

What is an in-home care worker?

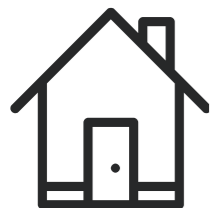
An in-home carer is a category of worker who provides a range of services and support to people with health conditions, physical and/or cognitive disabilities, and/or aged-related impairments.

Home based care is defined as health, wellbeing, and medical/clinical services performed directly in a client's home by a trained personal care worker or clinical professional, including domains of personal assistance services, support for activities of daily living, nutrition/diet/meal preparation services, management of skin integrity, continence management, mobility and dexterity assistance, general health support services, leisure/community activities support, and clinical care.



This scoping review research summarised 49 separate studies across health, aged, and disability in-home care settings.

The research identified several categories of work, health and safety risks that are experienced by in-home care workers. Examinations of home-based carer safety perceptions has shown that 65% of workers are concerned about their personal safety at work and 70% reported being exposed to one or more insufficiently managed health and/or safety hazards on a regular basis.



In-home care workers represent less than 3% of the Australian workforce but are overrepresented in workers compensation statistics.



Nearly half of all in-home care workers have experienced one or more workplace injuries over their career.



Between 12-20% of in-home workers experience a workplace injury each year.



Over 25% of in-home care workers report experiencing physical or verbal workplace violence.

