

National Ability Supports System (NASS)

Data Dictionary

February 2026

Version 1.5



CCCSÉ
Cód Cleachtais
Chóras Staidrimh
na hÉireann

ISSCOP
Irish Statistical
System Code of
Practice

The National Ability Supports System (NASS) is a national database which records information about HSE funded disability service use and need, to aid the planning, development, and organisation of disability services in Ireland. In 2019 NASS replaced the National Intellectual Disability Database (NIDD, established 1995) and the National Physical and Sensory Disability Database (NPSDD, established 2002). NASS is one of four national health information systems managed by the HRB's National Health Information Systems Unit and hosted on the Unit's web-based platform, LINK.

Trained users within HSE and non-HSE organisations, who provide HSE funded disability services, record information about their service users, and the services they receive or require onto the web-based system. Each user record is reviewed annually. Data may be recorded manually or uploaded to the system in a file containing multiple records.

In annual reports, data are presented nationally, and regionally by HSE health regions (HRs). Each year, a limited number of tables and graphs are included in the report with the remaining data available online at www.hrb.ie. Interactive tables are available at <https://data.cso.ie/product/HRBADS>, allowing the user to access readily-available data from the database since 2023.

For the purposes of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the HSE and HRB are joint data controllers.

The data collected play a central role in the planning of service delivery. These findings inform national policy, health service management, and international academic research in the area of disabilities.

The awarding of the ISSCOP accreditation prompted the NASS Team to develop a **Data Quality Indicator (DQI)** for each variable collected. This DQI gives an approximate measurement of the quality of the data for each variable. Some of the variables collected on the NASS are required to create a record and therefore returns for these variables will always be 100%. These variables are marked with an asterisk. For other variables, the indicator is based primarily on the completeness of the data returned.

The use of a DQI allows users of the NASS data to make an informed decision on the quality of the data for a particular variable based on the DQI grade and this should be noted when reporting or making inferences about data. This DQI grading for each variable is based on the 'traffic light' analogy as follows:



Green – There are no known issues or minimal issues with the data in this field. The field is complete (or almost complete) in terms of data returns/data entry on NASS LINK and the user can have confidence in using it for data analysis.



Amber – There may be some issues with the data in this field in terms of completeness and the user should proceed with caution in using it for data analysis.



Red – There are known issues with the data in this field in terms of completeness and the user should avoid using the variable for data analysis and interpretation/inferences.



Grey – This is a new or recently developed variable and not enough data have been returned to date to assess its quality.




Blue – This variable is no longer collected.

1 Variables


Specific information on various variables in the database is presented below, outlining changes which have occurred over the years.

1.1 Administration


1.1.1 Main Service Provider*

Variable name	Main Service Provider
Definition	The service provider providing the main service(s) to a person.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Service_Provider
Data variable name on SPSS file	MAINSP
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	6
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual report
Additional notes	<p>This is auto populated on NASS based on the service provider account that you are logged onto.</p> <p>The main service provider can change if a service user changes service. This is managed on NASS through the 'transfer process'.</p>


1.1.2 Area of service*

Variable name	Area of service
Definition	This is the CHO area of the main service provider.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record CHO of Service
Data variable name on SPSS file	CHOSERVICE2
Definition source	
Type	List
Format	Code
Length	8
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual report
Additional notes	This is auto populated on NASS based on the main service provider.


1.1.3 Health region of service*

Variable name	Health region of service
Definition	This is the health region of the main service provider
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Health Region of service
Data variable name on SPSS file	
Definition source	HRB
Type	List
Format	Code
Length	8
Collected since	2025
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual report
Additional notes	This is auto populated on NASS based on the main service provider.


1.1.4 Area providing funding*

Variable name	Area providing funding
Definition	This is the Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) area that provides funding for the services received by the service user.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record CHO Providing Funding
Data variable name on SPSS file	CHOFUNDING
Definition source	HRB
Type	List
Format	Code
Length	8
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual report
Additional notes	The CHO area of service and CHO area of funding can be different.

1.1.5 Referral date*


Variable name	Referral date
Definition	The date on which the service user was first referred to the current main service provider.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Referral Date
Data variable name on SPSS file	REFDATE
Definition source	HRB
Type	Date
Format	Date
Length	10
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	This is a mandatory field, however 20% of referral dates are inputted as 01/01/1900, which is regarded as 'not known'.
Required for	
Additional notes	

1.1.6 Date of death


Variable name	Date of death
Definition	Date a person passed away.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Death Date
Data variable name on SPSS file	DATEDEATH
Definition source	HRB
Type	Date
Format	Date
Length	10
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	No
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	Date of death is fully complete where records have been marked as 'deceased'.
Required for	Record maintenance
Additional notes	When a date of death is recorded, all services close with the date of death inputted for the end date of the services. The record is not carried forward into the following year. Deceased service users' data is included in reporting up until time of death including the year of death.

1.2 Service user details


1.2.1 Address, Address 1, Address 2, Address 3

Variable name	Address, Address 1, Address 2, Address 3
Definition	Address of service user
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Address, (SUR) Service User Record Address1, (SUR) Service User Record Address2, (SUR) Service User Record Address3
Data variable name on SPSS file	Not in file
Definition source	Service Provider
Type	Free text
Format	Varchar
Length	200
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	Every record requires an address for registration on NASS.
Required for	Record maintenance. Not reported on.
Additional notes	Address lines 1-3 are not visible to the HRB NASS Team.


1.2.2 County/CHO/LHO/Health Region/CHN of residence/ Electoral division/Small area

Variable name	County/CHO/LHO/Health Region/CHN of residence
Definition	County, CHO, LHO, Health Region, CHN of residence for service user
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record County, (SUR) Service User Record CHO, (SUR) Service User Record LHO, (SUR) Service User Record Health Region, (SUR) Service User Record CHN, Service User Record IHA, Service User Record DED, Service User Record Small Area
Data variable name on SPSS file	COUNTYRES, CHORES, LHORES, DEDRES, SMALLAREARES
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	County, CHO and LHO-2019; Health Region, CHN, and IHA- 2025
Mandatory	Yes- auto filled when using Health Atlas
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	Address is mandatory on NASS.
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.2.3 Sex at birth

Variable name	Sex at birth
Definition	Sex (at birth) of service user
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Sex at birth
Data variable name on SPSS file	Sex
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.2.4 Gender

Variable name	Gender
Definition	This is the gender the service user identifies as, if different from sex at birth
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Gender
Data variable name on SPSS file	gender_identify
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2023
Mandatory	No
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	Data not mandatory, cannot assess quality.
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.2.5 Employment status

Variable name	Employment status
Definition	Employment status of the service user
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Employment Status
Data variable name on SPSS file	EMPLOYMENT
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	Updated for 2025 data collection period.


1.2.6 Ethnic/cultural background

Variable name	Ethnic/cultural background
Definition	Ethnic or cultural background of the service user (self-identified)
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Ethnic Cultural
Data variable name on SPSS file	ETHNIC
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	Updated for 2023 data collection period to reflect 2022 CSO options.


1.2.7 Living with

Variable name	Living with
Definition	Who the service user lives with most nights of the week.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Living Arrangement
Data variable name on SPSS file	LIVINGWITH
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	Updated for 2025 data collection period.


1.2.8 Type of living accommodation

Variable name	Type of living accommodation
Definition	The type of accommodation where the service user resides most nights of the week.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Type Of Living Accommodation
Data variable name on SPSS file	type_of_living_accommodation
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019-2022
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	Retired Feb 2023.


1.2.9 Primary carer

Variable name	Primary carer
Definition	If the service user has a primary carer
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Have You Primary Carer
Data variable name on SPSS file	PRIMARYCARER
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	<p>Primary carers include family members, friends, or neighbours (also referred to as 'informal carers'). It is acknowledged that the roles of parent and carer, particularly in the case of children, are difficult to distinguish. Parents may consider themselves to be a primary carer to their child if they provide more care to their child than would be typical of the care provided to a child of the same age without a disability. Primary carers include those who are unpaid for this role and those who receive a pension or benefit for their caring role. The care should be ongoing, or likely to be ongoing, for at least 6 months. Where two people provide shared care (for example both parents), for the purposes of NASS, characteristics are only requested for one of these carers. Primary carers do not include paid, or volunteer carers organised by formal services - this includes host families or foster families where the family is paid to care for the service user.</p>


1.2.10 Primary carer- Do they live with you?

Variable name	Primary carer- Do they live with you?
Definition	Record if the primary carer lives with the service user
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Do They Live With You
Data variable name on SPSS file	PRIMARYCARER_LIVE
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if service user has a primary carer.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.2.11 Primary carer- Relationship of primary carer


Variable name	Primary carer- Relationship of primary carer
Definition	Relationship of primary carer to service user
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Relationship Of Primary Carer
Data variable name on SPSS file	PRIMARYCARER_RSHIP
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if service user has a primary carer.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.2.12 Primary carer- Age group of primary carer

Variable name	Primary carer- Age group of primary carer
Definition	Age group of the primary carer
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Age Group Of Primary Carer
Data variable name on SPSS file	PRIMARYCARER_AGE
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if service user has a primary carer.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.3 Disability and diagnosis


1.3.1 Primary disability type & Secondary disability type

Variable name	Primary disability type & Secondary disability type
Definition	Primary (and secondary) disability of service user.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Primary Disability Type, (SUR) Record Secondary Disability Type Disability Type
Data variable name on SPSS file	PRIMARYDISABILITY, disability_type_intellectual, disability_type_autism_spectrum_disorder, disability_type_deafblind_dual_sensory, disability_type_developmental_delay, disability_type_hearing_loss_deafness, disability_type_neurological, disability_type_physical, disability_type_specific_learning_disorder, disability_type_speech_language, disability_type_visual, disability_type_mental_health, disability_type_not_verified.
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	6
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Primary disability- Yes. Secondary disability- no
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	Disability type refers largely to the diagnosis of the person but also refers to their experience of restriction and environmental factors which create barriers to effective participation in daily life activities. If it is unclear which


disability type should be primary, the primary disability type should be entered as the disability type which most restricts a person’s ability to take part in daily life and/or the disability that gives rise to using/needing the most disability services.

A person can record one or more disabilities.


1.3.2 Degree of intellectual disability

Variable name	Degree of intellectual disability
Definition	If intellectual is selected as a disability, the degree of intellectual disability must be specified.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Service User Record Degree Of Intellectual Disability
Data variable name on SPSS file	DEGREEID
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if primary or secondary disability type is intellectual disability.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.3.3 Diagnosis


Variable name	Diagnosis
Definition	Diagnosis of service user.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Diagnosis Diagnosis
Data variable name on SPSS file	diagnosis1_diagnosis, diagnosis2_diagnosis, diagnosis3_diagnosis, diagnosis4_diagnosis, diagnosis5_diagnosis, diagnosis6_diagnosis, diagnosis7_diagnosis, diagnosis8_diagnosis, diagnosis9_diagnosis, diagnosis10_diagnosis
Definition source	ICD 10
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	No
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	Question is not mandatory, and data is limited.
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.3.4 Source of diagnosis


Variable name	Source of diagnosis
Definition	Source of diagnosis of service user.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Diagnosis Source Of Diagnosis
Data variable name on SPSS file	SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.1, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.2, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.3, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.4, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.5, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.6, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.7, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.9, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.9, SOURCEOFDIAGNOSIS.10
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if diagnosis field is populated.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	Updated for 2022 data collection. NASS does not require documentation to support diagnosis entered.

1.4 Services


1.4.1 Current or unmet need

Variable name	Current or unmet need
Definition	If a service is a current service or a required service.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Current Unmet Need
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_current_unmet_need X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	1
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.2 Service type

Variable name	Service type
Definition	There are six service types recorded on NASS- Residential/Day/Day respite/Respite overnight/Supports for daily living/Specialist supports
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Service Provider
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_service_type X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.3 Service

Variable name	Service
Definition	The specific service a service user uses.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Service
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_service X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019- updated annually
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	This list is updated annually to reflect service changes. See appendix A for a full list of all services.


1.4.4 Level of support

Variable name	Level of support
Definition	The level of service support a service user requires to receive that service.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Level Of Support (Day, Day Respite, Supports for Daily Living), (SUR) Record Service Level Of Support Second (Residential and Overnight Respite)
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_level_of_support X 25 (one for each service on a record) service1_level_of_support_second
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.5 Referral Reason

Variable name	Referral reason
Definition	The referral reason is the reason a service user has been referred to a service. This option is available for current and unmet need. The option of adding a referral reason is only available for certain services .e.g physiotherapy, occupational therapy.
Data variable name on NASS	Record Service Referral Reason
Data variable name on SPSS file	
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2026
Mandatory	No
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.6 Start date- current service only

Variable name	Start date
Definition	The date that a service user first began a service with a service provider.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Start Date
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_start_date X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Date
Format	Date
Length	10
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.7 End date- current service only

Variable name	End date
Definition	The date that a service user finished a service with a service provider.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service End Date
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_end_date X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Date
Format	Date
Length	10
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.8 Nights per week- current service only

Variable name	Nights per week
Definition	The number of nights a residential service is being received.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Nights Per Week
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_nights_per_week X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if a current residential service is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.9 Days per week- current service only

Variable name	Days per week
Definition	The number of days per week a day service is attended.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Days Per Week
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_days_per_week X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if a current day service is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.10 Number of day sessions- current service only

Variable name	Day sessions
Definition	The number of day respite sessions received between the associated end and start date which are in the same calendar year.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Number Of Days Sessions
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_number_of_days_sessions X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if a current day respite service is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.11 Number of overnights- Current service only

Variable name	Overnight
Definition	The number of nights of overnight respite between the associated end and start date which are in the same calendar year.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Number Of Overnights
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_number_of_overnights X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if a current overnight respite service is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.12 Frequency- Current service only

Variable name	Frequency
Definition	The frequency of specialist support sessions.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Frequency
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_frequencyX 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if a current specialist support is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.13 Hours per week- Current service only

Variable name	Hours per week
Definition	The number of hours per week that a supports for daily living service is received.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Hours Per Week
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_hours_per_week X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Number
Format	Number
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if a current support for daily living service is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	


1.4.14 Enhancement- Current service only

Variable name	Enhancement
Definition	Record whether the service requires an enhancement, for example, additional nights per week or support may be required.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Does this service require enhancement within the next 12 months?
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_does_this_service_require_enhancement_within_the_next_1 X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019, updated 2020 and 2025.
Mandatory	Yes, if a current service is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.4.15 Formally assessed- Required service only


Variable name	Formally assessed- Required service only
Definition	Record if a required service has been formally assessed.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Has this requirement been formally assessed?
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_has_this_requirement_been_formally_assessed X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019, updated 2025.
Mandatory	Yes, if an unmet need is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.4.16 Year- Required service only


Variable name	Year- Required service only
Definition	The year a service is required in. It can be now, or in the next five years.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Service Year
Data variable name on SPSS file	service1_year X 25 (one for each service on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	4
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes, if an unmet need is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Annual bulletin
Additional notes	

1.5 Assistive products


1.5.1 Assistive Product- Current or unmet need

Variable name	Current or unmet need- Assistive Products
Definition	If an assistive product is a current product received or one that is required now or in the next five years.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Assistive Product Current or unmet need id
Data variable name on SPSS file	assistive_product1_current_or_unmet X 20 (one for each assistive product on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	1
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	No
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	
Additional notes	Most assistive products come from the Primary Care budget and not the disability budget. Coverage of assistive products is limited, and we do not report on them.


1.5.2 Assistive Product- item

Variable name	Assistive Product- item
Definition	Assistive product that an individual uses to support their disability. They include devices, equipment, instruments, and software, specially produced or generally available used by or for persons with a disability.
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Assistive Product Assistive product item
Data variable name on SPSS file	assistive_product1_item X 20 (one for each assistive product on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Text
Format	List
Length	155
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes- if assistive product is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	
Additional notes	<p>Assistive products are derived from the NSAI ISO 9999:2016 document- www.iso.org/standard/60547.html</p> <p>Most assistive products come from the Primary Care budget and not the disability budget. Coverage of assistive products is limited, and we do not report on them.</p>

1.5.3 Assistive Product- sub-class


Variable name	Assistive Product- sub-class
Definition	Once an assistive product item has been entered, the associated class (Q78) and sub-class (Q79) codes from the NSAI list will be recorded automatically. Auto-populated based on NSAI (National Standard Authority of Ireland) Assistive products for persons with disability – Classification and terminology (ISO 9999:2016)
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Assistive Product Assistive product sub class
Data variable name on SPSS file	assistive_product1_sub_class X 20 (one for each assistive product on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	3
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes- if assistive product is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	
Additional notes	Assistive products are derived from the NSAI ISO 9999:2016 document- www.iso.org/standard/60547.html

1.5.4 Assistive Product- Class

Variable name	Assistive Product- Class
Definition	Once an assistive product item has been entered, the associated class (Q78) and sub-class (Q79) codes from the NSAI list will be recorded automatically. Auto-populated based on NSAI (National Standard Authority of Ireland) Assistive products for persons with disability – Classification and terminology (ISO 9999:2016)
Data variable name on NASS	((SUR) Assistive Product Assistive product class
Data variable name on SPSS file	assistive_product1_class X 20 (one for each assistive product on a record)
Definition source	HRB
Type	Code
Format	List
Length	3
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes- if assistive product is entered.
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	
Additional notes	Assistive products are derived from the NSAI ISO 9999:2016 document- www.iso.org/standard/60547.html

1.6 Review

1.6.1 Review date

Variable name	Review date
Definition	The date a record was reviewed by the main service provider, and has ensured all information is correct as of the 'review date'
Data variable name on NASS	(SUR) Record Review Review Date
Data variable name on SPSS file	LASTREVIEWDATE
Definition source	HRB
Type	Date
Format	Date
Length	10
Collected since	2019
Mandatory	Yes
Data Quality Indicator (DQI)	
Data Quality Indicator (DQI) comment	
Required for	Analysis- criteria for inclusion in annual report.
Additional notes	

Appendix A

Code	Name
Residential services	
14	1 resident- house in the community
15	2 residents- house in the community
16	3 residents- house in the community
17	4 residents- house in the community
2	Community group home – 5 to 9 residents in one home or cluster [c]
3	Residential centre/on campus - congregated setting 10 people or more [c]
4	Nursing home
5	Specialist facility – dementia
6	Specialist facility – challenging behaviour
7	Specialist facility – neurological
8	Specialist facility - physical
9	Specialist facility –mental health comorbidity
10	Psychiatric hospital
11	Other hospital
12	Hospice
13	Home sharing - shared living family
Day services	
24	New Directions day programme
25	Other day programme (non-New Directions)
9	Rehabilitative training
12	Mainstream early childhood education and care
13	Special early childhood education and care
19	Mainstream primary/secondary school
20	Special primary/secondary school
21	Special class or unit in mainstream primary/secondary school
22	Third level education
23	Home tutor
Day Respite	
1	Centre based respite - day (includes clubs and camps)
2	Own home respite - day (includes evenings)
3	Home sharing short breaks family - day
4	Home sharing contract family - day
Overnight respite	
1	House in the community/Centre based respite -overnight
2	Own home respite - overnight
3	Holiday respite-overnight (Residential/centre based/summer camp)
4	Holiday Respite-overnight (Hotel/B&B/Hostel)
5	Home sharing short breaks family -overnight
6	Home sharing contract family - overnight
7	Nursing home respite

Supports for daily living	
1	Personal assistant
2	Home support (including Supported Self-Directed Living Support)
9	Supported Self-Directed Living support - sleepover cover at night
10	Supported Self-Directed Living support - awake cover at night
3	Community support
4	Participation in voluntary work
Specialist supports	
1	Assistive technology/ Client technical service
2	Behaviour therapy
3	Case manager
4	Key worker
5	Complementary therapy
6	Creative therapy
7	Dietetics
8	Orthotics/ Prosthetics
9	Chiropody
10	Dentistry/ Orthodontics
11	Palliative care
12	Nursing
13	Occupational therapy
14	Play therapy
15	Physiotherapy
16	Psychiatry
17	Clinical psychology
18	Counselling psychology
19	Educational psychology
20	Neuro psychology
21	Resource teacher
22	Special Needs Assistant (SNA)
23	Social work
24	Speech and language therapy
25	Vision communication - IT/AT & alternative formats
26	Vision rehabilitation services
27	Neurorehabilitation services
28	Aural communication - IT/AT & alternative formats
29	Aural rehabilitation services
30	Animal-assisted therapy
31	Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT)
32	Peer support
33	Advocacy
34	Transport services
35	Guide dog/assistance dog
36	Family and caregiver supports

