

**Disability support services provided
under the Commonwealth/State
Disability Agreement: national data,
1999**

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Preface

The Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement (CSDA) National Minimum Data Set was developed in 1993 and 1994 jointly by all States and Territories, the Commonwealth and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The first data collection was undertaken in 1995, and data from the subsequent annual collections have been widely used by government departments and the community.

The 1999 data are the third national collation where all jurisdictions have been fully represented, and the cooperation of all States and Territories and the Commonwealth is gratefully acknowledged.

For the first time, a statistical linkage key has been collected by all jurisdictions, permitting estimates to be made of the number of people receiving services. The methods used to statistically adjust for the multiple use of services by people on the snapshot day are discussed in this report.

In introducing a statistical linkage key, the Institute took great care to ensure that the key could not be used for any other purpose. The Institute's Ethics Committee endorsed the proposal, with the proviso that each jurisdiction agree to use the key only for statistical purposes.

The collection is currently being redeveloped, particularly in light of continuing changes in the method of service delivery, for example the growing use of individualised case funding and brokerage models, and the resulting changes in information needed. Redevelopment began during 1999 in partnership with National Disability Administrators and will continue into the coming year.

The information now being released will inform Australians about services funded under the CSDA for people with disabilities in Australia.

Richard Madden
Director

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- all departments, organisations, peak bodies and individuals who provided suggestions or comments; and
- the staff in the disability services funding departments who conducted the mail-out, help-lines, collection, compilation and editing of questionnaires and data at the Commonwealth, State and Territory level.

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Abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADD	Attention deficit disorder
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
CDA	Child Disability Allowance
CSDA	Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement of 1998
MDS	Minimum data set
CSDA MDS Network	Network of people responsible for the CSDA MDS collections (comprises representatives from AIHW and all jurisdictions listed in the Acknowledgments)
n.a.	Not available – in relation to data from cells in some tables
NDI	National Death Index
PT OT ST	Physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy. These are included within the 'therapy services' service type.
SCRCSSP	Steering Committee for the Review of Commonwealth/State Service Provision