

National Ability Supports  
System (NASS)

**NASS Regional Bulletin  
for CHO 1-Donegal,  
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan,  
Monaghan/Cavan,  
2020**

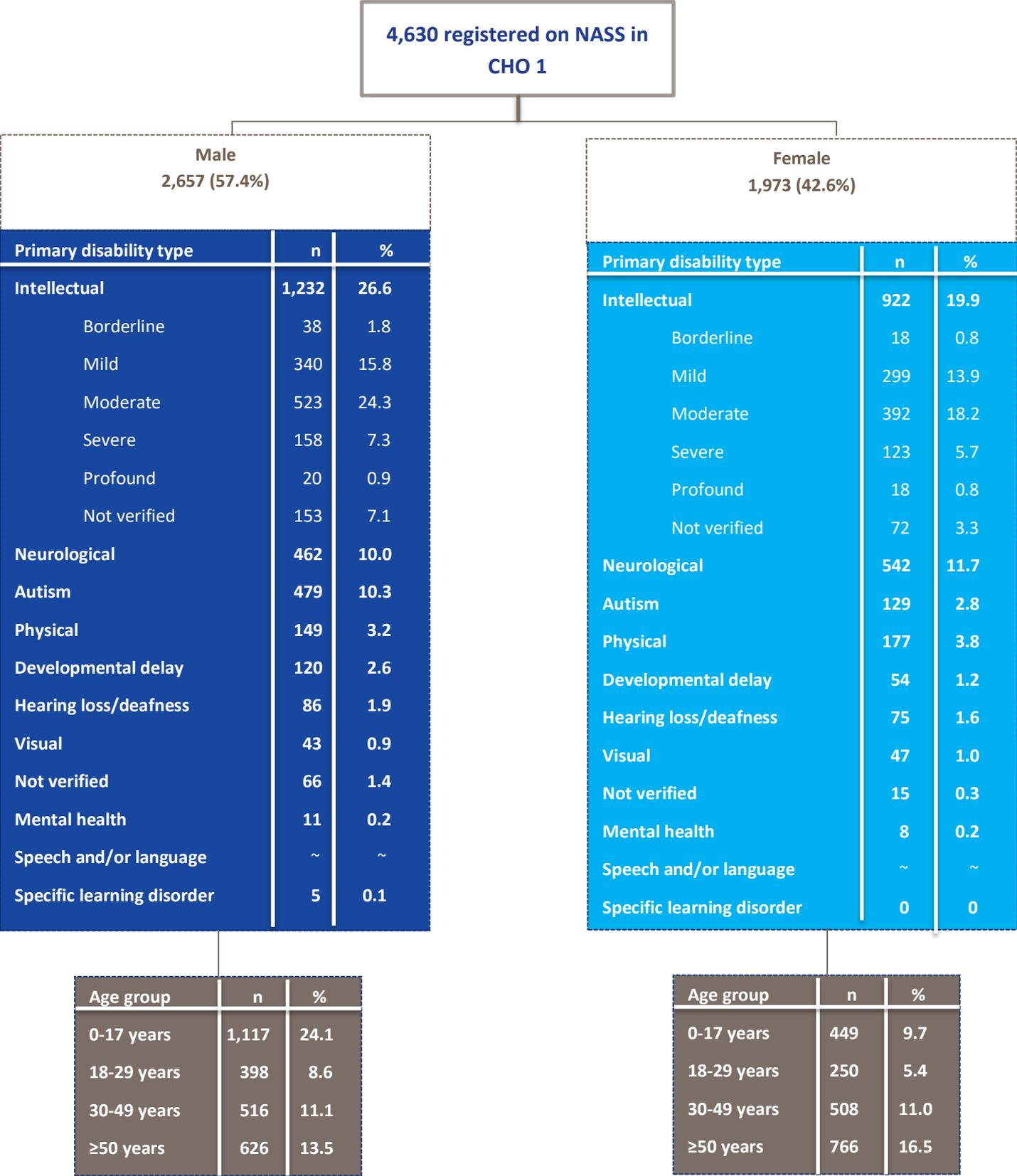
## 1.1 Demographic profile

In 2020, there were 4,630 people registered on the National Ability Supports System (NASS) as receiving their main service in Community Health Organisation (CHO) 1. There were more males (2,657, 57%) than females (1,973, 43%) registered in CHO 1. Most service users were aged 0-17 years (1,566, 34%), followed by over 50 years (1,392, 30%), 30-49 years (1,024, 22%) and 18-29 years (648, 14%) (Figure 1).

The majority of those registered in CHO 1 had an intellectual disability (ID) (2,154, 47%), followed by a neurological disability (1,004, 22%) and autism (608, 13%). Figure 1 shows the breakdown of primary disability type by sex.

A total of 1,860 service users recorded at least one additional disability of which physical (654) and speech and/or language (501) were the most common.

**Figure 1 Profile of the population registered on NASS in CHO 1, NASS 2020**



~ To protect against the risk of indirect identification of individuals, values in cells containing less than five cases have been suppressed.

## Occupational status

Twenty-seven percent (1,245) of service users were students/pupils, 18% (825) were unable to work due to their disability and 17% (799) were undertaking a training or day programme. The occupational status was not known for 22% of service users.

## Ethnicity or cultural background

Seventy-five percent (3,452) of service users identified as Irish. The ethnicity or cultural background was not known for 20% of service users.

## Living arrangements

Seventy-three percent (3,381) of service users in CHO 1 lived with family, 15% (683) lived in a residential setting and did not provide further details of who they were living with, and 8% (390) lived alone. Living arrangement was not known for 2% of service users.

## Living accommodation

Fifty-one percent (2,372) of service users lived in private accommodation which was owner occupied, 11% (529) lived in accommodation which was rented from a county council, public authority, or service provider, and 15% (684) lived in a residential setting. Living accommodation information was not known for 17% of service users.

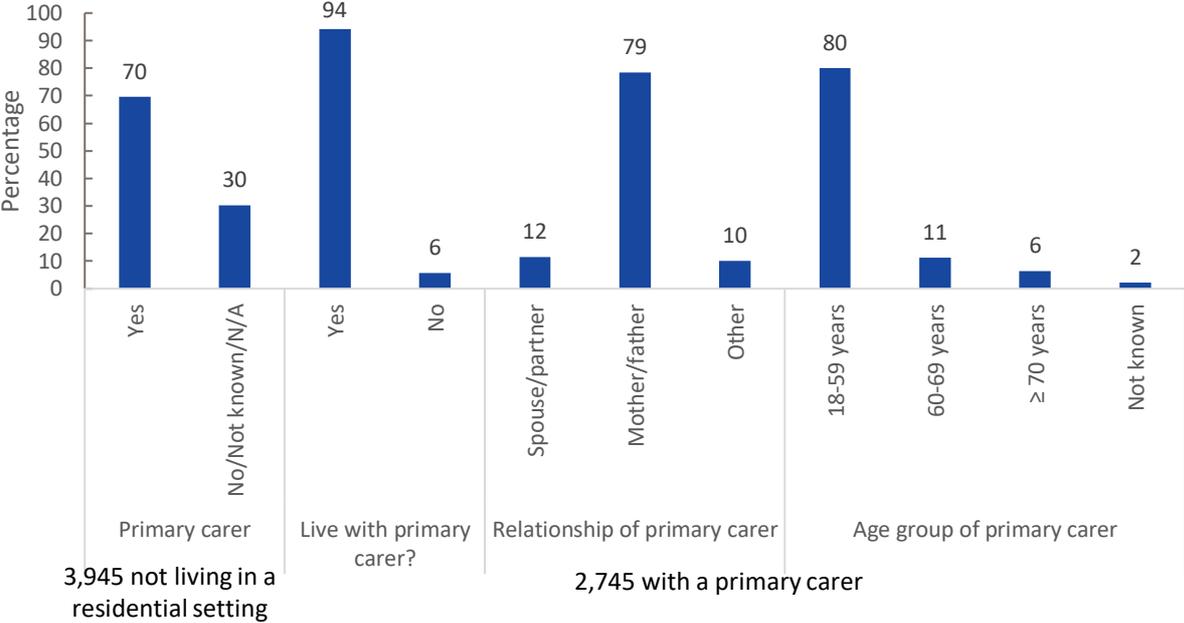
## 1.2 Primary Carer

Seventy percent of service users in CHO 1 who do not reside in a residential setting have a primary carer. Of these, 94% live with their primary carer and 79% of primary carers are a parent (Figure 2).

Primary carers were mostly aged between 18-59 years (2,196, 80%), 11% (310) were aged between 60-69 years and 6% (177) were aged 70 years and over. Age was not known for 2% of primary carers.

In terms of service user age, 94% (1,522) of those aged 18 years or less had a primary carer, 56% (889) of those aged 19-54 years had a primary carer and 45% (334) of service users aged 55 and over had a primary carer.

**Figure 2 Primary carer information for service users in CHO 1, NASS 2020**



**1.3 World Health Organisation Disability Assessment Schedule V.2 (WHODAS 2.0)**

The WHODAS 2.0 questions are not completed for those aged under 16 years or those whose primary disability type is intellectual. The percentages presented below are based on those who completed the WHODAS 2.0 (1,235 out of 1,553 eligible completed WHODAS):

The areas of greatest difficulty were the emotional effects of disability (1,005, 81%), walking long distances (928, 75%) and standing for long periods (918, 74%). For the majority (1,127, 91%), difficulties due to their disability resulted in an overall interference with their life.

**1.4 Services**

Table 1 summarises service provision and need for service within CHO 1. In 2020:

- 14% (668) service users accessed a total of 669 residential services. Of these, 300 service users resided in a community group home (5-9 residents) and 194 resided in a residential house in the community (1-4 residents). 103 enhancements are required to existing residential services and 110 new residential places are required now or within the next five years.
- 54% (2,520) service users accessed a total of 2,566 day service places. Of these, 1,301 places were in a day programme, 437 places were in a mainstream school and 258 places were in a special unit or class in a mainstream school. 366 enhancements are required to existing day service places and 126 new day service places are required now or within the next five years.
- 4% (206) service users accessed 210 overnight respite places. This amounted to 3,206 respite nights being accessed. There is an unmet need for 69 overnight respite places.

- 17% (799) service users accessed 897 supports for daily living. Of these, 459 were home support services (including supported self-directed living support) and 161 were personal assistant services. 154 enhancements were required to existing supports for daily living and 117 new supports for daily living are required now or within the next five years.
- 81% (3,726) service users accessed a total of 8,260 specialist supports. Figure 3 shows the ten most accessed specialist supports. 1,226 enhancements were required to existing specialist support services and 562 new specialist supports are required now or within the next five years.

**Table 1 Summary of service provision in CHO 1, NASS 2020**

	Places currently accessed	Enhancement required to current services	Unmet need for places	People accessing a service	
	n	n	n	n	%
<b>Total population</b>				4,630	100
Residential setting	669	103	110	668	14.4
Day service	2,566	366	126	2,520	54.4
Day respite	~	0	16	~	~
Overnight respite	210	99	69	206	4.4
Supports for daily living	897	154	117	799	17.3
Specialist supports	8,260	1,226	562	3,726	80.5

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**Figure 3 Ten most accessed specialist supports, enhancements required and unmet need for places in CHO 1, NASS 2020**

