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Bureau of
Statistics

DISABILITY, AGEING & CARERS

Visual Impairment

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**DISABILITY, AGEING AND CARERS
AUSTRALIA, 1993**

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

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INQUIRIES

- *for further information about the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, and the availability of unpublished statistics contact the Information Officer on Canberra (06) 252 7745.*
 - *for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.*
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VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

Introduction

The Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers in 1993 identified a range of disabilities and impairments which were likely to limit a person's ability to function in society. Visual impairment, which was not corrected by glasses, was one of those. This publication presents data on all persons with visual impairment. Some very small estimates are subject to high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) and, therefore should be used with caution. (Refer *Disability, Ageing and Carers: User Guide* (Catalogue No 4431.0)).

In some cases, visual impairment may not be the only cause of the disability, so that some of the details reported in this publication may be due to disabilities other than those resulting from visual impairment, or as a result of the interaction of several disabilities. In 1993, it was estimated that 3,176,700 persons, or 18.0 per cent of the Australian population, had one or more disabilities. Of these, 278,700 persons (8.8%) reported a sight disability due to visual impairment. An estimated 17,000 persons reported total loss of sight, whilst 261,700 persons reported partial loss of sight.

Age and Sex Structure

Visual impairment is strongly correlated with age. Of children aged less than 15 years, 14,200 persons had a visual impairment, or 0.4 per cent of the total Australian population in this age group. This increased to 110,600 persons, or 13.6 per cent of the total population, in the 75 year and over age group.

TABLE 1. ALL PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT:
AGE BY SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1993
(^{'000})

Age Group	Males	% by age of all males with a disability	Females	% by age of all females with a disability	Total
0 - 4	*2.2	7.0	*2.3	9.2	*4.5
5 - 14	*4.9	3.8	*4.8	6.0	9.8
15 - 24	*7.1	6.9	*2.9	2.8	10.0
25 - 34	15.5	10.9	*4.3	3.2	19.8
35 - 44	10.3	5.4	*6.1	3.4	16.4
45 - 54	14.3	6.2	*5.3	2.7	19.6
55 - 59	*7.1	5.7	*4.6	4.2	11.7
60 - 64	*7.9	5.1	*5.5	5.1	13.4
65 - 69	12.1	8.0	15.6	11.1	27.7
70 - 74	14.9	9.9	20.4	12.8	35.3
75 and over	36.0	29.6	74.6	46.7	110.6
Total(a)	132.3	8.2	146.4	21.3	278.7

(a) Total may be less than the sum of components due to rounding.

Of the 278,700 persons reporting a visual impairment, 132,300 (47.5%) were male and 146,400 (52.5%) were female. A greater proportion of males reported a visual impairment in all age groups from the 15-24 year up to and including the 60-64 year age group. Of those aged 65 years and over, a greater number of females reported visual impairment. More females reported a total loss of sight than males (10,200 and 6,800 respectively).

Types of Disability and Disabling Conditions:

Persons with visual impairment only, most frequently reported their main disabling condition as disorders of the eye and adnexa (which includes cataracts, glaucoma etc.), 80.3 per cent (50,700 persons). Other disabling conditions reported were diabetes and head injury.

A large proportion of persons with a visual impairment (82.8%) reported more than one disabling condition. Less than a quarter of those with a visual impairment (22.7%) reported only one condition.

The main disabling conditions most frequently reported by all persons with a visual impairment were disorders of the eye and adnexa, 38.6 per cent (107,500 persons); arthritis and other musculoskeletal disorders, 19.1 per cent (53,200 persons); and circulatory diseases, 8.3 per cent (23,000 persons). These reported main disabling conditions are not necessarily those which have caused the visual impairment.

**TABLE 2. ALL PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT:
TOTAL AND PARTIAL LOSS OF SIGHT BY TYPE OF DISABILITY(a)
AUSTRALIA, 1993
(*000)**

<i>Type of disability(b)</i>	<i>Total loss</i>	<i>Partial loss</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Sight disability(c)	17.0	261.7	278.7
Hearing disability	*5.2	84.2	89.3
Speech disability	*2.7	22.2	24.9
Physical disability	10.9	156.4	167.3
Intellectual disability	*3.5	30.8	34.3
Psychiatric disability	*3.5	39.1	42.6
Acquired brain damage	*4.0	38.5	42.6
Other disability	11.9	133.4	145.3

(a) Persons may report more than one disability. (b) Disability types are based on the presence of impairments, limitations or restrictions. (c) Since sight disability is the result of visual impairment, these figures equate with the numbers of persons with visual impairment.

Of those with a disability due to visual impairment only, 2,400 persons reported a total loss of sight, (95% confidence interval 200 - 4,600), and 60,800 persons reported a partial loss of sight. For those with multiple disabilities, physical disabilities were the most frequently reported followed by hearing disabilities.

Severity and Area of Handicap

Of all persons with a visual impairment, 242,800 persons (87.1%) were classified as having a handicap. Severity of handicap was identified at four levels: profound, severe, moderate and mild. The level of severity of handicap was not determined for those with employment or schooling limitations only.

Of those with a visual impairment who also had a handicap there were 84,700 persons (34.9%) with a profound handicap, 34,600 persons (14.3%) with a severe handicap, 35,000 persons (14.4%) with a moderate handicap, and 63,700 persons (26.2%) with a mild handicap. Severity of handicap for 24,800 persons (10.2%) was not determined.

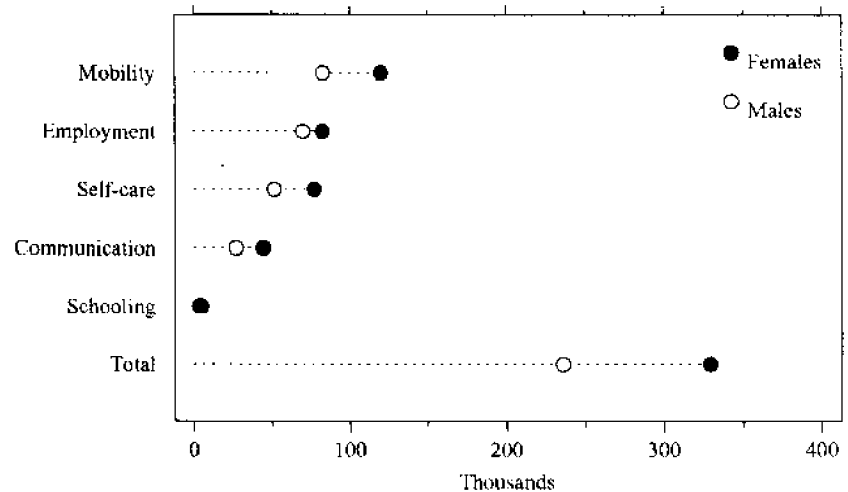
**TABLE 3. ALL PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT:
BY SEVERITY OF HANDICAP, AUSTRALIA, 1993
(^{'000})**

<i>Severity of Handicap</i>	<i>Visual Impairment Only</i>	<i>Visual Impairment</i>
Handicap -		
Profound	*4.6	84.7
Severe	*3.7	34.6
Moderate	*2.0	35.0
Mild	18.6	63.7
Not determined(a)	11.5	24.8
<i>Total with handicap</i>	<i>40.4</i>	<i>242.8</i>
Disability without handicap	22.7	35.9
Total(b)	63.2	278.7

(a) Comprises all children aged 0-4 years with a disability due to sight loss, persons with a schooling or employment limitation. (b) Totals may not add due to rounding.

The most frequently reported area of handicap was mobility, where 203,500 persons reported mobility limitations (see Graph 1). It should be noted that the level of severity of handicap and the area of handicap may not necessarily be due to their visual impairment.

GRAPH 1. ALL PERSONS WITH SIGHT LOSS: AREA OF HANDICAP BY SEX



Housing

Of all persons reporting a visual impairment, 88.3 per cent lived in households (246,200 persons) and 11.7 per cent (32,500 persons) lived in establishments (see p.11). Of those in households, 5.0 per cent reported a total loss of sight, compared with 14.7 per cent of those in establishments.

Approximately 10.4 per cent (29,000 persons) of those with visual impairment have had to move house at least once due to their condition. It should be noted that the move may not necessarily be due to their visual impairment. The major reason for moving was that the new dwelling was better designed or more suitable to their needs, (30.8%). Of those who have had to move, 12,500 persons reported that they would need to move again.

It was estimated that 36,500 persons have made changes to their dwellings because of their condition. A further 19,300 persons would like to have their dwellings modified. The main reason for the required changes not being made was related to the cost involved.

Employment

In the age group of 15 to 64 years living in households (87,700 persons), there were 60,500 males and 27,200 females, of whom 43.0 per cent were employed. Most of those employed were male (81.2%), although the proportion of employed females in the labour force (74.0%) was almost the same as for employed males (77.5%). However, the labour force participation rate for males was approximately 56.9 per cent, more than double the female participation rate of 23.1 per cent.

**TABLE 4. ALL PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT IN HOUSEHOLDS:
LABOUR FORCE STATUS BY SEX BY AGE, AUSTRALIA, 1993
('000)**

<i>Labour force status</i>	<i>15-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45-54</i>	<i>55-64</i>	<i>65 and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Males							
Employed	*2.4	8.5	*6.4	9.6	*3.7	*2.3	32.9
Unemployed	*2.5	*2.7	**0.8	**1.6	**1.2	**0.7	9.6
Not in labour force	**1.9	*4.1	*2.8	*2.9	9.3	52.3	73.3
<i>Total</i>	*6.8	15.3	10.0	14.1	14.2	55.3	115.8
Females							
Employed	**0.1	**1.4	*2.8	**1.4	**1.4	**0.1	*7.2
Unemployed	**0.5	**0.9	**0.6	**0.6	**	**	*2.5
Not in the labour force	*2.1	**1.7	*2.4	*3.0	8.4	89.1	106.7
<i>Total</i>	*2.7	*4.0	*5.8	*5.0	9.8	89.2	116.4
Persons							
Employed	*2.5	9.9	9.2	11.0	*5.1	*2.4	40.1
Unemployed	*3.0	*3.6	**1.3	*2.3	*1.2	**0.7	12.1
Not in the labour force	*4.0	*5.9	*5.2	*5.9	17.7	141.4	180.0
<i>Total</i>	9.5	19.4	15.7	19.2	24.0	144.5	232.2

The number of employed persons in this age group was 37,700, while there were 11,400 unemployed persons, indicating the unemployment rate among the visually impaired population was approximately 23.2 per cent.

Of all persons with a visual impairment over 15 years of age, 52,200 persons (22.5%) were classified as being in the labour force, and 180,000 persons (77.5%) were classified as not in the labour force. More than three-quarters (76.7%) of those employed worked full-time. Of those not in the labour force, 141,400 persons, or 78.6 per cent, were aged 65 years or more.

Approximately 47.3 per cent (109,800 persons) were permanently unable to work. A further small number, (1,700, 95% confidence interval 100 to 3,500), not currently employed reported that they would be able to work if training was provided or equipment or arrangements were made for them.

There were 14,100 visually impaired persons (16.1%) who reported that they were restricted in the type of job they could do and 17,800 persons (19.6%) who had difficulty obtaining or changing jobs because of their disability.

The most common occupation for visually impaired persons was tradesperson which accounted for 20.3 per cent of all those employed. This occupation was predominantly male, as were the managers and administrators (17.0%). Males accounted for 94.0 per cent and 89.9 per cent respectively of these two occupation groups. A further 16.5 per cent were clerks, which was also the most common female occupation.

A further 46,300 persons with visual impairment were not asked about their labour force status. This included children aged less than 15 years and all persons living in establishments.

Income

A government pension or benefit was the most common source of income for the visually impaired population and for 60.2 per cent of this group (167,800 persons), this was their main source of income. More females than males reported a pension or benefit as their main source of income, 64.3 per cent of females compared with 55.6 per cent of males.

Of the persons receiving a pension or benefit, 83.4 per cent of females received the age pension, compared with 66.4 per cent of males, consistent with the age distribution for males and females. The disability support or invalid pension was received by 23.2 per cent of males and 8.1 per cent of females, receiving a government pension. A further 19.6 per cent of the males received a service pension.

**TABLE 5. ALL PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT IN HOUSEHOLDS(a):
BY PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INCOME BY SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1993**
(*'000*)

<i>Principal source of income</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Wages/salary	17.5	*2.9	20.4
Non-wage income	12.3	10.2	22.5
Government pension/benefit	73.6	94.2	167.8
Superannuation	*4.6	*5.6	10.2
Other source	*2.8	**0.1	*2.9
Total	110.8	113.0	223.8

(a) Excludes persons with no income and persons in establishments

As a source of income, wages or salary was reported by 28,600 persons in households and as the main source by 20,400 persons in households (7.4% of all persons with a visual impairment). There were 15.8 per cent of males and 2.6 per cent of females for whom this was their principal source of income. Of the persons with a wage or salary income, 75.1 per cent of males said this was their principal source compared with 55.1 per cent of females (see Table 5).

Superannuation was the principal source of income for 4.1 per cent of males and 4.9 per cent of females with visual impairment in households.

Education

Of all persons currently attending school who have a visual impairment only, 63.1 per cent (3,600, 95% confidence interval¹ 1,000-6,200), had difficulties at school as a result of their condition.

Of the 63,200 persons with a visual impairment only, 37.5 per cent (23,700 persons) had obtained higher educational qualifications since leaving school (see Table 6).

**TABLE 6. HIGHEST EDUCATION QUALIFICATION OBTAINED SINCE
LEAVING SCHOOL, AUSTRALIA, 1993(a)**
(*'000*)

<i>Highest Education Qualification Obtained</i>	<i>Persons with Visual Impairment Only</i>	<i>Persons with Visual Impairment</i>	<i>All Persons</i>
Higher School Certificate	**	**1.3	83.7
Tertiary Certificate	15.7	65.7	3,792.9
Diploma	*3.2	*6.7	657.0
University Qualification	*4.8	12.2	1,360.1
Other Qualification	**	**1.4	57.7
Total(b)	23.7	87.3	5,951.4

(a) Includes persons aged 15 years and over, not attending school, and persons who have never attended school. (b) Total may not add to components due to rounding.

¹ Refer to Explanatory Notes for an explanation of confidence interval.

Lifestyle and Community Activities

There were 233,400 persons aged five years or more in households with visual impairment, excluding those who indicated that they never left home, who were asked questions relating to public transport. Of those, over half (120,700 persons or 51.7%) reported that they could use public transport without difficulty, while 42,900 persons (18.4%) could not use public transport at all.

Of those who do not use, or have difficulty in using, public transport (112,700 persons) the most common reason for non-use was the difficulty of getting into vehicles with steps (62,700 persons). Other reasons were sight problems (55,600 persons), getting to stops or stations (42,200 persons) and lack of seating (32,900 persons).

More than a quarter of all the visually impaired needed help with transport for shopping (28.0%).

Given these difficulties 73,500 visually impaired persons (26.4%) said that they do not go out of their home as often as they would like. The most common reason was their own illness or condition (43,000 persons) which was nominated by 58.5 per cent of this group.

For those with visual impairment who are involved with activities outside their home, the most commonly reported activities were visiting friends or relatives (108,400 persons or 38.9%), going to social clubs (30,800 persons or 11.0%), church or community activities (29,500 persons or 10.6%), and sports activities (25,100 persons or 9.0%). There were 55,900 persons (20.1%) with visual impairment who did not participate in any activities.

Aids

All persons in households who were over the age of 9 years and had partial loss of sight (225,900 persons) were interviewed regarding reading. Of those with partial loss of sight, 77.0 per cent wore glasses for reading and a further 2.5 per cent used various types of reading glasses or magnifying glasses. Just over 66.0 per cent (144,800 persons) of those wearing glasses for reading still had problems reading normal print in books and newspapers because of their visual impairment. When further queried about aids which they were using to help them read, 23.0 per cent (26,400 persons) were using large print books or talking books.

Of those with total loss of sight, 19.2 per cent (3,300, 95% confidence interval 700-5,900) used talking books and a small number of persons used Braille books.

Other aids such as magnifying glasses and other types of lenses and glasses were used by 10.0 per cent of all persons with visual impairment, as a reading aid. However, 77.6 per cent of all those with visual impairment use no special aids for reading (apart from normal reading glasses). A small number of those with visual impairment would have liked to use Braille books (640, 95% confidence interval 0-1700) or large print books (1700, 95% confidence interval 0-3500), but did not use them because they were either too expensive or they "had not got around to obtaining them".

As an aid to mobility, only a very small number of persons make use of white canes (2,800, 95% confidence interval 450-5050), laser canes (540, 95% confidence interval 0-1500) or guide dogs (620, 95% confidence interval 0-1660). However, 13.1 per cent of all visually impaired persons used various types of walking sticks and frames as an aid to help them move around, although this might have been for help with their other disabilities rather than because of their visual impairment.

Print Handicap

Difficulty reading normal print was reported by 122,300 persons in households with a partial loss of sight (52.3%). The main reasons given for this difficulty were an eyesight condition, 93.7 per cent (114,700 persons); had never learnt to read, 1.7 per cent (2,100, 95% confidence interval 100-4,100); and had a learning disability 1.6 per cent (2,000, 95% confidence interval 40-3,960). Additionally, 32,400 persons with a visual impairment (11.6%) reported difficulty holding a book and/or turning pages.

Help Needed

Information was collected in the survey about the need for help with a number of activities. These included a range of personal and household tasks. This is similar to the concept of "felt need" identified by Jonathan Bradshaw¹.

Of all persons in households with a visual impairment, 58.6 per cent (163,400 persons) reported a need for help in at least one activity. A greater number of females reported a need for help than males, 61.2 per cent compared with 38.8 per cent.

Of those with visual impairment, the most frequently reported activities where help was needed were transport, 72.8 per cent; home maintenance, 70.7 per cent; and home help, 52.6 per cent. The greater need for help with transport might be expected given that, in addition to their visual impairment, mobility was the area of handicap most frequently reported among those with visual impairment.

¹ Bradshaw, J., 'The concept of social need', *New Society*, 30 March 1972, pp640-643.

**TABLE 7. ALL PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT WHO NEED HELP:
ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH HELP WAS NEEDED BY SEX, AUSTRALIA, 1993
('000)**

<i>Activities for which help was needed</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Self-care	20.1	26.5	46.6
Mobility	28.9	54.0	82.9
Verbal communication	*5.6	*6.9	12.5
Health care	28.9	51.1	80.0
Home help	29.1	56.8	85.9
Home maintenance	38.3	77.2	115.5
Meal preparation	20.2	21.0	41.2
Personal affairs	23.5	34.2	57.8
Transport	40.2	78.7	119.0
Total needing any help(a)	63.4	100.0	163.4

(a) Total may be less than sum of components since persons may need help with more than one activity.

Help Received

The proportion of help received by persons with visual impairment in all activities showed the same pattern as help needed (see Graph 2).

The most frequently reported activities in which help was received were transport, 70.7 per cent (110,600 persons); home maintenance, 70.3 per cent (109,900 persons); and home help, 48.9 per cent (76,400 persons).

This pattern of help received was similar for people with visual impairment only. Eighty-one per cent of these persons received help with transport, while 47.6 per cent received help with home maintenance and 35.0 per cent with home help.

Unmet Need

Most persons indicated the help they received met felt needs. However, in each activity there was some degree of felt need which was not being met, where persons either did not receive any help or received some help but felt they required more help. The help needed may not necessarily be because of visual impairment, but may be due to other disabilities.

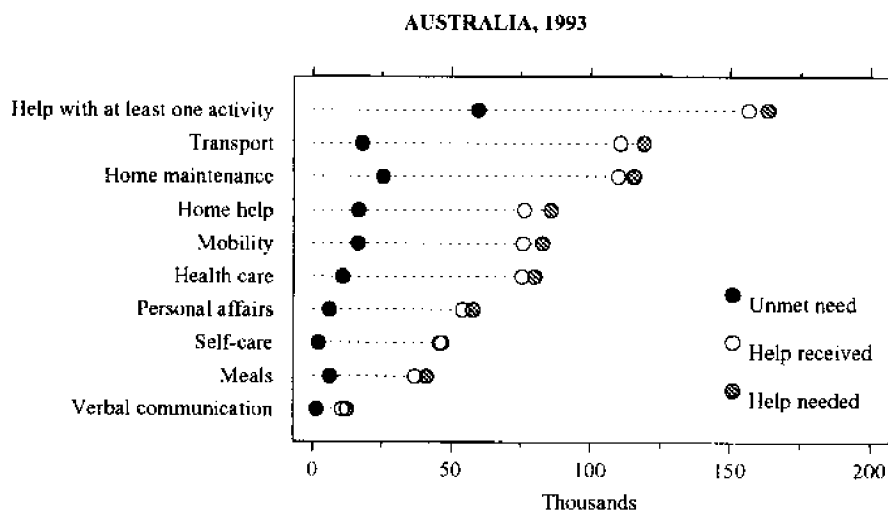
The greatest area in which felt need was unmet was in home maintenance, reported by 25,400 persons (41.8%). The lowest incidence was in verbal communication, with only 2.8 per cent requiring more help than they were presently receiving.

All persons with visual impairment who needed help with at least one activity were asked their reasons for lack of receipt of formal and informal help. The most frequently reported reason for persons not receiving any help from informal sources, was that they had not asked for help, 18,300 persons or 11.2 per cent of those who felt a need for help. For formal help the main

reason that no help was received was that the need was not considered important enough, 11,700 persons or 7.2 per cent of those who felt a need for help.

Different reasons were reported for persons who indicated they received some informal or formal help, but wanted more. In response to why persons

GRAPH 2. PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT: NEED FOR AND RECEIPT OF HELP (a)



(a) Persons needing help can record this need in more than one source

did not receive enough informal help, the most frequently reported reason was that their family or friends were too busy or not available (15,400 persons or 9.4 % of those who felt a need for help). In contrast, the main reason for not enough formal help was a lack of knowledge about a service (13,000 persons or 8.0% of those who need help).

Carers of the Visually Impaired

Care and assistance for persons with visual impairment was predominantly provided by females. In all activities the female spouse was either the first or second highest provider of the total help received.

Help to persons with visual impairment was mainly provided by family or friends (informal help). Agencies or organisations provided formal help to between four and ten per cent of those receiving help, in most activities. However, for health care activities such as taking medication or dressing wounds, 44.5 per cent received formal care. Home maintenance and home help also involved higher levels of formal care, with 28.6 per cent and 27.3 per cent respectively receiving formal help. The care provided may not necessarily be because of visual impairment but may be due to other disabilities.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The 1993 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers was conducted throughout Australia during the period 7 February to 3 April 1993, and covered both rural and urban areas in all States and Territories. The sample included approximately 17,800 private households, 1,600 special dwelling units, and 700 establishments. This resulted in 47,000 person records.

Confidence intervals

Some data in this publication refer to small population estimates with very high relative standard errors. (For a discussion of standard errors see *Disability, Ageing and Carers* [4430.0], pp 38-42). As the information is useful, these estimates have been expressed as a range of values. There is a 95% probability, or nineteen chances in twenty, that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings and establishments had been included in the survey would fall within this range.

Disability

The International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps definition for disability is as follows:

In the context of health experience, a disability is any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being.

For the purposes of this survey:

disability was defined as the presence of one or more of a selected group of limitations, restrictions or impairments which had lasted, or were likely to last, for a period of 6 months or more.

Establishments

Establishments are defined for this survey as hospitals, nursing homes, hostels, retirement villages and other 'homes'.

Formal help

Formal help is help provided by:

- organisations or individuals representing such organisations;
- family or friends living outside the house, or neighbours, who receive money on a regular basis for providing care; and
- other persons (excluding family, friends or neighbours as described in informal help) who provide care on a regular basis and who were not associated with any organisation.

Handicap

A handicap is identified as a limitation due to a disability, to perform specific tasks associated with daily living. [Refer *Disability, Ageing and Carers: User Guide* (Catalogue No. 4431.0)].

Informal help

Informal help is help provided by family, friends or neighbours and, generally, it is unpaid.

Main disabling condition

That condition identified by a person with multiple conditions as the one causing the most problems. Where only one condition is recorded, this is coded as the main disabling condition.

Severity of handicap

Four levels of severity of handicap were determined which were based on the person's ability to perform relevant tasks and on the amount and type of help required. These were:

- profound handicap - personal help or supervision always required;
- severe handicap - personal help or supervision sometimes required ;
- moderate handicap - no personal help or supervision required, but the person has difficulty in performing one or more of the tasks;
- mild handicap - no personal help or supervision required and no difficulty in performing any of the tasks, but the person uses an aid, or has a mild mobility handicap or cannot easily pick up an object from the floor.

Scope and Coverage

The survey was designed to include all persons except non-Australian diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, overseas residents in Australia, members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependents) stationed in Australia, and inmates of gaols and reformatories.

Coverage rules were applied which aimed to ensure that each person eligible for inclusion was associated with only one dwelling and thus had only one chance of selection.

Symbols and other usages

The following symbols, where shown, mean:

- * subject to relative standard error between 25-50%.
- ** subject to relative standard error greater than 50%, including blank and zero cells.

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sum of the component items and the total. Published percentages are calculated prior to rounding and therefore, some discrepancy may exist between these percentages and those that could be calculated from the rounded figures.

Unmet need

Information was collected in the survey about the need for help with a number of activities, including a range of personal and household tasks. This is similar to the concept of "felt need" identified by Jonathan Bradshaw¹.

Unmet need relates only to persons with one or more disabilities who felt a need for help. A felt need that is not being met is reported about a person if:

- he/she requires help, but is not receiving it;
- he/she is receiving help, but the help is insufficient to satisfy the person's felt needs for a specific activity.

Further information

More information about the survey, scope and coverage, content, methods and notes concerning the interpretation of results are contained in the publications *Disability, Ageing and Carers: User Guide* (Catalogue No. 4431.0) and *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Data Reference Package* (Catalogue No. 4432.0).

National estimates relating to disability can be found in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings* (Catalogue No. 4430.0).

¹ Bradshaw, J., 'The concept of social need', *New Society*, 30 March 1972 pp 640-643









For more information ...

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the *ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products* available at all ABS Offices (see below for contact details).

Information Consultancy Service

Information tailored to special needs of clients can be obtained from the Information Consultancy Service available at ABS Offices (see Information Inquiries below for contact details).

National Dial-a-Statistic Line

0055 86 400

(Steadycom P/L: premium rate 25c/21.4 secs.)

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