Disability support services
2004–05

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

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Preface

This is the second full annual report about the services funded by governments across Australia for people with a disability. It provides information that will help agencies, government departments, users of CSTDA-funded services and the general public to better understand the services and their clients.

The report examines data from the 2004–05 Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set (CSTDA NMDS). This NMDS was originally developed in 1993 and 1994, with the first collection taking place in 1995. From 1995 to 2002 the collection was conducted on a single ‘snapshot’ day basis. The redeveloped CSTDA NMDS was implemented nationally in late 2002 and collection began on a full financial year basis. The full-year collection has significantly improved our ability to enumerate and compile a comprehensive picture of CSTDA service users and the services they receive.

This report presents data relating to disability support services operating under the CSTDA, and the people who accessed them over the financial year. This is the second full financial year of data available from this collection, based on data collected from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

For the first time, this report is able to examine some comparative data between two full financial years (2003–04 and 2004–05). The capacity to do this will increase with each year of collection. The report also contains a strong focus on data items relating to support needs, informal carers and living arrangements of people who access CSTDA-funded services.

Penny Allbon
Director
Acknowledgments

The authors of this report were Tim Beard and Cathy Hotstone. The report builds 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 2004–05 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.

Specific thanks are due to the following people who coordinated the collection in their jurisdiction and who provided a point of contact in the departments that fund CSTDA services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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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 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
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)
SCRCSSP 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)