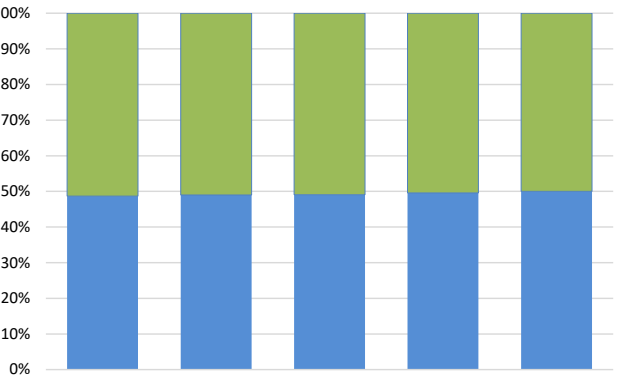
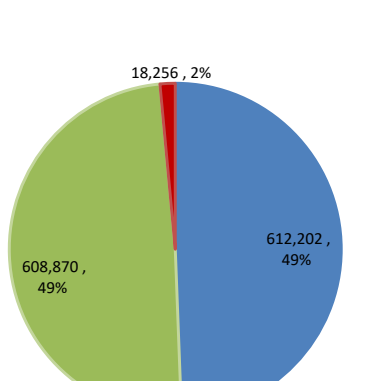


Child Support Program - December quarter 2019

About Child Support	Number of active child support cases, parents and children, December quarter 2015 to December quarter 2019									Percentage of child support cases by collection method, December quarter 2015 to December quarter 2019					Number of payers and payees, December quarter 2019		
Child Support is a Private transfer between separated parents for the support of their child.	Quick Facts		Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Change Dec-15 to Dec-19	Change Dec-18 to Dec-19								
The objective of the Child Support Scheme is to ensure that: - 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.																	
Active Cases	Agency Collect	342,296	341,268	340,251	339,291	339,826	-0.7%	0.2%									
	Private Collect	361,256	355,428	353,227	345,157	339,630	-6.0%	-1.6%									
	Total	703,552	696,696	693,478	684,448	679,456	-3.4%	-0.7%									
Parents/ carers *	Agency Collect	640,470	638,973	637,475	635,959	637,187	-0.5%	0.2%									
	Private Collect	704,613	693,197	688,419	672,425	661,395	-6.1%	-1.6%									
	Total*	1,282,954	1,270,963	1,264,830	1,248,384	1,239,328	-3.4%	-0.7%									
Children [†]	Agency Collect	499,349	499,632	500,181	500,733	502,823	0.7%	0.4%									
	Private Collect	577,339	570,460	567,912	554,398	545,638	-5.5%	-1.6%									
	Total	1,076,688	1,070,092	1,068,093	1,055,131	1,048,461	-2.6%	-0.6%									
Payers	Male	565,435	558,450	554,101	544,264	538,361	-4.8%	-1.1%									
	Female	70,706	70,814	70,959	71,124	71,124	0.6%	0.2%									
	Total**	652,610	646,354	643,385	634,986	630,458	-3.4%	-0.7%									
Payees	Male	70,008	69,957	69,939	69,666	69,508	-0.7%	-0.2%									
	Female	565,663	559,950	555,742	545,889	539,411	-4.6%	-1.2%									
	Total**	649,190	643,236	640,133	631,788	627,126	-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 December quarter 2019, 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.					Payers only Payees only Both payers and payees			

[illegible]

Median annual assessment, December quarter 2015 to December quarter 2019

Quarter	Agency Collect	Private Collect
Dec-15	\$2,100	\$3,700
Dec-16	\$2,200	\$3,800
Dec-17	\$2,400	\$3,900
Dec-18	\$2,600	\$4,100
Dec-19	\$2,900	\$4,200

The median annual assessment for Private Collect cases is much higher than for Agency Collect cases across all quarters.

Number of payers in child support active cases by income type, December quarter 2015 to December quarter 2019

Income type	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19
Declared taxable income	482,762	476,725	481,210	472,086	471,805
Default or derived income	130,098	133,728	132,540	134,025	127,277
Estimated income	42,143	39,578	32,902	31,893	34,001
No income details	2,157	1,057	1,045	937	781
Total ***	652,610	646,354	643,385	634,986	630,458

*** 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 (around 74%) from December 2015 to December 2019 and the proportion has remained stable over this period.

Minimum annual rate, December quarter 2015 to December quarter 2019

Quarter	Agency Collect	Private Collect
Dec-15	102,770	60,776
Dec-16	100,535	57,659
Dec-17	97,841	56,396
Dec-18	93,797	52,224
Dec-19	90,805	48,803

More than 137,000 cases every quarter are on the minimum annual rate which equates to a child support payment of around \$8 a week. In the December quarter 2019, around 35% of these are Private Collect cases.

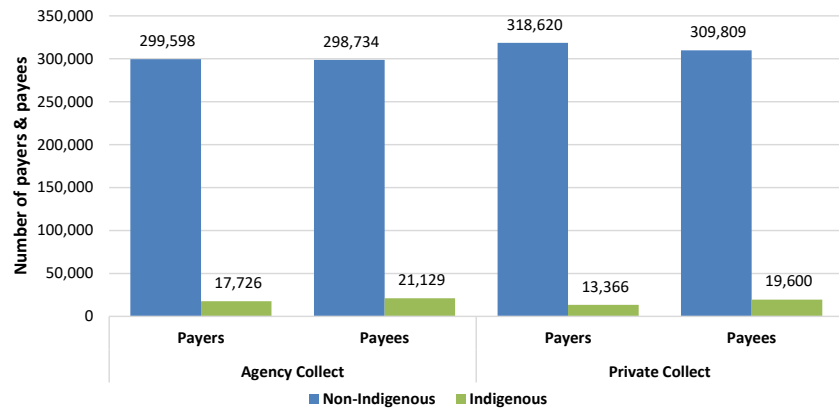
Number of child support cases by the annual rate payable, December quarter 2015 to December quarter 2019

Annual rate range	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19
\$0 - \$500	227,373	220,489	215,836	202,536	195,244
\$501 - \$2,000	78,400	77,289	75,792	73,711	71,523
\$2,001 - \$5,000	149,286	148,428	147,085	144,619	140,178
\$5,001 - \$10,000	145,967	146,610	147,202	150,351	152,601
\$10,001 - \$20,000	81,964	83,193	86,112	90,235	94,977
\$20,001 +	20,562	20,687	21,451	22,996	24,933
Total	703,552	696,696	693,478	684,448	679,456

The proportion of active cases with an annual liability of \$0-\$500 has stayed relatively constant over the five years to December 2019, with 29% of cases (195,244) having an annual liability of \$0-\$500 in the December quarter 2019.

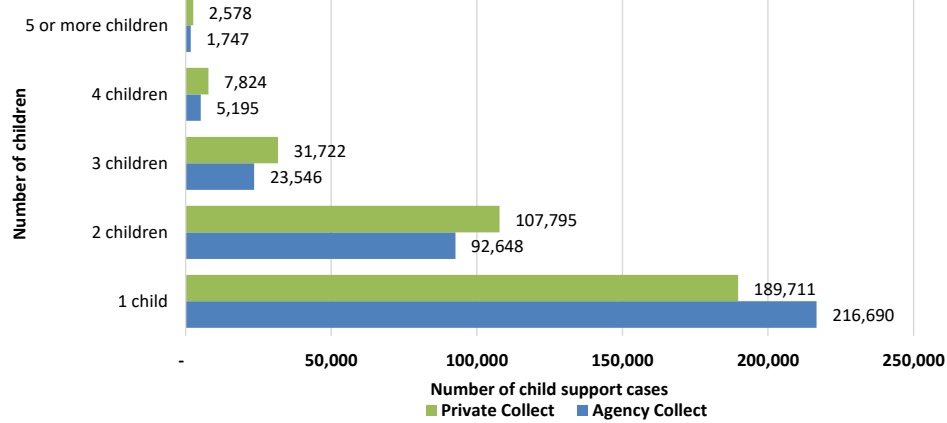
Child Support Program - December quarter 2019

Indigenous status of payers and payees, December quarter 2019



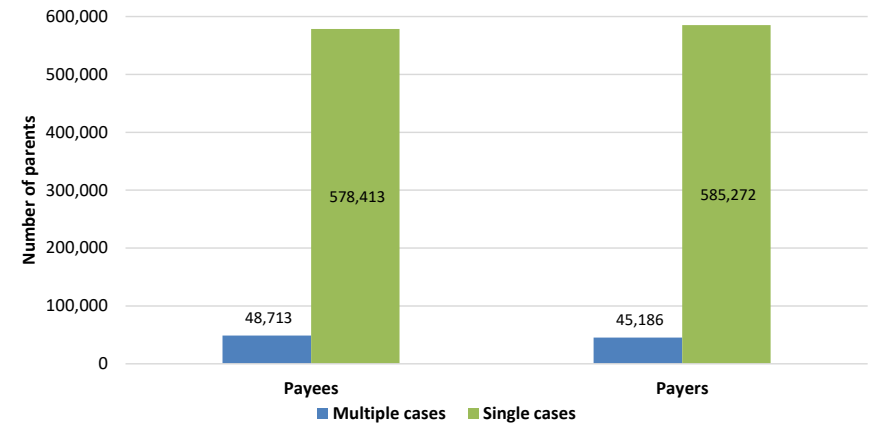
Around 6% of payees identify as Indigenous for both Agency Collect and Private Collect. Nearly 6% of payers in Agency Collect cases identify as Indigenous, compared to 4% of payers in Private Collect cases.

Number of cases by number of children in a case, December quarter 2019



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, December quarter 2019



45,186 payers (7.2%) and 48,713 payees (7.8%) had more than one active case in the December quarter 2019.

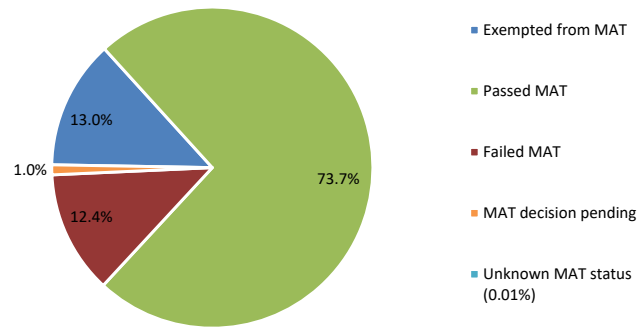
Number of children by age, December quarter 2015 to December quarter 2019 ****

		Child age category (years)			
		0 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 and over
Private Collect	Dec-15	116,208	171,336	177,749	112,046
	Dec-16	111,997	169,681	178,142	110,640
	Dec-17	109,137	167,962	181,619	109,188
	Dec-18	101,538	162,643	183,119	107,093
	Dec-19	96,406	159,063	184,520	105,647
Agency Collect	Dec-15	60,725	140,226	177,080	121,316
	Dec-16	60,283	140,418	179,533	119,398
	Dec-17	58,247	140,078	183,667	118,189
	Dec-18	56,738	138,989	187,750	117,256
	Dec-19	55,532	138,798	191,907	116,583

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

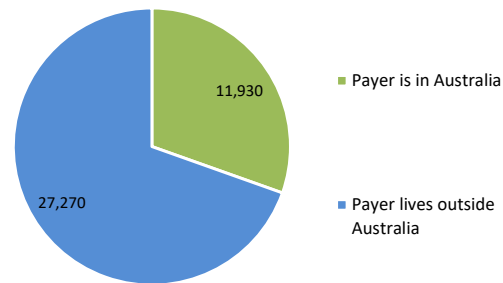
Agency Collect cases have a smaller number of children aged 0-4 years and a larger number involving 15 years and over, compared to Private Collect cases.

FTB Part A children by Maintenance Action Test (MAT) Category, December quarter 2019



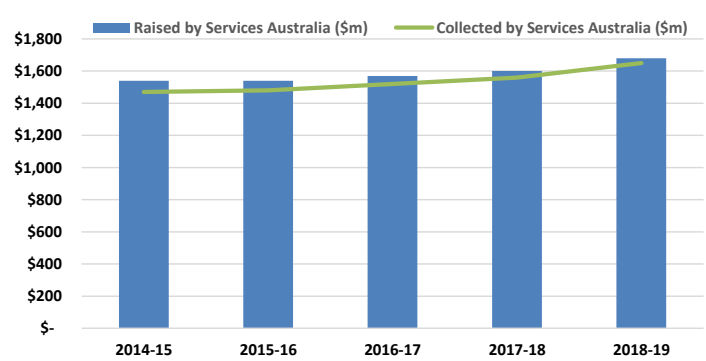
When parents separate, the child's primary carer is expected to seek financial support from the other parent. This is known as the Maintenance Action Test. If a parent does not take action they are limited to the base rate of Family Tax Benefit Part A. In certain circumstances parents may be exempt from the Maintenance Action Test. Percentages in this chart may not total 100 per cent due to rounding.

International child support cases by payer residency, December quarter 2019



In the December quarter 2019, there were 39,200 international child support cases. In 11,930 cases, a payer living in Australia sent child support to a payee and child(ren) living overseas. In 27,270 cases, the payer lived overseas and sent child support to Australia. Source: Services Australia's International Business Area.

Amount of child support assessments raised and liabilities collected by Services Australia for Agency Collect cases, 2014-15 to 2018-19³



In 2018-19, Services Australia collected \$1.65 billion in child support liabilities. In the same period, \$1.68 billion of child support assessments were raised.

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 6,766 children in 3,692 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 for different children 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.