

People with disability

FACT SHEET

What is a disability?

A disability is any condition that restricts a person's mental, sensory or mobility functions. It may be caused by accident, trauma, genetics or disease. A disability may be temporary or permanent, total or partial, lifelong or acquired, visible or invisible.



Which human rights are we discussing about?

Human rights apply to everyone, but people with disability are one to consider. The concept of freedom and human rights are fundamental aspects in life so people with disability have the right to:

- Live independently and be included in the community
- Respect for privacy and family relationships
- Freedom of movement and personal mobility
- Have the same access as everyone else to the physical environment, transport, information and communications, and other facilities and services



What are some of the human rights issues facing people with disability?

There are many people in Australia that disregard the importance of disability services, support and assistance in areas including:

- Personal assistance and care
- Support for family carers
- Support to live independently
- Appropriate accommodation options, including supported accommodation and respite services
- Employment support

Statistics

3.4 million Australians have a physical disability

45% of the population will experience a mental health disorder during their lifetime

43% of people over 55 years have one or more disabilities