# Blind Citizens Australia logo

Ph 1800 033 660 | E bca@bca.org.au | W [bca.org.au](http://www.bca.org.au/) | ABN 90 006 985 226

# Fact Sheet on Australia’s Disability Strategy

**September 2023**

*Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021-2031* is Australia’s national disability policy framework. It replaces and builds on its predecessor, the *National Disability Strategy 2010-2020.*

The Outcome Areas in the Strategy set out where governments at all levels will focus on delivering much needed changes in the lives of people with disability. Under each outcome area are several Policy Priorities that are seen as crucial to ensuring a more inclusive life for people with disability.

The seven Outcome Areas are:

* Employment and Financial Security
* Inclusive Homes and Communities
* Safety, Rights and Justice
* Personal and Community Support
* Education and Learning
* Health and Wellbeing
* Community Attitudes.

The Outcome Areas are interrelated and necessarily connected. For example:

* improved education and learning outcomes lead to better employment and financial security outcomes
* improved outcomes in safety, rights and justice leads to better health and wellbeing outcomes.

## Employment and Financial Security

### Outcome:

People with disability have economic security, enabling them to plan for the future and exercise choice and control over their lives.

### Policy Priority 1:

Increase employment of people with disability.

### Policy Priority 2:

Improve the transition of young people with disability from education to employment.

### Policy Priority 3:

Strengthen financial independence of people with disability.

## Inclusive Homes and Communities

### Outcome:

People with disability live in inclusive, accessible and well-designed homes and communities.

### Policy Priority 1:

Increase the availability of affordable housing.

### Policy Priority 2:

Housing is accessible and people with disability have choice and control about where they live, who they live with, and who comes into their home.

### Policy Priority 3:

People with disability are able to fully participate in social, recreational, sporting, religious and cultural life.

### Policy Priority 4:

The built and natural environment is accessible.

### Policy Priority 5:

Transport systems are accessible for the whole community.

### Policy Priority 6:

Information and communication systems are accessible, reliable and responsive.

## Safety, Rights and Justice

### Outcome:

The rights of people with disability are promoted, upheld and protected, and people with disability feel safe and enjoy equality before the law.

### Policy Priority 1:

People with disability are safe and feel safe from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

### Policy Priority 2:

Policies, processes and programs provide better responses to people with disability who have experienced trauma.

### Policy Priority 3:

Policies, processes and programs for people with disability promote gender equality and prevent violence against groups at heightened risk, including women and their children.

### Policy Priority 4:

The rights of people with disability are promoted, upheld and protected.

### Policy Priority 5:

People with disability have equal access to justice.

### Policy Priority 6:

The criminal justice system responds effectively to the complex needs and vulnerabilities of people with disability.

## Personal and Community Support

### Outcome:

People with disability have access to a range of supports to assist them to live independently and engage in their communities.

### Policy Priority 1:

People with disability are able to access supports that meet their needs.

### Policy Priority 2:

The NDIS provides eligible people with permanent and significant disability with access to reasonable and necessary disability supports.

### Policy Priority 3:

The role of informal support is acknowledged and supported.

### Policy Priority 4:

People with disability are supported to access assistive technology.

## Education and Learning

### Outcome:

People with disability achieve their full potential through education and learning.

### Policy Priority 1:

Children with disability can access and participate in high-quality early childhood education and care.

### Policy Priority 2:

Build capability in the delivery of inclusive education to improve educational outcomes for school students with disability.

### Policy Priority 3:

Improve pathways and accessibility to further education and training for people with disability.

### Policy Priority 4:

People with disability have increased opportunities to participate in accessible and inclusive lifelong learning.

## Health and Wellbeing

### Outcome:

People with disability attain the highest possible health and wellbeing outcomes throughout their lives.

### Policy Priority 1:

All health service providers have the capabilities to meet the needs of people with disability.

### Policy Priority 2:

Prevention and early intervention health services are timely, comprehensive, appropriate and effective to support better overall health and wellbeing.

### Policy Priority 3:

Mental health supports and services are appropriate, effective and accessible for people with disability.

### Policy Priority 4:

Disaster preparedness, risk management plans and public emergency responses are inclusive of people with disability, and support their physical and mental health, and wellbeing.

## Community Attitudes

### Outcome:

Community attitudes support equality, inclusion and participation in society for people with disability.

### Policy Priority 1:

Employers value the contribution people with disability make to the workforce, and recognise the benefits of employing people with disability.

### Policy Priority 2:

Key professional workforces are able to confidently and positively respond to people with disability.

### Policy Priority 3:

Increase representation of people with disability in leadership roles.

### Policy Priority 4:

Improving community attitudes to positively impact on Policy Priorities under the Strategy.