# FACS statistics quarterly report summary

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## Services for children and young people – quarter 1, 2016-17

This factsheet provides an overview of key quarterly performance data on services for children and young people. It accompanies the interactive report published on the [FACS Statistics](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/facs-statistics) website.

## About the quarterly report

The report for Quarter 1, 2016-17 is the fourth quarterly update published using the interactive web-based tools on the [FACS Statistics](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/facs-statistics) website. Five quarterly data reports are available in this report, commencing from Quarter 1 2015-16 (1 July 2015) to Quarter 1 2016-17 (ending 30 September 2016).

The quarterly report consists of two dashboards and covers five theme areas:

### Responding to child and young person concern reports

Contains statistics on mandatory reporters and concern reports made to the NSW Child Protection Helpline, including how concern reports were classified and the primary issues reported. Key statistics from the current reporting period (Quarter 1, 2016-17) include:

* Around 1 in 4 child and young person concern contacts made to the NSW Child Protection Helpline came from education and child care/preschool agencies.
* Mandatory reporters accounted for 79.2% of all concern reports.
* 52.4% of all concern reports met the risk of significant harm threshold (ROSH).
* Most concern reports from mandatory reporters were made by non-government organisations (21.15%), NSW Department of Education (18.83%), NSW Police (16.82%), and NSW Health (13.70%).
* The top two primary reported issues in concern reports made by mandatory reporters relate to neglect (10,551) and physical abuse (10,082).
* A 4.3% increase in the number of children and young people involved in concern reports compared to the same quarter last year.

### Assessment of risk of harm

Captures information related to assessments of concern reports to determine risk, and responses to risk of significant harm (ROSH) reports. Key trends for the current quarterly report include:

* A 14.5% increase in ROSH reports compared to the same quarter last year.
* The top three primary reported issues in ROSH reports are physical abuse (20.8%), neglect (20.7%) and sexual abuse (16.8%). This is a consistent trend across the available reports.
* 23.6% of ROSH reports had a response priority of less than 24 hours. Nearly all ROSH reports have a response priority of less than 10 days.
* A 10.4% increase in children and young people involved in ROSH reports compared to the same quarter last year.
* 0.9% less children and young people involved in ROSH reports received a child protection service response compared to last quarter.

### Stable and nurturing environments

Includes statistics related to Out-Of-Home Care (OOHC) exits, and participation in family preservation programs. Key statistics in this dashboard include:

* Compared to the previous quarter, the proportion of children and young people experiencing less than three placements during their current care period, remained stable at 63.6%.
* There was a 10.8% increase in the number of children and young people participating in Intensive Family Preservation services since the last quarter.
* A 0.9% increase in children and young people exited OOHC compared to the same quarter last year. 42.4% of children and young people exiting care were aged 15 to 17 years.

### Keeping children and young people safe

Includes measures related to OOHC placements. Key trends in the most recent quarterly report include:

* There has been a steady increase over time in the number of children and young people placed with non-government OOHC providers, with a 5.4% increase compared with the same quarter last year.
* The majority of children and young people in care are placed with relatives or kinship carers (around 49%) or foster carers (around 42%).
* There was a 12% decrease in the number of children and young people entering OOHC compared to the same quarter last year.

### Timely and effective solutions

Contains statistics on permanent care placements for children and young people, and participation in the Brighter Futures prevention program. Key highlights in this quarterly report include:

* 1 in 3 children and young people on guardianship orders were Aboriginal. A slight increase in the number of children and young people on guardianship orders, including a 1% increase for young people aged 15-17 years since the previous quarter.
* 77.3% of Aboriginal children and young people were placed with an Aboriginal carer (as at 30 September 2016).
* The number of vulnerable families participating in the Brighter Futures prevention program decreased by 5.2% during the quarter compared with the same quarter last year. There was a decrease of 9.3% in the number of Aboriginal families in the program compared to the same quarter last year.