



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Children, Youth and Families

In relation to: Next Steps for Our Kids and Entry rate data

Hearing: 12 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 16-17

Transcript provided: 18 November 2025

Answer Due: 25 November 2025

Ms Sabellico: We have also seen a 53 per cent decrease in the number of appraisals that we have commenced because what we are doing is looking to work to support for preservation. Where then we do need to look at bringing a child into care is absolutely for a very short period. We do not go for orders to 18 as the first, you know, one of the first interventions. We now look at only looking at very short-term support services for the purposes of restoration. We have also seen a decrease in our admission rates into the child protection system for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and it is gone from an admission rate of 14 in 2023 to 11.7 in 2024 and our entry rates into out-of-home care have declined from 13.9 to 5.5.

MS TOUGH: Wonderful.

Ms Sabellico: So we are looking to how we make that change to be able to address over-representation. It though does not impact the number of children and young people that are currently sitting in the out-of-home care placements, but there is other work occurring that we are developing with Our Booris, Our Way and our Aboriginal staff.

MS TOUGH: Wonderful. Thank you for all that.

THE CHAIR: That entry rate that you just mentioned, do you have the corresponding rate for non-Indigenous children?

Ms Sabellico: I do, I do not have it here with me, but I can provide that.

THE CHAIR: On notice. Is that okay?

Ms Sabellico: Yes.

Mr Michael Pettersson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

During the hearing, Ms Sabellico referenced a decrease in entry rates for out-of-home care data. In the response an incorrect data source was referenced, the reference should have been over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system. Ms Sabellico intends to correct the record via a letter to the Chair, Standing Committee on Social Policy, to ensure the figures are accurately represented.

The quoted data points were sourced from the SNAICC Family Matters Report 2024. This report includes data from the 2022-23 financial year and compares that to data from the previous report (Family Matters 2023), which references data from the 2021-22 financial year.

The rates of admission for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-indigenous children for Out of Home Care for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years are as follows:

Financial Year	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	Non-Indigenous
2021-22	13.9	1.1
2022-23	5.5	0.6

Data Source: Family Matters Report 2024, which sourced this from Child Protection Australia, Table s5.17)

[250207-Family-Matters-Report-2024.pdf](#)

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date: 1.12.25

By the Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Mr Michael Pettersson MLA