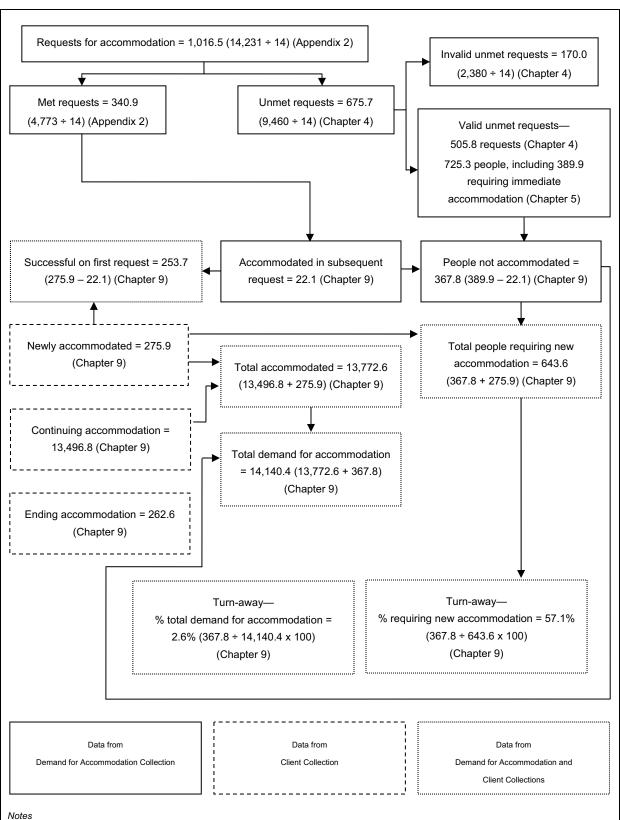
# Appendix 1 Demand for SAAP accommodation summary diagram

Figure A1.1 provides a summary of the demand for SAAP accommodation in 2006–07. This diagram outlines how requests for accommodation made during the Demand for Accommodation Collection were used to determine how many people were not accommodated on an average day. This number of people is then used in conjunction with data from the Client Collection to calculate the turn-away measures.



- Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client and Demand for Accommodation Collections are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
- Figures may not add due to rounding.
- The AIHW acknowledges the contribution made by Roza Cvetkoska of the Western Australian Department for Child Protection.

Figure A1.1: Demand for SAAP accommodation summary diagram for requests and total people, Australia, 2-8 August 2006 and 16-22 May 2007 (daily average)

## Appendix 2 The data

#### **A2.1 The Client Collection**

The Client Collection is the main component of the National Data Collection. It contains information about all clients receiving support of more than 1 hour's duration under SAAP, or who are accommodated by a SAAP agency, or who enter into an ongoing support relationship with a SAAP agency. Data are recorded by service providers during or immediately following contact with clients and are then forwarded to the National Data Collection Agency after clients' support periods have ended or, for ongoing clients, at the end of the reporting period (30 June). Data collected include basic socio demographic information, information about the services required by and provided to each client, and information about each client's situation before and after receiving SAAP services.

A full-scale trial of the Client Collection, involving all agencies across Australia, began in March 1996, and the collection proper began on 1 July 1996. The collection has continued, with some refinements to the data items introduced in July each year. In July 2005, a Core Data Set was introduced. The Core Data Set collects fewer data items than were previously collected, includes a new statistical linkage key and incorporates changes in some definitions, such as that of client, support period, accompanying child and accompanying child support period. For this reason, data from 2005–06 onwards is not strictly comparable with previous years.

#### A2.1.1 Participation

A high level of participation among SAAP-funded agencies is necessary to ensure that the data accurately reflect the work done under the auspices of the Program. Overall, the participation rate for the Client Collection has been very satisfactory—in 2006–07, 87% of SAAP agencies providing support and/or accommodation participated in the collection (Table A2.1). This was lower than the participation rate obtained in 2005–06 and was primarily caused by decreases in the participation rates in Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory (see AIHW 2008a for more information).

#### A2.1.2 Consent and valid consent

In assessing the quality of data in any collection, it is important to consider not only overall participation rates but also the degree to which returned data are complete. All data collections and surveys invariably have some missing data, but this does not necessarily undermine the validity or reliability of information obtained. However, high levels of non-response to particular questions mean that some caution should be exercised when interpreting the data because the results may not fully reflect the entire population of interest.

In this context, note that the protocols established for the National Data Collection require that SAAP clients provide information in a climate of informed consent. If a client's consent is not obtained, only a limited number of questions can be completed, and a 'statistical

linkage key' is not recorded. Statistical linkage keys allow data collected on separate occasions from the same person to be combined without identifying the person. Thus statistical linkage keys allow enumeration of actual clients and accompanying children in addition to occasions of support.

#### **Clients**

Across Australia, consent and valid statistical linkage keys (also termed 'valid consent') were obtained from clients in 87% and 81% of records, respectively (Table A2.1). In all states and territories, valid consent for clients was obtained in the majority of cases, ranging from 78% in Tasmania and New South Wales to 90% in the Northern Territory and Western Australia. The same was true according to primary target group, ranging from 78% for agencies primarily targeted at women and children escaping domestic violence to 90% for agencies that primarily targeted single men.

#### Accompanying children

The protocols of the SAAP National Data Collection state that data should be collected in a climate of informed consent. However, consent in the case of accompanying children is more complicated than that for clients. Young children are not able to understand the purpose of the collection and cannot, therefore, give informed consent. In addition, the question concerning the age at which young people are able to give consent has no simple, universally accepted answer.

For the purposes of the SAAP National Data Collection, consent can be obtained from either the parent/guardian or the child depending on family circumstances and whether or not the child is judged able to comprehend what is being asked of her/him. In cases where there is a strong objection from the parent/guardian about the data collection, the wishes of the parent/guardian take precedence.

Note that consent is obtained at the support period level, not the accompanying child support period level, and that a client may choose to provide consent for their details to be recorded but not wish to record those of their accompanying child. This is highlighted by the large gap between the rates of consent and valid consent for accompanying children. Consent was obtained in 91% of accompanying child records (Table A2.2). Valid consent was obtained in 64%.

### A2.1.3 Adjusting for agency non-participation and client non-consent

The AIHW has developed a scheme – primarily for use when deriving annual estimates – that adjusts for differences between support periods with consent and those without. The scheme also adjusts estimates to allow for agency non-participation, for clients who give valid consent for some support periods but not for others (referred to as 'mixed consent'), and for clients who do not give consent in any of their periods of support. A description of the scheme is given in the 2006–07 national annual report (AIHW 2008a:102–103). In this current report, only the Client Collection data in tables 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4 have been adjusted.

Table A2.1: SAAP Client Collection: agency participation rates and records returned with informed consent and valid consent, by state and territory and primary target group for 2006–07, and by reporting period, Australia

	Agencies <sup>(a)</sup> Participation		Records returned		
				• .	Valid
	Total	rate	Total	Consent	Consent <sup>(b)</sup>
State/territory	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Per cent
NSW	389	93.3	49,761	86.1	78.4
Vic	503	78.1	68,563	85.9	80.1
Qld	219	90.9	26,260	88.7	82.7
WA	133	90.2	15,104	93.8	89.6
SA	96	95.8	19,228	87.2	81.0
Tas	34	100.0	6,759	81.5	78.1
ACT	50	76.0	2,442	89.8	84.4
NT	32	93.8	4,474	95.6	90.3
Total	1,456	87.2	192,591	87.2	81.1
Primary target group					
Young people	529	83.4	36,596	86.7	80.6
Single men only	96	93.8	21,837	92.0	90.0
Single women only	46	95.7	5,911	87.2	82.6
Families	123	94.3	13,006	91.1	84.6
Women escaping domestic violence	361	89.8	44,646	87.0	78.0
Cross-target/multiple/general	301	84.4	70,595	85.4	79.7
Total	1,456	87.2	192,591	87.2	81.1
Reporting period					
1998–99	1,163	95.0	155,005	75.0	71.5
1999–00	1,159	93.2	146,793	79.0	76.5
2000–01	1,178	94.1	158,131	81.5	78.7
2001–02	1,211	94.5	166,535	87.0	85.1
2002–03	1,202	94.0	164,707	87.6	85.9
2003–04	1,225	92.7	174,915	89.9	88.3
2004–05	1,212	92.6	160,002	88.8	86.8
2005–06 <sup>(c)</sup>	1,219	92.9	166,747	86.6	81.5
2006–07	1,456	87.2	192,591	87.2	81.1

<sup>(</sup>a) 'Agencies' refers to the number of agencies that were 'in scope'—that is, that should have been participating in the reference period.

Note: Table based on records returned from agencies in scope for the Client Collection during the reference period. Not all agencies funded under SAAP are required to participate in the Client Collection. Consequently, some agencies funded under SAAP (see Table 2.3) are not included in this table.

Sources: SAAP Administrative Data and Client Collections.

<sup>(</sup>b) 'Valid consent' here refers to all records with a valid statistical linkage key (see Appendix 2).

<sup>(</sup>c) Note that in 2005–06 the statistical linkage key was changed and therefore data from that point on are not comparable to previous years.

Table A2.2: SAAP Client Collection: records returned with informed consent and valid consent for accompanying children, by state and territory and primary target group of agency, Australia, 2006–07

	Records returned		
	Total	Consent	Valid consent <sup>(a)</sup>
State/territory	Number	Per cent	Per cent
NSW	21,182	88.9	65.1
Vic	29,161	91.5	57.8
Qld	13,232	92.5	59.6
WA	8,748	94.4	68.1
SA	13,182	92.9	73.4
Tas	2,807	86.9	64.2
ACT	1,496	90.0	68.3
NT	2,449	95.0	66.6
Total	92,257	91.4	63.5
Primary target group			
Young people	5,458	90.6	59.3
Single men only	373	93.0	68.1
Single women only	2,910	97.6	68.8
Families	18,452	92.8	71.6
Women escaping domestic violence	46,643	90.5	62.6
Cross-target/multiple/general	18,421	91.8	58.3
Total	92,257	91.4	63.5

<sup>(</sup>a) 'Valid consent' here refers to all records with a valid statistical linkage key (see Section A2.4).

Sources: SAAP Administrative Data and Client Collections.

#### A2.2 The Demand for Accommodation Collection

The Demand for Accommodation Collection is used to measure the level of unmet demand for SAAP accommodation, to calculate the proportion of people turned away from SAAP accommodation, and to provide an indication of the overall ability of SAAP to meet the demand for accommodation. Previously known as the Unmet Demand and Met Demand Collections, the Demand for Accommodation Collection is conducted annually (in two 1-week periods). All SAAP-funded agencies that provide support or accommodation to clients were asked to record each unsuccessful and successful request for accommodation during the collection period; a form was completed for each person (adult or unaccompanied child) or group of people (including accompanying children). In 2006–07 the collection was held on 2–8 August 2006 and on 16–22 May 2007. During this collection period, 14,992 useable records were received (Table A2.3).

The participation rate for the Demand for Accommodation Collection was lower than that for the Client Collection. Nationally, 61% of agencies returned data following the 2 weeks of the collection period. The participation rate for 2006–07 ranged from a high of 84% in the Northern Territory to a low of 42% in Victoria.

In 2006–07, agencies mainly targeting single women had the highest participation rate (78%). Agencies that primarily targeted young people recorded the lowest participation rate (58%).

It is not known whether agencies that did not participate in the Demand for Accommodation Collection received requests they could not meet. Consequently, it is possible that findings from this collection may understate the true extent of unmet demand. In addition, only demand for accommodation data for agencies that participated in the two collections used to calculate the turn-away measures in this report—the Demand for Accommodation and Client Collections—are presented in the tables in chapters 4–9. These agencies accounted for 14,231 Demand for Accommodation Collection records, and the analysis in those chapters is based on this reduced number of records and associated people (AIHW unpublished data).

Table A2.3: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection: agency participation rates and records returned, by state and territory and primary target group for 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007, and by reporting period, Australia

	Agencies	Participation rate	Records returned
State/territory	Number	Per cent	Number
NSW	389	71.7	4,594
Vic	503	42.3	2,888
Qld	219	72.1	3,813
WA	133	72.9	1,537
SA	96	63.5	1,106
Tas	34	76.5	433
ACT	50	66.0	354
NT	32	84.4	267
Total	1,456	61.4	14,992
Primary target group			
Young people	529	58.4	3,648
Single men only	96	68.8	2,997
Single women only	46	78.3	461
Families	123	74.8	1,457
Women escaping domestic violence	361	59.3	1,953
Cross-target/multiple/general	301	58.8	4,476
Total	1,456	61.4	14,992
Reporting period			
12–25 November 1998	1,168	n.a.	7,001
11–24 November 1999	1,164	n.a.	7,394
29 November–5 December 2000 and 9–15 May 2001	1,236	n.a.	10,685
22-28 August 2001 and 8-14 May 2002	1,286	n.a.	10,941
9–15 December 2002 and 7–13 May 2003	1,202	89.7	14,034
26 November–2 December 2003 and 5–11 May 2004	1,225	76.9	13,217
1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005	1,212	73.2	11,970
7–13 December 2005 and 17–23 May 2006	1,219	71.0	14,342
2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	1,456	61.4	14,992

#### Notes

Sources: SAAP Administrative Data Collection and Demand for Accommodation Collection.

<sup>1.</sup> Based on records returned from agencies in scope for the Demand for Accommodation Collection.

<sup>2. &#</sup>x27;Agencies' refers to the number of agencies that were 'in scope'— that is, agencies that should have been participating in the reference period.

<sup>3.</sup> From 2002–03 onwards information on requests for SAAP accommodation was collected on a single form which captured groups with both met and unmet requests for accommodation. In 2001–02, information was also gathered on the demand for SAAP accommodation both met and unmet; however, two separate forms were used. In the years preceding 2001–02, data on unmet requests for both SAAP non-accommodation support services and requests for SAAP accommodation were collected for unmet requests on a single form. For these reasons, the participation rate cannot be compared across years.

<sup>4.</sup> Figures are unweighted.

#### A2.2.1 Estimation methods and adjusting for missing information

In this report, imputed or edited data are included in all tables that use information from the Demand for Accommodation Collection. Also, only demand for accommodation data for agencies that participated in the two collections used to calculate the turn-away measures in this report—the Demand for Accommodation and Client Collections—are presented in the tables in chapters 4–9. These agencies accounted for 14,231 Demand for Accommodation Collection records, and the analysis in those chapters is based on this reduced number of records and associated people (AIHW unpublished data).

#### **Estimation methods**

During the 2006–07 Demand for Accommodation Collection period, SAAP agencies across Australia that participated in both the Demand for Accommodation and Client Collections reported 9,460 requests for accommodation that were not met (Table 4.1). However, many of these requests were made at inappropriate agencies; this includes requests for accommodation at agencies where the person did not fall within the agency's target group, where the person or group was inappropriate for the agency, or where there was no fee-free accommodation available. It also includes those people who refused an agency's offer of accommodation. Consequently, the number of valid unmet requests is a more useful measure of unmet demand. In addition, not all valid unmet requests involve immediate accommodation. In the context of homelessness, the level of unmet requests for immediate accommodation is of particular importance. It must also be emphasised that the number of valid unmet requests does not represent the actual number of people, since a person can make requests on more than one occasion and at more than one SAAP agency. There are thus two types of estimates of primary interest for unmet demand: numbers of valid unmet requests and numbers of people with valid unmet requests.

Invalid requests may be followed by successful requests at another agency, especially if a referral has been arranged, that is, a proportion of people who make an unsuccessful request for accommodation might subsequently receive accommodation from another SAAP agency on the same day. For this reason, when calculating turn-away it is important to count the number of times this occurred. During the 2006–07 Demand for Accommodation Collection period, SAAP agencies across Australia that participated in both the Demand for Accommodation and Client Collections reported 4,773 requests for accommodation that were met (Figure A1.1). Met requests for accommodation are not analysed separately in this publication, rather they are used to estimate the number of people who had a valid unmet request earlier in the day but were subsequently accommodated later that day (309 people, derived from Table 9.1).

Several difficulties are associated with estimating the number of valid unmet requests and the number of people who make these requests. First, a proportion of people who make an unsuccessful request for accommodation may subsequently receive accommodation from another SAAP agency, quite possibly soon after the initial request. Use of a statistical linkage key has proved unworkable in the context of unmet demand, so previously it was not possible to identify when this situation occurred. Second, people may have their needs met by other means and no longer require SAAP assistance. Third, a person may make several requests for accommodation—again, without a linkage key, related requests cannot be identified with certainty. Finally, data required to identify valid unmet requests may be missing. These possibilities pose four main problems:

- Estimates of the number of unmet requests obtained from the collection may overstate the actual level of unmet demand.
- Estimates of the number of valid unmet requests may be too low as a result of missing data.
- The number of people making valid unmet requests cannot be obtained directly from the collection.
- An accurate final turn-away for those seeking assistance cannot be calculated.

Although it is not currently possible to resolve the first of these problems, a method has been developed for deriving estimates of both the number of valid unmet requests and the number of individuals whose valid requests were not met each day of the 2-week collection period. The method used to derive these estimates is outlined in the following section. It should be noted, however, that the resulting estimates would overstate the number of people involved if people make requests for accommodation on different approaches to SAAP agencies within the collection period. Additionally, because people might make several approaches on the same day to SAAP agencies throughout the year, the daily figure cannot be pro-rated up to give an estimate of the number of people turned away from SAAP agencies annually. People often approach SAAP services more than once within 12 months, as is illustrated by the fact that, nationally, 27% of SAAP clients had more than one period of support in 2006–07 (derived from AIHW 2008a:Table 3.1).

To address the fourth concern, it was decided to combine the collection of met and unmet demand into one collection, the Demand for Accommodation Collection. Using the estimated number of people mentioned above in conjunction with the number of people with met requests for accommodation and the Client Collection, it is now possible to estimate the number of people with a valid prior request on a particular day who successfully gained SAAP accommodation later that day, as well as the estimated number of people who were turned away with their needs unmet. The method used to derive these estimates is outlined in the following section and the analysis is provided in chapters 6, 7, 8 and 9.

#### Adjusting for missing information

There are several key estimates required for estimating both unmet and met demand. These are:

- the number of valid unmet requests for immediate accommodation
- the number of people with a valid unmet request for immediate accommodation
- the number of people with a valid unmet request for immediate accommodation with a subsequent met request for accommodation.

These estimates are crucial because they show the volume of requests for immediate accommodation, indicate the number of people with unmet needs within the collection period and how much of that demand is later met, and are used in conjunction with data from other collections to examine total demand for SAAP services. Missing data in items used to derive these estimates will therefore affect the estimates' utility because they lead to estimates being too low.

It must be noted that in 2002–03 imputation was undertaken at a national level. In 2003–04 and 2004–05 imputation was carried out at the state level. For this reason 2002–03 estimates are not directly comparable with those from either 2003–04 or 2004–05.

#### Unmet demand

The information used to derive the unmet demand estimates is elicited through seven questions on the Demand for Accommodation Collection form (see Appendix 3):

- Question 2, asking the number of adults or unaccompanied children seeking accommodation
- Question 3, asking the number of accompanying children requiring accommodation with their parent(s) or guardian(s)
- Question 4, asking about immediacy of the need for accommodation
- Question 5a and Question 5b, asking whether or not the same request for accommodation had been made and turned away earlier that day and the reason for that turn-away, if applicable
- Question 6, asking whether an offer of accommodation was made by the agency
- Question 7a and Question 7b, asking if the person refused an offer of accommodation and, if so, why
- Question 9, asking if the person made a valid request—that is, sought support from an appropriate agency.

Missing information for any of these questions affects estimates of valid unmet requests and/or estimates of people making those requests. To maximise the utility of estimates from the Demand for Accommodation Collection, an answer was imputed where information was missing for questions 4, 5a, 5b, 6, 7a, 7b and 9. The imputation itself was done at the form level by randomly assigning an answer for the missing question using the distribution of answers for that question. To improve accuracy, this imputation also used information from related questions.

Some editing on questions 2 and 3 was undertaken to help minimise the impact of erroneous or missing responses to these questions. For example, editing was carried out based on the presenting unit and where accompanying children were erroneously recorded in both questions 2 and 3.

An estimate of the total number of valid unmet requests can then be derived by identifying records that correspond to valid unmet requests. This is done using both the original and the imputed answers: initially, valid requests are identified using questions 7 and 9, and any requests in which an offer of assistance was refused or where the reason for the agency refusing indicates that it was an invalid request are excluded. Question 4 can then be used to divide these valid unmet requests into requests for immediate accommodation and other requests.

The number of people associated with valid unmet requests for accommodation is identified by finding those valid unmet requests that correspond to first valid unmet requests. This can partly be done by excluding repeat requests at agencies (identified via Question 5) from identified valid unmet requests (estimated as described). In addition to this, however, to estimate the number of people with a valid unmet request for accommodation one further piece of information is needed—whether a first (invalid) request at an inappropriate agency later becomes an unmet (valid) request at an appropriate agency. This information is very difficult to obtain. In reports prior to 1999–00, adjustments were made for this gap in information at the state and territory level. The adjustments were based on the ratio of valid second (or further) unmet requests to the total number of first unmet requests. In the 2001–02 analysis, this ratio was also applied, but it was used at the form level to provide an estimate

of the probability of an invalid first unmet request later becoming a valid unmet request. Using this probability, a proportion of invalid first unmet requests were imputed to become first valid unmet requests. These imputed first valid unmet requests were then combined with observed first valid unmet requests to estimate the total number of people. This 'unit-level' approach allowed for greater flexibility in the tables that were produced than the 'state-level' adjustments. In the 2002–03 Demand for Accommodation Collection and onwards, information was gathered on whether a person had made an unmet request earlier that day and the reason for prior turn-away, meaning that the number of first invalid unmet requests that later became valid unmet requests could now be estimated using information gathered (in questions 13a and 13b in 2002–03 and in questions 5a and 5b in 2003–04, 2004–05, 2005–06 and 2006–07).

#### Met demand

Missing information on the number of people accommodated and about whether a client was previously turned away affects estimates of the number of people who successfully gained accommodation later in the day on which they had made an unmet request. For met demand, the information used to derive the estimated number of people who had a previous valid unmet request for accommodation earlier on the same day is elicited through questions 5a, 5b, 6, 7a and 8 on the 2006–07 Demand for Accommodation form (see Appendix 3) which determine if the request is met; ask how many people were accommodated; whether the person or group had made a request for accommodation earlier that day; and, if they were unsuccessful, the reason why. The turn-away measures in this report use only those who required immediate accommodation. This information is elicited through Question 4 on the form.

For the purposes of this report, only people with a met request who had a valid unmet request earlier in the day are considered as people who were accommodated in subsequent requests (see chapters 6, 7, 8 and 9). Whether the previous request was valid is determined on the basis of the response recorded against Question 5b on the form. Invalid requests include those made for accommodation where the person did not fall within the agency's target group, where the person or group was inappropriate for the agency and where the person or group refused the offer of accommodation due to not wanting to split, because the agency was in the wrong area or where they refused accommodation for other reasons. The number of people who were accommodated in subsequent requests is subtracted from the number of people who had a first valid unmet request for accommodation to estimate the number of people who were not accommodated daily.

The imputation for questions 4, 5a, 5b, 6 and 7a was done at the form level by randomly assigning an answer for the missing question using the distribution of answers for that question. To improve accuracy, this imputation also used information from related questions (see also previous section on unmet demand). Some editing was carried out on Question 8 based on the presenting unit.

### A2.2.2 Matching requesting groups

The Demand for Accommodation Collection form collected requesting group in a different format than used in the Client Collection. The following table outlines the combinations used in this report.

Name of requesting group	Client Collection requesting groups	Demand for Accommodation Collection requesting groups
	Person alone or with unrelated person	Person without child(ren)
Individual(s) no children	Other, with no record of accompanying children in Part B of the form (see Appendix 3)	Persons without child(ren)
.,	Requesting group missing, with no record of accompanying children in Part B of the form (see Appendix 3)	Requesting group missing, with no record of accompanying children in Question 3 or Question 8 of the form (see Appendix 3)
	Person with child(ren)	Person with child(ren)
Individual(s) with children	Other, with record of accompanying children in Part B of the form (see Appendix 3)	Persons with child(ren)
,,	Requesting group missing, with record of accompanying children in Part B of the form (see Appendix 3)	Requesting group missing, with record of accompanying children in Question 3 or Question 8 of the form (see Appendix 3)
Couple no children	Couple without child(ren)	Couple without child(ren)
Couple with children	Couple with child(ren)	Couple with child(ren)

## **A2.3 Interpretation of tables**

When interpreting the tables in this report, readers should note the following:

- The reference period for the table is specified in the title. This may vary from table to table, depending on the collection being used.
- The population to which the table refers is specified in the title. A number of tables use data from more than one collection, so a table may have two reference populations. This is specified in the title and/or the table notes.
- The main unit used in the table (for example, percentages or numbers) is usually shown at the end of the table title; if no unit is given there, the units used are given in the body of the table. Two-week estimates based on the Demand for Accommodation Collection are rounded to the nearest 10. Annual estimates derived from the Client Collection are generally rounded to the nearest 100 or nearest 50 if they are state or territory based. Average daily estimates are generally rounded to 1 decimal place.
- Unless otherwise indicated, records with missing data (resulting from errors or omissions) are not included in the percentages or numbers in a table. Care should be taken when interpreting and using figures in a table if the numbers of errors and omissions are relatively high—as a rule of thumb, more than one-third as big as the number of records included in the table.
- Components may not add to totals due to rounding.
- In a number of tables, people may have had more than one response, so percentages do not total 100. A note to the table indicates whether this is the case.

In general, numbered notes at the bottom of the tables indicate the following:

- the number of records excluded from the table because of missing data. The number missing for each collection used in the table is given separately
- whether the data are unweighted or an adjustment for non-participation and/or client non-consent has been made

- whether any imputed data have been used (see Section A2.2.1)
- any additional information needed to interpret the table.

## A2.4 Counting rules and glossary

In this report the following rules and terms have been used. For detailed descriptions of categories, please see the SAAP collectors' manual (AIHW 2005a).

#### Accommodated client

A client is considered to be accommodated during a support period if the support type of SAAP/CAP accommodation was provided and/or a date of accommodation was provided.

#### Accommodation period

The period during which a *client* was in SAAP *supported accommodation* (also referred to as a period of accommodation). A client may have no accommodation periods or one or more accommodation periods within a *support period*. The dates on which each accommodation period began and ended during the support period are collected for clients but not for accompanying children. However, it can be reasonably assumed that an *accompanying child* will have the same accommodation period start and end dates as their parent(s) or guardian(s) in the majority of cases.

#### Accompanying child

A person aged under 18 years who:

- has a parent or guardian who is a SAAP client; and
- accompanies that client to a SAAP *agency* any time during that client's *support period*; and/or
- receives assistance directly as a consequence of a parent or guardian's support period.

## Accompanying child support period

Each *support period* in which the child either accompanies a parent or guardian to a SAAP *agency* or receives assistance as a result of a parent or guardian's support period.

Within an accompanying child support period the child may receive one-off assistance and/or support over a period of time. Since the child may not be supported for the entire duration of a parent's or guardian's support period, it is not possible to assess the exact length of support for an accompanying child. However, it can be reasonably assumed that an accompanying child will have the same support period start and end dates as their parent(s) or guardian(s) in the majority of cases.

The number of accompanying child support periods is calculated by summing the number of accompanying children reported for each support period.

Agency

An organisation or establishment that receives a specified amount of SAAP funds to provide services.

A SAAP agency is included for 2006–07 if information about funding allocations was provided for 2006–07 and the agency operated for some part of the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.

The number and profile of agencies change each year as a result of the amalgamation or splitting of agencies, the opening of new agencies, or the reclassification of service delivery models or *target groups*. These changes are determined by state and territory government departments.

A predetermined combination of letters from a *client*'s or *accompanying child*'s name, together with a letter designating their sex. See also *valid alpha code*.

Includes people who are at risk of losing their housing because of factors that do not pose a threat to their safety, for example, interpersonal conflicts that do not involve violence. A person who requires the support of a SAAP worker to maintain their current housing situation and live independently in the community may also be considered to be at risk of becoming homeless.

A person who is *homeless* or *at imminent risk of homelessness* who:

- is accommodated by a SAAP agency; or
- enters into an ongoing support relationship with a SAAP agency; or
- receives *support* or assistance from a SAAP agency which entails generally 1 hour or more of a worker's time, either with that client directly or on behalf of that client, on a given day.

This includes people who are aged 18 years or older and people of any age not accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Client records from operational SAAP agencies are included in the analyses presented in this report if:

- the client's *support period* ended in the reporting period; or
- the client's support period started on or before the end of the reporting period and either was ongoing at the end of the reporting period (30 June) or the end date of the support period was unknown and the record was entered by the NDCA before the data entry close-off date for the reporting period.

Tables detailing the characteristics of individual clients generally present data collected during the client's first support period in the reporting period.

An accompanying child support period associated with a closed support period.

Alpha code

At imminent risk of homelessness

Client

Closed accompanying child support periods

#### Closed support period

A *support period* that had finished on or before the end of the reporting period – 30 June.

#### Country of birth

The country in which a person was born. Countries are divided into:

- Australia
- other English-speaking countries (Canada; Ireland; New Zealand; South Africa; the United Kingdom; the United States of America; and Zimbabwe)
- mainly non-English-speaking countries.

#### Family group

Refers to the following requesting or client groups:

- Individual(s) with children
- Couple no children
- Couple with children.

See A2.2.2 (Matching requesting groups) for details of how these groups are formed.

#### Homeless person

A person who does not have access to safe, secure and adequate housing. A person is considered not to have access to safe, secure and adequate housing if the only housing to which they have access:

- damages, or is likely to damage, their health; or
- threatens their safety; or
- marginalises them through failing to provide access to:
  - adequate personal amenities, or
  - the economic and social supports that a home normally affords; or
- places them in circumstances which threaten or adversely affect the adequacy, safety, security and affordability of that housing; or
- has no security of tenure—that is, they have no legal right to continued occupation of their home.

A person is also considered homeless if he or she is living in accommodation provided by a SAAP *agency* or some other form of emergency accommodation.

#### Immediate accommodation

Accommodation required/needed within 24 hours.

Invalid unmet request for accommodation

An unmet request for accommodation is invalid if:

- the request is made at an *agency* of an inappropriate *target group*
- the person or group is inappropriate for the agency
- there is no fee-free accommodation available at the agency
- the proffered assistance is refused.

All other unmet requests for accommodation are said to be valid. See also A2.2.1.

#### Length of accommodation

Accommodation length is obtained by summing the individual accommodation lengths reported for a *support period*. An individual accommodation length is obtained by subtracting the accommodation start date from the accommodation finish date for those periods with valid dates. If a *client* starts and ends accommodation on the same date, the length of accommodation is recorded as zero.

A support period with accommodation may begin before the start of the financial year. For this report, length of accommodation is the total length of accommodation within a support period, not the length of accommodation within the financial year.

Note that, in 2006–07, new edits were applied to ensure that accommodation periods are valid. This means that the calculation of length of accommodation is not strictly comparable to previous years.

The weighted arithmetic average of the item using relevant records with valid values.

The median is the fiftieth percentile of a distribution. This is the value of an item such that half (using weights) of relevant records with valid values are below this value and half are above it.

A request for accommodation is met if the *agency* offers *supported accommodation* to the person or group requesting accommodation and that offer is accepted. All met requests for accommodation are considered to be valid as the accommodation could be provided.

Records that are not available for analysis are shown in table notes. The number of such records for each table is calculated in the following order of precedence:

- records not available because of errors
- records not available because of omissions.

In tables involving subpopulations, it is impossible to determine whether a given record should be included or excluded if data are missing for the variable(s) defining the subpopulation in the analysis. Such records are generally not included in the missing count for these tables.

#### Ongoing support period

A *support period* is considered ongoing at the end of the reporting period if each of the following conditions is met:

- no support end-date is provided
- no after-support information is provided
- the corresponding client form was received in the month

Mean

Median

Met request for accommodation

Missing values

following the end of the reporting period.

Ongoing support periods are generally not included in tables relating to duration of support or accommodation.

## Ongoing support relationship

An ongoing support relationship exists between a SAAP *agency* and a person if some assistance has been provided to that person, and it is expected that future contact will occur between the person and the agency for the purpose of providing additional assistance. Future contact can be assumed if:

- a definite appointment has been made with the person to work through particular problems/issues; or
- an agreement has been reached with the person to work through particular problems/issues even if a specific appointment has not been made; or
- the agency expects the *client* to return for more assistance within a month.

However, an invitation to return to the agency in the future if the need arises does not constitute an ongoing support relationship. Rather it should simply be seen as an offer to enter into a new *support period* or to provide assistance at some future time.

#### **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.

### Period of accommodation

See Accommodation period.

### Primary target group

Refers to the primary target group of the *agency*, that is, the primary characteristics of persons to whom a SAAP service is targeted. There are six classifications used by the SAAP National Data Collection. These are:

- young people
- single men only
- single women only
- families
- women and children escaping domestic violence
- cross-target/multiple/general.

#### Referral

For the purposes of the National Data Collection, a referral involves a formal process—not simply the provision of information. A (formal) referral occurs when a SAAP *agency* contacts another organisation and that organisation 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.

Statistical linkage key (SLK)

A statistical linkage key (SLK) is a derived variable that allows demographic data about the same *client* to be combined across *support periods* without the name of the client being recorded.

See also valid SLK.

Support/service

Assistance, other than *supported accommodation*, provided to a *client* or *accompanying child* as part of a *support period*.

See also *Type of service/support*.

**Support period** 

Commences when a *client* begins to receive *support* and/or *supported accommodation* from a SAAP *agency*. The support period is considered to finish when:

- the client ends the relationship with the agency; or
- the agency ends the relationship with the client.

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 1 month. In such a case, the date the support period ended is the last contact with the client.

Support period with accommodation

A *support period* in which a support type of SAAP/CAP accommodation was provided and/or a date of SAAP/CAP accommodation was provided.

Supported accommodation

Accommodation owned, managed or arranged and paid for by a SAAP *agency*. The accommodation may be provided at the agency or may be purchased using SAAP funds—at a motel, for example.

Target group

See Primary target group.

Total demand for accommodation

The total demand for accommodation refers to accommodation requested from a SAAP agency, whether that request was met or not. It includes accommodation that was newly starting, accommodation that was continuing from a previous day as well as *unmet requests for accommodation*.

Turn-away – proportion of people requiring new SAAP accommodation

Calculated as the average daily percentage of people who could not be accommodated relative to all people making valid requests for immediate SAAP accommodation. It measures the proportion of people seeking SAAP accommodation who were turned away on an average day during the Demand for Accommodation Collection period and provides an indication of a person's likelihood of obtaining SAAP accommodation.

Turn-away – proportion of total demand for SAAP accommodation

Calculated as the average daily percentage of people who could not be accommodated relative to all people who required new SAAP accommodation that day or who were continuing their accommodation from a previous day. It provides a measure of the overall ability of SAAP to meet the expressed demand for accommodation on an average day

#### Type of support/service

during the Demand for Accommodation Collection period.

The Client Collection specifies 34 distinct types of services (or support) for *clients* and 17 distinct types of services (or support) for *accompanying children* and allows agencies to record other types not listed on the data form.

For clients, this report presents individual service or support types and includes a subtotal for six distinct groupings. The major classifications for clients are:

- housing or accommodation—SAAP or CAP accommodation; assistance to obtain or maintain shortterm accommodation; assistance to obtain or maintain medium-term accommodation; and assistance to obtain or maintain independent housing
- financial or employment assistance to obtain or maintain a government allowance; employment and training assistance; financial assistance or material aid; and financial counselling and support
- personal support incest or sexual assault support; domestic or family violence support; family or relationship support; emotional support; and assistance with problem gambling
- general support and advocacy living skills or personal development; assistance with legal issues or court support; advice or information; retrieval, storage or removal of personal belongings; and advocacy or liaison on behalf of client
- specialist services psychological services; specialist counselling services; psychiatric services; pregnancy support; family planning support; drug or alcohol support or intervention; physical disability services; intellectual disability services; culturally specific services; interpreter services; assistance with immigration issues; and health or medical services
- basic support and services not elsewhere specified (n.e.s.) – meals; laundry or shower facilities; recreation; transport; and other support.

For accompanying children, this report presents individual service or support types and includes a subtotal for six distinct groupings. The major classifications for accompanying children are:

- accommodation—SAAP or CAP accommodation
- school liaison and child care school liaison; and child care
- personal support help with behavioural problems;
   sexual or physical abuse support; skills education; and

structured play or skill development

- general support and advocacy access arrangements;
   advice or information; and advocacy
- specialist services specialist counselling; culturally specific services; and health or medical services
- basic support and services not elsewhere specified (n.e.s.) meals; showers or hygiene; recreation; transport; and other support.

Note that support for accompanying children is recorded on only one parent's/guardian's form when a couple presents to an agency.

For further information, see Appendix 3 for the form and the collectors manual (AIHW 2005a) for the definitions.

An unmet need occurs when a SAAP *agency* worker assesses that a *client* needs a support service during their *support period*, and that service is not provided or referred.

This is an *alpha code* that is given with informed consent, and contains only letters from the alphabet or the numeral '2' (to indicate a short name) and ends in either M or F to indicate the sex.

Refers to a valid statistical linkage key.

For the purposes of the National Data Collection, a valid date of birth is one which is provided with informed consent and has:

- the day, month and year of birth completed and not estimated; or
- the day and month of birth completed and not estimated, and the year of birth completed (either estimated or not estimated).

For the purposes of the National Data Collection, a valid SLK comprises a *valid alpha code* and *valid date of birth* that were supplied for a *support period* where the client gave informed consent.

Note that in 2006–07 the edits and rules surrounding the determination of a valid SLK were further tightened. This was done to further strengthen the reliability of the linkage key.

An unmet request for accommodation is valid if:

- the request is made at an *agency* of an appropriate *target group*
- the agency cannot offer accommodation because insufficient accommodation is available or the agency is a referral agency with no vacancies on the books
- the agency cannot offer accommodation because the type

Unmet need

Valid alpha code

Valid consent

Valid date of birth

Valid statistical linkage key (SLK)

Valid unmet request for accommodation

of accommodation requested is not provided by the agency

- the agency cannot offer accommodation because there are insufficient staff to provide support
- the agency cannot offer accommodation because facilities for special needs are not available
- the request is made at a domestic violence agency and the age of the male child is inappropriate
- proffered accommodation is not refused.

All other unmet requests for accommodation are said to be invalid.

See also A2.2.1.

# **Appendix 3 Collection forms**



AGENCY ID		
DATE ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT	M M Y Y Y Y 2 0 0 6	
CONTACT MADE	Please tick one box only	
by person/group, visiting agency 2		
by person	/group, by phone 3	
via a third party, visiting agency		
via a third party, by phone 4		

	via a third party, by phone 4
BLEASE FILL OUT A FORM EVERY TIME A RE	TRON OR CROUD SEEKS ACCOMMODATION
PLEASE FILL OUT A FORM EVERY TIME A PE FORMS TO BE FILLED OUT BETW	
1. Person(s) requesting accommodation:	4. How soon is the accommodation needed:
WITH child(ren)	tonight (within 24 hours) 1
person with child(ren) 5	tomorrow night (between 24 and 48 hours) 2
persons with child(ren) 6	in 3—4 days 6
couple with child(ren) 4	in 5—6 days 7
WITHOUT child(ren)	in 7—14 days U 4 in more than 14 days 5
person without child(ren) 7	
persons without child(ren) 8	5a. Is this the first time today that the person/group
	has tried to get accommodation, either at this or any other agency?
couple without child(ren) 2	any omer agency:
2. Please specify the number of <u>adults</u> seeking	yes
accommodation in each age group:	don't know 3
This includes young people/children under 18 who	no 2 go to Q. <b>5b</b>
seek accommodation without a parent/guardian.	
Do not use ticks or crosses.	5b. If the person/group has tried earlier today to get
Male Female	accommodation, why were they unsuccessful:
under 12 years	(please tick one box only)
12—14 years — —	insufficient accommodation available 1
15—17 years	agency inappropriate - wrong target group 2
18—19 years	agency in wrong area 4
20—24 years — —	group did not want to split up 5
25—44 years	person/group inappropriate for agency 6
45—64 years	type of accommodation requested not provided 7
65 years and over	accommodation refused for other reason 8
don't know age	other (please specify) 999
	no information/don't know 0
3. Please specify how many accompanying children	
require accommodation with their parent(s)/guardian:	
Do not use ticks or crosses.	
Male Female	
under 12 years	
12—14 years — —	
15—17 years	
don't know age — —	
COMPLETED FORMS WILL BE R	KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

If you have any problems completing this form please telephone the SAAP NDCA hotline on 1-800 627 191 or email ndca@aihw.gov.au

6. Was any accommodation offered?  yes 1	10. Did your agency make a referral for accommodation?
no 2 If no accommodation offered, please skip to question <b>9</b>	yes 1 no 2
7a. Was your offer of accommodation taken up?  yes 1 If yes, go to question 8	II. How many in the group (including children) <u>do</u> or <u>don't</u> identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander:
no 2  7b. If your offer of accommodation was not taken up, was it because:	Please specify the <u>number</u> of people in each category. <b>Do not use ticks or crosses.</b>
the person/group did not show 1	Male Female
the group did not want to split up 2	don't identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
the agency was in the wrong area 3	do identify as Aboriginal
the person/group wanted longer term housing 4 the person/group wanted different housing option 5	do identify as Torres Strait Islander
or, other (please specify) 999	<b>do</b> identify as both Aboriginal and
▶ If accommodation not taken up, please skip to question 10	Torres Strait Islander
8. How many of the person/group will your agency accommodate?	don't know
Please specify the number of adults	[12.] Country of birth of everyone in the group (including children):
you will accommodate:	Please specify the <u>number</u> of people in each category. <b>Do not use ticks or crosses.</b>
(this includes young people/children under 18 who seek accommodation without a parent/guardian)	Male Female
	Australia —— ——
Please specify the number of accompanying children under 18 you will accommodate:	other English-speaking countries —— ——
·	non-English-speaking countries —— ——
▶ If accommodation provided, please skip to question 11	don't know country of birth
9. What was the <u>main</u> reason accommodation was not offered:	13. Did your agency offer any of the following one-off assistance?
(please tick <b>one</b> box only)	yes 1
referral agency with no vacancies on books 15	no 2
insufficient accommodation available 3	if yes, please tick as many circles as apply
agency inappropriate — wrong target group 4	information 1
type of accommodation requested not provided 11	referral for non-accommodation suppport services 3
insufficient staff to provide support 2	meals 0 4
facilities for special needs not available 12	financial assistance/material aid
age of male child (applicable for DV agencies) 8	laundry/shower facilities 7
person/group inappropriate for agency 13	emotional support/counselling 0 10
no fee-free accommodation available 14	other (please specify) 999
other (please specify) 999	Thankyou

The SAAP National Data Collection Agency is managed by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

S A A P CLIENT FORM	* indicates questions that require the informed consent of the client.		
JULY 2006 – JUNE 2007	SUPP	PORT PERIOD  Date commenced  Date finished  PORT PERIOD ONGOING AT 30 JUNE 2007 Yes  1	
	CONS	SENT OBTAINED Yes 1 No 2	
<ul> <li>Where a name is not long enough please fill in any remaining squares with a 2.</li> <li>For example, a male client called Ng Tien will have the alpha code G2 IE2 M.</li> <li>Where a part of the name is missing or unknown please substitute a 9.</li> <li>For example, a female client known to you only as Jane will have the code AN 999 F.</li> <li>Do not count hyphens, apostrophes, blank spaces or any other such character as a letter of the alphabet.</li> </ul>	* AL	PHA CODE Letters of first name  1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th  Letters of last name  M/F for male or female	
<ul> <li>Complete date as best you can.</li> <li>If day unknown, tick box "day unknown".</li> <li>If month unknown, tick box "month unknown".</li> <li>If year unknown, provide best estimate and tick box "estimated year".</li> </ul>	* DA	ATE OF BIRTH OF CLIENT  day month estimated unknown unknown year	
1 Sex of client  female male	] 1	3 Source of referral/information  please tick one box only  self 13	
2 Person(s) receiving assistance		family/friends 16 school/other education institution 2	
please tick one box only		community services department 3	
WITH child(ren)		police/legal unit/correction institution 17	
person with child(ren)	3	health services 18	
couple with child(ren)	4	psychiatric unit 7	
WITHOUT child(ren)		telephone/crisis referral agency 8  SAAP agency/worker 9	
person alone or with unrelated person(s)	] 1	other government department 10	
couple without child(ren)	2	other non-government organisation 11	
OTHER		other (please specify) 999	
please specify	999	don't know/no information 0	

**TO QUESTION 15** 

IF CONSENT IS NOT OBTAINED PLEASE GO

COMPLETED FORMS WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

If you have any problems completing this form please telephone the SAAP NDCA hotline on 1800 627 191 or email ndca@aihw.gov.au

* 4 Country of birth of client		* 8 Main income source before and after support
Australia	1	please tick one box only in each column Before After
other (please specify)		No income no income 1
* 5 Does the client identify as being of Aborigina	al	registered/awaiting benefit 2
or Torres Strait Islander origin?		Government payments
no [	1	newstart 4
yes, Aboriginal	2	youth allowance 33
yes, Torres Strait Islander	3	community development employment project (CDEP) 8
yes, both	4	ABSTUDY 31
* 6 Presenting reasons for seeking assistance		Austudy payment for students aged 25 years and over 28 2
please tick as many circles as apply		disability support pension 12
Interpersonal relationships	$\bigcirc$ a	age pension 13
time out from family/other situation (	<u>2</u>	parenting payment 34
relationship/family breakdown (	3	DVA payment (pension or support) 35
interpersonal conflict	O 7	other type of allowance or benefit 36
sexual abuse (	7	Other income
domestic/family violence( physical/emotional abuse(	○ 6 ○ 5	workcover/compensation 19
' ,	<u> </u>	maintenance/child support 20
<b>Financial</b> gambling(	<u>20</u>	wages/salary/own business 21
budgeting problems (	23	spouse/partner's income 22
rent too high	24	other (please specify)
other financial difficulty	21	client left without providing any information 98
Accommodation	<u> </u>	don't know 99
overcrowding issues (	<u>27</u>	don't know 33
eviction/asked to leave (	<u></u>	
emergency accommodation ended (	11	* 9 Labour force status before and after support
previous accommodation ended (	26	please tick one box only in each column Before After
Health		employed full time (35 hours per week or more) 1
mental health issues (	28	employed part time (less than 35 hours per week) 2
problematic drug/alcohol/substance use (	10	unemployed (looking for work) 4
psychiatric illness (	13	not in labour force (see manual) 5
other health issues (	<u> </u>	client left without providing any information 98
Other reasons gay/lesbian/transgender issues (	30	don't know 99
recently left institution (	<u> </u>	
recent arrival to area with no means of support	14	J. 10 C4 L 4 4 4 L 6 L 1 64
itinerant (	15	<b>★</b> 10 Student status before and after support    please tick one box only in each column   Before   After
other (please specify)(	999	
don't know/no information (	$\bigcirc$ 0	not a student 1 1
don't know/no information (	0	primary/secondary school student 2
* 7 Main presenting reason for seeking assistance	ce	post-secondary student/employment training 3
please write only ONE code number from Question 6		client left without providing any information 98
please write only ONE code number from Question		don't know 99
eg 0 2 7		

please tick one box only in each column Before After	before and after this support period?  please tick one box only in each column  Before After
Improvised dwelling/sleeping rough	alone 10
improvised dwelling/car/tent/squat 1	with both parents 1
street/park/in the open 2	with one parent and parent's spouse/partner 2
House/dwelling	with one parent 3
house/flat 3	with foster family 4
caravan 4	with relatives/friends temporary 16
boarding/rooming house 5	with relatives/friends long-term 17
hostel/hotel/motel 6	with spouse/partner 7
Institutional setting	with spouse/partner and child(ren) 8
hospital 7	alone with child(ren) 9
psychiatric institution 8	living with other unrelated persons 13
prison/youth training centre 9	other (please specify) 999
other institutional setting 10	
	client left without providing any information 98
client left without providing any information 98	don't know 99
don't know 99	* 14 Location of client's last home
	suburb/town
12 Type of tenure (legal right to occupy a dwelling) immediately before and after this support period	Subulb/tewiii
	state
please tick one box only in each column Before After	postcode
SAAP/CAP guisia (a) part town apparatus detical	overseas 9998
SAAP/CAP crisis/short term accommodation (including THM crisis)	overseas 9998 don't know/no information 0
SAAP/CAP medium/long term accommodation 2	den chilewine illemation c
other SAAP/CAP funded accommodation (eg hostel, motel etc) 3	15 Was a case management plan agreed to by the end of the support period?
No tenure institutional setting 4	please tick one box only
	yes ☐ 1 ► Go to question 16
improvised dwelling/sleeping rough 5 other (no tenure) (please specify)	no, client did not agree to one 4 Go to question 17
	no, support period too short 5  Go to question 17
Tenure	no, other (please specify)
purchasing/purchased own home 7	6 Go to question 17
private rental 8	
private rental 6	
public housing rental 9	16 To what extent were the client's case management
	goals achieved by the end of the support period?
public housing rental 9 community housing rental 10	goals achieved by the end of the support period?  please tick one box only
public housing rental 9 community housing rental (including THM transitional)	goals achieved by the end of the support period?  please tick one box only  not at all 1
public housing rental 9 community housing rental (including THM transitional) 10 rent-free accommodation 11 boarding 12	goals achieved by the end of the support period?    please tick one box only
public housing rental 9 community housing rental (including THM transitional) 10 rent-free accommodation 11 boarding 12 client left without providing any information 98	goals achieved by the end of the support period?    please tick one box only
public housing rental 9 community housing rental (including THM transitional) 10 rent-free accommodation 11 boarding 12	goals achieved by the end of the support period?    please tick one box only

please tick as many circles as apply	Needs identified by worker	Provided	Referral arranged
Housing/accommodation	.,		arrangou
SAAP/CAP accommodation (including THMs and other SAAP managed properties)	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	<u>43</u>
assistance to obtain/maintain short-term accommodation			39
assistance to obtain/maintain medium-term accommodation			<u>49</u>
assistance to obtain/maintain independent housing			<u>42</u>
Financial/employment			
assistance to obtain/maintain government allowance		$\bigcirc$	37
employment and training assistance			<u> </u>
financial assistance/material aid			<u> </u>
financial counselling and support			7
Personal support incest/sexual assault support			<u>45</u>
domestic/family violence support		$\overline{\bigcirc}$	<u></u>
family/relationship support		0 0 0	O 47
emotional support			O 48
assistance with problem gambling			36
General support/advocacy			
living skills/personal development			<u> </u>
assistance with legal issues/court support		0	<u></u>
advice/information	O O O	$\overline{\bigcirc}$	<u>27</u>
retrieval/storage/removal of personal belongings		$\tilde{\bigcirc}$	<u></u>
advocacy/liaison on behalf of client	$\overline{\bigcirc}$	$\overline{\bigcirc}$	<u>30</u>
Specialist services	_	_	_
psychological services	0	0	12
specialist counselling services	<u> </u>	0	<u>44</u>
psychiatric services			13
pregnancy support			33
family planning support		$\bigcirc$	34
drug/alcohol support or intervention			<u> </u>
physical disability services			<u> </u>
intellectual disability services			<u> </u>
culturally specific services			<u> </u>
interpreter services			
assistance with immigration services			38
health/medical services			<u>26</u>
Basic support meals			<u>21</u>
laundry/shower facilities			) 21
recreation		0	23
transport		$\tilde{\bigcirc}$	<u>24</u>
other (please specify)			O 999
other (please specify)			998

#### COMPLETED FORMS WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

If you have any problems completing this form please telephone the SAAP NDCA hotline on 1800 627 191 or email ndca@aihw.gov.au

18 If SAAP/CAP accommodation was provided (including THMs and other SAAP managed properties) please provide details				
Note: If the client had more than 12 accommodation periods in this support period, you should photocopy a blank copy of this page, complete details, and staple it to this page.				
1 Type of accommodation  please tick one box only  crisis/short term 7 Start DD MMMYYYYY  medium/long term 8 Finish Date of accommodation  please complete all boxes  DD D MMMYYYYYY  medium/long term 8 Finish DD D MMMYYYYYY  medium/long term 9 8 Finish DD D MMMYYYYYY  medium/long term 9 9	7 Type of accommodation  [please tick one box only]  Crisis/short term 7 Start			
2 Type of accommodation  please tick one box only  crisis/short term 7 Start DDM MMYYYYY  medium/long term 8 Finish DDM MMYYYYY  other SAAP 9	8 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation     please tick one box only   Date of accommodation     please complete all boxes     D D M M Y Y Y Y Y     crisis/short term			
3 Type of accommodation  please tick one box only  crisis/short term 7 Start D M M Y Y Y Y  medium/long term 8 Finish D Other SAAP 9	9 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation     please tick one box only   D D M M Y Y Y Y Y     crisis/short term			
4 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation	10 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation   please tick one box only   please complete all boxes			
5 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation	11 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation   please complete all boxes			
6 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation	12 Type of accommodation    please tick one box only   Date of accommodation   please tick one box only   please complete all boxes     Crisis/short term   7 Start     M M Y Y Y Y Y     medium/long term   8 Finish   M M Y Y Y Y Y     medium/long term   9   9			
COMPLETED FORMS WILL BE	KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL			
	e SAAP NDCA hotline on 1800 627 191 or email ndca@aihw.gov.au			

Accompanying children should be record     Complete a separate client form for each				s			
<ul> <li>★ 19 ALPHA CODE FOR ACCOMPANYING CHILD(REN)</li> <li>● For short names fill in with 2's.</li> <li>● For missing names fill in with 9's.</li> </ul>	Letters of first name Letters of last name	1st 2nd 3rd 4th	M/F for male	Letters of first name or Letters of last name	1st 2nd 3rd 4tl	h 5th 6th M/F for male	
DATE OF BIRTH OF CHILD(REN)  Complete date as best you can. If day unknown, tick box "day unknown".  If month unknown, tick box "month unknown".  If year unknown, provide best estimate and tick box "estimated year".			or femal	day m	nonth estin	y y female	
20 Sex of child(ren)		fem m	ale 1			nale 1	
* 21 Country of birth of the child(ren)	Australia 1 other (please specify)			othe	Australia 1 other (please specify)		
* 22 Is the child of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?	no 1 yes, Aboriginal 2 yes, Torres Strait Islander 3 yes, both 4			yes, Torr	no 1 yes, Aboriginal 2 yes, Torres Strait Islander 3 yes, both 4		
23 Support to child(ren)							
no assistance  Indicate above if no assistance was given or tick as many circles below as apply	Needs			1 Needs			
Accommodation SAAP/CAP accommodation (including THMs and other SAAP managed properties)	identified by worker	Provided	Referral arranged 21	identified by worker	Provided	Referral arranged 21	
School liaison/child care school liaison			O 4			O 4	
child care  Personal support		Ö	3	Ö		3	
help with behavioural problems sexual/physical abuse support			① 1 ② 24			① 1 ② 24	
skills education	$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$	17			17	
structured play/skill development  General support/advocacy	Ö	Ŏ	<u>22</u>	Ö	Ŏ	<u> </u>	
access arrangements advice/information			<ul><li>5</li><li>15</li></ul>			<ul><li>5</li><li>15</li></ul>	
advocacy			18		$\sim$	18	
Specialist services							
specialist counselling culturally specific services	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	23		$\bigcirc$	23	
health/medical services		$\geq$	) 10 ) 19	$\bigcirc$	$\geq$	<ul><li>10</li><li>19</li></ul>	
Basic support			19			) 19	
meals			<u> </u>			<u> </u>	
showers/hygiene	Ŏ	Ŏ	<u> </u>	Ŏ	Ŏ	<u> </u>	
recreation	Ō		<u> </u>	Ŏ	0	<u> </u>	
transport			<u> </u>			<u> </u>	
other (please specify)			999			999	
other (please specify)			998			998	
COMPLETE	D EORMS WIII	I BE KED	CSTRICTLY	CONFIDENTIA			
						la a @aik	
If you have any problems completing this f	orm piease telep	none the SAA	AP NDCA hotli	ne on 1800 627 19	or email nd	ica@ainw.gov.au	

Note: If the client had more than 5 accompanying children in a support period, you should photocopy a blank copy of this page, complete details, and staple it to this page. Letters of first name Letters of first name Letters of first name 3rd 4th 5th 6th 3rd 4th 5th 6th 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th Letters of last name Letters of Letters of M/F for male M/F for male M/F for male last name or female or female or female D day unknown month unknown day unknown month unknown day unknown month unknown estimated estimated estimated year year year female female female -1 male male male 2 Australia Australia Australia other (please specify) other (please specify) other (please specify) no no 2 yes, Aboriginal 2 yes, Aboriginal 2 yes, Aboriginal yes, Torres Strait Islander 3 yes, Torres Strait Islander 3 yes, Torres Strait Islander 3 yes, both yes, both yes, both Needs identified by worker Needs identified by worker Referral Provided Provided Provided 21 21 21 4 4 4 3 3 3 1 1 24 24 24 17 17 17 22 22 22 5 5 5 15 15 15 18 18 18 23 23 23 10 10 10 19 19 19 11 11 11 12 12 12 13 13 13 14 14 14 999 999 999 998 998 998 COMPLETED FORMS WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL If you have any problems completing this form please telephone the SAAP NDCA hotline on 1800 627 191 or email ndca@aihw.gov.au

#### **RETURNING FORMS TO THE NDCA**

- In the first week of each month, send the forms of clients who have left the agency in the last month to the NDCA in the prepaid envelope provided.
- Forms should reach the NDCA by the 15th of each month.
- Include a completed Form Return Sheet with your forms. If no clients left your agency in the
  last month record zero forms to return on the Form Return Sheet. This ensures that your
  agency is counted as participating in the National Data Collection. The NDCA is required to
  notify State/Territory funding departments of agencies that do not return forms (or Form
  Return Sheets) each month.

#### 30 JUNE 2006 AND 31 DECEMBER 2006

- In the first week of July 2006 and in the first week of January 2007, you should notify the NDCA of clients who are still being supported as at 30 June 2006 and 31 December 2006.
- For clients who are ongoing at 30 June 2006, transfer the information from the old 2005–2006 form to the new 2006–2007 form. Return the old form to the NDCA along with the forms of clients who have left your agency in the last month. Retain the new form in your agency until the client has finished his/her support period.
- For ongoing clients at 31 December—use the December Form Return Sheet and note in the box provided the number of clients being supported on 31 December 2006. It is important to send in a December Form Return Sheet even if you did not have any client forms to remit or you had no ongoing clients.

If you do not need the materials sent to you, please return them in the NDCA Reply Paid envelope.

The SAAP National Data Collection Agency is managed by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## References

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2007. Australian demographic statistics, March quarter 2007. ABS cat. no. 3101.0. Canberra: ABS.

AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2005a. SAAP National Data Collection Agency collectors manual July 2005. Canberra: AIHW.

AIHW 2005b. Australia's welfare 2005. Cat no. AUS 65. Canberra: AIHW.

AIHW 2008a. Homeless people in SAAP: SAAP National Data Collection annual report 2006–07 Australia. SAAP NDCA report series 12. Cat. no. HOU 185. Canberra: AIHW.

AIHW 2008b. Demand for SAAP accommodation by homeless people 2006–07: summary. SAAP NDCA report series 12. Cat. no. AUS 106. Canberra: AIHW.

Chamberlain C & MacKenzie D 2003. Australian census analytical program: counting the homeless 2001. ABS cat. no. 2050.0. Canberra: ABS.

Griffin J 2008. Reducing unmet demand in SAAP: pointers from the evidence base. Parity, 21(4) National Homelessness Conference: Adelaide 2008 – National conference edition. Victoria: Council to Homeless Persons.

SAAP (Supported Accommodation Assistance Program) 1996. SAAP data and research resource folder. Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service.

## List of tables

Table 3.1:	SAAP/CAP accommodation required by clients in closed support periods: state and territory, by provision, Australia, 2006–07
Table 3.2:	SAAP/CAP accommodation required by clients in closed support periods: client group, by provision, Australia, 2006–07
Table 3.3:	SAAP/CAP accommodation required by clients in closed support periods: primary target group of agency, by provision, Australia, 2006–07
Table 3.4:	SAAP/CAP accommodation required for accompanying children in closed accompanying child support periods: state and territory, by provision, Australia, 2006–07
Table 3.5:	SAAP/CAP accommodation required for accompanying children in closed accompanying child support periods: client group, by provision, Australia, 2006–0714
Table 3.6:	SAAP/CAP accommodation required for accompanying children in closed accompanying child support periods: primary target group of agency, by provision, Australia, 2006–07
Table 4.1:	Unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: main reason why request was not met, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 200721
Table 4.2:	Unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: main reason why request was not met, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 200722
Table 4.3:	Unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: main reason why request was not met, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 200723
Table 4.4:	Valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: when accommodation was required, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 200724
Table 4.5:	Valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: when accommodation was required, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 200724
Table 4.6:	Valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: when accommodation was required, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 200725
Table 4.7:	Valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: one-off assistance, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 200725
Table 4.8:	Referrals for accommodation made in valid unmet requests for immediate SAAP accommodation, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007
Table 4.9:	Referrals for accommodation made in valid unmet requests for immediate SAAP accommodation, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007
Table 4.10:	Referrals for accommodation made in valid unmet requests for immediate SAAP accommodation, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007
Table 5.1:	People with a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was required and state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007
Table 5.2:	People with a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was required and requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007

Table 5.3:	People with a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was required and primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	37
Table 5.4:	People with a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was required and sex, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	38
Table 5.5:	People with a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was required and age, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	39
Table 5.6:	People with a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was required and country of birth, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	40
Table 5.7:	People with a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was required and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	40
Table 7.1:	Adults and unaccompanied children turned away, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	46
Table 7.2:	Adults and unaccompanied children turned away, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	47
Table 7.3:	Adults and unaccompanied children turned away, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	48
Table 7.4:	Adults and unaccompanied children turned away each day, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	49
Table 8.1:	Accompanying children turned away, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	53
Table 8.2:	Accompanying children turned away, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	54
Table 8.3:	Accompanying children turned away, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	55
Table 8.4:	Accompanying children turned away each day, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	56
Table 9.1:	Total people turned away, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	60
Table 9.2:	Total people turned away, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	61
Table 9.3:	Total people turned away, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	62
Table 9.4:	Total people turned away each day, Australia, 2-8 August 2006 and 16-22 May 2007	63
Table 10.1:	SAAP closed support periods with accommodation: mean and median length of accommodation, by state and territory, Australia, 2006–07	69
Table 10.2:	SAAP closed support periods with accommodation: mean and median length of accommodation, by client group, Australia, 2006–07	69
Table 10.3:	SAAP closed support periods with accommodation: mean and median length of accommodation, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2006–07	70

Table A2.1:	SAAP Client Collection: agency participation rates and records returned with informed consent and valid consent, by state and territory and primary target group for 2006–07, and by reporting period, Australia	75
Table A2.2:	SAAP Client Collection: records returned with informed consent and valid consent for accompanying children, by state and territory and primary target group of agency, Australia, 2006–07	76
Table A2.3:	SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection: agency participation rates and records returned, by state and territory and primary target group for 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007, and by reporting period, Australia	78

# **List of figures**

Figure 1.1:	Relationships between the SAAP data collections, Australia, 2006–07	3
Figure 2.1:	Relationships between estimates of the homeless population and the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP)	6
Figure 3.1:	Provision of SAAP/CAP accommodation required by clients, by client group, Australia, 2006–07	9
Figure 3.2:	Provision of SAAP/CAP accommodation required by accompanying children, by client group, Australia, 2006–07	11
Figure 4.1:	Valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: main reason why request was not met, by state and territory, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	17
Figure 4.2:	Valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: main reason why request was not met, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	18
Figure 4.3:	Valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: main reason why request was not met, by primary target group of agency, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	19
Figure 5.1:	Possible outcomes of valid requests for SAAP accommodation	28
Figure 7.1:	Turn-away for adults and unaccompanied children who required immediate accommodation, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	44
Figure 7.2:	Demand for immediate SAAP accommodation for adults and unaccompanied children, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	45
Figure 8.1:	Demand for immediate SAAP accommodation for accompanying children, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	51
Figure 9.1:	Turn-away for people who required immediate accommodation, by requesting group, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	58
Figure 9.2:	Demand for immediate SAAP accommodation for total people, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	59
Figure 10.1:	SAAP closed support periods with accommodation: mean and median length of accommodation for clients who were accommodated for at least 1 day, by client group, Australia, 2006–07	65
Figure 10.2:	Daily demand for SAAP accommodation, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	67
Figure A1.1:	Demand for SAAP accommodation summary diagram for requests and total people, Australia, 2–8 August 2006 and 16–22 May 2007	72