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**Australian Institute of
Health and Welfare**

Intellectual disability: transitions from home to school and from school to adult life, need and use of disability services

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Outline

- Background
- Transitions
 - home to school
 - school to adult life
- Needs for services and assistance
- Specialist disability services

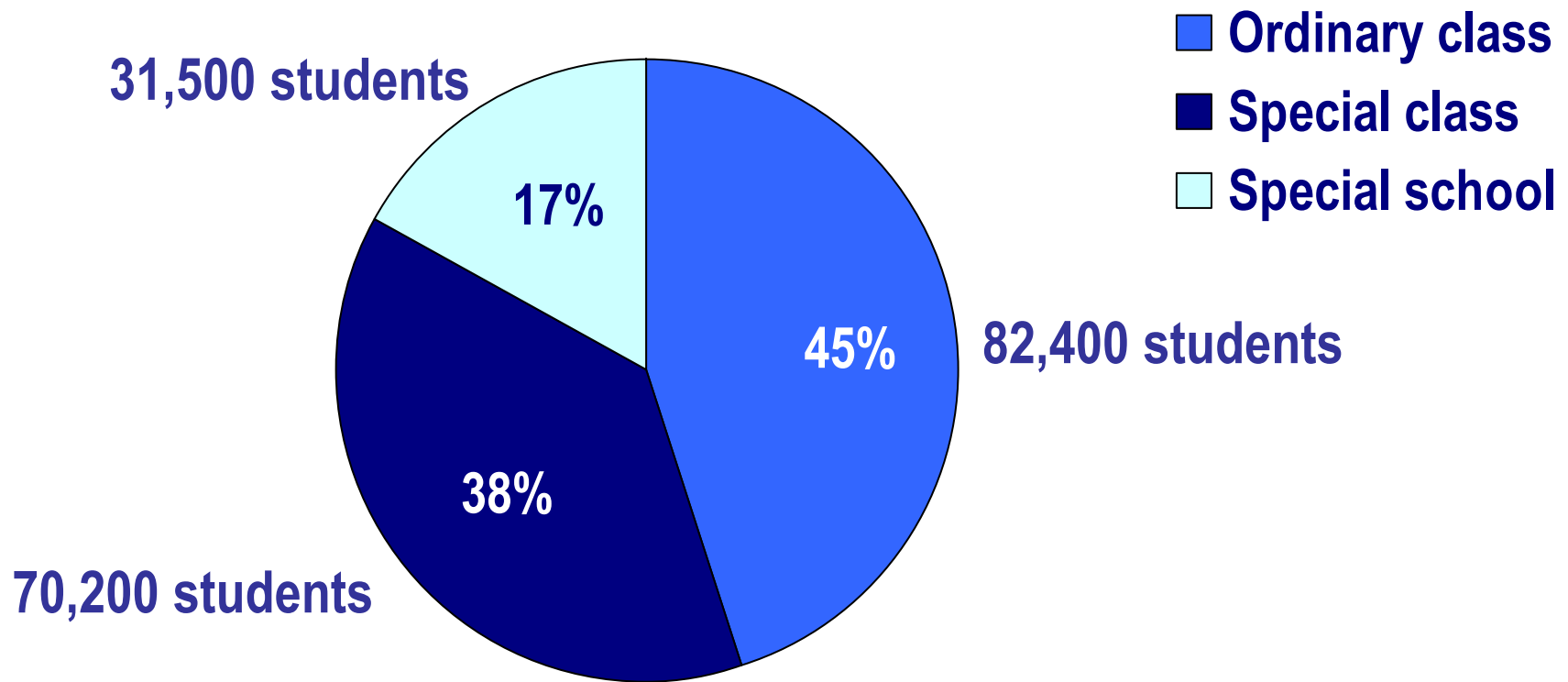
- Sources: Disability in Australia: intellectual disability (AIHW Nov 2008); Disability support services 2006-07 (AIHW Oct 2008).

How many people have intellectual disability?

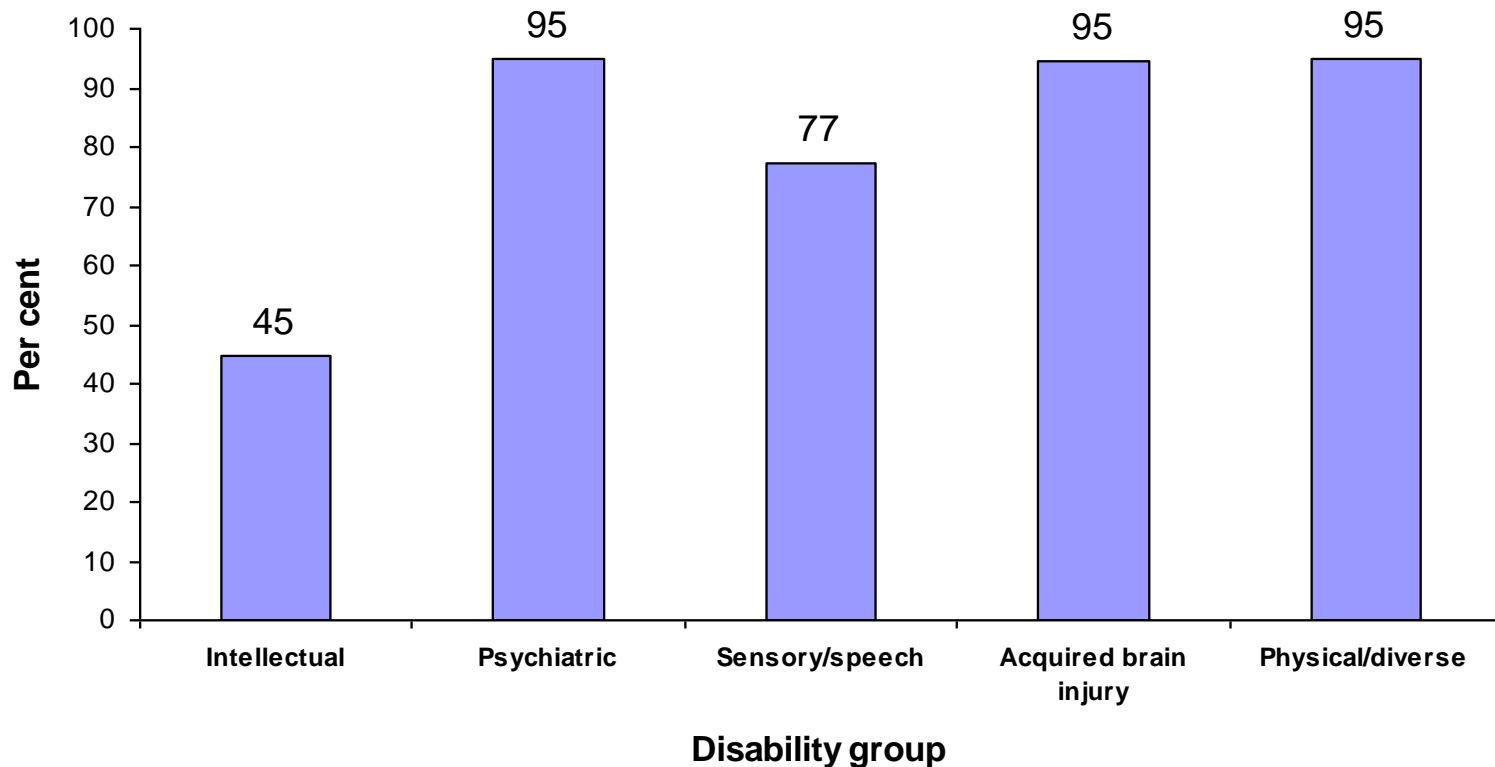
- **436,000** people aged under 65 years
 - 2.5% of the population
- **270,000** people aged 15–64 years
 - 2.0% of the population
- **184,000** school students
 - 5.6% of all students

(ABS 2003 SDAC)

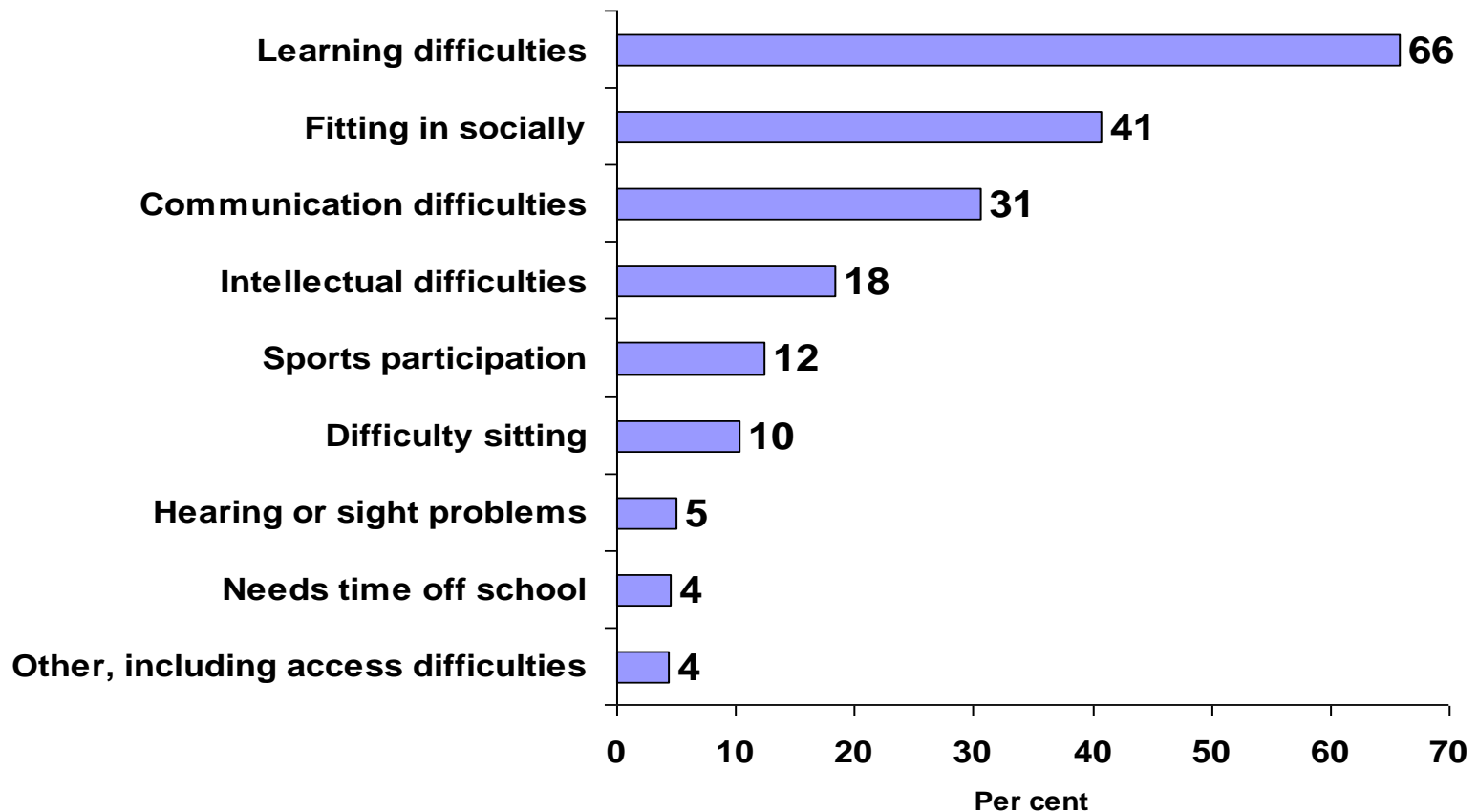
Transition from home to school



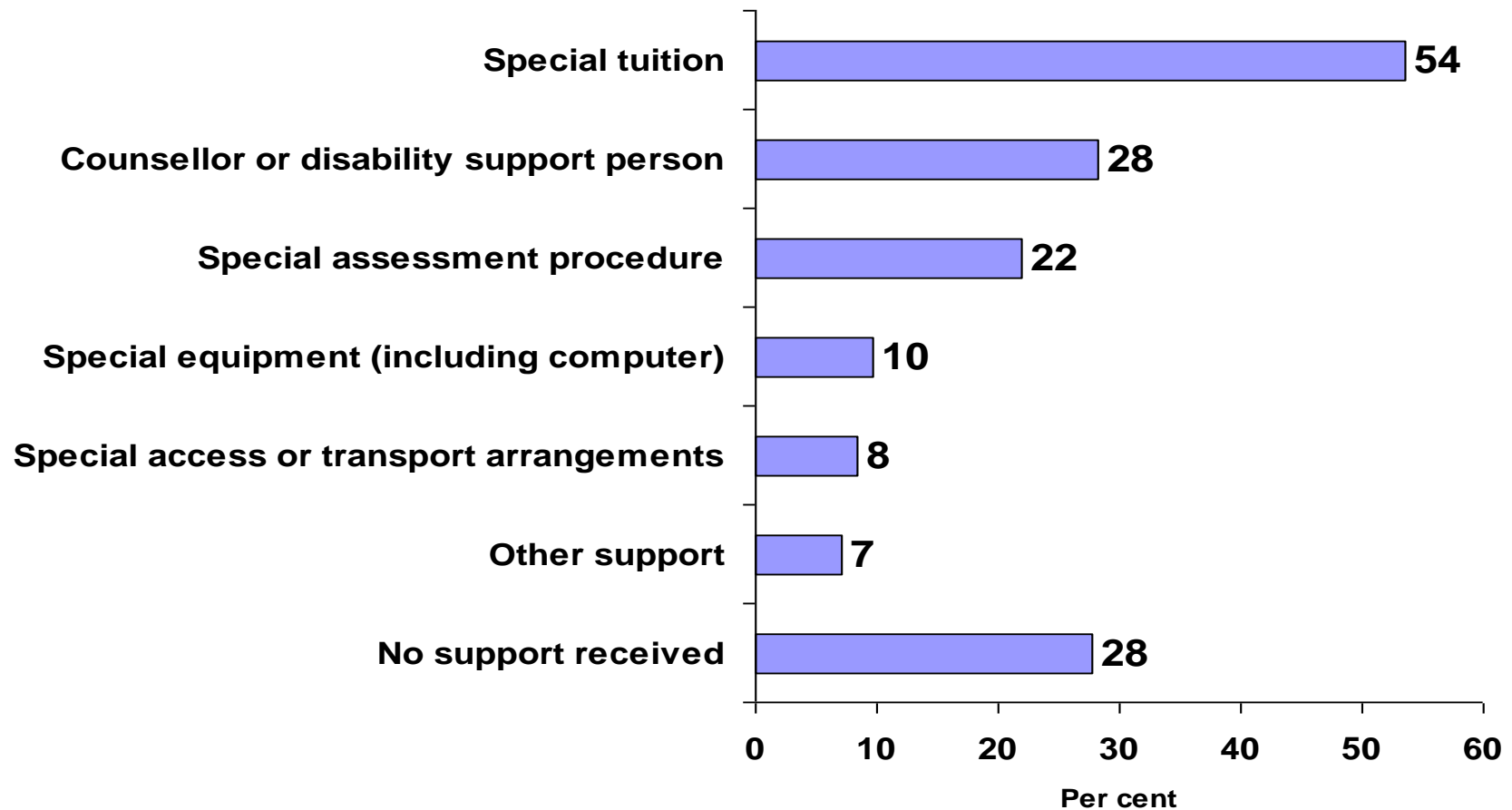
Proportion attending ordinary school classes, intellectual disability versus other disabilities, 2003



School students with intellectual disability: types of difficulty experienced at school, 2003

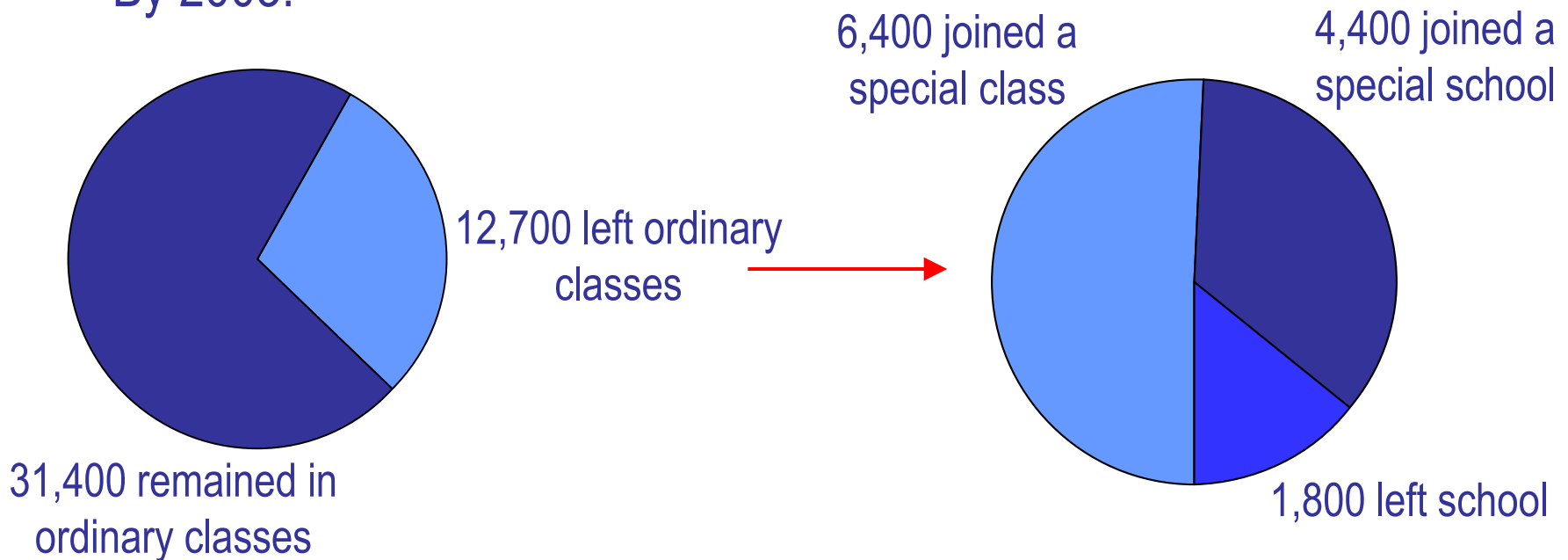


Students with intellectual disability: types of support or special arrangements at school, 2003

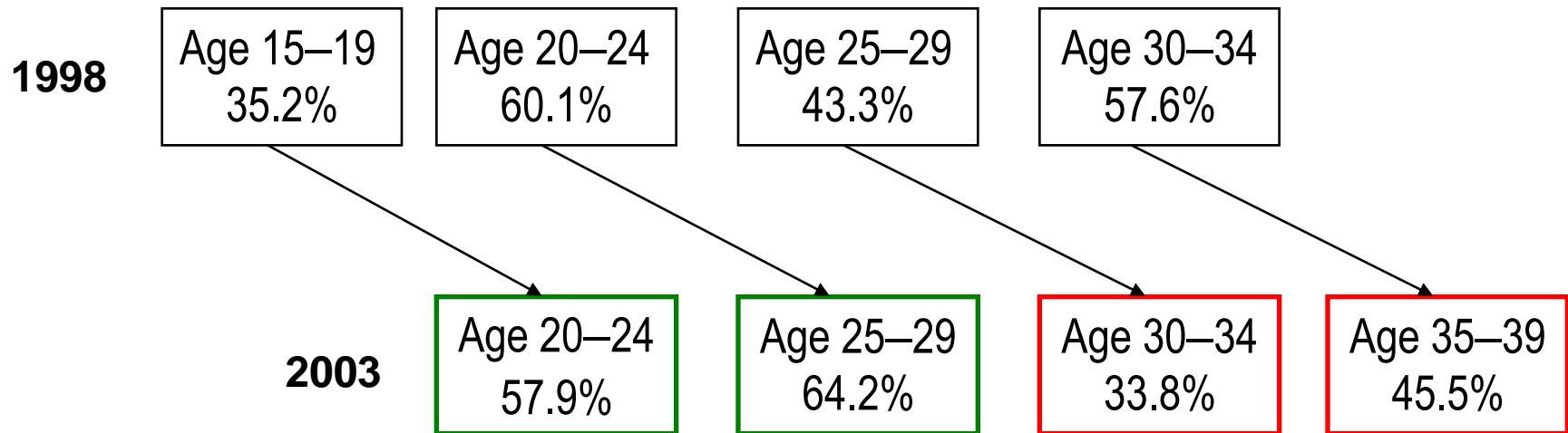


Transitions from mainstream to special education

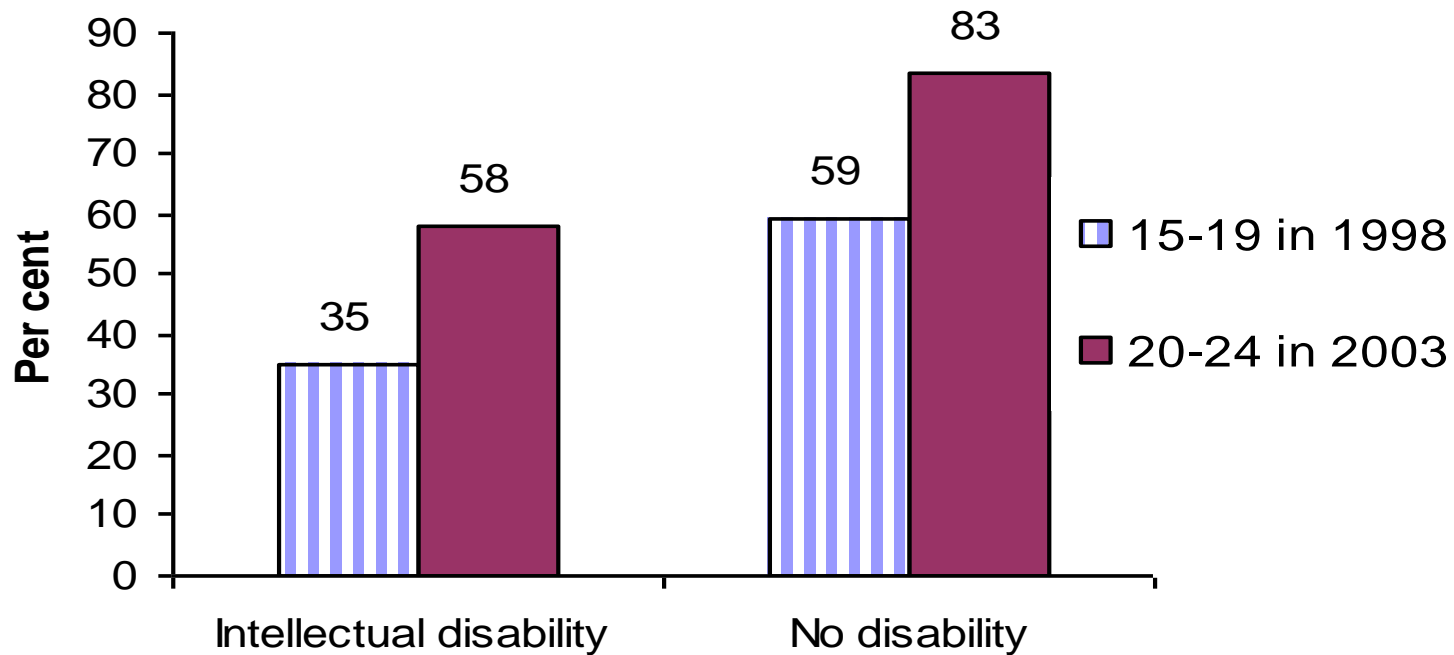
- 44,100 5–9 year olds with severe/profound disability attending ordinary classes in 1998
- By 2003:



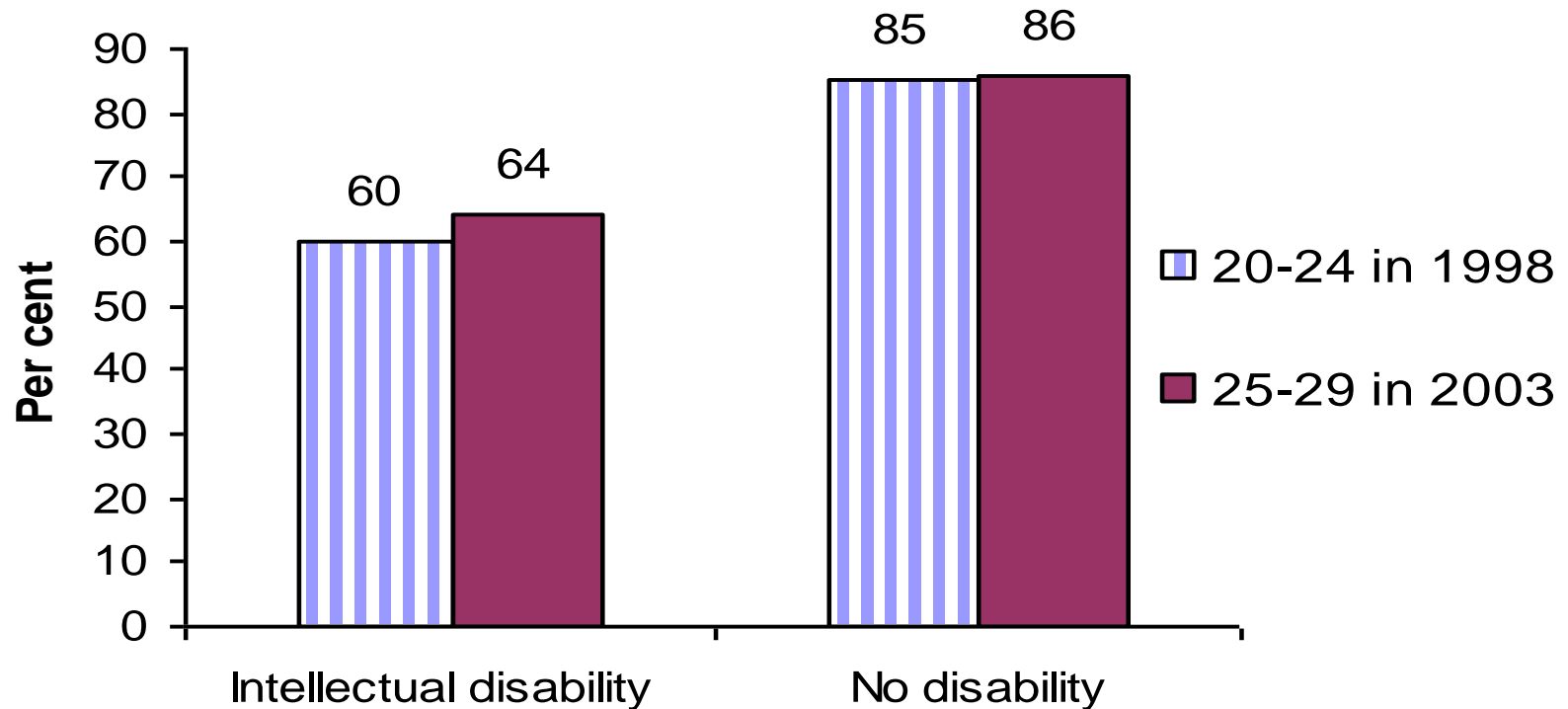
People with intellectual disability: changes in labour force participation rates for four synthetic age cohorts



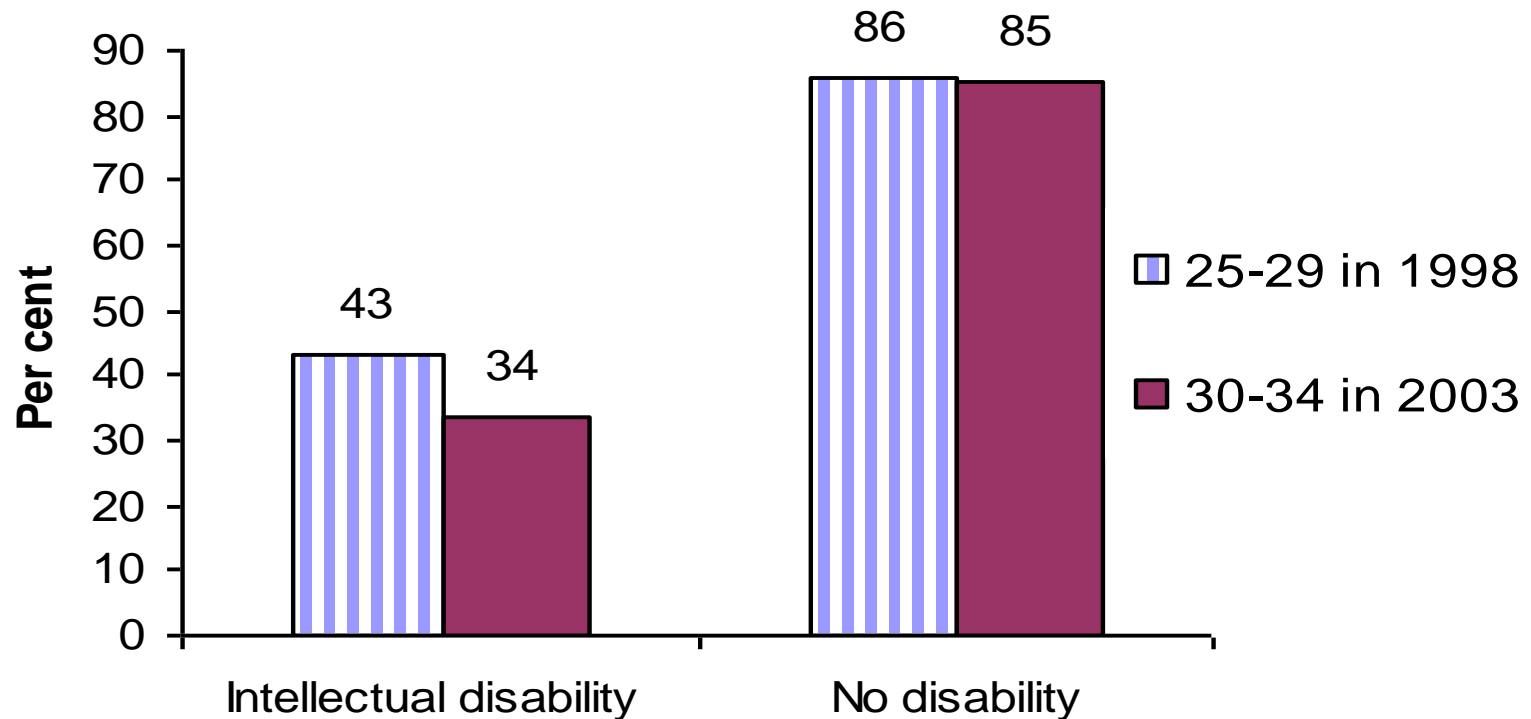
Age cohort changes in labour force participation rates, 1998 and 2003 (1)



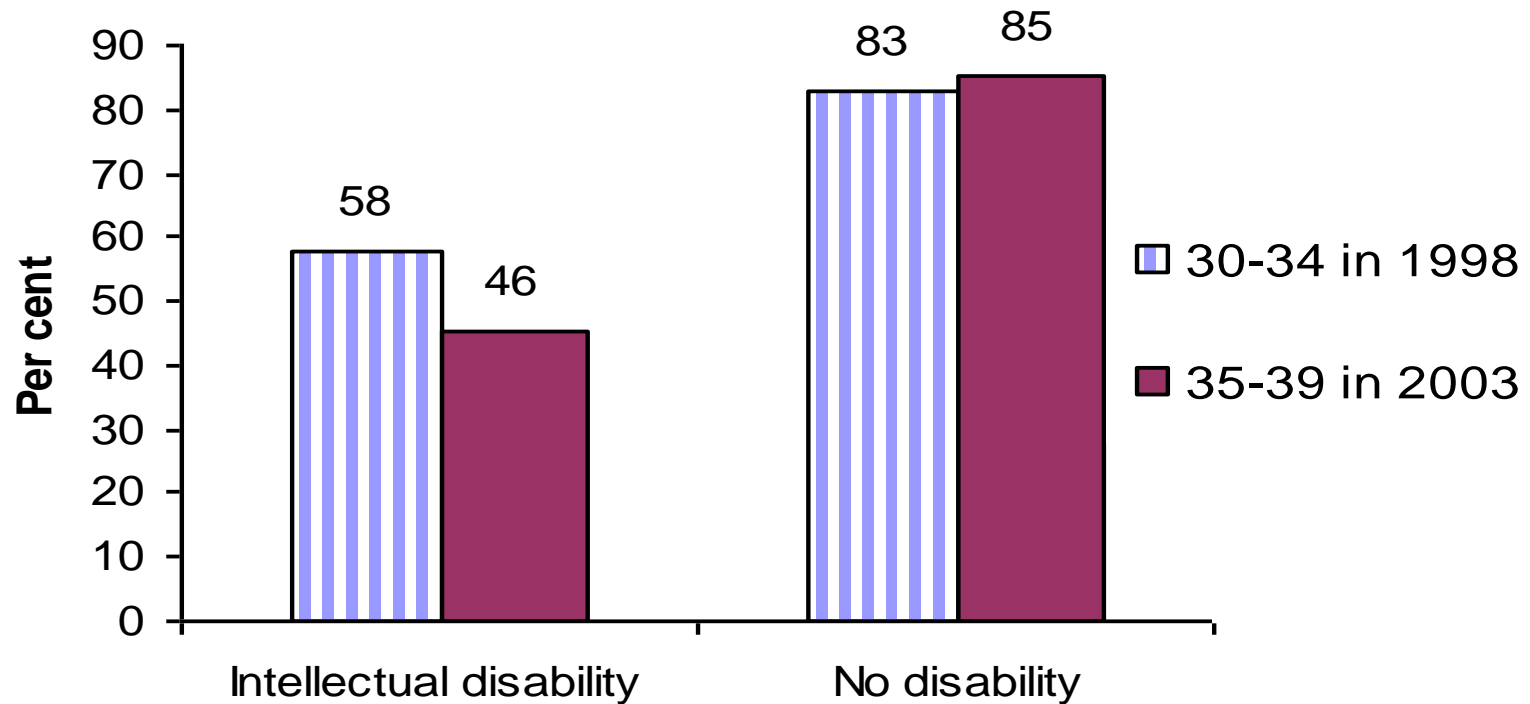
Age cohort changes in labour force participation rates, 1998 and 2003 (2)



Age cohort changes in labour force participation rates, 1998 and 2003 (3)



Age cohort changes in labour force participation rates, 1998 and 2003 (4)



Need for help with specific activities, 2003

423,000 people aged under 65 with intellectual disability living in households

- **102,200** needed help with self-care → 24%
- **138,400** with mobility → 33%
- **115,800** with communication → 27%
- **252,200** with cognition or emotion → 60%

People aged 15-64 years with intellectual disability who needed employment support, 2003

- 17,700 people unemployed, or could work with special assistance and not looking for job due to own illness or disability, not attending day activity programs
- Of these, 5,200 (29%) with severe or profound limitation with core activity limitations
- 1,400 need at least daily assistance with any core activities

People aged 15-64 years with intellectual disability who needed help to participate community activities, 2003

- 10,300 people not studying and not attending day activity
- All with severe or profound core activity limitations
- 1,400 need at least daily assistance with two or three core activities

Unmet demand for accommodation & respite services

(under 65 year olds)

- 26,700 people in total
 - 22,800 (85%) had with intellectual disability
 - Many had multiple disabilities

Sources: Disability in Australia: intellectual disability (AIHW Nov 2008); Current and future demand for specialist disability services (AIHW June 2007)



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Specialist disability services for people with an intellectual disability

Data from Disability Support Services
2006-07

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Questions

- How many people with intellectual disability use specialist disability services?
- What services do they use?
- What do they need help with?

Overview

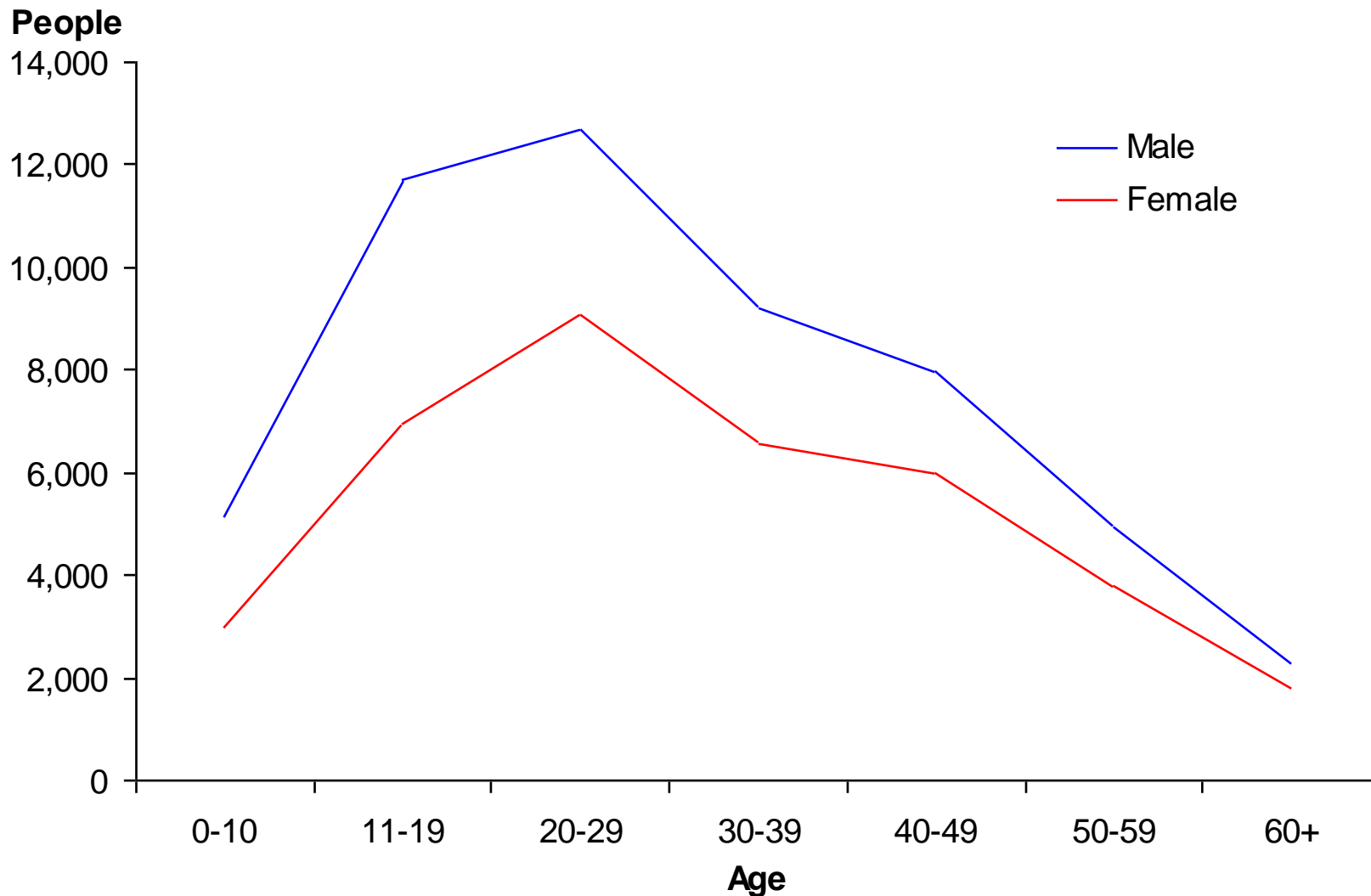
Out of 232,253 service users with disability:

- 91,146 people with intellectual disability- 39%
 - 76,673 with a primary intellectual disability
 - 14,473 with an other significant intellectual disability

Services

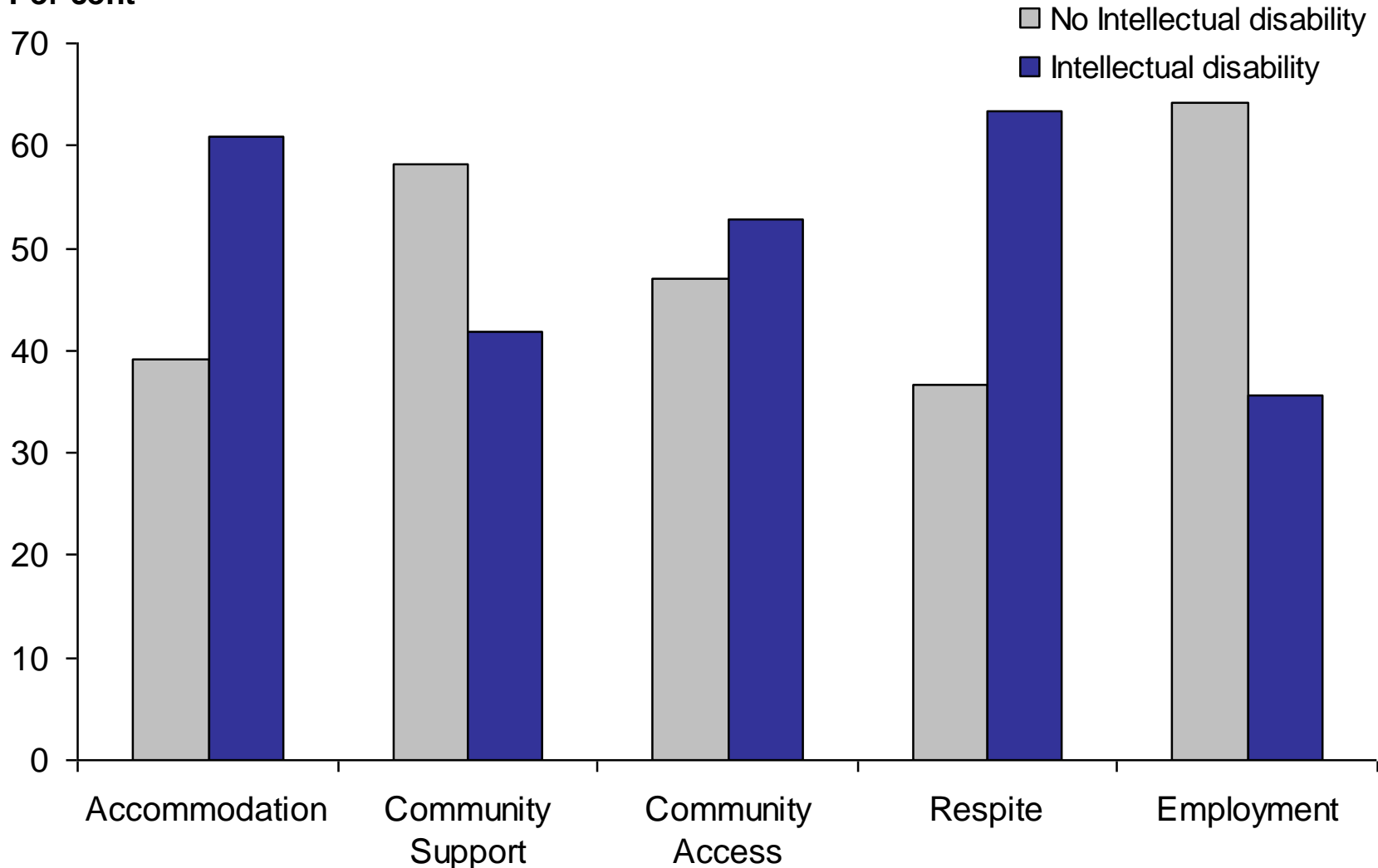
- Five main service groups
 - Accommodation support
 - Community support
 - Community access
 - Respite
 - Employment

Service users with intellectual disability

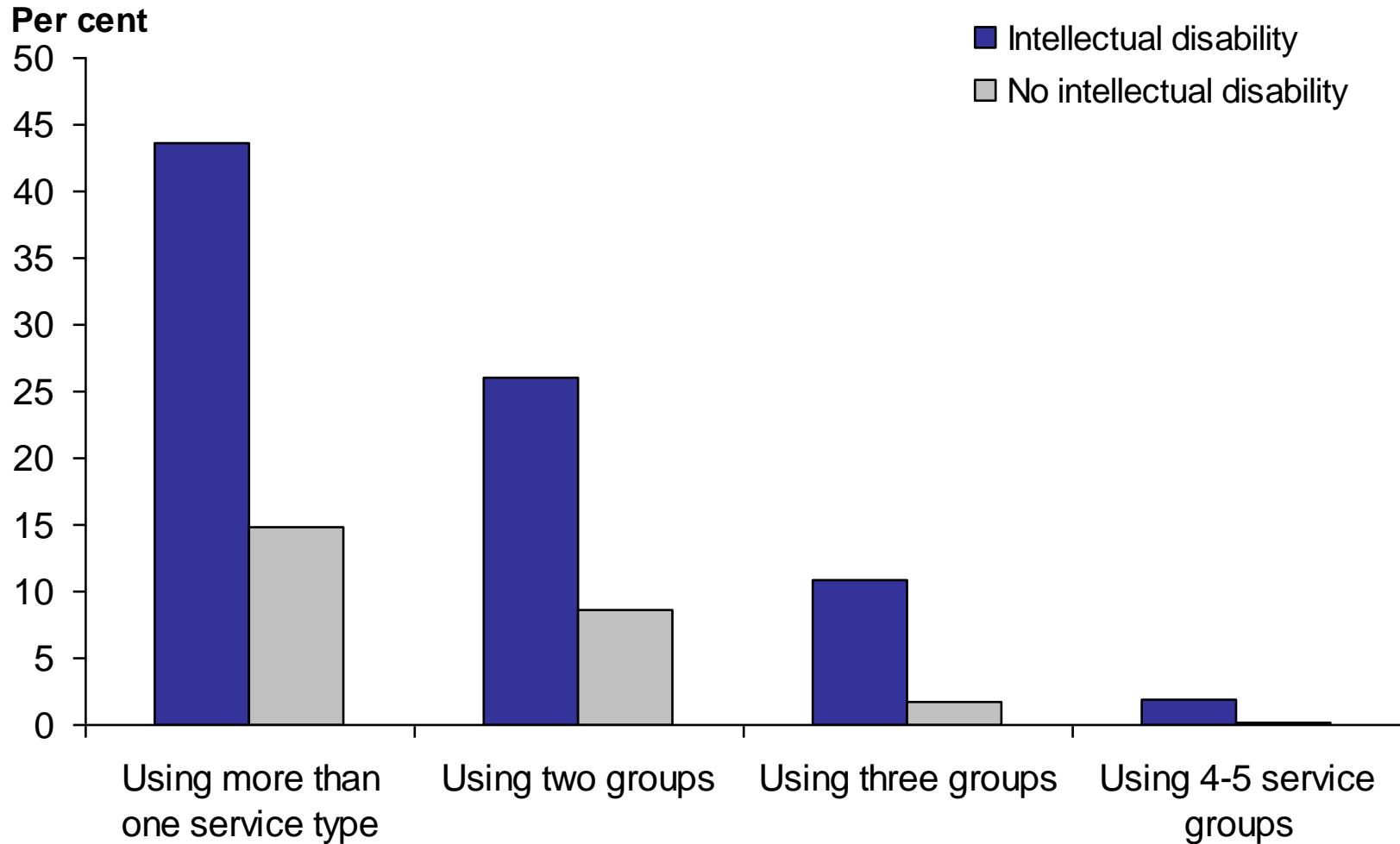


Intellectual disability status by service group

Per cent



Multiple services usage

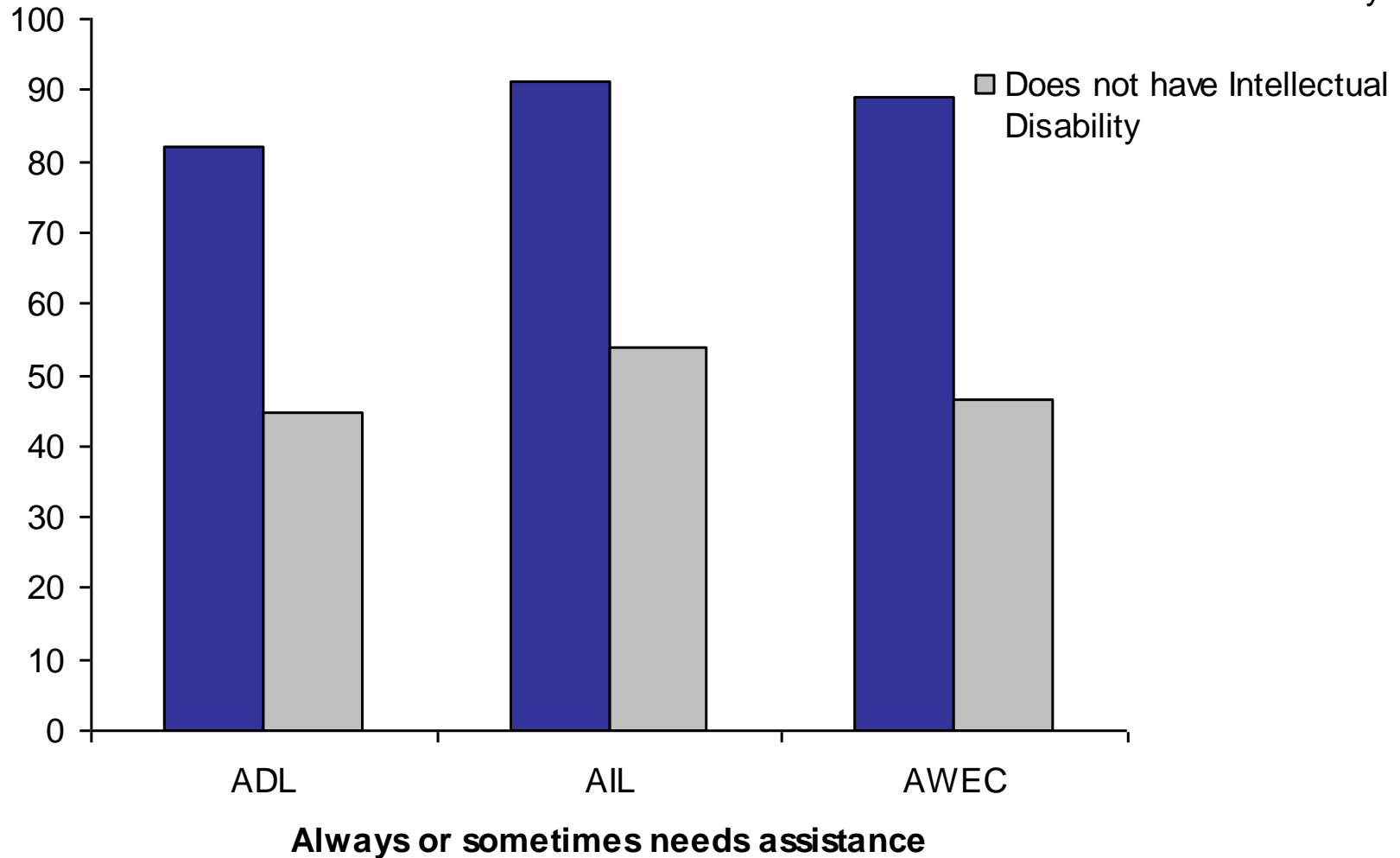


Support needs definitions

- Activities of daily living (ADL)
 - self-care, mobility, and communication
- Activities of independent living (AIL)
 - interpersonal interactions and relationships; learning, applying knowledge, and general tasks and demands; and domestic life
- Activities of work, education and community living (AWEC)
 - education; community (civic) and economic life; and work

Support needs

Per cent



For specialist disability services:

- High level of service use
- Higher multiple service use
- Higher support needs in all three areas
 - ADL
 - AIL
 - AWEC

Conclusions

- Over 436,000 people aged under 65 years have intellectual disability in Australia
- People with intellectual disability encounter special challenges and difficulties that are different from people without disability or with other types of disability in key life transitions
- They typically need additional support in transitions from home to school, between different school environments (mostly mainstream to special) and from school to adult life

Conclusions

- Around 1 in 5 people with intellectual disability receive specialist disability support
- Compared to people with other types of disability, consumers with intellectual disability report:
 - higher levels of service use
 - higher support needs in all life areas

Details

- Website:
 - <http://www.aihw.gov.au/disability/index.cfm>
- Email:
 - xingyan.wen@aihw.gov.au
 - jason.brown@aihw.gov.au
- Publication links
 - <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10582>
 - <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10654>

Data and definitions of intellectual disability

- Having a difficulty learning or understanding things; and/or
- Having one or more intellectual impairments or disabling conditions and one or more of 17 impairments, activity limitations or participation restrictions that have lasted, or are likely to last, for at least 6 months and that restrict everyday activities.

Disabling conditions for the estimates of intellectual disability 2003 ABS SDAC

- Intellectual and developmental disorders n.e.c.
- Mental retardation/intellectual disability
- Autism and related disorders (including Rett's syndrome and Asperger's syndrome)
- Attention deficit disorder/hyperactivity.