

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAW AND JUSTICE
INQUIRY INTO ADOPTION BY SAME SEX COUPLES
FURTHER QUESTION

Department of Community Services

1. How many children are available for adoption in NSW?

In 2007/08 the children needing an adoption placement in NSW came from the following circumstances:

- 19 children were placed for adoption in the Department's local adoption program after their birth parents consented to their adoption. The Department offered information and counselling to the birthparents of 72 children while they considered the alternatives for the care of their child.
- 22 children were adopted by their foster carers following a decision that this would best meet their needs. There are currently 137 children in out of home care who are being actively assessed for adoption.
- 10 children were adopted by their step parents and 3 by relatives
- 86 children were placed for adoption via the intercountry adoption program.