

# 1 Overview

## 1.1 Service recipient data

Data on the characteristics of Commonwealth/State Disability Agreement Minimum Data Set (CSDA MDS) service recipients have been collated from 68,488 Consumer Forms returned by 5,160 CSDA-funded services. This is the 'snapshot' day count for the 1996 collection about people receiving services on the day.

Two other separate counts of service recipients were collected from State or Territory provided or funded CSDA services (4,284) who returned Service Forms: the estimated number on a typical 1995–96 operating day; and the estimated number over the 1995–96 financial year. Service providers made the estimates.

The number of service recipients on the selected 'snapshot' day is broadly similar to that reported as receiving services on a typical operating day (see Table 1.1). Community support, community access and respite services show a greater level of variation from the typical day than do the other service types. They also have a larger number of recipients over the year than on any single day, indicating a less fixed consumer base. For all service type groupings, the number of recipients over the year is greater in the non-government sector than in the directly provided government sector.

Community support was the category with the greatest variation in reported recipient numbers between a typical operating day and estimated annual numbers. The services contained within this category generally had a high level of consumer turnover.

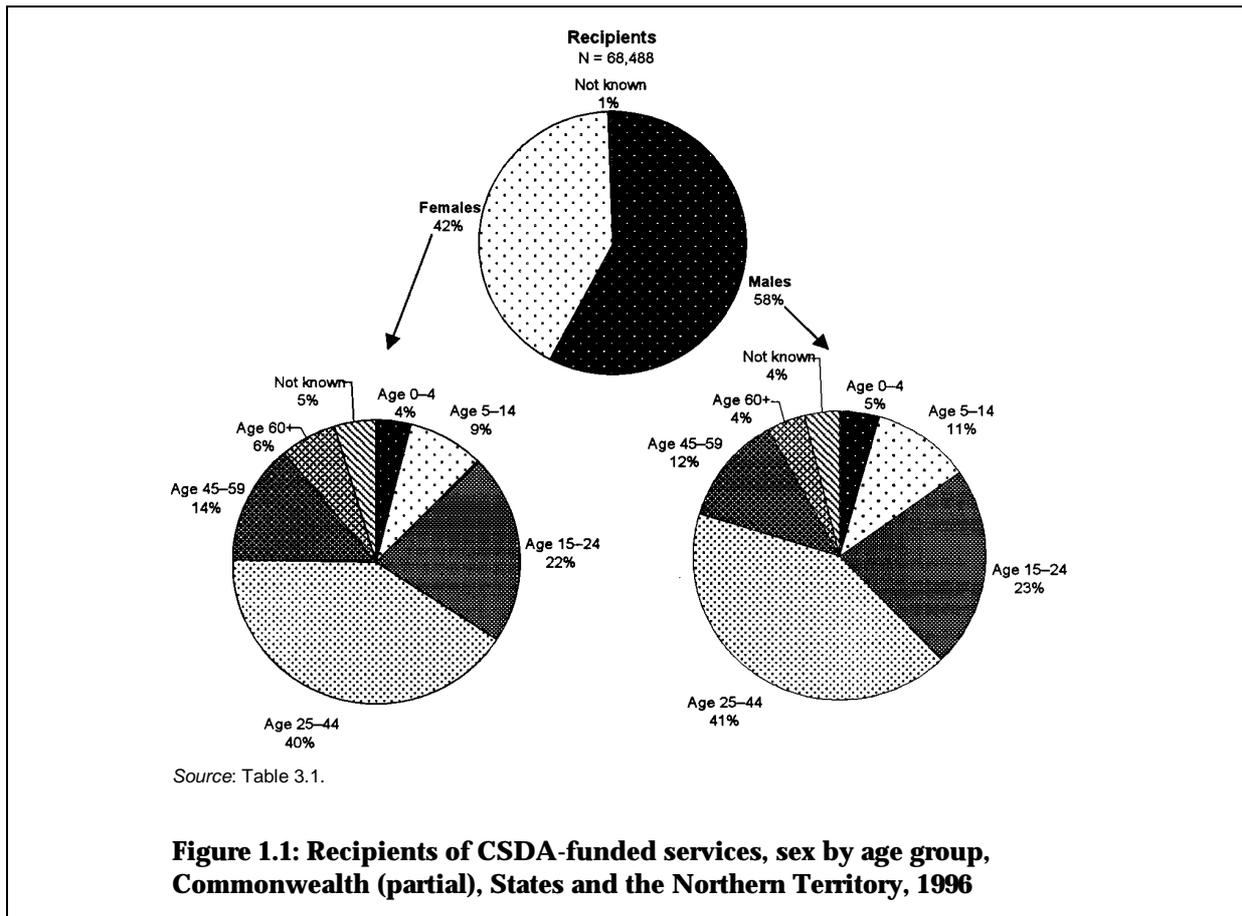
**Table 1.1: Recipients of CSDA-funded services, service type by auspicing organisation and time period, States and the Northern Territory, 1996**

	Government provided			Non-government provided		
	Snapshot day	Estimate for a	Estimate for	Snapshot day	Estimate for a	Estimate for
Accommodation support	8,447	8,605	12,082	10,241	10,813	28,604
Community support	5,898	6,830	58,502	5,526	7,760	76,334
Community access	2,816	2,942	6,643	8,639	9,846	58,351
Respite	666	690	9,126	1,150	1,787	16,849
Employment	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

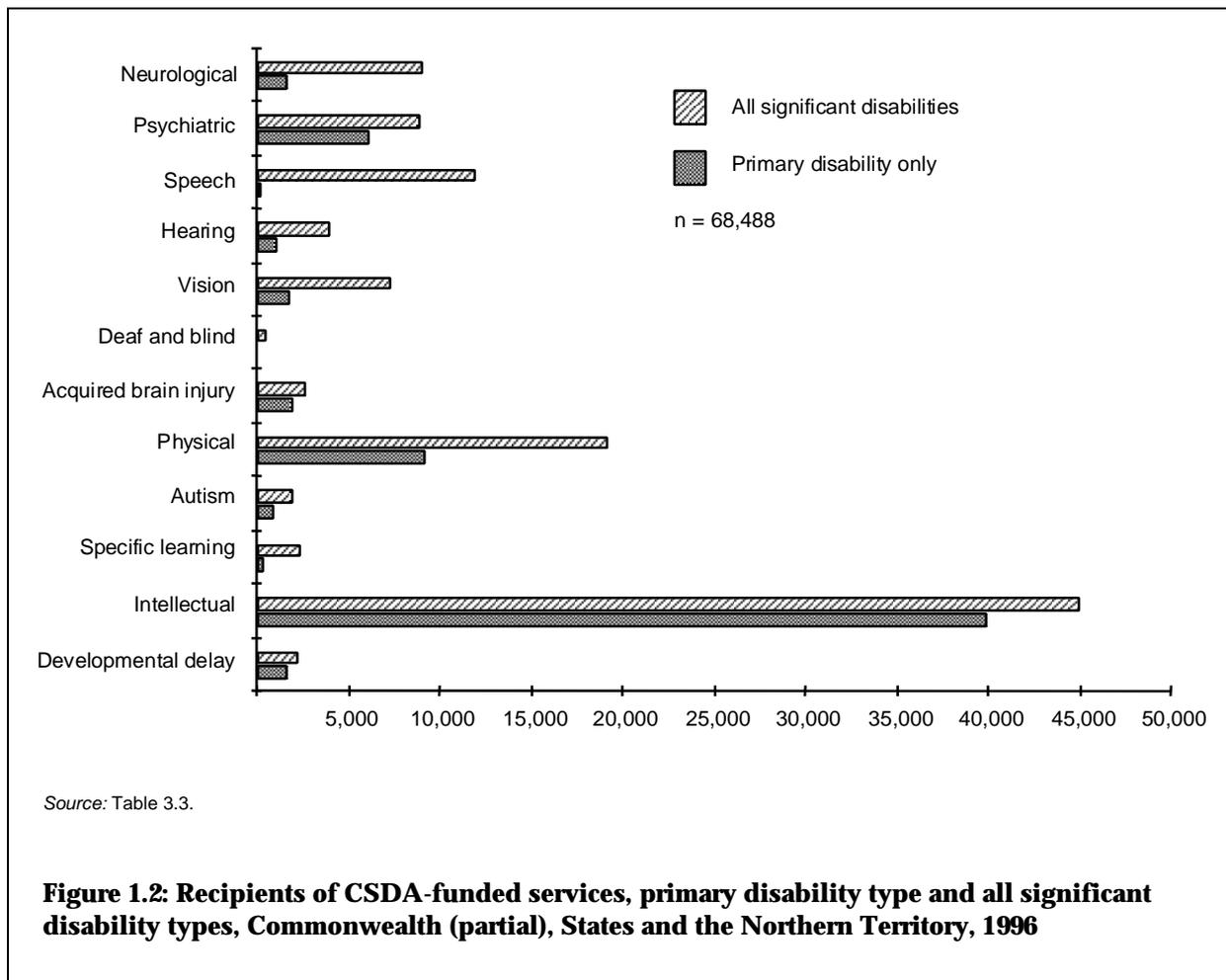
*Notes*

1. An individual may be counted more than once if more than one service type was accessed on the 'snapshot' day.
2. Data for recipients of CSDA services funded by Western Australia cover a year and have been adjusted for identified multiple service use.
3. Data for recipients of CSDA services funded by the Australian Capital Territory were not collected.
4. Data for recipients of CSDA-funded services with service types: Advocacy; Info./referral; Combined advocacy/info.; Print disability/alt. formats of communication; Service evaluation/training; Peak bodies; Research/development; and Other were not collected.
5. Data for recipients of many CSDA services funded by the Commonwealth were not collected. Hence data for employment services are not available.

The sex and age group of service recipients is represented in Figure 1.1. Most service recipients were male in 1996 (58%). Overall there was little difference in age group distribution between the sexes, although differences did exist when service types and disability types were examined in detail (for more detail and description see Table 3.1).



The Consumer Form requested that all significant disability types affecting the lives of service recipients be reported. The disability type most affecting the everyday life of the recipient was nominated as the primary disability type. Many service recipients have multiple disabilities. Figure 1.2 compares the numbers of service recipients reporting each disability type. Those with intellectual disability comprise the greatest number of CSDA service recipients, both when reporting all significant disability types they experience and their primary disability type (nearly 40,000). Those with physical disability were substantially fewer, but the next most numerous. The third-most numerous were those with psychiatric disability as a primary disability type, but speech disability becomes the third-most frequent when both primary and all other significant disability types are considered. More than 5,000 service recipients reported neurological and vision disabilities.



Between 30 and 40% of recipients reported a need for continual support in almost every area of support need. Data were collected for ten areas. Lower percentages of need for continual support were obtained for the areas of ‘communication’, ‘mobility’ and, most notably, for ‘working’.

The Disability Support Pension was the main income source for most service recipients (67%).

Most service recipients lived with family members and/or their spouse (43%).

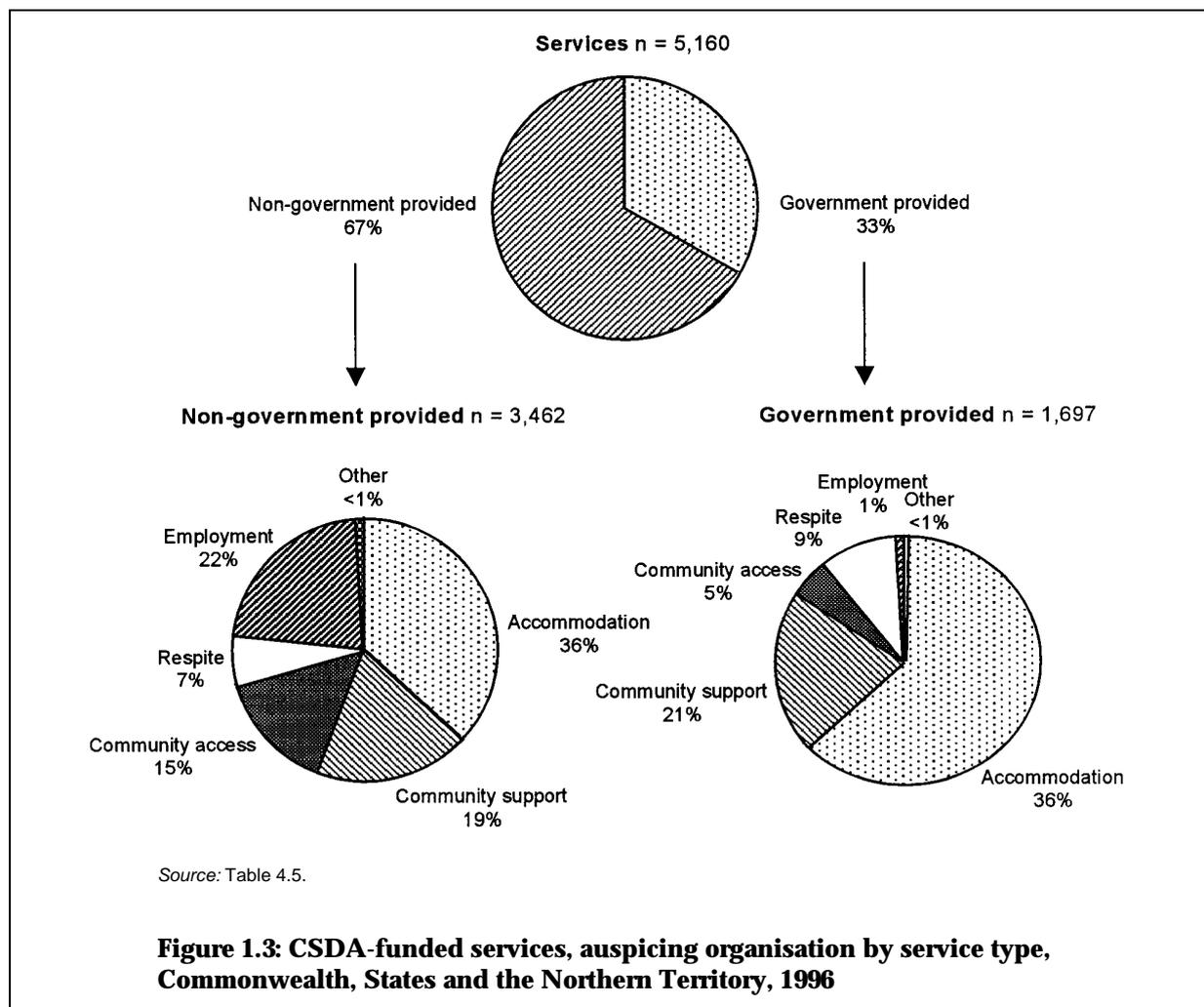
Section 3 contains more information about CSDA services recipients. Table A.1 provides frequency counts for all data item response categories from the Consumer Form.

## 1.2 Service data

There were 5,160 CSDA-funded services that responded to the 1996 collection.

Approximately a third of services were government provided, with more than half of these being accommodation services. About two-thirds of services were non-government provided, with about a third of these being accommodation services. Accommodation services comprised about 45% of all services (Figure 1.3, see also Table 4.5).

State- or Territory-funded CSDA services numbered 4,284 (excluding the Australian Capital Territory).



Total reported CSDA funds provided to services were \$1,263.67 million in 1995–96 (Table 1.2). About 58% of these funds were provided to accommodation support services (\$728.35 million).

**Table 1.2: CSDA funding of services, service type by State and Territory, Commonwealth, States and the Northern Territory, 1995–96 (\$ million)**

Service type	NSW	Vic.	Qld	WA	SA	Tas.	ACT	NT	Total
Accommodation support	273.45	177.32	76.45	83.78	87.14	24.47	n.a.	5.74	728.35
Community support; Community access;	112.22	111.48	28.74	37.55	25.68	12.67	n.a.	2.34	330.69
Employment support	51.50	45.55	24.07	23.55	15.44	3.88	3.69	1.47	169.16
Service type other/not stated	6.66	7.37	6.51	2.60	9.96	1.30	0.67	0.41	35.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>443.84</b>	<b>341.72</b>	<b>135.76</b>	<b>147.48</b>	<b>138.21</b>	<b>42.33</b>	<b>4.36</b>	<b>9.96</b>	<b>1,263.67</b>

*Notes*

1. Data for CSDA services funded by the Australian Capital Territory were not collected. All data under the ACT column are for CSDA services funded by the Commonwealth and located in the ACT.
2. Advocacy; Information/referral; Combined advocacy/information; and Print disability/alternative formats of communication services are included with Service type other/not stated.
3. Data for CSDA services funded by Western Australia did not permit Community support, Community access; and Respite services to be separated. Separate data are available for the other States and the Northern Territory.

Services reported receiving income from all government sources such as HACC and other government funding, in addition to CSDA income. Such income from governments to CSDA-funded services was \$915.74 million in 1995–96 (excluding government income to CSDA services funded by the Commonwealth Government and the Australian Capital Territory Government).

Ninety-three per cent of accommodation support services operated for the whole year, as did 77% of respite services, 55% of community support services, and 26% of community access services.

Section 5 provides a 1996 update of work on performance indicators which was previously published, using the 1995 CSDA MDS collection, for the 1997 Report on Government Service Provision. The methods used for this work are also given in detail.

Accommodation support services were actually received by 47.7 recipients under the CSDA for every 1,000 people in the 'potential population'— an adjusted estimate of the number of people with severe or profound handicap. For open employment support services the equivalent ratio was 77.3.

Recipients with a profound handicap comprised 54% of recipients of accommodation support services and 11.2% of recipients of open employment services.