

Fact Sheet 4: Participation in open employment services²⁸

There has been a substantial increase (160%) in the number of people with disability using open employment services in the past eleven years. This increase is due to the program engaging people with disability other than those with intellectual disability.

- The proportion of people with intellectual disability in the open employment program has fallen significantly from 28.1% in 2003-04 to 10.5% in 2013-14.
- The number of people with intellectual disability entering open employment services each year has stagnated.
- Approximately 1 in 6 adults with intellectual disability using disability support services access open employment services.
- At 30 June 2012, 25.7% (approximately 3,092) of people receiving ongoing support in employment in the ESS program have intellectual disability.²⁹

Table 7: Open employment program access 2003-04 to 2013-14 by primary disability.

| Primary Disability | 2003-04 | % of Program | 2013-14 | % of Program |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Intellectual | 12,088 | 28.1% | 11,704 | 10.5% |
| Specific Learning | 4,165 | 9.7% | 8,190 | 7.3% |
| Autism | 890 | 2.1% | 6,598 | 5.9% |
| Physical | 8,708 | 20.2% | 32,098 | 28.7% |
| ABI | 1,568 | 3.6% | 2,474 | 2.2% |
| Neurological | 1,599 | 3.7% | 5,142 | 4.6% |
| Deaf-blind | 180 | 0.4% | 216 | 0.2% |
| Vision | 1,513 | 3.5% | 2,203 | 2.0% |
| Hearing | 1,871 | 4.3% | 2,649 | 2.4% |
| Speech | 174 | 0.4% | 301 | 0.3% |
| Psychiatric | 10,286 | 23.9% | 40,256 | 36.0% |
| Total | 43,042 | | 111,854 | |

Table 8: People with intellectual disability, open employment access, 2003-04 to 2012-13.

| Open Employment Program | 2003-04 | 2012-13 |
|---|---------|---------|
| People with intellectual disability | 12,088 | 11,704 |
| People with intellectual disability 15-64 years | 59,962 | 68,653 |
| Access Rate | 20% | 17% |

²⁸ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2014. Disability support services: services provided under the National Disability Agreement. Published reports for 2003-04 to 2013-14

²⁹ Department of Social Services. Evaluation of Disability Employment Services 2010-2013. Final Report.