

FACT SHEET

DISABILITY STATISTICS

DEMOGRAPHICS

- 1 in 5 people in Australia have some form of disability
- 2.1 million Australians aged 15-64 (working age) have disability
- 35.9% of Australian households include a person with disability

A 2019 survey conducted by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare found that of people with disability:

- 51% identify as female and 49% identify as male
- 1 in 5 (22%) have a mental or behavioural disorder as their main disabling condition, including:
 - 6.3% with intellectual or developmental disorders
 - 2.4% with mood affective disorders
 - 2.3% with dementia or Alzheimer's
- 1 in 3 (32%) have severe or profound disability
- 1 in 3 (29%) need help with health care
- 1 in 4 (27%) need help with property maintenance
- 1 in 4 (24%) need help with household chores
- 1 in 2 (48%) aged 5 and over have a schooling or employment restriction

TYPES OF DISABILITY

- Only 4.4% of people with a disability in Australia are wheelchair users
- 1 in 6 Australians are affected by hearing loss. In Australia, there are an estimated 30,000 Deaf Auslan users with total hearing loss
- It is estimated that there are currently over 357,000 people in Australia who are blind or have low vision
- 45% of Australians aged 18-65 experience a mental health condition in their lifetime
- 3 million Australians live with depression or anxiety
- 76.8% of people with disability report a physical disorder as their main condition. The most common physical disorder is musculoskeletal disorder (29.6%)

EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

- There are 2.1 million Australians of working age with Disability. Of these, less than half (47.8%) were employed, compared with 80.3% of people without disability.
- 34% of people with disability are managers and professionals
- Graduates with disability take 61.5% longer to gain full time employment than graduates without disability
- 18.9% of people with disability aged 15-24 years have experienced discrimination - in almost half of these circumstances, the source of the discrimination is an employer

OTHER DISABILITY STATISTICS

- Disability discrimination accounts for the highest volume of complaints to the Australian Human Rights Commission
- 17.1% of people with disability use mobility aids
- 28% of people with disability have experienced discrimination by one or more of the organisations they have recently interacted with