

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000147

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah provided in writing.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in BBF funded and other services

Question

How many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are supported by the child care system. What percentage of them are in budget based funded services and what percentage are in mainstream CCB registered services? What is the current funding level for budget based funded services? What is the breakdown between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services, mobile services and other services?

Answer

- A total of 46,405 Indigenous children used either approved (for Child Care Benefit) or Budget Based Funded child care in March 2016.

During the March quarter 2016, 30,180 Indigenous children (65 per cent) used approved child care in Australia (Early Childhood and Child Care in Summary, March 2016).

In March 2016 reporting, 16,225 Indigenous children (35 per cent) used Budget Based Funded child care services (program data).

- The current annual allocation for the Budget Based Funded Program is \$61.8 million.
- Services funded through the Budget Based Funded Program are not defined as Indigenous or non-Indigenous services (please refer to table attached). Of the 295 services funded under the Program:
 - 126 services have 100 per cent Indigenous attendance,
 - 83 services have 50 per cent or more Indigenous attendance (but less than 100 per cent),
 - 56 services have less than 50 per cent Indigenous attendance, and
 - 30 services have reported no Indigenous attendance.

The following table provides a breakdown by service type and Indigenous attendance.

2016–17 BBF Services by Service Type and Indigenous attendance

Service Type	Number of Services
Long Day Care type BBF services	
100% Indigenous attendance	37
50% or more Indigenous attendance (but less than 100%)	44
Less than 50% Indigenous attendance	20
0% Indigenous attendance	15
Total Long Day Care services	116
Mobile BBF services	
100% Indigenous attendance	4
50% or more Indigenous attendance (but less than 100%)	6
Less than 50% Indigenous attendance	22
0% Indigenous attendance	13
Total Mobile services	45
Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) BBF services	
100% Indigenous attendance	83
50% or more Indigenous attendance (but less than 100%)	32
Less than 50% Indigenous attendance	11
0% Indigenous attendance	1
Total Outside School Hours Care services	127
Other BBF services	
100% Indigenous attendance	2
50% or more Indigenous attendance (but less than 100%)	1
Less than 50% Indigenous attendance	3
0% Indigenous attendance	1
Total Other services	7
Total	295