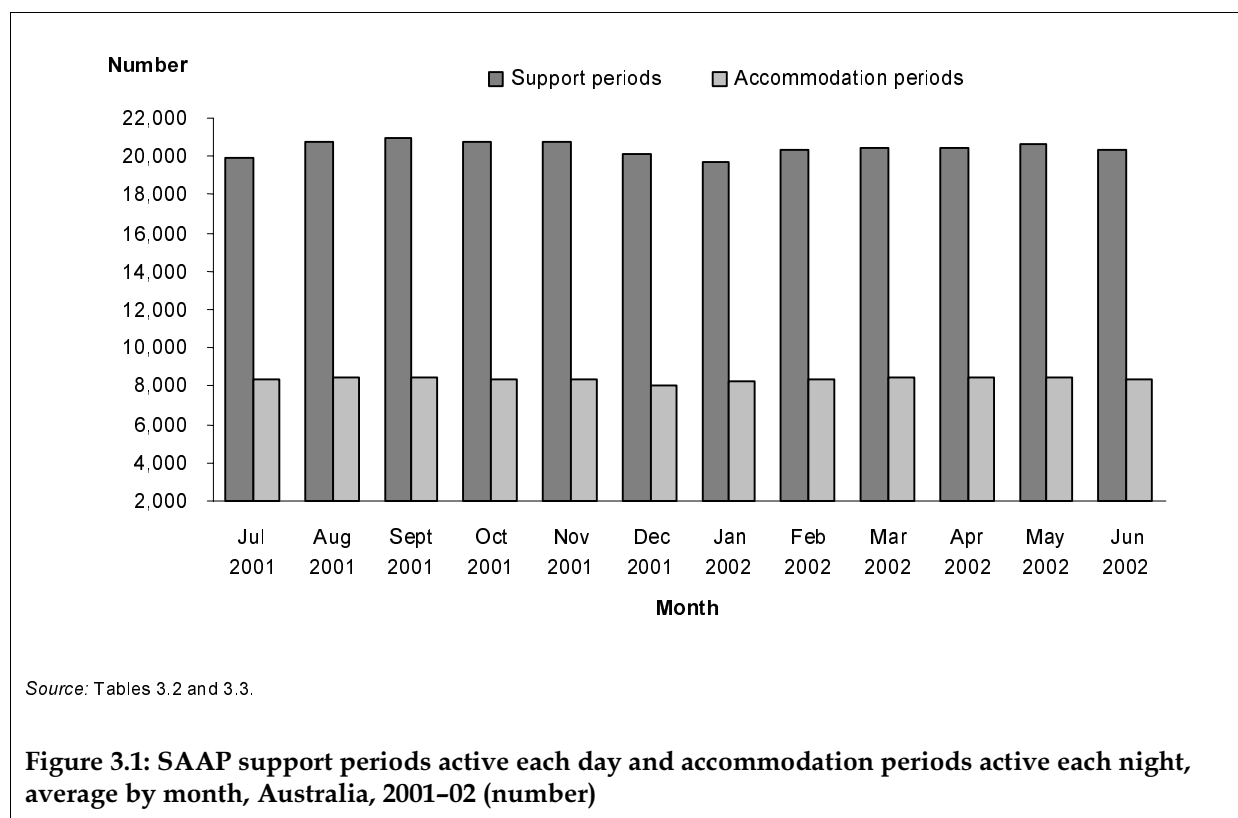


### 3 Level of support

SAAP agencies in Australia supported an estimated 95,600 clients during 2001-02 (Table 3.1). The total number of support periods, at 177,000, exceeded the number of clients as each client can receive support or supported accommodation on more than one occasion. Sixty-eight per cent of clients had only one support period during the year. The average number of support periods per client was 1.8. Agencies in Queensland reported the highest average number of support periods, at 2.4 per client. The lowest average of 1.7 support periods per client was recorded in both Victoria and Tasmania. Nationally, out of every 10,000 people aged 10 years and over in the general population, 56 people became SAAP clients.

#### Daily support

The daily level of support provided by SAAP agencies can be examined by looking at the average support periods active each day and the average accommodation periods active each night. Both the average daily support periods and the average nightly accommodation periods decreased around the middle of the financial year, with the lowest average daily support periods reported in January (19,700) and the lowest average nightly accommodation periods reported in December (8,000) (Figure 3.1).



## **Support periods**

In Australia SAAP agencies provided a fairly constant level of service throughout 2001–02, with the average daily number of support periods remaining within the range of 19,700 to 21,000. A total of 7,453,400 days of support were provided (Table 3.2).

Overall, agencies in New South Wales provided the most support periods in 2001–02 (Table 3.1). However, Victoria provided the most support periods on a daily basis (between 6,600 and 7,100 a day), resulting in 2,499,700 days of support being provided. An explanation for the higher average daily number of support periods in Victoria is the higher median length of support in Victoria (13 days) compared with New South Wales (5 days) (Table 6.1).

Agencies in the Northern Territory provided the lowest average daily number of support periods, averaging around 300 to 400 support periods each day. The Australian Capital Territory consistently provided 400 support periods each day. However, the Northern Territory provided more support periods in 2001–02 than the Australian Capital Territory (Table 3.1). This can be explained by the higher median length of support in the Australian Capital Territory (15 days) compared to the Northern Territory (4 days) (Table 6.1). It also explains how the Australian Capital Territory provided more total days of support (144,200 compared to 122,100) (Table 3.2).

## **Accommodation periods**

A total of 2,962,600 nights of accommodation were provided by SAAP agencies in Australia during 2001–02 (Table 3.3). The average nightly number of accommodation periods remained fairly constant and ranged from 8,000 to 8,500.

While Victoria reported the highest average daily number of support periods and total days of support (Table 3.2), New South Wales provided the most nights of accommodation during 2001–02 (985,100) and reported the highest average nightly figures for accommodation (ranging from 2,500 to 2,900) (Table 3.3). An explanation for this can be found in Table 6.2 in the State and Territory supplements associated with this publication. Although this table shows only closed support periods with accommodation, it still gives an indication of the number of support periods with accommodation as well as the median length of accommodation. For example, it can be seen that New South Wales provided 30,650 support periods with accommodation lasting at least 1 day and had a median length of accommodation of 5 days. Victoria, on the other hand, reported 8,700 support periods with accommodation that lasted 1 day or longer and a median length of accommodation of 25 days. It should also be noted that in Victoria many SAAP clients are accommodated by the Transitional Housing Management program. Some of the accommodation periods provided by this program may not be reported to the National Data Collection Agency.

The Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory and Tasmania provided the equal lowest average nightly number of accommodation periods (200). However, the Australian Capital Territory provided more nights of accommodation than both Tasmania and the Northern Territory (81,300 compared with 71,600 and 57,600, respectively). This may be due to the relatively high mean and median length of accommodation in the Australian Capital Territory (see Table 6.2 in the State and Territory supplements associated with this publication).

## 3.1 Tables

Table 3.1: SAAP support periods and clients, by State and Territory, Australia, 2001–02

State/ Territory	Support periods		Clients			
	Number	Number	Clients with only one support period	Mean no. of support periods per client	Per 10,000 population aged 10+	
			Number		%	Actual
NSW	47,900	26,400	64.0	2.00	46	46
Vic	45,200	29,200	66.6	1.73	69	69
Qld	41,400	18,400	64.5	2.44	58	58
WA	14,700	9,000	62.0	1.88	54	53
SA	14,400	8,800	65.2	1.79	67	69
Tas	5,800	3,700	66.4	1.74	91	96
ACT	2,700	1,900	63.1	1.87	69	63
NT	4,800	3,100	61.6	1.94	189	167
<b>Australia</b>	<b>177,000</b>	<b>95,600</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>1.82</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>

*Notes*

1. Number excluded due to errors and omissions (weighted): 0.
2. Number of clients within a State or Territory relates to clients who ever received assistance from a SAAP agency in that State or Territory. Since a client may have support periods in more than one State or Territory, State and Territory figures do not sum to the national figure.
3. Some of the support periods for clients may have been at agencies in another State or Territory. Consequently, the number of clients multiplied by the average number of support periods for these clients is greater than the number of support periods provided within a particular State or Territory.
4. 'Per 10,000 population aged 10+' shows how many people out of every 10,000 aged 10 years and over in the general population became SAAP clients. The rate is estimated by comparing the number of SAAP clients aged 10 years and over with the estimated resident population aged 10 and over at 30 June 2001 (preliminary estimates). Age-standardised estimates have been derived to allow for different age distributions in the various jurisdictions. The Australian estimated resident population at 30 June 2001 has been used as the reference population.
5. Support period figures have been weighted to adjust for agency non-participation.
6. Client figures have been weighted to adjust for agency non-participation and client non-consent.

Source: SAAP Client Collection; ABS 2001a.

**Table 3.2: SAAP support periods: number of support periods active each day, average by month and State and Territory, Australia, 2001-02**

Date	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
July 2001	5,100	6,700	2,700	1,600	2,200	900	400	300	19,900
August 2001	5,200	7,000	2,900	1,600	2,400	900	400	300	20,800
September 2001	5,300	7,100	2,800	1,600	2,400	900	400	400	21,000
October 2001	5,200	7,000	2,700	1,600	2,300	900	400	400	20,700
November 2001	5,300	7,000	2,700	1,700	2,300	1,000	400	400	20,800
December 2001	5,100	6,700	2,600	1,700	2,300	1,000	400	400	20,100
January 2002	5,200	6,600	2,600	1,600	2,200	800	400	300	19,700
February 2002	5,400	6,800	2,800	1,700	2,300	800	400	300	20,300
March 2002	5,400	6,800	2,700	1,700	2,400	800	400	300	20,400
April 2002	5,300	6,800	2,800	1,700	2,300	800	400	300	20,400
May 2002	5,400	6,800	2,800	1,700	2,300	800	400	400	20,600
June 2002	5,300	6,800	2,700	1,600	2,300	900	400	400	20,300
<b>Support periods: total number of days</b>	<b>1,921,200</b>	<b>2,499,700</b>	<b>996,900</b>	<b>604,900</b>	<b>845,200</b>	<b>319,200</b>	<b>144,200</b>	<b>122,100</b>	<b>7,453,400</b>

*Notes*

1. Number excluded due to errors and omissions (weighted): 1,347.
2. Figures have been weighted to adjust for agency non-participation.
3. Please refer to the counting rules (Appendix 1, Section A1.4) for the method used to calculate the monthly average.

Source: SAAP Client Collection.

**Table 3.3: SAAP support periods with accommodation: number of accommodation periods active each night, average by month and State and Territory, Australia, 2001-02**

<b>Date</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>Qld</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Total</b>
July 2001	2,800	2,100	1,400	700	800	200	200	200	8,400
August 2001	2,700	2,100	1,500	700	900	200	200	200	8,500
September 2001	2,700	2,200	1,500	700	900	200	200	200	8,500
October 2001	2,700	2,200	1,400	700	900	200	200	200	8,400
November 2001	2,700	2,100	1,400	700	900	200	200	200	8,400
December 2001	2,500	2,000	1,300	600	900	200	200	200	8,000
January 2002	2,900	1,900	1,400	600	800	200	300	200	8,300
February 2002	2,900	2,000	1,400	700	800	200	200	200	8,400
March 2002	2,900	2,000	1,400	700	800	200	200	200	8,500
April 2002	2,900	2,100	1,400	700	800	200	200	200	8,500
May 2002	2,900	2,100	1,400	700	800	200	200	200	8,500
June 2002	2,800	2,100	1,400	700	800	200	200	200	8,400
<b>Accommodation periods: total number of nights</b>	<b>985,100</b>	<b>733,100</b>	<b>500,100</b>	<b>232,900</b>	<b>300,900</b>	<b>71,600</b>	<b>81,300</b>	<b>57,600</b>	<b>2,962,600</b>

*Notes*

1. Number excluded due to errors and omissions (weighted): 2,505.
2. Figures have been weighted to adjust for agency non-participation.
3. Please refer to the counting rules (Appendix 1, Section A1.4) for the method used to calculate the monthly average.

*Source:* SAAP Client Collection.

