

3 Informal carers, support needs and living arrangements

This chapter focuses on three characteristics of CSTDA-funded service users during 2006–07:

- informal care arrangements
- support needs across a range of life areas
- residential setting and living arrangements.

3.1 Presence of an informal carer

An ‘informal carer’ is a person such as a family member, friend or neighbour who provides regular and sustained care and assistance to the person requiring support (AIHW 2006a). This includes those people who receive a pension or benefit associated with their caring role, but does not include paid or volunteer carers organised by formal services.

In 2006–07, almost half of all service users (45%) had an informal carer (Table 3.1). This proportion has increased slightly, from 42% in 2003–04 (Table A2.6). The proportion of service users who did not have an informal carer has also increased from 38% in 2003–04 to 46% in 2006–07. There was a decrease in missing data from around 20% in 2003–04, 2004–05 and 2005–06 to 9% in 2006–07.

Service users accessing respite services were the most likely to have an informal carer (88%), followed by those accessing community support services (63%). Service users accessing employment services were by far the least likely to have an informal carer (23%).

Table 3.1: Users of CSTDA-funded services, existence of an informal carer by service group, 2006–07

Service group	Has an informal carer		Does not have an informal carer		Not stated/ not collected		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Accommodation support	16,842	44.9	19,903	53.1	728	1.9	37,473	100.0
Community support	61,667	62.5	21,669	22.0	15,262	15.5	98,598	100.0
Community access	26,737	50.2	24,168	45.4	2,331	4.4	53,236	100.0
Respite	26,541	88.3	2,348	7.8	1,169	3.9	30,058	100.0
Employment	18,603	23.3	60,200	75.2	1,205	1.5	80,008	100.0
Total	104,401	45.0	107,768	46.4	20,084	8.6	232,253	100.0

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Column totals may not be the sum of components because individuals may have accessed services in more than one service group over the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. ‘Not stated/not collected’ includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom informal carer data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories.

The likelihood of having an informal carer was higher for service users in more remote locations (Table 3.2). Approximately 54% of service users in Remote areas and 66% of those in Very

Remote areas had an informal carer in 2006–07. This compares with between 45% and 47% of service users in Major Cities, Inner Regional and Outer Regional areas. However, ‘not stated/not collected’ response rates for the informal carer question are lower for service users in Remote and Very Remote areas, and this needs to be taken into account when interpreting the data.

Table 3.2: Users of CSTDA-funded services, existence of an informal carer by remoteness, 2006–07

Location	Has an informal carer		Does not have an informal carer		Not stated/not collected		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Major Cities	65,462	44.8	68,459	46.8	12,227	8.4	146,147	100.0
Inner Regional	25,118	45.1	25,658	46.1	4,884	8.8	55,661	100.0
Outer Regional	10,477	46.5	10,511	46.6	1,553	6.9	22,541	100.0
Remote	1,371	54.2	1,107	43.8	51	2.0	2,529	100.0
Very Remote	655	65.7	322	32.3	20	2.1	997	100.0
Not stated/collected	1,318	30.1	1,712	39.1	1,349	30.8	4,379	100.0
Total	104,401	45.0	107,768	46.4	20,084	8.6	232,253	100.0

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Column totals may not be the sum of components because individuals may have accessed services in more than one service group over the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. ‘Not stated/not collected’ includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom informal carer data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories.

3.2 Carer age and relationship to service user

Of the 104,401 service users with an informal carer, almost two-thirds (65%) indicated that this carer was their mother (Table 3.3). Around 9.1% reported that a spouse or partner was their informal carer, followed by another family member (6.6%) or father (6.0%).

For service users in the three youngest age groups (0–14, 15–24 and 25–44 years), their informal carer was most likely to be their mother. This proportion was highest for service users aged 0–14 years (86%). For service users aged 45–64 years, their informal carer was most likely to be their spouse or partner (28%) or their mother (26%). Approximately 45% of service users aged 65 years and over with an informal carer reported that this carer was their spouse or partner, and 22% reported that it was their child.

Of the 80,522 informal carers whose age was reported, 46% (37,046) were aged 25–44 years and 39% (31,382) were aged 45–64 years (Table 3.4). In addition, 13% (10,454) were aged 65 years and over. There were 146 carers reported to be less than 15 years of age.

Table 3.3: CSTDA-funded service users with an informal carer, relationship of carer to service user by service user age, 2006–07

Relationship of carer to service user	Age group of service user (years)						Total
	0–14	15–24	25–44	45–64	65+	Not stated/ not collected	
	Number						
Spouse	—	345	2,871	4,486	1,772	10	9,484
Mother	29,489	17,791	16,061	4,140	75	3	67,559
Father	1,521	1,702	2,292	762	15	—	6,292
Child	—	39	208	713	850	1	1,811
Other family	924	917	1,877	2,697	504	2	6,921
Friend/neighbour	158	312	626	717	174	1	1,988
Not stated	2,231	1,722	3,380	2,455	557	1	10,346
Total	34,323	22,828	27,315	15,970	3,947	18	104,401
	Per cent						
Spouse	—	1.5	10.5	28.1	44.9	55.6	9.1
Mother	85.9	77.9	58.8	25.9	1.9	16.7	64.7
Father	4.4	7.5	8.4	4.8	0.4	—	6.0
Child	—	0.2	0.8	4.5	21.5	5.6	1.7
Other family	2.7	4.0	6.9	16.9	12.8	11.1	6.6
Friend/neighbour	0.5	1.4	2.3	4.5	4.4	5.6	1.9
Not stated	6.5	7.5	12.4	15.4	14.1	5.6	9.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. Service users with missing age who responded 'child aged under 5 years (not applicable)' to the *communication method* data item were included in the 0–14 years age group.
3. 'Not stated/not collected' includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom informal carer data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories.
4. Informal carer relationship categories are grouped as follows: 'spouse' includes the categories 'wife/female partner' and 'husband/male partner'; 'child' includes 'daughter' and 'son'; 'other family' includes 'daughter-in-law', 'son-in-law', 'other female relative' and 'other male relative'; 'friend/neighbour' includes 'friend/neighbour—female' and 'friend/neighbour—male'.

Table 3.4: CSTDA-funded service users with an informal carer, relationship of carer to service user by age group of carer, 2006–07

Relationship of carer to service user	Age group of carer (years)						Total
	0–14	15–24	25–44	45–64	65+	Not stated/ not collected	
	Number						
Spouse	—	104	2,256	4,292	1,571	1,261	9,484
Mother	—	783	30,655	19,979	6,320	9,822	67,559
Father	—	22	1,296	2,352	1,265	1,357	6,292
Child	111	301	540	579	51	229	1,811
Other family	6	99	1,343	2,752	840	1,881	6,921
Friend/neighbour	2	25	467	817	190	487	1,988
Not stated	27	160	489	611	217	8,842	10,346
Total	146	1,494	37,046	31,382	10,454	23,879	104,401
	Per cent						
Spouse	—	7.0	6.1	13.7	15.0	5.3	9.1
Mother	—	52.4	82.7	63.7	60.5	41.1	64.7
Father	—	1.5	3.5	7.5	12.1	5.7	6.0
Child	76.0	20.1	1.5	1.8	0.5	1.0	1.7
Other family	4.1	6.6	3.6	8.8	8.0	7.9	6.6
Friend/neighbour	1.4	1.7	1.3	2.6	1.8	2.0	1.9
Not stated	18.5	10.7	1.3	1.9	2.1	37.0	9.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. 'Not stated/not collected' includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom informal carer data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories. Service users who accessed employment services only (service types 5.01, 5.02 and 5.04) and did not submit a response are also included in the 'not collected' category for 'age group of carer'. These service users were not required to complete this data item.
3. Informal carer relationship categories are grouped as follows: 'spouse' includes the categories 'wife/female partner' and 'husband/male partner'; 'child' includes 'daughter' and 'son'; 'other family' includes 'daughter-in-law', 'son-in-law', 'other female relative' and 'other male relative'; 'friend/neighbour' includes 'friend/neighbour—female' and 'friend/neighbour—male'.

Around one-third (34,323 of 104,401) of service users who had an informal carer were aged 0–14 years (Table 3.5). In this group, almost three-quarters (73%) were cared for by a person aged 25–44 years. Service users aged 15–24 years, 25–44 years and 45–64 years were most likely to have an informal carer aged 45–64 years. In addition, around one-quarter (26%) of service users aged 45–64 years had an informal carer aged 65 years or over.

Service users in the oldest age group, 65 years and over, typically had older carers compared with other users. They were most likely cared for by a person aged 65 years or over (39%) or 45–64 years (32%).

Table 3.5: CSTDA-funded service users with an informal carer, age of service user by age of carer, 2006–07

Age group of service user (years)	Age group of carer (years)					Not stated/ not collected	Total
	0–14	15–24	25–44	45–64	65+		
	Number						
0–14	20	949	25,130	3,125	226	4,873	34,323
15–24	8	103	7,231	9,273	405	5,808	22,828
25–44	78	169	3,058	12,377	4,127	7,506	27,315
45–64	36	264	1,353	5,334	4,140	4,843	15,970
65+	4	9	269	1,265	1,554	846	3,947
Not stated	—	—	5	8	2	3	18
Total	146	1,494	37,046	31,382	10,454	23,879	104,401
	Per cent						
0–14	0.1	2.8	73.2	9.1	0.7	14.2	100.0
15–24	0.0	0.5	31.7	40.6	1.8	25.4	100.0
25–44	0.3	0.6	11.2	45.3	15.1	27.5	100.0
45–64	0.2	1.7	8.5	33.4	25.9	30.3	100.0
65+	0.1	0.2	6.8	32.0	39.4	21.4	100.0
Not stated	—	—	27.8	44.4	11.1	16.7	100.0
Total	0.1	1.4	35.5	30.1	10.0	22.9	100.0

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. Service users with missing age who responded 'child aged under 5 years (not applicable)' to the *communication method* data item were included in the 0–14 years age group.
3. 'Not stated/not collected' includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom informal carer data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories. Service users who accessed employment services only (service types 5.01, 5.02 and 5.04) and did not submit a response are also included in the 'not collected' category for 'age group of carer'. These service users were not required to complete this data item.

Table 3.6 examines CSTDA-funded service users who are classified as ‘older parent carers’. Of the 10,454 carers aged 65 years and over, 7,585 (72%) were the service user’s parent. Like carers in other age groups, the majority (83%) of these parent carers were the service user’s mother. Close to half (45%) of all service users with an older parent carer were aged 40–49 years; 24% were aged 30–39 years and 21% were aged 50–59 years.

Table 3.6: CSTDA-funded service users with a parent informal carer aged 65 years and over, relationship of carer to service user by age group of service user, 2006–07

Relationship of carer to service user	Age group of service user (years)						Total
	Under 20	20–29	30–39	40–49	50–59	60+	
Mother	159	314	1,497	2,826	1,319	205	6,320
Father	36	86	320	552	243	28	1,265
Total	195	400	1,817	3,378	1,562	233	7,585

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. Service users with missing age who responded ‘child aged under 5 years (not applicable)’ to the *communication method* data item were included in the 0–14 years age group.

3.3 Carer primary status and co-residency

In 2006–07, almost three-quarters (73%) of informal carers were primary carers. A ‘primary carer’ is one who assists the service user with one or more of the three core activities of daily living – self-care, mobility and communication (AIHW 2006a).

Around 71% of informal carers lived in the same household as the person needing assistance (were co-resident). The majority (85%) of primary carers were co-resident, compared with just over half (52%) of non-primary carers (Table 3.7).

Service users accessing respite services were the most likely to have a primary carer (69% of all users of respite services), followed by those accessing community support services (52%) (Table A1.13). Similarly, service users accessing respite services and community support services were the most likely to have a co-resident carer (67% and 51% respectively).

Table 3.7: CSTDA-funded service users with an informal carer, residency status of carer by primary status of carer, 2006–07

Residency status of carer	Primary carer		Not a primary carer		Not stated/ not collected		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Co-resident carer	64,895	84.6	6,205	51.9	3,232	20.5	74,332	71.2
Non-resident carer	7,379	9.6	4,572	38.2	784	5.0	12,735	12.2
Not stated/not collected	4,397	5.7	1,177	9.8	11,760	74.5	17,334	16.6
Total	76,671	100.0	11,954	100.0	15,776	100.0	104,401	100.0

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. 'Not stated/not collected' includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom informal carer data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories. Service users who accessed employment services only (service types 5.01, 5.02 and 5.04) and did not submit a response are also included in the 'not collected' category for both 'primary status of carer' and 'residency status of carer'. These service users were not required to complete either of these data items.

3.4 Support needs

Nine data items in the NMDS are used to indicate the support needs of CSTDA service users (see question 11 on the service user form in Appendix 3). These conform to a framework that is consistent with national data standards and international classification standards, including the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) (see AIHW 2003: Chapter 8). The support needs data items also relate to the concepts used in population surveys about disability, such as the ABS Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) (ABS 2004a).

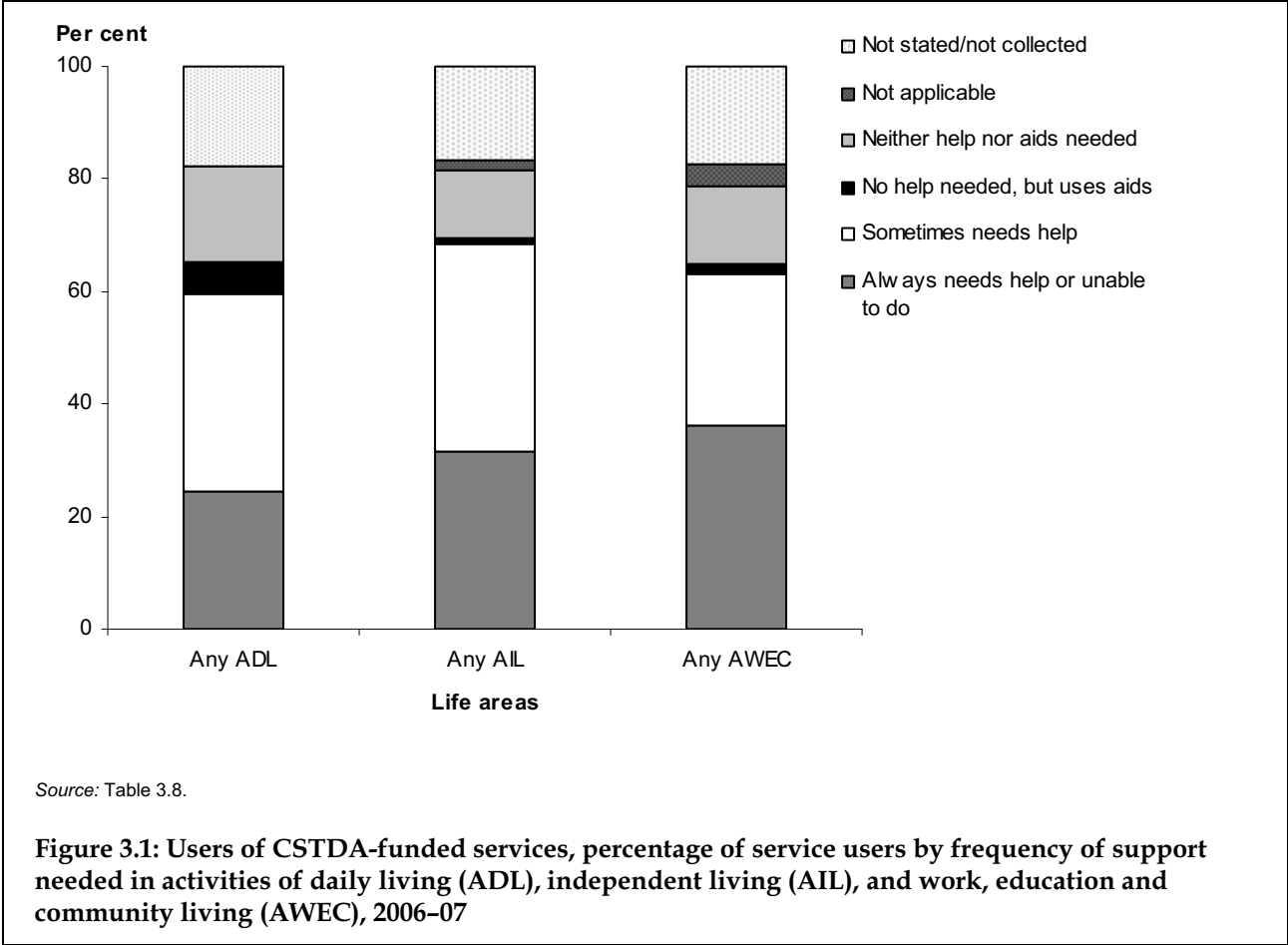
The items used to assess support needs can be simplified into three broad areas as follows:

- Activities of daily living (ADL) – self-care, mobility, and communication. These correspond to the three 'core activity' areas reported in the SDAC and in the 2006 Census of Population and Housing (ABS 2004a, 2006b). This concept of ADL differs from that used in fields such as medicine and rehabilitation, where communication is often excluded. For example, a commonly used clinical assessment of ADL, the Barthel Index, examines only self-care and mobility.
- Activities of independent living (AIL) – interpersonal interactions and relationships; learning, applying knowledge, and general tasks and demands; and domestic life.
- Activities of work, education and community living (AWEC) – education; community (civic) and economic life; and work. This category is analysed for service users aged 5 years and over, as a response of 'not applicable due to age' for all three of these life areas is allowed for users aged under 5 years. In Table 3.8, however, all age groups are shown for life areas in this category to show responses over all ages.

In general, the support needs data should be interpreted with some caution because of a high rate of 'not stated/not collected' responses.

In 2006–07, 59% of service users always or sometimes needed help with ADL, 63% with AWEC and 68% with AIL (Figure 3.1). Service users who sometimes needed support were the highest proportion of service users in the ADL (35%) and AIL (37%) areas. In the AWEC category,

people who always needed support (or were unable to perform these activities) were the highest proportion of service users (36%).



The life areas with the highest proportion of service users who always or sometimes needed support were: learning (57%), interpersonal interactions (56%) and community and economic life (55%) (Table 3.8). Around half of all service users (49%) needed assistance with communication – a significant proportion, considering that communication is required in a broad range of everyday activities, and communication difficulties can have a pervasive impact on daily functioning.

The AWEC life area registered the highest proportion of service users who always needed support (36%), followed by AIL (32%) and ADL (25%). Three AWEC life areas had the highest proportion of service users who always needed support (or were unable to perform that activity) – working (26%), community and economic life (24%) and education (24%). The life areas with the smallest proportion of service users always needing support were mobility (13%), communication (17%) and domestic life (17%).

Table 3.8: Users of CSTDA-funded services, life area by frequency of support or assistance needed, 2006–07

Frequency of support needed	Always needs help or unable to do		Sometimes needs help		No help needed, but uses aids		Neither help nor aids needed		Not applicable		Not stated/not collected		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Activities of daily living (ADL)														
Self-care	42,937	18.5	53,351	23.0	4,578	2.0	87,707	37.8	—	—	43,680	18.8	232,253	100.0
Mobility	31,044	13.4	48,914	21.1	26,043	11.2	83,778	36.1	—	—	42,474	18.3	232,253	100.0
Communication	38,967	16.8	74,365	32.0	3,959	1.7	73,596	31.7	—	—	41,366	17.8	232,253	100.0
<i>Any ADL</i>	<i>57,194</i>	<i>24.6</i>	<i>80,800</i>	<i>34.8</i>	<i>13,580</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>39,913</i>	<i>17.2</i>	—	—	<i>40,766</i>	<i>17.6</i>	<i>232,253</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Activities of independent living (AIL)														
Interpersonal interactions ^(a)	44,404	19.1	85,890	37.0	2,971	1.3	51,896	22.3	—	—	47,092	20.3	232,253	100.0
Learning ^(b)	51,369	22.1	80,675	34.7	4,926	2.1	43,789	18.9	7,583	3.3	43,911	18.9	232,253	100.0
Domestic life	40,264	17.3	51,909	22.4	3,976	1.7	62,070	26.7	20,295	8.7	53,739	23.1	232,253	100.0
<i>Any AIL</i>	<i>73,162</i>	<i>31.5</i>	<i>85,678</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>2,611</i>	<i>1.1</i>	<i>28,133</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>4,488</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>38,181</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>232,253</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Activities of work, education and community living (AWEC)														
Education	55,167	23.8	69,657	30.0	5,204	2.2	49,965	21.5	7,765	3.3	44,495	19.2	232,253	100.0
Community (civic) and economic life	55,960	24.1	71,730	30.9	5,115	2.2	43,045	18.5	8,225	3.5	48,180	20.7	232,253	100.0
Working	60,310	26.0	48,717	21.0	3,927	1.7	42,799	18.4	21,389	9.2	55,111	23.7	232,253	100.0
<i>Any AWEC</i>	<i>83,607</i>	<i>36.0</i>	<i>63,018</i>	<i>27.1</i>	<i>4,181</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>32,436</i>	<i>14.0</i>	<i>9,053</i>	<i>3.9</i>	<i>39,958</i>	<i>17.2</i>	<i>232,253</i>	<i>100.0</i>

(a) The full name for the life area 'interpersonal interactions' is 'interpersonal interactions and relationships'.

(b) The full name for the life area 'learning' is 'learning, applying knowledge and general tasks and demands'.

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. The frequency of support needed for a service user for each of the three broad groups (ADL, AIL and AWEC) is based on the highest support need category of the service user for that group. For example, if a service user reports 'always or unable to do' for the life area of self-care (one of the ADL areas) then that service user will be placed into the 'always or unable to do' category for ADL, regardless of their support needs for mobility or communication (the other two ADL areas). Therefore the totals for each of the broad groups (ADL, AIL and AWEC) cannot be calculated by adding totals from the three component life areas.
3. 'Not stated/not collected' includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom support needs data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories.

People using respite and accommodation support services were the most likely to always need assistance in each of the three life areas (Table 3.9). For accommodation support users, proportions ranged from 40% always needing assistance with ADL to 61% with AWEC; for respite users, proportions ranged from 42% (ADL) to 59% (AWEC). Users of employment services were the least likely to always need assistance, with proportions ranging from 11% (ADL) to 26% (AWEC). However, interpretation of the data is limited because of high rates of 'not stated/not collected', particularly for community support and community access service users.

Table 3.9: Users of CSTDA-funded services, service group by frequency of support needed in activities of daily living, independent living, and work, education and community living, 2006–07

Frequency of support needed	Accommodation support		Community support		Community access		Respite		Employment		All service groups	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Activities of daily living (ADL)												
Always or unable to do	14,963	39.9	33,681	34.2	16,394	30.8	12,654	42.1	8,986	11.2	57,194	24.6
Sometimes	15,270	40.7	30,612	31.0	20,452	38.4	11,124	37.0	30,977	38.7	80,800	34.8
None, but uses aids	924	2.5	3,163	3.2	1,924	3.6	412	1.4	8,906	11.1	13,580	5.8
None	4,514	12.0	7,414	7.5	6,713	12.6	2,181	7.3	25,539	31.9	39,913	17.2
Not stated/not collected	1,802	4.8	23,728	24.1	7,753	14.6	3,687	12.3	5,600	7.0	40,766	17.6
Total	37,473	100.0	98,598	100.0	53,236	100.0	30,058	100.0	80,008	100.0	232,253	100.0
Activities of independent living (AIL)												
Always or unable to do	17,839	47.6	36,955	37.5	20,441	38.4	14,503	48.3	18,701	23.4	73,162	31.5
Sometimes	15,898	42.4	30,339	30.8	20,806	39.1	10,766	35.8	34,793	43.5	85,678	36.9
None, but uses aids	445	1.2	1,339	1.4	1,205	2.3	215	0.7	208	0.3	2,611	1.1
None	1,449	3.9	4,489	4.6	2,892	5.4	758	2.5	20,761	25.9	28,133	12.1
Not stated/not collected/ not applicable	1,842	4.9	25,476	25.8	7,892	14.8	3,816	12.7	5,545	6.9	42,669	18.4
Total	37,473	100.0	98,598	100.0	53,236	100.0	30,058	100.0	80,008	100.0	232,253	100.0
Activities of work, education and community living (AWEC) (5 years and over)												
Always or unable to do	22,721	61.0	38,354	46.1	27,081	51.1	17,248	58.7	20,754	25.9	82,070	37.9
Sometimes	10,328	27.7	21,279	25.6	12,598	23.8	7,206	24.5	27,969	35.0	62,325	28.8
None, but uses aids	600	1.6	1,563	1.9	2,453	4.6	233	0.8	173	0.2	4,145	1.9
None	1,682	4.5	3,935	4.7	2,888	5.5	756	2.6	25,539	31.9	32,383	15.0
Not stated/not collected/ not applicable	1,940	5.2	18,060	21.7	7,943	15.0	3,920	13.4	5,573	7.0	35,407	16.4
Total	37,271	100.0	83,191	100.0	52,963	100.0	29,363	100.0	80,008	100.0	216,330	100.0

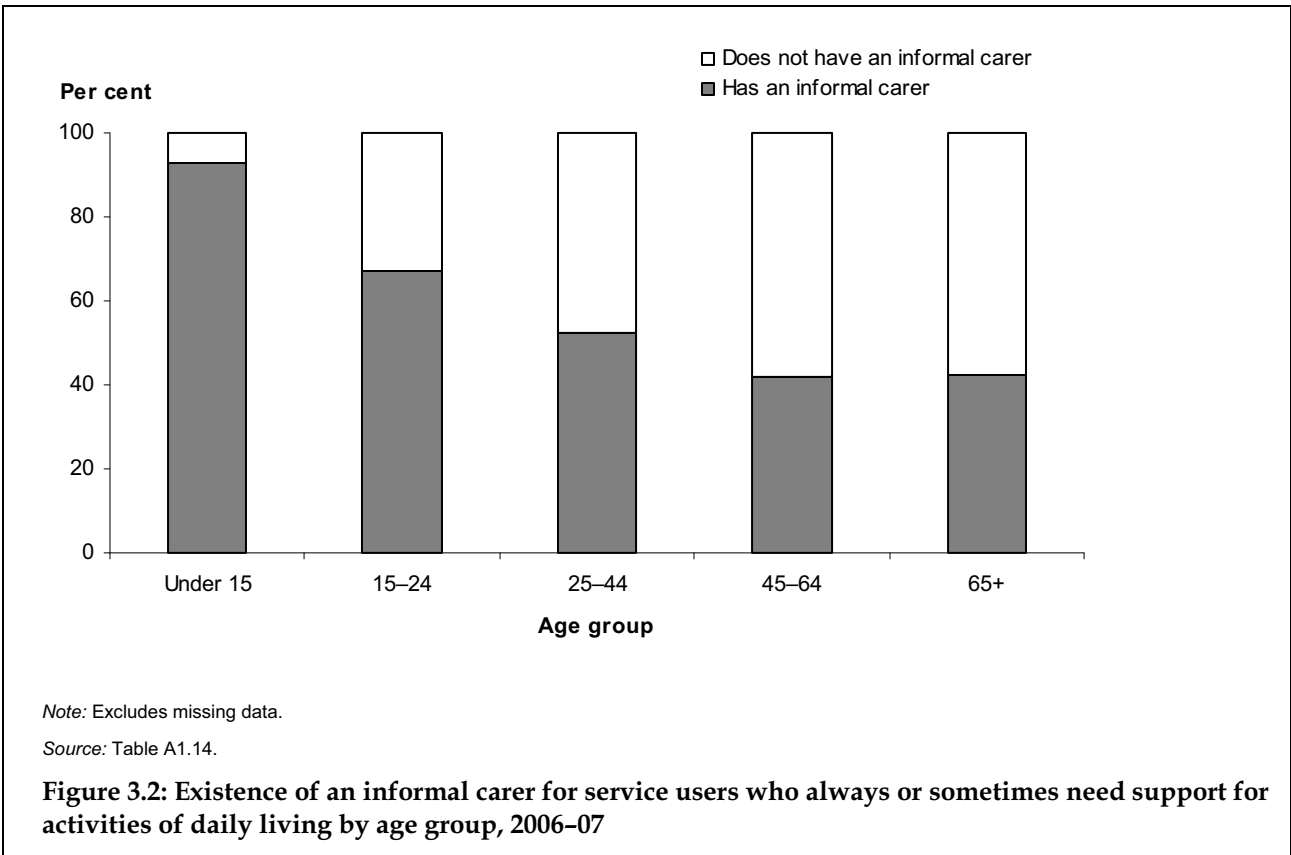
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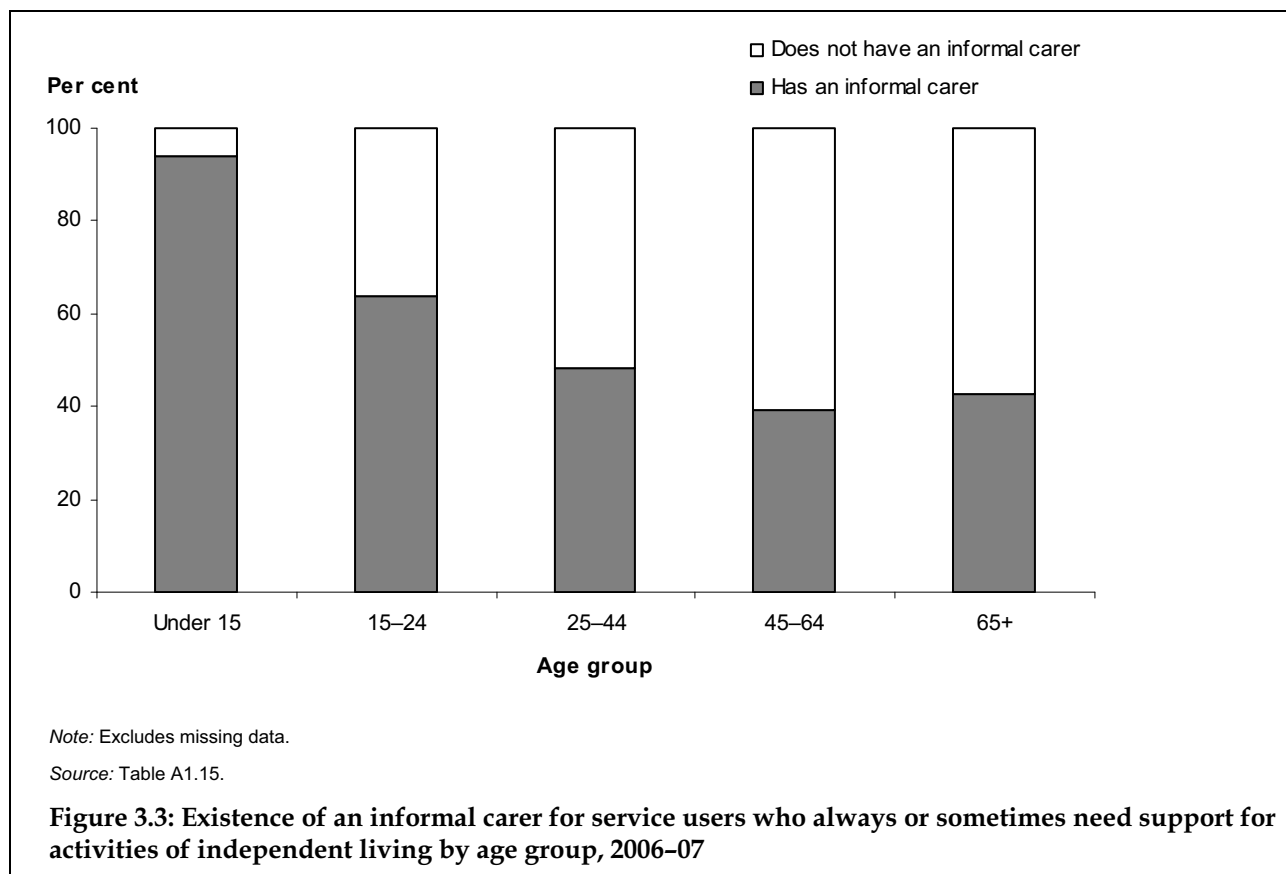
1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Row totals may not be the sum of components because individuals may have accessed more than one service type during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. 'Not stated/not collected' includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom support needs data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories.

For service users who always or sometimes needed support with ADL, those under 15 years of age were the most likely to have an informal carer (93%) (Figure 3.2). The proportion of service users who had an informal carer decreased with increasing age. Less than half of those aged 45–64 years and 65 years and over who required assistance with ADL had an informal carer (42% and 43% respectively).

A similar trend can be seen for service users who always or sometimes needed support with AIL (Figure 3.3). Those aged under 15 years were the most likely to have an informal carer (94%), that is, children living with parent/s or guardians. The majority of those aged 45–64 years and 65 years and over who required help with AIL did not have an informal carer (61% and 57% respectively).

It is interesting to note that there has been an increase in the proportion of service users in the 45–64 year age group, from around 20% in 2003–04 to almost 24% in 2006–07 (see Section 2.2). Proportionally more service users are now in an age group where the majority of those who always or sometimes need help across a range of life areas do not have an informal carer to assist them.





3.5 Living arrangements and residential setting

In 2006-07, just over half (51%) of all service users lived with family (Table 3.10). A further 22% lived with others, and 15% lived alone. Service users accessing respite services and community support services were the most likely to live with family (76% and 71% respectively). Users of accommodation support services were the most likely to live with people other than family (55%), and those accessing employment services were most likely to live alone (26%).

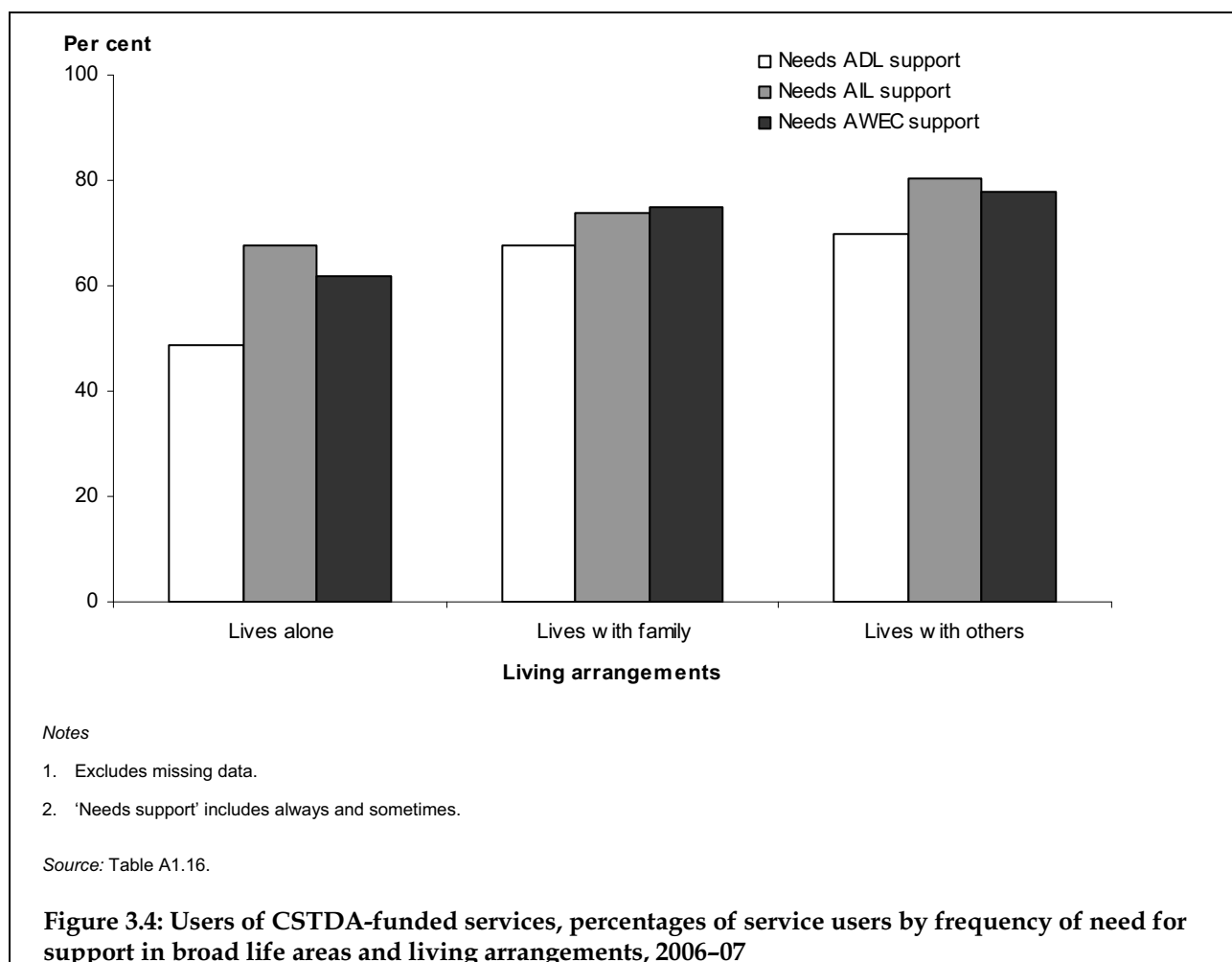
Most service users who lived with others always or sometimes required assistance with ADL (70%), AIL (80%) or AWEC (78%) (Figure 3.4). For service users who lived alone or with family, these proportions ranged from 49% to 75%. Across the three categories of living arrangements, the proportion of service users needing support for ADL was slightly lower than for AIL or AWEC.

Table 3.10: Users of CSTDA-funded services, living arrangements by service group, 2006-07

Service group	Lives alone		Lives with family		Lives with others		Not stated/ not collected		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Accommodation support	6,840	18.3	8,710	23.2	20,467	54.6	1,456	3.9	37,473	100.0
Community support	7,518	7.6	69,846	70.8	13,750	13.9	7,484	7.6	98,598	100.0
Community access	6,809	12.8	23,614	44.4	16,507	31.0	6,306	11.8	53,236	100.0
Respite	1,768	5.9	22,941	76.3	3,240	10.8	2,109	7.0	30,058	100.0
Employment	20,681	25.8	26,664	33.3	22,006	27.5	10,657	13.3	80,008	100.0
Total	35,526	15.3	118,848	51.2	50,897	21.9	26,982	11.6	232,253	100.0

Notes

1. Service user data are estimates after use of a statistical linkage key to account for individuals who received services from more than one service type outlet during the 12-month period. Column totals may not be the sum of components because individuals may have accessed more than one service type during the 12-month period. Service user data were not collected for all CSTDA service types (see Appendix 6 for details).
2. 'Not stated/not collected' includes both service users accessing only 3.02 services for whom living arrangement data were not collected (see Appendix 6) and other service users with no response. Refer to Table A1.1 for a breakdown of these two categories.



Similar to 2005–06, the three most common residential settings in 2006–07 were private residence (168,702 service users or 73%), domestic-scale supported accommodation (13,129 or 5.7%) and supported accommodation facility (11,091 or 4.8%) (Table A1.17).

Service users with a primary disability of intellectual/learning disability made up the majority of people in each of the three residential settings – proportions ranged from 47% (private residence) to 82% (domestic-scale supported accommodation) (Figure 3.5). In addition, 23% of service users living in a private residence had physical/ diverse primary disability and 17% had psychiatric disability. Service users with psychiatric primary disability accounted for 39% of the combined ‘Other’ residential settings.

