

Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21

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Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator Set
Indicator set type:	Other
METEOR identifier:	757328
Registration status:	Children and Families , Standard 18/04/2023
Description:	<p>The Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework (POPF) indicators measure jurisdictional performance on achieving permanency outcomes for children in out-of-home care. They fall under the Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework – a national data and evaluation framework developed in 2018 under the <i>Fourth Action Plan 2018–20 of the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children</i> (Seselja 2017; CSM 2018; DSS 2018). Child and Families Secretaries endorsed the POPF in 2019, alongside a commitment to report on a range of associated indicators related to permanency outcomes.</p>

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	See also Child protection NMDS 2016-17 Children and Families , Superseded 21/01/2021
	See also Child protection NMDS 2017-18 Children and Families , Superseded 20/01/2021
	See also Child protection NMDS 2018-19 Children and Families , Superseded 26/05/2021
	See also Child protection NMDS 2019–20 Children and Families , Superseded 03/11/2021
	See also Child protection NMDS 2020–21 Children and Families , Superseded 11/05/2023
	See also Child protection NMDS 2021–22 Children and Families , Superseded 04/04/2024
	See also Child protection NMDS 2022–23 Children and Families , Standard 04/04/2024

**Indicators linked to this
Indicator set:**

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.2 children who were the subject of a substantiation and were not admitted to out-of-home care within 12 months of substantiation](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.3 children in out-of-home care who were reunified](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.4 children in out-of-home care who received a third-party parental responsibility order](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.5 children in out-of-home care who were adopted](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.6 children who exited out-of-home care to a permanency outcome and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.6a children who exited out-of-home care to reunification and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.6b children who exited out-of-home care to a third-party parental responsibility order and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.6c children who exited out-of-home care to adoption and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.7a children in out-of-home care for 2 or more years on long-term guardianship orders](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 1.7b children in out-of-home care for 2 or more years with less than 3 placements in the last 2 years](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 2.1 children in out-of-home care who received a finalised care and protection order within 2 years of admission to out-of-home care](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

[Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 2.2 children in out-of-home care who received a permanency outcome or long-term guardianship order within 2 years of admission to out-of-home care](#)

[Children and Families, Standard 18/04/2023](#)

Collection and usage attributes

National reporting arrangement:

The data used for the POPF indicators are sourced from the 2016–17, 2017–18, 2018–19, 2019–20 and 2020–21 unit record snapshots of the Child Protection National Minimum Data Set (CP NMDS), which includes child protection data submitted by all jurisdictions except New South Wales. Aggregate data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's Child Protection Data Collection was provided where unit record data was not available. Aggregate data were used for all indicators for New South Wales (where available) and for indicators 1.5, 1.6c, and 2.2a for Queensland.

Data for the CP NMDS are extracted each year from the administrative systems of the state and territory departments responsible for child protection in Australia. These data, along with any aggregate data, are provided after the end of each financial year. Data are extracted according to definitions and technical specifications agreed to by the departments and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Data extracted from the CP NMDS represent a 'snapshot' of the data at the time of extraction and may not include retrospective updates made to data held by the state/territory departments. Furthermore, data produced from the CP NMDS are based on nationally agreed specifications and may not match state and territory figures published elsewhere or be comparable with data for previous years.

Detailed Data Quality Statements for each snapshot of the CP NMDS can be found online:

- [2016–17](#)
- [2017–18](#)
- [2018–19](#)
- [2019–20](#)
- [2020–21](#)

Comments:

The POPF indicators are reported based on nationally agreed specifications and may not match state and territory figures published elsewhere.

Key issues that affect the completeness and comparability of data for the POPF indicators include:

- Reporting of permanency events relating to reunification is based on jurisdiction-specific definitions of reunification.
- Third-party parental responsibility orders vary across jurisdictions, with the biggest difference relating to the provision of ongoing case management in some cases in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland.
- Some measures are affected by different thresholds across jurisdictions, which can affect comparability and interpretation.
- Data reported for the POPF indicators may not match historic out-of-home care data published previously or elsewhere because the indicators are reported for all years based on the nationally consistent definition for out-of-home care that was implemented for reporting from 2018–19 onwards. This definition relates to third-party parental responsibility orders (and less frequently, immigration orders) not being in scope for out-of-home care. See [Child protection Australia 2018–19](#) for more information.

Additional details on caveats relating to data in the CP NMDS can be found in the supplementary data tables and footnotes from [Child protection Australia reports](#).

Further detail on the comparability of permanency data across jurisdictions is provided in Appendix F of [Child protection Australia 2018–19](#). This Appendix also includes a summary of permanency-related concepts and legislation across jurisdictions.

Data were not available from all jurisdictions to support reporting of all POPF indicators for all reporting periods. An overview of data availability issues is provided in Table A1.

Table 1: Jurisdictions for which data were not available for POPF indicator reporting

Indicator		Jurisdictions and reporting periods where data are not available
1.2	The proportion of children aged 0–16 who were the subject of a substantiation in the reporting period and were not admitted to out-of-home care within 12 months of substantiation	New South Wales 2017–18
1.3	The proportion of children aged 0–17 in out-of-home care (excluding children on long-term guardianship orders) who were reunified in the reporting period	New South Wales 2018–19 Queensland 2018–19
1.4	The proportion of children aged 0–17 in out-of-home care who received a third-party parental responsibility order in the reporting period	New South Wales 2018–19
1.5	The proportion of children aged 0–17 in out-of-home care who were adopted in the reporting period	New South Wales 2018–19 Queensland 2018–19
1.6	The proportion of children aged 0–16 who exited out-of-home care to a permanency outcome in the reporting period and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months	New South Wales 2017–18 Queensland 2017–18
1.6a	The proportion of children aged 0–16 who exited out-of-home care to reunification in the reporting period and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months	New South Wales 2017–18 Queensland 2017–18
1.6b	The proportion of children aged 0–16 who exited out-of-home care to a third-party parental responsibility order in the reporting period and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months	New South Wales 2017–18
1.6c	The proportion of children aged 0–16 who exited out-of-home care to adoption in the reporting period and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months	New South Wales 2017–18
1.7b	The proportion of children aged 2–17 in out-of-home care for 2 or more years at 30 June with less than 3 placements in the last 2 years	New South Wales 2019
2.1	The proportion of children aged 0–17 in out-of-home care who received a finalised care and protection order, within 2 years of admission to out-of-home care, in the reporting period	New South Wales 2018–19
2.2	The proportion of children aged 0–17 in out-of-home care who received a permanency outcome or long-term guardianship order, within 2 years of admission to out-of-home care, in the reporting period	New South Wales 2018–19 Queensland 2018–19

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents:

AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) (2020) [*Child protection Australia 2018–19*](#), AIHW, Australian Government, accessed 15 June 2022.

AIHW (2021) [*Child protection Australia 2019–20*](#), AIHW, Australian Government, accessed 15 June 2022.

AIHW (2022a) [*The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle indicators*](#), AIHW, Australian Government, accessed 26 August 2022.

AIHW (2022b) [*Child protection Australia 2020–21*](#), AIHW, Australian Government, accessed 15 June 2022.

AIHW (2022c) [*National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children indicators*](#), AIHW, Australian Government, accessed 15 June 2022.

CSM (Community Services Ministers) (1 June 2018) [*Community Services Ministers' Meeting Communiqué*](#) [media release], Australian Government, accessed 3 August 2022.

DSS (Department of Social Services) (2018) [*Protecting Children is Everyone's Business: National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009–2020 – Fourth Action Plan 2018–2020*](#), DSS, Australian Government, accessed 12 August 2022.

SCRGSP (Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision) (2022) [*Report on Government Services 2022*](#), Productivity Commission, Australian Government, accessed 29 March 2022.

Seselja, the Hon. Z (25 August 2017) [*Community Services Ministers' Meeting Communiqué*](#) [media release], Australian Government, accessed 28 April 2022.