



Scope 1 in 4 Poll information sheet

Social inclusion

Results for levels of social inclusion experienced by people with a disability

The Scope 1 in 4 Poll began in 2010 and aims to:

- Capture the voices of Australians with a disability and their carers.
- Understand the views and needs of people with a disability and their carers.
- Increase the power of people with a disability and their carers to influence social and political processes.

A poll measuring the wellbeing and social inclusion of people with a disability ran from October 2010 to September 2011. Across Australia, 761 people responded to the survey.

In a series of questions, respondents were asked how well their needs were met in relation to their social inclusion in the previous three months. They rated how well their needs were met in relation to **social contact and support, participation, feeling valued and belonging, and service inclusion.**

Social contact and support includes having social contact with other people, having a social life, getting help from family and friends when you need it, having someone to give you important advice, and having access to support in times of crisis.

Participation includes participating in some type of social activity, participating in arts and cultural activities, going to cafés, bars and pubs, participating in sport or recreational activities, going to local shops, and participating in church or religious activities.

Feeling valued and belonging includes being treated with respect by others, being accepted by others for who you are, and feeling valued by society.

Service inclusion includes accessing medical services, accessing dental services, accessing mental health services, accessing disability support services, accessing government services, and getting help from services when you need it.



The results

Social inclusion needs fully met

Respondents who reported their social inclusion needs were fully met:

Only 9% said their **social contact** needs were fully met

Only 6% said their **community participation** needs were fully met

Only 10% said their need to **feel valued and belong** were fully met

Only 10% said their **access to services** needs were fully met

The results of this poll show that social inclusion needs were inadequately met for most people with a disability.

With regard to social specific inclusion items, people who reported their needs were fully met fell within the range of 7% (participating in arts and cultural activities) to 22% (having access to medical services). As further examples, people with a disability told us that their needs were not fully met in relation to:

89% say their needs are not fully met for having a social life

89% say their needs are not fully met for going out to cafes, bars and pubs

87% say their needs are not fully met for getting support in times of crisis

88% say their needs are not fully met for accessing mental health services

86% say their needs are not fully met for accessing disability support services

Barriers to social inclusion

We asked people to tell us the barriers to their social inclusion. The biggest single barrier they identified was the **attitudes of others**. [The five biggest barriers to social inclusion as indicated by the participants are:](#)

Attitudes of others	39%
Health	28%
Physical access	26%
Money	25%
Transport	21%

All results have been rounded to the nearest full percent.



About the Scope 1 in 4 Poll

People with a disability represent a significant proportion of the Australian population. Approximately one in five Australians has a reported disability and the prevalence of disability is increasing. There are more than 2.5 million Australians who are carers of people with a disability. Together, one out of every four Australians either has a disability, or is caring for someone with a disability.

It is acknowledged that the exclusion of people with disability is a human rights issue. People with a disability are among the most marginalised of our population. The Scope 1 in 4 Poll surveys people with a disability whose voices would otherwise not be heard, as traditional research methods exclude many disability types. Each poll gathers first hand experiences of people with a disability on issues of importance to them. This is then used to tell their stories.

Current poll

Researchers are currently polling experiences of negative attitudes towards disability as experienced by people with a disability. For more information or to complete the survey, visit www.1in4pollaustralia.com.

Partners

Deakin University and Scope are partners in this project. This research was supported under Australian Research Council Linkage funding scheme (project number LP0883843).

Scope 1 in 4 Poll contacts

Information on the project can be found at www.1in4pollaustralia.com or by contacting the Scope 1 in 4 Poll office on **03 9244 6705** or emailing 1in4poll@deakin.edu.au.

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