
14 Services for people with disability

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Attachment tables

Attachment tables are identified in references throughout this Indigenous Compendium by an 'A' suffix (for example, in this chapter, table 14A.3). As the data are directly sourced from the 2011 Report, the Compendium also notes where the original table, figure or text in the 2011 Report can be found. For example, where the Compendium refers to '2011 Report, p. 14.15' this is page 15 of chapter 14 of the 2011 Report, and '2011 Report, table 14A.2' is attachment table 2 of attachment 14A of the 2011 Report. A full list of attachment tables is provided at the end of this chapter, and the attachment tables are available from the Review website at www.pc.gov.au/gsp.

The Services for people with disability chapter (chapter 14) in the *Report on Government Services 2011* (2011 Report) reports on the performance of Disability services in each Australian State and Territory. Data are reported for Indigenous people for a subset of the performance indicators reported in that chapter — those data are compiled and presented here.

The Australian, State and Territory governments aim to ensure that people with disability and their carers have an enhanced quality of life and participate as valued members of the community. The *National Disability Agreement* (NDA), effective

from 1 January 2009, provides the national framework and key areas of reform for the provision of government support and services for people with disability. The NDA replaced the third *Commonwealth State Territory Disability Agreement* (CSTDA), which commenced on 1 July 2002 and was due to expire on 30 June 2007. To enable negotiations for the NDA to be finalised, the third CSTDA was extended to 31 December 2008. Box 14.1 *Report on Government Services* (2011 Report) provides an overview of the CSTDA and the NDA.

Reforms under the NDA are directed at creating a disability services system that is effective, efficient and equitable, and has a focus on: early intervention; timely, person-centred approaches; and lifelong planning. Ten priority areas have been identified to underpin the policy directions and achieve these reforms, including increased access for Indigenous Australians (2011 Report, box 14.1, pp. 14.2-3).

Australian, State and Territory governments are jointly responsible for developing and implementing reforms to improve outcomes for Indigenous people with disability.

Indigenous data in the Services for people with disability chapter

The Services for people with disability chapter in the 2011 Report contains the following data items on Indigenous people:

- users per 1000 people/potential population in 2008-09 of the following services:
 - accommodation support services
 - community support services
 - community access services
 - respite services
 - employment services
- labour force participation and employment of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation, 2005 and 2006.

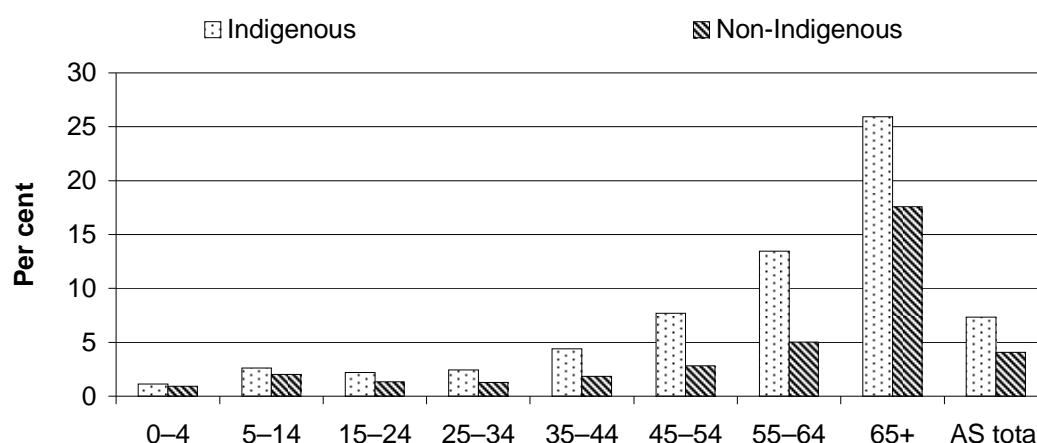
Indigenous people have significantly higher rates of profound or severe core activity limitation than non-Indigenous people. Disability data on ‘core activity need for assistance’ are available from the ABS 2006 Census. The concept of ‘core activity need for assistance’ (ASSNP¹) is similar to the concept of profound or severe core

¹ The acronym ASSNP is the variable name used by the ABS to define ‘core activity need for assistance’. It appears to incorporate a shortened version of ‘assistance need’ and the letter ‘P’ indicates that the classification describes a characteristic of a person. This acronym is used throughout the chapter to denote ‘core activity need for assistance’.

activity limitations, but the relevant data are not suitable for direct comparison due to differences in the questions asked and the methods of data collection.

Nationally, across all age groups in 2006, Indigenous people were 1.8 times as likely (on an age standardised basis) as non-Indigenous people to need assistance with core activities. The disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people increased with age. The gaps were highest in the age groups 45–54 years and 55–64 years. In these age groups, Indigenous people were 2.7 times as likely as non-Indigenous people to need assistance with core activities (figure 14.1). See AIHW (2006) for similar rate ratio estimates based on data from the ABS's *General Social Survey (GSS)* and *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS)* (ABS 2003, ABS 2004b).

Figure 14.1 People with a need for assistance with core activities, by age group, 2006^a



AS = age standardised. ^a Excludes overseas visitors.

Source: SCRGSP (2009) *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage: Key Indicators 2009*, Productivity Commission; 2011 Report, figure 14.2, p. 14.12.

Framework of performance indicators

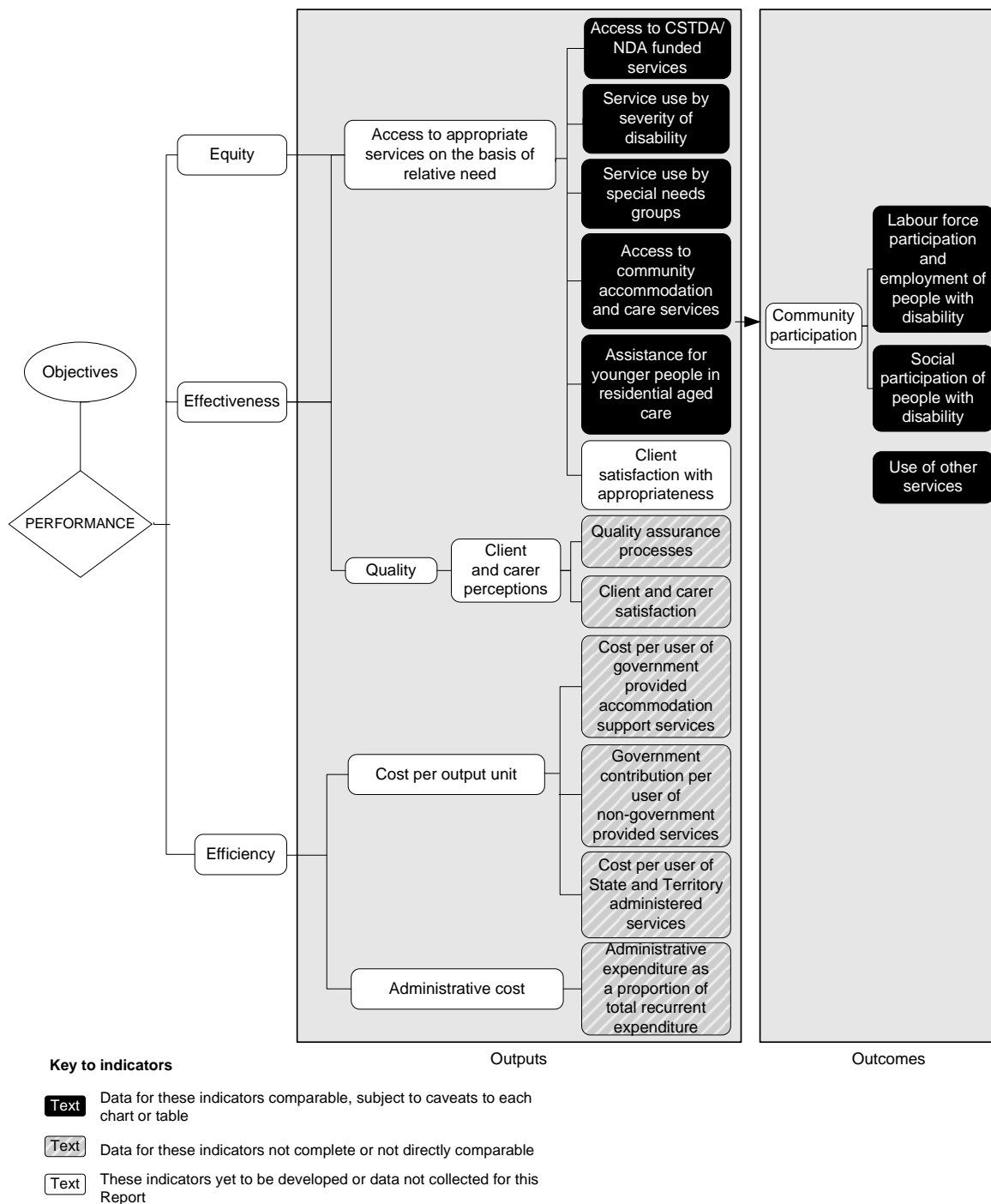
The Services for people with disability performance indicator framework outlined in figure 14.1 identifies the principal disability services activity areas considered in the 2011 Report. Data for Indigenous people are reported for a subset of the performance indicators and are presented here. It is important to interpret these data in the context of the broader performance indicator framework. The framework shows which data are comparable. For data that are not considered directly comparable, the text includes relevant caveats and supporting commentary.

Indicator boxes presented throughout the chapter provide information about the reported indicators. As these are sourced directly from the 2011 Report, they may include references to data not reported for Indigenous people and therefore not included in this Compendium.

The Report's statistical appendix contains data that may assist in interpreting the performance indicators presented in this chapter. These data cover a range of demographic and geographic characteristics, including age profile, geographic distribution of the population, income levels, education levels, tenure of dwellings and cultural heritage (including Indigenous and ethnic status) (appendix A).

COAG has agreed six National Agreements to enhance accountability to the public for the outcomes achieved or outputs delivered by a range of government services (see chapter 1 for more detail on reforms to federal financial relations). The NDA covers the area of disability services. The agreement includes sets of performance indicators, for which the Steering Committee collates annual performance information for analysis by the COAG Reform Council (CRC). Revisions have been made to the performance indicators reported in this chapter to align with developments in reporting for performance indicators in the National Agreements.

Figure 14.2 Performance indicators for services for people with disability



Key to indicators

- Text** Data for these indicators comparable, subject to caveats to each chart or table
- Text** Data for these indicators not complete or not directly comparable
- Text** These indicators yet to be developed or data not collected for this Report

Source: 2011 Report, figure 14.8, p. 14.19.

Service use by special needs groups — Indigenous people

‘Service use by special needs groups’ is an indicator of governments’ objective that access to services should be equitable for all members of the community and provided on the basis of relative need (box 14.1). The Report compares access for people from special needs groups with access for people from outside the special needs group of the total population and the ‘potential population’ (unrevised method). The potential population (unrevised method) is an estimate, derived using a range of data sources, of the number of people with the potential to require disability support services, including individuals who meet the service eligibility criteria but who do not demand the services. Results are reported on the basis of the potential population (unrevised method) to account for differences in the prevalence of disability between people in the special needs group and people outside the special needs group. For information on how the potential populations (unrevised method) for the special needs groups were derived see 2011 Report section 14.6.

Box 14.1 Service use by special needs groups

‘Service use by special needs groups’ is defined by two measures:

- the proportion of service users per 1000 total population in a particular special needs group, compared to the proportion of service users per 1000 total population outside the special needs group
- the proportion of service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method) in a particular special needs group, compared to the proportion of service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method) outside the special needs group.

Both measures are reported for accommodation support, community support, community access and employment services. For respite services, data are reported per 1000 total population only due to data limitations.

Data are reported for three special needs groups:

- people from outer regional and remote/very remote locations
- people identified as Indigenous Australians
- people who were born in a non-English speaking country (that is, not born in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Ireland, the United States or Zimbabwe).

Holding other factors constant, the proportion of service users per 1000 people (or per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) in a special needs group should not differ significantly from the proportion of service users per 1000 people (or per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) outside the special needs group.

(Continued on next page)

Box 14.1 (Continued)

For both measures, while a markedly lower proportion can indicate reduced access for a special needs group, it can also represent strong alternative informal support networks (and a consequent lower level of otherwise unmet need), or a lower tendency of people with disability in a special needs group to choose to access CSTDA/NDA funded services. Similarly, a higher proportion can suggest poor service targeting, the lack of alternative informal support networks or a greater tendency of people with disability in a special needs group to choose to access CSTDA/NDA funded services. For the measure that compares access per 1000 population, significant differences in access can also reflect the special needs group having a higher/lower prevalence of disability. This indicator does not provide information on whether the services are appropriate for the needs of the people receiving them, or correctly targeted on the basis of relative need. The indicator does not take into account differences in the level of informal assistance that is available for people in special needs groups and outside the special needs groups. Results for outer regional and remote/very remote users of accommodation support services, for example, need to be considered with care because alternatives to government funded accommodation support services are likely to be more readily available in these areas. Specifically, accommodation support services in outer regional and remote/very remote areas are largely provided informally, making use of local area coordinators and local community resources.

Data reported for this indicator are comparable.

Data quality information for this indicator is at www.pc.gov.au/gsp/reports/rogs/2011.

Data for access per 1000 potential population (unrevised method) need to be interpreted with care due to a number of factors affecting data quality. Potential sources of error include:

- that there are service users for whom ‘special needs group’ status (for example, Indigenous status) is not stated or not collected — poor and/or inconsistent levels of Indigenous identification between states and territories would affect comparisons
- the assumptions underlying the method used to derive the potential populations (unrevised method)
- for the Indigenous estimates, differential Census undercount between states and territories might also introduce bias in the results that could affect the comparability of estimates across jurisdictions.

Nationally, in 2008-09, the proportion of the Indigenous population who used CSTDA/NDA funded accommodation support services was 2.8 service users per 1000 population, higher than the proportion of the non-Indigenous population who used these services (1.6 service users per 1000 population) (figure 14.3a). The

proportion of the Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) who used CSTDA/NDA funded accommodation support services (39.5 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) was lower than the non-Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) who used these services (41.3 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) (figure 14.4a).

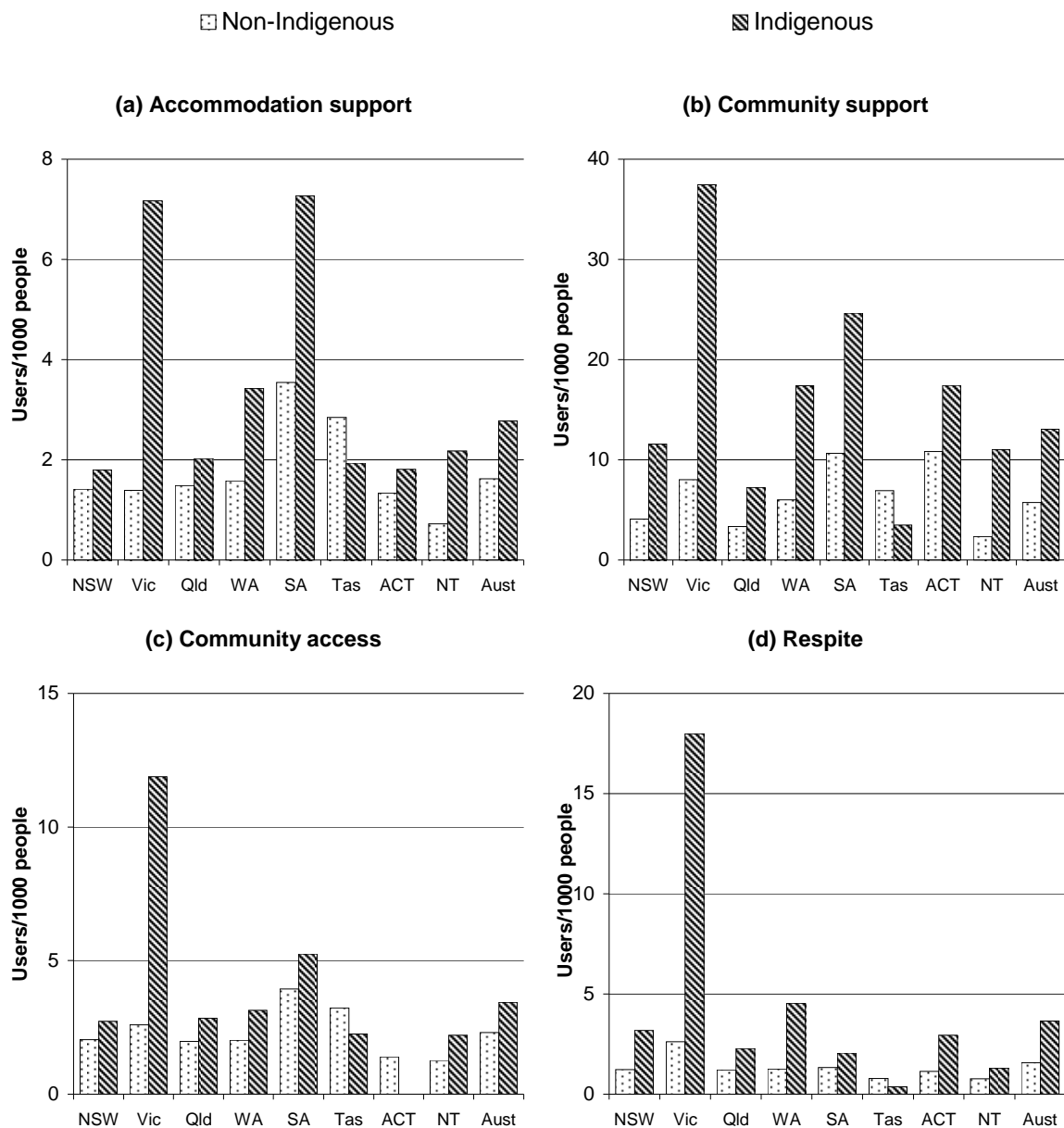
Nationally, in 2008-09, the proportion of the Indigenous population who used CSTDA/NDA funded community support services was 13.1 service users per 1000 population, higher than the proportion of the non-Indigenous population who used these services (5.7 service users per 1000 population) (figure 14.3b). The proportion of the Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) who used CSTDA/NDA funded community support services (185.8 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) was higher than the proportion of the non-indigenous potential population (unrevised method) who used these services (146.4 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) (figure 14.4b).

Nationally, in 2008-09, the proportion of the Indigenous population who used CSTDA/NDA funded community access services was 3.4 service users per 1000 population, higher than the proportion of the non-Indigenous population who used these services (2.3 service users per 1000 population) (figure 14.3c). The proportion of the Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) who used CSTDA/NDA funded community access services (49.0 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) was lower than the proportion of the non-Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) who used these services (58.9 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) (figure 14.4c).

Nationally, in 2008-09, the proportion of the Indigenous population who used CSTDA/NDA funded respite service was 3.7 users per 1000 population, higher than the proportion of the non-Indigenous population who used these services (1.6 service users per 1000 population) (figure 14.3d). Access to respite as a proportion of the potential population is not reported. To derive an estimate of the respite potential populations across the relevant groups, data on people with a ASSNP who had a primary carer are needed. Potential population data for respite services is not calculated at these levels because of conceptual, definitional and quality issues with carer data from the 2006 Census for the special needs groups.

Data on users of CSTDA/NDA disability support services as a proportion of the Indigenous estimated potential population (revised method) are also available disaggregated by age (table 14A.1).

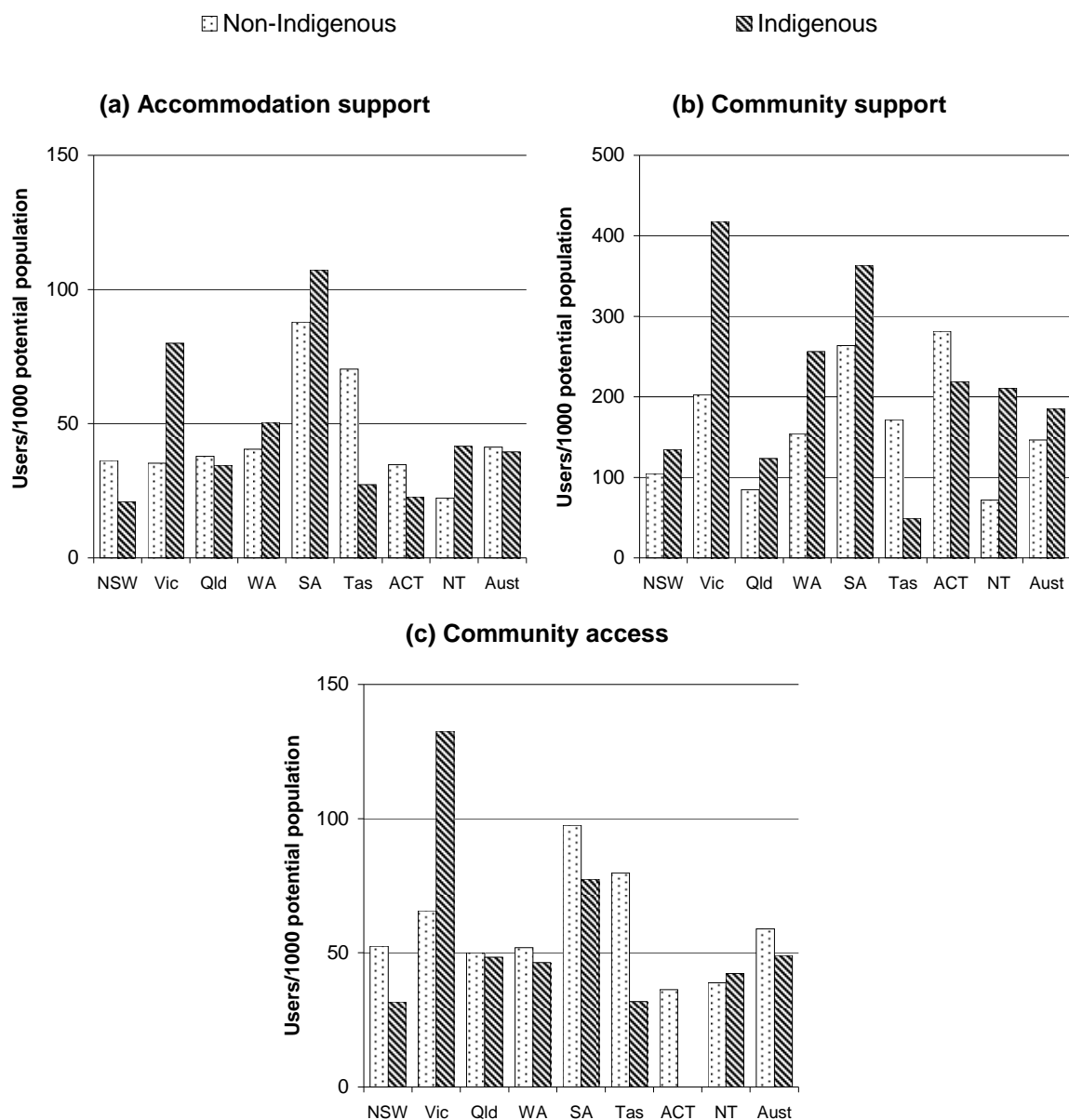
Figure 14.3 Users of State and Territory administered CSTDA/NDA funded services per 1000 people, by Indigenous status, 2008-09^{a, b, c}



^a See tables 14A.2, 14A.3, 14A.4 and 14A.5 for detailed notes relating to these data. ^b Data need to be interpreted with care due to a number of factors affecting data quality. Section 14.6 (2011 Report) contains further information on these quality issues. ^c ACT data for service users per 1000 Indigenous people for accommodation support and community access are not published as they are based on a small number of service users.

Source: AIHW (unpublished) CSTDA NMDS; AIHW (unpublished) derived from ABS (2007) *Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, Jun 2007*, Cat. no. 3201.0, *Australian Demographic Statistics, 2008*, Cat. no. 3101.0, ABS (2009) *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2021*, Cat. no. 3238.0; tables 14A.2, 14A.3, 14A.4 and 14A.5; 2011 Report, figure 14.18, p. 14.38.

Figure 14.4 Users of State and Territory administered CSTDA/NDA funded services per 1000 potential population (unrevised method), by Indigenous status, 2008-09^{a, b, c}



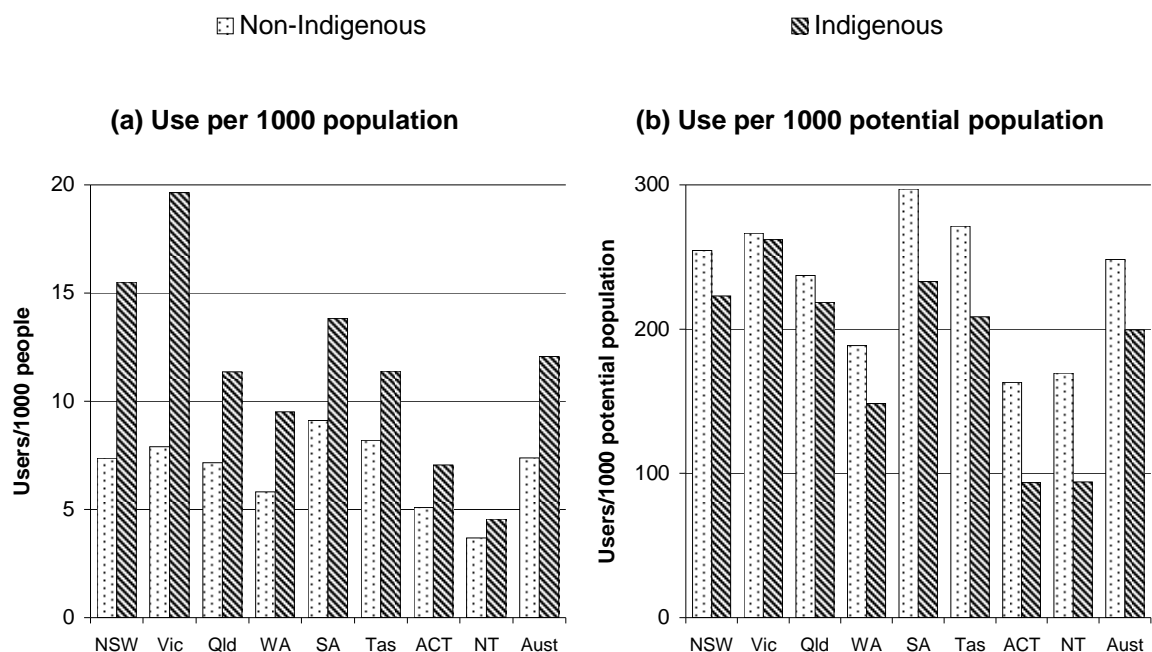
^a See tables 14A.2, 14A.3 and 14A.4 for detailed notes relating to these data. ^b See section 14.7 for information on how the potential population is defined. ^c Data need to be interpreted with care due to a number of factors affecting data quality. Section 14.6 contains further information on these quality issues. ^d ACT data for service users per 1000 Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) are not published for accommodation support and community access as they are based on a small number of service users.

Source: AIHW (unpublished) CSTDA NMDs; AIHW (unpublished) derived from ABS (2007) *Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, Jun 2007*, Cat. no. 3201.0, *Australian Demographic Statistics, 2008*, Cat. no. 3101.0, ABS (2009) *Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2021*, Cat. no. 3238.0; tables 14A.2, 14A.3, 14A.4; 2011 Report, figure 14.19, p. 14.39.

Nationally, in 2008-09, the proportion of the Indigenous population who used CSTDA/NDA funded employment services (12.1 service users per 1000 population) was higher than that of the non-Indigenous population (7.4 service users per 1000 population) (figure 14.5a). The proportion of the Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) who used CSTDA/NDA funded employment services (199.5 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) was lower than that of the non-Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) (248.4 service users per 1000 potential population (unrevised method)) (figure 14.5b).

Data on users of CSTDA/NDA funded open employment services as a proportion of the Indigenous estimated potential population (revised method) are also available disaggregated by age (table 14A.7). Data on users of CSTDA/NDA funded supported employment services as a proportion of the Indigenous estimated potential population (revised method) are also available disaggregated by age (table 14A.8).

Figure 14.5 Users of CSTDA/NDA funded employment services, by Indigenous status, 2008-09^{a, b}



^a See table 14A.6 (2011 Report) for detailed notes relating to these data. ^b Data need to be interpreted with care due to a number of factors affecting data quality. Section 14.6 (2011 Report) contains further information on these quality issues.

Source: AIHW (unpublished) CSTDA NMDS; AIHW (unpublished) derived from ABS (2004) 2003 SDAC, Cat. no. 4430.0, ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing (CDATA Online), ABS (2007) Labour Force Australia, Detailed Electronic Delivery, June 2008, Cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, ABS (2009) Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991 to 2021, Cat. no. 3238.0, Australian Demographic Statistics, 2008, Cat. no. 3101.0 and ABS (2007) Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, Jun 2007, Cat. no. 3201.0; table 14A.6; 2011 Report, figure 14.20, p. 14.40.

Service user data quality and other issues

Data quality

Data quality considerations should be taken into account when interpreting the CSTDA NMDS service user data used in this chapter. In particular, data quality should be considered when making comparisons across jurisdictions and across years.

There are three aspects of quality that affect the accuracy and reliability of the data reported in this chapter:

- service type outlet response rates
- service user response rates
- ‘not stated’ rates for individual data items.

The first two of these affect the service user counts — nationally, by jurisdiction and service type — and all three affect the accuracy of analyses of individual data items (AIHW 2010).

‘Not stated’ rates for individual data items vary between jurisdictions (AIHW 2010). One reason for the higher level of ‘not stated’ responses to some data items may be the increased efforts to improve the coverage and completeness of the CSTDA NMDS collection overall. For example, therapy services (a community support service) in the ACT participated for the first time in the 2004-05 collection. In an effort to include all users of these services, provisional data collection processes were used that meant minimal data were provided for each user (AIHW 2010).

Deriving potential populations — unrevised method

Potential populations have been estimated for Indigenous people and non-Indigenous people. These ‘potential populations’ are estimates of the number of people with the potential to require disability support services in the relevant group, including individuals who meet the service eligibility criteria but who do not demand the services.

The approach used to derive the potential populations (unrevised method) by Indigenous status involved the following steps:

- Deriving current State/Territory based 10-year age and sex specific rate ratios of people with ASSNP by Indigenous status using the 2006 Census

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- Multiplying the current State/Territory Indigenous and non-Indigenous 10-year age and sex population estimates by national 10-year age and sex specific rates of severe/profound core activity limitation from the 2003 SDAC. Then multiplying the Indigenous and non-Indigenous counts for each 10-year age and sex group by the 10-year age and sex specific rate ratios of people with ASSNP to obtain an Indigenous/non-Indigenous potential population (unrevised method) within each age and sex group
 - Summing the 10-year age and sex group counts to derive a total Indigenous and non-Indigenous potential population for each State/Territory
 - For employment, repeating the above steps, but restricting the calculations to those people aged 15–64 years, then multiplying each State/Territory total by State/Territory specific labour force participation rates for people aged 15–64 years.

Data quality issues

Data measuring the potential populations (unrevised method) of the special needs groups are not explicitly available for the required time periods and have been estimated using several different data sources (as noted above), under several key assumptions. Some issues with this approach are outlined below:

- The method used to estimate the potential populations (unrevised method) assumes:
 - that disability rates vary only by age and sex, and there is no effect of remoteness, disadvantage, or any other variable — this is likely to affect the reliability of comparisons across states and territories, however, it is currently not possible to detect the size or direction of any potential bias
 - that age- and sex- specific disability rates do not change significantly over time.
- The rate ratio/proportion adjustments (that is, multiplication) assumes consistency between the rate ratio/proportion as calculated from the 2006 Census and the corresponding information if it were collected from the 2003 SDAC. Two particular points to note with this assumption are that:
 - information about people with ASSNP is based on the self-enumeration (interview in Indigenous communities) of four questions under the 2006 Census, whereas in SDAC 2003 people are defined as having a severe/profound core activity limitation on the basis of a comprehensive interviewer administered module of questions — the two populations are different, but are conceptually related

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- the special needs groups identification may not be the same between the 2006 Census and the 2003 SDAC (ABS research indicates, for example, that the Indigenous identification rate differs across the Census and interviewer administered surveys)
 - It is not known if the data collection instruments are culturally appropriate for all special needs groups; nor is it known how this, combined with different data collection methods, impacts on the accuracy of the estimated potential population (unrevised method)
 - There are a number of potential sources of error related to the Census that stem from failure to return a Census form or failure to answer every applicable question. Information calculated from 2006 Census data exclude people for whom data item information is not available. As with any collection, should the characteristics of interest (for example, ASSNP and/or special needs group status) of the people excluded differ from those people included, a potential for bias is introduced. In particular, for Indigenous estimates, differential undercount of Indigenous Australians across states and territories may introduce bias into the results that would affect the comparability of estimates across jurisdictions, if those missed by the Census had a different rate of disability status to those included.

Definitions of key terms and indicators

Accommodation support service users receiving community accommodation and care services

People using the following CSTDA/NDA accommodation support services: group homes; attendant care/personal care; in-home accommodation support; alternative family placement and other accommodation support (types 1.04–1.08), as a proportion of all people using CSTDA/NDA accommodation support services (excludes service users of specialist psychiatric disability services only). See AIHW (2009) for more information on service types 1.04–1.08.

Core activities as per the 2003 ABS SDAC

Self care — showering or bathing, dressing, eating, toileting and bladder or bowel control; mobility — getting into or out of a bed or chair, moving about the usual place of residence, going to or getting around a place away from the usual residence, walking 200 metres, walking up and down stairs without a handrail, bending and picking up an object from the floor, using public transport (the first three tasks contribute to the definitions of profound and severe core-activity limitation); and communication — understanding and being understood by strangers, family and friends.

Disability

The United Nation's *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, ratified by Australia on 17 July 2008, defines 'persons with disabilities' as those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

The WHO defines 'disabilities' as impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions: an impairment is a problem in body function or structure; an activity limitation is a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action; and a participation restriction is a problem experienced by an individual in involvement in life situations. Disability is a complex phenomenon, reflecting an interaction between features of a person's body and features of the society in which he or she lives (WHO 2009).

The ABS SDAC 2003 defined 'disability' as the presence of at least one of 17 limitations, restrictions or impairments, which have lasted or are likely to last for a period of 6 months or more: loss of sight (not corrected by glasses or contact lenses); loss of hearing where communication is restricted; or an aid to assist with, or substitute for, hearing is used; speech difficulties; shortness of breath or breathing difficulties causing restriction; chronic or recurrent pain or discomfort causing restriction; blackouts, fits or loss of consciousness; difficulty learning or understanding; incomplete use of arms or fingers; difficulty gripping or holding things; incomplete use of feet or legs; nervous or emotional condition causing restriction; restriction in physical activities or in doing physical work; disfigurement or deformity; mental illness or condition requiring help or supervision; long-term effects of head injury; stroke or other brain damage causing restriction; receiving treatment or medication for any other long-term conditions or ailments and still restricted; any other long-term conditions resulting in a restriction.

The third CSTDA (2003, p. 9) defined 'people with disabilities' as those whose disability manifests itself before the age of 65 years and for which they require significant ongoing and/or long-term episodic support. For these people, the disability will be attributable to an intellectual, psychiatric, sensory, physical or neurological impairment or acquired brain injury (or some combination of these) which is likely

to be permanent and results in substantially reduced capacity in at least one of the following: self care/management, mobility and communication.

Geographic location

Geographic location is based on the ABS's Australian Standard Geographical Classification of Remoteness Areas, which categorises areas as 'major cities', 'inner regional', 'outer regional', 'remote', 'very remote' and 'migratory'. The criteria for Remoteness Areas are based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia, which measures the remoteness of a point based on the physical road distance to the nearest urban centre in each of five size classes (ABS 2001).

The 'outer regional and remote/very remote' classification used in this Report was derived by adding outer regional, remote and very remote data.

Indigenous factor

The potential populations (unrevised method) were estimated by applying the 2003 national age- and sex- specific rates of profound or severe core activity limitation to the age and sex structure of each jurisdiction in the current year. As Indigenous people have significantly higher disability prevalence rates and greater representation in some CSTDA/NDA funded services than non-Indigenous people, and there are differences in the share of different jurisdictions' populations who are Indigenous, a further Indigenous factor adjustment was undertaken. The Indigenous factor was multiplied by the 'expected current population estimate' of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation in each jurisdiction to derive the 'potential population' (unrevised method).

The following steps were undertaken to estimate the Indigenous factors:

- Data for all people (weighted) were calculated by multiplying the data for Indigenous Australians by 2.4 and adding the data for non-Indigenous Australians. Hence Indigenous Australians are weighted at 2.4 and non-Indigenous Australians at one
- Data for all people (weighted per person) were calculated by dividing the all people (weighted) data by the sum of the Indigenous Australians data and the non-Indigenous Australians data
- The Indigenous factors were then calculated by multiplying the all people (weighted per person) data by 100 and dividing by the all people (weighted per person) total for Australia (AIHW 2010).

Labour force participation rate for people with a profound or severe core activity limitation

The total number of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation in the labour force (where the labour force includes employed and unemployed people), divided by the total number of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation who are aged 15–64 years, multiplied by 100.

An employed person is a person who, in his or her main job during the remuneration period (reference week):

- worked one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons)
- worked one hour or more without pay in a family business, or on a farm (excluding persons undertaking other unpaid voluntary work), or
- was an employer, employee or self-employed person or unpaid family helper who had a job, business or farm, but was not at work.

An unemployed person is a person aged 15–64 years who was not

Labour force participation rate for the total population

employed during the remuneration period, but was looking for work.

Total number of people aged 15–64 years in the labour force (where the labour force includes both employed and unemployed people) divided by the total number of people aged 15–64 years, multiplied by 100.

Potential population (unrevised method)

Potential population estimates are used as the denominators for the performance measures reported under the indicator 'access to CSTDA/NDA funded services'.

The 'potential population' is the number of people with the potential to require disability support services, including individuals who meet the service eligibility criteria but who do not demand the services. In practice, the number of people with profound or severe core activity limitation is used as the basis to measure the potential population (see definition of core activities above).

The potential population for CSTDA/NDA funded accommodation support, community access and community support services is measured by the number of people aged under 65 years who have a profound or severe core activity limitation, adjusted for the Indigenous factor. The potential population for CSTDA/NDA funded employment services is measured by the number of people aged 15–64 years with a profound or severe core activity limitation, adjusted for the Indigenous factor and the labour force participation rate. The potential population for CSTDA/NDA funded respite services data is measured by the number of people under 65 years with a profound or severe core activity limitation who have a primary carer, adjusted for the Indigenous factor.

The ABS concept of a 'profound or severe' core activity limitation that relates to the need for assistance with everyday activities of self care, mobility and communication currently underpins the measurement of the population in need of specialist disability services. The relatively high standard errors in the prevalence rates for smaller jurisdictions, as well as the need to adjust for the Indigenous population necessitated the preparation of special estimates of the 'potential population' for specialist disability services.

Briefly, the potential population was estimated by applying the 2003 national age- and sex- specific rates of profound or severe core activity limitation to the age and sex structure of each jurisdiction in the current year, to give an 'expected current estimate' of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation in that jurisdiction. These estimates were adjusted by the Indigenous factor to account for differences in the proportion of jurisdictions' populations who are Indigenous. Indigenous people have been given a weighting of 2.4 in these estimates, in recognition of their greater prevalence rates of disability and their relatively greater representation in CSTDA/NDA funded services (AIHW 2006).

Potential Population (revised method)

Potential population estimates are used as the denominators for the performance measures reported to COAG under National Disability Agreement reporting requirements.

The 'potential population' is the number of people aged under 65 with the potential to require disability support services, including individuals who meet the service eligibility criteria but who do not demand the services. In practice, the number of people with profound or severe core activity limitation is used as the basis to measure the potential

population (see definition of core activities above).

The potential population for State/Territory delivered disability support services is measured by the number of people aged under 65 years who have a profound or severe core activity limitation. Briefly, the 2003 national age- and sex- specific rates of profound or severe core activity limitation are applied to the age and sex structure of each jurisdiction in the current year, to give an 'expected current estimate' of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation in that jurisdiction. No Indigenous weight or scaling factor is used. The potential population for CSTDA/NDA funded employment services is measured by the number of people aged 15-64 years with a profound or severe core activity limitation, and is calculated using the same method. No Indigenous weight or scaling factor is used. There is no adjustment for labour force participation.

The method used to calculate the Indigenous potential population is to apply adjusted national age- and sex- specific rates of profound or severe core activity limitation to the age and sex structure of the Indigenous population of each jurisdiction in the current year. The national age- and sex- specific rates of profound or severe core activity limitation are adjusted by the rate ratio of the Indigenous rate need for assistance to the all persons rate of need for assistance with core activities, as calculated from the Census. Estimates of potential population by country of birth and Remoteness Area are calculated by applying Census distributions of country of birth and Remoteness Area for people who need assistance with core activities to the age and sex structure of the jurisdictional potential population.

Primary carer

ABS SDAC primary carer: A primary carer is a person who provides the most informal assistance, in terms of help or supervision, to a person with one or more disabilities. The assistance has to be ongoing, or likely to be ongoing, for at least 6 months and be provided for one or more of the core activities (communication, mobility and self care). In the SDAC, primary carers only include persons aged 15 years and over for whom a personal interview was conducted. Persons aged 15 to 17 years were only interviewed personally if parental permission was granted (ABS 2004a).

CSTDA NMDS primary carer: an informal carer who assists the person requiring support, in one or more of the following ADL: self care, mobility or communication.

See also informal carer.

Primary disability group

Disability group that most clearly expresses the experience of disability by a person. The primary disability group can also be considered as the disability group causing the most difficulty to the person (overall difficulty in daily life, not just within the context of the support offered by a particular service).

Profound core activity limitation

Unable to, or always needing assistance to, perform a core activity task (as per the 2003 SDAC).

Service

A service is a support activity provided to a service user, in accord with the CSTDA/NDA. Services within the scope of the collection are those for which funding has been provided during the specified period by a government organisation operating under the CSTDA/NDA.

Service type

The support activity that the service type outlet has been funded to provide under the CSTDA. The NMDS classifies services according to 'service type'. The service type classification groups services into

	seven categories: accommodation support; community support; community access; respite; employment; advocacy, information and print disability; and other support services. Each of these categories has subcategories.
Service type outlet	A service type outlet is the unit of the funded agency that delivers a particular CSTDA/NDA service type at or from a discrete location. If a funded agency provides, for example, both accommodation support and respite services, it is counted as two service type outlets. Similarly, if an agency is funded to provide more than one accommodation support service type (for example, group homes and attendant care), then it is providing (and is usually separately funded for) two different service types — that is, there are two service type outlets for the funded agency.
Service user	A service user is a person with disability who receives a CSTDA/NDA funded service. A service user may receive more than one service over a period of time or on a single day.
Severe core activity limitation	Sometimes needing assistance to perform a core activity task (as per the SDAC 2003).
Users of CSTDA/NDA accommodation support services	People using one or more accommodation support services that correspond to the following CSTDA NMDS service types: 1.01 large residential/institutions (more than 20 places); 1.02 small residential/institutions (7–20 places); 1.03 hostels; 1.04 group homes (less than seven places); 1.05 attendant care/personal care; 1.06 in-home accommodation support; 1.07 alternative family placement; and 1.08 other accommodation support.
Users of CSTDA/NDA community access services	People using one or more services that correspond to the following CSTDA NMDS service types: 3.01 learning and life skills development; 3.02 recreation/holiday programs; and 3.03 other community access. See AIHW (2009) for more information on service types 3.01–3.03.
Users of CSTDA/NDA community support services	People using one or more services that correspond to the following CSTDA NMDS service types: 2.01 therapy support for individuals; 2.02 early childhood intervention; 2.03 behaviour/specialist intervention; 2.04 counselling; 2.05 regional resource and support teams; 2.06 case management, local coordination and development; and 2.07 other community support. See AIHW (2009) for more information on service types 2.01–2.07.
Users of CSTDA/NDA employment services	People using one or more services that correspond to the following CSTDA NMDS service types: 5.01 open employment and 5.02 supported employment. (For data prior to 2005-06, people using service type 5.03 [combined open and supported] are also included.)
Users of CSTDA/NDA respite services	People using one or more services that correspond to the following CSTDA NMDS service types: 4.01 own home respite; 4.02 centre-based respite/respite homes; 4.03 host family respite/peer support respite; 4.04 flexible/combination respite; and 4.05 other respite. See AIHW (2009) for more information on service types 4.01–4.05.

List of attachment tables

Attachment tables for data within this chapter are contained in the attachment to the Compendium. These tables are identified in references throughout this chapter by an 'A' suffix (for example, table 14A.3 is table 3). Attachment tables are provided on the Review website (www.pc.gov.au/gsp).

Table 14A.1	Users of total CSTDA/NDA State/Territory delivered disability support services (aged 0-64 years) as a proportion of the indigenous estimated potential population (revised method), by age group
Table 14A.2	Users of CSTDA/NDA accommodation support services, by Indigenous status
Table 14A.3	Users of CSTDA/NDA community support services, by Indigenous status
Table 14A.4	Users of CSTDA/NDA community access services, by Indigenous status
Table 14A.5	Users of CSTDA/NDA respite services, by Indigenous status
Table 14A.6	Users of CSTDA/NDA employment services (aged 15-64 years), by Indigenous status
Table 14A.7	Users of CSTDA/NDA open employment services (aged 15-64 years), by Indigenous status
Table 14A.8	Users of CSTDA/NDA supported employment services (aged 15-64 years), by Indigenous status
Table 14A.9	Labour force participation and employment of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation, by special needs groups, 2006 (per cent)
Table 14A.10	Labour force participation and employment of all people with disability, by special needs groups, 2009 (per cent)
Table 14A.11	Labour force participation and employment of people with a profound or severe core activity limitation, by special needs groups, 2009 (per cent)

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