

National
Disability
Data Asset

Housing services data

What we learned from our early research

December 2021

Easy Read report



How to use this report



The National Disability Data Asset Team wrote this report. When you see the word 'we', it means the National Disability Data Asset Team.



We wrote this report in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Not bold
Bold

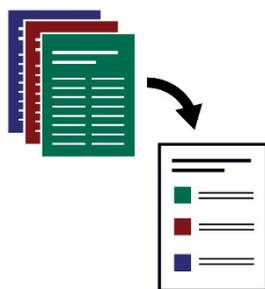
We have written some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 16.



This Easy Read report is a summary of another report.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can ask for help to read this report. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

What's in this report?

What is this report about?	4
What did we learn from our early research?	5
What does our early research mean?	14
Word list	16
Contact us	18

What is this report about?

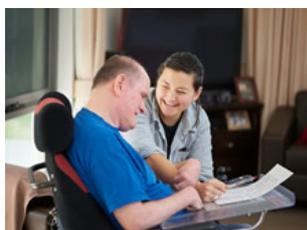


When we talk about **data**, we mean:

- facts
- information
- records.



This report is about data about people with disability who use housing services.



Housing services support people with disability where they live.



We know there is a lot of data about the supports and services people with disability use.



But there isn't much data about people with disability using housing services.



We came up with a way to work out how many people with disability used different housing services.

What did we learn from our early research?

Data about housing services



You are a **tenant** if you pay to live in a home someone else owns.

1/2



Nearly 1 in 2 **public housing** tenants were people with disability.



When someone lives in public housing, they live in a home for people who need support to pay the **rent**.



Rent is the money you pay to live in a home someone else owns.

7/10



About 7 in 10 public housing homes had at least one person with disability living there.

1/4



About 1 in 4 **State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (SOMIH)** tenants were people with disability.



SOMIH is when a person or family lives in a home:

- run by state and territory governments
- for **First Nations peoples**.



First Nations peoples are also known as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

2/5



Around 2 in 5 people who used **homelessness services** were people with disability.



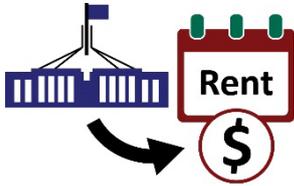
Homelessness services help people who:

- don't have a home
- must find a place to sleep each night.

2/5



About 2 in 5 people who get **rent assistance** were people with disability.



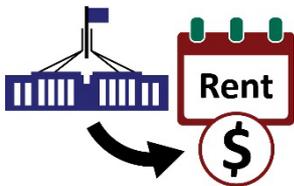
Rent assistance is money you get from the government to help you pay your rent.

Housing supports

We learned people with disability are more likely than people without disability to:



- use housing supports



- get rent assistance



- use homelessness services.



A **psychosocial disability** comes from a person's mental health problems.

We learned there are many people with psychosocial disability:

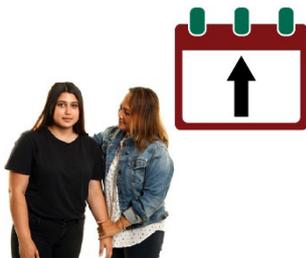


- in public housing



- who use homelessness services.

Support from homelessness services



We learned people with disability need support from homelessness services for longer than other people.



2/5

2 in 5 people with disability used a homelessness service because of problems where they live.



1/4

1 in 4 people with disability used a homelessness service because of problems with people they live with.



Most people with disability who needed homelessness services because they experienced **domestic and family violence** got the support they needed.

Domestic and family violence is when you are hurt by someone close to you, such as:



- your boyfriend or girlfriend
- your husband or wife
- a member of your family
- someone who takes care of you
- someone you live with.



1 in 4 of all public housing tenants had support from a homelessness service.

People with disability who live on their own

1/5



1 in 5 people with disability live on their own.

1/2



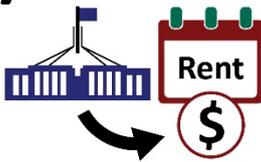
About 1 in 2 public housing tenants with disability lived on their own.

1/4



About 1 in 4 First Nations tenants with disability lived on their own.

4/5



About 4 in 5 people with disability who got rent assistance lived on their own.

First Nations peoples with disability



Our data showed that about 2 in 5 First Nations public housing tenants had a disability.



But other data shows there are more First Nations peoples with disability than what we found.



So we need to find out why we get different information from different data.

Data for Australia's Disability Strategy



Australia's Disability Strategy is a plan to make life better for people with disability.

We just call it the Strategy.

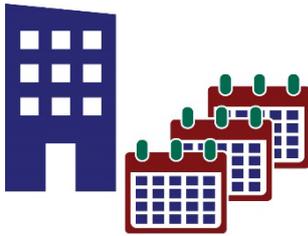


We did our research about housing services to see if they match the **outcomes** in the Strategy.



Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people with disability.

Getting new public housing



We learned that everyone had to wait about the same amount of time to get new public housing.



A **brain injury** can happen when someone:

- has a bad accident
- hurts their head badly
- damages their brain.

2/5



About 2 in 5 public housing tenants with a brain injury who needed new public housing got their new public housing in less than three months.

Rental stress



Rental stress is when someone spends a large amount of their money to pay their rent.

1/2



About 1 in 2 people with disability who got rent assistance had rental stress.

8/10



But if they didn't get rent assistance, about 8 in 10 people with disability would have experienced rental stress.



This means people with disability who get rent assistance experience less rental stress.

Too many people living in one home



1 in 10 First Nations households with at least one person with disability had too many people living in the home.

What does our early research mean?



A lot of people who use housing services are people with disability.



1/10

We know about 1 in 10 of all people with disability live in public housing.



1/4

We also know about 1 in 4 of all people with disability have a good experience with rent assistance.



We need to do more research to see if there are people with disability who need housing services but can't find or use them.



We need more data about other housing services.

This will help us understand:



- who uses different housing services



- outcomes people get from housing services



- how people move between different housing services.



Our research will help us measure the outcomes in the Strategy.

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.

Brain injury



A brain injury can happen when someone:

- has a bad accident
- hurts their head badly
- damages their brain.

Data



When we talk about data, we mean:

- facts
- information
- records.

Domestic and family violence



Domestic and family violence is when you are hurt by someone close to you, such as:

- your boyfriend or girlfriend
- your husband or wife
- a member of your family
- someone who takes care of you
- someone you live with.



First Nations peoples

First Nations peoples are also known as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Homelessness services

Homelessness services help people who:

- don't have a home
- must find a place to sleep each night.



Outcomes

Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people with disability.



Psychosocial disability

A psychosocial disability comes from a person's mental health issues.



Public housing

When someone lives in public housing, they live in a home for people who need support to pay the rent.



Rent

Rent is the money you pay to live in a home someone else owns.



Rent assistance

Rent assistance is the money you get from the government to help you pay your rent.



Rental stress

Rental stress is when someone spends a large amount of their money to pay their rent.



State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (SOMIH)

SOMIH is when a person or family lives in a home:

- run by state and territory governments
- for First Nations peoples.



Tenant

You are a tenant if you pay to live in a home someone else owns.

Contact us



If you have trouble hearing or speaking, you can contact the National Relay Service.



133 677



www.relayservice.gov.au



You can also contact the Department of Social Services (DSS) for more information.



NDDA@dss.gov.au



GPO Box 9820
Canberra ACT 2601



www.dss.gov.au/ndda



The Information Access Group created this Easy Read document using stock photography and custom images. The images may not be reused without permission. For any enquiries about the images, please visit www.informationaccessgroup.com. Quote job number 4484-E.