

Disability Services NMDS 2015–16

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Set Specification

METEOR identifier: 617391

Registration status:

- [Disability](#), Superseded 28/09/2016

DSS type: National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

Scope: The Disability Services National Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS) is a national collection that has:

- a set of nationally significant data items or pieces of information that are collected in all Australian jurisdictions; and
- an agreed method of collection and transmission.

The purpose of the DS NMDS collection is to facilitate the annual collation of nationally comparable data about disability support services provided under the National Disability Agreement (NDA), and to obtain reliable, consistent data with minimal load on the disability services field. Under the NDA, the Disability Administrators in all Australian jurisdictions are responsible for ensuring 'that DS NMDS information will be comparable across all jurisdictions and years'.

Services within the scope of the collection are those for which funding has been provided, during the specified period, by a government organisation operating under the NDA. Therefore, if a [service type outlet](#) did not receive funding for the provision of NDA services during the reporting year (i.e. its NDA funding dollars for the financial year are zero), then details of this outlet should not be included in the data collection.

A [funded agency](#) may receive funding from multiple sources. Where a funded agency is unable to differentiate [service users](#) and/or staff according to funding source (i.e. NDA or other), they are asked to provide details of all service users and staff (for each [service type](#)).

Most funded agencies are asked to provide information about:

- each of the service types they are funded to provide (i.e. service type outlets they operate);
- all service users who received support over a specified reporting period; and
- the service type(s) the service user received.

The level of information a funded agency is asked to provide varies according to the particular service type (i.e. for each service type outlet).

Where services are provided to groups or families (e.g. 2.02, 2.04, or 2.05), details are only requested about the service users who is eligible for services, not their family or other group members. If a family member/carer receives respite services, limited information about the carer is required, such as the carer's relationship to the service user and the carer's age group.

Table 1: Information requested according to DS NMDS service type

Service type classification	Service type outlet—details required^(a)	Service user—details required^(a)	Services received by each service user in the reporting period—details required^(a)
Accommodation support			
1.01 Large residential/institution (>20 people)—24 hour care	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
1.02 Small residential/institution (7–20 people)—24 hour care	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
1.03 Hostels—generally not 24 hour care	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
1.04 Group homes (< 7 people)	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
1.05 Attendant care/personal care	All	All	All
1.06 In-home accommodation support	All	All	All
1.07 Alternative family placement	All	All	All
1.08 Other accommodation support	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
Community support			
2.01 Therapy support for individuals	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
2.02 Early childhood intervention	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
2.03 Behaviour/specialist intervention	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
2.04 Counselling (individual/family/group)	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
2.05 Regional resource and support teams	All	All	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)

2.06 Case management, local coordination and development	All	All (except for community development activity within this service type)	All (except for community development activity within this service type)
2.07 Other community support	All	All (except for community development activity within this service type)	All (except for data items on hours received— items 17e–f)
Community access			
3.01 Learning and life skills development	All	All	All
3.02 Recreation/holiday programs	All	Linkage key elements only (items 2a–2e)	Items 17a–17b (service start date and date service last received)
3.03 Other community access	All	All	All
Respite			
4.01 Own home respite	All	All	All
4.02 Centre-based respite/respice homes	All	All	All
4.03 Host family respite/peer support respite	All	All	All
4.04 Flexible respite	All	All	All
4.05 Other respite	All	All	All
Employment			
5.01 Open employment	All	All (except for carer – primary status, residency status, age group – items 12b,c,e)	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
5.02 Supported employment	All	All (except for carer – primary status, residency status, age group – items 12b,c,e)	All (except for data items on hours received—items 17e–f)
Advocacy, information and alternative forms of communication			
6.01 Advocacy	All	None	None
6.02 Information/referral	All	None	None
6.03 Combined information/advocacy	All	None	None

6.04 Mutual support/self-help groups	All	None	None
6.05 Alternative formats of communication	All	None	None
Other support			
7.01 Research and evaluation	All (except number of service users – item 7)	None	None
7.02 Training and development	All (except number of service users – item 7)	None	None
7.03 Peak bodies	All (except number of service users – item 7)	None	None
7.04 Other support services	All (except number of service users – item 7)	None	None

(a) Refer to the [DS NMDS 2015–16 data guide](#) for additional information on data items.

The data collection is based around the concept of a 'service type outlet', each of which provides only one service type from a discrete location. A funded agency may be funded to provide one or more service types through one or more service type outlets. For example, an agency may be funded under the NDA to provide residential accommodation and respite services from one location or funded to provide group homes in three separate locations. A separate service type outlet form is completed for each service type the agency is funded to provide. If a service user receives more than one service type in the reporting period, a separate service user form is completed for each service type received.

Statistical units:

[Service user](#), [service type outlet](#), [funded agency](#).

Data are collected, usually by agencies, for each service type outlet they operate. These data are turned into estimated counts of service users by using a statistical linkage key.

Reporting period:

For the DS NMDS, the reporting period is the financial year. For 2015–16, this is 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

[Funded agencies](#) are asked to record key information about service users on an ongoing basis, so that they can transmit the required information to their jurisdiction. Most jurisdictions require information to be transmitted at the end of each financial year quarter. Some only require information to be transmitted at the end of the financial year. At the end of the financial year, each jurisdiction is required to provide collated data to the AIHW.

Reference week:

For most jurisdictions, the annual reference week is the 7-day week preceding the end of the financial year (i.e. 24 June to 30 June).

For Victoria, the annual reference week is the 7-day week preceding the end of May (i.e. 25 May to 31 May).

For Western Australia, the annual reference week is the 7-day week beginning 21 May (i.e. 21 May to 27 May).

Privacy:

DS NMDS collections conducted in each jurisdiction must comply with Commonwealth privacy legislation, relevant state and territory privacy legislation, and established privacy and data principles.

Collection and usage attributes

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

Implementation end date: 30/06/2016

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: [Disability Services National Minimum Data Set \(DS NMDS\): data guide 2015–16](#)

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Disability Services NMDS 2014-15](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Incomplete 23/04/2014
- [Disability](#), Superseded 29/02/2016

Has been superseded by [Disability Services NMDS 2016–17](#)

- [Disability](#), Superseded 15/12/2017

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Activity and participation need for assistance cluster	Mandatory	1
-	Person—activity and participation life area, disability code N	Mandatory	9
-	Person—need for assistance with activities in a life area, disability code N	Mandatory	9
-	Agency sector cluster	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—income tax exempt indicator, code N	Conditional	1
-	Service provider organisation—level of government, code N	Conditional	1
-	Service provider organisation—sector, code N	Mandatory	1
-	Funding jurisdiction cluster	Mandatory	1
-	Address—Australian state/territory identifier, code AA[A]	Mandatory	1
-	Service type outlet—funding source, level of government code N	Mandatory	1
-	Statistical linkage key 581 cluster	Mandatory	1
1	Person—letters of family name, text XXX	Mandatory	1
2	Person—letters of given name, text XX	Mandatory	1
3	Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
4	Person—sex, code N	Mandatory	1
5	Record—linkage key, code 581 XXXXXDDMMYYYYN	Mandatory	1
6	Date—accuracy indicator, code AAA	Conditional	1
-	Address—Australian postcode, Australian postcode code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}	Mandatory	2

- Client—amount of assistance, total hours NNN	Mandatory	2
- Informal carer—age range, NDA code N	Conditional	1
- Informal carer—co-residency indicator, code N	Conditional	1
- Informal carer—primary carer indicator, code N	Conditional	1
- Informal carer—relationship to care recipient, interpersonal code N[N]	Conditional	1
- Parent/guardian—receipt of Carer Allowance (Child) indicator, yes/no/unknown/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—co-existing disability group, code N(N)	Conditional	12
- Person—communication method, code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—country of birth, code (SACC 2011) NNNN	Mandatory	1
- Person—effective communication indicator, code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—funding indicator, yes/no/unknown/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—Indigenous status, code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—informal carer existence indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—interpreter service required, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—labour force status, code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—living arrangement, code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—primary disability group, code N[N]	Mandatory	1
- Person—residential setting, accommodation type (NDA) code N[N]	Mandatory	1
- Person—source of cash income (principal), NDA code N	Mandatory	1
- Person—type of interpreter service required, spoken language/non-spoken communication code N	Conditional	1
- Record—identifier (NDA), N[N(7)]	Mandatory	1
- Service episode—episode end date, DDMMYYYY	Conditional	1
- Service episode—episode start date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
- Service episode—service cessation reason, NDA code N[N]	Conditional	1
- Service event—last service provision date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
- Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X[X(7)]	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—full financial year funding indicator, yes/no code N	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—funding allocated, total Australian currency N[N(8)]	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—geographic location, code (ASGC 2011) NNNNN	Optional	1
- Service type outlet—hours worked (paid staff), total hours NNNNN	Mandatory	2
- Service type outlet—hours worked (volunteer/unpaid staff), total hours NNNNN	Mandatory	2
- Service type outlet—number of clients, total people N[NNNN]	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—number of service operation days, total N[N]	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—number of service operation hours, total NN	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—number of service operation weeks, total NN	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—outlet identifier, XX[X(26)]	Mandatory	1
- Service type outlet—service activity type, NDA service type code N.NN	Mandatory	1