

Glossary



Aged care home Refers to Australian Government-accredited facilities that provide supported aged care accommodation (low and high care).

Age-specific rate A rate for a specific age group. The numerator and denominator relate to the same age group.

Age-standardised rate Weighted average of age-specific rates according to a standard distribution of age to eliminate the effect of different age distributions and thus facilitate valid comparison of groups with differing age compositions.

Apparent retention rate The ratio of the number of students in a given year to the number originally entering secondary school (Year 7/8).

Blended family A couple family containing two or more children aged 0–17 years, of whom at least one is the biological or adopted child of both members of the couple, and at least one is the stepchild of either member of the couple. Blended families may also include other children who are not the biological or adopted children of either parent.

Capital expenditure Expenditure on goods which have a life equal to or longer than a year.

Care and protection orders Legal or administrative orders or arrangements which give community services departments some responsibility for a child's welfare. The level of responsibility varies with the type of order or arrangement. These orders include guardianship and custody orders, supervision and other finalised orders, and interim and temporary orders.

Cared accommodation Defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to include hospitals, aged care accommodation such as nursing homes and aged-care hostels, cared components of retirement villages, and other 'homes' such as children's homes.

Community-based supervision Includes probation, recognisance and community service orders which are supervised or case managed by the juvenile justice department. This may include additional requirements, such as community service, a developmental activity or program attendance.

Community living Place of usual residence is a private or non-private dwelling as distinct from residential aged care, hospital or other type of institutional accommodation. Community settings include private dwellings (a person's own home or a home owned by a relative or friend) and certain types of non-private dwelling, for example, retirement village accommodation.

Constant prices Constant price estimates indicate what expenditure would have been had 2005–06 prices applied in all years, that is, it removes the inflation effect. Changes in expenditure in constant prices reflect changes in volume only. An alternative term usually used in text is 'real expenditure'. Constant price estimates for expenditure have been derived using the annually re-weighted chain price indexes of government final consumption expenditure produced by the ABS.

Core activity limitation Defined as needing assistance or having difficulties with self-care, mobility and/or communication.

Couple family A family based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household. A couple family can be with or without children, and may or may not include other related individuals.

Current prices Refers to expenditures reported for a particular year, unadjusted for inflation. Changes in current price expenditures reflect changes in both price and volume.

Deinstitutionalisation A term referring to a shift in service delivery away from institutional care, towards care in the home and community.

Dependent child A dependent child is a person who is either a child under 15 years of age, or a dependent student (see *Dependent student*). To be regarded as a child the person can have no identified partner or child of his/her own usually resident in the household.

Dependent student A natural, adopted, step or foster child who is 15–24 years of age and who attends a secondary or tertiary educational institution as a full-time student and for whom there is no identified partner or child of his/her own usually resident in the same household.

Detention-based supervision Refers to situations in which a juvenile is remanded or held in a juvenile justice centre or police watch house before appearing in court or being sentenced, or as part of their sentence.

Disability An umbrella term for any or all of: an impairment of body structure or function, a limitation in activities, or a restriction in participation. Disability is a multidimensional concept, and is conceived as an interaction between health conditions and the environment.

Disabling condition A disabling condition is a disease or disorder that has lasted or is likely to last for at least 6 months; or a disease, disorder or event (e.g. stroke, poisoning, accident etc) that results in an impairment or restriction that has lasted or is likely to last at least 6 months.

Employed person A person aged 15 years or more who, during the reference week of the ABS Labour Force Survey, worked for 1 hour or more for pay, profit or commission.

Expected years of life with disability An indication of how long a person can expect to live with disability. Technically it is the average number of remaining years, at a particular age, that a person can expect to live with disability if death rates and disability rates do not change.

Family Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone-parent–child relationship or other blood relationship.

Family day care Comprises services provided in the carer's home. The care is largely aimed at 0–5 year olds, but primary school children may also receive care before and after school, and during school vacations. Central coordination units in all states and territories organise and support a network of carers, often with the help of local governments.

Family group homes See under *Out-of-home care*.

Formal aged care Regulated care delivered in either residential or community settings, including the person's own home. Most formal care is funded through government programs but may also be purchased privately.

Formal child care Regulated care away from the child's home. The main types of formal care are outside school hours care, long day care, family day care and occasional care.

Full-time equivalent (FTE) An employee who usually works 35 hours or more per week is counted as 1.0 FTE. The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) was arrived at by dividing the number of hours spent in providing welfare services by weekly hours paid for full-time non-managerial adult employees multiplied by 48 weeks.

Full-time/part-time employed Full-time employed are those who usually work 35 or more hours per week; part-time employed are those who usually work more than 1 but less than 35 hours per week (see also *Employed person*).

Home-based care See under *Out-of-home care*.

Independent living See under *Out-of-home care*.

Informal care An informal carer is considered to be a person, such as a family member, friend or neighbour, who provides regular and sustained care and assistance to the person requiring support, usually on an unpaid basis.

Informal child care Non-regulated care, arranged by a child's parent or guardian, either in the child's home or elsewhere. It comprises care by (step) brothers or sisters, care by grandparents, care by other relatives (including a parent living elsewhere) and care by other (unrelated) people such as friends, neighbours, nannies or babysitters. In the context of the ABS Child Care Survey, it may be paid or unpaid.

Income unit One person or a group of related persons within a household, whose command over income is shared, or any person living in a non-private dwelling who is in receipt of personal income.

Intact family A couple family containing at least one child aged 0–17 years who is the biological or adopted child of both members of the couple, and no child aged 0–17 years who is the stepchild of either member of the couple. Intact families may also include other children who are not the biological or adopted children of either parent.

Intercountry adoptions Adoptions of children from countries other than Australia who are legally available and placed for adoption, but who generally have had no previous contact or relationship with the adoptive parents.

International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) The World Health Organization's internationally accepted classification of functioning, disability and health. The classification was endorsed by WHO in May 2001.

'Known' child adoptions Adoptions of children who are Australian residents, who have a pre-existing relationship with the adoptive parent(s) and who are generally not available for adoption by anyone other than the adoptive parent(s). 'Known' child adoptions include adoptions by step-parents, other relatives and carers.

Labour force Includes people who are *employed* and people who are *unemployed* (not employed and actively looking for work).

Labour force underutilisation rate The *unemployed* plus the *underemployed*, as a percentage of the labour force.

Life expectancy An indication of how long a person can expect to live. Technically it is the average number of years of life remaining to a person at a particular age if death rates do not change.

Local adoptions Adoptions of children who were born in Australia or who were permanent residents of Australia before the adoption, who are legally available for adoption, but who generally have had no previous contact or relationship with the adoptive parents.

Long day care Comprises services aimed primarily at 0–5 year olds that are provided in a centre usually by a mix of qualified and other staff. Educational, care and recreational programs are provided based on the developmental needs, interests and experience of each child. In some jurisdictions, primary school children may also receive care before and after school, and during school vacations. Centres typically operate for at least 8 hours per day on normal working days, for a minimum of 48 weeks per year.

Main disabling condition If multiple disabling conditions are reported in the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, the main disabling condition is the one reported as causing the most problems. If only one disabling condition is reported, this is recorded as the main disabling condition.

Non-dependent child A natural, adopted, step or foster child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, who is aged 15 years and over and is not a full-time student aged 15–24 years, and who has no identified partner or child of his/her own usually resident in the household.

Non-school qualification Qualifications awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications.

One-parent family A family consisting of a lone parent with at least one dependent or non-dependent child (regardless of age) who is also usually resident in the household.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) An organisation of 24 developed countries, including Australia.

Out-of-home care Out-of-home overnight care for children and young people under 18 years of age where the state or territory makes a financial payment. It includes residential care, foster care and relative/kinship care. Children in out-of-home care can be placed in a variety of living arrangements or placement types. The following categories are used in the national data collection:

Family group homes These provide short-term care in departmentally owned homes. These homes do not have salaried staff but are available rent-free to approved carers, who receive board payments to reimburse them for the cost of looking after the children in their care.

Home-based care Where placement is in the home of a carer who is reimbursed for expenses incurred in caring for the child. This category is further divided into:

- relative/kinship care—where the caregiver is a family member or a person with a pre-existing relationship to the child
- foster care—where care is provided in the private home of a substitute family that receives a payment that is intended to cover the child's living expenses
- other home-based care—care in private homes that does not fit into the above categories.

Independent living Where young people are living independently, such as those in private boarding arrangements and lead-tenant households.

Residential care Where placement is in a residential building whose purpose is to provide placements for children and where there are paid staff. Residential facilities nowadays are generally small, with less than 10 children living together. They can enable large sibling groups to be placed together and cater for children with complex needs.

Outside school hours care Comprises services provided for school-aged children (5–12 year olds) outside school hours during term and vacations. Care may be provided on student-free days and when school finishes early.

Primary carer Defined by the ABS as a person aged 15 years or over who provides the most informal assistance, in terms of help or supervision with one or more disabilities. The assistance has to be ongoing, or likely to be ongoing, for at least 6 months and be provided for one or more of the core activities (communication, mobility or self-care).

Profound or severe activity limitation A person with profound or severe limitation needs help or supervision always (profound) or sometimes (severe) to perform activities that most people undertake at least daily, that is, the core activities of self-care, mobility and/or communication.

Projection Is not a forecast but simply illustrates changes that would occur if the stated assumptions were to apply over the period in question.

Recurrent expenditure Expenditure incurred for services and goods with a life of less than a year.

Residential aged care Refers to low and high care services provided in Australian Government-accredited aged care homes. Includes accommodation-related services with personal care services (both low and high care services), plus nursing services and equipment (high care services only).

Residential care See under *Out-of-home care*.

Respite services Support community living by people who receive assistance from informal providers. Direct respite consists of the types of respite care arranged where the primary purpose is meeting the needs of carers by the provision of a break from their caring role, and may be delivered in the person's home, in a day centre or community-based overnight respite unit, and in residential aged care homes. Indirect respite offers the 'side benefit' of providing help to the carer by relieving them of the other tasks of daily living, which may or may not be directly related to their caring responsibility.

SAAP precarious housing A SAAP client was considered to have been precariously housed before or after their SAAP support period if they reported one of the following types of tenure before or after that support period: SAAP/Crisis Accommodation Program accommodation, institutional setting, improvised dwellings/sleeping rough, other 'no tenure', rent-free accommodation, or boarding.

SAAP secure housing A SAAP client was considered to have been securely housed before or after their SAAP support period if they reported one of the following types of tenure before or after that support period: purchasing or have purchased their own home, private rental, public housing rental, or community housing rental.

Serve A serve of vegetables is approximately half a cup of cooked vegetables or a cup of salad vegetables (about 75 g), excluding drinks. A serve of fruit is 150 g of fresh fruit or 50 g of dried fruit, excluding drinks.

Stepfamily A couple family containing one or more children aged 0–17 years, none of whom is the biological or adopted child of both members of the couple, and at least one of whom is the stepchild of either member of the couple. A stepfamily may also include other children who are not the biological or adopted children of either parent.

Total fertility rate (TFR) Indicates the average number of babies that would be born over a lifetime to a hypothetical group of women if they experience the age-specific birth rates applying in a given year.

Underemployed person Workers who are not fully employed, comprising part-time workers who would prefer to work more hours and full-time workers who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available), who are willing and available to work additional hours in the reference week or within 4 weeks.

Unemployed person Person aged 15 years or more who was not employed during the reference week but had actively looked for work and was currently available for work (see also *Employed person*).

Unsentenced prisoner A legal status indicating that a person is confined to custody on remand while awaiting the outcome of their trial. They may be unconvicted (remanded in custody for trial), convicted but awaiting sentence (remanded in custody for sentence) or awaiting deportation.