ADA Law
Community Legal Service

Aged Care Reforms Discussion Panel

Supported Decision Making & the Statement of Rights

Aged Care Act 2024 | Effective 1 November 2025

The right to make your own decisions with support if needed — a cornerstone of person-centred aged care.

Independence & Autonomy

Control over services, money, belongings & how you live.
Right to support for decisions.
Can direct supporters by Will and Preference.

Equitable Access

Fair, culturally respectful assessment. Access to care you need, when you need it.

Quality & Safety

Safe, dignified care free from abuse & neglect. Skilled, qualified workers.

Privacy & Information

Protection of personal privacy.
Access to records, rights information and service costs.

Person-Centred Communication

Information in your language & format.
Right to complain without fear.
Prompt, fair responses.

Advocacy, Significant Persons & Social Connections

Independent advocates. Community & cultural connection. First Nations peoples: Connection to Country.

⚠ **Disclaimer:** Providers have a duty to act compatibly with the Statement of Rights, BUT, nothing regarding the Statement of Rights creates rights or duties that are enforceable by proceedings in a court or tribunal.

Australian Aged Care: Infographic Overview

Overall Snapshot

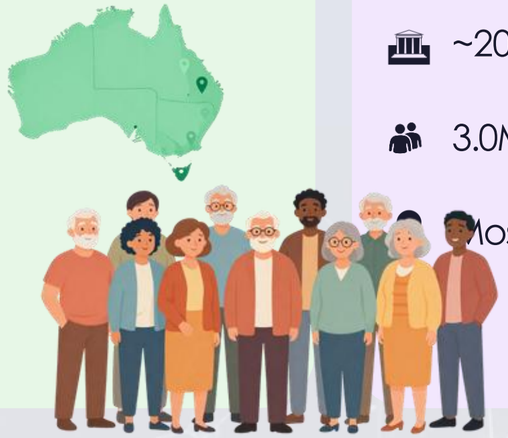
- 17% of population is 65+
- 96% live in households, 4% in care
- 52% have a disability
- 87% have 1+ long-term health condition
- 40% living at home required assistance

Aged Care Services & Growth

- 64% Not-for-profit providers
- 27% Private providers
- 9% Government providers
- 307% increase in home care (2017-25)
- 10% increase in residential care

Service Locations

- 63% Major cities
- 27% Rural areas
- 4% Remote areas



Rights & Decision Making (65+)

- 52% have Enduring Power of Attorney
- ~20,499 guardianship orders (2023-24)
- 3.0M carers = 11.9% of population
- Most decisions are informal/unmeasured