



Creating  
an inclusive  
community  
together

# Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031

## Implementation Report

1 July 2023 – 30 June 2025

## Summary

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# Summary

This document is a summary of *Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031 Implementation Report 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2025*. The full Implementation Report is available on [Disability Gateway](#).

*Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031* (the Strategy) is our national plan to make Australia more inclusive for people with disability. It sets out how we can work together to remove barriers and create opportunities for people with disability.

Over the past 2 years we have seen landmark reforms that have reshaped the disability landscape across Australia. The [Disability Royal Commission](#) and the [NDIS Review](#) final reports, and the 2024 Review of the Strategy gave us important insights.

The [Review of the Strategy](#) gave people the opportunity to share their ideas and experiences, and to tell us what matters to them. Throughout the Review, people told us they wanted to see better collaboration between governments, more accessible information and communication, and more opportunities to participate in and engage with the Strategy.

In early 2025, we [updated the Strategy](#) to make it clearer and stronger. We also launched 3 new [Targeted Action Plans](#). The updated Strategy reaffirmed all governments' commitment to the Strategy.

Looking forward, there will be an independent review of the Strategy in 2026. It will look at what is working well, what needs to be improved, and how we can make the Strategy even stronger. It will use the [Toolkit for Engaging People with Disability in Evaluation](#) to make sure the process is inclusive, respectful, and shaped by people's lived experiences.

Funding needs to be better tracked, and actions need to be driven by appropriate and unbiased data and evidence.  
— Australia's Disability Strategy Advisory Council

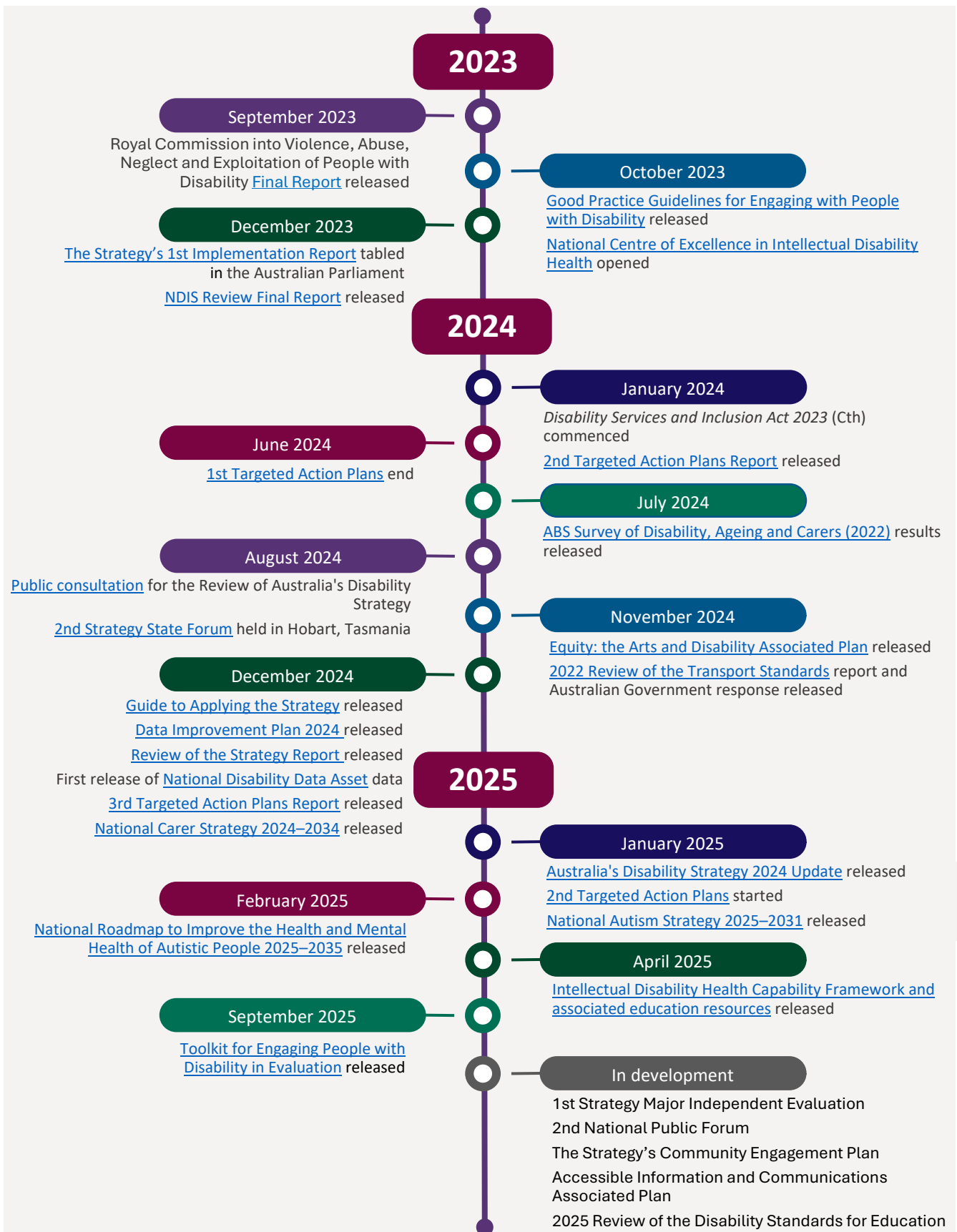
Nothing About Us, Without Us must be more than a slogan; it must shape budgets, laws and data systems.  
— Disability Representative Organisation

The strengths of the Strategy are that it is agreed to by all levels of government and it spans multiple areas of government responsibility.  
— Australian Human Rights Commission



# Our Progress

[Australia's Disability Strategy Roadmap](#) reflects how and what we are doing to implement the Strategy. All milestones scheduled for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025 have been completed or are in development.



Timeline of Australia's Disability Strategy activities, 2023-2025

# Australia's Disability Strategy Outcome Areas

The Strategy has 7 Outcome Areas that focus on building an inclusive society. The following are highlights of progress under the Outcome Areas during July 2023 to June 2025.

## Employment and Financial Security

The [Inclusive Employment Australia](#) started, and a new program Centre for Inclusive Employment has been set up. Most governments worked towards hiring more people with disability in their public sectors. The [ACT Disability Strategy First Action Plan](#) and the [Victorian Neurodiversity Employment Toolkit](#) promoted inclusive hiring practices and workplace adjustments.

## Inclusive Homes and Communities

Reforms in [transport](#), tourism, communications, [public spaces](#) and services are making communities more inclusive. Local councils, like City of Newcastle and City of Ryde, promoted [inclusive sport](#) and [volunteering](#). Governments are supporting more accessible housing. The updated Strategy now includes a new focus on homelessness.

## Safety, Rights and Justice

States and territories started new [justice strategies](#) and programs to support people with disability in the legal system and to stop domestic and family violence. Legal protections were made stronger with the new Disability Services and Inclusion Act, and there is a plan to update the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992 \(Cth\)](#).

## Personal and Community Support

New plans were released, like the [National Autism Strategy](#) and [National Carer Strategy](#). The NDIS now supports over 739,000 Australians, and a new [NDIS First Nations Strategy](#) was launched to better support First Nations people with disability. Governments are working on extra supports outside the NDIS, including Foundational Supports and Thriving Kids.

## Education and Learning

States and territories are working to make schools more inclusive. NSW and WA have programs to train educators. NT and SA have transition programs to help young people with disability move into further study or work. The Australian Government released [new resources](#) to help First Nations students and families understand their rights, and training providers are better equipped to support students with disability.

## Health and Wellbeing

A new [national centre](#) and [health framework](#) were created to make health care more inclusive for people with intellectual disability. States and territories are making it easier for people with disability to get health and mental health services. For example, [Tasmania's disability health strategy](#) or Queensland's Centre of Excellence in Intellectual and Developmental Disability Mental Health. In 2024, the Australian Government released an [Emergency Management Toolkit](#) that was co-designed with people with disability.

## Community Attitudes

Governments' grants programs support projects that improve community attitudes, inclusion, and accessibility. For example, the Australian Government's Inclusion and Accessibility Fund will support local projects to improve community attitudes. Initiatives like Bus Stop Films and Queenslanders with Disability Network's Emerging Leaders Program help promote inclusion and challenge stereotypes.

## Implementation Mechanisms

The Strategy is carried out through a set of linked actions. They guide how we act and help us stay responsible for what we do. The following are highlights of these actions.

Governments are **working together** to implement the Strategy, delivering more effective and consistent disability policies and programs across Australia. The Strategy's **Guiding Principles** are helping us build more inclusive communities. The new [Guide to Applying Australia's Disability Strategy](#) is helping governments, businesses, and communities use the Guiding Principles in their work and disability plans.

Genuine **engagement** with people with disability is at the heart of the Strategy. The updated Strategy commits to making a new Community Engagement Plan. The 2024 [Tasmania State Forum](#) brought together people with disability, and government to share ideas on how to make engagement better. There is also a new [Toolkit for Engaging People with Disability in Evaluation](#). This toolkit helps make sure evaluations are inclusive.

The Strategy's **Targeted Action Plans** help governments focus on short term priorities. In 2025, we released 3 new plans focused on [Inclusive Home and Communities](#); [Safety, Rights and Justice](#); and [Community Attitudes](#).

The Strategy's **Associated Plans** take a longer-term focus on key priorities. In 2024, we launched a new Associated Plan, [Equity](#), focused on arts and disability. The updated Strategy commits to developing a new Associated Plan to improve the accessibility of information and communications.

We check how the Strategy is working by using the **Outcomes Framework** and a national [Survey](#). These tools measure changes in important parts of life, like jobs and health. By July 2025, we had data for 56 measures in the Outcomes Framework. The Strategy's Survey collects information about people's attitudes on disability. The results are shared in reports and studies to help us understand what is improving and what needs more work.

We are working to improve disability **data** so we can better measure progress. The Strategy's revised [Data Improvement Plan](#) sets out practical ways to strengthen disability data and reporting over 2025–2026.

**Good governance** helps us work together and be responsible for our actions. The Disability Reform Ministerial Council brings together disability ministers to lead national change. [Australia's Disability Strategy Advisory Council](#), provides independent advice to governments on the implementation of the Strategy.

**Evaluations** provide evidence about what is working and where improvements are needed. In 2026, there will be an independent evaluation of the Strategy.

## State and Territory Governments

State and territory governments are key partners in delivering the Strategy. They also have their own disability plans that reflect the priorities of their communities.

| Jurisdiction                            | Disability Strategy or Plan   |
|---|---|
| Australian Capital Territory Government | <a href="#">Australian Capital Territory Disability Strategy 2024–2033</a>            |
| New South Wales Government              | <a href="#">New South Wales Disability Inclusion Plan 2021–2025</a>                   |
| Northern Territory Government           | <a href="#">Northern Territory Disability Strategy 2022–2032</a>                      |
| Queensland Government                   | <a href="#">Queensland's Disability Plan 2022–2027: Together, a better Queensland</a> |
| South Australia Government              | <a href="#">South Australian Disability Inclusion Plan 2025–2029</a>                  |
| Tasmania Government                     | <a href="#">Tasmania's Disability Strategy 2025–2027</a>                              |
| Victoria Government                     | <a href="#">Inclusive Victoria: state disability plan 2022–2026</a>                   |
| Western Australia Government            | <a href="#">A Western Australia for Everyone: State Disability Strategy 2020–2030</a> |

Further information about the Strategy is available at [Australia's Disability Strategy Hub on Disability Gateway](#).