



Report on the Nature and extent of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation against people with disability in Australia: Additional resources from the Australian Bureau of Statistics

Following publication of the report entitled 'Nature and extent of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation against people with disability in Australia', which was published by the Royal Commission on 21 March 2021, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) provided to the Royal Commission information about additional resources that the ABS has published that are relevant to this area of research. The following information is relevant to the report.

The Personal Safety Survey (PSS) collects information about the experience of respondents aged 18 years and over of physical and sexual abuse before the age of 15. Data is disaggregated by disability status is available in the following articles:

[Characteristics and outcomes of childhood abuse | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/characteristics-and-outcomes-of-childhood-abuse)

[Disability and Violence - In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics, Disability and violence - April 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/disability-and-violence-in-focus-crime-and-justice-statistics)

A methodological report published by the ABS sets out the statistical, ethical and safety challenges with collecting information from persons living in cared accommodation. For more information please refer to this paper: [Disability and Violence - In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics, Disability and violence - April 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/disability-and-violence-in-focus-crime-and-justice-statistics).

Data on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's experiences of physical and/or threatened violence by disability status can be found here: [Disability and Violence - In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics, Disability and violence - April 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/disability-and-violence-in-focus-crime-and-justice-statistics).

ABS is currently comparing Census and administrative data for First Nations populations to improve data quality and accuracy (see www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1900.0). The ABS's Data Integration project can be found at this link: [1900.0 - Data Integration Project Register, Australia \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/1900.0)

The ABS noted the following representation of persons from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in the PSS:

- 30% who were born overseas, including 17% in a non-main English-speaking country
- 43% whose father was born overseas, including 24% in a non-main English-speaking country
- 40% whose mother was born overseas, including 23% in a non-main English-speaking country
- 18% whose native language was not English

Survey development and data collection is available at [4906.0.55.003 - Personal Safety Survey, Australia: User Guide, 2016 \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/4906.0.55.003). Response rates are available at [4906.0.55.003 - Personal Safety Survey, Australia: User Guide, 2016 \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/4906.0.55.003)

The PSS publication contains prevalence rates for same-sex intimate partner violence (Tables 3 & 5): [Personal Safety, Australia, 2016 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/4906.0.55.003).

The ABS's General Social Survey (GSS) collects information about sexual orientation, disability, and experiences of physical and threatened violence. Analysis of these variables can be found in the following article: [Disability and Violence - In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics, Disability and violence - April 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/4906.0.55.003)

The ABS noted the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) is a source of official disability prevalence data in Australia and is designed to measure the entire spectrum of disability. The ABS confirmed that the 2022 SDAC will include new questions on the experience of neglect and abuse (both physical and psychological abuse) in the previous 12 months for persons aged 15 years or more with disability, and all people aged 65 years and over (living in households, excluding proxy interviews). These new questions will ascertain whether a person experienced neglect and/or abuse in the previous 12 months, and how many times they experienced it.