A profile of Autism' in Australia

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Autism¹ may present substantial challenges for those affected, their families and friends. It can also have an impact on a person's education, as well as their social and economic participation.

In recent years an increasing number of Australians with Autism¹ have been identified. There are numerous factors that may contribute to this increase in reporting. The results from the 2015 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers can provide insights into this complex and varied condition.



There were **164,000**Australians with
Autism¹ in **2015**



The number of Australians with **Autism**¹ increased by **42.1%** since 2012



4 out of 5 people with Autism¹ were male



More than **3/4** of those with Autism¹ were **young** (5-24 years)



Almost **2/3** of those with Autism¹ had profound or severe **disability**



Almost **3/4** of those with Autism¹ needed help with **cognitive** and **emotional** tasks



Almost **half** of those with Autism¹ needed help with **communication**



Around **4 out of 5** children² with Autism¹ had difficulties at **school**



People with disability



People with no reported disability

40.8% of people with **Autism**¹ participated in the workforce³, compared with **83.2%** people with **no reported disability**

Further information is available in *Autism in Australia*, available in *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2015* (cat. no. 4430.0) available from the ABS website (www.abs.gov.au). A pdf version of the information sheet is available from the Downloads tab of this publication.

^{&#}x27;4utism' includes people with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, Rett Syndrome, Childhood Disintegrative Disorder and Pervasive Developmental Disorder, not otherwise specified. For more information, see *Autism in Australia*, 2015 (cat. no. 4430.0).

²¹ iving in households

³Labour force figures are for persons aged between 15 and 64 years living in households.