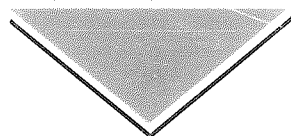


ChildWelfare Series

Number 15

**Children under
care and
protection orders
Australia
1994-95**

**Graham Angus,
Carolyn Dunn and
Helen Moyle**



HEALTH & WELFARE

AIH/ARC.
HV 0713
C536
1994-95

CHILD WELFARE SERIES

Number 15

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH
& WELFARE
LIBRARY

Children under care and protection orders Australia 1994-95

Graham Angus
Carolyn Dunn and
Helen Moyle

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Canberra

COPY No. 394680

MASTER No. 990436



394680

AHW/ARC
HV0713
C 536
1994-95

© Commonwealth of Australia 1996

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced without written permission from the Australian Government Publishing Service. Requests and enquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be directed to the Manager, Commonwealth Information Services, Australian Government Publishing Service, GPO Box 84, Canberra ACT 2601.

This is the fifteenth publication of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's Child Welfare Series. A complete list of the Institute's publications is available from the Publications Unit, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, GPO Box 570, Canberra ACT 2601.

ISSN 1320-081X
ISBN 0 642 24703 X

Suggested citation

Angus G, Dunn C, & Moyle H 1996. Children under care and protection orders Australia 1994–95. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare: Child Welfare Series No. 15. Canberra: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Board Chair
Professor Janice Reid

Director
Dr Richard Madden

Any enquiries about or comments on this publication should be directed to:

Mr Graham Angus
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
GPO Box 570
Canberra ACT 2601

Phone (06) 244 1000

Published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Printed by The Canberra Times Fine Print

Contributing departments

The information in this report was provided by the following State and Territory departments. Their cooperation is acknowledged.

New South Wales (NSW)

Department of Community Services
Locked Bag 28
Ashfield 2131
Phone: (02) 716 2222

Victoria (Vic)

Department of Health and Community Services
GPO Box 4057
Melbourne 3001
Phone: (03) 9616 7777

Queensland (Qld)

Department of Families, Youth and Community Care
GPO Box 806
Brisbane 4001
Phone: (07) 3224 2111

Western Australia (WA)

Family and Children's Services (FCS)
PO Box 6334
East Perth 6004
Phone: (09) 222 2555

South Australia (SA)

Department for Family and Community Services
PO Box 39
Rundle Mall
Adelaide 5000
Phone: (08) 226 7000

Tasmania (Tas)

Department of Community and Health Services
GPO Box 125B
Hobart 7001
Phone: (002) 33 4909

Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

Children's, Youth and Family Services Bureau
Locked Bag 3000
Woden 2606
Phone: (06) 207 5111

Northern Territory (NT)

Territory Health Services
PO Box 40596
Casuarina 0811
Phone: (089) 99 2887

Contents

Contributing departments	iii
List of tables	vi
List of figures.....	vii
Preface.....	viii
Summary	1
1 Introduction	2
2 Scope and coverage.....	3
3 Children under care and protection orders in Australia	4
General	4
Reporting procedures	5
4 Children under care and protection orders 1994–95.....	6
All care and protection orders.....	6
Guardianship orders.....	8
Non-guardianship orders	8
Placement type	9
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.....	14
Changes over time.....	16
5 Detailed tables.....	17
Placement.....	17
Age distribution.....	22
Admissions and discharges	25
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	26
Changes over time.....	27
6 Legislative definition of ‘in need of care and protection’	29
7 Types of non-guardianship orders in each State and Territory.....	33
8 Explanation of terms.....	35
9 Related legislation	39
10 Related AIHW publications	40
11 References	41

List of tables

Table 1:	Children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995.....	7
Table 2:	Orders per 1,000 children: type of order by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995	7
Table 3:	Children under care and protection orders: placement type by type of order and sex, at 30 June 1995	10
Table 4:	Orders per 1,000 children: type of order for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and for other children by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995.....	15
Table 5:	Children under care and protection orders: placement type and sex by age, at 30 June 1995	17
Table 6:	Children under care and protection orders: placement type and type of order by age, at 30 June 1995	18
Table 7:	Children under care and protection orders: placement type and sex by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995.....	19
Table 8:	Children under guardianship orders: placement type by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995	20
Table 9:	Children under non-guardianship orders: placement type by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995.....	21
Table 10:	Children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by age, at 30 June 1995	22
Table 11:	Children under guardianship orders: age of child by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995	23
Table 12:	Children under non-guardianship orders: age of child by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995	24
Table 13:	Admissions to and discharges from care and protection orders: type of order by State/Territory, 1994-95.....	25
Table 14:	Children admitted to and discharged from care and protection orders: type of order by State/Territory, 1994-95.....	25
Table 15:	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by age, at 30 June 1995.....	26
Table 16:	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995.....	26
Table 17:	Children under care and protection orders: type of order by State/Territory, at 30 June 1991 to 1995	27
Table 18:	Children under care and protection orders: State/Territory, at 30 June 1985 to 1995.....	28

List of figures

Figure 1:	Children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex of child, at 30 June 1995	6
Figure 2:	Children under guardianship orders: age and sex of child, at 30 June 1995	8
Figure 3:	Children under non-guardianship orders: age and sex of child, at 30 June 1995	9
Figure 4:	Children under guardianship orders: placement type and sex of child, at 30 June 1995	10
Figure 5:	Children under non-guardianship orders: placement type and sex of child, at 30 June 1995	11
Figure 6:	Children under care and protection orders living in foster care: age of child and type of order, at 30 June 1995	12
Figure 7:	Children under care and protection orders living with parents/relatives: age of child and type of order, at 30 June 1995	13
Figure 8:	Children under care and protection orders living in residential child care: age of child and type of order, at 30 June 1995	14
Figure 9:	Children under care and protection orders: rate per 1,000 children (0-17 years), at 30 June 1995	16

Preface

This report was prepared by Graham Angus, Carolyn Dunn and Helen Moyle of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. It is the Institute's fifth report on children under care and protection orders and the fifteenth report in the Child Welfare Series (see Section 10 for other titles in the series).

Tables in this publication which show statistics for Australia only, are available for individual States and Territories on request.

Symbols used

The following symbols have been used in the tables of this report:

- nil or rounded to zero
- .. not applicable
- na not available
- U/k unknown
- M males
- F females
- P persons

Summary

A child is deemed to be in need of care and protection if the child is being or is likely to be abused or neglected, if the child is abandoned, if adequate provision is not being made for the child's care, or if there is an irretrievable breakdown in the relationship between the child and his or her parent(s).

A *guardianship order* is usually issued when the family has not provided, or is unable to provide, adequate care and/or protection and the child is found to be in danger of abuse or serious neglect. Guardianship orders may also be issued because of irreconcilable differences between the parent(s) and the child, the child being abandoned, or due to a breach of a supervision order (a type of non-guardianship order).

Non-guardianship orders give the welfare department responsibility for a child's care (usually as a result of a family crisis) or protection (e.g. from abuse or neglect). These orders generally result in children being placed under the short-term supervision of the welfare department, and may result in their placement away from their family until circumstances permit their return. The types of orders under this heading vary across the States and Territories.

The main findings of this report include:

- At 30 June 1995 there were 13,078 children under care and protection orders, of whom 8,998 (69%) were under guardianship orders and 4,080 (31%) were under non-guardianship orders for care and protection. This represents a rate of 2.8 per 1,000 children aged 0-17 years for Australia. Tasmania (4.2) had the highest rate, and Western Australia (1.5) the lowest.
- The majority of children under care and protection orders were placed in foster care (6,903 or 53%) or were living with parents or relatives (3,477 or 27%).
- Of those under guardianship orders, most were in foster care (63%); the majority of children under non-guardianship orders were living with parents or relatives (56%).
- There were slightly more boys (6,678) than girls (6,400) under care and protection orders in Australia.
- Children under orders and living with parents or relatives were more likely to be under non-guardianship orders and of a young age. In contrast, children under orders and placed in foster care were more likely to be under guardianship orders and older.
- The rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under guardianship orders was 9.7 per 1,000 and under non-guardianship orders 5.0 per 1,000. Both rates are approximately 6 times those for other children aged 0-17 years (1.7 and 0.8 respectively).
- There has been little change over recent years in the number of children under care and protection orders, the number at 30 June 1995 being only 3% higher than at 30 June 1991 (13,078 compared with 12,680). In some States and Territories, however, orders have varied considerably over this period, with the largest changes being in New South Wales (increased by 40% or 1,230 orders), Victoria (decreased by 18% or 703 orders), and the Northern Territory (increased by 43% or 41 orders).

1 Introduction

This publication presents statistics on children under care and protection orders based on data provided by State and Territory welfare departments for the year ended 30 June 1995.

The data were obtained according to detailed definitions and explanations agreed on by the States, Territories and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Definitions of terms used in this publication may be found in Section 8 'Explanation of terms'.

The tables and figures in this report are based on the data provided, so their accuracy is dependent on such factors as the scope and completeness of data collection, reporting procedures, policy guidelines and judicial requirements of the particular State or Territory. These factors may also affect the comparability of data across States and Territories.

2 Scope and coverage

The data set out in this report include all children under orders for care and protection, comprising:

- guardianship orders—children who are the responsibility of an authorised department as a result of transfer of legal guardianship to that department; and
- non-guardianship orders—children for whom the authorised department has a responsibility through a legal or administrative order for care or protection.

Children under offence orders are excluded from this data collection unless they are also under a care and protection order.

This collection covers:

- children under guardianship of an authorised department at 30 June 1995;
- children under non-guardianship orders at 30 June 1995;
- admissions to and discharges from guardianship orders (State wardship) during 1994–95;
- admissions to and discharges from non-guardianship orders during 1994–95; and
- persons aged 18 and over who remain under care and protection orders.

3 Children under care and protection orders in Australia

General

In Australia, each State and Territory has legislation that defines what constitutes 'in need of care and protection' and provides for action that can be taken if a child is found to be in need of care and protection—such as the removal of the child from the family home or requiring the child to undergo a medical examination.

In summary, a child is deemed to be in need of care and protection if:

- the child is being or is likely to be abused or neglected;
- the child has been abandoned;
- adequate provision is not being made for the child's care; or if
- there is an irretrievable breakdown in the relationship between the child and his or her parent(s)

(see Section 6 'Legislative definition of "in need of care and protection" ').

A child found to be in need of care or protection may be placed under an order issued by a court, children's panel, minister of the crown, or authorised welfare department officer. Depending on the circumstances, the authority may determine that the child be made a ward of the State, be placed under another order, or request that the parent(s) undertake to provide proper care. There are various types of orders, which are classified in this report as either:

- a *guardianship order*, where a child becomes a ward of the State or Territory and his or her legal guardianship is transferred to the Minister, Director or other official of the welfare department, giving the department total responsibility for the child's welfare; or
- a *non-guardianship order*, where the Minister, Director or other official of the welfare department is given some responsibility for a child's welfare, such as supervision, custody or accommodation arrangements.

A guardianship order is usually issued when the family has not provided, or is unable to provide, adequate care and/or protection and the child is found to be in danger of abuse or serious neglect. Guardianship orders may also be issued because of irreconcilable differences between the parent(s) and the child, the child being abandoned or due to a breach of a supervision order.

When a child is made a ward of the State, the State assumes:

the role and responsibilities of parenthood through the force of the law. These responsibilities consist not only of the obligation to provide financial and material support including accommodation, but the advice and concern for the needs and long-term well-being of the young person which parents would otherwise provide (Shaver & Paxman 1992, pp. 3-4).

Non-guardianship orders give the welfare department some responsibility for a child's care (usually as a result of a family crisis) or protection (for instance, from abuse or neglect). These orders generally result in children being placed under the short-term supervision of the welfare department and may result in their placement away from their family until circumstances permit their return. The types of orders under this heading vary across the States and Territories, and are set out in Section 7 'Types of non-guardianship orders in each State and Territory'.

For example, two types of non-guardianship orders in Victoria are defined as follows:

A custody order supervised by Community Services Victoria (as included in the *Children and Young Persons Act 1989*) would involve child protection staff addressing the day-to-day requirements of the child and planning direct care relevant to the duration of the order. A supervision order however, involves no legal responsibilities for actively promoting or

addressing the needs of the child, other than by supervising the delivery of care by the parents or other care givers (Smith 1992, p. 180).

In Tasmania, a child placed under a non-custodial supervision order remains under the guardianship of a parent but the Department of Community and Health Services has responsibility for the child's wellbeing.

In Western Australia, children are generally not placed under non-guardianship orders for care and protection. Western Australia uses the full range of family support services available to manage situations where children are deemed to be 'in need of care and protection' but where circumstances do not warrant placing the child under a guardianship order.

Children under offence orders have been excluded from this publication in order to separate issues relating to juvenile crime from the issues relating to children who are found to be in need of care and protection.

Reporting procedures

Orders are counted in the State or Territory where the order is operative, even if the child resides elsewhere. A child is counted in a new State or Territory if guardianship is transferred interstate, but not if the child moves or is placed in an establishment interstate without a transfer order.

In Victoria, data for admissions and discharges of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to and from care and protection orders are included in this report. This data was unavailable prior to 1994-95.

In Queensland, 53 children who were under both a guardianship and a non-guardianship order at 30 June 1995 have been shown under guardianship orders and have been excluded from the non-guardianship figures.

In South Australia detailed placement data on children under guardianship and non-guardianship orders were estimated using 1995 data on children under care and protection orders by broad placement group and more detailed 1992 data.

In Tasmania prior to 1994-95, children in voluntary respite care were included in data collections of children under care and protection orders because they could not be separately identified from children under non-guardianship orders. They have now been excluded from the 1994-95 collection.

In the Australian Capital Territory the increase in the number of non-guardianship orders between 30 June 1994 and 30 June 1995 was partly due to improved data collection procedures.

4 Children under care and protection orders 1994-95

All care and protection orders

At 30 June 1995 there were 13,078 children under care and protection orders, an increase of 328 orders from the previous year. Of these children 8,998 (69%) were under guardianship orders and 4,080 (31%) were under non-guardianship orders for care and protection (Figure 1).

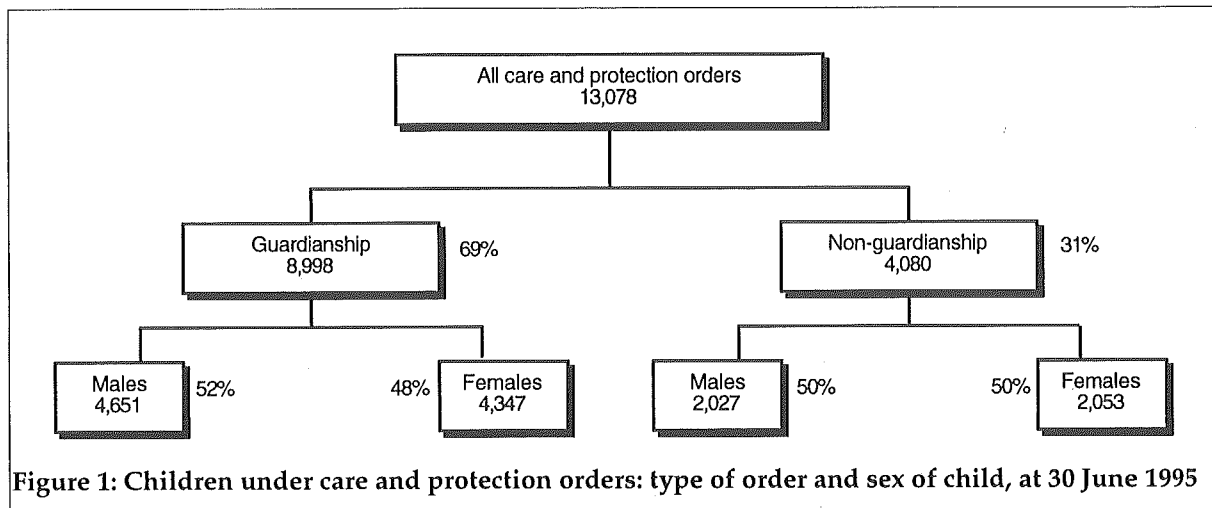


Figure 1: Children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex of child, at 30 June 1995

There were more boys (6,678) than girls (6,400) under care and protection orders in Australia and this was so in all States and Territories except New South Wales, Western Australia and the Northern Territory (Table 1). The difference (278) between the number of boys and girls under care and protection orders was smaller than the difference (364) recorded in 1994.

Table 1: Children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995

Type of order	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Guardianship									
Males	1,368	780	1,378	354	522	182	16	51	4,651
Females	1,291	726	1,278	357	476	140	19	60	4,347
Persons	2,659	1,506	2,656	711	998	322	35	111	8,998
Non-guardianship									
Males	791	811	146(a)	(b)	91	82	96	10	2,027
Females	881	790	129(a)	(b)	96	57	84	16	2,053
Persons	1,672	1,601	275(a)	(b)	187	139	180	26	4,080
Total									
Males	2,159	1,591	1,524	354	613	264	112	61	6,678
Females	2,172	1,516	1,407	357	572	197	103	76	6,400
Persons	4,331	3,107	2,931	711	1,185	461	215	137	13,078

(a) Excludes 53 children (23 males and 30 females) who were also under guardianship orders.

(b) Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

Of the 13,078 children under care and protection orders, 13,068 were aged 0-17 years at 30 June 1995. This represents a rate of 2.8 per 1,000 children for Australia. Tasmania (3.6) and Queensland (3.4) had the highest rates of children under care and protection orders while Western Australia (1.5), which does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders, had the lowest rate.

There were 8,991 children (aged 0-17 years) under guardianship orders and 4,077 under non-guardianship orders. This represents a rate of 2.0 for children under guardianship orders and 0.9 for children under non-guardianship orders. Queensland had the highest rate for guardianship orders and the lowest rate for non-guardianship orders, while the Australian Capital Territory had the lowest rate for guardianship orders and the highest for non-guardianship orders (Table 2).

Table 2: Orders per 1,000 children: type of order by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995

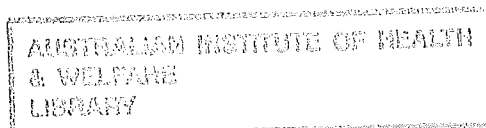
Type of order	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Children (0-17 years)									
Guardianship orders	2,659	1,504	2,656	708	998	320	35	111	8,991
Orders per 1000 children	1.7	1.3	3.1	1.5	2.8	2.5	0.4	2.0	2.0
Non-guardianship orders	1,672	1,601	275(a)	(b)	187	136	180	26	4,077
Orders per 1000	1.1	1.4	0.3	(b)	0.5	1.1	2.3	0.5	0.9
Total orders	4,331	3,105	2,931	708	1,185	456	215	137	13,068
Orders per 1000 children	2.8	2.8	3.4	1.5	3.3	3.6	2.7	2.5	2.8

(a) Excludes 53 children (23 males and 30 females) who were also under guardianship orders.

(b) Western Australia generally does not place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

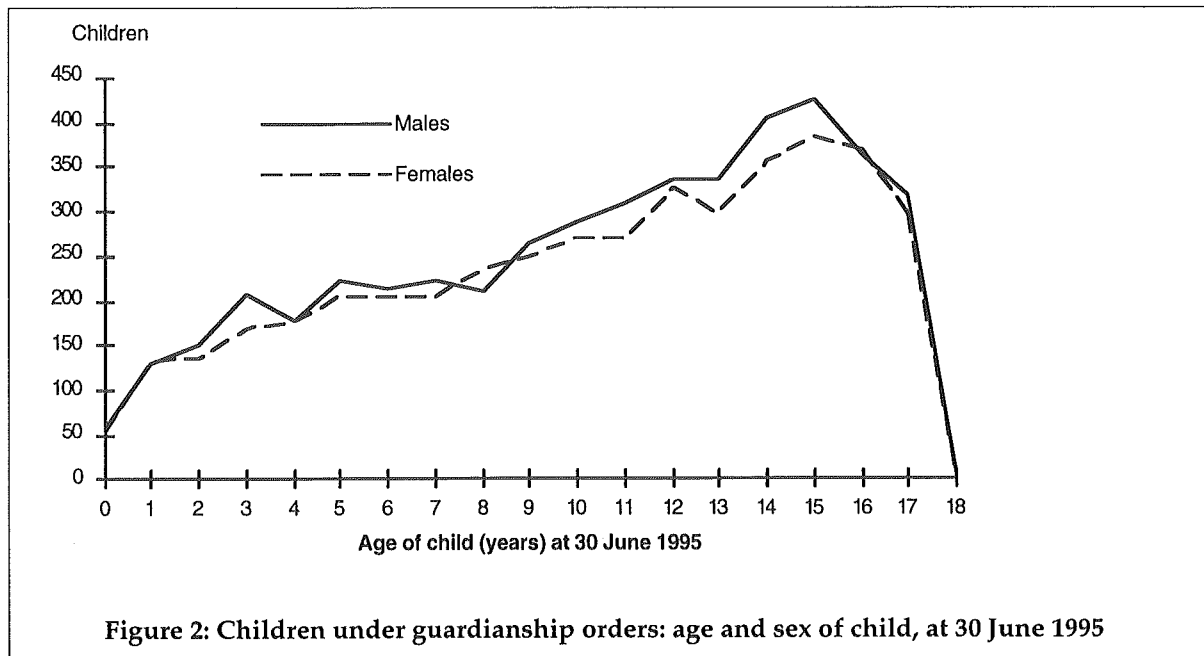
Notes

- Includes seven children of unknown ages assumed to be aged 0-17 years, but excludes 10 adults who remained under orders.
- Rates are calculated by dividing the number of children under orders by the estimated resident population aged 0-17 years at 30 June 1995, multiplied by 1,000 (Source: ABS 1996a).
- Totals may not add due to rounding.



Guardianship orders

There were more boys under guardianship orders (4,651) than girls (4,347) (Table 1). The number of boys under guardianship orders was slightly higher than for girls at most ages. Generally, the number of children under guardianship orders increased at each age, from 114 children aged under 1 year to 810 children aged 15 years, with a sharp fall from age 15 (Figure 2; Table 10).



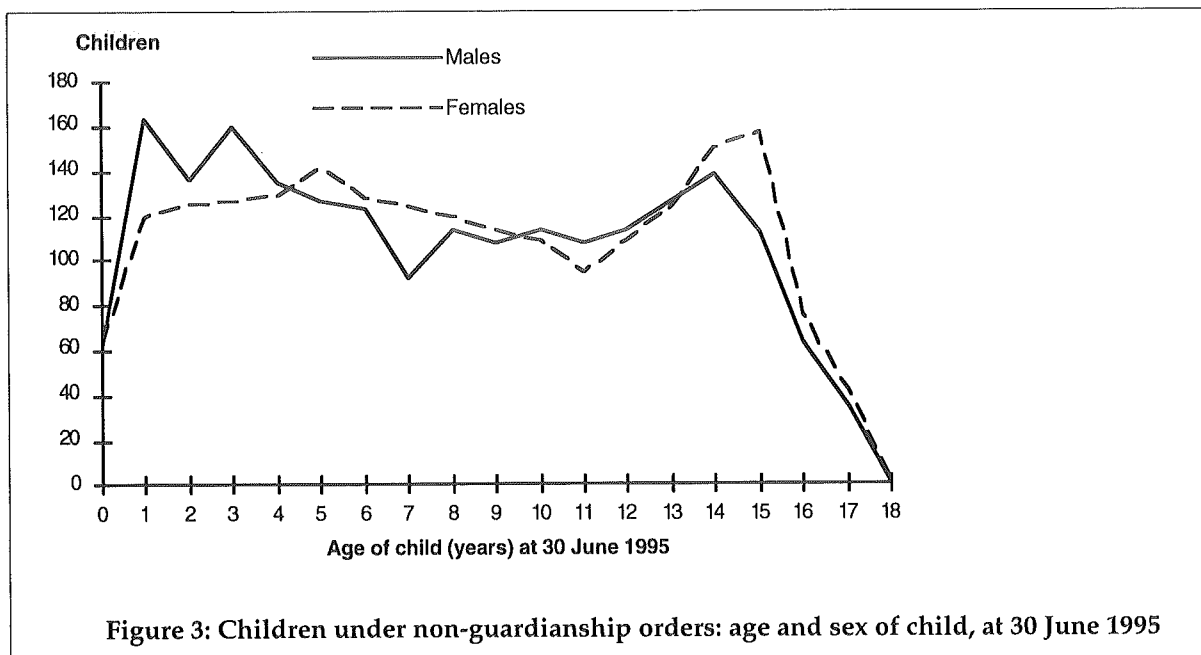
Rates for children under guardianship orders per 1,000 children aged 0–17 years were highest in Queensland (3.1), South Australia (2.8) and Tasmania (2.5), and lowest in the Australian Capital Territory (0.4) (Table 2).

For those States and Territories where data were available, there were an almost equal number of admissions to (1,516) and discharges from (1,524) guardianship orders. There were more admissions than discharges in New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia but the reverse was the case in Victoria and Tasmania (Table 13).

Non-guardianship orders

There were slightly fewer boys (2,027) than girls (2,053) under non-guardianship orders in Australia at 30 June 1995. The numbers of each sex were similar at each age except ages 1 to 3 where there were more boys than girls, and ages 7 and 15 where there were more girls than boys under non-guardianship orders (Figure 3; Table 10).

Rates for children under non-guardianship orders per 1,000 children aged 0–17 years were highest in the Australian Capital Territory (2.3), and lowest in Queensland (0.3), South Australia (0.5) and the Northern Territory (0.5) (Table 2).



For the States and Territories providing complete data on admissions and discharges, there were more admissions to (2,334) than discharges from (2,215) non-guardianship orders overall. There were more admissions than discharges in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, but the reverse was the case in Queensland (Table 13).

Placement type

When a child is placed under a care and protection order the Minister, Director or other authorised official of the welfare department may become responsible for providing the child with suitable accommodation. Where the child is unable to remain in the family home, or where the child's safety cannot be guaranteed if he or she remains in the family home, the Minister, Director or other authorised official of the welfare department may remove the child and place him or her elsewhere. In many cases, however, the child is able to remain with his or her family. Children under guardianship orders living with parents or relatives include children who have been returned to the family home for a trial period, usually up to six months. If the return to the family is successful the order may be discharged, although in some States and Territories these children remain under guardianship orders until they reach 18 years of age.

At 30 June 1995, children under care and protection orders were mainly living in foster care (53%), with parents or relatives (27%) or in a residential child care centre (11%). Some children were living with adults other than parents or relatives (5%) while others lived independently (3%). A small number of children (less than 1% in total) were living in residential care establishments (other than residential child care) or in corrective establishments (Tables 3 and 5). Overall, only a small proportion of children under care and protection orders (12%) lived in any type of residential care establishment.

For most categories of placement there was little variation in the proportions of boys and girls. The exceptions were corrective establishments where almost all the children placed were boys, and residential child care where 58% of children under guardianship orders were boys (Table 3).

Table 3: Children under care and protection orders: placement type by type of order and sex, at 30 June 1995

Placement	Guardianship orders			Non-guardianship orders ^(a)			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Foster care	2,884	2,809	5,693	568	642	1,210	3,452	3,451	6,903
Parent/ relative	625	574	1,199	1,139	1,139	2,278	1,764	1,713	3,477
Residential child care	632	457	1,089	173	148	321	805	605	1,410
Residential care	12	14	26	14	10	24	26	24	50
Corrective establishment	59	2	61	10	-	10	69	2	71
Other ^(b)	439	491	930	123	114	237	562	605	1,167
Total	4,651	4,347	8,998	2,027	2,053	4,080	6,678	6,400	13,078

(a) Excludes 53 Queensland children (23 males and 30 females) who were also under guardianship orders.

(b) Includes children living with adults other than parent or relative, or independently.

Note: South Australian data for some placement categories were derived using earlier year's data.

The two types of orders have different patterns of placement. Children under guardianship orders are more likely to live in foster care, while children under non-guardianship orders are more likely to live with parents or relatives. Sixty-three per cent of children under guardianship orders for care and protection were living in foster care (5,693), and a further 13% were living with parents or relatives (1,199) and 12% were living in residential child care (1,089) (Figure 4; Table 3).

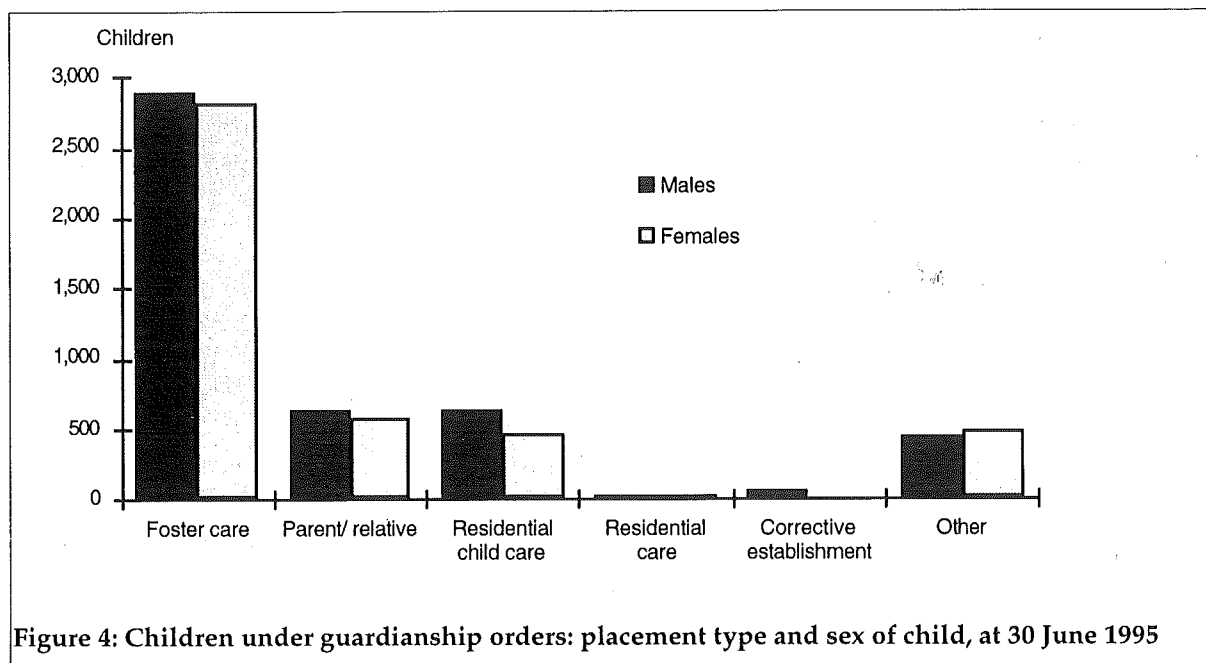
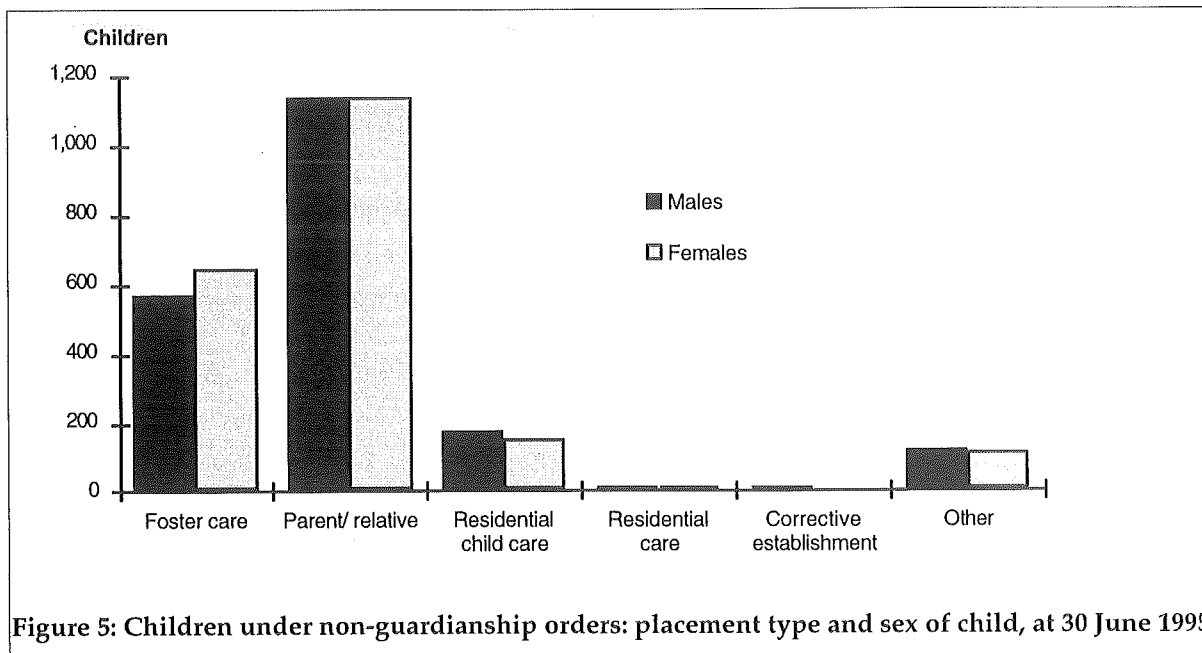


Figure 4: Children under guardianship orders: placement type and sex of child, at 30 June 1995

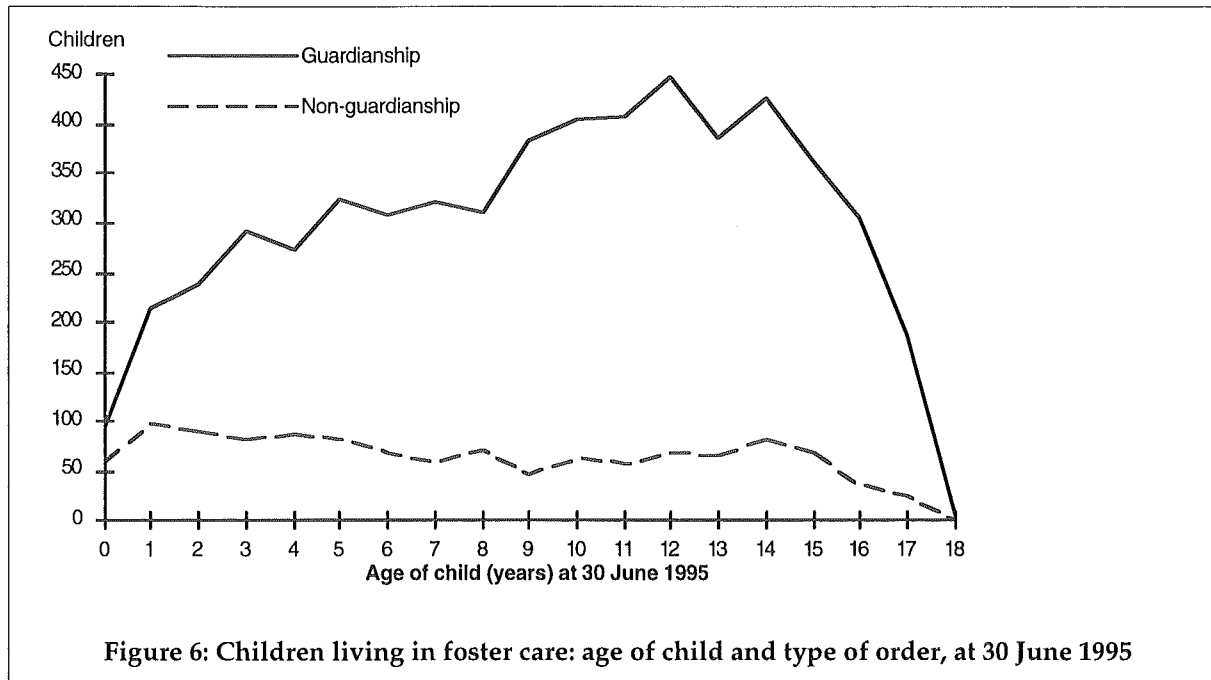
Fifty-six per cent of children under non-guardianship orders were living with parents and relatives (2,278), a further 30% were living in foster care (1,210) and 8% were living in residential child care (321) (Figure 5; Table 3).



Characteristics of children living in foster care

As noted, the majority (53%) of children under care and protection orders were living in foster care. Most (82%) of these children were under guardianship orders (Table 3). The number of children under guardianship orders in foster care peaked at age 12 years and fell rapidly after age 14 years.

In contrast, the number of children under non-guardianship orders in foster care was fairly evenly distributed across the ages with a decline from age 14 (Figure 6; Table 6).



Characteristics of children living with parents or relatives

Just over one quarter (27%) of children under care and protection orders were living with parents or relatives (Table 3). The majority (66%) of these children were under non-guardianship orders. The highest numbers of children under non-guardianship orders living with parents or relatives were among those aged 1,3 and 5 years. In contrast, the highest numbers of children under guardianship orders living with parents and relatives were among those aged 15, 16 and 17 years. There were more children under non-guardianship orders than under guardianship orders living with parents or relatives at all ages up to and including age 14 years (Figure 7; Table 6).

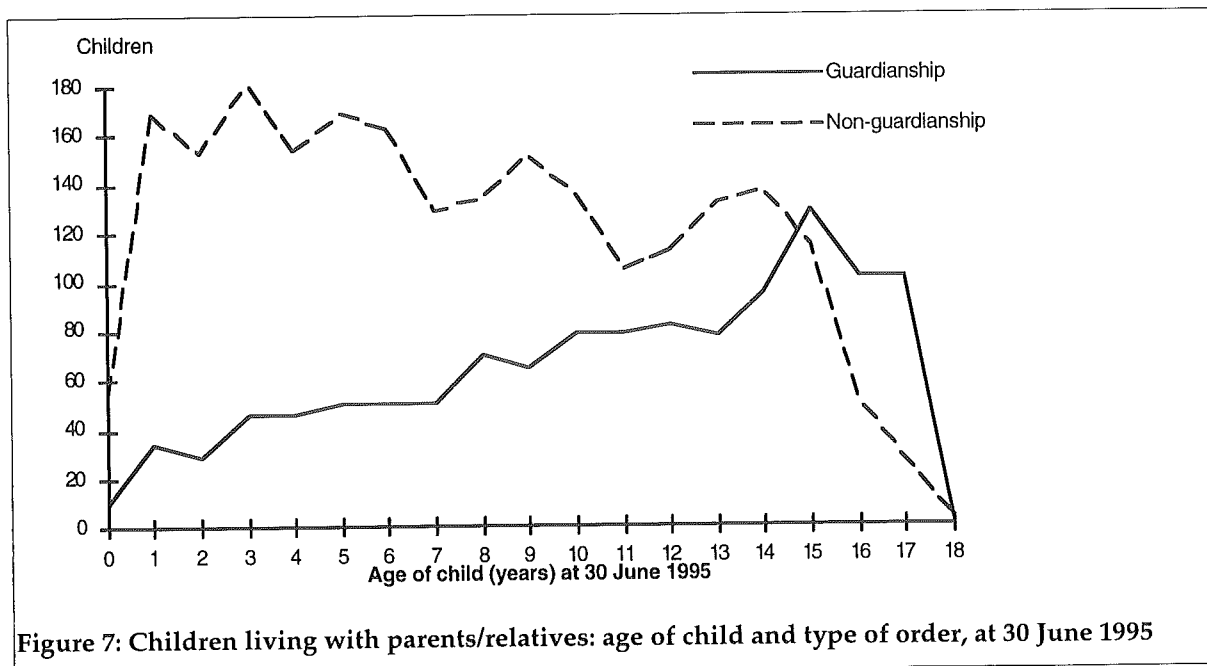


Figure 7: Children living with parents/relatives: age of child and type of order, at 30 June 1995

Characteristics of children living in residential child care

Residential child care centres are residential establishments that provide substitute care including accommodation, meals and some personal care, and protection or control of children. The main types of residential child care centres include family group homes, juvenile hostels, campus homes and other residential homes for children. Eleven per cent of children under care and protection orders live in one of these types of residential child care. Family group homes are the major type of residential child care with 43% of children in this category (Table 5). Family group homes are typically run like family homes—they have a limited number of children who eat together as a family group and are cared for by resident substitute parents.

For both guardianship and non-guardianship orders, residential child care was used mostly by children 11 years or older (Figure 8; Table 6). Overall, there were about three times as many children in residential child care under guardianship orders as under non-guardianship orders, although the age distribution for children under each type of order was similar with a peak in both patterns at age 15 (Figure 8; Table 6).

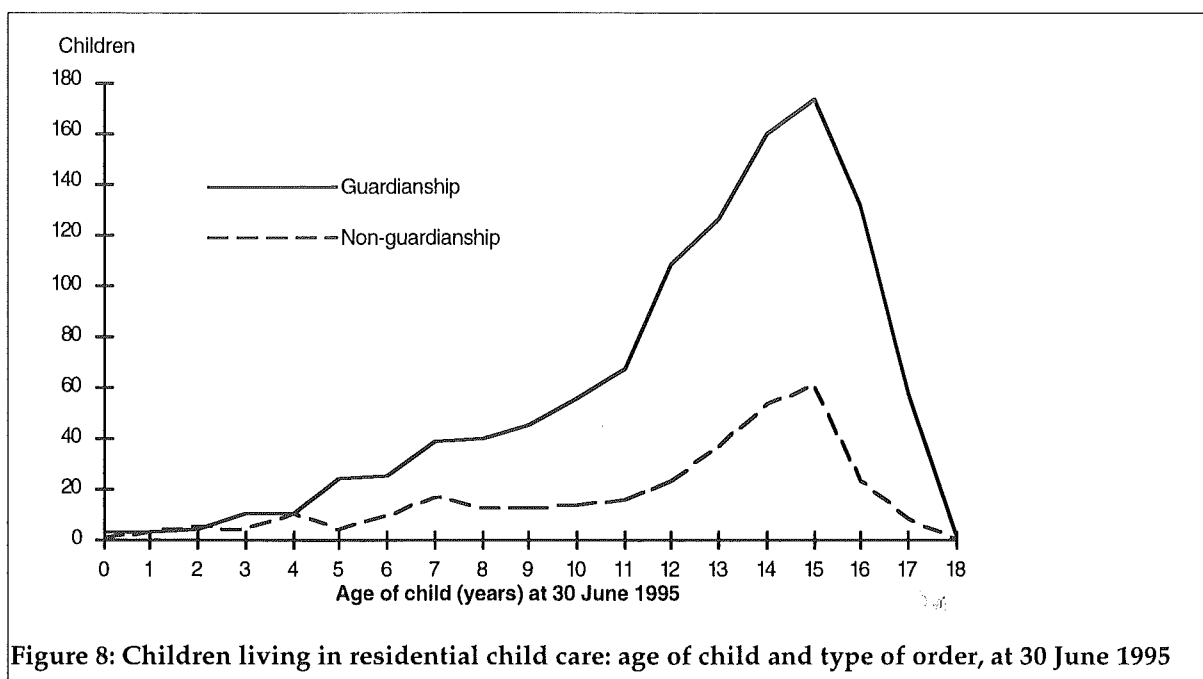


Figure 8: Children living in residential child care: age of child and type of order, at 30 June 1995

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

Information on the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under care and protection orders was available for all States and Territories. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children represent 2.6% of the total population of children in Australia. Rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under care and protection orders were approximately six times the rates for other children (14.7 per 1,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 0–17 years compared with 2.5 per 1,000 for other children). The rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under guardianship orders was 9.7 per 1,000 children compared with 1.7 for other children, while the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under non-guardianship orders was 5.0 per 1,000 compared with 0.8 for other children (Table 4).

These rates differed considerably between the States and Territories. Queensland (20.2) and New South Wales (19.4) had the highest rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under care and protection orders, the Northern Territory (3.7) the lowest. In Queensland and New South Wales these rates were approximately eight times the rates for

other children, while in the Northern Territory the rate was twice the rate for other children (Figure 9; Table 4).

Queensland (18.6) had the highest rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under guardianship orders, this rate being more than seven times the rate (2.4) for other Queensland children under guardianship orders. New South Wales (13.9) had the highest rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under non-guardianship orders—more than 17 times the rate (0.8) for other children under non-guardianship orders. The rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under guardianship orders (3.0) and non-guardianship (0.7) orders were lowest in the Northern Territory where they were both approximately twice the rates for other children (1.4 and 0.3 respectively) (Table 4).

Table 4: Orders per 1,000 children: type of order for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and for other children by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995

Type of order	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT ^(b)	NT	Australia ^(c)
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children (0–17 years)									
Guardianship orders	200	58	691	169	140	29	5	60	1,352
Orders per 1,000 children	5.5	6.7	18.6	7.6	16.6	6.0	5.1	3.0	9.7
Non-guardianship orders	509	63	59	(a)	20	21	10	14	696
Orders per 1,000 children	13.9	7.2	1.6	(a)	2.4	4.4	10.3	0.7	5.0
Total orders	709	121	750	169	160	50	15	74	2,048
Orders per 1,000 children	19.4	13.9	20.2	7.6	19.0	10.4	15.4	3.7	14.7
Other Children (0–17 years)									
Guardianship orders	2,459	1,446	1,965	539	858	291	30	51	7,639
Orders per 1,000 children	1.6	1.3	2.4	1.2	2.4	2.4	0.4	1.4	1.7
Non-guardianship orders	1,163	1,538	216	(a)	167	115	170	12	3,381
Orders per 1,000 children	0.8	1.4	0.3	(a)	0.5	0.9	2.2	0.3	0.8
Total orders	3,622	2,984	2,181	539	1,025	406	200	63	11,020
Orders per 1,000 children	2.4	2.7	2.6	1.2	2.9	3.3	2.5	1.8	2.5

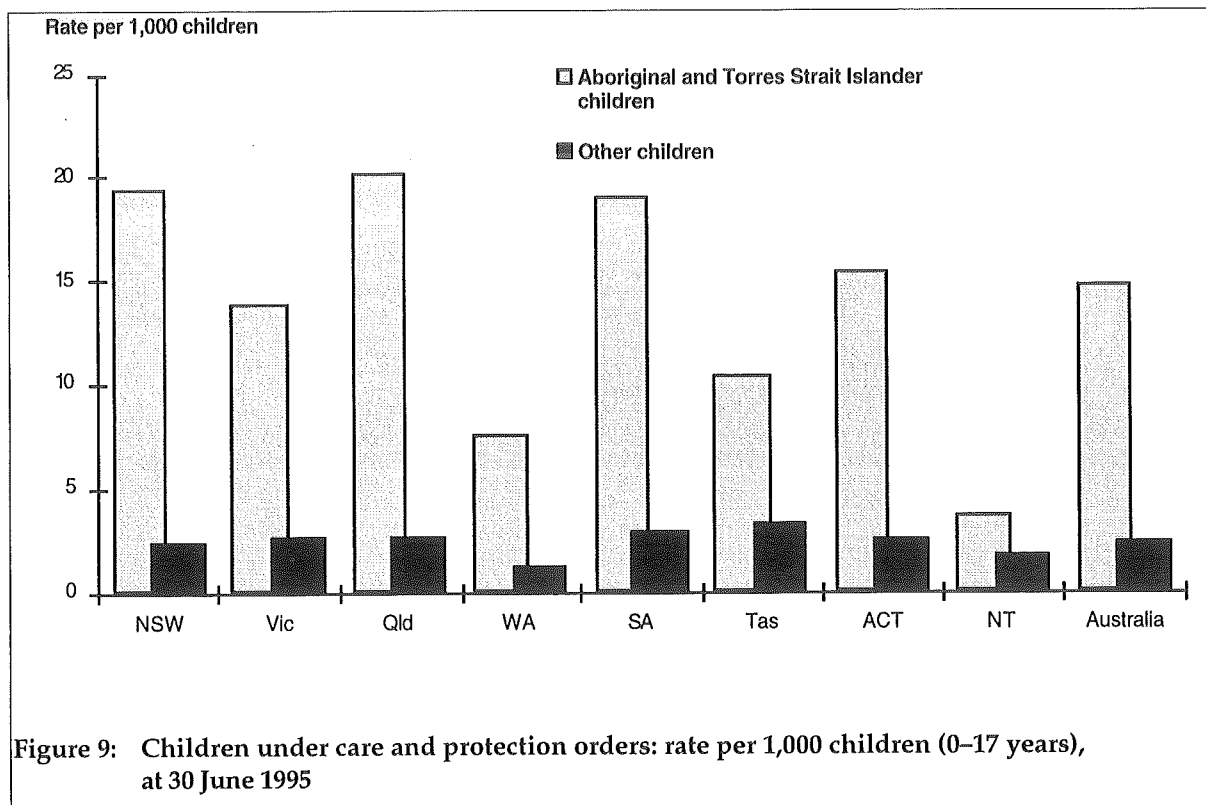
(a) Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

(b) Unpublished estimates for the Jervis Bay Territory were provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These estimates have been added to the ACT population.

(c) Totals and rates for Australia excludes Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Notes

1. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of children under orders by the estimated resident population aged 0–17 years at 30 June 1995, multiplied by 1,000. (Sources: ABS 1996a; ABS 1996b)
2. Totals may not add due to rounding.



Changes over time

The number of children under care and protection orders in Australia increased by 328 (or 3%) between 30 June 1994 and 30 June 1995. There was an increase of 204 (or 2%) in the number of children under guardianship orders and 124 (or 3%) in the number of children under non-guardianship orders. Much of the increase in non-guardianship orders can be attributed to the increase in non-guardianship orders in the Australian Capital Territory (from 86 to 180), an increase which was partly due to an improved data collection system in that jurisdiction. The overall increase in the number of children under care and protection orders was smaller than the increase in the previous year (618 orders of 5%), when the number of children under non-guardianship orders rose by 20% and the number of children under guardianship orders declined slightly (less than 1%) (Table 17).

Changes between June 1994 and June 1995 in the numbers of children under both types of orders were not uniform across the States and Territories. There was an increase in the number of both guardianship (363 or 16%) and non-guardianship (64 or 4%) orders in New South Wales and in the number of guardianship orders in Western Australia (50 or 8%). In contrast, the number of children under care and protection orders in Victoria fell slightly (26 or 1%) over the period, an increase in non-guardianship orders (153 or 11%) being offset by a fall in guardianship orders (179 or 11%) (Table 17).

Complete national data on children under care and protection orders have only been available since June 1991. The number of children under orders has increased by 3% since that time, while the number of children aged 0-17 years has increased by 1%. There have been considerable variations in the number of children under orders in the States and Territories since 1991; the largest changes occurred in New South Wales (increased by 40% or 1,230 orders), Victoria (decreased by 18% or 703 orders) and the Northern Territory (increased by 43% or 41 orders). Between June 1991 and June 1995, the number of guardianship orders increased by 22% (485) in New South Wales and by 26% (23) in the Northern Territory, but decreased by 33% (732) in Victoria and 14% (51) in Tasmania (Table 17).

5 Detailed tables

Placement

Table 5: Children under care and protection orders: placement type and sex by age, at 30 June 1995

Placement	Sex	Age of child (years)																	Total			
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		17	18+	U/k
Residential child care																						
For children with disabilities	M	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	1	3	2	7	3	4	3	1	-	31
	F	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	2	3	2	4	4	5	-	-	25
Juvenile hostel	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	5	19	21	13	9	-	-	72
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	8	18	31	19	10	-	-	91
Family group	M	-	4	4	3	8	6	11	19	16	20	24	24	39	41	41	43	33	6	-	-	342
	F	-	-	3	5	8	6	9	14	12	17	16	19	19	23	37	41	29	12	-	-	270
Campus home	M	2	-	1	2	1	2	2	2	6	3	2	3	16	24	36	28	8	1	-	-	139
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	1	2	6	3	5	6	6	5	5	2	-	-	48
Other	M	2	1	2	4	1	6	6	10	7	8	11	15	31	33	24	32	18	10	-	-	221
	F	-	-	1	1	4	7	6	4	11	5	6	13	14	18	24	27	21	9	-	-	171
Residential care establishment																						
Hospital/nursing home	M	3	2	2	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	16
	F	2	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	15
Boarding school	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	6
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	5
Resident adult care	M	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
	F	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	4
Corrective establishments																						
Juvenile corrective, youth training, prison	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	11	11	22	20	-	-	69
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Other placements																						
Foster care	M	74	156	174	207	181	196	191	193	181	218	239	241	245	212	244	217	162	119	1	1	3,452
	F	81	157	154	165	179	209	187	188	201	213	228	224	272	239	263	213	180	95	2	1	3,451
Living with parents/relatives	M	35	116	95	120	107	116	107	79	94	99	107	107	91	109	124	110	78	69	1	-	1,764
	F	30	87	87	107	93	104	107	101	110	118	107	77	104	101	109	134	74	60	2	1	1,713
Other adult placement	M	3	10	7	24	12	18	17	7	15	19	14	19	15	18	23	28	18	27	-	-	294
	F	3	3	14	12	16	17	17	12	16	8	12	20	17	18	27	39	28	26	-	-	305
Unauthorised absence	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	4	4	4	5	-	-	22
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	6	5	7	-	-	26
Living independently	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	29	54	68	2	-	159
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	27	65	101	1	1	-	199
Other placement	M	2	2	2	6	4	4	1	1	4	3	2	2	3	8	6	10	12	13	-	2	87
	F	3	3	4	5	3	4	4	1	1	1	1	4	2	2	9	8	8	12	-	1	75
Total	M	121	292	287	367	314	349	336	315	324	374	403	415	448	463	544	539	427	352	5	3	6,678
	F	119	252	262	295	306	348	332	329	353	364	379	364	436	422	506	540	444	340	5	4	6,400
	P	240	544	549	662	620	697	668	644	677	738	782	779	884	885	1,050	1,079	871	692	10	7	13,078

M = males; F = females; P = persons

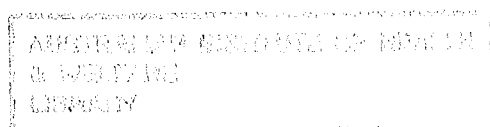


Table 6: Children under care and protection orders: placement type and type of order by age, at 30 June 1995

Placement	Age of child (years)																		U/k	Total	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17			18+
Living with parent/relative																					
Guardianship	10	34	29	46	46	51	51	51	70	65	79	79	82	78	95	129	102	102	-	-	1,199
Non-guardianship	55	169	153	181	154	169	163	129	134	152	135	105	113	132	138	115	50	27	3	1	2,278
Total	65	203	182	227	200	220	214	180	204	217	214	184	195	210	233	244	152	129	3	1	3,477
Foster care																					
Guardianship	95	214	239	291	274	324	309	322	312	384	404	407	448	386	426	361	305	188	3	1	5,693
Non-guardianship	60	99	89	81	86	81	69	59	70	47	63	58	69	65	81	69	37	26	-	1	1,210
Total	155	313	328	372	360	405	378	381	382	431	467	465	517	451	507	430	342	214	3	2	6,903
Residential child care																					
Guardianship	3	3	5	11	11	24	26	39	40	45	56	68	108	126	160	174	131	58	1	-	1,089
Non-guardianship	1	3	6	5	11	5	10	17	13	13	14	16	23	37	54	61	23	9	-	-	321
Total	4	6	11	16	22	29	36	56	53	58	70	84	131	163	214	235	154	67	1	-	1,410
Corrective establishments																					
Guardianship	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	9	9	20	19	-	-	61
Non-guardianship	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	3	2	-	-	10
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	11	11	23	21	-	-	71
Other																					
Guardianship	6	11	15	28	25	30	31	16	22	23	21	24	24	42	71	137	175	248	3	4	956
Non-guardianship	10	11	13	19	13	13	9	11	15	9	10	21	17	16	14	22	25	13	-	-	261
Total	16	22	28	47	38	43	40	27	37	32	31	45	41	58	85	159	200	261	3	4	1,217
Totals																					
Guardianship	114	262	288	376	356	429	417	428	445	517	560	578	662	635	761	810	733	615	7	5	8,998
Non-guardianship	126	282	261	286	264	268	251	216	232	221	222	201	222	250	289	269	138	77	3	2	4,080
Total	240	544	549	662	620	697	668	644	677	738	782	779	884	885	1,050	1,079	871	692	10	7	13,078

Table 7: Children under care and protection orders: placement type and sex by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995

Placement	Sex	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Residential child care										
For children with disabilities	M	4	14	2	-	5	-	6	-	31
	F	2	9	7	3	2	-	1	1	25
Juvenile hostel	M	32	28	5	-	5	2	-	-	72
	F	52	27	7	-	2	2	1	-	91
Family group	M	37	223	35	9	13	18	-	7	342
	F	22	179	44	3	2	14	-	6	270
Campus home	M	-	20	80	18	-	19	2	-	139
	F	-	5	2	19	-	20	2	-	48
Other	M	104	95	3	12	-	-	7	-	221
	F	75	82	4	4	-	-	6	-	171
Residential care										
Hospital/nursing home	M	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	16
	F	4	5	4	-	-	1	1	-	15
Boarding school	M	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	6
	F	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Resident adult care	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	4
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Corrective establishments										
Juvenile corrective institute	M	5	7	29	4	9	6	1	1	62
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Youth training centre	M	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prison	M	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	5
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other placements										
Foster care	M	1,124	651	825	258	386	130	51	27	3,452
	F	1,102	669	839	268	370	93	64	46	3,451
Living with parent/relative	M	625	517	371	40	95	55	41	20	1,764
	F	663	494	329	45	100	45	22	15	1,713
Other adult placements	M	124	2	93	4	61	8	1	1	294
	F	152	7	77	1	59	4	3	2	305
Unauthorised absence	M	1	-	-	1	20	-	-	-	22
	F	3	-	-	2	20	-	1	-	26
Living independently	M	31	19	56	6	19	23	2	3	159
	F	48	26	74	11	17	17	2	4	199
Other placement	M	59	9	17	2	-	-	-	-	87
	F	45	13	15	1	-	1	-	-	75
Total	M	2,159	1,591	1,524	354	613	264	112	61	6,678
	F	2,172	1,516	1,407	357	572	197	103	76	6,400
	P	4,331	3,107	2,931	711	1,185	461	215	137	13,078

Note: South Australian data for some placement categories were derived using a previous year's data.

**Table 8: Children under guardianship orders: placement type by State/Territory,
at 30 June 1995**

Placement	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Residential child care									
For children with disabilities	6	18	9	3	7	-	1	1	45
Juvenile hostel	59	31	12	-	7	3	1	-	113
Family group	56	324	79	12	9	21	-	6	507
Campus home	-	20	82	37	-	33	-	-	172
Other	126	103	7	16	-	-	-	-	252
Residential care									
Hospital/nursing home	5	3	4	-	-	1	-	1	14
Boarding school	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	9
Resident adult care	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	3
Corrective establishments									
Juvenile corrective institute	5	5	28	4	9	2	-	2	55
Youth training centre	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Prison	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	4
Other placements									
Foster care	1,786	839	1,653	526	605	198	28	58	5,693
Living with parent/relative	323	111	452	85	175	19	2	32	1,199
Other adult placements	147	5	161	5	110	4	1	2	435
Unauthorised absence	4	-	-	3	40	-	-	-	47
Living independently	78	35	126	17	36	38	2	7	339
Other placement	63	11	31	3	-	1	-	-	109
Total	2,659	1,506	2,656	711	998	322	35	111	8,998

Note: South Australian data for some placement categories were derived using a previous year's data.

**Table 9: Children under non-guardianship orders: placement type by State/Territory,
at 30 June 1995**

Placement	NSW	Vic	Qld(a)	WA(b)	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Residential child care									
For children with disabilities	-	5	-	-	-	-	6	-	11
Juvenile hostel	25	24	-	-	-	1	-	-	50
Family group	3	78	-	-	6	11	-	7	105
Campus home	-	5	-	-	-	6	4	-	15
Other	53	74	-	-	-	-	13	-	140
Residential care									
Hospital/nursing home	9	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	17
Boarding school	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Resident adult care	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Corrective establishments									
Juvenile corrective institute	1	2	1	-	-	4	1	-	9
Youth training centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prison	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Other placements									
Foster care	440	481	11	-	151	25	87	15	1,210
Living with parent/relative	965	900	248	-	20	81	61	3	2,278
Other adult placements	129	4	9	-	10	8	3	1	164
Unauthorised absence	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Living independently	1	10	4	-	-	2	2	-	19
Other placement	41	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	53
Total	1,672	1,601	275	-	187	139	180	26	4,080

(a) Excludes 53 Queensland children (23 males and 30 females) who were also under guardianship orders.

(b) Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

Note: South Australian data for some placement categories were derived using a previous year's data.

Age distribution

Table 10: Children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by age, at 30 June 1995

Type of order	Sex	Age of child																		U/k	Total	
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17			18
Guardianship	M	59	129	151	207	179	223	213	223	211	266	290	308	335	337	405	427	364	317	4	3	4,651
	F	55	133	137	169	177	206	204	205	234	251	270	270	327	298	356	383	369	298	3	2	4,347
	P	114	262	288	376	356	429	417	428	445	517	560	578	662	635	761	810	733	615	7	5	8,998
Non-guardianship	M	62	163	136	160	135	126	123	92	113	108	113	107	113	126	139	112	63	35	1		2,027
	F	64	119	125	126	129	142	128	124	119	113	109	94	109	124	150	157	75	42	2	2	2,053
	P	126	282	261	286	264	268	251	216	232	221	222	201	222	250	289	269	138	77	3	2	4,080
Total	M	121	292	287	367	314	349	336	315	324	374	403	415	448	463	544	539	427	352	5	3	6,678
	F	119	252	262	295	306	348	332	329	353	364	379	364	436	422	506	540	444	340	5	4	6,400
	P	240	544	549	662	620	697	668	644	677	738	782	779	884	885	1,050	1,079	871	692	10	7	13,078

Table 11: Children under guardianship orders: age of child by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995

Age of child (years)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
0	62	15	20	11	4	–	1	1	114
1	120	35	55	34	10	1	3	4	262
2	107	50	65	29	24	3	2	8	288
3	137	52	111	41	21	4	2	8	376
4	112	58	93	45	38	4	2	4	356
5	124	69	111	50	46	16	3	10	429
6	106	63	123	44	50	21	2	8	417
7	109	89	120	46	49	12	2	1	428
8	120	73	115	39	71	16	3	8	445
9	151	89	146	41	68	12	2	8	517
10	161	95	164	44	66	26	1	3	560
11	172	99	186	42	57	19	–	3	578
12	190	109	204	47	80	23	2	7	662
13	180	107	193	40	73	31	1	10	635
14	220	137	234	40	81	40	3	6	761
15	219	166	268	34	83	31	1	8	810
16	202	132	216	46	93	36	1	7	733
17	166	66	232	31	84	25	4	7	615
Adult	–	2	–	3	–	2	–	–	7
Unknown	1	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	5
Total	2,659	1,506	2,656	711	998	322	35	111	8,998

Table 12: Children under non-guardianship orders: age of child by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995

Age of child (years)	NSW	Vic	Qld (a)	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
0	43	65	3	(b)	3	4	7	1	126
1	89	144	22	(b)	3	10	12	2	282
2	93	115	16	(b)	6	11	17	3	261
3	107	125	24	(b)	6	12	11	1	286
4	101	116	17	(b)	8	8	14	-	264
5	116	102	22	(b)	14	7	6	1	268
6	109	98	22	(b)	8	1	10	3	251
7	98	86	9	(b)	7	7	7	2	216
8	114	84	15	(b)	7	4	7	1	232
9	108	77	18	(b)	6	3	8	1	221
10	111	66	14	(b)	16	5	9	1	222
11	96	60	16	(b)	12	8	9	-	201
12	94	78	15	(b)	8	9	15	3	222
13	112	89	17	(b)	14	8	9	1	250
14	112	122	13	(b)	16	10	13	3	289
15	95	106	18	(b)	20	15	15	-	269
16	44	54	10	(b)	13	8	6	3	138
17	28	14	4	(b)	20	6	5	-	77
Adult	-	-	-	(b)	-	3	-	-	3
Unknown	2	-	-	(b)	-	-	-	-	2
Total	1,672	1,601	275	(b)	187	139	180	26	4,080

- (a) Excludes 53 Queensland children (23 males and 30 females) who were also under guardianship orders.
(b) Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

Admissions and discharges

Table 13: Admissions to and discharges from care and protection orders: type of order by State/Territory^(a), 1994–95

Type of order	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	Tas
Guardianship					
Admissions	419	425	435	189	48
Discharges	325	609	405	129	56
Non-guardianship					
Admissions	1,108	1,097	95	(b)	34
Discharges	1,057	1,026	113	(b)	19
Total					
Admissions	1,527	1,522	530	189	82
Discharges	1,382	1,635	518	129	75

(a) Data for South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory were not available.

(b) Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

Table 14: Children admitted to and discharged from care and protection orders: type of order by State/Territory^(a), 1994–95

Type of order	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas
Guardianship						
Children admitted	337	425	430	189	122	48
Children discharged	302	606	395	129	193	56
Non-guardianship						
Children admitted	984	1,072	95	(b)	135	29
Children discharged	977	968	113	(b)	205	10
Total						
Children admitted	1,321	1,497	525	189	257	77
Children discharged	1,279	1,574	508	129	398	66

(a) Data for the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory were not available.

(b) Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

Note: This table counts a child once only during the year regardless of the number of times the child may have been admitted to or discharged from orders.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

Table 15: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by age, at 30 June 1995

Type of order	Sex	Age of child																		U/k	Total	
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17			18
Guardianship	M	4	15	24	30	30	36	38	31	27	38	47	48	51	57	55	50	51	1	-	684	
	F	2	11	21	26	33	27	35	37	43	43	35	43	56	45	66	59	49	37	-	1	669
	P	6	26	45	56	63	63	73	68	70	81	82	91	107	96	123	114	99	88	1	1	1,353
Non-guardianship	M	7	25	21	17	24	21	23	13	24	19	27	19	24	30	18	14	5	1	-	-	332
	F	7	14	24	21	22	21	31	23	30	29	26	25	22	17	25	13	9	5	-	-	364
	P	14	39	45	38	46	42	54	36	54	48	53	44	46	47	43	27	14	6	-	-	696
Total	M	11	40	45	47	54	57	61	44	51	57	74	67	75	81	75	69	55	52	1	-	1,016
	F	9	25	45	47	55	48	66	60	73	72	61	68	78	62	91	72	58	42	-	1	1,033
	P	20	65	90	94	109	105	127	104	124	129	135	135	153	143	166	141	113	94	1	1	2,049

Note: Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

Table 16: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children under care and protection orders: type of order and sex by State/Territory, at 30 June 1995

Type of order	Sex	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Guardianship	M	95	23	358	87	71	17	1	32	684
	F	105	35	333	82	69	13	4	28	669
	P	200	58	691	169	140	30	5	60	1,353
Non-guardianship	M	232	35	33	(a)	10	12	5	5	332
	F	277	28	26	(a)	10	9	5	9	364
	P	509	63	59	(a)	20	21	10	14	696
Total	M	327	58	391	87	81	29	6	37	1,016
	F	382	63	359	82	79	22	9	37	1,033
	P	709	121	750	169	160	51	15	74	2,049

(a) Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

Changes over time

Table 17: Children under care and protection orders: type of order by State/Territory, at 30 June 1991 to 1995

Type of order	NSW	Vic	Qld ^(a)	WA	SA	Tas ^(c)	ACT ^(d)	NT	Australia
At 30 June 1991									
Guardianship	2,174	2,238	2,706	706	995	373	29	88	9,309
Non-guardianship	927	1,572	321	(b)	280	225	38	8	3,371
Total	3,101	3,810	3,027	706	1,275	598	67	96	12,680
At 30 June 1992									
Guardianship	2,087	2,039	2,611	629	1,073	387	34	92	8,952
Non-guardianship	1,047	1,060	305	(b)	259	434	97	5	3,207
Total	3,134	3,099	2,916	629	1,332	821	131	97	12,159
At 30 June 1993									
Guardianship	2,149	1,927	2,641	623	1,009	357	31	87	8,824
Non-guardianship	1,261	1,014	310	(b)	256	356	107	4	3,308
Total	3,410	2,941	2,951	623	1,265	713	138	91	12,132
At 30 June 1994									
Guardianship	2,296	1,685	2,610	661	1,050	347	26	119	8,794
Non-guardianship	1,608	1,448	293	(b)	233	283	86	5	3,956
Total	3,904	3,133	2,903	661	1,283	630	112	124	12,750
At 30 June 1995									
Guardianship	2,659	1,506	2,656	711	998	322	35	111	8,998
Non-guardianship	1,672	1,601	275	(b)	187	139	180	26	4,080
Total	4,331	3,107	2,931	711	1,185	461	215	137	13,078

- (a) In Queensland children under both guardianship orders and non-guardianship orders are shown only under guardianship orders.
- (b) Western Australia generally does not place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.
- (c) In Tasmania prior to 1994-95, children in voluntary respite care but not under a legal order were included under non-guardianship orders.
- (d) In the Australian Capital Territory, the increase in the number of non-guardianship orders for 1994-95 is due to an improved data collection system and new procedures.

**Table 18: Children under care and protection orders: State/Territory,
at 30 June 1985 to 1995**

At 30 June	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
1985	3,018	2,279	3,868	1,291	1,142	n.a..	104	101	11,803
1986	3,972	2,137	3,830	1,121	1,183	n.a..	138	77	12,458
1987	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
1988	2,607	3,885	3,481	905	1,371	n.a..	95	120	12,464
1989	2,271	4,171	3,094	818	1,310	n.a..	52	117	11,833
1990	2,932	4,184	3,163	717	1,249	n.a..	46	115	12,406
1991	3,101	3,810	3,027	706	1,275	598	67	96	12,680
1992	3,134	3,099	2,916	629	1,332	821	131	97	12,159
1993	3,410	2,941	2,951	623	1,265	713	138	91	12,132
1994	3,904	3,133	2,903	661	1,283	630	112	124	12,750
1995	4,331	3,107	2,931	711	1,185	461	215	137	13,078

(a) Figures are not shown as most data were not available.

6 Legislative definition of 'in need of care and protection'

For a child to be placed under an order, a court needs to determine whether or not the child is in need of care and/or protection. Each State and Territory has legislation defining 'in need of care and protection'.

New South Wales

In New South Wales a child is defined in the *Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987* as being in need of care if adequate provision is not being made, or is not likely to be made, for the child's care; the child is being, or is likely to be, abused; or there is a substantial and presently irretrievable breakdown in the relationship between the child and one or more of the child's parents.

Victoria

In Victoria the *Children and Young Persons Act 1989* states that a child is in need of protection if any of the following grounds exist:

- the child has been abandoned and after reasonable inquiries the parent(s) cannot be found, and no other suitable person can be found who is willing and able to care for the child;
- the child's parent(s) are dead or incapacitated and there is no other suitable person willing and able to care for the child;
- the child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, significant harm as a result of physical injury or sexual abuse, and the child's parent(s) have not protected, or are unlikely to protect, the child from harm of that type;
- the child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, significant harm as a result of emotional or psychological harm of such kind that the child's emotional or intellectual development is, or is likely to be, significantly damaged and the child's parent(s) have not protected, or are unlikely to protect, the child from harm of that type;
- the child's physical development or health has been, or is likely to be, significantly harmed and the child's parent(s) have not provided, or are unlikely to provide, arrange, or allow the provision of, basic care or effective medical, surgical or other remedial care.

Queensland

In Queensland the *Children's Services Act 1965* prescribes a range of circumstances in which a child shall be deemed in need of care and protection. These include cases where the child does not have a parent or guardian who exercises proper care of and guardianship over the child and where the child is neglected; or exposed to physical or moral danger; or has become involved with bad associates; or is likely to enter into a life of vice or crime.

The *Children's Services Act 1965* authorises an officer of the Department of Families, Youth and Community Care or a police officer to take a child into custody for the purpose of making an application to the Childrens Court for an order to have the child admitted to the care and protection of the Director-General.

Western Australia

In Western Australia a 'child in need of care and protection' is defined in the *Community Services Act 1972* to include a child who:

- has no sufficient means of subsistence apparent to the court and whose near relatives are, in the opinion of the court, in indigent circumstances or are otherwise unable or

- unwilling to support the child, or are dead, or unknown, or cannot be found, or are out of the jurisdiction, or in the custody of the law;
- has been placed in a subsidised facility and whose near relatives have not contributed regularly towards the maintenance of the child;
- associates or dwells with any person who has been convicted of vagrancy, or is known to the police as of bad repute, or who has been or is reputed to be a thief or habitually under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
- is under the guardianship or in the custody of a person whom the court considers is unfit to have that guardianship or custody;
- is not being maintained properly or at all by a near relative, or is deserted;
- is found in a place where any drug or prohibited plant is used and is in the opinion of the court in need of care and protection by reason thereof;
- is ill-treated, or suffers injuries apparently resulting from ill-treatment; and
- is living under such circumstances, or behaves in such a manner, as to indicate that the mental, physical or moral welfare of the child is likely to be in jeopardy.

South Australia

In South Australia, under the *Children's Protection Act 1993*, an application may be made to the Youth Court when the Minister is of the opinion that;

- the child is at risk and an order should be made to secure the child's care and protection; or
- disruption of existing arrangements for the child would be likely to cause the child psychological injury and it would be in the best interest of the child for the arrangement to be the subject of a care and protection order.

For the purposes of the Act, a child is at risk if:

- the child has been, or is being, abused or neglected; or
- a person with whom the child resides (whether a guardian of the child or not):
 - (i) has threatened to kill or injure the child and there is a reasonable likelihood of the threat being carried out; or
 - (ii) has killed, abused or neglected some other child or children and there is a reasonable likelihood of the child in question being killed, abused or neglected by that person; or
- the guardians of the child:
 - (i) are unable to maintain the child, or are unable to exercise adequate supervision and control over the child; or
 - (ii) are unwilling to maintain the child, or are unwilling to exercise adequate supervision and control over the child; or
 - (iii) are dead, have abandoned the child, or cannot, after reasonable inquiry, be found; or
- the child is of compulsory school age but has been persistently absent from school without satisfactory explanation of the absence; or
- the child is under 15 years of age and of no fixed address.

The Department will only consider taking court action for a care and protection order when no other intervention can safely protect a child who is at risk by definition of the Act. There are a range of powers which the Youth Court may exercise when it finds that a child is in need of care and protection. Orders tend to be for no longer than twelve months unless a permanent living arrangement is in the best interest of the child. The child may then be placed under the guardianship of the Minister until 18 years of age.

Tasmania

In Tasmania, there are two Acts that define abuse and neglect.

The *Child Welfare Act 1960* describes various circumstances where a child may be in need of care and protection, including neglect or being beyond the care or control of the parent with whom he or she is living:

- a neglected child is a child who, having no parent or guardian, or a parent or guardian unfit to exercise care and guardianship or not exercising proper care and guardianship, is in need of care and protection, in order to secure that he or she is properly cared for or that he is prevented from falling into bad associations or from being exposed to moral danger
- proper care and guardianship shall be deemed not to be exercised in respect of the child if he or she is not provided with necessary food, lodging, clothing, medical aid, or nursing, or if he or she is neglected, ill-treated or exposed by his or her parent or guardian
- A child is also considered neglected if he or she is beyond the control of the parents or guardians with whom he or she is living, or associates or lives in specified places or with specified people.

Under the *Child Protection Act 1974* a child may be placed under a child protection order if it appears to a magistrate that a child may have suffered abuse or that there may be a substantial risk that the child will suffer abuse. Under the *Child Protection Amendment Act 1986*, a magistrate who is not in a position to decide whether or not there may be a substantial risk that the child may suffer abuse can make a temporary child protection order. A child is taken to suffer abuse if:

- whether by act or omission, intentionally or by default, any person:
 - (i) inflicts on the child a physical injury causing temporary or permanent disfigurement or serious pain; or by any means subjects the child to an impairment, either temporary or permanent, of a bodily function or of the normal reserve or flexibility of a bodily function (e.g. administering drugs or alcohol); or
 - (ii) neglects, or interferes with physical, nutritional, mental or emotional wellbeing of the child to such an extent that the child suffers, or is likely to suffer, psychological damage or impairment; or the emotional or intellectual development of the child is, or is likely to be, endangered; or the child fails to grow at a rate that would otherwise be regarded as normal for that child;
- any person causes the child to engage in, or be subjected to, sexual activity; or
- the child is, with or without the consent of the child or of the parent(s), guardian(s) , or other person having the custody, care, or control of the child, engaged in, or subjected to, sexual activity that is solely or principally for the sexual gratification of any other person; or is in whole or in part the subject of, or included among the matters portrayed in, any printed matter, photograph, recording, film, video tape, exhibition, or entertainment; or in any other manner exploits the child.

Until now, each Act was administered by a separate team within the Department of Community and Health Services. Tasmania is working towards the establishment of 'Intake and Assessment' teams that will administer both Acts, thereby eliminating the 'artificial divide' between abuse and neglect responses that has developed over recent years.

Australian Capital Territory

In the Australian Capital Territory the *Children's Services Act 1986* states that a child is in need of care and protection if:

- the child has been physically injured (otherwise than by accident) or has been sexually abused by one of the child's parents or by a member of the household, or there is a likelihood that the child will suffer such physical injury or sexual abuse;
- the child has been physically injured (otherwise than by accident) or has been sexually abused by a person other than a parent or by a member of the household and there is a likelihood that the child will so suffer such physical injury or sexual abuse and his or her parents are unable or unwilling to protect him or her from the injury or abuse;

- by reason of the circumstances in which the child is living, has lived or is reasonably likely to live, or in which the child is found, the health of the child has been, or is likely to be, impaired, or the child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, psychological damage of such a kind that his or her emotional or intellectual development is, or will be, endangered;
- the child is engaged in behaviour that is, or is likely to be, harmful and his or her parents or guardians are unable or unwilling to prevent the child from engaging in that behaviour;
- there is no appropriate person to care for the child because the child has been abandoned; the child's parents or guardians cannot, after reasonable enquiries have been made, be found; or the child's parents are dead and he or she has no guardians;
- there is serious incompatibility between the child and one of his or her parents or guardians; or
- the child is required by law to attend school and is persistently failing to do so and the failure is, or is likely to be, harmful to the child.

Northern Territory

In the Northern Territory section 4(2) of the *Community Welfare Act 1983* states that a child is in need of care and protection where:

- the parents, guardian, or person having the custody of the child have abandoned him or her and cannot, after reasonable inquiry, be found;
- the parent, guardian, or person having the custody of the child is unwilling or unable to maintain the child;
- he or she has suffered maltreatment; or
- he or she is not subject to effective control and is engaging in conduct which constitutes a serious danger to his or her health or safety; or
- being excused from criminal responsibility under section 38 of the *Criminal Code* (being under 10 years of age) he or she has persistently engaged in conduct which is so harmful or potentially harmful to the general welfare of the community, measured by commonly accepted community standards, as to warrant action under this Act for the maintenance of those standards.

For the purpose of the *Community Welfare Act 1983* a child shall be taken to have suffered maltreatment where he or she has suffered or is at substantial risk of suffering:

- a physical injury causing temporary or permanent disfigurement or serious pain or impairment of bodily function or the normal reserve or flexibility of a bodily function, inflicted or allowed to be inflicted by a parent, guardian or person having the custody of the child, or where there is substantial risk of the child suffering such an injury or impairment;
- serious emotional or intellectual impairment evident by severe psychological or social malfunctioning measured by the commonly accepted standards of the community to which the child belongs, whether due to physical surroundings, nutritional or other deprivation, or to the emotional or social environment in which he or she is living or where there is a substantial risk that such surroundings, deprivation or environment will cause such emotional or intellectual impairment;
- serious physical impairment evidenced by severe bodily malfunctioning, whether due to the child's physical surroundings, nutritional or other deprivation, or the emotional or social environment in which he or she is living, or where there is a substantial risk that such surroundings, deprivation or environment will cause such impairment; or
- sexual abuse or exploitation, and the child's parents, guardians or persons having custody of the child are unable or unwilling to protect him or her from such abuse or exploitation.

7 Types of non-guardianship orders in each State and Territory

The following is a list of non-guardianship orders available in each State and Territory.

New South Wales

Child removed on Children's Court order—In care

Child removed without warrant—In care

Child removed without warrant—*Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987*, s.60 (I)(a)

Child removed with warrant—In care

Assumption of care

Court order—Custody Agency—*Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987*, s.72 (C)(11)

Court order—Custody to person who is a relative of child

Court order—Custody to person who is not a relative of child

Court adjournment of care proceedings to care of Director-General

Court adjournment of care proceedings to care of person

Committed to care of person

Temporary care arrangements s.14 (1)

The Director-General may make a temporary care arrangement in respect of a child if the child is, in the opinion of the Director-General, in need of care.

Possible orders—*Children (Care and Protection Act 1987)*

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| (a) Orders dismissing application | s.72 (1)(a) |
| (b) Orders with no undertakings | s.72 (1)(b) |
| (c) Order with no undertakings from the person responsible as to care of the child | s.72 (1)(b)(1) |
| (d) Order/undertakings from child as to conduct | s.72 (1)(b)(ii) |
| (e) Order/undertakings combination (c) and (d) | s.72 (1)(b)(iii) |
| (f) Order of supervision/no undertakings | s.72 (1)(c)(1) |
| (g) Order of supervision/undertakings by person responsible | s.72 (1)(c)(i) |
| (h) Order of supervision/undertakings by child | s.72 (1)(c)(i) |
| (i) Order of supervision/combined undertakings | s.72 (1)(c)(i) |
| (j) Order of custody/no undertakings | s.72 (1)(c)(ii) |
| (k) Order of custody/undertakings single or combined, including the future custodian | s.72 (1)(c)(ii) |

Follow up to orders—*Children (Care and Protection Act 1987)*

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (a) If undertakings are not complied with, fresh orders may be sought | s.84 |
| (b) Application may be made to vary or rescind s.72 (1)(b) or s.71 (1)(c) orders | s.75 (1) |

Victoria

Interim protection order

Undertaking

Supervision order

Custody to third-party order

Supervised custody order

Custody to Secretary order

Queensland

Protective supervision order

Supervision order

A parent/guardian may be ordered to enter into a recognisance with a fine to be paid if breached.

These orders are effective until the child reaches 18 years of age. The Director-General is authorised to release a child from an order.

Western Australia

Control order

Western Australia does not generally place children under non-guardianship orders for care and protection.

South Australia

Undertaking with or without supervision

Custody of the child not exceeding 12 months to one of the following persons:

- (i) guardian;
- (ii) other family member;
- (iii) Chief Executive Officer of a non-government organisation which provides residential care of children;
- (iv) the Minister; or
- (v) any other person that the Court thinks appropriate.

Tasmania

Interim order

Remand for observation

Temporary order

Remand in care and custody of the Director

Remand in custody

Supervision order

Australian Capital Territory

Supervision order

Reside as directed order

Northern Territory

Child taken into custody—*Community Welfare Act 1983*, s.11 (1)

Holding order—*Community Welfare Act 1983*, s.11 (4)

Adjournment—*Community Welfare Act 1983*, s.44

Interim order—*Community Welfare Act 1983*, s.47

Direction to parents, guardian, or person having the custody of the child (may include directions to comply with the Minister)—*Community Welfare Act 1983*, s.43 (5) (a)

Temporary custody agreement—*Community Welfare Act 1983*, s.62.

8 Explanation of terms

Admissions to and discharges from orders

This is a count of admissions to and discharges from orders during the year. For consecutive orders no additional admission or discharge is recorded and the record is classified according to the last order applying. A new order applied within five days of the discharge of a similar order is deemed to be consecutive. For concurrent orders the admission is counted only once, and a discharge is recorded only when all concurrent orders have been discharged.

Adult

An adult is a person 18 years of age or over.

Age

Age is the age of a person in completed years. The tables containing information on type of placement show age at 30 June; tables containing admission or discharge information show age at the time of admission or discharge.

Child

A child is a person under 18 years of age. This publication includes 10 persons aged 18 years and over who remain under orders.

Children admitted to and discharged from orders

This item provides a count of individual children admitted to, or discharged from, orders during the year. It counts a child only once during the year, regardless of the number of times the child may have been admitted or discharged.

Foster care

Care of a child who is living apart from his or her natural or adoptive parents in a private household, by one or more adults who act as substitute parents. The substitute parents, generally called 'foster parents', are paid a regular allowance for the child's support by a government authority or non-government organisation. 'Foster parents' are chosen from a list of persons registered, licensed or approved as foster parents by an authorised department. The authorised department provides continuing supervision or support while the child remains in the care of 'foster parents'.

Guardianship order

A guardianship order is a legal or administrative order which gives the welfare department total responsibility for a child's welfare.

Legal or administrative order

A legal or administrative order is a lawful direction, by a legal or administrative body, which gives the welfare department direct responsibility for a person, or which assumes that the department will carry out the order or a substantial part of it.

Responsibility for an order may be undertaken directly by the authorised department, or indirectly through supervising another authority or person providing care. A legal or administrative body is a court, children's panel, Minister of the Crown, authorised welfare department officer or similar tribunal or officer. Orders may be granted for offence reasons (not included in this collection) or care and/or protection reasons.

Non-guardianship order

A non-guardianship order is a legal or administrative order giving the welfare department supervisory responsibility for a child's welfare, such as for supervising actions, providing or arranging accommodation or reporting on or giving consideration to the child's welfare.

Order issued for care and protection

Orders issued by a legal or administrative body in respect of an individual child deemed to be in need of care and/or protection (see 'Legislative definition of "in need of care and protection"' on page 31).

Children in care or protection

Children placed in the care and supervision of a relevant authority, individual or parent, but for whom the authorised department has ultimate responsibility in ensuring that the child is receiving suitable or satisfactory care.

Children under guardianship of a State or Territory welfare department

A child under guardianship of a State or Territory welfare department is a child whose legal guardian is the Minister, Director or other official of an authorised department, where the guardianship is conferred under legislation other than legislation controlling the adoption of children or the Commonwealth *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1956*.

Reason for discharge from orders

The reason for discharge from orders is the reason for the cessation of an order that placed a child under an authorised department's responsibility. The categories are:

- expiry of specified time
 - attained age of 18 years
 - other
- adoption
- transfer of guardianship to another State or Territory
- other departmental decision
- other

Type of placement

Children are shown in the type of placement in which they spent the night of 30 June 1995 (except those on authorised absence or outing who are shown against their usual type of placement). The broad types of placement are residential child care, residential care, corrective establishments and other placements.

Residential child care

Residential care establishments for children are residential establishments where the main activity is to provide substitute care (accommodation, meals, and some personal care, protection or control) for children. Included in this category are:

- establishments for children with disabilities and establishments for children with serious behavioural problems;
- juvenile hostels—residential child care establishments mainly for children aged 15 years and over who may have left school, which provide full board and some personal care, protection, control, corrective treatment or detention; for example, youth refuges and child care hostels used as 'half-way houses' for children released from a corrective institution;

- family group homes—residential child care single dwelling establishments which have as their main purpose the provision of substitute care for children. They are typically run like family homes, have a limited number of children who eat together as a family group and are cared for by resident substitute parents;
- campus homes—residential child care establishments consisting of two or more dwellings that do not share cooking or eating facilities, with some form of on-site centralised administration or control;
- other homes for children—any other residential child care establishments that are mainly for children aged under 15 years, and consist of either single dwellings that are not family group homes or two or more dwellings that share cooking or eating facilities.

Residential care (other than child care)

The main function of residential care establishments is to provide either medical care, education or other non-welfare care for adults and/or children, or other residential care for adults. Residential care establishments include:

- hospitals or nursing homes—establishments mainly engaged in providing hospital facilities such as diagnostic medical or surgical services and continuous inpatient nursing care, psychiatric or mental care, or nursing or convalescent home facilities;
- boarding schools—establishments mainly engaged in providing preschool, primary or secondary education where the children attending the establishments live at the school;
- residential adult care establishments—establishments mainly engaged in providing accommodation and some care for, or support (other than medical or nursing care) to, adults with special needs, such as aged or handicapped adults, adults released from prison, or women in distress.

Corrective establishments

Corrective establishments are residential or penal establishments which have as one of their major aims the secure detention of their residents. Persons under care and protection orders shown in this publication may be in a corrective establishment because they are also subject to an offence order. This category includes:

- juvenile corrective institutions—residential establishments mainly for child offenders or children on remand for alleged offences. These establishments place emphasis on provision of secure detention;
- youth training centres—residential establishments which provide care, treatment and custody for wards of the State and for young people sentenced to serve periods of detention;
- prisons—penal establishments mainly for adult detention, including prison farms and adult remand centres.

Other placements

This category includes:

- foster care—placement in a private household or in a general foster home approved by a State or Territory welfare department;
- living with a parent or other relative—a child is living with one or both natural or adoptive parents, or with any adult relative who does not receive a regular allowance for care of the child;
- in other adult care—a child is living with an adult (other than a parent or relative) who has accepted responsibility for the child, (includes persons placed in the custody of an employer or landlord, with prospective adoptive parents who do not receive a regular allowance for care of the child, or authorities of an Aboriginal reserve or mission);

- unauthorised absence—unauthorised absence is absence from an official placement at the time of counting without the permission of the appropriate authorities (except where no specific permission is required);
- living independently—a child is living apart from parents, other adult relatives, or any other adult who has accepted responsibility for care or supervision of the child; or when a child is living as a private boarder, in rental accommodation, boarding house or refuge, private hotel or hostel for adults;
- other placement or unknown—any placement not elsewhere included, or not known.

9 Related legislation

The following legislation relates to child protection in Australia.

Commonwealth

Family Law Act 1975

New South Wales

Children (Care and Protection) Act 1987

Victoria

Children and Young Persons Act 1989

Queensland

Children's Services Act 1965.

Western Australia

Child Welfare Act 1947

Community Services Act 1972

South Australia

Until 31 December 1993

Community Welfare Act 1972, as amended

Children's Protection and Young Offenders Act 1979

From 1 January 1994

Family and Community Services Act 1972

Children's Protection Act 1993

The Young Offender's Act 1993

Tasmania

Child Welfare Act 1960

Child Protection Act 1974

Child Protection Amendments Act 1986, 1987 and 1991

Australian Capital Territory

Children's Services Act 1986

Northern Territory

Community Welfare Act 1983

10 Related AIHW publications

The following publications containing child welfare information have been issued by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Child Welfare Series

- Number 1: *Adoptions Australia, 1990–91*
- Number 2: *Child Abuse and Neglect Australia, 1990–91*
- Number 3: *Children under Care and Protection Orders Australia, 1990–91*
- Number 4: *Adoptions Australia, 1991–92*
- Number 5: *Child Abuse and Neglect Australia, 1991–92*
- Number 6: *Children under Care and Protection Orders Australia, 1991–92*
- Number 7: *Adoptions Australia, 1992–93*
- Number 8: *Child Abuse and Neglect: Reporting and Investigation Procedures in Australia, 1994*
- Number 9: *Child Abuse and Neglect Australia, 1992–93*
- Number 10: *Children under Care and Protection Orders Australia, 1992–93*
- Number 11: *Adoptions Australia, 1993–94*
- Number 12: *Children under Care and Protection Orders Australia, 1993–94*
- Number 13: *Child Abuse and Neglect Australia, 1993–94*
- Number 14: *Adoptions Australia, 1994–95*

Other publications

- Australia's Welfare 1993: Services and Assistance*
- Australia's Welfare 1995: Services and Assistance*

11 References

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1996. Estimated resident population by sex and age, States and Territories of Australia, June 1994 and preliminary June 1995. ABS cat. no. 3201.0. Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1996. Experimental projections of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population 1991–2001. ABS cat. no. 3231.0. Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service (forthcoming).

Shaver S & Paxman M 1992. Homelessness, wardship and Commonwealth–State relations. Social Policy Research Centre Reports and Proceedings: No 101. Sydney: SPRC.

Smith G 1992. Rights and advocacy: a framework for child protection services. In: Calvert G, Ford A., Parkinson P (eds). The practice of child protection: Australian approaches. Sydney: Hale and Iremonger, 174–92pp.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH
& WELFARE LIBRARY

A child needs care and protection if the child is being (or is likely to be) abused or neglected, has been abandoned, if adequate provision is not being made for the child's care, or if there is an irretrievable breakdown in the relationship between the child and the child's parents. These children may be placed under a care and protection order giving the welfare department ultimate responsibility for ensuring satisfactory care.

This publication is the fifteenth in the Child Welfare Series by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. It presents, for each State and Territory, information on guardianship and other care and protection orders for 1994-95. The number and characteristics of children under these orders are shown, including statistics by age, sex and type of placement.