

## THE COST OF STAY AT HOME CHILDREN

### 70% of kidults who live with parents staying put because they can't afford to leave

- 31% of adults aged 19 to 34 still living with their parents
- Children over 18 still living with family cost parents \$12.2 billion per year
- 60% of stay-at-home children are not paying rent to live at home and 75% do not contribute to household bills

**Wednesday 30 May 2018:** Moving out of home was once an adult rite of passage like getting a driver's license or celebrating your 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, however new research from comparison site Mozo.com.au has found that 31% of adults aged 19 – 34 are living with their parents.

70% of stay-at-home children aged 18 and over are staying put for financially focused reasons - being unable to afford to leave home and needing to accrue savings. These savings are coming at the cost of parents who are spending \$235 million per week nationally, equating to a whopping \$12.2 billion annually.

“As the cost of living rises, many adult children are choosing to stay in their family home to enable their savings to grow at a faster rate. Unfortunately for many children aged 18 and over, moving out of home is not a financially viable option with 7 in 10 of stay-at-home children unable to afford to move out and trying to accrue savings,” says Kirsty Lamont, Mozo Director.

“The majority of children who are staying at home past their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday do not contribute to finances, with 60% not paying rent and 75% not paying for household bills. Instead they're finding financially friendly ways to contribute around the house with nearly 60% helping out with cooking, cleaning, laundry and other household tasks. One-third of stay-at-home children pay a reduced rent to help parents out while nearly 30% buy groceries.”

One quarter of stay-at home children contribute by paying household bills such as electricity and internet, while nearly 10% help out by babysitting younger children. 60% of stay-at-home children do not pay rent or board to stay at home.

While more than 50% of parents with stay-at-home children are happy to have their children living at home, nearly 10% admitted it was a financial strain, and 3% resent their child for continuing to live at home. Over 30% allowed their children to stay at home to enable them to work towards a bigger savings goal.

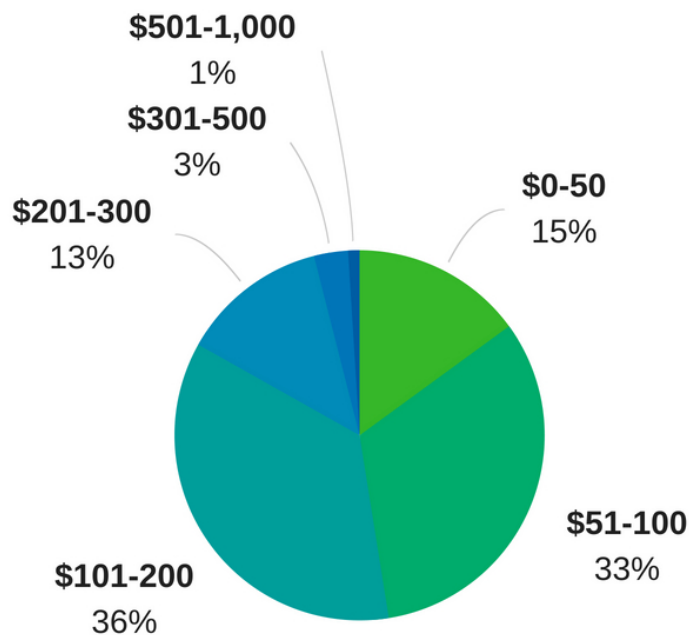
Over 35% of parents surveyed estimate they spent \$100-200 on their adult children per week which include accommodation associated costs as well as internet, transportation, power and other expenses while 33% spent \$50-100.

While financially focused reasons dominated the reasons to stay at home, there are other factors such a closeness to family (17%), convenience of location (8%) and it being the cultural norm to stay at home (7%).

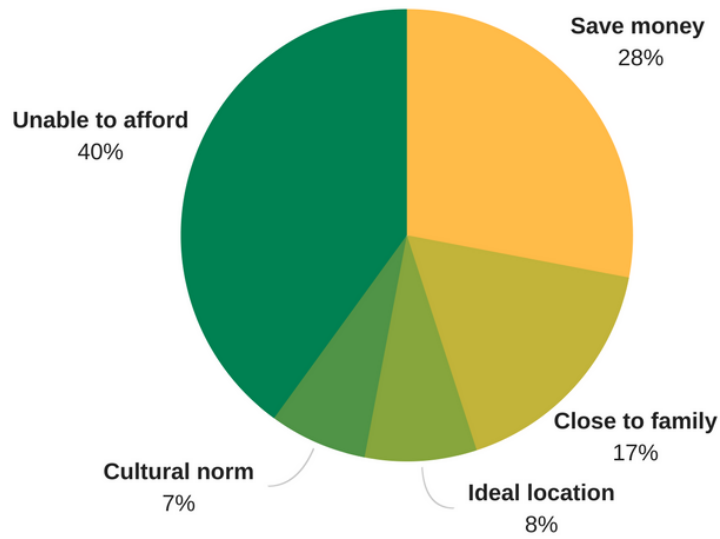
“Staying at home with your parents can be a great opportunity to get ahead financially, especially if you’re looking to save for a first home or try and knock out HEC debt fast,” says Lamont.

“There are many cost effective ways to help parents – whether that’s taking the dog for a walk, cooking dinner a few nights a week or chipping into household bills. Even if you can’t afford to fly the coop just yet, there are little ways to help make household contributions.”

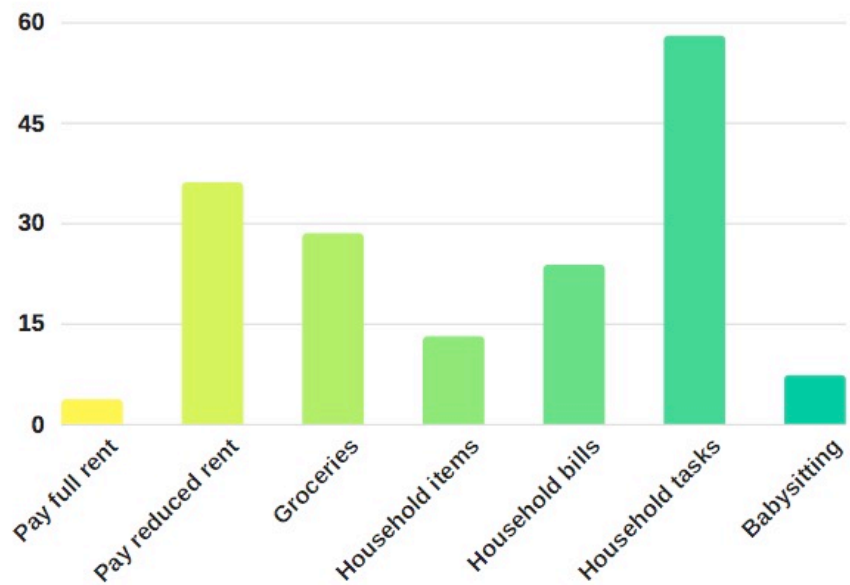
Parental weekly spent to support child



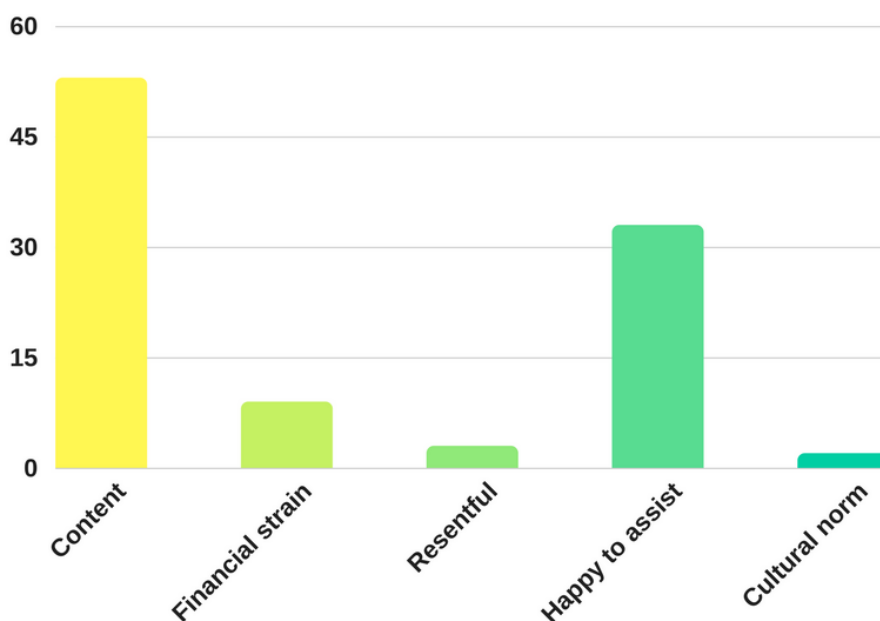
### Reason 18+ child staying at home



### Ways child contributes to the household



### Parents attitudes towards adult children at home



**-ENDS-**

**Notes on calculations:** Nationally representative survey of 1002 Australians aged 18 years and above conducted by Pureprofile between 27 February – 6 March 2018. Respondents were asked about assistance they have provided to children aged 18 and above living in their home. Note: Numbers have been rounded. National calculations on 18+ children staying at home is from [ABS Australian Demographic Statistics, June 2017](#) as well as [ABS Person Projections, Australia, 2011 – 2036](#). All calculations are available on request.

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