriginal Growth and Partnership Project

FACS fund the Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care State Secretariat (NSW) (AbSec) to deliver a range of capacity building initiatives to support Aboriginal organisations to attain and maintain accreditation to operate as OOHC providers in NSW. AbSec also supports partnerships between mainstream and Aboriginal organisations to enable Aboriginal organisations to develop the capacity to operate independently.

Their Futures Matter (TFM)

Multisystemic Therapy Child Abuse and Neglect (MST-CAN®) and **Functional Family Therapy through Child Welfare (FFT-CW®)** programs address underlying issues of substance abuse and mental illness. With a target of helping 900 families a year and half of the placements designated for Aboriginal families, MST-CAN® and FFT-CW® are implemented in more than 14 locations across NSW, including selected regional areas. In the year since its commencement in August 2017, 805 families have received services; six families have completed MST-CAN® and 150 families have completed FFT-CW®.

Aboriginal Evidence Building in Partnership project is working with six Aboriginal programs across Murrumbidgee, Far West, Western NSW, Nepean Blue Mountains, Mid North Coast and Northern NSW Districts by supporting these organisations to embed routine data collection mechanisms and evidence building capabilities. The aim is to improve program outcomes and better demonstrate services that work best for Aboriginal children, young people, families and communities.

LINKS Trauma Healing Service provides trauma treatment to support children and young people to improve their emotional, psychological and physical wellbeing to assist with placement stability, engagement in education and prevention of entering the juvenile justice system.

In 2018, TFM will launch the Treatment Foster Care Oregon program, delivered in a family setting as an alternative to institutional, residential and group care placements for children and young people with severe emotional and behavioural disorders. An additional trauma treatment service to improve placement stability will be available for children under 15 years of age who are in statutory kinship care (including relative) or foster care, and whose placements are unstable.