



People with disability



In SESLHD

There has been a steady rise of people with a disability in NSW over time. In NSW almost one in five people (1.2 million), approximately 19% of the population, have a disability.¹

In 2015 the number of people in SESLHD with disability was estimated at 100,350.²

Population profile

Forty percent (40%) of people with a disability in the SESLHD are living with a moderate, severe or profound disability and a significant proportion (37%) of people with a disability are aged between 55 and 74 years old.²

The most common living arrangements for people with disability across all the age groups, is living in a household setting with others (66%).² This indicates that a large proportion of people with disability rely upon informal care to meet many of their day to day needs.

The majority of people with disability (56%) rely on a government pension or allowance.² Twenty six percent (26%) are in full time employment and 19% are in part-time employment.²

Issues and challenges

The most common type of activities for which assistance is needed for people with a disability is assistance with health care (15.6%) followed by property maintenance (13.9%) and household chores (12.8%).²

While 100% of people with a profound disability are receiving the assistance they require, it is important to note that 11% of people with a severe disability, and 34% of people with a moderate disability are not receiving assistance when it is needed.

Overall 8% of people with a disability over the age of 15 years have experienced discrimination in the last 12 months. This rises to 10% for people with a profound or severe disability.

People with disability have the right to freedom, respect, equality and dignity and Australia's ratification of the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* in 2008 reflects the Australian Government's commitment to this.³

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics, Disability NSW 2001

2. Australian Bureau of Statistics, Survey of Disability and Carers (SDAC) 2015, tables estimated to SESLHD level.

3. United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006.