Use of aids and equipment¹ by people with disability in Australia



People with disability may benefit from the use of aids or equipment¹ to help them improve their functioning, promote independence and increase their participation in social and economic life.

The results from the 2015 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers provide information on the aids and equipment used to assist Australians with disability.



Around **half** of people with disability used **aids or equipment**¹ in 2015



46.2%

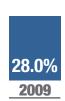
People who **lived alone**² were more likely to use aids or equipment¹ than those who lived with others²



Most people who lived in residential care³ used aids or equipment¹



Over 1 in 4 people with disability used **communication aids**, such as cochlear implants or speaking aids



↑32.6%
2015

Use of **hearing aids** by **older Australians**⁴ with disability has **increased**



1 in 7 people with disability used a mobility aid, such as a wheelchair or walking stick



Females with disability were more likely to use **mobility**aids than males



Around 1 in 6 people with disability used aids or equipment¹ for **self-care**, such as a showering aid



1 in 5 people with disability used aids or equipment 1 to help manage health conditions 5, such as a blood pressure monitor

- 1 Refers to any aids, equipment or other devices used by a person with one or more disabilities to assist them with performing tasks, but does not include help provided by another person or an organisation
- 2 Living in households
- 3 Includes hospitals, nursing homes, hostels or other health establishments where the resident had been, or was expected to be living there or in another health establishment for a period of three months or more
- 4 Aged 65 years and over
- 5 Other than taking medication

Further information is available in *Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2015* (cat. no. 4430.0) available from the ABS website (www.abs.gov.au). A pdf version of the information sheet is available from the Downloads tab of this publication.