

Child Support Program - June quarter 2020

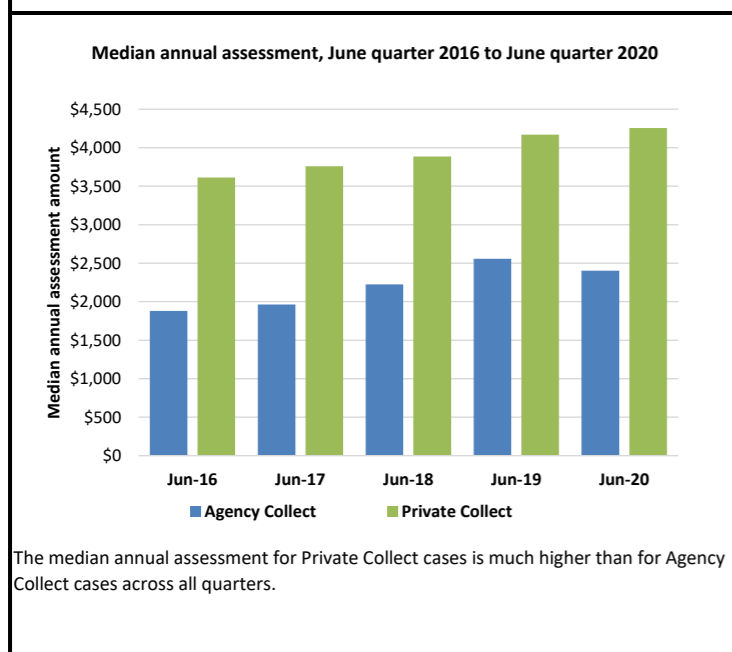
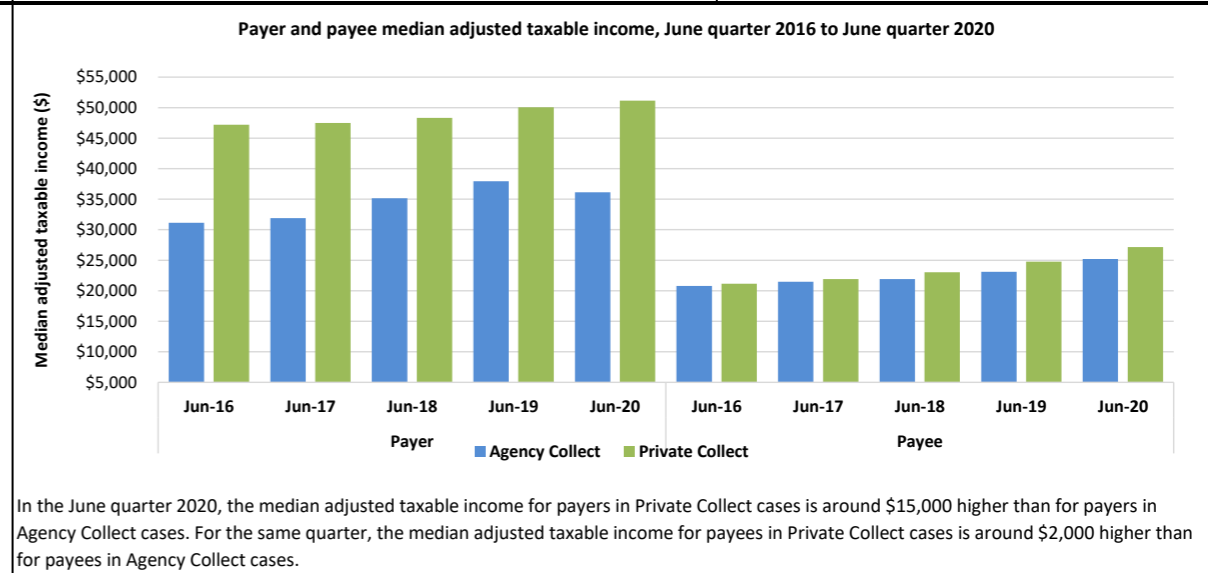
About Child Support	Number of active child support cases, parents and children, June quarter 2016 to June quarter 2020								Percentage of child support cases by collection method, June quarter 2016 to June quarter 2020					Number of payers and payees, June quarter 2020			
<p>Child Support is a private transfer between separated parents for the support of their child.</p> <p>The objective of the Child Support Scheme is to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - parents share in the costs of supporting their children according to their capacity, - adequate support is available to all children not living with both parents, - Commonwealth involvement and expenditure is limited to the minimum necessary for ensuring children's needs are met, - work incentives for both parents to participate in the labour force are not impaired, and - the overall arrangements are non-intrusive to personal privacy and are simple, flexible and efficient. <p>Cases that involve parents/carers who transfer child support through Services Australia are referred to as Agency Collect Cases. Cases that transfer child support by private arrangement are referred to as Private Collect Cases.</p>	Quick Facts		Jun-16	Jun-17	Jun-18	Jun-19	Jun-20	Change Jun-16 to Jun-20	Change Jun-19 to Jun-20								
	Active Cases	Agency Collect	343,207	342,356	341,778	340,751	340,155	-0.9%	-0.2%								
		Private Collect	359,487	354,332	350,265	342,328	338,358	-5.9%	-1.2%								
		Total*	702,694	696,688	692,043	683,079	678,513	-3.4%	-0.7%								
	Parents/carers	Agency Collect	642,356	641,307	640,381	638,758	638,004	-0.7%	-0.1%								
		Private Collect	701,162	690,854	682,428	666,926	658,793	-6.0%	-1.2%								
		Total*	1,281,655	1,270,859	1,262,072	1,246,042	1,237,971	-3.4%	-0.6%								
	Children ¹	Agency Collect	501,749	502,688	503,944	503,689	504,071	0.5%	0.1%								
		Private Collect	575,735	569,682	562,899	549,947	544,082	-5.5%	-1.1%								
		Total	1,077,484	1,072,370	1,066,843	1,053,636	1,048,153	-2.7%	-0.5%								
	Payers	Male	564,113	557,563	551,836	542,710	536,299	-4.9%	-1.2%								
		Female	70,937	71,247	71,005	70,813	71,634	1.0%	1.2%								
		Total**	651,752	646,430	641,946	633,815	629,797	-3.4%	-0.6%								
	Payees	Male	70,199	70,256	69,832	69,398	70,027	-0.2%	0.9%								
		Female	565,124	551,836	553,549	544,146	537,166	-4.9%	-1.3%								
Total**		648,604	643,229	638,731	630,621	626,456	-3.4%	-0.7%									

* A parent can be in both collection methods for different children. Therefore, the components won't add to total.
 ** Total includes payers and payees with no gender recorded.

In the June quarter 2020, child support cases with a liability being collected privately made up 50% of the active case load, the remaining 50% are collected by Services Australia.

Parents by collection method and care arrangements, June quarter 2020 ²				
Amount of Care	Agency Collect		Private Collect	
	Payers	Payees	Payers	Payees
Below regular care (0 to 51 nights per year or < 14%)	232,182	1,574	188,575	2,944
Regular care (52 to 127 nights per year or 14% to < 35%)	63,551	392	89,336	970
Shared care (128 to 237 nights per year or 35% to 65%)	27,213	27,368	51,558	51,588
Primary care (238 to 313 nights per year or > 65% to 86%)	392	63,572	972	89,341
Above primary care (314 to 365 nights per year or > 86%)	1,533	232,389	2,918	189,187

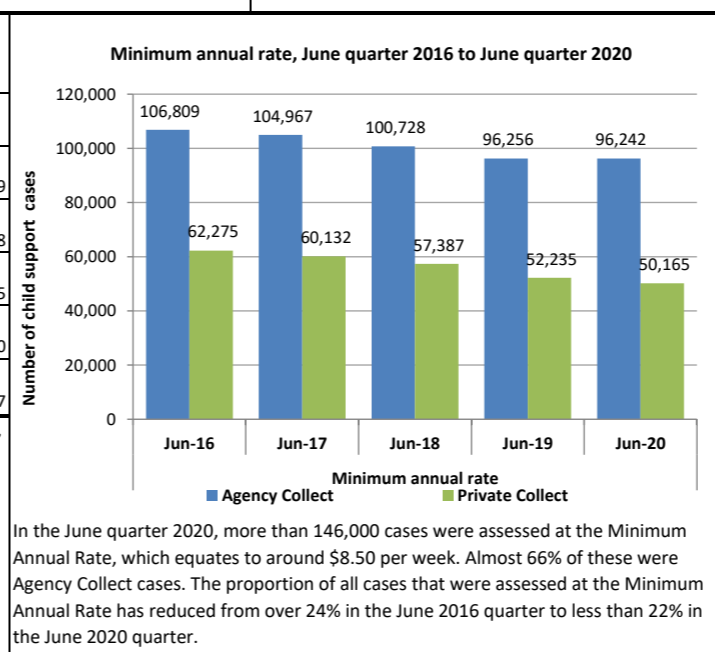
The majority (around two-thirds) of payees have care of their child support child for more than 313 nights a year, whereas the majority (around two-thirds) of payers have care for less than 52 nights a year. Almost 12% of child support parents have shared care arrangements. The number of parents with a shared care arrangement who use Private Collect is around double that of parents who use Agency Collect.



Number of payers in child support active cases by income type, June quarter 2016 to June quarter 2020					
Income type	Jun-16	Jun-17	Jun-18	Jun-19	Jun-20
Declared taxable income	499,188	498,098	504,505	493,024	490,429
Default or derived income	97,781	97,373	94,974	97,535	86,048
Estimated income	55,552	51,244	42,941	43,632	53,835
No income details	948	1,416	1,031	972	760
Total ***	651,752	646,430	641,946	633,815	629,797

*** Payers in multiple cases can have different income for different cases. Therefore, the components won't add to total.

Declared taxable income was used to calculate child support payable for the majority of payers in active cases (over 76%) from June 2016 to June 2020 and the proportion has remained stable over this period.

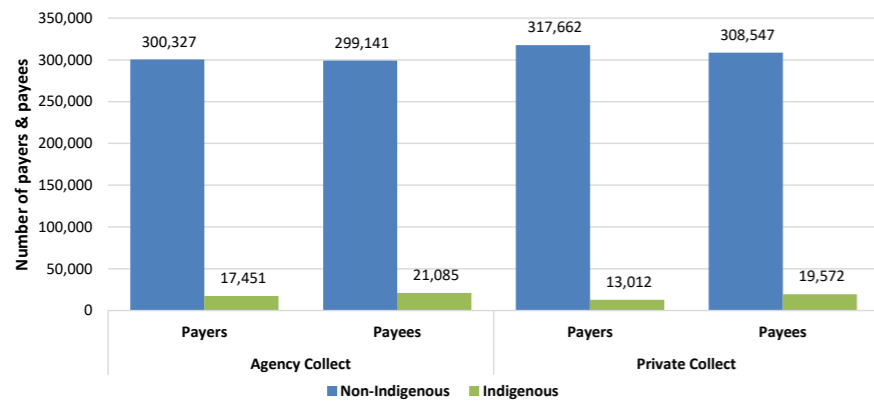


Number of child support cases by the annual rate payable, June quarter 2016 to June quarter 2020					
Annual rate range	Jun-16	Jun-17	Jun-18	Jun-19	Jun-20
\$0 - \$500	233,854	228,488	219,078	205,759	203,651
\$501 - \$2,000	78,288	76,848	76,250	73,796	75,774
\$2,001 - \$5,000	146,186	143,685	143,910	140,793	136,418
\$5,001 - \$10,000	143,213	143,450	144,943	148,332	145,484
\$10,001 - \$20,000	80,716	83,254	86,018	90,884	92,383
\$20,001 +	20,437	20,963	21,844	23,515	24,803
Total	702,694	696,688	692,043	683,079	678,513

The proportion of active cases with an annual liability of \$0-\$500 has stayed relatively constant over the five years to June 2020, with 30% of cases (203,651) having an annual liability of \$0-\$500 in the June quarter 2020.

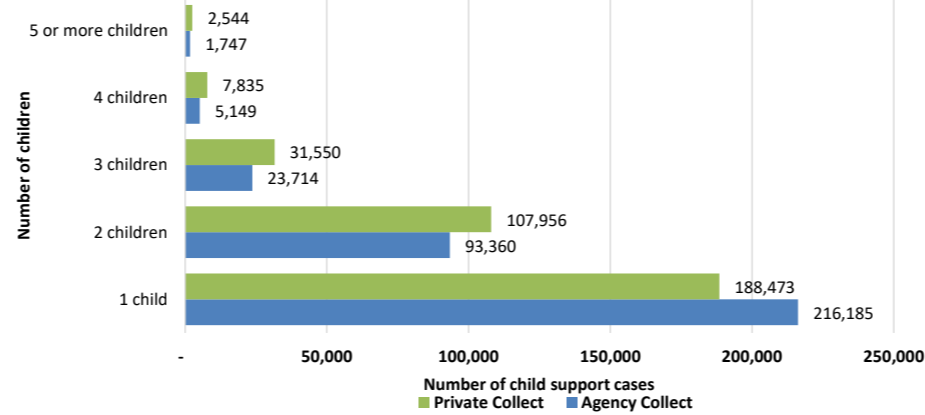
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Indigenous status of payers and payees, June quarter 2020



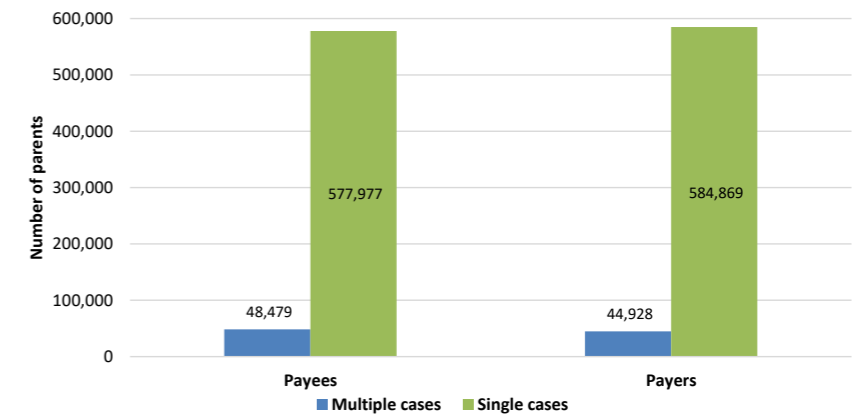
In Agency Collect cases, almost 7% of payees and over 5% of payers identify as Indigenous. In Private Collect cases, almost 6% of payees and almost 4% of payers identify as Indigenous.

Number of cases by number of children in a case, June quarter 2020



The majority of both Agency Collect and Private Collect cases involve one child. Cases involving two or more children are more likely to be Private Collect cases.

Number of payers & payees involved in one or more child support cases, June quarter 2020



44,928 payers (7.1%) and 48,479 payees (7.7%) had more than one active case in the June quarter 2020.

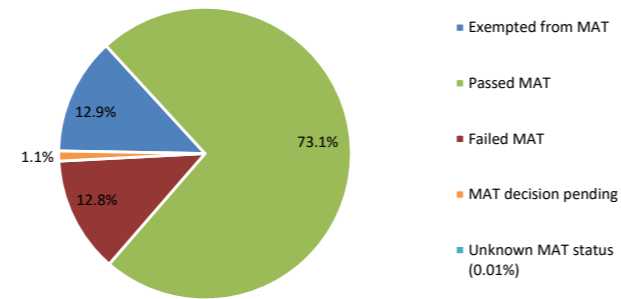
Number of children by age, June quarter 2016 to June quarter 2020 ****

		Child age category (years)			
		0 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 and over
Private Collect	Jun-16	114,176	170,567	177,251	113,741
	Jun-17	109,576	168,235	179,542	112,328
	Jun-18	105,308	165,202	182,592	109,790
	Jun-19	97,802	160,513	183,728	107,899
	Jun-20	94,244	156,824	184,713	108,299
Agency Collect	Jun-16	60,119	140,514	177,703	123,411
	Jun-17	58,582	140,146	181,196	122,764
	Jun-18	57,373	139,944	185,912	120,715
	Jun-19	55,883	138,655	189,654	119,497
	Jun-20	54,131	137,451	192,194	120,292

**** There are children with missing age values. Therefore, row totals for a quarter may not match with the child population shown elsewhere.

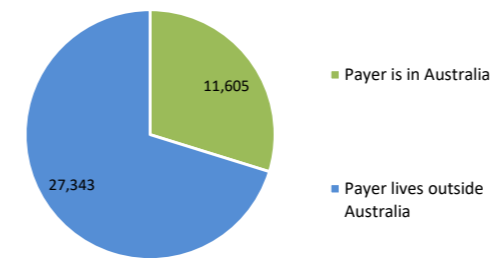
Agency Collect cases have a smaller number of children aged 0-4 years and a larger number involving 15 years and over, compared to Private Collect cases.

FTB Part A children by Maintenance Action Test (MAT) Category, June quarter 2020



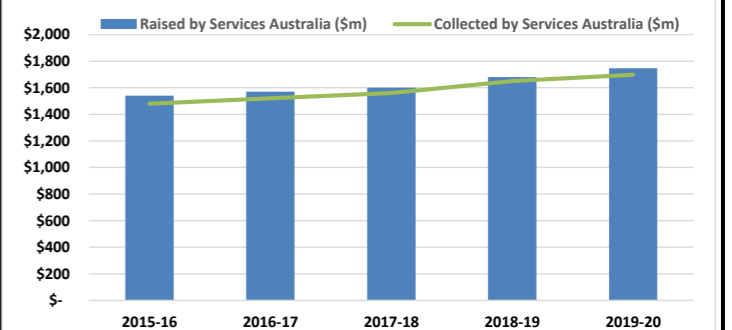
Under the Family Tax Benefit Part A Maintenance Action Test, separated parents must take reasonable action to obtain child support to be eligible for more than the base rate of FTB Part A. In certain circumstances parents may be exempt from the Maintenance Action Test. Percentages in this chart may not total 100 per cent due to rounding.

International child support cases by payer residency, June quarter 2020



In the June quarter 2020, there were 38,948 international child support cases. In 11,605 cases, a payer living in Australia sent child support to a payee and child(ren) living overseas. In 27,343 cases, the payer lived overseas and sent child support to a payee and child(ren) living in Australia. Source: Services Australia's International Business Area.

Amount of child support assessments raised and liabilities collected by Services Australia for Agency Collect cases, 2015-16 to 2019-20³



In 2019-20, Services Australia collected around \$1.70 billion in child support liabilities. In the same period, around \$1.75 billion of child support assessments were raised in Agency Collect cases.

Source:

Services Australia's Child Support Extract Data (CSED) unless stated otherwise. Data is based on the relationship case count, excludes spousal maintenance cases, and includes Agency Collect and Private Collect cases. These figures may not align with those published elsewhere, due to different reporting methodologies.

Notes:

- The number of children includes child support children only and excludes other dependent children.
- The data excludes 4,856 children in 2,680 cases for whom payer and payee care details cannot be determined (e.g. data invalid as it exceeds 365 care nights combined). As the care levels that payers and payees have of different children in a case may vary, a payer or payee may be counted in more than one care level category.
- This figure includes child support received by Services Australia in the financial year for liabilities raised in previous years. The percentage collected for assessments raised in the financial year is not able to be calculated based on current available data.