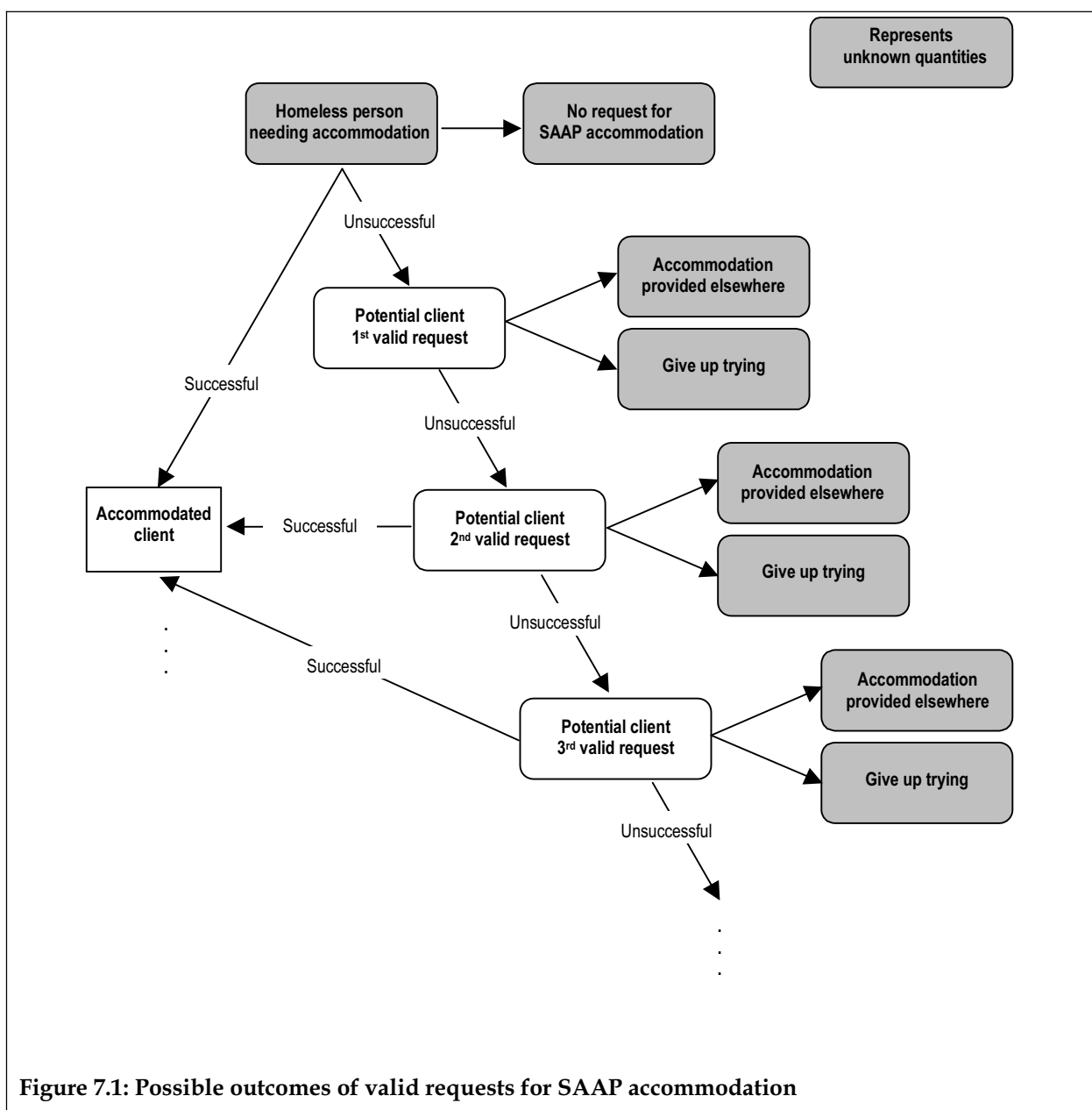


7 Number of people making a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation

People can make more than one request for SAAP accommodation in a day. Figure 7.1 shows that people who make a request for SAAP accommodation can either be successful on the first attempt, make subsequent requests until they are accommodated, have their needs met elsewhere, or give up trying altogether. How often people have their needs met by other means and no longer require SAAP assistance cannot be measured at present.



This chapter presents the estimated number of adults or children unaccompanied by a parent(s) or guardian(s) who made a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation (termed potential clients), and the number of children who accompanied them. As people can make more than one unmet request in a day, to estimate the number of people making those requests as distinct from the number of requests themselves, each valid unmet request presented in Chapter 6 has been attributed to an estimated number of individuals (see Appendix 2).

7.1 Number of potential clients and accompanying children

People are able to make more than one request for accommodation per day. Additionally, in at least 42% of the 448 valid unmet requests for accommodation reported each day, the request involved more than one person (Table 6.3). It is estimated that on any given day during the collection period, an average of 387 potential clients (adults and unaccompanied children) and 255 accompanying children had a valid unmet request for accommodation (Table 7.1). Overall, this averaged 642 people per day.

Requesting group

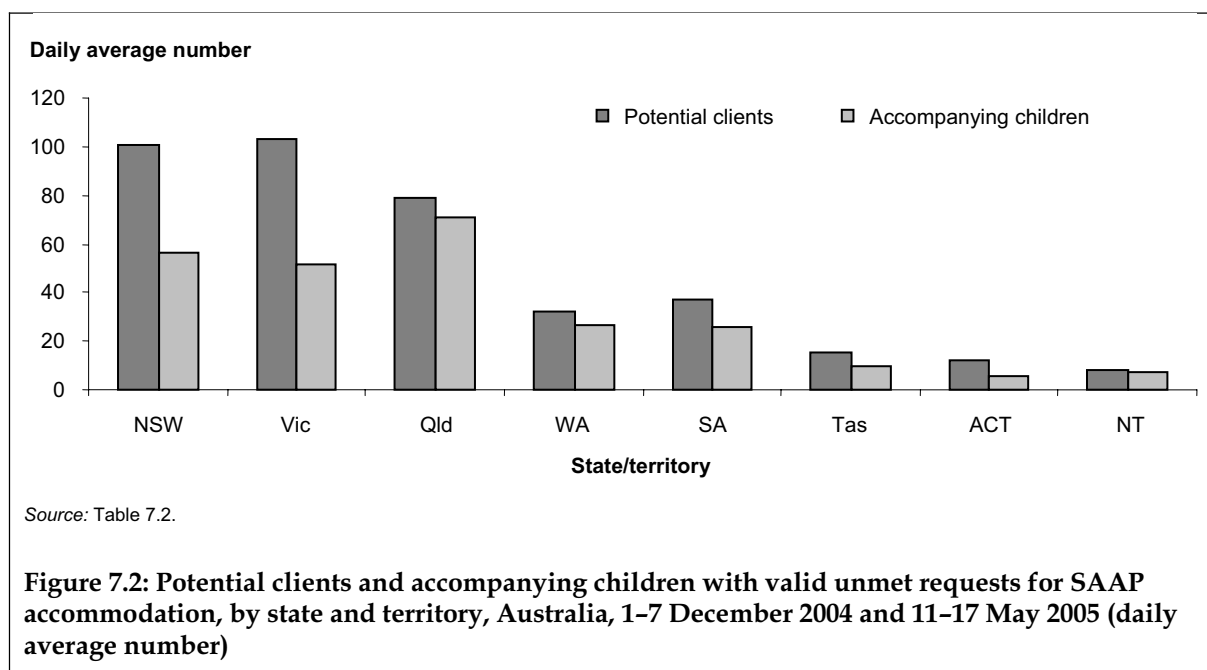
There was a daily average of 205 potential clients who presented alone or with a group of individuals without children (individual(s) without children), 138 potential clients who presented as an individual(s) with children, 31 potential clients who presented as a couple with children, and 14 potential clients who presented as a couple without children.

The daily average number of accompanying children was highest for children who accompanied one potential client or a group of potential clients who were not a couple (224). A daily average of 31 children accompanied couples.

State and territory

Figure 7.2 presents the daily average number of potential clients and the children that accompanied them by state and territory. Victoria reported the highest number of potential clients on an average day during the collection period (103), accounting for 27% of the total number of potential clients (Table 7.2). Queensland reported the largest average daily number of children accompanying a potential client (71 or 28%).

When accompanying children are examined as a proportion of the total number of people with valid unmet requests by state and territory, Queensland and the Northern Territory had the highest proportion of accompanying children, with 47% of all people with valid unmet requests for accommodation in this state and territory being accompanying children (derived from Table 7.2).



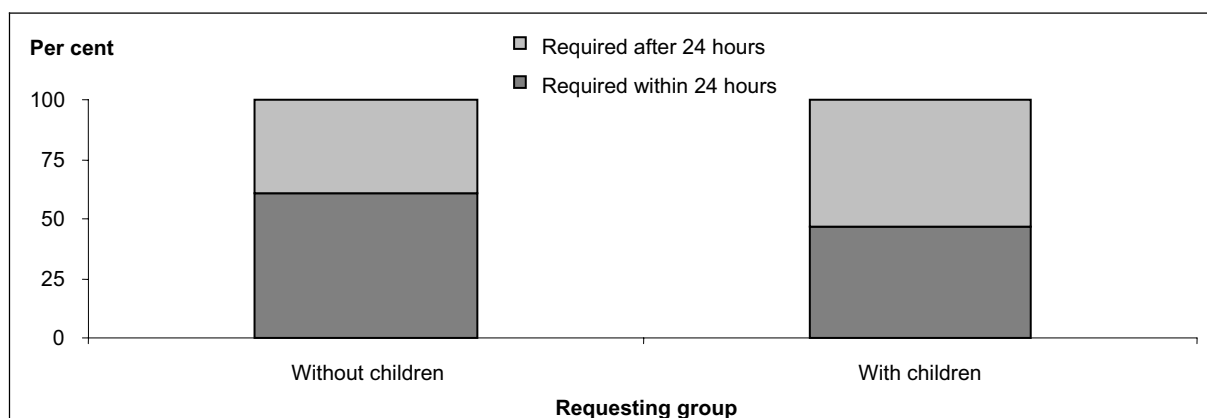
7.2 The immediacy of need for accommodation

The majority of potential clients (55%) making valid unmet requests for accommodation required accommodation immediately (within 24 hours) (Table 7.1). This was followed by potential clients requiring accommodation in 5 days or more (26%). This was higher than for potential clients who required accommodation in 24-48 hours (11%) or in 3-4 days (just under 9%).

However, although a significant proportion of the children accompanying potential clients required immediate accommodation (47%), over half (53%) required accommodation after 24 hours (13% within 24-48 hours, 10% in 3-4 days and 30% in 5 or more days).

Requesting group

Potential clients who presented with children, either as a couple or an individual(s), had different requirements in relation to how soon they required accommodation, compared with potential clients who presented without children. Over half (53%) of potential clients who presented with children were seeking accommodation after 24 hours (Figure 7.3). This was higher than the figure for potential clients who presented without children, of whom 39% required accommodation after 24 hours. This indicates that people with children are more likely than people without children to attempt to make arrangements for accommodation in advance of an anticipated occasion of homelessness or some other type of insecurity before their situation reaches crisis point.



Source: Derived from Table 7.1.

Figure 7.3: Potential clients with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation, by requesting groups with and without accompanying children and when accommodation was needed, Australia, 1-7 December 2004 and 11-17 May 2005 (per cent daily average)

State and territory

In the majority of states and territories, potential clients were more likely to require immediate accommodation than accommodation after 24 hours, the exceptions being Victoria and South Australia where potential clients more often required accommodation after 24 hours (59% in both states) (derived from Table 7.2). In the remaining states and territories, while potential clients most often required immediate accommodation, the breakdown between accommodation required within 24 hours and that required after 24 hours still varied. In Tasmania 71% of potential clients required accommodation within 24 hours, compared with 70% in Western Australia, 69% in the Australian Capital Territory, 66% in the Northern Territory, 61% in New South Wales, and 58% in Queensland.

Although the pattern of when accommodation was needed by potential clients was similar to that documented in Chapter 6 regarding valid unmet requests for accommodation, the pattern for accompanying children was slightly different. While children accompanying potential clients required immediate accommodation more often than accommodation after 24 hours in Tasmania (70%), Western Australia (62%), New South Wales (61%) and the Northern Territory (61%), children accompanying potential clients in Victoria, South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and Queensland more often required accommodation after 24 hours (77%, 67%, 60% and 53%, respectively).

7.3 Tables

Table 7.1: Potential clients and accompanying children with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was needed and requesting group, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average number)

Requesting group	Required within 24 hours	Required in 24–48 hours	Required in 3–4 days	Required in 5 or more days	Total	
					%	Number
Potential clients						
Individual(s) no children	124.1	16.9	15.5	48.2	52.9	204.7
Individual(s) with children	67.0	18.6	13.1	39.1	35.6	137.8
Couple no children	9.3	0.9	0.8	3.3	3.7	14.2
Couple with children	11.3	4.9	4.3	10.0	7.9	30.5
Total (number)	211.7	41.2	33.6	100.6	..	387.2
Total (%)	54.7	10.6	8.7	26.0	100.0	..
Accompanying children						
Individual(s) with children	109.2	27.7	22.1	64.7	87.8	223.8
Couple with children	10.6	5.6	4.1	10.7	12.2	31.0
Total (number)	119.8	33.4	26.2	75.4	..	254.8
Total (%)	47.0	13.1	10.3	29.6	100.0	..

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 0.
2. Adjustments have been made for missing data (see Appendix 2).
3. People may make more than one request for accommodation in a day. Data are based on the first valid unmet request for accommodation made by the person or group (see Glossary).
4. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
5. Figures are unweighted.

Source: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 7.2: Potential clients and accompanying children with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation, by when accommodation was needed and state and territory, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average number)

State/territory	Required within 24 hours	Required in 24–48 hours	Required in 3–4 days	Required in 5 or more days	Total		
					%	Number	
Potential clients							
NSW	61.6	9.1	7.1	22.6	26.0	100.6	
Vic	41.7	10.9	9.4	40.9	26.6	102.9	
Qld	45.9	10.6	9.1	13.6	20.5	79.2	
WA	22.9	2.3	1.9	5.4	8.4	32.5	
SA	15.2	5.2	4.4	12.2	9.6	37.0	
Tas	10.7	1.0	0.6	2.8	3.9	15.1	
ACT	8.4	1.3	0.6	1.8	3.1	12.1	
NT	5.2	0.8	0.5	1.4	2.0	7.9	
Total (number)	211.7	41.2	33.6	100.6	..	387.2	
Total (%)	54.7	10.6	8.7	26.0	100.0	..	
Accompanying children							
NSW	34.3	5.1	3.0	14.2	22.2	56.6	
Vic	12.0	6.6	6.3	27.1	20.4	51.9	
Qld	33.4	12.9	10.6	13.9	27.8	70.9	
WA	17.9	1.0	1.1	6.4	10.4	26.4	
SA	8.6	4.2	4.0	9.3	10.2	26.1	
Tas	6.9	1.1	0.4	1.4	3.9	9.9	
ACT	2.4	1.3	0.2	2.1	2.4	6.0	
NT	4.3	1.2	0.5	1.1	2.8	7.1	
Total (number)	119.8	33.4	26.2	75.4	..	254.8	
Total (%)	47.0	13.1	10.3	29.6	100.0	..	

Notes

1. Cases excluded from table due to missing data: 0.
2. Adjustments have been made for missing data (see Appendix 2).
3. People may make more than one request for accommodation in a day. Data are based on the first valid unmet request for accommodation made by the person or group (see Glossary).
4. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
5. Figures are unweighted.

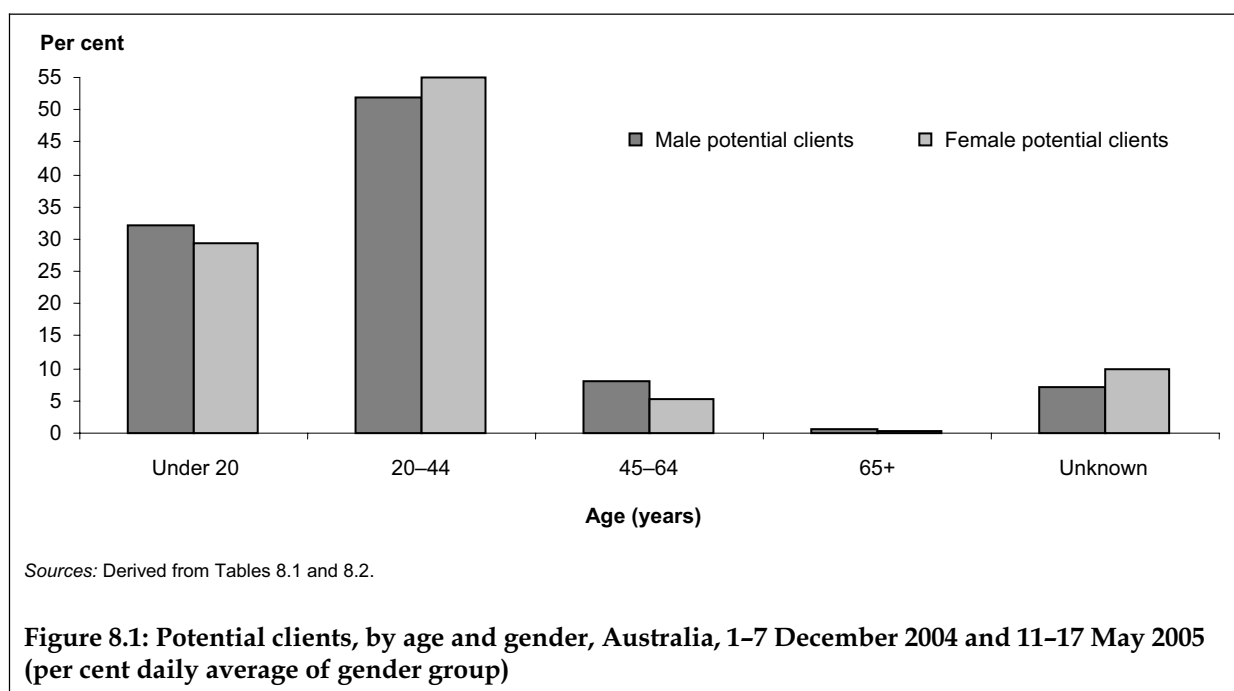
Source: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection.

8 Characteristics of people who made a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation

The Demand for Accommodation Collection also gathers information on the gender, age, country of birth and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) status of people seeking accommodation. This chapter presents the characteristics of potential clients and the children who accompanied them, that is, the demographics of people who made a valid unmet request for accommodation during the Demand for Accommodation Collection period (1-7 December 2004 and 11-17 May 2005).

8.1 Gender and age of potential clients

Of the 387 daily average potential clients reported in Chapter 7, 237 (or 61%) were female and 151 (or 39%) were male (derived from Tables 8.1 and 8.2). The highest proportion of potential clients, both male and female, were aged 20-44 years (52% of males and 55% of females), followed by potential clients aged under 20 years (32% of males and 30% of females) (Figure 8.1). It should be noted that, when examining the age groups at a finer age level, a significant proportion of all potential clients were aged 15-19 years (25% of males and 24% of females) (derived from Tables 8.1 and 8.2).



Immediacy of need for accommodation

Both male and female potential clients were more likely to require accommodation within 24 hours, with 58% (87) of the 151 male potential clients and 52% (124) of the 237 female potential clients requiring immediate accommodation (derived from Tables 8.1 and 8.2).

There were some variations according to age and gender in how soon potential clients required accommodation. Older males, in particular, were more likely than their female counterparts to require accommodation within 24 hours, with 62% of males aged 45–64 years seeking immediate accommodation compared to 43% of females in this age bracket.

Accommodation required within 24 hours

On a daily basis there was an average of 212 potential clients who required accommodation within 24 hours (Table 8.1). Of these, 41% were male and 59% were female (derived from Table 8.1). The highest proportion of potential clients who required immediate accommodation, both male and female, were aged 20–44 years (51% of males and 52% of females), followed by potential clients aged under 20 years (31% of males and 35% of females).

There were some variations between the states and territories in the age and gender breakdowns of potential clients who required immediate accommodation. Of the male potential clients who required immediate accommodation, Western Australia had a higher proportion than the other states and territories of male potential clients aged 15–17 years who required immediate accommodation (22% compared with between 0% and 17%). South Australia and Queensland had higher proportions aged 18–19 years (15% and 14%, respectively, compared with between 4% and 11%); and Tasmania had a higher proportion aged 25–44 years (54% compared with between 29% and 37%) (Table 8.1). Note that there was a high proportion of male potential clients of unknown age requesting immediate accommodation in the Australian Capital Territory (41% compared with between 3% and 15%).

Of the female potential clients who required immediate accommodation, New South Wales had a higher proportion who were aged 15–17 years (17% compared with between 2% and 14% in the other states and territories); Victoria recorded a higher proportion aged 18–19 years (19% compared with between 5% and 11%); and Tasmania had a higher proportion aged 20–24 years (31% compared with between 9% and 22%). As was the case for male potential clients who requested immediate accommodation, the Australian Capital Territory had the highest proportion of female potential clients of unknown age who requested immediate accommodation (30% compared with between 6% and 23%).

Accommodation required after 24 hours

On a daily basis there were an average of 176 potential clients who required SAAP accommodation after 24 hours and of these, 36% (63) were male and 64% (112) were female (derived from Table 8.2). As with accommodation required within 24 hours, the highest proportion of potential clients who required accommodation after 24 hours were aged 20–44 years (54% for males and 58% for females), followed by potential clients aged under 20 years (34% of males and 31% of females).

Again, there were some variations between the states and territories in the age and gender breakdowns of potential clients who required accommodation after 24 hours time. For example, in the Northern Territory 27% of males were aged 15–17 years (compared with between 7% and 22% in the other states and territory) (Table 8.2). The Australian Capital Territory, at 4%, had a smaller proportion of males aged 20–24 than the other states and

territory, which ranged from 11% in Western Australia up to 23% in South Australia. The Australian Capital Territory recorded a much high proportion of males for whom age was unknown (44% compared to between 0% and 6% in the other states and territory). For female potential clients who required accommodation after 24 hours time, Queensland reported the highest proportion who were aged 25–44 years (47%) and Tasmania the lowest (27%). Tasmania reported the highest proportion who were aged 45–64 years (16% compared with between 0% and 8%).

8.2 Gender and age of accompanying children

Around 53% of the 255 children accompanying potential clients were female and 47% were male (AIHW unpublished data). Most children who accompanied a potential client were aged under 12 years (76%) and required accommodation after 24 hours (53%) (derived from Table 8.3).

Around 73% of children who required immediate accommodation and 79% of children who required accommodation after 24 hours were aged under 12 years. Accompanying children aged 12–14 years accounted for 9% of accompanying children who required immediate accommodation and 11% of accompanying children who required accommodation after 24 hours. Five per cent of children who required immediate accommodation and 5% of children who required accommodation after 24 hours were aged 15–17 years. There were more children of an unknown age who accompanied a potential client who requested immediate accommodation (14%) than accompanied a potential client who requested accommodation after 24 hours (5%).

8.3 Country of birth of potential clients and accompanying children

The following figures combine potential clients and accompanying children. It should be noted that it is not possible to report the country of birth of potential clients and accompanying children separately as it is collected via a single question on the collection form (see Appendix 3 for a copy of the form). Also of note is that of the 642 potential clients and accompanying children reported in Chapter 7, 93% (595) provided data on their country of birth while birthplace was missing for 7% (derived from Tables 7.1, 8.4 and 8.5). No imputation was done to adjust for missing data on country of birth, and for the remainder of section 8.3 the data used are from the 93% potential clients and accompanying children (people) who answered the question on country of birth.

Of the 595 people who reported their country of birth, the majority were Australian-born (74%), around 6% were born in non-English-speaking countries, 2% were born in other English-speaking countries and 18% were of unknown country of birth (derived from Tables 8.4 and 8.5).

Immediacy of need for accommodation

Australian-born people who made a valid unmet request for accommodation were slightly more likely to require accommodation after 24 hours than within 24 hours (52%) (derived from Tables 8.4 and 8.5). Australian-born females were slightly more likely to require

accommodation after 24 hours than their male counterparts (53% of Australian-born females compared with just under 50% of Australian-born males).

People with a valid unmet request for accommodation who were born in non-English-speaking countries were also more likely to require accommodation after 24 hours, with 69% of people born in non-English-speaking countries, 70% of males born in non-English-speaking countries, and 68% of females born in non-English-speaking countries requiring accommodation after 24 hours.

Overall, people with a valid unmet request for accommodation who were born in other English-speaking countries were also more likely overall to require accommodation after 24 hours than within 24 hours (57%). However, while females born in other English-speaking countries were more likely to require accommodation after 24 hours (64%), males born in other English-speaking countries were more likely to require accommodation within 24 hours (54% required accommodation within 24 hours).

Unknown country of birth was more prevalent for people who required immediate accommodation, with 68% of the people of unknown country of birth requiring accommodation within 24 hours.

Accommodation required within 24 hours

On a daily basis, an average of 73% of males who made a valid unmet request for immediate accommodation were born in Australia, 3% were born in non-English-speaking countries, 2% were born in other English-speaking countries and 22% were of an unknown country of birth (Table 8.4). Of the females who made a valid unmet request for accommodation and who required immediate accommodation, 69% were born in Australia, just under 4% were born in non-English-speaking countries, 2% were born in other English-speaking countries and 26% were of an unknown country of birth.

The Northern Territory reported the highest proportion of Australian-born potential clients and accompanying children who required immediate accommodation – 88% of males and 89% of females. This compares with between 50% and 82% of males and between 45% and 79% of females in the other states and territory. These figures are influenced by the high proportion of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Australians in the Northern Territory.

There were some other small variations between the states and territories. For example, the Australian Capital Territory had a higher proportion of potential clients and accompanying children seeking immediate accommodation who were from non-English-speaking countries (8% of males and 13% of females). This compares to proportions of between 1% and 6% for males and 0% and 7% for females in the other states and territory. There was also variation in the proportions of potential clients and accompanying children who requested immediate accommodation and who were of unknown country of birth. The Australian Capital Territory (42% of both males and females) and New South Wales (33% of males and 34% of females) had higher proportions than the other states and territory, which recorded between 7% and 20% for males and 8% and 31% for females.

Accommodation required after 24 hours

Around 78% of both males and females who made a valid unmet request for accommodation required after 24 hours were Australian-born, 8% of both were born in non-English-speaking countries, 2% of males and 3% of females were born in other English-speaking countries and 13% of males and 11% females were of unknown country of birth (Table 8.5).

As with requests for accommodation within 24 hours, there was some variation between the states and territories in the country of birth of people with a valid unmet request for

accommodation who required accommodation after 24 hours. Again, the Northern Territory reported higher proportions of potential clients and accompanying children who were Australian-born (100% of males and 94% of females) than the other states, while the Australian Capital Territory recorded the lowest levels (33% of males and 38% of females). Also, the proportion of male potential clients and accompanying children born in non-English-speaking countries who required accommodation after 24 hours ranged from less than 1% in Queensland up to 20% in Western Australia, while the proportion of female potential clients and accompanying children born in non-English-speaking countries who required accommodation after 24 hours ranged from less than 1% in Queensland to 21% in the Australian Capital Territory.

8.4 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status of potential clients and accompanying children

As with the data presented on country of birth, the following figures combine potential clients and accompanying children. It should be noted that it is not possible to report the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status of potential clients and accompanying children separately as it is collected via a single question on the collection form (see Appendix 3 for a copy of the form). It should also be noted that no imputation was done to adjust for missing data on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status.

Tables 8.4 and 8.5 show data on the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status of people who had a valid unmet request for SAAP accommodation, however, caution should be exercised in drawing conclusions on the basis of these data because of the relatively high amount of missing information and the large proportion of people of 'unknown' status. Data were missing on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status for just over 11% (73) of the 642 people with valid unmet requests for accommodation reported in Chapter 7 and 20% (130) were of unknown status (derived from Tables 7.1, 8.4 and 8.5). This means that Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status was missing or unknown for nearly a third (32%) of the people who made a valid unmet request for accommodation.

However, of the 569 people who reported their Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status, 18% identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, 59% did not identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and 23% were of unknown status (derived from Tables 8.4 and 8.5).

Immediacy of need for accommodation

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people who made a valid unmet request for accommodation were more likely to require immediate accommodation than accommodation after 24 hours, with 57% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Australians, 56% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander males and 58% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander females with a valid unmet request for accommodation requesting immediate accommodation (derived from Tables 8.4 and 8.5).

Accommodation required within 24 hours

The proportions of people who made a valid unmet request for immediate accommodation who identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander varied by state and territory and also by gender. For example, on an average day around 21% of male and 58% of female potential clients and accompanying children who required immediate accommodation in the

Northern Territory identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, and 44% of male and 51% of female potential clients and accompanying children who required immediate accommodation in Western Australia identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (Table 8.4). These proportions were higher than those recorded in the other states and territory (between 0% and 22% for males and between 2% and 23% for females).

It should be noted that Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status was unknown for 28% of male and 33% of female potential clients and accompanying children who required immediate accommodation.

Accommodation required after 24 hours

The Northern Territory reported a higher average daily proportion of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander potential clients and accompanying children who required accommodation after 24 hours than the other states and territory. Seventy-one per cent of males and 74% of females in the Northern Territory who required accommodation after 24 hours identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (Table 8.5).

It should be noted that Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status was unknown for 16% of male and 14% of female potential clients and accompanying children who required accommodation after 24 hours.

8.5 Tables

Table 8.1: Potential clients with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation within 24 hours: age by gender, by state and territory, Australia, 1-7 December 2004 and 11-17 May 2005 (per cent daily average)

Age (years)	Accommodation required within 24 hours								Total	
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	%	Number
	Male potential clients									
Under 15	7.4	4.3	7.6	1.7	7.4	4.7	1.6	25.0	6.1	5.4
15-17	16.3	10.7	17.0	21.5	16.0	9.3	—	14.3	14.5	12.6
18-19	7.7	9.4	14.4	10.7	14.8	9.3	4.9	3.6	10.1	8.9
20-24	15.6	20.1	13.6	15.7	21.0	7.0	13.1	14.3	16.2	14.1
25-44	30.7	35.8	36.0	37.2	27.2	53.5	36.1	28.6	34.5	30.1
45-64	5.8	12.7	8.0	9.9	7.4	11.6	3.3	10.7	8.7	7.6
65+	1.2	0.3	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	0.6	0.5
Unknown	15.3	6.7	2.7	3.3	6.2	4.7	41.0	3.6	9.3	8.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Male total number	23.3	21.4	18.9	8.6	5.8	3.1	4.4	2.0	..	87.4
Female potential clients										
Under 15	7.8	2.8	7.9	10.5	4.5	0.9	—	8.9	6.4	8.0
15-17	16.6	13.3	12.9	13.5	8.3	1.9	14.3	6.7	13.0	16.2
18-19	6.7	18.9	4.5	7.5	11.4	6.5	7.1	11.1	8.8	10.9
20-24	12.1	21.8	18.7	15.0	20.5	30.8	14.3	8.9	17.2	21.4
25-44	29.6	30.9	43.8	33.5	37.9	44.9	25.0	35.6	34.9	43.4
45-64	4.1	6.0	2.9	4.5	3.8	1.9	8.9	8.9	4.3	5.4
65+	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.5	—	—	—	—	0.4	0.5
Unknown	22.7	6.0	8.4	15.0	13.6	13.1	30.4	20.0	14.9	18.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Female total number	38.4	20.4	27.1	14.3	9.4	7.6	4.0	3.2	..	124.4
Total number	61.6	41.7	45.9	22.9	15.2	10.7	8.4	5.2	..	211.7

Notes

1. Cases excluded from table due to missing data: 0.
2. Adjustments have been made for missing data (see Appendix 2).
3. People may make more than one request for accommodation in a day. Data are based on the first valid unmet request for accommodation made by the person or group (see Glossary).
4. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
5. Figures are unweighted.

Source: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 8.2: Potential clients with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation after 24 hours: age by gender, by state and territory, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (per cent daily average)

Age (years)	Accommodation required after 24 hours								Total	
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	%	Number
	Male potential clients									
Under 15	10.4	6.9	12.7	13.0	5.2	12.5	4.3	—	8.8	5.6
15–17	18.9	13.0	14.1	21.7	7.2	—	8.7	27.3	14.1	8.9
18–19	16.0	11.2	6.3	10.9	9.3	8.3	8.7	—	11.1	7.0
20–24	16.5	20.2	21.8	10.9	22.7	20.8	4.3	18.2	19.0	12.0
25–44	25.0	38.1	33.8	37.0	44.3	45.8	26.1	54.5	35.0	22.1
45–64	6.6	6.3	9.2	2.2	11.3	12.5	4.3	—	7.2	4.6
65+	0.9	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.9	0.6
Unknown	5.7	2.4	2.1	4.3	—	—	43.5	—	4.0	2.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Male total number	15.1	23.6	10.1	3.3	6.9	1.7	1.6	0.8	..	63.3
Female potential clients										
Under 15	6.9	5.5	4.9	3.4	2.4	8.1	—	—	5.0	5.6
15–17	17.1	16.2	11.7	20.5	10.6	10.8	6.9	23.1	14.8	16.6
18–19	10.8	12.9	9.3	6.8	13.0	8.1	3.4	11.5	11.1	12.4
20–24	19.5	17.1	20.1	22.7	20.2	18.9	10.3	15.4	18.8	21.1
25–44	35.7	36.3	46.6	35.2	42.8	27.0	44.8	46.2	39.2	44.0
45–64	4.2	7.6	5.6	4.5	8.2	16.2	6.9	—	6.4	7.2
65+	0.3	0.6	—	—	0.5	—	—	—	0.3	0.4
Unknown	5.4	3.8	1.9	6.8	2.4	10.8	27.6	3.8	4.3	4.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Female total number	23.8	37.6	23.1	6.3	14.9	2.6	2.1	1.9	..	112.2
Total number	38.9	61.2	33.3	9.6	21.8	4.4	3.7	2.6	..	175.5

Notes

1. Cases excluded from table due to missing data: 0.
2. Adjustments have been made for missing data (see Appendix 2).
3. People may make more than one request for accommodation in a day. Data are based on the first valid unmet request for accommodation made by the person or group (see Glossary).
4. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
5. Figures are unweighted.

Source: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 8.3: Accompanying children with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation: age by when accommodation was needed, by state and territory, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (per cent daily average)

Age (years)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total	
									%	Number
Accommodation required within 24 hours										
Under 12	61.3	82.1	77.6	78.0	65.8	79.4	76.5	76.7	72.6	87.0
12–14	8.3	6.0	9.6	8.0	11.7	12.4	8.8	1.7	8.6	10.4
15–17	5.0	6.0	4.3	4.0	5.8	2.1	2.9	3.3	4.5	5.4
Unknown	25.4	6.0	8.5	10.0	16.7	6.2	11.8	18.3	14.2	17.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	34.3	12.0	33.4	17.9	8.6	6.9	2.4	4.3	..	119.8
Accommodation required after 24 hours										
Under 12	78.5	75.5	82.9	82.4	78.8	82.9	64.0	69.2	78.6	106.1
12–14	9.9	12.9	10.7	7.6	10.6	7.3	10.0	17.9	11.1	14.9
15–17	6.4	4.7	5.5	0.8	6.5	4.9	2.0	5.1	5.1	6.9
Unknown	5.1	7.0	1.0	9.2	4.1	4.9	24.0	7.7	5.2	7.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	22.3	39.9	37.5	8.5	17.5	2.9	3.6	2.8	..	135.0

Notes

1. Cases excluded from table due to missing data: 0.
2. Adjustments have been made for missing data (see Appendix 2).
3. People may make more than one request for accommodation in a day. Data are based on the first valid unmet request for accommodation made by the person or group (see Glossary).
4. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
5. Figures are unweighted.

Source: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 8.4: Potential clients and accompanying children with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation within 24 hours: state and territory and gender by country of birth and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (per cent daily average)

	Accommodation required within 24 hours								Total	
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	%	Number
Males										
Country of birth										
Australia	60.8	70.7	82.1	80.1	81.6	81.0	50.0	88.4	72.7	96.3
Other English-speaking countries	2.8	4.1	0.7	0.9	—	—	—	4.7	1.9	2.6
Non-English-speaking countries	3.0	5.5	1.1	2.8	0.8	2.5	8.1	—	3.0	3.9
Unknown	33.3	19.6	16.2	16.2	17.6	16.5	41.9	7.0	22.4	29.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	35.6	25.9	32.6	15.4	8.9	5.6	5.3	3.1	..	132.4
ATSI status										
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	11.3	9.6	22.1	43.7	13.2	—	—	20.5	17.0	21.6
Other males	50.6	68.5	53.6	38.0	65.3	53.5	52.8	70.5	54.9	69.7
Unknown	38.0	21.9	24.3	18.3	21.5	46.5	47.2	9.1	28.1	35.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	34.0	23.8	32.0	15.2	8.6	5.1	5.1	3.1	..	127.0
Females										
Country of birth										
Australia	60.6	66.0	79.3	72.7	71.6	68.2	45.1	89.0	69.1	117.5
Other English-speaking countries	0.4	4.0	1.2	3.5	0.6	0.8	—	2.7	1.6	2.8
Non-English-speaking countries	5.2	6.6	1.4	3.8	0.6	—	12.7	—	3.7	6.4
Unknown	33.8	23.3	18.1	20.0	27.2	31.1	42.3	8.2	25.5	43.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	49.9	24.8	41.1	22.5	12.1	9.4	5.1	5.2	..	170.0
ATSI status										
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	17.9	10.1	22.9	51.4	16.5	2.4	4.5	57.5	22.6	37.1
Other females	42.3	61.4	51.3	27.8	51.8	21.8	51.5	34.2	44.8	73.6
Unknown	39.7	28.5	25.7	20.8	31.8	75.8	43.9	8.2	32.5	53.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	46.6	23.3	40.8	22.6	12.1	8.9	4.7	5.2	..	164.2

Notes

1. Adjustments have been made for missing data (see Appendix 2). However, adjustments could not be made for missing country of birth or Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status. Data were missing on country of birth for an estimated 8.8 males and 20.3 females per day. Data were missing on ATSI status for an estimated 14.2 males and 26.1 females per day.
2. People may make more than one request for accommodation in a day. Data are based on the first valid unmet request for accommodation made by the person or group (see Glossary).
3. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
4. Figures are unweighted.

Source: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 8.5: Potential clients and accompanying children with valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation after 24 hours: state and territory and gender by country of birth and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (per cent daily average)

	Accommodation required after 24 hours								Total	
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	%	Number
Males										
Country of birth										
Australia	74.9	75.0	84.9	63.7	89.7	82.2	33.3	100.0	77.5	94.8
Other English-speaking countries	1.2	1.5	3.2	2.7	0.4	2.2	3.7	—	1.8	2.2
Non-English-speaking countries	6.9	10.4	0.3	20.4	7.6	2.2	14.8	—	7.6	9.3
Unknown	17.0	13.2	11.6	13.3	2.2	13.3	48.1	—	13.1	16.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	23.9	39.1	26.5	8.1	15.9	3.2	3.9	1.7	..	122.3
ATSI status										
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	16.3	4.3	22.7	24.5	14.8	10.0	3.8	70.8	14.5	17.1
Other males	61.4	81.0	60.5	60.0	80.0	72.5	50.9	25.0	69.1	81.1
Unknown	22.3	14.7	16.8	15.5	5.2	17.5	45.3	4.2	16.4	19.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	22.8	36.9	26.4	7.9	15.0	2.9	3.8	1.7	..	117.4
Females										
Country of birth										
Australia	74.8	75.6	84.7	57.7	87.7	84.3	37.5	93.5	77.9	132.4
Other English-speaking countries	3.8	2.4	4.6	2.2	0.9	—	—	4.3	2.9	5.0
Non-English-speaking countries	9.2	10.9	0.5	20.4	6.6	2.0	20.8	—	7.9	13.4
Unknown	12.2	11.1	10.1	19.7	4.7	13.7	41.7	2.2	11.2	19.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	33.4	53.5	40.2	9.8	22.6	3.6	3.4	3.3	..	169.9
ATSI status										
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	23.5	6.2	21.4	20.5	16.3	9.8	6.3	74.4	16.8	26.9
Other females	61.4	83.1	62.8	64.4	74.3	56.9	60.4	23.3	69.5	111.7
Unknown	15.1	10.8	15.8	15.2	9.4	33.3	33.3	2.3	13.7	22.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>..</i>
Total number	30.4	49.8	39.0	9.4	21.9	3.6	3.4	3.1	..	160.6

Notes

- Adjustments have been made for missing data (see Appendix 2). However, adjustments could not be made for missing country of birth or Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status. Data were missing on country of birth for an estimated 8.0 males and 10.3 females per day. Data were missing on ATSI status for an estimated 12.9 males and 19.6 females per day.
- People may make more than one request for accommodation in a day. Data are based on the first valid unmet request for accommodation made by the person or group (see Glossary).
- Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
- Figures are unweighted.

Source: SAAP Demand for Accommodation Collection.

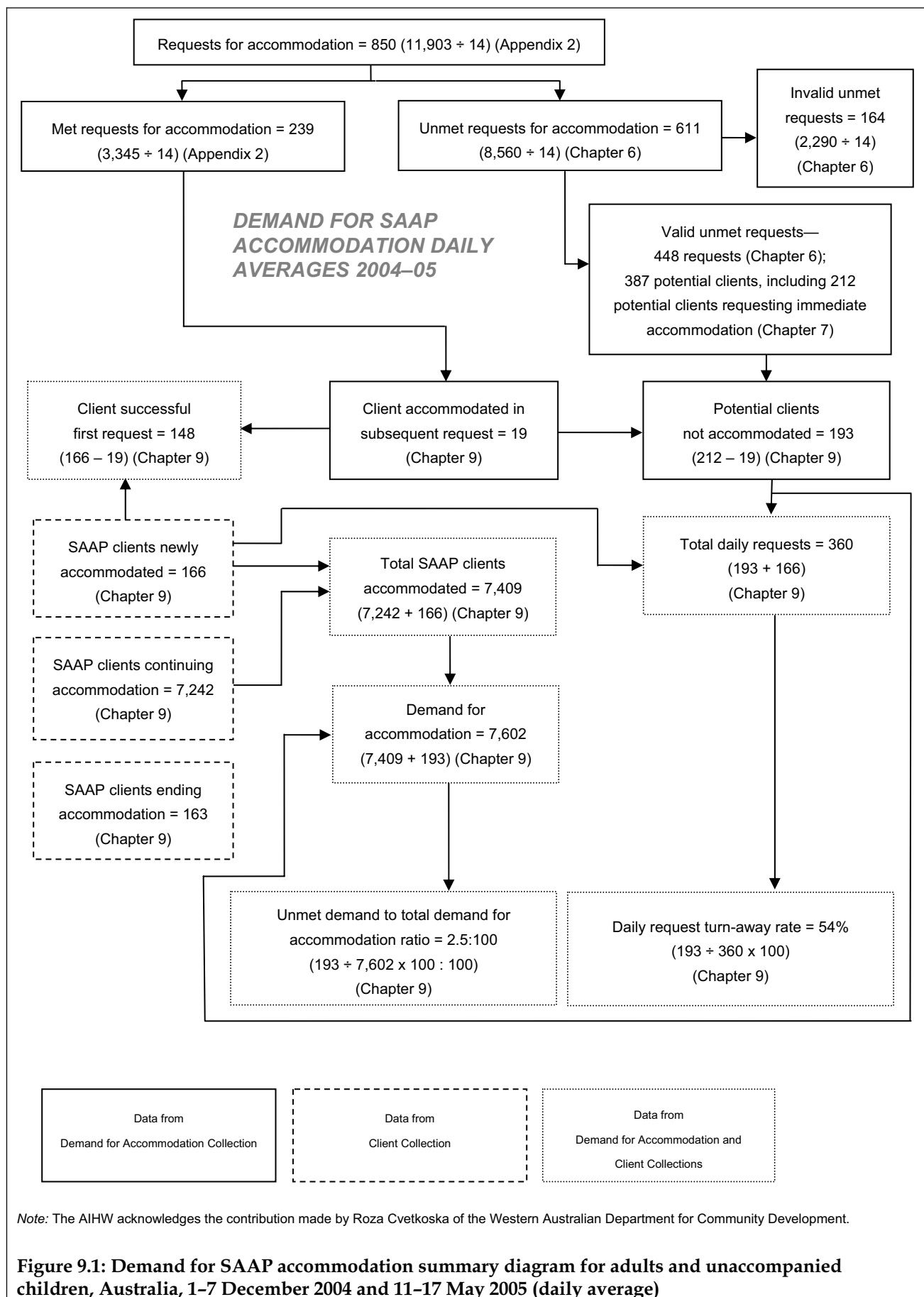
9 People turned away without receiving accommodation

This chapter presents the turn-away rate for daily requests for SAAP accommodation, that is, the average daily percentage of people who could not be accommodated relative to all people making valid requests for immediate accommodation. It measures how many people seeking SAAP accommodation 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.

However, SAAP accommodates large numbers of clients on any given day, including clients who are continuing their accommodation from a previous day. For this reason simply examining the turn-away rate without acknowledging the number of people already in SAAP accommodation may provide an incomplete picture of SAAP's performance. Therefore, this chapter also contains an examination of the level of unmet demand for SAAP accommodation in relation to the total demand for SAAP accommodation. This is expressed as the average daily ratio of people who could not be accommodated relative to people who made requests for immediate SAAP accommodation and who were continuing their accommodation from the previous day. It is important to note that this does not provide a measure of the additional capacity required in SAAP, only a measure of the undersupply of SAAP accommodation (in terms of people) on an average day during the Demand for Accommodation Collection period. Measuring the additional capacity required to accommodate the expressed demand for SAAP accommodation as well as a discussion of hidden need for SAAP accommodation are contained in the final section of this chapter.

Figure 9.1 provides a summary diagram of the demand for SAAP accommodation in 2004–05 (excluding accompanying children). 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 measures presented in this chapter.

Some of the potential clients discussed in Chapters 7 and 8 subsequently received accommodation later on the same day as making a valid unmet request for accommodation. For this reason, it is essential when calculating the daily request for accommodation turn-away rate and the unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio to distinguish between potential clients who could not be accommodated in SAAP at all and people who made a valid unmet request for accommodation but eventually found SAAP accommodation by the end of each day. It is possible to calculate the abovementioned measures for people who were unable to find accommodation at a SAAP agency only for those who requested immediate accommodation.



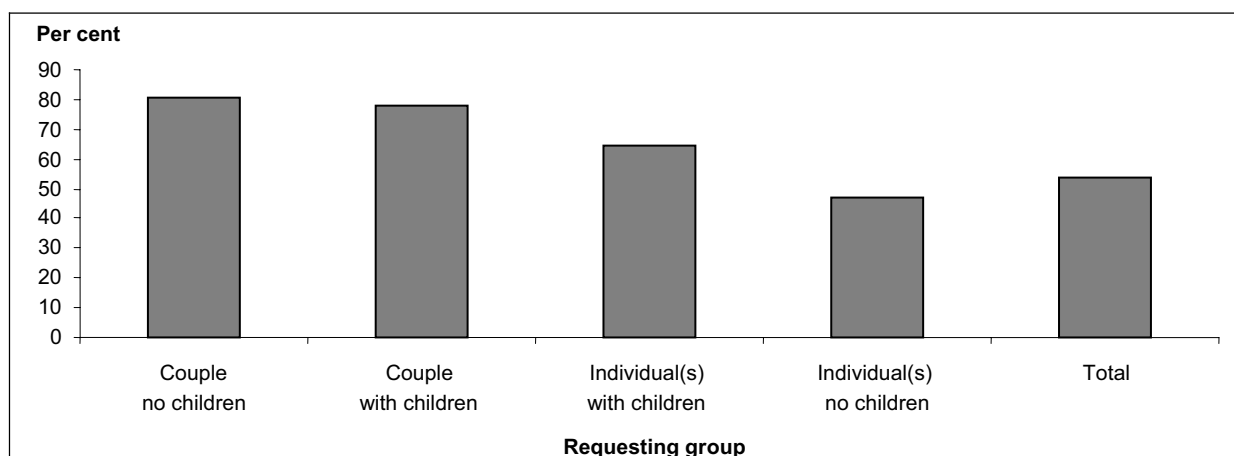
9.1 Daily request turn-away rate for adults and unaccompanied children

Of the 166 clients newly accommodated on an average day, only 19 obtained SAAP accommodation after making an unsuccessful attempt(s) earlier in the day. The remaining 148 people obtained SAAP accommodation on their first attempt (Table 9.1). These newly accommodated clients may have come from a variety of sources – for example, people who are already SAAP clients being newly accommodated, clients of one SAAP agency being referred to another for accommodation, potential clients taking up referrals arranged on a previous day, people referred by special referral centres, and people approaching a SAAP agency directly for the first time.

Table 9.1 shows the number of adults or unaccompanied children (people) requesting SAAP accommodation on a daily basis, and the percentage turned away without being accommodated. On average, of the 360 people requesting immediate accommodation, 54% (193) were unable to be accommodated by the end of the day. This equates to a little more than 1 in every 2 people who requested immediate accommodation being turned away. Data presented in Chapter 6 show that the most likely reason for this was that there was insufficient accommodation at the SAAP agency where the request was made.

Turn-away rate by requesting group

The turn-away rates for the different groups who requested immediate accommodation suggest that, overall, SAAP is more able to provide accommodation for individual(s) who presented without children. This group had the lowest daily turn-away rate nationally (47%) (Figure 9.2). This is despite the fact that individual(s) without children made up the largest proportion of adults and unaccompanied children seeking immediate SAAP accommodation and the largest proportion already accommodated in SAAP on an average day (66% and 63%, respectively) (derived from Table 9.1). Individual(s) without children was also the only group more likely to be accommodated than not on an average day. All other requesting groups were more likely to not find accommodation in SAAP, with 81% of couples without children (or around 4 in every 5 people), 78% of couples with children (or just over 3 in every 4 people), and 64% of individual(s) with children (or nearly 2 in every 3 people) being turned away each day (Table 9.1).



Source: Table 9.1.

Figure 9.2: Daily request for accommodation turn-away rate for adults or unaccompanied children who requested immediate SAAP accommodation, by requesting group, Australia, 1-7 December 2004 and 11-17 May 2005 (per cent daily average)

Turn-away rate by state and territory

The Australian Capital Territory had a substantially higher average daily turn-away rate for people requesting SAAP accommodation than the other states and territory (71%) (Table 9.2). Victoria, Tasmania, New South Wales and Queensland also reported that people were more often turned away on an average day than had their request for accommodation met (59%, 57%, 55% and 53%, respectively). However, in Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory, the number of people who were successful in obtaining accommodation on an average day was higher than the number of people who could not be accommodated, resulting in their turn-away rates being lower at 49%, 47% and 36%, respectively.

Turn-away rate by primary target group

Nationally (81%) and in New South Wales (78%), Queensland (85%), Western Australia (93%), South Australia (87%) and the Northern Territory (67%), the turn-away rate was highest from agencies that primarily targeted families (Table 9.3). Table 9.1 shows that the groups most likely to be turned away on an average day were couples both with and without children and individual(s) with children. This raises questions about the capacity of SAAP to meet the accommodation needs of families in some jurisdictions and is supported by data presented in Chapter 6 that showed that people presenting with children, both couples and individual(s), reported higher proportions of valid unmet requests for accommodation due to insufficient accommodation being available than individual(s) without children (67% and 64%, compared with 58%, respectively) (Table 6.1).

In Victoria the highest turn-away rate was recorded for agencies that primarily targeted single men (69%). In Tasmania the highest rate was recorded for cross-target, multiple or

general agencies (68%)⁵, while in the Australian Capital Territory the highest turn-away rate came from those agencies primarily targeting single women (90%).

Nationally, agencies that provided services primarily to single men had the lowest daily request turn-away rate by primary target group (33%). On a state and territory level, agencies that were primarily targeted at single men had the lowest turn-away rate in New South Wales (37%), Queensland (7%), South Australia (21%), Tasmania (29%) and the Northern Territory (16%). In addition they generally accommodated more people on an average day than were turned away in the majority of states and territories, with the exception of Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory, which both recorded 69% turn-away rates for agencies primarily targeting single men. In Victoria, people were least often turned away from agencies that primarily targeted women and children who were escaping domestic violence (24%) while in the Australian Capital Territory the lowest turn-away rate by primary target group was at agencies that primarily targeted young people (44%).

In some primary target groups the turn-away rates varied significantly across the states and territories. For example, the turn-away rate from agencies that primarily targeted women escaping domestic violence varied from 18% in the Northern Territory to 89% in the Australian Capital Territory. This suggests that some groups are better catered for in some jurisdictions than in others.

Turn-away rate by region

Nationally, people requesting accommodation in large rural and in remote areas were more often accommodated than not (45% and 20% of people, respectively, were turned away), while higher turn-away rates were recorded in other metropolitan centres (65%), capital cities (58%) and other rural areas (51%) (Table 9.3).

There were some variations across the states and territories according to region. For example, as per the national average, New South Wales and Queensland reported their highest rates in other metropolitan centres (65% and 66%, respectively). Agencies in Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory had more difficulty accommodating people in capital cities than in other regions (61%, 74% and 52%, respectively). The Australian Capital Territory reported the highest rate for capital city (71%), however, capital city is the only region in the Australian Capital Territory. The highest turn-away rate in Victoria was for agencies in remote areas (67%). In all regions of South Australia, people were more likely to find accommodation than not, with turn-away rates of 48% or less reported in all regions.

9.2 Daily request for accommodation turn-away rate for accompanying children

For the purposes of calculating the turn-away rate, accompanying children are assumed to have the same periods of accommodation as their parent(s) or guardian(s).

⁵ In 2002–03, the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services restructured its target group classification. These target groups do not completely correspond to those used by the National Data Collection and the majority of agencies in Tasmania from 2002–03 through to 2004–05 have ended up in the cross-target, multiple and general category.

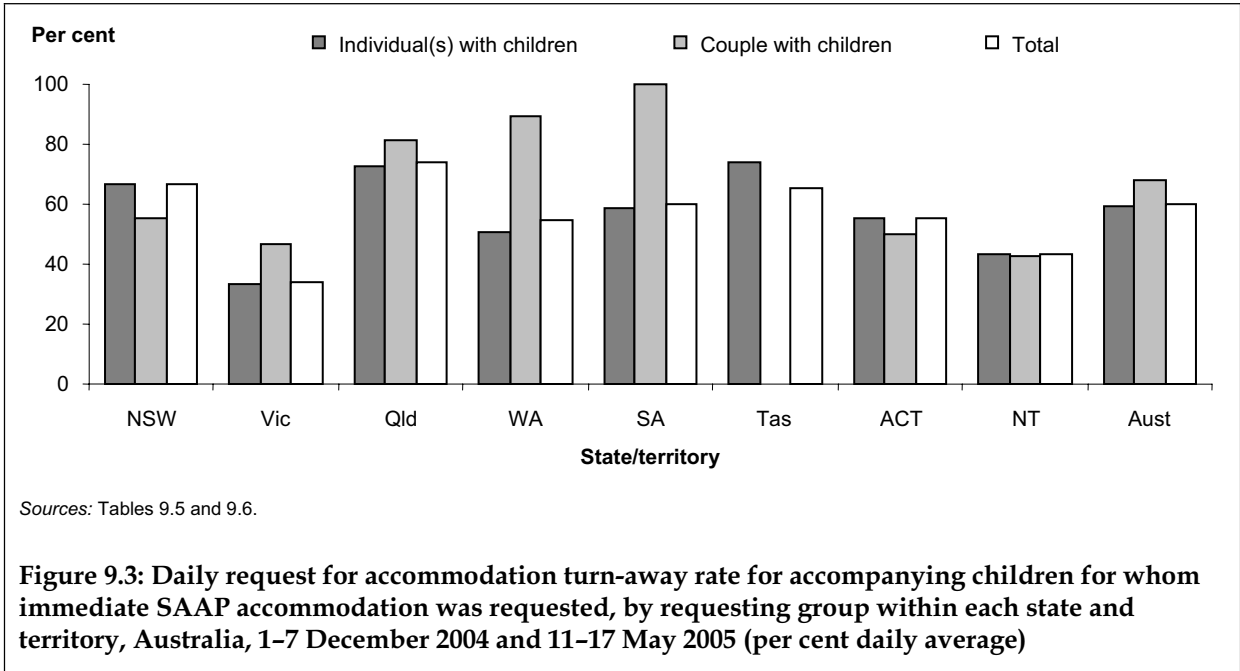
Of the 185 children who required accommodation with their parent(s) or guardian(s) on an average day during the Demand for Accommodation Collection period, 111 were not accommodated, giving a turn-away rate of 60% (Table 9.4). Given the higher turn-away rates for family groups, it is not surprising that the turn-away rate for accompanying children is higher than that for adults or unaccompanied children.

Turn-away rate by state and territory and requesting group

Nationally and in the majority of states and territories, accompanying children were more often turned away than accommodated when their parent(s) or guardian(s) made a valid request for immediate accommodation. The only jurisdictions where this was not the case were the Northern Territory and Victoria, where children accompanying potential clients were turned away in 43% and 34% of requests for immediate accommodation on an average day (Table 9.4). The other states and territory reported turn-away rates of 55% and over. In particular, Queensland reported the highest proportion of accompanying children who were turned away (74%).

By requesting group, Figure 9.3 shows that, nationally, children who accompanied a couple were more likely to be turned away on an average day after their parent(s) or guardian(s) requested immediate accommodation than children who accompanied an individual(s). Sixty-eight per cent of children who accompanied this requesting group were turned away, compared with 59% of accompanying children who presented with an individual(s).

Figure 9.3 also shows significant variation between the states and territories for accompanying child turn away rates by requesting group. South Australia, Western Australia and Queensland had high turn-away rates for couples with children (100%, 89% and 81%, respectively). Queensland also reported a high turn-away rate for individual(s) with children (73%), as did Tasmania and New South Wales (74% and 67%, respectively). Note, however, that for some states or territories the numbers involved are small, particularly the number of children accompanying couples who were turned away. For example, in South Australia, on an average day less than 1 child accompanied a couple who was turned away (Table 9.6).



9.3 Ratio of unmet demand to total demand for accommodation for adults and unaccompanied children

Table 9.1 shows that on a national basis SAAP agencies are operating to capacity, with the demand for SAAP accommodation unable to be completely met. In general, the higher the unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, the lower the overall ability to accommodate new clients. On an average day during the Demand for Accommodation Collection period, 7,602 people either requested SAAP accommodation or were accommodated. Of this total:

- 193 people made a valid request for immediate accommodation and did not obtain SAAP accommodation by the end of the day; and
- 7,409 were accommodated in SAAP (166 were newly accommodated and 7,242 were continuing their accommodation from the previous day and into the next day).

This means that 193 people were unable to be accommodated out of the 7,602 people who requested or were already in SAAP accommodation, giving an unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio of just under 3 in 100 people.

It is important to note that people requesting immediate SAAP accommodation on a daily basis made up only 5% (360) of the total daily demand for accommodation (7,602), with 2% (166) obtaining accommodation and 3% (193) being turned away. This suggests that an overall 3% increase in bed capacity could satisfy reported unmet demand for accommodation. However, this assumes that those turned away require accommodation for only one night, that all those who need SAAP accommodation are currently approaching SAAP agencies and that demand is consistent across geographical locations, client group and target groups. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that this is not the case (see section 9.5: Meeting the expressed demand for SAAP accommodation).

Ratio of unmet demand to total demand for accommodation by requesting group

Couples who presented with children and individuals without children had the lowest unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio (2 in 100). Couples without children had the highest unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio at 6 in 100, while individuals with children had a ratio of 3 in 100 (Table 9.1). Interestingly, couples who presented with children had one of the higher turn-away rates (78%) yet had the lowest unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, demonstrating the difference between these two reporting measures.

Ratio of unmet demand to total demand for accommodation by state and territory

The unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio also varied across the states and territories, indicating that the demand for accommodation is not uniform across the country. Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory had the highest unmet demand to total demand ratios of the states and territories (5 in 100). Western Australia had a ratio of 4 in 100, while the other states and territory had ratios of between 2 and 3 in 100 (Table 9.2).

Ratio of unmet demand to total demand for accommodation by primary target group

The unmet demand to total demand ratio shows that people were less likely to find immediate accommodation in agencies that provided services targeted at more than one client group (cross-target, multiple and general agencies) (4 in 100), followed by agencies targeting women escaping domestic violence and agencies targeting families (3 in 100 each) (Table 9.3).

The higher ratios for family and cross-targeted agencies combined with their previously mentioned higher turn-away rates, suggests that these types of agencies are operating to capacity with limited room to accommodate new clients. Part of the reason for this is that couples or people with children are reluctant to move on from SAAP accommodation once they secure it because there are no alternative housing options. Data indicate that couples with children, in particular, are accommodated for longer periods than other client groups (a median of 65 days compared with 13 days for individual(s) with children, 12 days for couples with no children, and 8 days for individual(s) with no children) (Table 9.7).

The high daily request turn-away rates for agencies targeting families and for the requesting groups of couples either with or without children and individual(s) with children also indicate that those seeking SAAP accommodation as part of a family group experience particular difficulty obtaining it. More analysis might indicate whether the high unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio for families is due to families requiring longer support, and hence there being limited availability of places for families, and/or whether more agencies that are able to accommodate families in particular areas are required. Such an analysis, however, would not be able to determine the extent of any hidden need caused by people not seeking assistance when they need it.

As with the daily request turn-away rate, agencies that primarily targeted single men also had the lowest demand for SAAP accommodation ratio (1 in 100) (Table 9.3). In general, single men have relatively short periods of accommodation, reporting a median length of accommodation of 8 days for males aged 25 years and over and 10 days for males under 25 years (AIHW 2006c:44). This shorter length of accommodation could partly explain why there are fewer people turned away from single men's agencies.

Ratio of unmet demand to total demand for accommodation by region

Nationally, the unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio was highest in other metropolitan centres (4 in 100) (Table 9.3). This was followed by capital cities (3 in 100), other rural areas, large rural centres, and remote areas (around 2 in 100 each).

There was some variation between the states and territories. New South Wales and Queensland, as was the case nationally, recorded their highest unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratios in other metropolitan centres (4 in 100 and 6 in 100, respectively). South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory recorded their highest ratios in the capital cities (2 in 100, 7 in 100 and 4 in 100, respectively). In the Australian Capital Territory, all participating agencies were in the capital city region and they recorded a ratio of 5 in 100. The highest ratio in Victoria was for agencies in remote areas (3 in 100), while Western Australia recorded its highest ratio for agencies in other rural areas (5 in 100).

The states and territories also varied when the lowest unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio was compared by region. For example, in New South Wales the lowest ratio was recorded in capital cities (2 in 100) while in the Northern Territory agencies in remote areas recorded the lowest ratio (2 in 100).

The exact locations where unmet demand is at its highest or lowest cannot be determined using the current methodology. This is due to agency non-participation in the Demand for Accommodation Collection which, unlike the Client Collection, does not have a method for adjusting for non-participation (see Appendix 2 for agency participation rates).

9.4 Ratio of unmet demand to total demand for accommodation for accompanying children

For the purposes of calculating the unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, accompanying children are assumed to have the same periods of accommodation as their parent(s) or guardian(s).

On an average day during the Demand for Accommodation Collection period, 5,038 accompanying children either had SAAP accommodation requested by their parent(s) or guardian(s) or they were accommodated with their parent or guardian (Table 9.4). Of this total:

- 111 accompanying children had a parent or guardian make a valid request for immediate accommodation and did not obtain SAAP accommodation by the end of the day; and
- 4,927 were accommodated in SAAP (74 were newly accommodated and 4,853 were continuing their accommodation from the previous day and into the next day).

This gives an unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio of just over 2 in 100.

Ratio of unmet demand to total demand for accommodation by state and territory and requesting group

The overall ability of SAAP agencies to accommodate accompanying children was lower in Tasmania than in the other states and territories (6 in 100), followed by Western Australia (4 in 100). Victoria reported the smallest proportion of accompanying children who could not be accommodated in relation to children who were accommodated (1 in 100).

In the reverse of the daily request turn-away rate, the chances of accompanying children who presented with a couple finding accommodation was slightly better than for children who accompanied an individual(s), with unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratios of 1 in 100 and 2 in 100, respectively (Table 9.5). This was also true in the majority of states and territories, with the exception of accompanying children in Victoria where the ability of SAAP to accommodate children was the same for both individual(s) with children and couples with children (1 in 100 for both requesting groups) (Table 9.6).

9.5 Meeting the expressed demand for SAAP accommodation

There are several ways that SAAP could increase capacity in order to meet the current level of demand for SAAP accommodation. These include providing additional beds, facilities, staff or funds. However, there are also other ideas about how an increase in capacity can be catered for. The fifth SAAP agreement (SAAP V) has emphasised the goals of early intervention and post-crisis support. They have the potential to free up crisis accommodation for those who most need it. The former, early intervention, would pre-empt the need for a

crisis bed in the first place; the latter, post-crisis support, can reduce the probability of a client returning for more accommodation. With the implementation of the SAAP V goals, it will be most interesting to see whether there are any changes in the demand for accommodation data.

It is difficult to estimate how much additional capacity is required to match the level of demand for SAAP accommodation. The current collection can only provide estimates of the expressed undersupply of accommodation (in terms of people) on an average day. These measures assume, however, that those turned away from accommodation require accommodation for only one night, that all those who need SAAP accommodation are currently approaching SAAP agencies and that demand is consistent. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that this is not the case.

One approach to measuring capacity, and hence providing an estimate of how much additional accommodation would be required each day to meet the demand for SAAP accommodation, would be to consider how long a given group generally stays in SAAP accommodation once they are accommodated (as accommodation patterns do vary) in conjunction with how many people are accommodated in SAAP each day and how many are turned away. However, the NDC currently does not differentiate how many of the requests on a given day are new requests. It is possible that, for some groups, predominantly the same people are requesting accommodation each day. If this is the case, then the amount of extra accommodation required would likely be less than if everybody turning up each day was a new potential client. An adjustment to the collection form is currently being developed that will enable an estimate of the additional accommodation required to meet the current level of demand for SAAP accommodation.

Another area requiring more work is whether those people being turned away from SAAP accommodation are being provided with non-SAAP accommodation, for example, brokerage money being used to purchase hotel beds. The NDC does currently measure the number of unmet requests where a referral for accommodation was made but this is not equivalent to the number of people turned away (see section 5.2: Referrals for accommodation). The NDC has also been asked to measure the supports being provided to people turned away to enable more analysis of patterns of demand and support. Again this is currently measured at the request level (see Chapter 5).

It is important to note that, although analysis into the additional capacity required in SAAP to accommodate the expressed demand for SAAP accommodation is valuable, this type of analysis would not reveal the extent of any hidden need caused by people not seeking assistance when they need it.

Hidden need for accommodation

The data discussed so far have related to the expressed demand for SAAP accommodation, that is, the people who are actively seeking accommodation. There is, however, evidence to suggest that not everyone who requires SAAP accommodation is seeking that accommodation. For example, the large number of homeless people enumerated in the 2001 Census of Population and Housing homeless enumeration strategy (only a small proportion of whom were accommodated in SAAP—see Chapter 1) suggests a significant level of hidden need. The low percentage of new requests for SAAP accommodation on a daily basis suggests that people in need of accommodation may not be approaching SAAP agencies because they are aware of the difficulty of obtaining SAAP accommodation.

That the number of valid unmet requests for immediate accommodation is not considerably larger than the number of people seeking such accommodation suggests that people seeking SAAP accommodation do not make repeated attempts if they fail initially. Tables 6.3 and 7.1 suggest that few potential clients seeking immediate accommodation make more than one attempt at appropriate SAAP agencies (251 valid unmet requests for immediate accommodation divided by the 212 potential clients who made those requests = 1.18). However, unsuccessful groups may split up and retry in other combinations and the extent to which this happens is not known.

Furthermore, referrals for other accommodation are not always obtained once a person has been unsuccessful. Each day, on average, only just over half (52%) of the valid unmet requests for SAAP accommodation were formally referred on to accommodation at another source (derived from Tables 5.2 and 6.4). This may be telling many potential clients that SAAP accommodation is difficult to obtain and that trying at another agency is unlikely to prove successful on that day. They might, however, try again on subsequent days.

For these reasons, it is important to note that increasing the capacity of SAAP to accommodate more people may not necessarily mean that the rate of people turned away would decrease. It may be that once more space becomes available those people who have previously not sought or who have given up seeking accommodation may try to obtain accommodation.

9.6 Tables

Table 9.1: Adults and unaccompanied children: daily request for accommodation turn-away rate and unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, by requesting group, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average number of people)

	Individual(s) no children	Individual(s) with children	Couple no children	Couple with children	Total
People making new requests for accommodation					
Not accommodated (A)	111.7	62.1	8.6	10.9	193.2
Newly accommodated (B)	126.7	34.5	2.1	3.1	166.4
<i>Successful first request</i>	114.3	29.6	1.4	2.7	147.9
<i>Accommodated in subsequent request(s)</i>	12.4	4.9	0.7	0.4	18.5
Total daily requests (C) (A + B)	238.4	96.6	10.6	14.0	359.6
Turn-away rate (%) (A ÷ C)	46.9	64.3	80.5	77.6	53.7
Clients					
	Clients already accommodated				
<i>Accommodation ending</i>	122.4	34.7	1.9	3.6	162.7
Continuing accommodation (D)	4,535.5	2,059.9	144.4	502.4	7,242.2
Total accommodated (B + D)	4,662.2	2,094.4	146.5	505.6	7,408.6
Total demand for accommodation					
Total demand for accommodation (E) (A + B + D)	4,773.9	2,156.4	155.1	516.4	7,601.9
Unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio (A ÷ E : 100)	2.3:100	2.9:100	5.5:100	2.1:100	2.5:100

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 0 (Demand for Accommodation Collection).
2. Cases excluded due to missing data: 304 (Client Collection, daily average accommodation dates).
3. Adjustments have been made for missing data from the Demand for Accommodation Collection (see Appendix 2).
4. Table excludes accompanying children.
5. The accommodation status of a client on a particular day is based on the reported periods of accommodation within a support period. Clients may start and end accommodation on the same date. If a client starts and ends accommodation on the same day, these periods are considered to be a single period. It can reasonably be assumed that a client will not have more than one period of accommodation on the same day.
6. 'Not accommodated' and 'Accommodated in subsequent request(s)' refer to people with valid unmet requests for immediate accommodation. 'Valid unmet requests' excludes those made at an agency of an inappropriate target group, where the person or group is determined to be inappropriate for the agency, where there is no fee-free accommodation available, or where proffered assistance is refused (see Glossary).
7. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
8. Figures are unweighted.

Sources: SAAP Client Collection and Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 9.2: Adults and unaccompanied children: daily request for accommodation turn-away rate and unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, by state and territory, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average number of people)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
People making new requests for accommodation									
Not accommodated (A)	57.9	36.1	42.8	21.6	13.5	9.3	7.4	4.7	193.2
Newly accommodated (B)	47.1	24.6	38.4	22.4	15.1	7.1	3.1	8.6	166.4
Successful first request	43.3	19.0	35.3	21.0	13.4	5.7	2.1	8.1	147.9
Accommodated in subsequent request(s)	3.8	5.6	3.1	1.4	1.7	1.4	0.9	0.5	18.5
Total daily requests (C) (A + B)	104.9	60.7	81.2	43.9	28.6	16.4	10.5	13.3	359.6
Turn-away rate (%) (A ÷ C)	55.1	59.4	52.7	49.1	47.1	56.5	70.7	35.5	53.7
Clients									
Clients					Clients already accommodated				
Accommodation ending	48.0	23.7	39.1	21.0	14.6	6.2	2.5	7.6	162.7
Continuing accommodation (D)	2,259.4	1,837.7	1,407.9	574.1	669.6	173.9	152.5	167.1	7,242.2
Total accommodated (B + D)	2,306.4	1,862.4	1,446.4	596.5	684.7	181.0	155.6	175.7	7,408.6
Total demand for accommodation									
Total demand for accommodation (E) (A + B + D)	2,364.3	1,898.4	1,489.1	618.1	698.2	190.3	163.0	180.4	7,601.9
Unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio (A ÷ E : 100)	2.4:100	1.9:100	2.9:100	3.5:100	1.9:100	4.9:100	4.6:100	2.6:100	2.5:100

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 0 (Demand for Accommodation Collection).
2. Cases excluded due to missing data: 304 (Client Collection, average daily accommodation dates).
3. Adjustments have been made for missing data from the Demand for Accommodation Collection (see Appendix 2).
4. Table excludes accompanying children.
5. The accommodation status of a client on a particular day is based on the reported periods of accommodation within a support period. Clients may start and end accommodation on the same date. If a client starts and ends accommodation on the same day, these periods are considered to be a single period. It can reasonably be assumed that a client will not have more than one period of accommodation on the same day.
6. 'Not accommodated' and 'Accommodated in subsequent request(s)' refer to people with valid unmet requests for immediate accommodation. 'Valid unmet requests' excludes those made at an agency of an inappropriate target group, where the person or group is determined to be inappropriate for the agency, where there is no fee-free accommodation available, or where proffered assistance is refused (see Glossary).
7. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
8. Figures are unweighted.

Sources: SAAP Client Collection and Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 9.3: Adults and unaccompanied children: daily request for accommodation turn-away rate and unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, state and territory by primary target group and region, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
Primary target group	Daily request for accommodation turn-away rate (%)								
Young people	64.8	65.6	50.5	76.3	51.0	32.3	43.7	54.2	59.8
Single men only	37.4	69.0	6.6	51.3	20.6	29.3	69.2	16.1	32.5
Single women only	58.5	43.5	23.5	—	47.1	—	90.0	20.0	45.3
Families	78.2	67.2	85.0	92.6	87.1	—	50.0	66.7	80.7
Women escaping domestic violence	63.0	24.4	43.8	32.2	45.9	—	89.3	17.5	46.3
Cross-target/multiple/general	42.5	65.8	69.7	43.1	44.0	68.4	—	62.5	59.2
Region									
Capital city	54.3	60.0	56.5	60.7	47.0	74.2	70.7	52.3	57.6
Other metropolitan centre	65.4	53.5	66.0	—	—	—	—	—	64.7
Large rural centre	51.6	64.2	41.6	50.0	42.9	11.9	—	—	44.5
Other rural area	54.0	55.3	44.5	54.0	48.2	35.1	—	—	51.0
Remote area	—	66.7	38.9	13.1	—	—	—	21.0	19.9
Total									
Primary target group	Unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio								
Young people	2.6:100	1.5:100	3.1:100	4.2:100	1.7:100	2.4:100	1.0:100	3.3:100	2.3:100
Single men only	0.9:100	2.9:100	0.4:100	2.1:100	1.2:100	2.1:100	17.5:100	0.7:100	1.3:100
Single women only	1.3:100	0.5:100	0.9:100	—	4.1:100	—	16.7:100	4.9:100	1.5:100
Families	3.5:100	1.1:100	3.0:100	3.9:100	3.8:100	—	1.6:100	1.3:100	2.6:100
Women escaping domestic violence	4.5:100	0.7:100	3.1:100	4.5:100	1.5:100	—	3.9:100	2.1:100	3.0:100
Cross-target/multiple/general	2.7:100	3.8:100	3.9:100	3.7:100	1.2:100	6.4:100	—	5.1:100	3.7:100
Region									
Capital city	2.0:100	1.9:100	3.1:100	3.4:100	2.3:100	7.2:100	4.6:100	3.7:100	2.5:100
Other metropolitan centre	4.1:100	1.6:100	5.5:100	—	—	—	—	—	4.1:100
Large rural centre	2.3:100	2.3:100	1.9:100	2.8:100	1.0:100	1.0:100	—	—	2.0:100
Other rural area	3.8:100	1.6:100	2.0:100	4.6:100	1.1:100	2.2:100	—	—	2.4:100
Remote area	—	2.5:100	2.2:100	2.5:100	—	—	—	1.6:100	1.9:100
Total	2.4:100	1.9:100	2.9:100	3.5:100	1.9:100	4.9:100	4.6:100	2.6:100	2.5:100

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 0 (Demand for Accommodation Collection).
2. Cases excluded due to missing data: 304 (Client Collection, daily average accommodation dates).
3. For the daily average numbers used to calculate the rates by primary target group in each state and the daily average numbers used to calculate the national rates by region, refer to Appendix 1.
4. Adjustments have been made for missing data from the Demand for Accommodation Collection (see Appendix 2).
5. Table excludes accompanying children.
6. The accommodation status of a client on a particular day is based on the reported periods of accommodation within a support period. Clients may start and end accommodation on the same date. If a client starts and ends accommodation on the same day, these periods are considered to be a single period. It can reasonably be assumed that a client will not have more than one period of accommodation on the same day.
7. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
8. Figures are unweighted.

Sources: SAAP Client Collection and Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 9.4: Accompanying children: daily request for accommodation turn-away rate and unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, by state and territory, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average number of people)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
People making new requests for accommodation									
Not accommodated (A)	33.1	8.4	32.2	17.6	8.0	6.0	2.3	3.5	111.1
Newly accommodated (B)	16.7	16.1	11.4	14.6	5.4	3.2	1.9	4.6	73.9
<i>Children accommodated on parent/guardian first request</i>	15.6	12.6	10.2	14.4	4.8	2.3	1.7	3.8	65.3
<i>Children accommodated on parent/guardian subsequent request(s)</i>	1.1	3.6	1.2	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.1	0.8	8.6
Total daily requests (C) (A + B)	49.9	24.6	43.6	32.2	13.4	9.2	4.1	8.1	185.1
Turn-away rate (%) (A ÷ C)	66.5	34.3	73.8	54.5	59.9	65.1	55.2	43.4	60.1
Clients									
Accompanying children already accommodated									
<i>Accommodation ending</i>	15.3	14.3	14.2	14.8	6.1	2.2	0.8	2.7	70.4
Continuing accommodation (D)	1,038.2	1,389.1	1,104.0	435.4	533.1	95.5	143.5	114.1	4,852.8
Total accommodated (B + D)	1,054.9	1,405.2	1,115.4	450.0	538.4	98.7	145.4	118.6	4,926.7
Total demand for accommodation									
Total demand for accommodation (E) (A + B + D)	1,088.1	1,413.6	1,147.6	467.6	546.4	104.7	147.6	122.1	5,037.9
Unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio (A ÷ E : 100)	3.0:100	0.6:100	2.8:100	3.8:100	1.5:100	5.7:100	1.5:100	2.9:100	2.2:100

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 0 (Demand for Accommodation Collection).
2. Cases excluded due to missing data: 235 (Client Collection, daily average accommodation dates).
3. Adjustments have been made for missing data from the Demand for Accommodation Collection (see Appendix 2).
4. The accommodation status of a client on a particular day is based on the reported periods of accommodation within a support period. Clients may start and end accommodation on the same date. If a client starts and ends accommodation on the same day, these periods are considered to be a single period. Figures are based on the support periods with accommodation of the child's parent(s)/guardian(s). It can reasonably be assumed that an accompanying child has been accommodated when their parent/guardian has been accommodated, and that they will not start more than one period of accommodation on the same day.
5. 'Not accommodated' and 'Accommodated in subsequent request(s)' refer to children accompanying a person or group with valid unmet requests for immediate accommodation. 'Valid unmet requests' excludes those made at an agency of an inappropriate target group, where the person or group is determined to be inappropriate for the agency, where there is no fee-free accommodation available, or where proffered assistance is refused (see Glossary).
6. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
7. Figures are unweighted.

Sources: SAAP Client Collection and Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 9.5: Accompanying children: daily request for accommodation turn-away rate and unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio, by requesting group, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average number of people)

	Individual(s) with children	Couple with children	Total
People making new requests for accommodation			
Not accommodated (A)	101.0	10.1	111.1
Newly accommodated (B)	69.2	4.7	73.9
Successful first request	61.0	4.3	65.3
Accommodated in subsequent request(s)	8.2	0.4	8.6
Total daily requests (C) (A + B)	170.2	14.9	185.1
Turn-away rate (%) (A ÷ C)	59.3	68.3	60.1
Accompanying children already accommodated			
Clients			
Accommodation ending	66.4	4.1	70.4
Continuing accommodation (D)	4,135.8	717.0	4,852.8
Total accommodated (B + D)	4,205.0	721.7	4,926.7
Total demand for accommodation			
Total demand for accommodation (E) (A + B + D)	4,306.0	731.9	5,037.9
Unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio (A ÷ E : 100)	2.3:100	1.4:100	2.2:100

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 0 (Demand for Accommodation Collection).
2. Cases excluded due to missing data: 235 (Client Collection, daily average accommodation dates).
3. Adjustments have been made for missing data from the Demand for Accommodation Collection (see Appendix 2).
4. The accommodation status of a client on a particular day is based on the reported periods of accommodation within a support period. Clients may start and end accommodation on the same date. If a client starts and ends accommodation on the same day, these periods are considered to be a single period. Figures are based on the support periods with accommodation of the child's parent(s)/guardian(s). It can reasonably be assumed that an accompanying child has been accommodated when their parent/guardian has been accommodated, and that they will not start more than one period of accommodation on the same day.
5. 'Not accommodated' and 'Accommodated in subsequent request(s)' refer to children accompanying a person or group with valid unmet requests for immediate accommodation. 'Valid unmet requests' excludes those made at an agency of an inappropriate target group, where the person or group is determined to be inappropriate for the agency, where there is no fee-free accommodation available, or where proffered assistance is refused (see Glossary).
6. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
7. Figures are unweighted.

Sources: SAAP Client Collection and Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 9.6: Accompanying children: daily request for accommodation turn-away rate, unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio and number not accommodated, state and territory by requesting group, Australia, 1–7 December 2004 and 11–17 May 2005 (daily average)

	Daily request for accommodation turn-away rate (%)	Unmet demand to total demand for accommodation ratio	Number not accommodated
NSW			
Individual(s) with children	66.8	3.2:100	32.4
Couple with children	55.6	1.0:100	0.7
Total	66.5	3.0:100	33.1
Vic			
Individual(s) with children	33.1	0.6:100	7.4
Couple with children	46.7	0.6:100	1.0
Total	34.3	0.6:100	8.4
Qld			
Individual(s) with children	72.7	3.0:100	27.6
Couple with children	81.3	1.9:100	4.6
Total	73.8	1.9:100	32.2
WA			
Individual(s) with children	50.5	3.9:100	14.6
Couple with children	89.4	3.1:100	3.0
Total	54.5	3.8:100	17.6
SA			
Individual(s) with children	58.6	1.6:100	7.6
Couple with children	100.0	0.5:100	0.4
Total	59.9	1.5:100	8.0
Tas			
Individual(s) with children	74.3	6.4:100	6.0
Couple with children	—	—	—
Total	65.1	5.7:100	6.0
ACT			
Individual(s) with children	55.6	1.6:100	2.1
Couple with children	50.0	0.8:100	0.1
Total	55.2	1.5:100	2.3
NT			
Individual(s) with children	43.4	3.4:100	3.3
Couple with children	42.9	0.8:100	0.2
Total	43.4	2.9:100	3.5

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 0 (Demand for Accommodation Collection).
2. Cases excluded due to missing data: 235 (Client Collection, daily average accommodation dates).
3. Adjustments have been made for missing data from the Demand for Accommodation Collection (see Appendix 2).
4. The accommodation status of a client on a particular day is based on the reported periods of accommodation within a support period. Clients may start and end accommodation on the same date. If a client starts and ends accommodation on the same day, these periods are considered to be a single period. Figures are based on the support periods with accommodation of the child's parent(s)/guardian(s). It can reasonably be assumed that an accompanying child has been accommodated when their parent/guardian has been accommodated, and that they will not start more than one period of accommodation on the same day.
5. Only data from agencies that participated in both the Client Collection and the Demand for Accommodation Collection are included. Consequently, the figures understate the level of activity in SAAP agencies.
6. Figures are unweighted.

Sources: SAAP Client Collection and Demand for Accommodation Collection.

Table 9.7: SAAP closed support periods: median and mean length of accommodation, state and territory by client group, Australia, 2004–05 (number of days)

Requesting group	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
Median length of accommodation									
Individual(s) no children	7	22	7	5	7	6	11	4	8
Individual(s) with children	17	27	20	3	27	20	116	4	13
Couple no children	5	22	4	7	27	5	161	35	12
Couple with children	55	49	91	28	140	8	65	53	65
Total	8	24	9	4	8	7	15	4	9
Mean (average) length of accommodation									
Individual(s) no children	37	78	27	25	30	25	38	21	37
Individual(s) with children	66	95	58	21	88	48	154	20	61
Couple no children	44	72	34	42	111	15	109	49	56
Couple with children	123	105	124	102	190	42	118	101	115
Total	43	84	36	26	45	31	55	22	45

Notes

1. Cases excluded due to missing data: 2,910.
2. Excludes accommodation starting and ending on the same day.
3. Figures have been weighted to adjust for agency non-participation.

Source: SAAP Client Collection.