



Australian Government

Australian Institute of  
Health and Welfare

Australia's welfare

2007

DISADVANTAGE AND DIVERSITY

# Welfare services resources: financial and human

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# Why information on financial and human resources?

- Brings information together on the range of welfare services and related benefits
- Common ways of describing and comparing:
  - Amounts spent on them
  - Staffing and other human resources for them
- A 'whole-of-government' view
- A view that includes all sectors of the economy
- A view that covers all life stages

# What questions can be answered?

- Amounts spent? Changes over time?
- Who is spending the money? What services is it spent on?
- Who is providing the funding?
- How do we compare internationally?
- Who is employed to provide welfare services?  
Are there workforce shortages?
- What roles do volunteers and carers play?

# Welfare resources in total

- Financial—how much is spent on
  - providing welfare services (benefits-in-kind)
  - income support (cash benefits)
- Human resources— paid workforce and unpaid volunteers and carers

*Overlapping concepts....*

## Financial resources for welfare 2005–06

### **Welfare expenditure \$90.2 billion**

= **Income support (a) + Expenditure on welfare services (b)**

(a) Income support \$58.9 billion (excluding for carers)

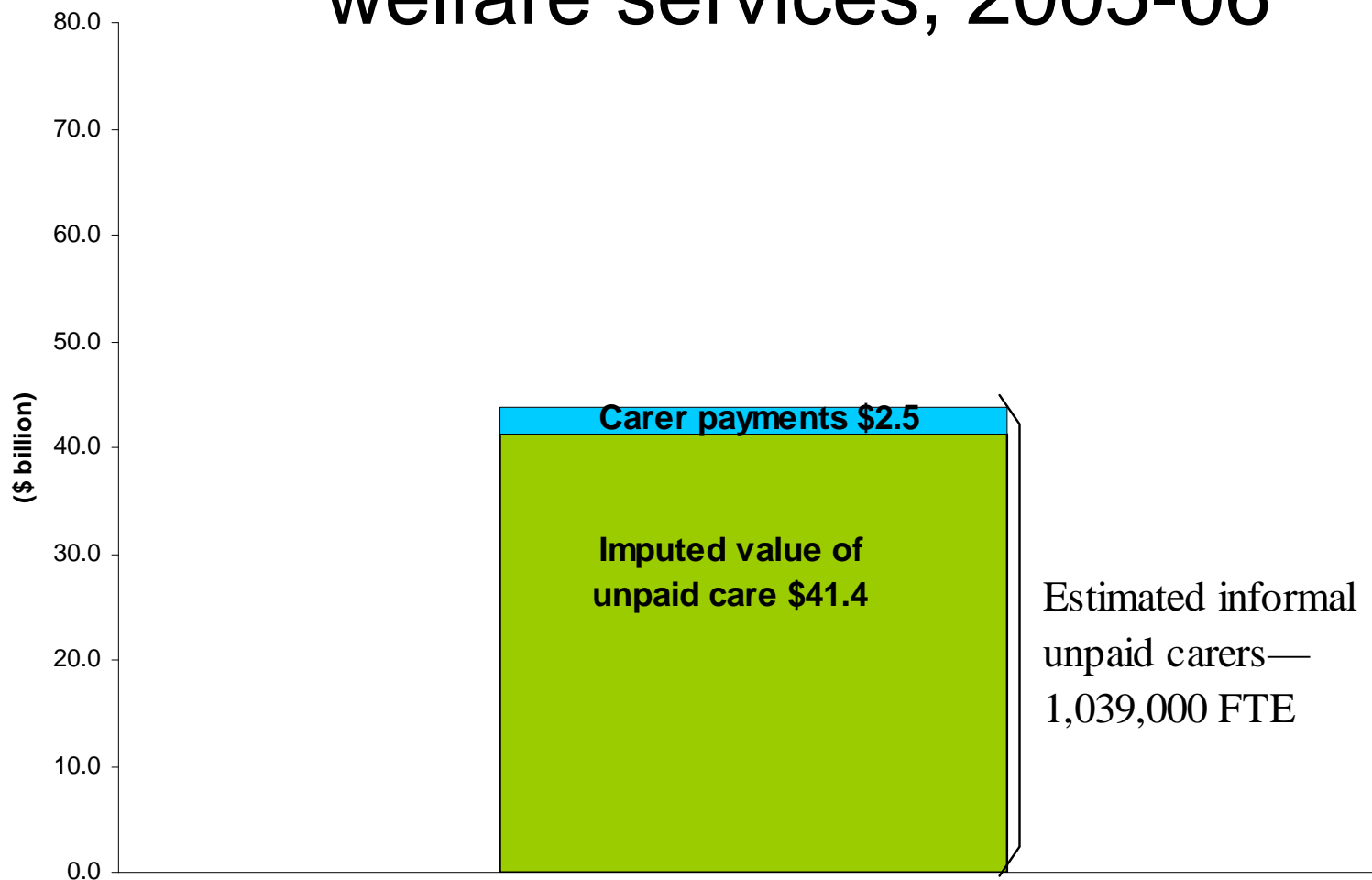
### **Resources for welfare services provision \$72.6b**

(a) Income support for carers \$2.5 billion

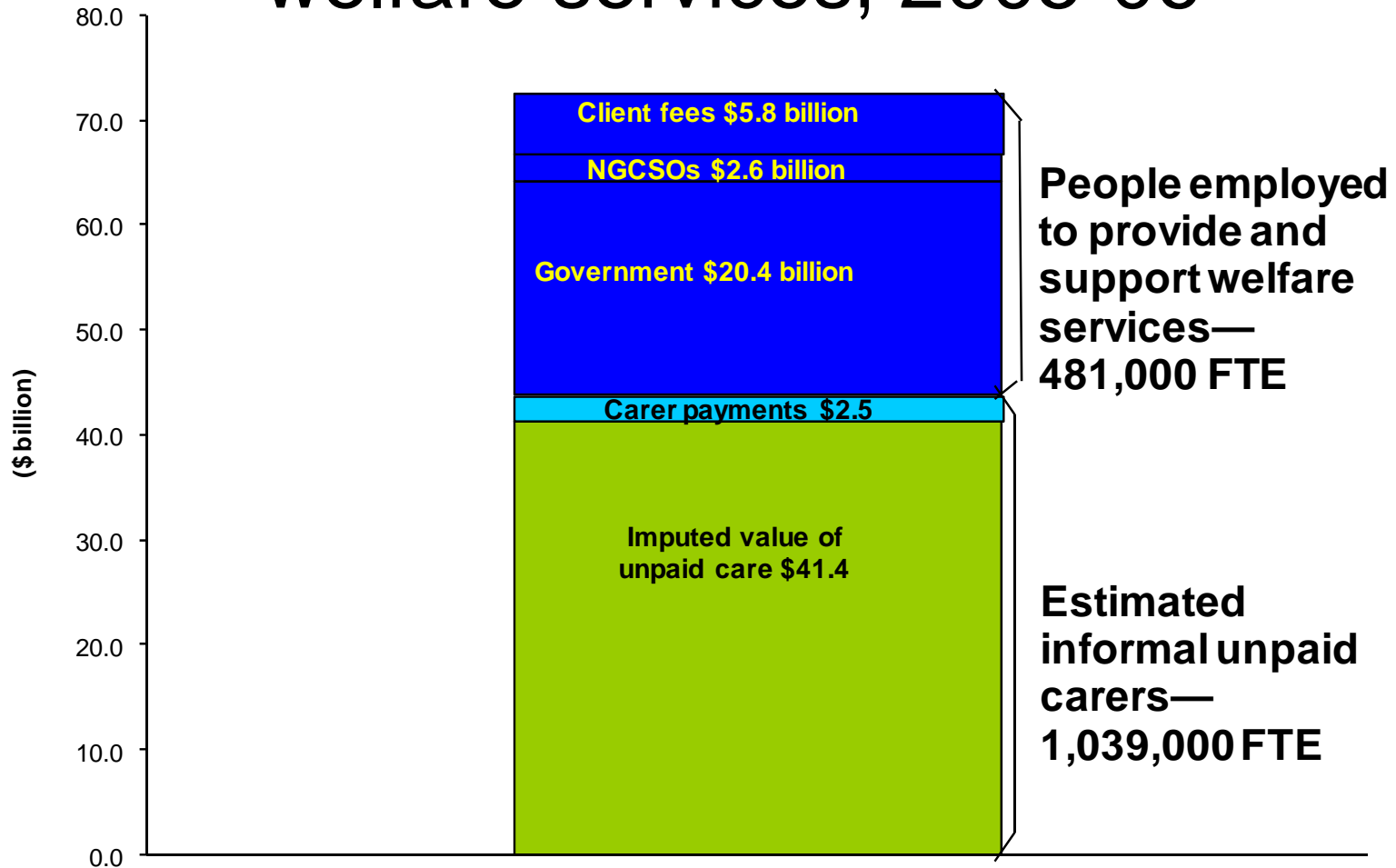
(b) Expenditure on welfare services \$28.9 billion

Imputed value of services for which there was no payments \$41.2 billion

# Financial and human resources for welfare services, 2005-06



# Financial and human resources for welfare services, 2005-06



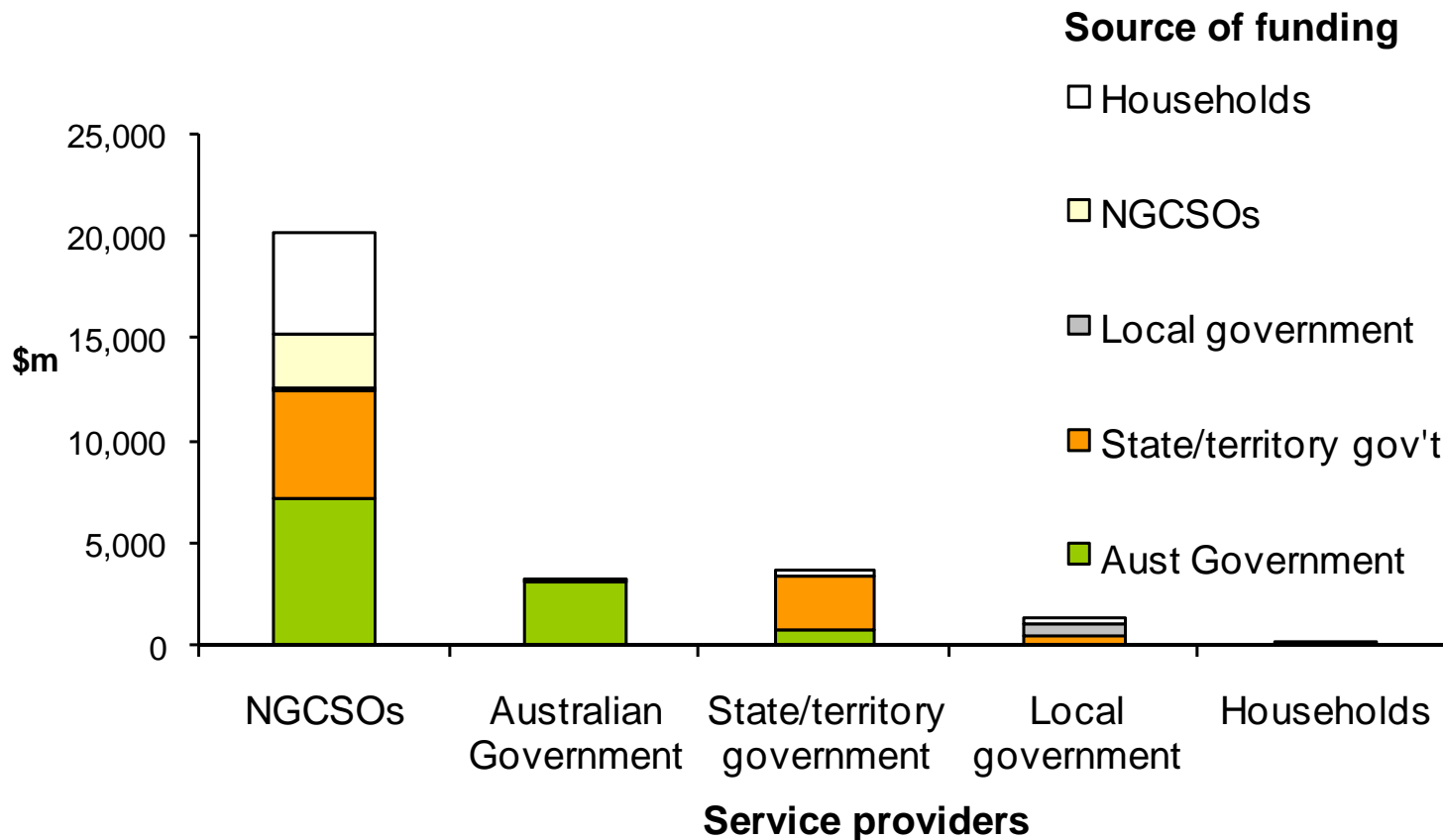
# Welfare services expenditure: four in-scope groups

- Families and children
- Older people, including all residential aged care
- People with disabilities
- Other (migrants, refugees, widows)

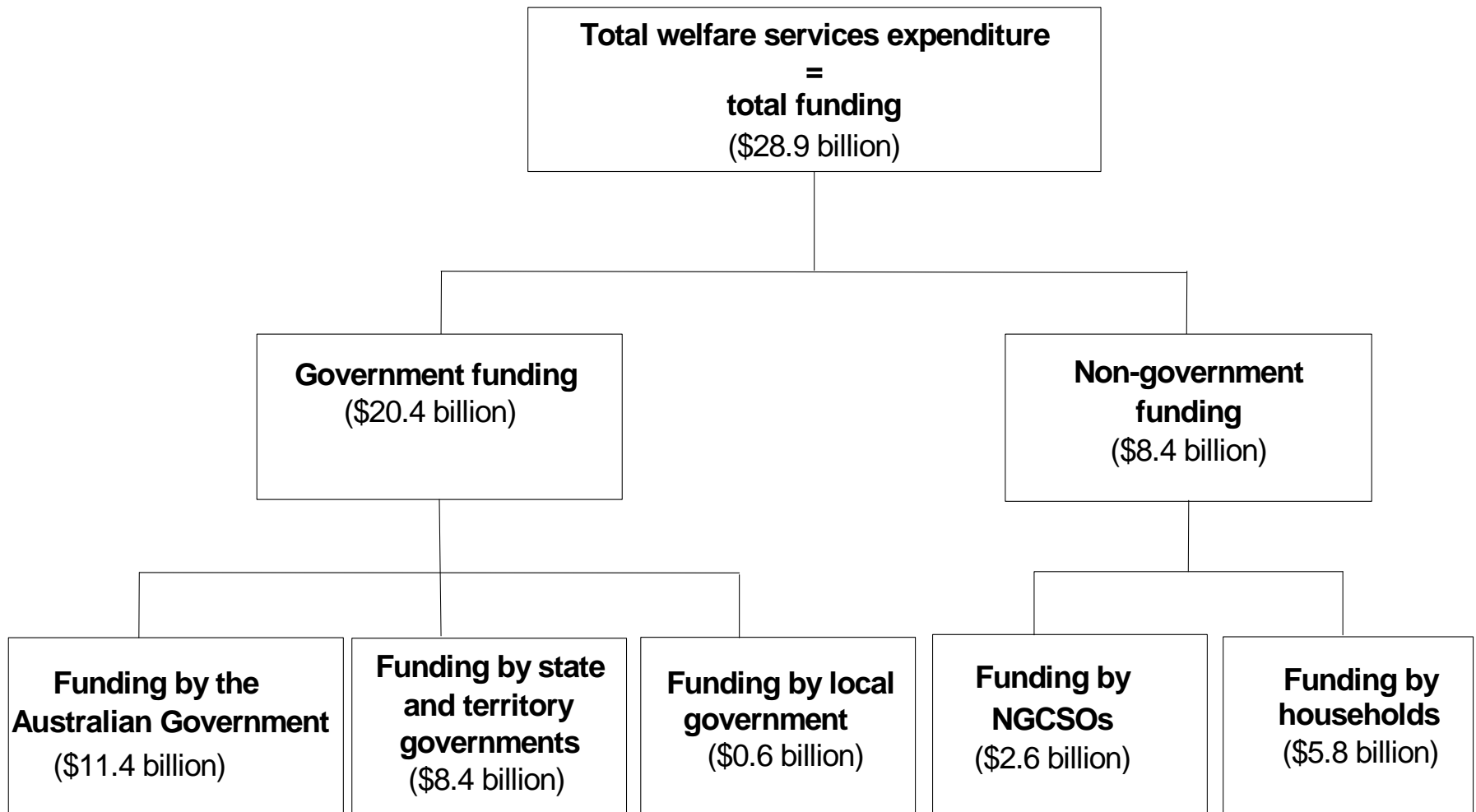
# Welfare services expenditure: summary

- \$28.9 billion in 2005-06
- Mostly recurrent expenditure; about \$0.4 billion capital expenditure by governments
- Annual average growth of 3.7% since 1998-99
- \$1,404 per person in 2005-06; 2.4% annual average growth since 1998-99
- 3.0% of GDP in 2005-06; about the same since 1998-99

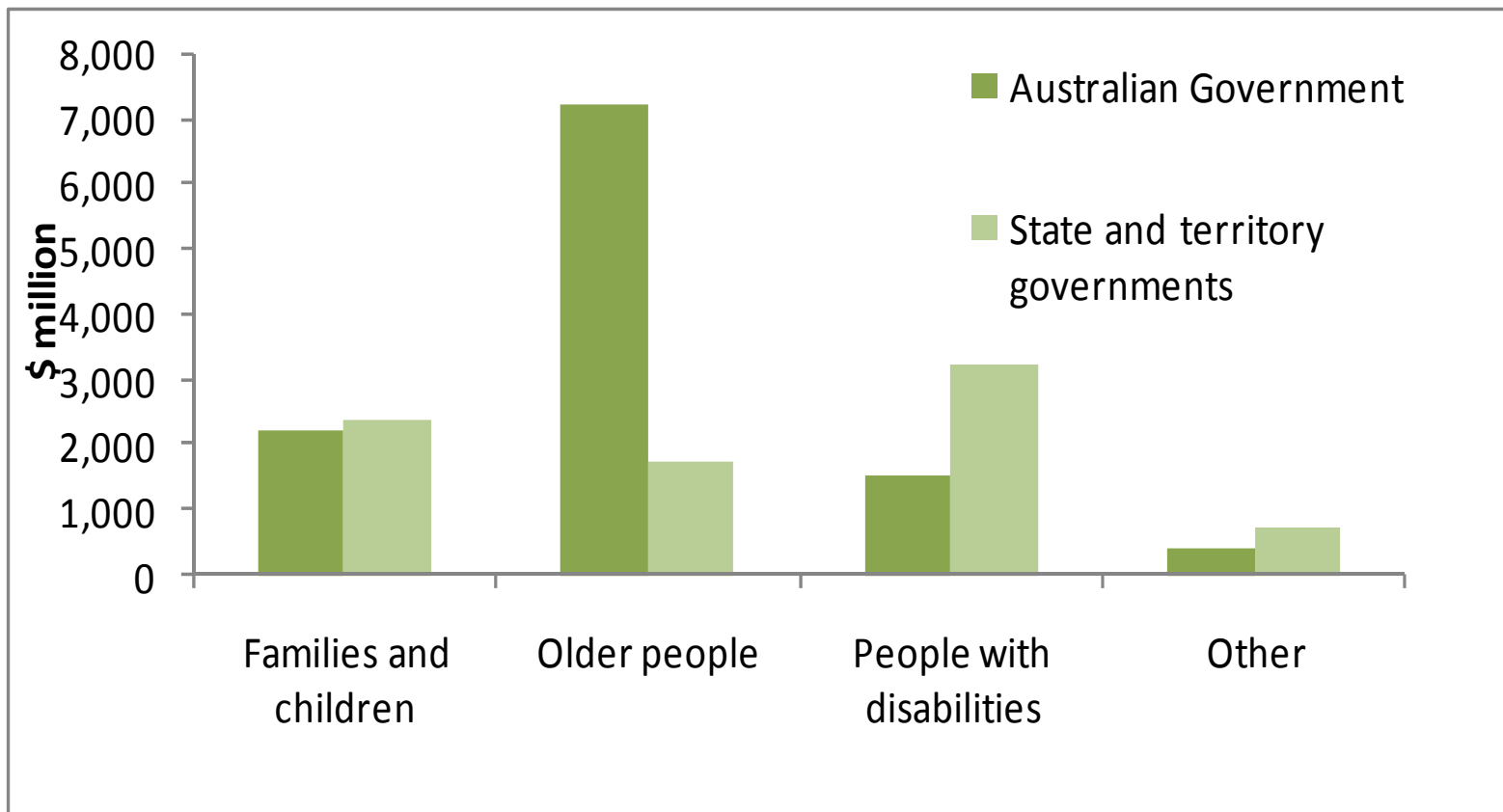
# Welfare services expenditure by service provider type and source of funds, 2005–06



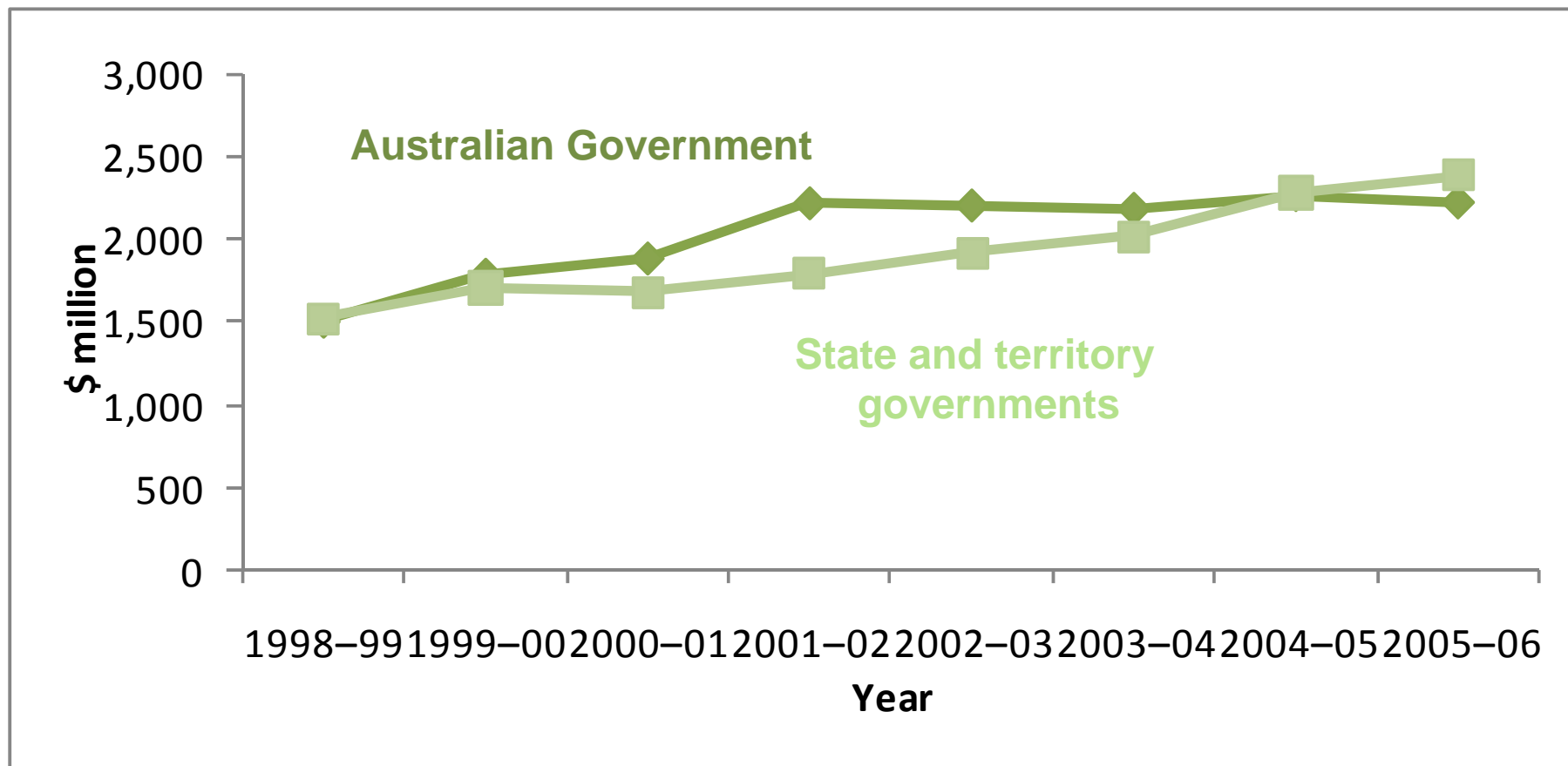
# Funding of welfare services, 2005–06



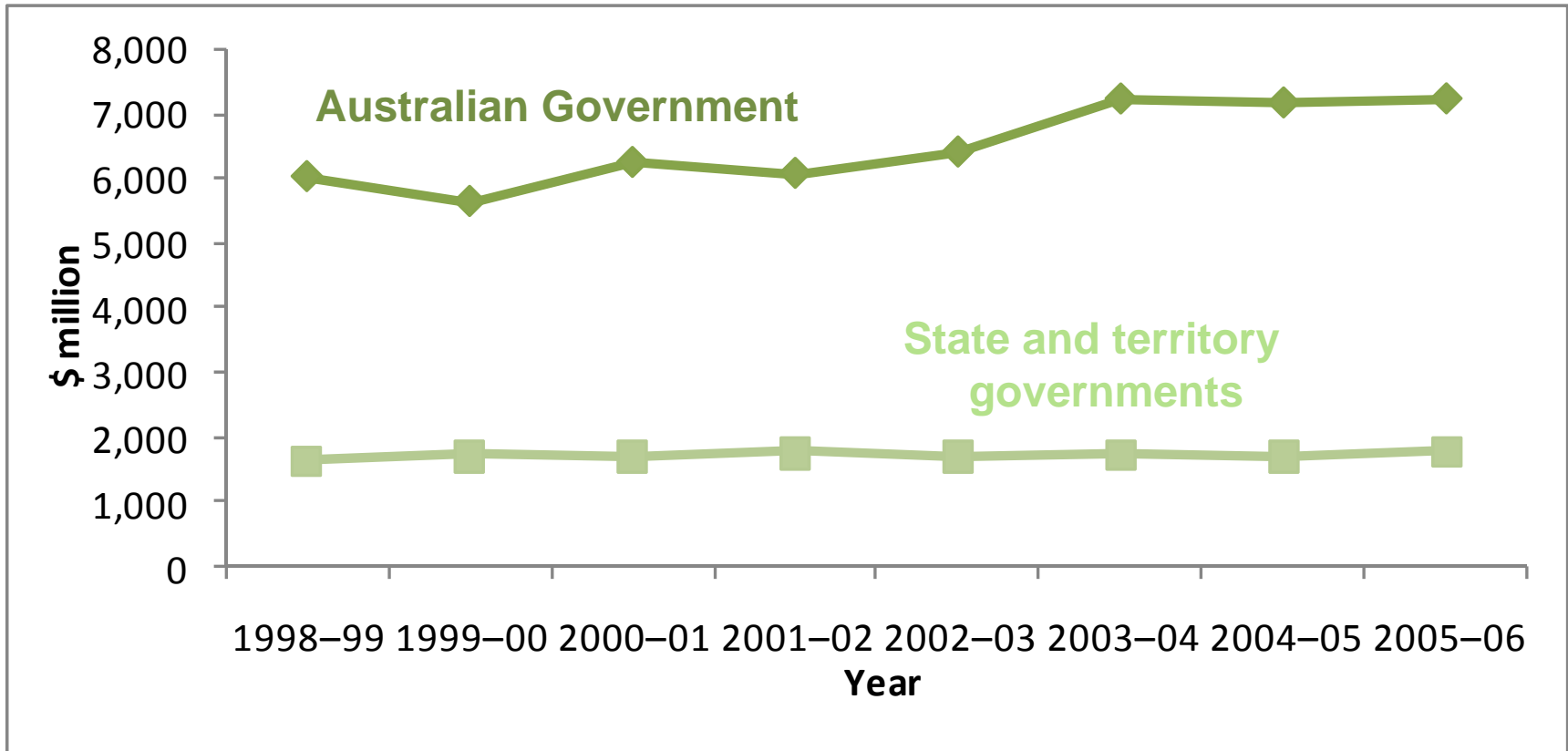
# Government funding of welfare services by category, 2005–06



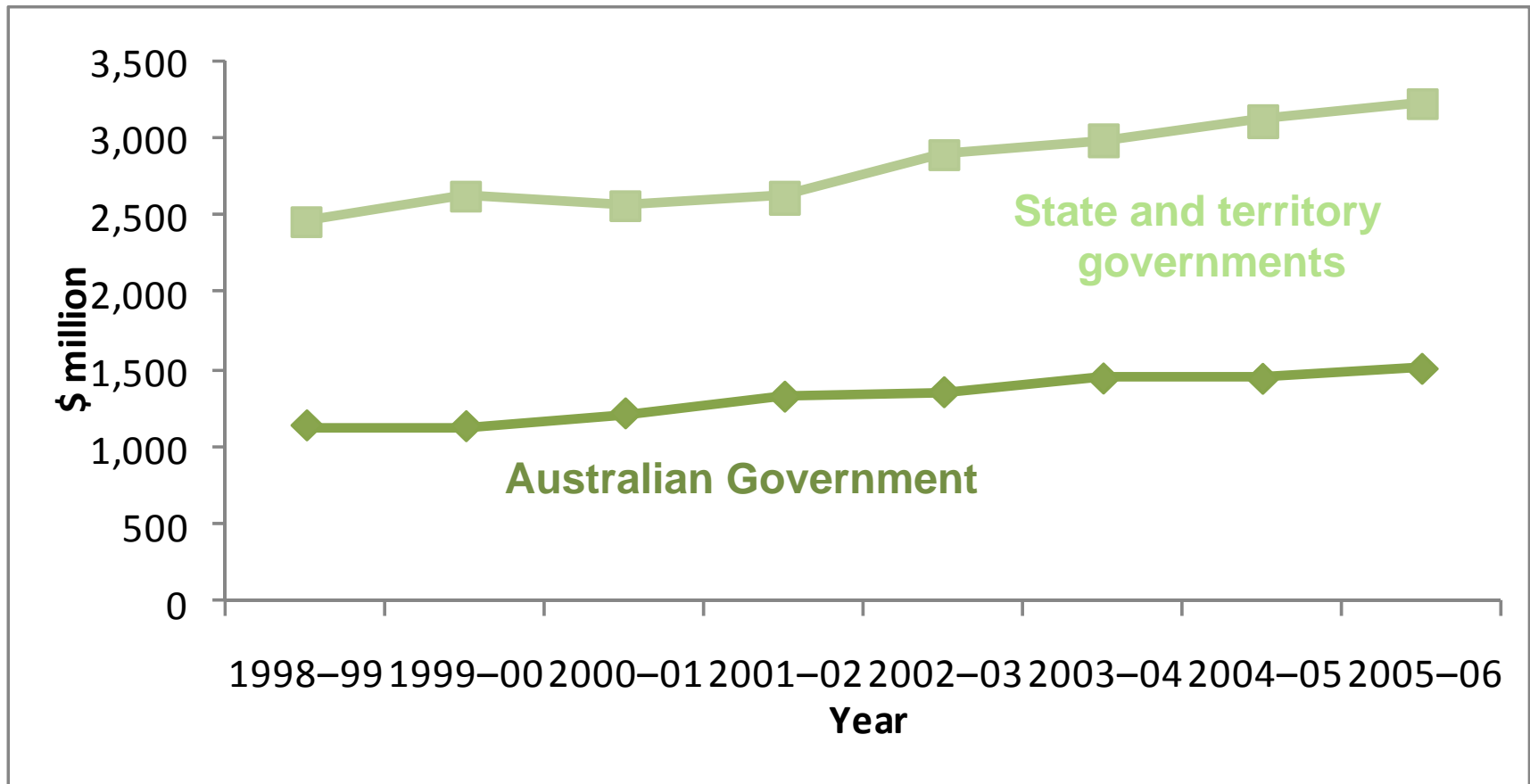
# Funding of welfare services for families and children, constant prices, 1998–99 to 2005–06



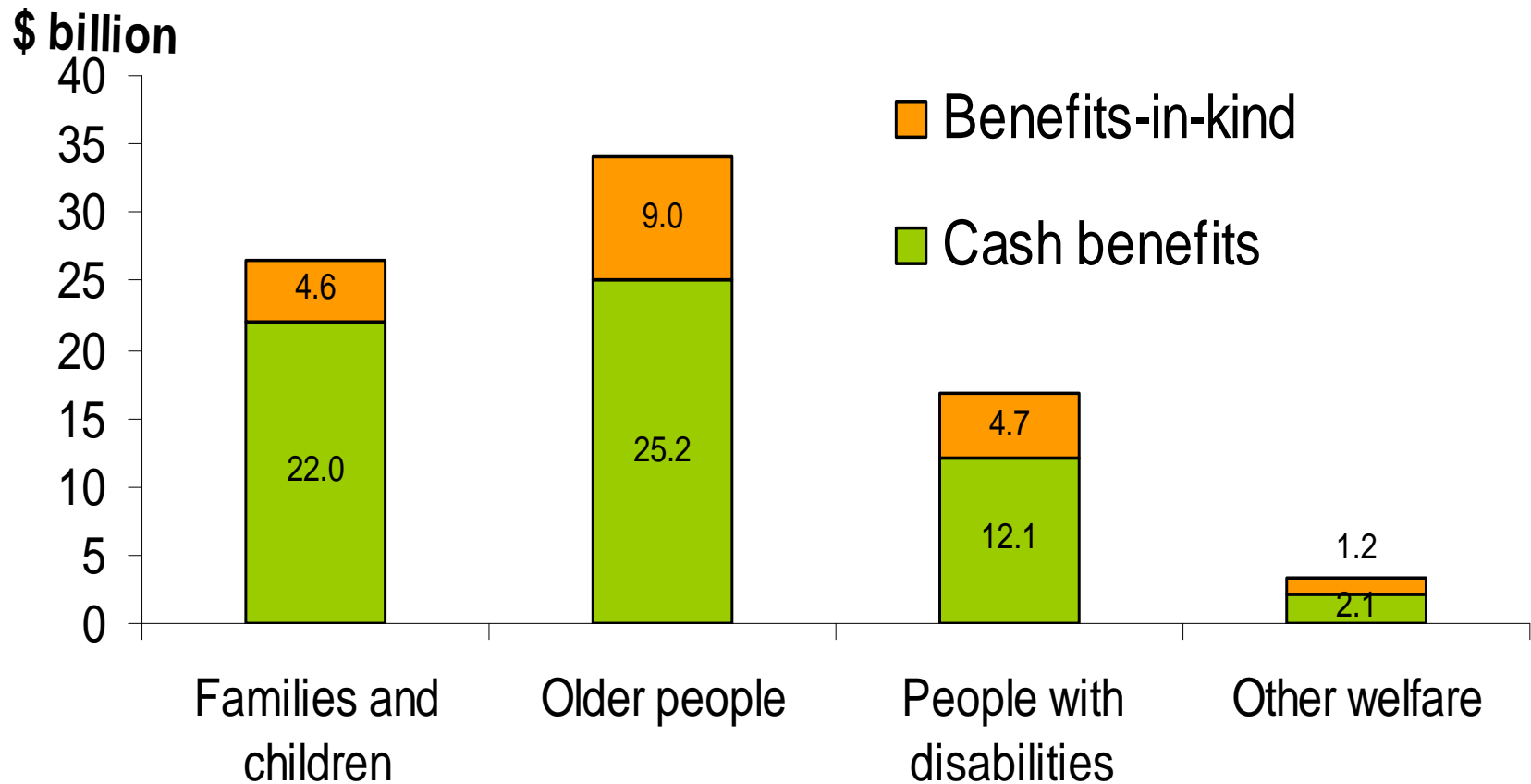
# Funding of welfare services for older people, constant prices, 1998–99 to 2005–06



# Funding of welfare services for people with disabilities, constant prices, 1998–99 to 2005–06



# Welfare expenditure, 2005-06



# Welfare expenditure: international comparisons

- Using OECD standards, adding superannuation benefits payments for comparability
- Australia: 13.8% of GDP in 2003  
OECD average: 14.7%
- Ranked 20 out of 29 countries
- Per person, lower expenditure than the average for old age, survivors, incapacity
- Higher than average for family and other

# Human resources for welfare services

- Workers in paid employment (the workforce)
- Volunteers who contribute their time in an organised or formal manner to welfare services providers
- Carers who provide personal assistance to family members or others on an informal basis

# Community services industries and occupations

- Community services industries, such as
  - Child care services
  - Services for people with a disability
- Community services occupations, such as
  - Pre-primary and special education teachers
  - Social workers
  - welfare and community workers
  - children's care workers

# Employment in community services occupations and industries, 2006

	Community services industries	Other industries	Total
Community services occupations	174,500 persons Eg children's care workers in the child care services industry	188,600 persons Eg counsellors in the education industry	<b>363,100</b> <b>290,400 FTE</b>
Other occupations	93,900 persons Eg managers, accountants, tradespersons		
Total	<b>268,400</b> <b>220,800 FTE</b>		

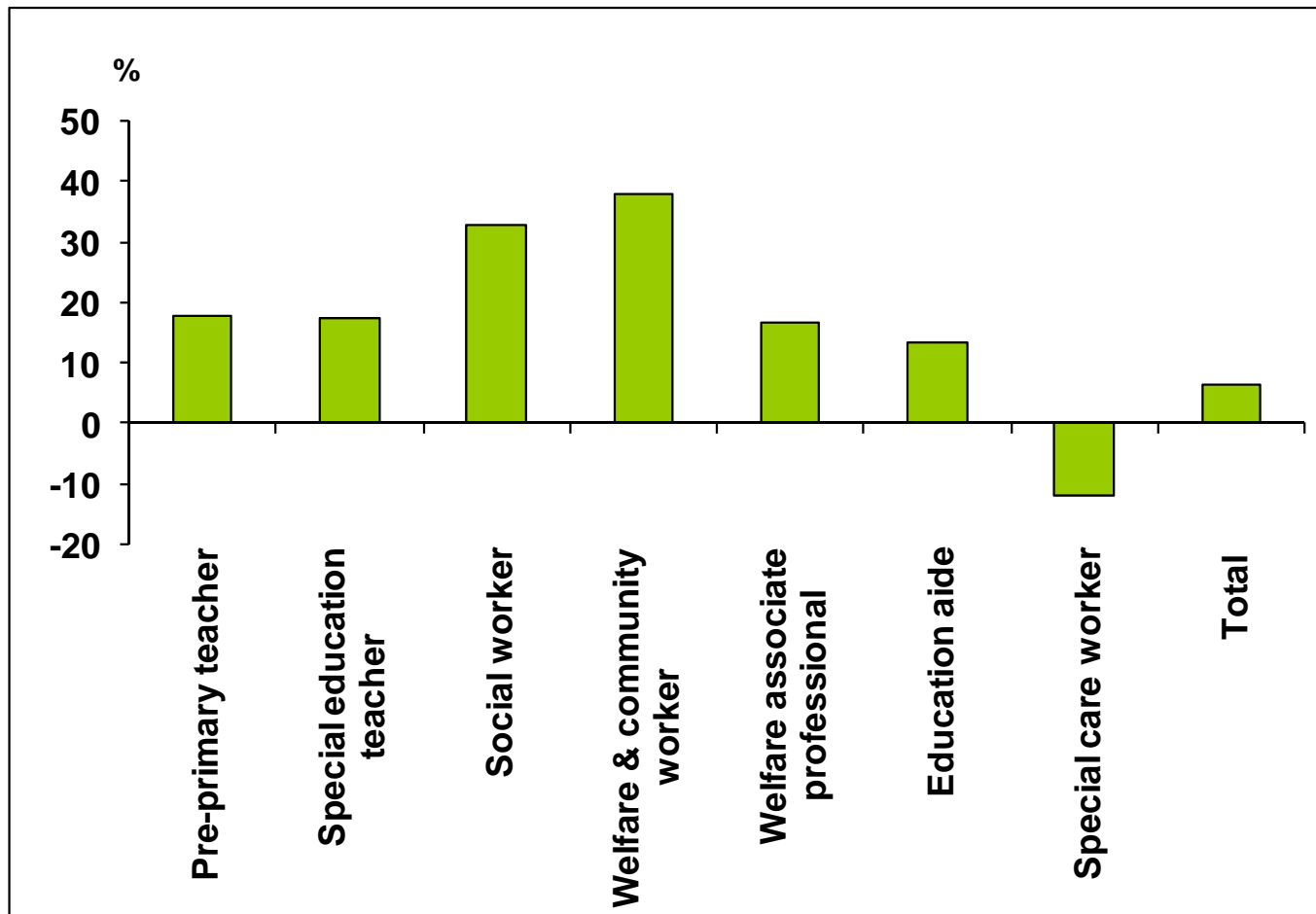
# Employment in community services occupations, 2006

- 363,100 workers - 3.6% of total labour force
- Children's care workers the largest group: 99,800 workers, 28% of the total
- Average weekly hours: 28.0 (34.8 for other occupations)
- 87% female (44% for other occupations)
- 14% aged 55 and over (same for others)

# Employment in community services occupations, 2001 and 2006

- Employment in community services occupations increased by 16%
- Biggest % increase for 'welfare and community workers' (52%)
- Average weekly hours fell from 28.6 to 28.0
- Proportions who were female remained about the same
- Proportions who were aged 55 and over increased to 14% from 10% in 2001

# Change in FTE rates 2001-2006



# Workforce shortages

- Information from the former Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
- Shortages identified in 2006:
  - Child care coordinators and workers in all jurisdictions
  - Pre-primary school teachers in NSW and Victoria
  - Registered nurses for aged care in all jurisdictions

# Child care industry workers

- 87,851 paid workers (caregivers and support staff) and 1,069 unpaid workers in 2006
- The number of paid workers in 2006 increased by 13% compared with 2001 and 35% from 1997
- The number of unpaid workers declined by 70% compared with 2001
- Relevant qualifications: 61% in long day care, 32% family day care carers. Others had 3+ years experience, recent in-service training

## Aged care services

- An estimated 115,661 workers involved in direct care for residents in aged care facilities in 2003
- 58% personal carers, 21% registered nurses, 13% enrolled nurses, 8% allied health workers
- Average age was 44.8 years; 6.3% were male
- Average weekly hours: 30.2 overall, higher for registered nurses (32.3 hours)

# Disability services

- 45,401 FTE paid staff and 1,413 FTE unpaid staff in CSTDA reporting agencies in 2005-06
- The majority (56%) of FTE paid staff worked in accommodation support services, employment services (14%), community access services (13%), community support services (8%), respite services (6%) and other services (3%)
- Total disability workforce estimated as about 60,000; older on average than the general workforce

# Potential entrants to the community services workforce

- Re-entry, migration, education
- Between 2001 and 2004 completions of courses related to community services occupations increased 10.2% to 5,416
- Students in community services fields were predominantly female, 89% in 2001 and 2004
- Highest numbers in early childhood education (1,828), social work (1,354)

# Unpaid workforce - Volunteers

- Over one-third of the population aged 18 years and over (5.2 million persons) participated in some form of volunteer work in 2006
- A total of 1.1 million, or 7% of the adult population, volunteered in community or welfare organisations. Females: 9% and males 6%
- Median age: 53 years
- Median annual hours: 40

## Unpaid workforce - carers

- There were about 2.6 million people who were carers in 2003, approximately 13% of people living in households
- 20% of carers were primary or principal carers
- Proportions of people who were carers ranged from 3.6% of people aged under 18 to 21.8% of people aged 55–64

- For more information:  
*Chapter 7: Welfare services resources*
- Thanks to the authors of the chapter and to those who helped with this presentation