

What is International Day of People with Disability?



International Day of
People with Disability



International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD) is a United Nations (UN) observed day recognised on 3 December each year. The aim of IDPwD is to raise awareness, understanding and acceptance of the 5.5 million people with disability in Australia.

The UN is an international organisation where countries come together to discuss and solve world issues. Australia is one of the founding members of the UN.

In 1992, the UN declared 3 December as International Day of Disabled Persons. Each year the UN announces a theme that gives a focus for society to remove barriers for people with disability and become more inclusive.

Countries around the world recognise this day in their own way. In Australia, IDPwD is a joint effort between government, schools, organisations, community groups, businesses and individuals.

The Australian Government has been supporting IDPwD since 1996. Through the Department of Social Services, it promotes and raises awareness of IDPwD on 3 December and throughout the year.

IDPwD aligns with [Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031](#) and its vision for an inclusive Australian society.

Be part of creating an inclusive and diverse community.

Disability in Australia

Source: Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia survey 2022, Australian Bureau of Statistics www.abs.gov.au/disability



5.5 million people

with disability live in Australia - that's 1 in 5 people.



37%

Around 1 in 3 people with disability have severe or profound disability.



1 in 10 people with disability have experienced discrimination.



More than half of all older persons in Australia live with disability.



56%

56% of people with disability aged 15-64 have a job.

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