

## **Australia**

### **SOURCE**

**Name of source:** *2012 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC)*

**Institution responsible for the statistics:** Australian Bureau of Statistics Locked Bag 10, Belconnen Act 2616, Tel: 02 62627430, Fax: 0262528007, e-mail: [ken.black@abs.gov.au](mailto:ken.black@abs.gov.au)

**Type of source:** Household survey

**Periodicity:** 6 years

**Objectives:** The objectives of the 2012 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) are:

- To measure the prevalence of disability in Australia.
- To measure the need for support of older people and those with disability.
- To estimate the number of and provide information about people who provide care to older people and people with disabilities. To provide a demographic and socio-economic profile of people with disabilities, older people and carers and compare their characteristics with the general population.

### **COVERAGE**

**Disabilities:** Seeing, hearing, speaking, moving/mobility, body movement, gripping/holding, learning, behaviour, personal care difficulties, chronic or recurring pain, breathing difficulties, blackouts, fits or loss of consciousness, restriction in physical activities or physical work, disfigurement or deformity, need help or supervision because of a mental illness or condition, head injury, stroke or other brain damage, treatment for long-term condition

**Population groups:** Total population of all age groups

**Total population covered:** All

**Economic activities:** All economic activities

**Sectors covered:** All sectors

**Labour force status:** Employed persons, unemployed persons, persons not economically active

**Status in Employment:** Employees, employers, own-account workers, contributing family workers

**Geographic areas:** Areas excluded: remote and sparsely settled regions. For most individual states and territories they only constitute a small proportion of the population. However this is not the case for the Northern territory, where such persons account for over 20% of the population.

**Establishments:** NR

**Other limitations:** Excludes people in jails and other correctional institutions

## TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

**Term used to denote 'disability':** 'Disability, core activity limitations and restrictions'

**Definition of this term:** A person has a disability if s/he has one of the 17 broad impairment, activity limitations and/or restrictions that has lasted or is likely to last for 6 months or more.

**Source of this definition:** The first collection in 1981 used the draft of the WHO INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF IMPAIRMENTS, DISABILITIES, AND HANDICAPS (1980) as a conceptual framework. The more recent collections are consistent with and can be mapped to the WHO INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF FUNCTIONING, DISABILITY AND HEALTH (2001).

**Questions used to identify persons with disabilities:** 'Do you have any longstanding health problem?'

The questions in the questionnaire define unemployment rate of disabled people (e.g. employed, unemployed, part-time), level of education they obtained (e.g. high school, bachelor degree or higher, certificate level qualifications), conditions causing the most problems when completing everyday activities (e.g. physical conditions, mental or behavioural disorders, diseases of musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue, back problems, arthritis and related disorders etc.), the type and amount of assistance people with disability need (e.g. profound, severe, moderate, mild).

**Minimum duration to be considered as a person with disability:** 6 months

## CLASSIFICATION

**Classifications:** Sex, age, level of education ( Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), publication n°1272.0), other personal characteristics ( marital status, relationship to other household members, country of birth, year of arrival for non-Australian born), type of living arrangements (classification system: separate form for establishments and special dwelling form), status in employment, occupation (classification system: Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO), 2nd edition, publication n°1220.0), economic activity, type of disability (classification system: disability, restriction in performing a range of specified activities, degree of restriction), need for assistance, providers of assistance, unmet need for assistance

**Cross-classifications:** A wide range of cross-classifications is available in standard

**REFERENCE PERIOD:** 3 months in survey year

## DISSEMINATION

**National publications:** 4430.0 - Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2012, published by ABS Australia in 2013

**Website:** <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4430.0Chapter2002012>