

Disability



It is not the inability to walk that keeps a person from entering a building by themselves but the stairs that are inaccessible that keeps a wheelchair-user from entering that building.

Social Model of Disability

<https://pwd.org.au/resources/disability-info/social-model-of-disability/>

Prevalence

In Gippsland:

42,211 people with disability

17,142 (6.7%) people with a severe or profound disability

Australia 5.4%

12,478 people with psychosocial disability

8,400 people with intellectual disability

Main form of disability:

77% physical

23% mental or behavioural

Children and young people

7.3% of Australians aged 0 - 17 years have a disability;

61% are boys



Children and young people living with disability are more likely to:



be deprived across multiple wellbeing domains



experience bullying and discrimination



lack post school pathways to training and employment

Key data

96% of people with disability live in private dwellings



3 in 5 people with disability living in private dwellings need help with at least one daily activity



47% of adults with disability have experienced violence after the age of 15 years



27,931 people in Gippsland provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability



8.8% of people in Gippsland aged 16-64 years received a Disability Support Pension
Victoria 4.9%



People with intellectual disability:



die younger



experience multiple health problems in addition to their disability



have high levels of co-occurring mental health concerns

General practice data



789 Gippsland residents who are regular users of a general practice had a diagnosis of intellectual functioning disability.

Of these residents:

12.4% had a health assessment

7.5% had a mental health plan

13.8% had a GP management plan

9.8% had a team care arrangement, based on Medical Benefits Schedule (MBS) data

Health and wellbeing of adults with disability

24%

rate their health as excellent or very good
(65% of adults without disability)



42%

rate their health as fair or poor
(7.0% of adults without disability)



32%

experience high or very high psychological distress
(8.0% without disability)



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



The rate of disability among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians is almost twice as high as that among non-Indigenous people.

37%

of Indigenous Australians aged 15 years and over reported a disability or long-term health condition.

Disability



Service use in Gippsland

Additional needs identified in Gippsland

Disability workforce shortages.

Need for increased skills for health staff working with people with disability.



People with disability have low levels of health literacy.



People with a disability in Gippsland are the most frequent users of health services, but 70% experience significant barriers accessing required services.



Social isolation is especially problematic for people with a disability with housing and employment concerns.



Mental health is most common co-occurring health issue for people with disability in Gippsland.



People with a disability most likely to report a health problem that had not been well managed (44% compared to 22% total)



People with disability least likely to think they can get the help they need if they had a health issue (26% compared to 10% total)



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) data

6,539 people in Gippsland participating in NDIS (Low uptake of NDIS) (an estimated 38% of people with a profound or severe disability)

1,038 people with intellectual disability participating in NDIS (an estimated 12% of people with an intellectual disability)

Acquired Brain Injury, Psychosocial Disability, Other Neurological, Other Physical, Visual Impairment, Multiple Sclerosis, Stroke and Spinal Cord Injury are more prevalent amongst older participants.

Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability

Established April 2019; 2,455 submissions had been received as at May 2021.

All Local Government Councils in Gippsland have Disability Action Plans.

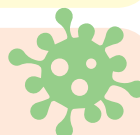
Impact of COVID-19

People with disability:

are at risk from COVID-19 because of barriers to inclusion and need for ongoing support

have experienced changes due to COVID-19 including:

increased expenses
changes to supports, including NDIS supports
changes to healthcare



I feel that I wasn't put on this planet to just sit back and watch and be another person with a disability. I have a voice, I have a story and it needs to be told, and we need a change.

Taylor Budin
Submission to
Royal Commission

Gippsland PHN programs

Gippsland Psychosocial Support Program <https://www.gphn.org.au/programs/gippsland-psychosocial-support-program-ppsp/>

Gippsland HealthPathways <https://www.gphn.org.au/programs/healthpathways/>

How to improve the system for people with disability and their carers

Mainstream and specialist services are accessible, safe and of high quality

Service providers and workforce are available and ready to deliver support services

Specialist disability support services are only one part of a broader system

Collaboration across many sectors and groups of people

Measure outcomes and wellbeing