

1 Overview

This report presents data about services directly provided or funded by government under the Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement (CSDA). These data come from the CSDA Minimum Data Set (MDS) collection conducted in May–June 1999, and cover State, Territory and Commonwealth CSDA-funded services. This is the fifth annual data collection, the third to cover all jurisdictions and services, and the first to provide:

- estimates of the number of consumers¹ and their characteristics on a ‘snapshot’ day;

in addition to:

- services received on a snapshot day; and
- numbers of service outlets for CSDA-funded services.

Data for each previous annual collection have been published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) (see Appendix 1).

Data about CSDA consumers have been collated from 74,216 Consumer Forms (one for each service received on the snapshot day) returned by 6,612 CSDA-funded service outlets on a snapshot day in May 1999 – a service response rate of 97%.

Since a consumer can receive more than one service on the snapshot day, the number of consumers on the snapshot day is less than the number of services received on the snapshot day. That is, the number of consumers is less than the number of Consumer Forms as some consumers will have filled out more than one Consumer Form. The number of consumers receiving services on the 1999 snapshot day has been estimated from the number of occasions of service received, using a statistical linkage key to remove double counting.

It is estimated that 62,752 consumers received one or more services on the snapshot day. Data about consumer characteristics, including disability groups, support needs, method of communication, living arrangements and main income source are detailed in this publication.

This section of the report provides an overview of data on services received, estimates of consumers and service outlets. An outline of the remainder of the report is given at the end of this section.

1 The addition of information on consumers to the range of counts available from the CSDA MDS collection has complicated the terms used to describe the data. Recent previous reports have used ‘service recipients’ to mean people who received service, and a recipient can receive more than one service on the snapshot day. The basic counts of people in this report are the ‘consumer’ estimates. In this report, the term ‘service recipient’ is not used. However, almost all the data on service recipients are retained (mostly in Appendix tables), though they are now termed ‘services received’ data so that comparison material with data from previous years is available. ‘Service outlets’ were previously termed ‘services’. Section 2 explains more about these and other terms used in this report.

Services received

Of the 74,216 services received on the snapshot day, one-third (25,262) were received in Victoria (see Table 4.1). New South Wales had the next highest numbers (19,094), followed by Western Australia (10,541).

Overall, 29% of services received were accommodation support services and 24% were employment services. There were 21,453 accommodation support services received, and of these 41% were group homes, 26% were institutions or large residential facilities, 20% were outreach support and 6% were attendant care.

There were 17,858 employment services received on the snapshot day, and of these 72% were supported employment, 22% were open employment and 6% were combined employment services.

Consumers

There were an estimated 62,752 consumers on the snapshot day (Table 1.1) compared with 74,216 services received (Table 4.1), resulting in 1.18 services per consumer on the snapshot day.

Overall, 33% of consumers were using an accommodation support service, 28% an employment service, 25% a community support service, 23% a community access service and 5% were using a respite service. The number of consumers using different service types varies from State to State. In Queensland, 41% of consumers were using an accommodation support service. In New South Wales, 36% of consumers were using an employment service and in Victoria 18% were doing so. Community support and community access consumers also show variation in the proportion of consumers between jurisdictions.

The number of consumers on the snapshot day was greater in the non-government sector for all these service type groups than in the government sector (Tables 3.16 and 3.17).

Table 1.1: Consumers of CSDA-funded services on a snapshot day, service type by State and Territory, Commonwealth, States and Territories, 1999

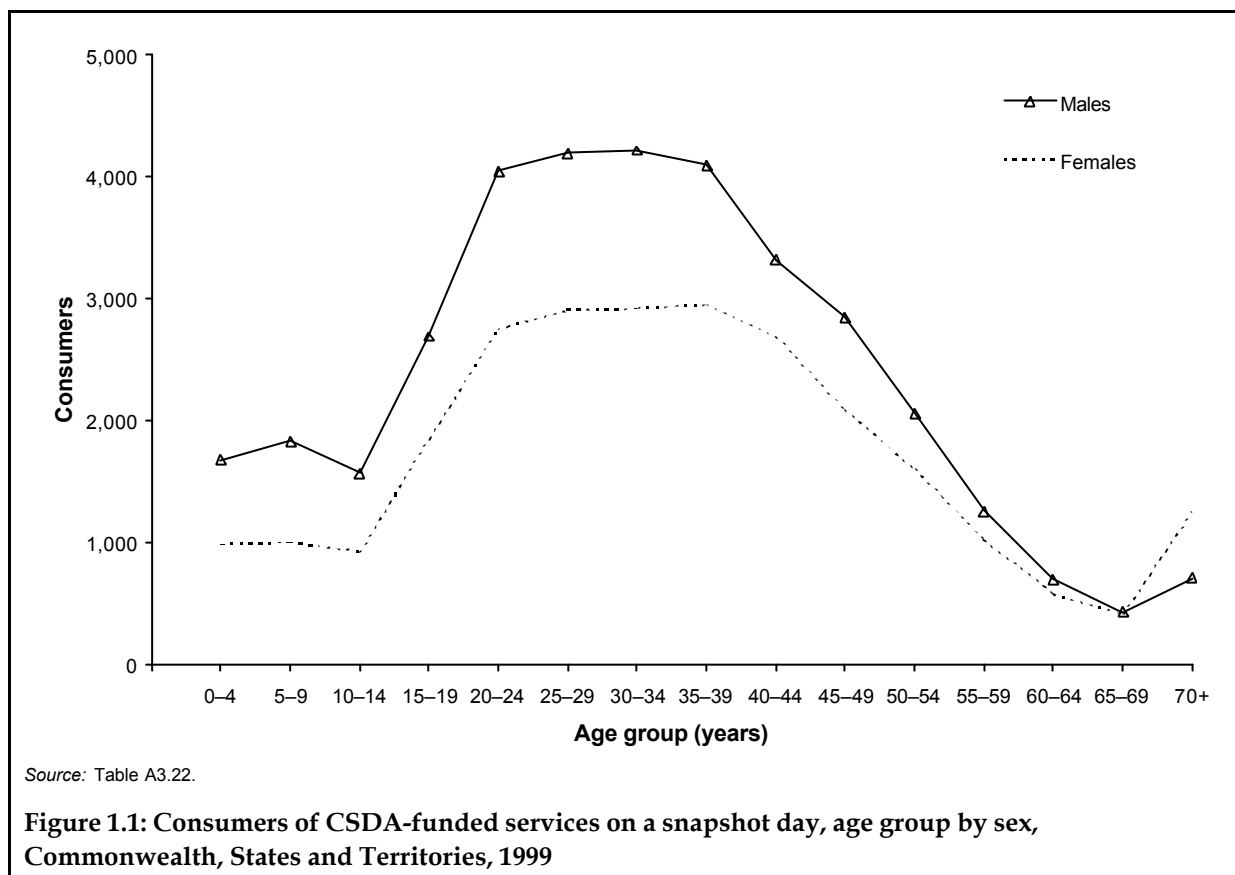
Service type	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Accommodation support	5,672	6,649	3,295	2,341	1,989	673	276	123	21,018
Community support	3,621	5,340	1,072	3,711	1,472	196	160	45	15,617
Community access	2,847	8,137	2,006	639	402	477	90	46	14,642
Respite	459	879	505	841	173	67	54	32	3,010
Employment	5,879	3,860	2,806	2,176	2,075	562	246	131	17,734
Total	16,350	21,157	8,012	9,109	5,392	1,698	719	338	62,752

Notes

1. Consumer data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who have received more than one service on the snapshot day. An adjustment between employment and other service types was not possible for the Western Australian data. Totals may not be the sum of the components since individuals may access more than one service type on the snapshot day. There were 23 consumers who accessed services in more than one State or Territory, mainly in 'border' towns.
2. Data for consumers of CSDA-funded services with service types Advocacy, Information/referral, Combined advocacy/information, Print disability/alt. formats of communication, Service evaluation/training, Peak bodies, Research/development and Other were not collected.
3. Data provided by the Commonwealth are preliminary and cover 98% of Commonwealth-funded services.

Sex and age

In 1999, 58% (36,215 of 62,752) of consumers were male (Table A3.22). The sex and age groups of consumers are presented in Figure 1.1. The 25–29 and 30–34 year age groups comprised the highest numbers of consumers (7,104 and 7,145 respectively) and the 65–69 year age group the lowest (841). Though the shape of the age distribution was similar for each sex, there were greater numbers of males for most age groups (Figure 1.1, see also Section 3.1 and Table A3.22).

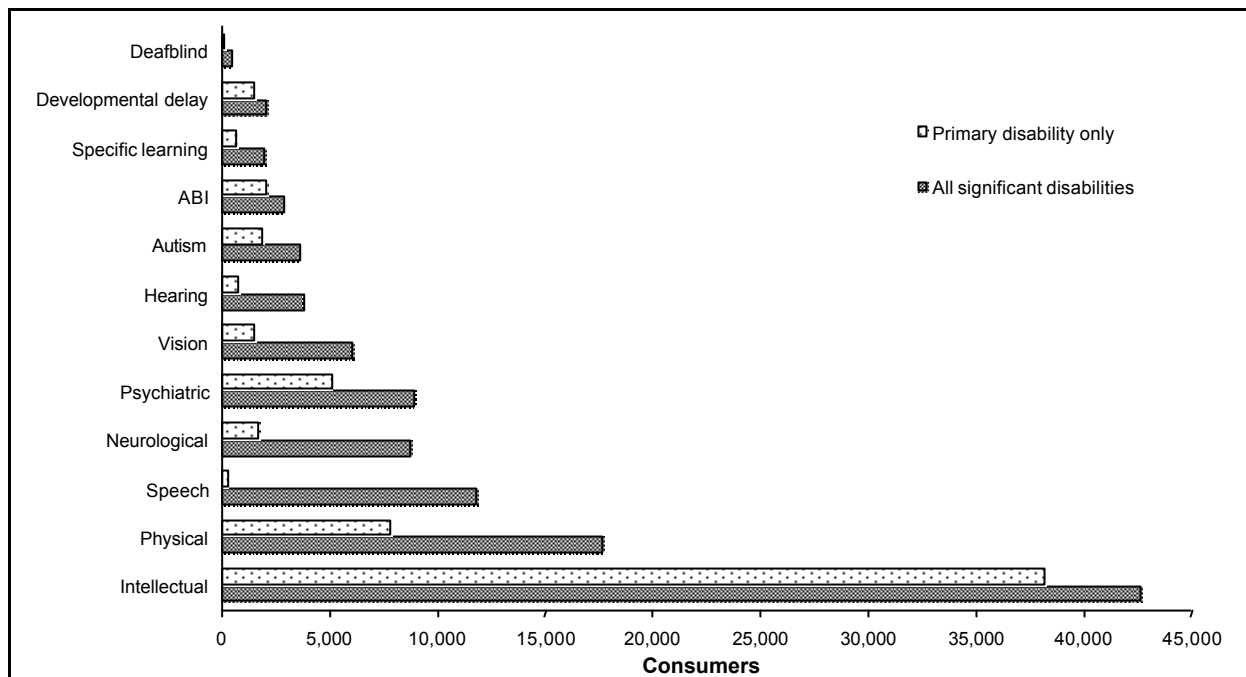


Disability groups

In 1999, 47% of consumers reported multiple disabilities (Table 3.4). The disability group most affecting the everyday life of each recipient was counted as the primary disability, with all significant disabilities affecting the lives of recipients also to be reported.

Figure 1.2 compares the numbers of consumers reporting each disability group on the 1999 snapshot day. Those with intellectual disability comprised the greatest numbers – 38,230 (or 61%) as the primary disability for consumers – those with physical disability were the next most numerous, but were substantially fewer (7,889 or 13%). Inclusion of all the other significant disabilities reported raises these consumer figures to 42,733 and 17,703 respectively.

Psychiatric disability was the next most numerous primary disability group (5,146 consumers or 8%). However, when all significant disability groups were considered, the numbers of consumers with a speech disability (11,847) are greater than for psychiatric disability (8,992).



Source: Table 3.3.

Figure 1.2: Consumers of CSDA-funded services on a snapshot day, primary disability group and all significant disability groups, Commonwealth, States and Territories, 1999

Of 42,733 intellectual disabilities reported by consumers, most (38,230 or 89%) were reported as the primary disability group (Table 3.3). At the other extreme were the sensory and neurological disability groups. Of all significant disabilities reported in each of these groups, 26% or less of consumers reported their speech, hearing, vision or neurological disability as being their primary disability.

Support needs

Information was collected concerning consumers' overall support needs in each of 10 areas of support. Over 82% of consumers needed support in 'activities of daily living' (that is, 'self-care', 'mobility' and 'communication' when combined; Table 3.14). High proportions needed support in 'social' and 'emotional' areas, for example 81% for 'managing emotions' (Table 3.10).

Within this need for support, high proportions of consumers reported a need for continual support in most areas – between 18% (for 'mobility') and 35% (for 'working'; Table 3.10).

Income source

The Disability Support Pension was the main income source for most adult service consumers (83%; Table 3.11).

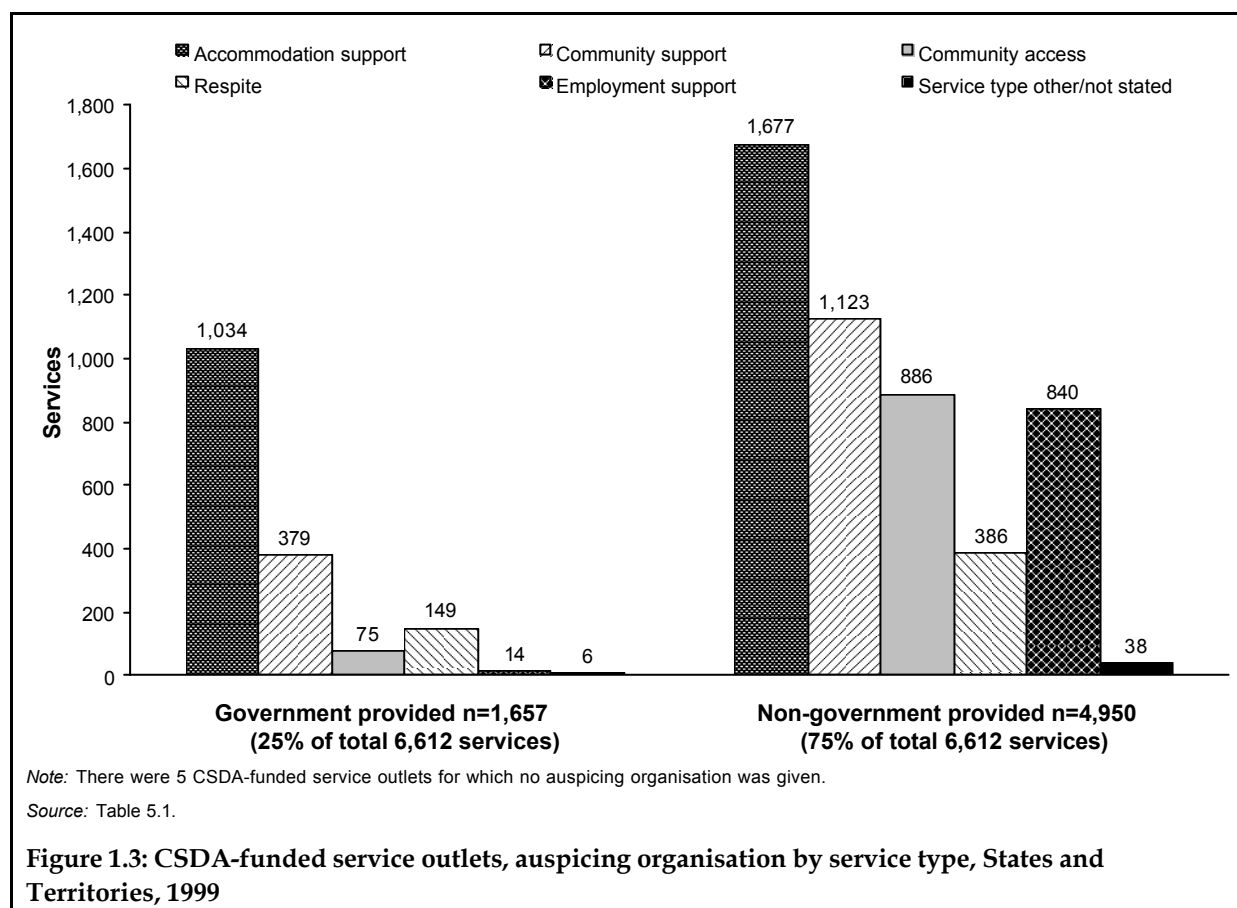
Living arrangements

Most consumers lived with family members and/or their spouse (48%), while 23% lived in special purpose (disability) community residential care (including group homes and hostels of less than 20 persons) and 11% lived in institutional accommodation (that is, nursing homes, hospitals or other institutional accommodation; Table 3.13).

Service outlets

A total of 6,612 CSDA service outlets² responded to the 1999 CSDA MDS collection. Of these service outlets:

- 4,950 (75%) were provided under a non-government auspice,³ and 1,657 (25%) under a government auspice (Table 5.1 and Figure 1.4);
- 2,712 (41%) of all service outlets were accommodation services with a greater number provided by non-government organisations (1,677) than by government (1,034);
- 1,503 were service outlets providing community support services (such as advocacy, therapy, case management services), with 1,123 (92%) being non-government;
- 857 were service outlets providing employment services, with 840 being non-government;
- 961 were service outlets providing community access services (such as post-school options, day programs), with 886 (75%) being non-government; and
- 535 were respite services.



2 Service outlets are service providers providing a particular CSDA service type (see Section 2).

3 The auspice of a service generally indicates the type of organisation that most directly controls the service's operations. It gives information about which CSDA-funded services are provided by governments or by non-government organisations. However, Commonwealth Government-auspiced services can include services provided by universities, although the services are not provided directly by the Commonwealth Government.

There were 5,663 State- or Territory-funded CSDA service outlets and 949 Commonwealth-funded service outlets (Tables 5.2 and 5.3).

Ninety-three per cent of accommodation support services operated for the full 52 weeks of the year (Table 5.5), as did 63% of respite services, 47% of employment services, 47% of community support services, and 25% of community access services.

Expenditure data

Total reported expenditure by governments on CSDA services was \$2.04 billion in 1998–99 or \$1.86 billion when identified administration expenditure is excluded (Table 1.2). About 70% (\$1.43 billion) of this \$2.04 billion came from State and Territory Governments (SCRCSSP 2000). The Commonwealth provided the remaining 30%; \$275 million from its own CSDA expenditure plus \$338 million in payments to the States and Territories.

Data for the Australian Capital Territory are absent for some service type groups and adjustments for payroll tax are incompletely incorporated for some jurisdictions. However, the data show that accommodation support services were funded by governments using about \$1.035 billion, and employment services, about \$224 million (Table 1.2).

Table 1.2: CSDA expenditure on services by Australian governments, by service type, and administration expenditure, 1998–99 (\$ million)

Service type	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia		Total—sum of components
									C'wealth	published	
Accommodation support	363.77	303.08	125.00	108.24	90.02	38.34	—	6.79	—	n.a.	1,035.25
Community support	64.40	51.19	21.08	5.92	34.01	5.32	—	2.40	11.90	n.a.	196.22
Community access	51.86	107.23	20.19	13.12	5.69	7.87	—	1.47	0.37	n.a.	207.80
Respite	33.24	20.50	18.36	17.19	5.72	3.49	1.80	0.87	—	101.16	101.17
Employment services	—	—	—	n.a.	—	n.a.	—	—	223.50	223.50	223.50
Other support	2.83	23.41	4.27	19.67	5.55	0.27	—	0.02	19.41	n.a.	75.43
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>516.10</i>	<i>505.42</i>	<i>188.89</i>	<i>164.14</i>	<i>141.00</i>	<i>55.30</i>	<i>1.80</i>	<i>11.54</i>	<i>255.18</i>	<i>324.65</i>	<i>1,839.37</i>
Administration	58.90	54.15	28.64	11.42	5.40	2.63	2.84	1.11	19.51	184.60	184.60
Total	565.17	559.57	214.99	176.06	153.24	57.93	23.88	12.67	274.69	2,041.02	2,038.19

Notes

1. Expenditure data have been adjusted for differences in payroll tax liabilities, where possible and applicable. This was not possible for 'Other services' in NSW and all specific service types in Qld and the NT. However, \$2.838 million in estimated payroll tax has been deducted from the 'Total' for Qld and \$108,758 in payroll tax has been deducted from the NT 'Total'.
2. The totals as published in the source table are not the sum of their components for some jurisdictions and service types. The shaded column is the sum of the published components.

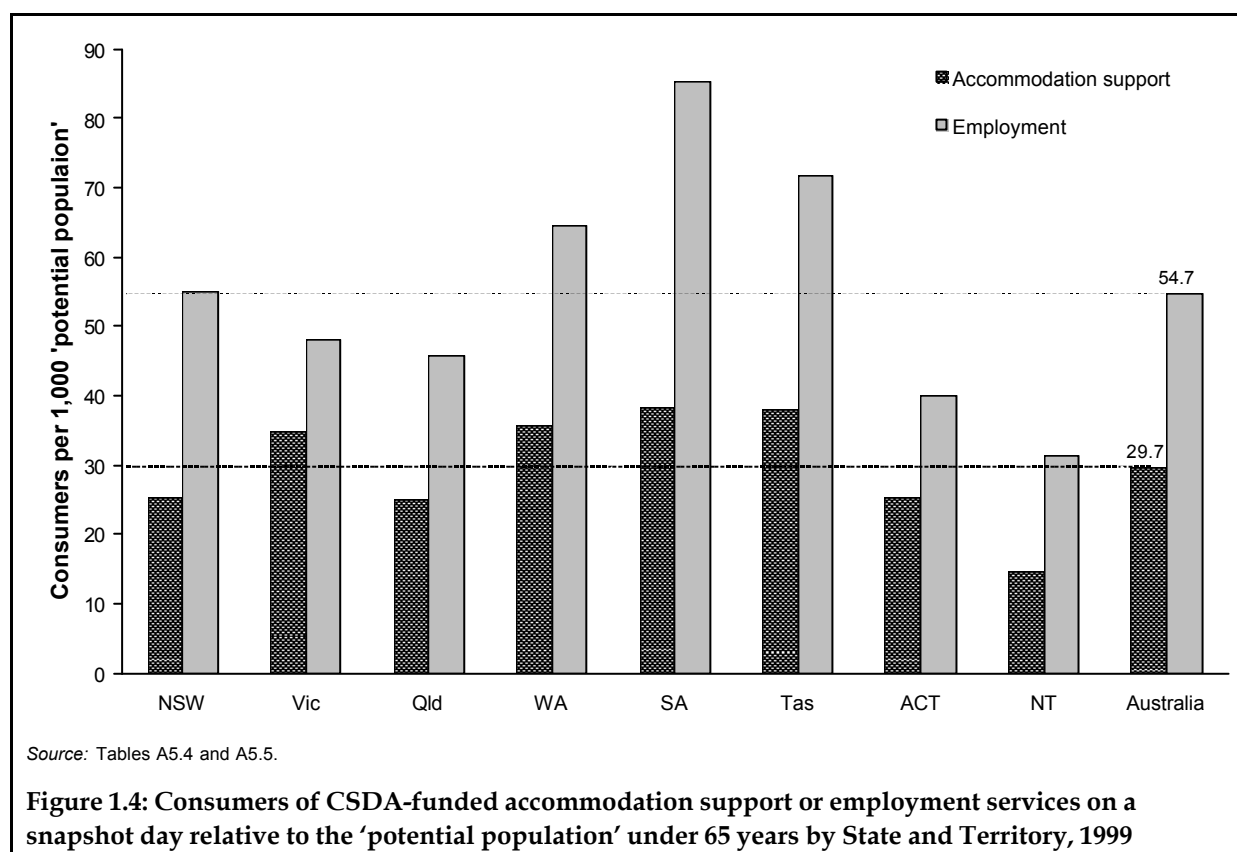
Source: SCRCSSP 2000: Table 12A.8.

Performance indicators

CSDA MDS data have been used in the development of national performance indicators of effectiveness through processes established for the Steering Committee for the Review of Commonwealth/State Service Provision (SCRCSSP). Appendix 5 presents these performance indicators using data as supplied by the AIHW to the SCRCSSP. The indicators use consumer estimates for the first time.⁴

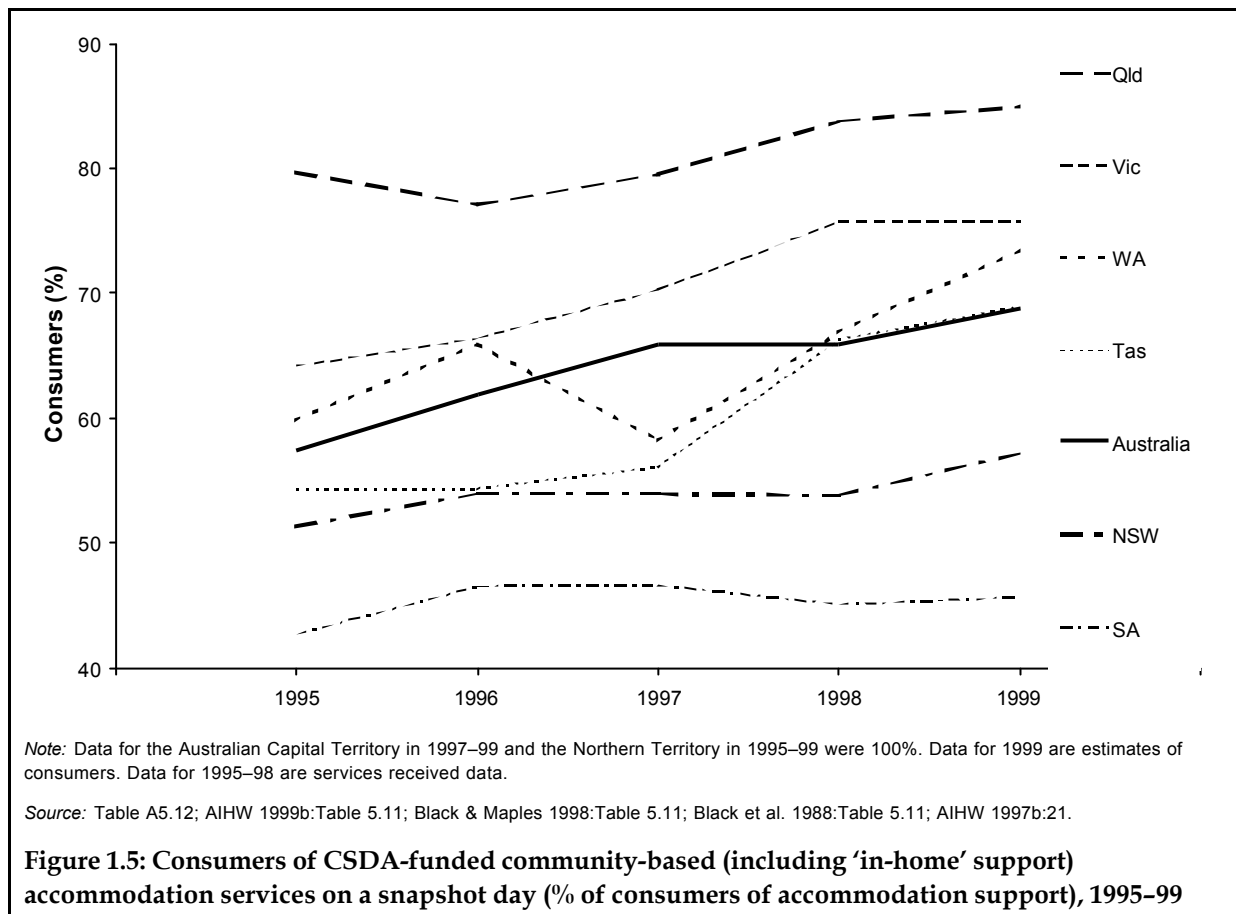
Accommodation support services were received by 29.7 consumers per 1,000 potential population⁵ nationally in 1999 (Table A5.4). For employment services, the equivalent figure was 54.7 per 1,000. (Data for employment services are preliminary; Table A5.5.) These indicators vary across States and Territories (Figure 1.4).

Another indicator of outcome for people with a disability was the proportion of consumers receiving accommodation support services as community-based (including 'in-home') support. Figure 1.5 shows the general upward trend in this indicator between 1995 and 1999. This indicator varies across States and Territories. All consumers of accommodation support services in the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory received community-based or 'in-home' support, whereas in South Australia less than half did so (45.6%).



4 This follows a decision of the SCRCSSP in early 1999. Time series data, covering snapshot days before 1999 (as in Figure 1.5), use services received data, not consumer data.

5 The 'potential population' is the number of people under 65 years with the potential to require disability services, as indicated by their profound or severe core activity restriction (see Appendix 5). For employment services, children less than 15 are excluded from the 'potential population' data.



Outline of the report

Section 2 describes the data collection and how it was conducted, and indicates some of the limitations important for purposes of interpretation.

Sections 3, 4 and 5 give a detailed description of the results of the 1999 data collection, concentrating mainly on national patterns. Data are reported on estimates of consumers, services received, and on the service outlets themselves.

Section 6 contains a discussion of the data quality of the 1999 collection.

Appendix 5 presents some performance indicators for disability services, for 1999.

Appendix 6 presents some details of the process used to estimate consumers using the statistical linkage key.