

**Disability support services
provided under the
Commonwealth/State
Disability Agreement: first
national data, 1995**

Ken Black

Simon Eckerman

February 1997

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Canberra

AIHW Catalogue No. DIS 1

© Commonwealth of Australia 1997

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced without written permission from the Australian Government Publishing Service. Requests and enquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be directed to the Manager, Commonwealth Information Services, Australian Government Publishing Service, GPO Box 84, Canberra ACT 2601.

A complete list of the Institute's publications is available from the Publications Unit, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, GPO Box 570, Canberra ACT 2601.

ISBN 0 642 24718 8

Suggested citation

Black K, Eckerman S 1997. Disability support services provided under the Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement: first national data, 1995. AIHW Catalogue No. DIS 1. Canberra: AIHW.

Any enquiries about or comments on this publication should be directed to:

Ken Black
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
GPO Box 570
Canberra ACT 2601

Phone: (06) 244 1178

Published by Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Printed by Panther Publishing & Printing

Contents

List of tables	iv
List of figures	v
Preface	vii
Outline	viii
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Brief history of the CSDA Minimum Data Set	1
1.2 CSDA—the base and interstate differences	1
1.3 First full collection	2
1.4 Changes from the 1994 collection	2
1.5 How the collection is conducted	3
1.6 Acknowledgements	4
2 Data	6
2.1 Overview	6
2.2 Service response rates	9
2.3 State distribution	11
2.4 Service profile	14
2.5 Service funding and income	17
2.6 Disability type	22
2.7 Country of birth	28
2.8 Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin	30
2.9 Frequency of support	31
2.10 Income source and accommodation	35
3 Implications for future collection	38
3.1 Changes already agreed to for the 1996 collection— major outcomes of the 1996 network meeting	38
3.2 Data quality of the 1995 collection and implications for 1997	39
3.3 Other issues affecting the 1997 collection	40
3.4 Conclusion	41
Glossary	42
Appendix	43
Attachments	
1 CSDA MDS—Service type classification 1995	
2 Service form—CSDA MDS 1995	
3 Consumer form—CSDA MDS 1995	
4 Data guide—CSDA MDS 1995	

List of tables

Table 2.1	Number of consumers, service type by auspice by time period, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	7
Table 2.2	Response rate by States, Territories and Commonwealth (%), (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	9
Table 2.3	Missing responses as proportion of total responses for each data item, by Commonwealth, State and Territory (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	10
Table 2.4	'Unknown' responses as proportion of total for each data item, by Commonwealth, State and Territory (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	10
Table 2.5	Number of Commonwealth-funded CSDA services, service type by State and Territory, 1995.....	11
Table 2.6	Number of State- or Territory-funded CSDA services, service type by State and Territory (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	13
Table 2.7	CSDA-funded services, number of services by period of operation, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	14
Table 2.8	Number of services, service type by auspice, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	16
Table 2.9	Service income by service type, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995 (\$'000).....	18
Table 2.10	State-funded CSDA services, total funding reported by services from all government sources, by broad auspice, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995	19
Table 2.11	Commonwealth-funded CSDA services, total government-sourced funding reported by services, by broad auspice, State and Territory, 1995.....	19
Table 2.12	Income reported by services (\$'000s), service type by Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	21
Table 2.13	Service recipients, sex by primary disability type by age, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995	23
Table 2.14	Service recipients, service type by primary disability, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	24
Table 2.15	Service recipients, disability type by primary and combined disability, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	26

Table 2.16	Service recipients, primary disability type by presence or absence of other significant disabilities, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	27
Table 2.17	Service recipients, primary disability type by country of birth, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	29
Table 2.18	Service recipients, age by country of birth, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	29
Table 2.19	State distribution of service users of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, by sector and total population, by State and Territory (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	30
Table 2.20	Service recipients, primary disability type by frequency of support required in activities of daily living, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	32
Table 2.21	Service recipients, primary disability type by frequency of support required in the areas of social and emotional support, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	33
Table 2.22	Service recipients, income source by primary disability, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	35
Table 2.23	Service recipients, frequency of support required in activities of daily living by 'living arrangement/accommodation type', Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	36
Table 2.24	Service recipients, 'accommodation type/living arrangement' by primary disability type, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	37
Table A.1	Consumers, all data items, frequency counts by State, Territory and Commonwealth (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	43

List of figures

Figure 2.1	All services, auspice and service type, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	6
Figure 2.2	Services received, sex and age distribution, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	8
Figure 2.3	Services received, comparison of primary and all reported disability types, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	9
Figure 2.4	CSDA-funded services, service type by operating period (%), Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	14

Figure 2.5	Service recipients, proportional distribution of number of disability types reported by frequency of support required in activities of daily living, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	28
Figure 2.6	Northern Territory service recipients, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin by reported primary disability type, 1995.....	31
Figure 2.7	Services received, frequency of support needed in activities of daily living by preferred method of effective communication, Commonwealth, States and Territories (excluding Western Australia), 1995.....	34

Preface

The publication for the first time of national data on clients of CSDA disability support services is an exciting milestone for the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. It is particularly timely to have an overview of client characteristics and services provided at a time when the Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement is being renegotiated.

Inevitably, the first publication suffers from some gaps, notably Western Australian data on State services. It is to be hoped that these deficiencies can be overcome for the second publication (1996 data).

I am delighted with the information now being released, and hope it contributes to services provided for people with disabilities in Australia.

Richard Madden
Director

Outline

This report describes, and presents data from, the first full collection from services directly provided by government, or funded by government, under the umbrella of the Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement (CSDA). The collection was conducted in the second half of 1995, and covered all State, Territory and Commonwealth CSDA services.

Chapter 1 briefly describes the history of the development of the data collection, describes changes introduced as a result of the 1994 pilot testing process, details how the collection is conducted and acknowledges those persons involved in the 1995 collection.

Chapter 2 gives a detailed description of the results of the 1995 data collection, concentrating mainly on the national perspective. Data are supplied on both the services provided and the users of the services from a 'snapshot day' perspective. Western Australian State data have not been included due to insurmountable problems discovered with the data.

There were a total of 4,219 CSDA services which responded to the 1995 CSDA Minimum Data Set (MDS) collection (excluding Western Australian State data), a response rate of 93%. Of these services:

- 2,752 (66%) were provided under a non-government auspice, and 1,453 (34%) under a government auspice;
- 1,763 of all services offered accommodation services, 859 community support services, 483 community access services and 308 respite services; 772 offered employment services.

Data were collected from 63,530 consumer forms, representing people receiving services on the snapshot day (excluding those in Western Australia); a consumer can receive more than one service on the snapshot day. Of service consumers in 1995, 59% were male and 67.7% were reported to have intellectual disability as the primary disability type. Over 75% of consumers needed support in activities of daily living and almost as many needed social and emotional support. Data on other disabilities, country of birth, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, language, income source and living arrangements are detailed in Chapter 2.

Chapter 3 outlines the changes which resulted from the 1995 collection, which will be included in the 1996 collection. The chapter also contains a discussion of the data quality of the 1995 collection. There are a range of policy and administrative issues likely to impact on future collections, and the uses to which the data are put.

[The CSDA MDS service type classification, data collection forms and data guide as used in the 1995 collection are reproduced as Attachments 1 to 4 respectively.](#)