

**Table 1: List of variables in Disability Service Minimum Data Set (DS-MDS)**

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Service user</b>	
<b>Birth date</b>	The day, month and year when the person was born.
<b>Birth date estimate flag</b>	Whether or not the person's date of birth has been estimated.
<b>Sex</b>	The gender of the person.
<b>Indigenous status</b>	Whether or not a person identifies themselves as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin.
<b>Country of birth</b>	The country in which the person was born.
<b>Interpreter required</b>	Requirement for interpreter services as perceived by the person seeking assistance.
<b>Communication method</b>	The method of communication, including sign language, most effectively used by the person.
<b>Living arrangements</b>	Whether the person lives alone or with other related or unrelated persons.
<b>Residential setting</b>	The type of physical accommodation in which the person usually resides ('usually' being 4 or more days per week on average).
<b>Primary disability group</b>	<p>One of: Intellectual, developmental disability, autism, acquired brain injury, Learning Disability, Neurological, or Psychiatric.</p> <p><b>Disability groups</b> are a broad categorisation of disabilities in terms of the underlying health condition, impairment, activity limitations, participation restrictions and environmental factors.</p> <p><b>Primary disability group</b> is the disability group that most clearly expresses the experience of disability by a person. The primary disability group can also be considered as the disability group causing the most difficulty to the person (overall difficulty in daily life, not just within the context of the support offered by this service).</p>
<b>Secondary disability or other significant disability group</b>	<p>One of: Intellectual, Development Disability, Autism, Acquired Brain Injury, Learning Disability, Neurological, Psychiatric</p> <p><b>Disability group(s)</b> (other than that indicated as being 'primary') that also clearly express the experience of disability by a person and/or cause difficulty for the person.</p>
<b>Support needs – self-care</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: a. Self-care—activities such as washing oneself, dressing, eating and/or toileting.
<b>Support needs – mobility</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: b. Mobility—moving around the home and/or moving around away from home (for instance, using public

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
	transport), getting in or out of bed or a chair.
<b>Support needs – communication</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: c. Communication—making self understood by strangers/family/friends/staff, in own native language or most effective method of communication if applicable, and understanding others.
<b>Support needs – interpersonal interactions and relationships</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: d. Interpersonal interactions and relationships—including, for example, actions and behaviours that an individual does to make and keep friends and relationships, behaving within accepted limits, coping with feelings and emotions.
<b>Support needs – learning applying knowledge and general tasks and demands</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: e. Learning, applying knowledge and general tasks and demands—understanding new ideas, remembering, solving problems, making decisions, paying attention, undertaking single or multiple tasks, carrying out daily routines.
<b>Support needs – education</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: f. Education—for example, the actions, behaviours and tasks an individual needs to perform at school, college or any educational setting.
<b>Support needs – community (civic) and economic life</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: g. Community (civic) and economic life—for example, participating in recreation and leisure, religion and spirituality, human rights, political life and citizenship, and economic life such as handling money.
<b>Support needs – domestic life</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: h. Domestic life—undertaking activities such as shopping, organising meals, cleaning, disposing of garbage, housekeeping, cooking and home maintenance. (This does <b>not</b> include care of household members, animals and/or plants).
<b>Support needs – working</b>	The need for personal help or supervision in the area of: i. Working—for example, undertaking the actions, behaviours and tasks needed to obtain and retain paid employment.
<b>Carer – existence of</b>	Whether someone, such as a family member, friend or neighbour, has been identified as providing regular and sustained care and assistance to the person requiring support.
<b>Carer – residency status</b>	Whether or not a carer lives with the person for whom they provide care and support.
<b>Carer – primary status</b>	Whether the carer assists the person requiring support, in one or more of the following activities of daily living: self-care, mobility or communication.
<b>Carer – relationship to service user</b>	The relationship of the carer to the person for whom they care.
<b>Carer – age group of carer</b>	The age group of the carer.
<b>Receipt of Carer Allowance</b>	Receipt of the Carer Allowance (Child) by a parent or

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>(child)</b>	guardian of a person, if the service user is aged less than 16 years.
<b>Labour force status</b>	The self-reported status the person currently has in being either in the labour force (employed/unemployed) or not in the labour force.
<b>Main source of income</b>	The main source of income of the person, if they are aged 16 years or more.
<b>Individual funding status</b>	Whether service user is currently receiving individualised funding under the National Disability Act (NDA).
<b>Services Received</b>	
<b>Funded Agency ID</b>	ID code generated for the funded disability service provider or agency.
<b>Service Type Outlet ID</b>	ID code generated for the agency's service type outlet.
<b>Service start</b>	The date on which a person began to receive support from a Disability-funded outlet.
<b>Date service last received</b>	The date the person last received a service of this service type during the reporting period.
<b>Service exit date</b>	The date on which the person ceases to be a service user of the NDA-funded outlet.
<b>Main reason for cessation of service</b>	The reason that the person stopped receiving services from the outlet.
<b>Service quantity – hours received (reference week)</b>	The number of hours of support received by a person for this NDA service type in the 7-day reference week preceding the end of the reporting period.
<b>Service quantity - Hours received (total)</b>	The total number of hours of support received by a person for this service type (summed over the reporting period).
<b>Service quantity - Hours received (total) – specific service</b>	The total number of hours of support received by a person for this NDA service type (summed over the reporting period).
<b>Service Type Outlet</b>	
<b>Service type</b>	The support activity that the outlet has been funded to provide under the NDA.
<b>Service type outlet postcode</b>	Postcode of the location of the outlet.
<b>Funding jurisdiction</b>	The jurisdiction (state, territory or Australian Government) providing NDA funding to the Service Provider and the jurisdiction in which the funds are allocated.
<b>Agency sector</b>	The type of government or non-government sector to which the Service Provider (or outlet) belongs.
<b>Number of service users</b>	Total number of people receiving a particular funded service type under the NDA during the reporting period.
<b>Total CSDTA funds</b>	Total amount (recorded in whole dollars) of Disability funds provided to the outlet for the current reporting period.
<b>Other source of funds</b>	The types of funding sources which apply to your agency.