

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

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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

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	Indicator 1.6a children who exited out-of-home care to reunification and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months
METEOR identifier:	757632
Registration status:	Children and Families , Standard 18/04/2023
Description:	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.
Indicator set:	Permanency Outcomes Performance Framework Indicators 2020–21 Children and Families , Standard 18/04/2023
Data quality statement:	Child Protection National Minimum Dataset, 2020–21 Data Quality Statement AIHW Data Quality Statements , Standard 15/06/2022

Collection and usage attributes

Population group age from:	0
Population group age to:	16 years
Computation description:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. All children aged 0–16 who were reunified in the reporting period are counted for this indicator.2. Age is calculated at time of reunification.3. A reunification is only counted if it is also an “exit” from care – that is, the child was not in care for at least 60 days following the reunification event.4. Each child is only counted once. Where a child has multiple exits to reunification in the reporting period only the latest reunification is counted.5. A child is considered to have returned to out-of-home care if, following an exit to a reunification, a new episode of out-of-home care commences in 12 months or less.

Computation:	$100 \times (\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator})$
Numerator:	The number 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.

Numerator data elements:	<table border="1"><tr><td>Data Element / Data Set</td></tr><tr><td>Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY</td></tr><tr><td>Data Source</td></tr><tr><td>AIHW Child Protection Collection</td></tr><tr><td>NMDS / DSS</td></tr><tr><td>Child protection NMDS 2020–21</td></tr></table>	Data Element / Data Set	Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY	Data Source	AIHW Child Protection Collection	NMDS / DSS	Child protection NMDS 2020–21
Data Element / Data Set							
Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY							
Data Source							
AIHW Child Protection Collection							
NMDS / DSS							
Child protection NMDS 2020–21							

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—living arrangement start date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—living arrangement end date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Order—order start date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Order—order end date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Order—order type, care and protection code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—living arrangement type, child under care code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Child—reunification type, code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—financial payment indicator, living arrangement code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Denominator:

The number of children aged 0–16 who exited out-of-home care to reunification in the reporting period.

Denominator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—living arrangement start date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—living arrangement end date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Order—order start date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Order—order end date, DDMMYYYY](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Order—order type, care and protection code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—living arrangement type, child under care code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Child—reunification type, code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Service event—financial payment indicator, living arrangement code N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Disaggregation:

- Whether the child returned to out-of-home care within 12 months of reunification
- Indigenous status
- State or territory
- Reporting period (2016–17 to 2019–20)

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—Australian state/territory identifier, code N](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Data Element / Data Set

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

Data Source

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Child protection NMDS 2020–21](#)

Comments:

Reunifications

There is no nationally agreed definition of reunification. As such, comparison of reunification data across jurisdictions acknowledges that reporting of reunification is based on local definitions.

This indicator includes children who were reunified in the reporting period regardless of whether the reunification was successful and/or the number of reunification events. It includes children who self-reunify and for whom the reunification is subsequently endorsed by the department.

Although this indicator is a proxy for reunification rates, it does not take into consideration time spent in care – children who enter care at the end of the reporting period will be counted with the same weight in the denominator as children who have been in care for the entire period.

Age

Only children aged less than 17 are included in this indicator, to allow for a full 12 months of follow up. This is because 12 months following the reunification of a child aged 17, the child would be aged 18 and no longer eligible for entry into out-of-home care.

Comparability with similar reporting

Indicator 1.6a is derived using the same methodology as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle indicator 2.4 (AIHW 2022a).

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Percentage
Data type:	Real
Unit of measure:	Person
Format:	N[NN].N

Data source attributes

Data sources:**Data Source**

[AIHW Child Protection Collection](#)

Frequency

Annual

Data custodian

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements: Fourth Action Plan 2018–2020 under the *National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009–2020*

Organisation responsible for providing data: Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW)

Accountability: Australian Institute for Health and Welfare

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: See also [The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle Indicators 2020–21: Indicator 2.4 Indigenous children who were reunified and did not return to out-of-home care within 12 months](#)
[Children and Families](#), Standard 17/08/2022