

Disability support services 2003–04

**National data on services provided under the
Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement**

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Disability support services 2003–04

**National data on services provided under the
Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement**

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Preface

This report presents data from the 2003–04 Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set (CSTDA NMDS). This is the first publication from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare based on a full financial year of data from this collection – from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004. Reports from 1995–2002 dealt with ‘snapshot’ day data, while the 2002–03 report was restricted to using data from a 6 month period (January to June 2003). Overall data quality of the 2003–04 collection has improved compared with 2002–03, and is expected to continue to do so into the future.

In addition to the standard emphasis on service users and service outlets, this report contains a strong focus on data items relating to informal carers – these items were introduced when the collection was redeveloped during 1999–2002. Information relating to multiple service usage over the full year is also able to be presented for the first time.

The report contains an array of information related to service outlets operating under the CSTDA, and the people who accessed them over the financial year. It should be of great interest to a variety of stakeholders, including funded agencies, service users, government departments and the general public.

Richard Madden
Director

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The authors of this report were Tim Beard, Cathy Hotstone and Phil Anderson. The report continues to build on previous reports from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, as well as developments in, and contributions from, all jurisdictions.

The successful completion of the CSTDA NMDS collection in 2003–04 owes much to:

- the service providers and service users who completed questionnaires and provided comments;
- all departments, organisations, peak bodies and individuals who provided suggestions or comments;
- the staff in the disability services funding departments who conducted the collection at the Australian government and state and territory levels.

Our thanks go to all these people.

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Abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADD	attention deficit disorder
ADL	activities of daily living
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
AIL	activities of independent living
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
Aus Gov	Australian Government (formerly referred to as 'Commonwealth')
AWEC	activities of work, education and community living
CSDA	Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement of 1998
CSTDA	Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement of 2002-07
CSTDA NMDS Network	Network of people responsible for the CSTDA NMDS collection (comprises representatives from AIHW and all jurisdictions listed in the Acknowledgments)
DIMA	Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (now known as DIMIA: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs)
DSP	Disability Support Pension
EP Groups	English Proficiency Groups
FTE	full-time equivalent
HACC	Home and Community Care
MDS	minimum data set
NDA	National Disability Administrators
nfd	no further definition
NMDS	national minimum data set
OHS	occupational health and safety
RA	remoteness area (geographical classification)
SCRSSP	Steering Committee for the Review of Commonwealth/State Service Provision

Symbols

n.a.	not applicable
–	zero, or null cells
0.0	rounded to zero (less than 0.5 but more than zero)